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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. 4665) making appropriations for the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, with Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The 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 Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Florida (Mr. DIAZ-BALART) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Madam Chairwoman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Chair, I am proud to speak on the fiscal year 2024 Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs appropriations bill for floor consideration today.

Anybody who has read the bill knows that it is pretty straightforward. If you are a friend, an ally of the United States, this bill supports you, but if you are an adversary or you are cozying up to the adversaries of the United States, then, frankly, you are just not going to like this bill.

I am extremely proud of this legislation, which was carefully and thoughtfully developed over many, many months. In my judgment, it reflects the values and the interests of most Americans. We carefully reviewed all the organizations and programs that receive U.S. taxpayer dollars in this bill. And among the key factors—let me be very blunt—it is whether investments advance our national security interests, whether they can show demonstrated results and our need to reduce the national debt and to reduce spending in a responsible way.

So the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs bill totals \$51.5 billion. It cuts \$8.2 billion; that is a 14 percent reduction, below the 2023 enacted level, and \$17 billion or 25 percent below the President's request. In fact, it is \$2.7 billion below the fiscal year 2019 enacted level, and it is even \$288 million below the fiscal year 2015 enacted level.

So because of those cuts, of those responsible reductions, we are now able to prioritize funding for the national security threat posed by the Chinese Communist Party.

Look, it is time that the U.S., that we get serious about that maligned destabilizing negative actions of the Communist Chinese Party around the

the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, today I rise to highlight East Carolina University ROTC Detachment 600's 75th anniversary.

As a former commandant of cadets at this remarkable detachment, it was a privilege to participate in this celebration to see former cadets who are successful with their careers.

During the celebration, a true American hero, our most decorated graduate, retired General Gary North, shared a message that resonated deeply with everyone.

He reminded us that our Air Force stands as the finest in the world today because of the unwavering service of those who came before us and the dedication of those who serve today. His charge to us was simple, but profound: Always remember your oath. This oath is our commitment to protecting our Constitution, our values, our great Nation, and our way of life. May God bless our Air Force and Detachment 600. Go Pirates. May God bless America.

FARM BILL IMPACT SERIES 23 REAUTHORIZATION

(Mr. MANN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss the urgency of reauthorizing the farm bill. This is my 23rd speech about the importance of this legislation going back a year and a half. American consumers deserve the strongest possible farm bill as do the American farmers, ranchers, and producers who face endless hurdles as they work tirelessly to feed, fuel, and clothe the world.

Mother Nature is a fickle business partner, markets fluctuate, and overly burdensome Federal regulations only make things more difficult. We are seeing drought, high interest rates, and high input costs wreak havoc on the American family farm. And the farm bill is our chance to protect the future of American food and agriculture.

I said all along that my top priorities for the farm bill in order are: one to strengthen and maintain crop insurance; two, to promote trade; and three conduct rigorous oversight of the executive branch. This farm bill must invest powerfully in research innovation if America is going to remain the undisputed world leader in food science technology. Producers are working tirelessly. We need to work just as hard to pass something as soon as possible to ensure the strongest safety net possible for farmers, ranchers, and agricultural producers across Kansas and the country.

PAY OUR TROOPS ACT

(Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to stand up for the men and women serving in America's armed forces. I am working day in and day out to prevent a government shutdown in just over 48 hours. If Congress can't reach deal on government funding before Saturday night, those serving in our military will not receive their paychecks.

I will not allow the men and women who put their lives on the line to protect our country to go without pay.

That is why I introduced the Pay Our Troops Act, which would ensure our troops, including the Coast Guard, will be paid on time no matter what. As we continue working to avoid a government shutdown, my bipartisan legislation would give our troops the financial reassurance they deserve.

Our servicemembers shouldn't suffer because of Washington dysfunction, especially not at a time when inflation and interest rates continue to hurt our military families.

I am a Navy veteran, a Navy spouse, and a Navy mom. I know first hand that far too many of our service families live paycheck to paycheck. In fact, one in three families have less than \$3,000 in savings. For the sake of those families and all of our military families, I am committed to getting our economy back on track by cutting wasteful spending. I am also committed to ensuring our servicemembers get a paycheck, no matter what is happening here in Washington.

Mr. Speaker, if there is anything that can unite us, it should be taking care of our troops. I believe that we can make commonsense spending cuts, while still responsibly funding our government and maintaining our national security. While we continue working to prevent a government shutdown, I urge my colleagues to join me in providing financial certainty to our military families by supporting our Pay Our Troops Act.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 4665, and that I may include tabular material on the same.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MOORE of Utah). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

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. 4665.

The Chair appoints the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. KIGGANS) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

world. This measure, this bill does precisely that in an unprecedented manner.

Let me talk a little bit about that. The bill includes \$4.4 billion, which is \$1 billion above the President's budget request to fund programs to counter the threat of the Chinese Communist Party around the world.

For the first time, this bill includes half a billion, \$500 million, in foreign military financing for Taiwan—first time ever. These funds, as everybody knows, are critical to support our friend and our democratic ally, which is on the front lines of China's bullying and China's constant threats. This bill provides unwavering support for our democratic ally, Israel, and other key partners around the world.

Another priority is to strengthen efforts to counter fentanyl production and trafficking. I don't have to tell you all that deadly opioids, particularly fentanyl, are affecting every area, every district, every neighborhood in our entire country. Madam Chair, three hundred Americans die every single day because of fentanyl poisoning. We must and we do use every tool to combat this horrific deadly epidemic.

Obviously, the migration crisis at the southern border is really just symptomatic of the administration's lack of a clear strategy toward the Western Hemisphere. That is as nice as I can say it.

Mr. Chairman, for too long countries cozying up to our adversaries have been rewarded, rewarded, and this bill puts a stop to that practice. This bill also recognizes the growing threat of authoritarian regimes even here in our own hemisphere and around the world. Therefore, it fully funds democracy assistant accounts in support of freedom and human rights where they are most threatened.

Now, before discussing funding for the United Nations, I just want to remind folks, Members, and also anybody who might be watching, who is running the show at the U.N. It would be hard to even make this stuff up, but, unfortunately, remarkably what I am about to tell you is true. So Russia was chair of the U.N. Security Council during the month of April. Yeah, you heard me right. Iran is currently an elected vice president of the U.N. General Assembly.

Communist China, whose genocide against Uyghurs and their bullying around the world is notorious, and Cuba, one of the world's oldest, most brutal dictatorships, both of those countries sit on the U.N. Human Rights council. Yeah, you heard me right. North Korea—well, I can't even begin to talk about the atrocities of that dictatorship—is a member of the World Health Organization, while Taiwan, a responsible democracy, has been blocked from membership of that institution by Communist China. You can't make this stuff up. Therefore, it should come as no surprise to anybody that no funds are included in this bill for the U.N. regular budget.

Now, my dear friends on the other side of the aisle argue that by cutting some of the funding to the U.N., the U.S. has given up its leadership. I could not disagree in stronger terms. You see, simply continuing to unconditionally channel funds to a deeply flawed organization, despite multiple failures and, frankly, appalling, even continuously antisemitic actions by that institution, that is actually abandoning our responsibility to the U.S. taxpayer, and it ensures that nothing changes in that institution that I just mentioned.

Actions need to have consequences, and the U.N. finally will feel the consequences of their irresponsible actions because of how we deal with them in this bill. This bill also prohibits funds for the Green Climate Fund and the Green Technology Fund. We also address a frivolous expansion of State Department bureaucracy. This bill eliminates funding for special envoys and special representatives that are not authorized or have not been confirmed by the Senate.

If they are that important, then for God's sake, have them authorized by Congress or at least confirmed by the Senate.

Finally, this bill includes all long-standing pro-life protections, which includes a prohibition on taxpayer funds from being used to pay for abortions abroad, and it builds on those requirements by applying the Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance policy to all global health funding.

It is not surprising that after this bill was released, my colleagues on the other side immediately released a press release condemning it. Now, what might surprise you is what the minority party in their written press release actually chose to highlight that they are objecting to in this bill. Their press release criticized that this bill prohibits funding for the Wuhan Institute of Virology—Heck, yeah, we prohibit funding to that institution—or that we prohibit funding to the EcoHealth Alliance or gain-of-function research. And quoting from my colleagues on the Democratic side, their criticism of this bill, that we reduce funding for “any lab controlled by China, Russia, Cuba, Iran, North Korea, and Venezuela.” I am quoting from their press release.

Heck yeah, we are cutting funding for institutions from those countries. These countries are, in essence, on the official list of the United States foreign adversaries, and three, by the way, are on the State Sponsor of Terrorism list. Does any taxpayer think that taxpayer funds should be going to labs in those places? Really?

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle also expressed in writing concerns of what they call partisan riders that specifically highlighted the provisions on funds in this bill to the government of the PRC and the Chinese Communist Party; and, also, that we prevent lending from international financial institutions to the PRC. They put that in writing.

Well, one thing is true. They got that right. They caught me. We are eliminating funding to adversaries of the United States of America. I would argue it is about damn time we did that. I look forward to hearing my colleagues on the other side of the aisle explain why U.S. taxpayer money should be funding those programs, and, by the way, why writing a blank check to any organization is a demonstration of leadership. It is not.

Mr. Chairman, before I close, I thank the staff from the Appropriations Committee for their amazing work on this bill: Susan Adams, who is here with me; Craig Higgins; Jamie McCormick; Trey Hicks; Meg Gallagher; John Muscolini; Clelia Alvarado; and Joe Cutler; and equally from the minority side—and I always butcher her last name, and I apologize because I will probably do it again—Erin Kolodjeski, Laurie Mignon, and Lillian Wasvary.

I thank members of my personal staff from my office: Cesar Gonzalez, Gisselle Reynolds, and Autumn Morley.

I thank our Chairman for bringing this crucial legislation to the floor, which supports our allies and protects our national security in a smart, efficient, effective, and thoughtful way.

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

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. MOORE of Utah). The gentleman from Florida reserves.

Ms. LEE of California. I claim time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR: The gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I rise to oppose H.R. 4665.

This bill would impose devastating cuts on programs meant to keep both America and the world safe. With all due respect to my friend and colleague and the chair of this committee, I am not an adversary of the United States. Democrats are patriotic, and we want our country to lead in global security and peace. This bill does just the opposite.

This Republican bill would slash the allocation for international programs by nearly one-third, a level not seen since 2009. Do my Republican colleagues really think that our international challenges have shrunk? I don't know what world they are living in. The bill undermines the fight against climate change, and it would destroy our influence at the United Nations during a time when China and Russia are working to expand their voice and their role.

Most outrageously, the bill would gut programs intended to help the most vulnerable people in the world, undermining American global leadership and making a mockery of our human values and leaving a huge void for adversaries to fill.

I have spent much of my time in Congress talking about the three d's of our

national security: diplomacy, development, and defense. Each of these has a role to play in keeping our country safe and secure, and creating a world where kids and our grandkids can prosper.

The SFOPS bill is supposed to fund two of those d's, diplomacy and development. Instead, this Republican bill throws the three d's completely out of whack.

If House Republicans get their way, the Pentagon would receive 20 times more—let me repeat that, 20 times more—what this bill invests in diplomacy and development combined. Even our military leaders have spoken out against cuts to diplomacy and development because they know gutting these programs makes their jobs harder. Former Defense Secretary Mattis has famously said: If you don't fully fund the State Department, then I have to buy more ammunition.

Mr. Chair, the PRC now has more embassies and diplomats around the world than any other nation, including more than the United States, but Republicans would cut funding for our embassies and diplomats by \$1.2 billion.

We have watched as the PRC challenges us at the United Nations and other multilateral institutions, working to insert their values of authoritarianism and disrespect for human rights, but Republicans are proposing to cut funding to the United Nations, leaving our adversaries waiting to fill the void that we leave behind.

The Republican bill asks our diplomats and development professionals to do more monitoring, reporting, and oversight, but then it shortchanges them on the funding that they need for operations and staffing. This is quite sinister.

The bill invites the culture wars into foreign policy by making diversity, drag queens, and critical race theory bogeymen and bogeywomen, distracting us from the real life-or-death challenges facing our world. It doesn't make any sense.

The bill also takes a really dishonest approach to the threat posed by climate change. Right now, people all around the world are confronting the impacts of human-caused climate change, life-threatening temperatures, crop failures, floods, and severe weather. They need help confronting the problem we largely created. Yet, the majority pretends that our climate finance investments are about controlling the planet's temperature, like some sort of global thermostat. That is not how it works. We have countries that might literally not exist in a generation because of the changes that are already happening.

We are spending billions each and every year, both here at home and overseas, dealing with humanitarian emergencies and responding to ever-stronger storms, raging fires, and devastating droughts. Failing to invest and adapt to the new reality means continued and escalating conflict and

crisis, which puts Americans and people everywhere at risk.

Around the world, 218 million women still do not have access to the tools needed to decide when and how to have a baby. While hundreds of thousands of them die in childbirth, we are going to make it harder for women to access care through both policies and reduced funding in this bill.

I am very upset about how this bill attacks efforts to strengthen diversity in our foreign policy workforce. The rich diversity of the United States is one of our greatest strengths. People around the world—religious and ethnic minorities, people with disabilities, LGBTQ+ people—look first to the United States for support and inspiration as they seek to claim their human rights. It is unimaginable to me that my Republican colleagues—well, no, it is not really, given what is taking place in our own country. Once again, you all see a threat in our efforts to make sure that our diplomats and development experts reflect and respect that same diversity.

The world is watching us. The world is full of threats that don't respect borders, from climate change to pandemics to assertive dictators. Most countries would prefer to partner with the United States to confront these challenges. By bringing this bill to the floor with these cuts, to the House floor, mind you, the Republican majority broadcasts a clear message to the world to take a hike. Trust me, the PRC is ready to take advantage of our absence, and I think everyone has seen this around the world.

Mr. Chair, it is September 28. The government may shut down, unfortunately, even though we are fighting as Democrats to prevent this from happening, but today, we are considering a bill that has no chance of becoming law. We should be working today to make sure that we keep our government open.

House Democrats will not support a bill if it means turning our backs on the world's most vulnerable women or the looming threat of climate change.

In the end, final appropriations bills will need bicameral and bipartisan support, and today, we will likely get further away from that goal, not closer. This really is wasting everyone's time.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to oppose this destructive bill. We are not adversaries. We are patriotic, and we want our country to succeed in its mission and its role as a global leader leading peace and security efforts throughout the planet.

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

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Chairman, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), a champion of human rights.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Chair, I thank my good friend for yielding.

Mr. Chair, the State-Foreign Operations bill under consideration today continues and strengthens the Presi-

dent's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, PEPFAR, for another year, fiscal year 2024, ensuring that critically needed medicines, including antiretrovirals, or ARVs, and other lifesaving interventions are available to those who need them in Africa and elsewhere.

Mr. Chair, I especially thank Chairman MARIO DIAZ-BALART and the Committee on Appropriations for insisting that the noble purpose of PEPFAR is not compromised or undercut by integrating and merging other agendas, including and especially the promotion of abortion by massively funding pro-abortion foreign nongovernmental organizations and instructing them to repeal pro-life laws.

To that end, the new State Department bill reinstates the protecting life and global health assistance policy, also known as the Mexico City policy.

Sadly, upon assuming office, President Biden repealed Ronald Reagan's old Mexico City policy, which ensured that PEPFAR's over \$6 billion a year in taxpayer grant money wasn't subsidizing foreign NGOs that perform or promote abortion. Biden's PEPFAR Core Program—and this needs to be underscored because some people say they are not doing it—says they promote protecting sexual reproductive health and rights, including the ongoing rescission of the Mexico City policy.

The executive director of UNAIDS, a prime PEPFAR partner composed of WHO, UNFPA, and other U.N. agencies, welcomed Biden's repeal of the pro-life policy, saying that it showed his commitment to abortion rights.

Mr. Chair, a June 6th letter signed by 131 African lawmakers and religious leaders, including the speaker of the Parliament of Ghana, implored Congress not to—I say again, not to—exploit PEPFAR to promote abortion, stating: "We want to express our concerns and suspicions that this funding is supporting . . . abortion," which "violates our core beliefs concerning life, family, and religion."

Most of the African countries are solidly pro-life, and they are under siege by the NGOs that we are supporting. The Mexico City policy helps to ensure that that doesn't happen.

They went on to say: "We ask that PEPFAR remain true to its original mission and respect our norms, traditions, and values. We ask that those partner organizations with whom the U.S. Government partners to implement PEPFAR programs . . . are cognizant and respectful of our beliefs and not cross over into promoting divisive ideas and practices that are not consistent with those of Africa."

Last year, showing no doubt of the pro-abortion goals of this administration, they announced a sweeping new radical policy known as Reimagining PEPFAR's Strategic Decision. They said that it integrates sexual reproductive health and rights. Of course, that means abortion with HIV/AIDS work.

Mr. Chair, in a recent op-ed, former Speaker Newt Gingrich wrote: “It is incredibly disappointing, but not surprising, that the Biden administration has hijacked one of President George W. Bush’s greatest accomplishments, the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, to promote apportion on demand in the developing world.”

He continued: “President Biden’s insincere and demonstrably false claim that PEPFAR isn’t pushing abortion on demand in Africa and elsewhere collapses under any serious scrutiny of its partners.”

They say they are not doing it. They are empowering the NGOs to do it. Just like in this Chamber, the House and Senate, and all over this country, we know it is the NGOs, Planned Parenthood and others, that tee up and promote very aggressively for abortion right up until the moment of birth.

Mr. Chair, I strongly supported PEPFAR when it was created in 2003, and I was the sponsor of the reauthorization of PEPFAR in 2018. Regrettably, it has been reimagined, hijacked by the Biden administration to empower pro-abortion international NGOs, deviating from its life-affirming work.

It is time we got back to the original noble idea, for which there is a strong bipartisan, bicameral consensus. That noble goal is to prevent this devastating disease, robustly treat and assist those who have been affected, and ultimately end HIV/AIDS around the world, not supporting abortion, the killing of unborn children by dismemberment, chemical poisoning.

Do you know what the abortion pill does? It starves the baby to death. That is its operation. They are trying to disseminate that all over Africa.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO), the ranking member of the Appropriations Committee.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the 2024 State, foreign operations, and related programs funding bill.

I will begin with comments from President Trump’s former Secretary of Defense, Mark Esper. He had this to say in response to this very bill’s cut of the State and foreign operations allocation: “When we don’t lead, we create a vacuum that will be filled instead by China.” He continued: “America’s leadership means more than just military capability. Diplomacy and foreign assistance are part of it, too. This proposed budget would upend that relationship by gutting our civilian toolkit and depriving America of the diplomatic leadership whose benefits I have seen last a lifetime.”

Also, the Global Health Council, together with 70 other organizations—Catholic Relief Services, United States Global Leadership Coalition, American Jewish Committee, InterAction, ONE Campaign, Christian Connections for International Health, and CARE USA—

expressed serious national security concerns with the House Republicans’ funding plan.

Mr. Chair, I plan to submit a compilation of these concerns for the record.

We are told that this 2024 State and foreign operations funding bill is tough on our adversaries. The opposite is true. This bill cedes America’s position as the leader of the global community. It weakens our national security, shortchanges foreign assistance, hinders our ability to address the climate crisis, and harms women around the world.

This is a reversal of the United States’ historic position on the world stage and promotes isolationism. We are supposed to be leaders of the free world. The majority is diminishing the United States, what we stand for, and what our values are for our own people and for people around the world who look to us for inspiration and hope.

Damage has already been done as partners and allies wonder whether the United States will be with them or whether they will be forced to turn to China or Russia to get needed investment or support in international institutions.

With China surpassing the United States as the largest trading partner in many countries in Latin America and Africa, China has more embassies, consulates, and diplomats than any other country in the world. They are contesting our model of democracy and capitalism around the world, and they are going virtually unchallenged.

This bill is an unfathomable reduction of our Nation’s ability to engage in diplomacy and to project soft power by over one-third. Knowing such a cut would be irresponsible and lead to negative repercussions around the world, this bill claws back billions of dollars, \$11 billion of which comes from the EPA’s Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, part of the Inflation Reduction Act.

Yesterday, this body debated how to address the challenges related to the thousands of desperate people reaching our southern border. However, with these cuts, the Department of State and USAID will be forced to reduce programs that engage countries like Colombia and Guatemala to address the very conditions causing people to flee to the United States. We cannot wait to address the issue when people are already at our border.

We all know what we should be doing right now, and this is not it. This is an exercise in futility because this bill is going nowhere.

The urgent issue is to keep our government open. Everyone in this body knows that keeping the U.S. Government running and passing full-year bills will require bipartisanship. We have a bipartisan agreement in the Senate, a compromise to keep our government open and to address the Nation’s concerns. Let us move in that direction.

Democrats and Republicans already compromised when they passed the debt limit bill, but because House Republicans immediately reneged, they have moved us to the brink of a shutdown, a Republican shutdown that will have consequences on every senior, veteran, and child in America and on our diplomats and our servicemembers around the world.

Let us move to keep our government open and support the Senate’s bipartisan compromise.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Chair, I want to be very clear that I have heard now that somehow this bill damages the reputation of the United States. No.

Do you know what damaged the reputation of the United States, Mr. Chairman? That irresponsible withdrawal from Afghanistan that showed the entire world what bad leadership is all about.

This bill confronts our adversaries—\$1 billion more to confront China than the President could do while we spend a lot less money. It stands by our friends. It confronts our adversaries.

The problem about credibility is not with this bill. It is with the President of the United States that, at best, is confused.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. MENG), a member of the State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Subcommittee.

Ms. MENG. Mr. Chair, I rise today in strong opposition to the fiscal year 2024 State-Foreign Operations appropriations bill.

As a member of the State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Subcommittee, I am appalled by the dangerous cuts and policy riders the majority has attached to this bill.

Yesterday, we heard from our friends across the aisle that the purpose of our military is to deter a war if diplomacy fails. Cutting funding for our State Department to levels not seen since 2009 and proposing eliminating funding for USAID not only cedes America’s position as a leader on the world stage but also eliminates funding for the very programs that seek to prevent violence and advance stability in areas vulnerable to conflict. This bill weakens our national security, not enhances it.

This bill also harms women all around the world. From eliminating our contributions to critical multilateral agencies, including U.N. Women and UNFPA, to cutting bilateral and multilateral international reproductive health funding by nearly a third, we are sending a message that the U.S. is willing to cede its role in helping the international community achieve global health targets, address unacceptably high global maternal mortality rates and gender-based violence, support healthy families, or promote gender equity. This is all at the behest of the majority’s culture war.

I do not accept the premise that we are willing to risk 8.2 million women and couples losing access to contraceptive services, resulting in 2.7 million more unintended pregnancies leading to 1.1 million additional unplanned births and an additional 4,700 maternal deaths. Women and girls deserve better.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to oppose this harmful legislation.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. LOIS FRANKEL), a member of the State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Subcommittee.

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to the 2024 Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act because it cedes our leadership in the global community, undermines human rights, and diminishes access to healthcare, education, food, and economic security for millions around the world.

Why should we care? It comes down to this: When people lack access to the basics in life, it means a greater risk for hopelessness and instability. Gutting climate change activities only escalates the consequences. For Americans at home, that means fewer trading partners, more danger from violent extremists, global pandemics, and even war.

We live in a very complicated world, and this bill undermines diplomacy and commitments to our allies and partners to make the world a better place in which to live, upending our commitments to the United Nations, and turning our back on decades of relationship-building, leaving a vacuum for unfriendly countries to fill.

If that is not enough, it hurts the most vulnerable women and girls in the world, slashing funding for women's healthcare and family planning and blocking access to reproductive care.

Mr. Chair, let me make it clear to the politicians in this room: Women, not the folks in this Chamber, should decide whether and when a woman should start or continue a family.

Tragically, this bill is going to leave our country and the world less healthy, less safe, and even more divided.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to vote against this bill.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ), the ranking member of the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the State-Foreign Operations bill while having tremendous respect for my colleague from Florida, with whom I share many points of view, but certainly not

on the State-Foreign Operations appropriations bill before us.

Here we are, for the fourth time this week, bringing forward a bill that has no chance of becoming law. This bill is supposed to invest in programs and people that ensure the national security of the United States, protects her interests abroad, and promotes our democratic values around the world.

This bill is supposed to show that the United States stands up for our allies and democratic values while countering adversaries on the global stage.

This bill is supposed to fund the programs that improve the lives of women and girls around the world by investing in education, health, and economic development.

It is supposed to ensure the United States can effectively wield our soft power.

Instead, this bill packages devastating cuts with petty partisan riders. It needlessly harms our career servicemembers and diplomats. It sends a message that the United States is willing to abdicate our role as a moral superpower, a role China and Russia are eager to fill. This bill says we will abandon our allies, our interests, and our democratic agenda all to cater to the whims of an extreme fringe.

The world is at an inflection point, more complex, more rife with threats than ever before. If there is any doubt, just look around. Russia has committed war crimes in Ukraine, and China has ratcheted up its aggression in the Indo-Pacific and ruthlessly cracked down on dissent at home. Authoritarians and dictators prop each other up, from Latin America to the Middle East. They all bait the United States, challenging us to step up or stand down.

In the face of that, this bill abdicates our responsibility to offer a viable alternative to protect allies and our vital interests here and around the globe.

We all know that when we gut programs to promote global education and health, when we cast aside entrepreneurship support, and when we neglect multilateral institutions doing vital work, we undermine our ability and credibility to protect and defend, to truly make sure that we can keep the world safe with our allies.

We lose our seat at the global table to ruthless thugs, dictators, and fascists when we try to pass harmful policy like this bill proposes. We do that at our own peril and imperil everything that Americans hold dear, which is why I encourage my colleagues to oppose this cruel and dangerous bill.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

First, let me take a minute on the many partisan riders included in the bill being considered today and raise a couple of points.

The number of prohibitions seems to be really enormous. They have pro-

hibited, often with little concern for what the actual ramifications might be.

It appears to be the approach of: If an organization has ever done something that you have not liked or a wild theory has circulated about it, we will just prohibit it. We will pick up our ball and take it home.

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This is not just ineffective; it is really immature.

The bill prohibits funds for the Chinese Communist Party. This sounds tough. I was the previous chairwoman of the subcommittee, and this bill has not provided funding to the Chinese Communist Party. It is a red herring.

It prohibits scientific cooperation with countries we do not like, not stopping to consider that while there may or may not be active collaboration currently, there may come a time when it is in the United States' best interest to partner, not with the government, but with the people, with scientists, to pursue common goals.

Indeed, we carried on scientific cooperation with the Soviet Union during the Cold War, not because we agree with their government, but it was in our own interest.

The bill prohibits gain-of-function research. That sounds good but consider that this same prohibited research is producing new therapies for cancer and cystic fibrosis. This research also helps us produce insulin for people with diabetes.

Has the majority considered what the cost will be of cutting this off?

The bill prohibits funding for the World Health Organization because they won't admit Taiwan. It is the member countries of the WHO that are making this decision, not the organization. With this bill, the PRC will continue to work against Taiwan's inclusion, but the United States won't be there to help.

We are told that this bill is strong against our adversaries. I would argue just the opposite. This bill takes the easy route and leaves the field open for those who would challenge us. It makes dialogue and engagement harder and leaves our potential partners and allies who are deciding who they can turn to for help high and dry and, of course, that won't be the United States.

A couple points on the United Nations. The U.N. is the forum for every country in the world. The United States, to my knowledge, does not get to pick who gets to be a sovereign country. Leadership of the United Nations committees, the general assembly, they all rotate among members, which the chairman knows. This makes it even more important that the United States fully participates. This bill endangers that.

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

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 2 minutes.

Mr. Chairman, I have great respect for the ranking member of this subcommittee because, I will tell you

what, she is consistent, and we have developed a very good relationship.

You have heard it right now. Yes, this bill prohibits funding for the Wuhan Institute of Virology, the EcoHealth Alliance, gain-of-function research, and it also prohibits funding for any lab controlled by China, Russia, Cuba, Iran, North Korea, and Venezuela.

We have a difference of opinion.

I believe that taxpayer money going to labs controlled by these countries is just not something we should be doing. There is an absolute difference of opinion on that. If anybody believes that U.S. taxpayer money should be going for those things, then you are going to have a problem with that part of this bill.

If you, however, believe that U.S. taxpayer money should not go to fund those labs controlled by those countries, I would then ask you to support this bill.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, the chairman and I respect each other. We have different points of view, and I consider us friends also.

I know, and I think the chairman knows, that many of our Republican colleagues do support robust investments in the SFOPS bill because I have seen the thousands of requests that Members have submitted this year and in prior years.

There is a long legacy of enlightened Republican support for foreign assistance. Congressional Republicans worked with Harry Truman to create the Marshall Plan which rebuilt Europe after a devastating war.

I worked with President Bush to create PEPFAR, which has saved 25 million lives from HIV and AIDS.

Yet, the majority has chosen to force this bill to the floor because they cynically believe that their Members will be happy to sacrifice the world's poorest people to make a political point.

To my Republican colleagues—I see you here on the floor today, and I am asking you to stand up and, yes, oppose this terrible bill. Please vote “no,” and let's get back together and write a bill that helps build the better and safer world that we want for our children and our grandchildren.

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

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Chairman, I think we have discussed some of the issues in this bill. I think it is a very positive bill. It supports our allies, and it confronts our adversaries. It also controls wasteful spending. Wasteful spending is one of the reasons we have inflation at the highest level we have had in decades.

Mr. Chairman, since the ranking member has yielded back her time, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 4665—Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2024.

While I am grateful the Rules Committee made my Jackson Lee Amendment 16 in order, I strongly oppose the underlying bill.

I will, however, briefly recap why my amendment is important for this particular measure should we be able to move forward with a feasible appropriations bill that can accommodate this amendment.

The Jackson Lee Amendment 16 increases funds by \$1,000,000 and decreases funding by \$1,000,000 for the Global Health Programs account to highlight and support the fight against the practice of Female Genital Mutilation.

I have been a dedicated champion against this practice for a long while, working closely with former Congressman Joe Crowley of New York to introduce legislation targeted at supporting the elimination of this ludicrous practice of mutilating young women.

Female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C) comprises all procedures that involve partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons.

This practice is rooted in gender inequality and is often linked to other elements of gender-based violence and discrimination, such as child marriage and recognized internationally as a violation of the human rights of women and girls.

Unfortunately, this means an estimated 200 million girls and women alive today have been victims of FGM/C, with girls 14 and younger representing 44 million of those who have been cut.

For example, consider that around the world, at least five girls are mutilated/cut every hour and more than 3 million girls are estimated to be at risk of FGM/C, annually.

The impacts of FGM/C on the physical health of women and girls can include bleeding, infection, obstetric fistula, complications during childbirth and death.

Other significant barriers to combatting the practice of FGM/C include the high concentration in specific regions associated with several cultural traditions, that is not tied to any one religion.

According to UNICEF, FGM/C is reported to occur in all parts of the world, but is most prevalent in parts of Africa, the Middle East, and Asia.

Due to the commonality of this practice many migrants to the U.S. bring the practice of FGM/C with them, increasing the importance of combatting FGM/C abroad.

Jackson Lee Amendment 16 prioritizes funding for foreign assistance to combat Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C), an internationally recognized violation of the human rights of girls and women comes to an end.

Yet, as it pertains to the underlying appropriations bill, I stand with the Administration and my colleagues to express my opposition for the following noted reasons:

Treasury High-Leverage Programs. I strongly oppose section 7061(b) of the bill, which prohibits funding being made available to the Clean Technology Fund. The \$425 million requested for this account would support a loan of \$1.2 billion. It is disappointing that the bill does not support loan guarantees at the multilateral development banks, where \$111 million in subsidy would leverage \$3 billion in loan guarantees to finance energy security. The appropriations for this bill should include the re-

quested authority to use existing resources for loans to the International Monetary Fund's Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust and Resilience and Sustainability Trust, which would leverage billions of dollars to accelerate progress in developing countries.

Global Health. I appreciate that the bill includes full funding for the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and urges the Congress to reauthorize PEPFAR for another five-year period to accelerate global progress toward reaching HIV epidemic control. However, it is deeply troubling that the bill significantly reduces funding available for global health security, which would leave the world more vulnerable to infectious disease threats and pandemics.

Reproductive Health Restrictions. It is also deeply concerning that the bill includes new restrictions on lifesaving global family planning and reproductive health (FP/RH) services and other global health assistance; these excessive conditions would undermine U.S. efforts to combat infectious diseases and to advance gender equality globally by restricting America's ability to support health programs. Section 7058(b) of the bill imposes a ceiling on FP/RH funding levels that is far below the longstanding enacted level, leaving even more women without access to these essential health services. Further, section 7057(a) of the bill prohibits funding for the United Nations Population Fund, which provides essential work to address preventable maternal deaths and the unmet need for family planning, prevent and respond to gender-based violence, and end harmful practices around the world, including in places where the United States does not have its own programming, as well as in many humanitarian crises. In addition, section 7057(b) of the bill would require application of a harmful policy that imposes excessive conditions that would undermine U.S. foreign and development assistance. Similar prior restrictions, which were ended by the President during his first days in office, affected local partners around the world receiving global health assistance, limiting the United States' ability to work with these partners and inhibiting their efforts to confront a range of health challenges.

Diplomatic and Development Workforce. It is deeply concerning that the bill would reduce funding for America's international affairs workforce and operations by nearly 20 percent, which would significantly curtail implementation of U.S. foreign policy, and would likely reduce U.S. presence overseas. This funding level, along with the large number of directives in the bill, would force the Department of State to make very difficult tradeoffs, and could result in hiring freezes, reductions in force, and contract suspensions.

United Nations (UN) and Other International Organizations. It is further deeply concerning that the bill does not include funding for the UN regular budget and many other international organizations. The bill includes more than \$1 billion in draconian reductions that would undermine U.S. leadership, compromise America's ability to meet its treaty obligations, and limit U.S. capacity to address shared global challenges, while inviting America's adversaries to take America's place. The bill also provides no funding for the International Organizations and Programs account, which would eliminate critical resources to organizations such as the UN High Commissioner for

Human Rights and the UN Children's Fund, which provide essential life-saving services to women and children around the world.

Humanitarian Assistance. I am also disappointed at the significant reduction, below the FY 2023 enacted levels, provided in the bill for life-saving humanitarian assistance during a time of record displacement and complex challenges worldwide. The bill also provides no new funding for the President's Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund, which is currently depleted and requires replenishment to enable the United States to respond to unexpected humanitarian crises.

Prohibitions. I also strongly oppose the inclusion of prohibitions throughout the bill, such as in sections 7064(e)(3), 7061(a), 7070, and 7059(f), that limit the Administration's flexibility in advancing key national security and foreign policy objectives. These include prohibitions related to funding for special envoys and similar positions, the Green Climate Fund, LGBTQI+ protections, and the Gender Equity and Equality Action Fund focused on advancing women's economic security, among others.

Afghan Special Immigrant Visas (SIVs). I am disappointed that the bill fails to provide the requested increase of 20,000 visas to the Afghan SIVs cap or to extend Afghan SIV program through 2029. This program demonstrates the steadfast commitment of the United States to Afghan allies who have supported the U.S. mission in Afghanistan for over two decades.

Rescissions. I am also deeply troubled that the bill rescinds over \$1.5 billion across the Development Assistance, Economic Support Fund, and Peace Corps accounts. These rescissions would drastically reduce the U.S. Government's ability to support U.S. allies and partners to defend shared national security interests and to combat poverty, corruption, and food insecurity.

Clean Technology Rescission. I am also disappointed that the bill would rescind \$11 billion in funding provided by the Inflation Reduction Act for the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund program at EPA. This rescission would eliminate funds designed to mobilize private capital into clean technology projects, especially in low-income and disadvantaged communities, that would expand economic opportunities in communities, reduce harmful pollution, and protect people's health while tackling the climate crisis.

Constitutional Concerns. Certain provisions of the draft bill raise constitutional concerns, including by interfering with the President's authority to determine the command of the Armed Forces, to recognize territorial sovereignty, and to conduct diplomacy.

We can do better. We are better than this. The American people deserve better.

I cannot support this bill as it stands, and I urge all my colleagues to vote against this cruel proposal.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. MOLINARO). All time for general debate has expired.

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

The amendment printed in part C of House Report 118-216, shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered read.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4665

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 State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I
DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND RELATED AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ADMINISTRATION OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
DIPLOMATIC PROGRAMS

For necessary expenses of the Department of State and the Foreign Service not otherwise provided for, including for training, human resources management, and salaries, including employment without regard to civil service and classification laws of persons on a temporary basis (not to exceed \$700,000), as authorized by section 801 of the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948 (62 Stat. 11; Chapter 36); for the regional bureaus of the Department of State and overseas activities as authorized by law; for the functional bureaus of the Department of State, including representation to certain international organizations in which the United States participates pursuant to treaties ratified pursuant to the advice and consent of the Senate or specific Acts of Congress, general administration, and arms control, nonproliferation, and disarmament activities as authorized; and for security activities, \$8,815,620,000 (reduced by \$306,505,000), of which \$712,418,000 may remain available until September 30, 2025, and of which \$4,066,168,000 is for Worldwide Security Protection, which may remain available until expended: *Provided*, That funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act under this heading and under the heading "Consular and Border Security Programs" shall be made available to increase consular staff, reduce passport processing times, and lower wait times for visa services, including by assigning onboard staff for temporary duty to meet immediate consular staffing needs.

CONSULAR AND BORDER SECURITY PROGRAMS

Of the amounts deposited in the Consular and Border Security Programs account in this or any prior fiscal year pursuant to section 7069(e) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2022 (division K of Public Law 117-103), \$300,000,000 shall be available until expended for the purposes of such account, including to reduce passport backlogs and reduce visa wait times: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State may by regulation authorize State officials or the United States Postal Service to collect and retain the execution fee for each application for a passport accepted by such officials or by that Service.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT FUND

For necessary expenses of the Capital Investment Fund, as authorized, \$346,210,000, to remain available until expended.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General, \$108,165,000, of which \$16,225,000 may remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this heading are made available notwithstanding section 209(a)(1) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 3929(a)(1)), as it relates to post inspections.

In addition, for the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR) for reconstruction oversight, \$26,835,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this heading that are made available for the printing and reproduction costs of SIGAR

shall not exceed amounts for such costs during the prior fiscal year.

EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

For necessary expenses of educational and cultural exchange programs, as authorized, \$700,946,000, to remain available until expended, of which not less than \$287,500,000 shall be for the Fulbright Program: *Provided*, That fees or other payments received from, or in connection with, English teaching, educational advising and counseling programs, and exchange visitor programs as authorized may be credited to this account, to remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That any substantive modifications from the prior fiscal year to programs funded by this Act under this heading shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

REPRESENTATION EXPENSES

For representation expenses as authorized, \$7,415,000.

PROTECTION OF FOREIGN MISSIONS AND OFFICIALS

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided, to enable the Secretary of State to provide for extraordinary protective services, as authorized, \$27,492,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

EMBASSY SECURITY, CONSTRUCTION, AND MAINTENANCE

For necessary expenses for carrying out the Foreign Service Buildings Act of 1926 (22 U.S.C. 292 et seq.), preserving, maintaining, repairing, and planning for real property that are owned or leased by the Department of State, and renovating, in addition to funds otherwise available, the Harry S Truman Building, \$917,381,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028, of which not to exceed \$25,000 may be used for overseas representation expenses as authorized: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated in this paragraph shall be available for acquisition of furniture, furnishings, or generators for other departments and agencies of the United States Government.

In addition, for the costs of worldwide security upgrades, acquisition, and construction as authorized, \$1,095,801,000, to remain available until expended.

EMERGENCIES IN THE DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR SERVICE

For necessary expenses to enable the Secretary of State to meet unforeseen emergencies arising in the Diplomatic and Consular Service, as authorized, \$10,685,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed \$1,000,000 may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated by this Act under the heading "Repatriation Loans Program Account".

REPATRIATION LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of direct loans, \$1,800,000, as authorized: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That such funds are available to subsidize gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans not to exceed \$5,167,004.

PAYMENT TO THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE IN TAIWAN

For necessary expenses to carry out the Taiwan Relations Act (Public Law 96-8), \$34,964,000.

INTERNATIONAL CENTER, WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Not to exceed \$1,842,732 shall be derived from fees collected from other executive agencies for lease or use of facilities at the

International Center in accordance with section 4 of the International Center Act (Public Law 90-553), and, in addition, as authorized by section 5 of such Act, \$744,000, to be derived from the reserve authorized by such section, to be used for the purposes set out in that section.

PAYMENT TO THE FOREIGN SERVICE RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY FUND

For payment to the Foreign Service Retirement and Disability Fund, as authorized, \$158,900,000.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, to meet annual obligations of membership in international multilateral organizations, pursuant to treaties ratified pursuant to the advice and consent of the Senate, conventions, or specific Acts of Congress, \$245,795,000: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State shall, at the time of the submission of the President's budget to Congress under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, transmit to the Committees on Appropriations the most recent biennial budget prepared by the United Nations for the operations of the United Nations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of State shall notify the Committees on Appropriations at least 15 days in advance (or in an emergency, as far in advance as is practicable) of any United Nations action to increase funding for any United Nations program without identifying an offsetting decrease elsewhere in the United Nations budget: *Provided further*, That not later than May 1, 2024, and 30 days after the end of fiscal year 2024, the Secretary of State shall report to the Committees on Appropriations any credits attributable to the United States, including from the United Nations Tax Equalization Fund, and provide updated fiscal year 2024 and fiscal year 2025 assessment costs including offsets from available credits and updated foreign currency exchange rates: *Provided further*, That any such credits shall only be available for United States assessed contributions to the United Nations regular budget, and the Committees on Appropriations shall be notified when such credits are applied to any assessed contribution, including any payment of arrearages: *Provided further*, That any notification regarding funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this heading in this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs submitted pursuant to section 7015 of this Act, section 34 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2706), or any operating plan submitted pursuant to section 7062 of this Act, shall include an estimate of all known credits currently attributable to the United States and provide updated assessment costs including offsets from available credits and updated foreign currency exchange rates: *Provided further*, That any payment of arrearages under this heading shall be directed to activities that are mutually agreed upon by the United States and the respective international organization and shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for a United States contribution to an international organization for the United States share of interest costs made known to the United States Government by such organization for loans incurred on or after October 1, 1984, through external borrowings: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this heading may be

made available for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING ACTIVITIES

For necessary expenses to pay assessed and other expenses of international peacekeeping activities directed to the maintenance or restoration of international peace and security, \$1,268,886,000 (reduced by \$667,296,000), of which \$190,333,000 may remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That none of the funds made available by this Act shall be obligated or expended for any new or expanded United Nations peacekeeping mission unless, at least 15 days in advance of voting for such mission in the United Nations Security Council (or in an emergency as far in advance as is practicable), the Committees on Appropriations are notified of: (1) the estimated cost and duration of the mission, the objectives of the mission, the national interest that will be served, and the exit strategy; and (2) the sources of funds, including any reprogramming or transfers, that will be used to pay the cost of the new or expanded mission, and the estimated cost in future fiscal years: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated under this heading may be made available for obligation unless the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations on a peacekeeping mission-by-mission basis that the United Nations is implementing effective policies and procedures to prevent United Nations employees, contractor personnel, and peacekeeping troops serving in such mission from trafficking in persons, exploiting victims of trafficking, or committing acts of sexual exploitation and abuse or other violations of human rights, and to hold accountable individuals who engage in such acts while participating in such mission, including prosecution in their home countries and making information about such prosecutions publicly available on the website of the United Nations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of State shall work with the United Nations and foreign governments contributing peacekeeping troops to implement effective vetting procedures to ensure that such troops have not violated human rights: *Provided further*, That funds shall be available for peacekeeping expenses unless the Secretary of State determines that United States manufacturers and suppliers are not being given opportunities to provide equipment, services, and material for United Nations peacekeeping activities equal to those being given to foreign manufacturers and suppliers: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this heading may be used for any United Nations peacekeeping mission that will involve United States Armed Forces under the command or operational control of a foreign national, unless the President's military advisors have submitted to the President a recommendation that such involvement is in the national interest of the United States and the President has submitted to Congress such a recommendation: *Provided further*, That not later than May 1, 2024, and 30 days after the end of fiscal year 2024, the Secretary of State shall report to the Committees on Appropriations any credits attributable to the United States, including those resulting from United Nations peacekeeping missions or the United Nations Tax Equalization Fund, and provide updated fiscal year 2024 and fiscal year 2025 assessment costs, including offsets from available credits: *Provided further*, That any such credits shall only be available for United States assessed contributions to United Nations peacekeeping missions, and the Committees on Appropriations shall be notified when such credits are applied to any

assessed contribution, including any payment of arrearages: *Provided further*, That any notification regarding funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this heading in this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs submitted pursuant to section 7015 of this Act, section 34 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2706), or any operating plan submitted pursuant to section 7062 of this Act, shall include an estimate of all known credits currently attributable to the United States and provide updated assessment costs, including offsets from available credits: *Provided further*, That any payment of arrearages with funds appropriated by this Act shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of State shall work with the United Nations and members of the United Nations Security Council to evaluate and prioritize peacekeeping missions, and to consider a draw down when mission goals have been substantially achieved.

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSIONS

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, to meet obligations of the United States arising under treaties, or specific Acts of Congress, as follows:

INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION, UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

For necessary expenses for the United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico, and to comply with laws applicable to the United States Section, including not to exceed \$6,000 for representation expenses, as follows:

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses, not otherwise provided for, \$70,000,000, of which \$10,500,000 may remain available until September 30, 2025.

CONSTRUCTION

For detailed plan preparation and construction of authorized projects, \$76,530,000, to remain available until expended, as authorized: *Provided*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading in this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the United States Section, up to \$5,000,000 may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated under the heading "Salaries and Expenses" to carry out the purposes of the United States Section, which shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That such transfer authority is in addition to any other transfer authority provided in this Act.

AMERICAN SECTIONS, INTERNATIONAL COMMISSIONS

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided, for the International Joint Commission and the International Boundary Commission, United States and Canada, as authorized by treaties between the United States and Canada or Great Britain, and for technical assistance grants and the Community Assistance Program of the North American Development Bank, \$16,204,000: *Provided*, That of the amount provided under this heading for the International Joint Commission, up to \$1,250,000 may remain available until September 30, 2025, and up to \$9,000 may be made available for representation expenses: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided under this heading for the International Boundary Commission, up to \$1,000 may be made available for representation expenses.

INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES COMMISSIONS

For necessary expenses for international fisheries commissions, not otherwise provided for, as authorized by law, \$62,864,000: *Provided*, That the United States share of such expenses may be advanced to the respective commissions pursuant to section 3324 of title 31, United States Code.

RELATED AGENCY

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR GLOBAL MEDIA

INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses to enable the United States Agency for Global Media (USAGM), as authorized, to carry out international communication activities, and to make and supervise grants for radio, Internet, and television broadcasting to the Middle East, \$798,196,000, of which \$39,910,000 may remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes, up to \$64,208,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading may remain available until expended for satellite transmissions and Internet freedom programs, of which not less than \$43,500,000 shall be for Internet freedom programs: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not less than \$35,000,000 shall be made available for the Office of Cuba Broadcasting (OCB) pursuant to the requirements included in section 7045 of this Act: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading and made available for the Open Technology Fund, not less than \$5,000,000 shall be made available for grants for innovative methods to reach audiences inside of Cuba: *Provided further*, That such funds are in addition to amounts otherwise made available for such purposes: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading and made available for USAGM networks, not less than \$5,000,000 shall be made available for programming produced about Cuba by OCB, which are in addition to funds made available for OCB: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated under this heading, not to exceed \$35,000 may be used for representation expenses, of which \$10,000 may be used for such expenses within the United States as authorized, and not to exceed \$30,000 may be used for representation expenses of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading shall be made available in accordance with the principles and standards set forth in section 303(a) and (b) of the United States International Broadcasting Act of 1994 (22 U.S.C. 6202) and section 305(b) of such Act (22 U.S.C. 6204): *Provided further*, That the USAGM Chief Executive Officer shall notify the Committees on Appropriations within 15 days of any determination by the USAGM that any of its broadcast entities, including its grantee organizations, provides an open platform for international terrorists or those who support international terrorism, or is in violation of the principles and standards set forth in section 303(a) and (b) of such Act or the entity's journalistic code of ethics: *Provided further*, That in addition to funds made available under this heading, and notwithstanding any other provision of law, up to \$5,000,000 in receipts from advertising and revenue from business ventures, up to \$500,000 in receipts from cooperating international organizations, and up to \$1,000,000 in receipts from privatization efforts of the Voice of America and the International Broadcasting Bureau, shall remain available until expended for carrying out authorized purposes: *Provided further*, That significant modifications to USAGM broadcast hours previously justified to Congress, including changes to transmission platforms (shortwave, medium wave,

satellite, Internet, and television), for all USAGM language services shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

BROADCASTING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

For the purchase, rent, construction, repair, preservation, and improvement of facilities for radio, television, and digital transmission and reception; the purchase, rent, and installation of necessary equipment for radio, television, and digital transmission and reception, including to Cuba, as authorized; and physical security worldwide, in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes, \$9,700,000, to remain available until expended, as authorized.

RELATED PROGRAMS

THE ASIA FOUNDATION

For a grant to The Asia Foundation, as authorized by The Asia Foundation Act (22 U.S.C. 4402), \$19,580,000, to remain available until expended.

UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE

For necessary expenses of the United States Institute of Peace, as authorized by the United States Institute of Peace Act (22 U.S.C. 4601 et seq.), \$38,634,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, which shall not be used for construction activities.

CENTER FOR MIDDLE EASTERN-WESTERN DIALOGUE TRUST FUND

For necessary expenses of the Center for Middle Eastern-Western Dialogue Trust Fund, as authorized by section 633 of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2004 (22 U.S.C. 2078), the total amount of the interest and earnings accruing to such Fund on or before September 30, 2024, to remain available until expended.

EISENHOWER EXCHANGE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

For necessary expenses of Eisenhower Exchange Fellowships, Incorporated, as authorized by sections 4 and 5 of the Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship Act of 1990 (20 U.S.C. 5204-5205), all interest and earnings accruing to the Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship Program Trust Fund on or before September 30, 2024, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated herein shall be used to pay any salary or other compensation, or to enter into any contract providing for the payment thereof, in excess of the rate authorized by section 5376 of title 5, United States Code; or for purposes which are not in accordance with section 200 of title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations, including the restrictions on compensation for personal services.

ISRAELI ARAB SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

For necessary expenses of the Israeli Arab Scholarship Program, as authorized by section 214 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1992 and 1993 (22 U.S.C. 2452 note), all interest and earnings accruing to the Israeli Arab Scholarship Fund on or before September 30, 2024, to remain available until expended.

EAST-WEST CENTER

To enable the Secretary of State to provide for carrying out the provisions of the Center for Cultural and Technical Interchange Between East and West Act of 1960, by grant to the Center for Cultural and Technical Interchange Between East and West in the State of Hawaii, \$19,580,000.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY

For grants made by the Department of State to the National Endowment for Democracy, as authorized by the National Endowment for Democracy Act (22 U.S.C. 4412), \$315,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$215,000,000 shall be allo-

cated in the traditional and customary manner, including for the core institutes, and \$100,000,000 shall be for democracy programs: *Provided*, That the requirements of section 7062(a) of this Act shall not apply to funds made available under this heading.

OTHER COMMISSIONS

COMMISSION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF AMERICA'S HERITAGE ABROAD
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad, as authorized by chapter 3123 of title 54, United States Code, \$770,000, of which \$115,000 may remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That the Commission may procure temporary, intermittent, and other services notwithstanding paragraph (3) of section 312304(b) of such chapter: *Provided further*, That such authority shall terminate on October 1, 2024: *Provided further*, That the Commission shall notify the Committees on Appropriations prior to exercising such authority.

UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, as authorized by title II of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6431 et seq.), \$4,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, including not more than \$4,000 for representation expenses.

COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, as authorized by Public Law 94-304 (22 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.), \$2,908,000, including not more than \$6,000 for representation expenses, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

CONGRESSIONAL-EXECUTIVE COMMISSION ON THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China, as authorized by title III of the U.S.-China Relations Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 6911 et seq.), \$2,300,000, including not more than \$3,000 for representation expenses, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

UNITED STATES-CHINA ECONOMIC AND SECURITY REVIEW COMMISSION
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission, as authorized by section 1238 of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 (22 U.S.C. 7002), \$4,000,000, including not more than \$4,000 for representation expenses, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That the authorities, requirements, limitations, and conditions contained in the second through fifth provisos under this heading in the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2010 (division F of Public Law 111-117) shall continue in effect during fiscal year 2024 and shall apply to funds appropriated under this heading.

TITLE II
UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
FUND APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT
OPERATING EXPENSES

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 667 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, \$1,214,808,000 (reduced by

\$26,199,000), of which up to \$182,221,000 may remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated under this heading and under the heading “Capital Investment Fund” in this title may be made available to finance the construction (including architect and engineering services), purchase, or long-term lease of offices for use by the United States Agency for International Development, unless the USAID Administrator has identified such proposed use of funds in a report submitted to the Committees on Appropriations at least 15 days prior to the obligation of funds for such purposes: *Provided further*, That contracts or agreements entered into with funds appropriated under this heading may entail commitments for the expenditure of such funds through the following fiscal year: *Provided further*, That the authority of sections 610 and 109 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 may be exercised by the Secretary of State to transfer funds appropriated to carry out chapter 1 of part I of such Act to “Operating Expenses” in accordance with the provisions of those sections: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated or made available under this heading, not to exceed \$250,000 may be available for representation and entertainment expenses, of which not to exceed \$5,000 may be available for entertainment expenses, and not to exceed \$100,500 shall be for official residence expenses, for USAID during the current fiscal year: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, up to \$20,000,000 may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated or otherwise made available in title II of this Act under the heading “Capital Investment Fund”, subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT FUND

For necessary expenses for overseas construction and related costs, and for the procurement and enhancement of information technology and related capital investments, pursuant to section 667 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, \$230,599,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That this amount is in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading shall be available subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 667 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, \$87,500,000, of which up to \$13,125,000 may remain available until September 30, 2025, for the Office of Inspector General of the United States Agency for International Development.

TITLE III

BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

For necessary expenses to enable the President to carry out the provisions of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, and for other purposes, as follows:

GLOBAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of chapters 1 and 10 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, for global health activities, in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes, \$3,623,712,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, and which shall be apportioned directly to the United States Agency for International Development: *Provided*, That this amount shall be made available for training, equipment, and technical assistance to build the capacity of public health

institutions and organizations in developing countries, and for such activities as: (1) child survival and maternal health programs; (2) immunization and oral rehydration programs; (3) other health, nutrition, water and sanitation programs which directly address the needs of mothers and children, and related education programs; (4) assistance for children displaced or orphaned by causes other than AIDS; (5) programs for the prevention, treatment, control of, and research on HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, polio, malaria, and other infectious diseases including neglected tropical diseases, and for assistance to communities severely affected by HIV/AIDS, including children infected or affected by AIDS; (6) disaster preparedness training for health crises; (7) programs to prevent, prepare for, and respond to unanticipated and emerging global health threats; and (8) family planning/reproductive health: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this paragraph may be made available for a United States contribution to The GAVI Alliance: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available in this Act nor any unobligated balances from prior appropriations Acts may be made available to any organization or program which, as determined by the President of the United States, supports or participates in the management of a program of coercive abortion or involuntary sterilization: *Provided further*, That any determination made under the previous proviso must be made not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, and must be accompanied by the evidence and criteria utilized to make the determination: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available under this Act may be used to pay for the performance of abortion as a method of family planning or to motivate or coerce any person to practice abortions: *Provided further*, That nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to alter any existing statutory prohibitions against abortion under section 104 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available under this Act may be used to lobby for or against abortion: *Provided further*, That in order to reduce reliance on abortion in developing nations, funds shall be available only to voluntary family planning projects which offer, either directly or through referral to, or information about access to, a broad range of family planning methods and services, and that any such voluntary family planning project shall meet the following requirements: (1) service providers or referral agents in the project shall not implement or be subject to quotas, or other numerical targets, of total number of births, number of family planning acceptors, or acceptors of a particular method of family planning (this provision shall not be construed to include the use of quantitative estimates or indicators for budgeting and planning purposes); (2) the project shall not include payment of incentives, bribes, gratuities, or financial reward to: (A) an individual in exchange for becoming a family planning acceptor; or (B) program personnel for achieving a numerical target or quota of total number of births, number of family planning acceptors, or acceptors of a particular method of family planning; (3) the project shall not deny any right or benefit, including the right of access to participate in any program of general welfare or the right of access to health care, as a consequence of any individual's decision not to accept family planning services; (4) the project shall provide family planning acceptors comprehensible information on the health benefits and risks of the method chosen, including those conditions that might render the use of the method inadvisable and those adverse side effects known to be con-

sequent to the use of the method; and (5) the project shall ensure that experimental contraceptive drugs and devices and medical procedures are provided only in the context of a scientific study in which participants are advised of potential risks and benefits; and, not less than 60 days after the date on which the USAID Administrator determines that there has been a violation of the requirements contained in paragraph (1), (2), (3), or (5) of this proviso, or a pattern or practice of violations of the requirements contained in paragraph (4) of this proviso, the Administrator shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a report containing a description of such violation and the corrective action taken by the Agency: *Provided further*, That in awarding grants for natural family planning under section 104 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 no applicant shall be discriminated against because of such applicant's religious or conscientious commitment to offer only natural family planning; and, additionally, all such applicants shall comply with the requirements of the previous proviso: *Provided further*, That for purposes of this or any other Act authorizing or appropriating funds for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, the term “motivate”, as it relates to family planning assistance, shall not be construed to prohibit the provision, consistent with local law, of information or counseling about all pregnancy options: *Provided further*, That information provided about the use of condoms as part of projects or activities that are funded from amounts appropriated by this Act shall be medically accurate and shall include the public health benefits and failure rates of such use.

In addition, for necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for the prevention, treatment, and control of, and research on, HIV/AIDS, \$6,395,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028, which shall be apportioned directly to the Department of State: *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this paragraph may be made available, notwithstanding any other provision of law, except for the United States Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-25), for a United States contribution to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund): *Provided further*, That the amount of such contribution shall be \$2,000,000,000: *Provided further*, That up to 5 percent of the aggregate amount of funds made available to the Global Fund in fiscal year 2024 may be made available to USAID for technical assistance related to the activities of the Global Fund, subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this paragraph, up to \$20,000,000 may be made available, in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes, for administrative expenses of the Office of the United States Global AIDS Coordinator.

DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of sections 103, 105, 106, 214, and sections 251 through 255, and chapter 10 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, \$3,000,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That funds made available under this heading shall be apportioned to the United States Agency for International Development.

INTERNATIONAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 491 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for international disaster relief, rehabilitation, and reconstruction assistance, \$3,905,460,000, to remain available

until expended: *Provided*, That funds made available under this heading shall be apportioned to the United States Agency for International Development not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

TRANSITION INITIATIVES

For necessary expenses for international disaster rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance administered by the Office of Transition Initiatives, United States Agency for International Development, pursuant to section 491 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, and to support transition to democracy and long-term development of countries in crisis, \$80,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such support may include assistance to develop, strengthen, or preserve democratic institutions and processes, revitalize basic infrastructure, and foster the peaceful resolution of conflict: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading may not be made available for programs for which the sole purpose is to transport individuals: *Provided further*, That the USAID Administrator shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations at least 5 days prior to beginning a new, or terminating a, program of assistance: *Provided further*, That if the Secretary of State determines that it is important to the national interest of the United States to provide transition assistance in excess of the amount appropriated under this heading, up to \$15,000,000 of the funds appropriated by this Act to carry out the provisions of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 may be used for purposes of this heading and under the authorities applicable to funds appropriated under this heading: *Provided further*, That funds made available pursuant to the previous proviso shall be made available subject to prior consultation with the Committees on Appropriations.

COMPLEX CRISES FUND

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 509(b) of the Global Fragility Act of 2019 (title V of division J of Public Law 116-94), \$30,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law, except sections 7007, 7008, and 7018 of this Act and section 620M of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading shall be apportioned to the United States Agency for International Development.

ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, \$2,977,850,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

DEMOCRACY FUND

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for the promotion of democracy globally, including to carry out the purposes of section 502(b)(3) and (5) of Public Law 98-164 (22 U.S.C. 4411), \$210,700,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, which shall be made available for the Human Rights and Democracy Fund of the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State: *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this heading that are made available to the National Endowment for Democracy and its core institutes are in addition to amounts otherwise made available by this Act for such purposes: *Provided further*, That the Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State, shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to the initial obligation of funds appropriated under this paragraph.

For an additional amount for such purposes, \$145,000,000, to remain available until

September 30, 2025, which shall be made available for the Bureau for Development, Democracy, and Innovation, United States Agency for International Development.

ASSISTANCE FOR EUROPE, EURASIA AND CENTRAL ASIA

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, the FREEDOM Support Act (Public Law 102-511), and the Support for Eastern European Democracy (SEED) Act of 1989 (Public Law 101-179), \$770,334,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, which shall be available, notwithstanding any other provision of law, except section 7047 of this Act, for assistance and related programs for countries identified in section 3 of the FREEDOM Support Act (22 U.S.C. 5801) and section 3(c) of the SEED Act of 1989 (22 U.S.C. 5402), in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes: *Provided*, That funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Global Health Programs”, “Economic Support Fund”, and “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement” that are made available for assistance for such countries shall be administered in accordance with the responsibilities of the coordinator designated pursuant to section 102 of the FREEDOM Support Act and section 601 of the SEED Act of 1989: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading shall be considered to be economic assistance under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for purposes of making available the administrative authorities contained in that Act for the use of economic assistance: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be made available for contributions to multilateral initiatives to counter hybrid threats.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MIGRATION AND REFUGEE ASSISTANCE

For necessary expenses not otherwise provided for, to enable the Secretary of State to carry out the provisions of section 2(a) and (b) of the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962 (22 U.S.C. 2601), and other activities to meet refugee and migration needs; salaries and expenses of personnel and dependents as authorized by the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 3901 et seq.); allowances as authorized by sections 5921 through 5925 of title 5, United States Code; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, \$2,548,250,000, to remain available until expended, of which not less than \$5,000,000 shall be made available for refugees resettling in Israel.

INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

PEACE CORPS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2501 et seq.), including the purchase of not to exceed five passenger motor vehicles for administrative purposes for use outside of the United States, \$410,500,000, of which \$7,300,000 is for the Office of Inspector General, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That the Director of the Peace Corps may transfer to the Foreign Currency Fluctuations Account, as authorized by section 16 of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2515), an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000: *Provided further*, That funds transferred pursuant to the previous proviso may not be derived from amounts made available for Peace Corps overseas operations: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not to exceed \$104,000 may be available for representation expenses, of which not to exceed \$4,000 may be made available for entertainment expenses: *Provided further*, That in

addition to the requirements under section 7015(a) of this Act, the Peace Corps shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to any decision to open, close, or suspend a domestic or overseas office or a country program unless there is a substantial risk to volunteers or other Peace Corps personnel: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be used to pay for abortions: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding the previous proviso, section 614 of division E of Public Law 113-76 shall apply to funds appropriated under this heading.

MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003 (22 U.S.C. 7701 et seq.) (MCA), \$905,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, up to \$122,000,000 may be available for administrative expenses of the Millennium Challenge Corporation: *Provided further*, That section 605(e) of the MCA (22 U.S.C. 7704(e)) shall apply to funds appropriated under this heading: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be made available for a Millennium Challenge Compact entered into pursuant to section 609 of the MCA (22 U.S.C. 7708) only if such Compact obligates, or contains a commitment to obligate subject to the availability of funds and the mutual agreement of the parties to the Compact to proceed, the entire amount of the United States Government funding anticipated for the duration of the Compact: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not to exceed \$100,000 may be available for representation and entertainment expenses, of which not to exceed \$5,000 may be available for entertainment expenses.

INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION

For necessary expenses to carry out the functions of the Inter-American Foundation in accordance with the provisions of section 401 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1969, \$22,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not to exceed \$2,000 may be available for representation expenses.

UNITED STATES AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

For necessary expenses to carry out the African Development Foundation Act (title V of Public Law 96-533; 22 U.S.C. 290h et seq.), \$30,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, of which not to exceed \$2,000 may be available for representation expenses: *Provided*, That funds made available to grantees may be invested pending expenditure for project purposes when authorized by the Board of Directors of the United States African Development Foundation (USADF): *Provided further*, That interest earned shall be used only for the purposes for which the grant was made: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 505(a)(2) of the African Development Foundation Act (22 U.S.C. 290h-3(a)(2)), in exceptional circumstances the Board of Directors of the USADF may waive the \$250,000 limitation contained in that section with respect to a project and a project may exceed the limitation by up to 10 percent if the increase is due solely to foreign currency fluctuation: *Provided further*, That the USADF shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees after each time such waiver authority is exercised: *Provided further*, That the USADF may make rent or lease payments in advance from appropriations available for such purpose for offices, buildings, grounds, and quarters in Africa as may be necessary to carry out its functions: *Provided*

further, That the USAID may maintain bank accounts outside the United States Treasury and retain any interest earned on such accounts, in furtherance of the purposes of the African Development Foundation Act: *Provided further*, That the USAID may not withdraw any appropriation from the Treasury prior to the need of spending such funds for program purposes.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 129 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, \$30,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which not more than \$6,000,000 may be used for administrative expenses: *Provided*, That amounts made available under this heading may be made available to contract for services as described in section 129(d)(3)(A) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, without regard to the location in which such services are performed.

DEBT RESTRUCTURING

For “Bilateral Economic Assistance—Department of the Treasury—Debt Restructuring” there is appropriated \$46,280,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027, for the costs, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, of modifying loans and loan guarantees for, or credits extended to, such countries as the President may determine, including the costs of selling, reducing, or canceling amounts owed to the United States pursuant to multilateral debt restructurings, including Paris Club debt restructurings and the “Common Framework for Debt Treatments beyond the Debt Service Suspension Initiative”: *Provided*, That such amounts may be used notwithstanding any other provision of law.

TROPICAL FOREST AND CORAL REEF
CONSERVATION

For the costs, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, of modifying loans and loan guarantees, as the President may determine, for which funds have been appropriated or otherwise made available for programs within the International Affairs Budget Function 150, including the costs of selling, reducing, or canceling amounts owed to the United States as a result of concessional loans made to eligible countries pursuant to part V of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, \$15,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027.

TITLE IV

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL AND LAW
ENFORCEMENT

For necessary expenses to carry out section 481 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, \$1,497,469,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That the Department of State may use the authority of section 608 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, without regard to its restrictions, to receive excess property from an agency of the United States Government for the purpose of providing such property to a foreign country or international organization under chapter 8 of part I of such Act, subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That section 482(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 shall not apply to funds appropriated under this heading, except that any funds made available notwithstanding such section shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading shall be made available to support training and technical

assistance for foreign law enforcement, corrections, judges, and other judicial authorities, utilizing regional partners: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading that are transferred to another department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government pursuant to section 632(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 valued in excess of \$5,000,000, and any agreement made pursuant to section 632(a) of such Act, shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading for Program Development and Support may be made available notwithstanding pre-obligation requirements contained in this Act, except for the notification requirements of section 7015.

NONPROLIFERATION, ANTI-TERRORISM,
DEMINING AND RELATED PROGRAMS

For necessary expenses for nonproliferation, anti-terrorism, demining and related programs and activities, \$921,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, to carry out the provisions of chapter 8 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for anti-terrorism assistance, chapter 9 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, section 504 of the FREEDOM Support Act (22 U.S.C. 5854), section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2763), or the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for demining activities, the clearance of unexploded ordnance, the destruction of small arms, and related activities, notwithstanding any other provision of law, including activities implemented through nongovernmental and international organizations, and section 301 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for a United States contribution to the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Preparatory Commission, and for a voluntary contribution to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA): *Provided*, That funds made available under this heading for the Nonproliferation and Disarmament Fund shall be made available, notwithstanding any other provision of law and subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations, to promote bilateral and multilateral activities relating to nonproliferation, disarmament, and weapons destruction, and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That such funds may also be used for such countries other than the Independent States of the former Soviet Union and international organizations when it is in the national security interest of the United States to do so: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be made available for the IAEA unless the Secretary of State determines that Israel is being denied its right to participate in the activities of that Agency: *Provided further*, That funds made available for conventional weapons destruction programs, including demining and related activities, in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes, may be used for administrative expenses related to the operation and management of such programs and activities, subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 551 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, \$420,458,000, of which \$301,133,000 may remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be used, notwithstanding section 660 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, to provide assistance to enhance the capacity of foreign civilian security forces, including gendarmes, to participate in peacekeeping operations: *Provided*

further, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not less than \$30,000,000 shall be made available for a United States contribution to the Multinational Force and Observers mission in the Sinai: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be made available to pay assessed expenses of international peacekeeping activities in Somalia under the same terms and conditions, as applicable, as funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Contributions for International Peacekeeping Activities”: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT
INTERNATIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION AND
TRAINING

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 541 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, \$125,425,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That the civilian personnel for whom military education and training may be provided under this heading may include civilians who are not members of a government whose participation would contribute to improved civil-military relations, civilian control of the military, or respect for human rights: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, \$3,500,000 shall remain available until expended to increase the participation of women in programs and activities funded under this heading, following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not to exceed \$50,000 may be available for entertainment expenses.

FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING PROGRAM

For necessary expenses for grants to enable the President to carry out the provisions of section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2763), \$6,703,049,000: *Provided*, That to expedite the provision of assistance to foreign countries and international organizations, the Secretary of State, following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations and subject to the regular notification procedures of such Committees, may use the funds appropriated under this heading to procure defense articles and services to enhance the capacity of foreign security forces: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this heading shall be nonrepayable notwithstanding any requirement in section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading shall be obligated upon apportionment in accordance with paragraph (5)(C) of section 1501(a) of title 31, United States Code.

None of the funds made available under this heading shall be available to finance the procurement of defense articles, defense services, or design and construction services that are not sold by the United States Government under the Arms Export Control Act unless the foreign country proposing to make such procurement has first signed an agreement with the United States Government specifying the conditions under which such procurement may be financed with such funds: *Provided*, That all country and funding level increases in allocations shall be submitted through the regular notification procedures of section 7015 of this Act: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading may be used, notwithstanding any other provision of law, for demining, the clearance of unexploded ordnance, and related activities, and may include activities implemented through nongovernmental and international organizations: *Provided further*,

That a country that is a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) or is a major non-NATO ally designated by section 517(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 may utilize funds made available under this heading for procurement of defense articles, defense services, or design and construction services that are not sold by the United States Government under the Arms Export Control Act: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading shall be expended at the minimum rate necessary to make timely payment for defense articles and services: *Provided further*, That not more than \$72,000,000 of the funds appropriated under this heading may be obligated for necessary expenses, including the purchase of passenger motor vehicles for replacement only for use outside of the United States, for the general costs of administering military assistance and sales, except that this limitation may be exceeded only through the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading for general costs of administering military assistance and sales, not to exceed \$4,000 may be available for entertainment expenses and not to exceed \$130,000 may be available for representation expenses: *Provided further*, That not more than \$1,541,392,546 of funds realized pursuant to section 21(e)(1)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2761(e)(1)(A)) may be obligated for expenses incurred by the Department of Defense during fiscal year 2024 pursuant to section 43(b) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2792(b)), except that this limitation may be exceeded only through the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

TITLE V

MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

For payment to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development as trustee for the Global Environment Facility by the Secretary of the Treasury, \$139,575,000, to remain available until expended.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

For payment to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development by the Secretary of the Treasury for the United States share of the paid-in portion of the increases in capital stock, \$206,500,000, to remain available until expended.

LIMITATION ON CALLABLE CAPITAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

The United States Governor of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development may subscribe without fiscal year limitation to the callable capital portion of the United States share of increases in capital stock in an amount not to exceed \$1,421,275,728.70.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

For payment to the International Development Association by the Secretary of the Treasury, \$1,097,010,000, to remain available until expended.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT FUND

For payment to the Asian Development Bank's Asian Development Fund by the Secretary of the Treasury, \$43,610,000, to remain available until expended.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

For payment to the African Development Bank by the Secretary of the Treasury for the United States share of the paid-in por-

tion of the increases in capital stock, \$32,417,000, to remain available until expended.

LIMITATION ON CALLABLE CAPITAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

The United States Governor of the African Development Bank may subscribe without fiscal year limitation to the callable capital portion of the United States share of increases in capital stock in an amount not to exceed \$856,174,624.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

For payment to the International Fund for Agricultural Development by the Secretary of the Treasury, \$30,000,000, to remain available until expended.

TITLE VI

EXPORT AND INVESTMENT ASSISTANCE EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), \$8,860,000, of which up to \$1,329,000 may remain available until September 30, 2025.

PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The Export-Import Bank of the United States is authorized to make such expenditures within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available to such corporation, and in accordance with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations, as provided by section 9104 of title 31, United States Code, as may be necessary in carrying out the program for the current fiscal year for such corporation: *Provided*, That none of the funds available during the current fiscal year may be used to make expenditures, contracts, or commitments for the export of nuclear equipment, fuel, or technology to any country, other than a nuclear-weapon state as defined in Article IX of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons eligible to receive economic or military assistance under this Act, that has detonated a nuclear explosive after the date of enactment of this Act.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

For administrative expenses to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan and insurance programs, including hire of passenger motor vehicles and services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, and not to exceed \$30,000 for official reception and representation expenses for members of the Board of Directors, not to exceed \$125,000,000, of which up to \$18,750,000 may remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That the Export-Import Bank (the Bank) may accept, and use, payment or services provided by transaction participants for legal, financial, or technical services in connection with any transaction for which an application for a loan, guarantee or insurance commitment has been made: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding subsection (b) of section 117 of the Export Enhancement Act of 1992, subsection (a) of such section shall remain in effect until September 30, 2024: *Provided further*, That the Bank shall charge fees for necessary expenses (including special services performed on a contract or fee basis, but not including other personal services) in connection with the collection of moneys owed the Bank, repossession or sale of pledged collateral or other assets acquired by the Bank in satisfaction of moneys owed the Bank, or the investigation or appraisal of any property, or the evaluation of the legal, financial, or technical aspects of any transaction for which an application for a

loan, guarantee or insurance commitment has been made, or systems infrastructure directly supporting transactions: *Provided further*, That in addition to other funds appropriated for administrative expenses, such fees shall be credited to this account for such purposes, to remain available until expended.

PROGRAM BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS

For the cost of direct loans, loan guarantees, insurance, and tied-aid grants as authorized by section 10 of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended, not to exceed \$15,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That such funds shall remain available until September 30, 2039, for the disbursement of direct loans, loan guarantees, insurance and tied-aid grants obligated in fiscal years 2024 through 2027.

RECEIPTS COLLECTED

Receipts collected pursuant to the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (Public Law 79-173) and the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990, in an amount not to exceed the amount appropriated herein, shall be credited as offsetting collections to this account: *Provided*, That the sums herein appropriated from the General Fund shall be reduced on a dollar-for-dollar basis by such offsetting collections so as to result in a final fiscal year appropriation from the General Fund estimated at \$0.

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION

INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), \$7,200,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

CORPORATE CAPITAL ACCOUNT

The United States International Development Finance Corporation (the Corporation) is authorized to make such expenditures and commitments within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available to the Corporation, and in accordance with the law, and to make such expenditures and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations, as provided by section 9104 of title 31, United States Code, as may be necessary in carrying out the programs for the current fiscal year for the Corporation: *Provided*, That for necessary expenses of the activities described in subsections (b), (c), (e), (f), and (g) of section 1421 of the BUILD Act of 2018 (division F of Public Law 115-254) and for administrative expenses to carry out authorized activities and project-specific transaction costs described in section 1434(d) of such Act, \$769,029,000: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided—

(1) \$198,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2026, for administrative expenses to carry out authorized activities (including an amount for official reception and representation expenses which shall not exceed \$25,000) and project-specific transaction costs as described in section 1434(k) of such Act; and

(2) \$571,029,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2026, for the activities described in subsections (b), (c), (e), (f), and (g) of section 1421 of the BUILD Act of 2018, except such amounts obligated in a fiscal year for activities described in section 1421(c) of such Act shall remain available for disbursement for the term of the underlying project: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this paragraph may be paid to the "United States International Development Finance Corporation—Program Account" for

programs authorized by subsections (b), (e), (f), and (g) of section 1421 of the BUILD Act of 2018:

Provided further, That funds may only be obligated pursuant to section 1421(g) of the BUILD Act of 2018 subject to prior consultation with the appropriate congressional committees and the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for support by the Corporation in upper-middle income countries shall be subject to prior consultation with the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That in fiscal year 2024 collections of amounts described in section 1434(h) of the BUILD Act of 2018 shall be credited as offsetting collections to this appropriation: *Provided further*, That such collections collected in fiscal year 2024 in excess of \$769,029,000 shall be credited to this account and shall be available in future fiscal years only to the extent provided in advance in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That in fiscal year 2024, if such collections are less than \$769,029,000, receipts collected pursuant to the BUILD Act of 2018 and the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990, in an amount equal to such shortfall, shall be credited as offsetting collections to this appropriation: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this heading may not be used to provide any type of assistance that is otherwise prohibited by any other provision of law or to provide assistance to any foreign country that is otherwise prohibited by any other provision of law: *Provided further*, That the sums herein appropriated from the General Fund shall be reduced on a dollar-for-dollar basis by the offsetting collections described under this heading so as to result in a final fiscal year appropriation from the General Fund estimated at \$558,000,000.

PROGRAM ACCOUNT

Amounts paid from “United States International Development Finance Corporation—Corporate Capital Account” (CCA) shall remain available until September 30, 2026: *Provided*, That amounts paid to this account from CCA or transferred to this account pursuant to section 1434(j) of the BUILD Act of 2018 (division F of Public Law 115-254) shall be available for the costs of direct and guaranteed loans provided by the Corporation pursuant to section 1421(b) of such Act and the costs of modifying loans and loan guarantees transferred to the Corporation pursuant to section 1463 of such Act: *Provided further*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That such amounts obligated in a fiscal year shall remain available for disbursement for the following 8 fiscal years: *Provided further*, That funds made available in this Act and transferred to carry out the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 pursuant to section 1434(j) of the BUILD Act of 2018 may remain available for obligation for 1 additional fiscal year: *Provided further*, That the total loan principal or guaranteed principal amount shall not exceed \$10,000,000,000.

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 661 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, \$87,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, of which no more than \$21,000,000 may be used for administrative expenses: *Provided*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not more than \$5,000 may be available for representation and entertainment expenses.

TITLE VII

GENERAL PROVISIONS

ALLOWANCES AND DIFFERENTIALS

SEC. 7001. Funds appropriated under title I of this Act shall be available, except as otherwise provided, for allowances and differentials as authorized by subchapter 59 of title 5, United States Code; for services as authorized by section 3109 of such title and for hire of passenger transportation pursuant to section 1343(b) of title 31, United States Code.

UNOBLIGATED BALANCES REPORT

SEC. 7002. Any department or agency of the United States Government to which funds are appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations a quarterly accounting of cumulative unobligated balances and obligated, but unexpended, balances by program, project, and activity, and Treasury Account Fund Symbol of all funds received by such department or agency in fiscal year 2024 or any previous fiscal year, disaggregated by fiscal year: *Provided*, That the report required by this section shall be submitted not later than 30 days after the end of each fiscal quarter and should specify by account the amount of funds obligated pursuant to bilateral agreements which have not been further sub-obligated.

CONSULTING SERVICES

SEC. 7003. The expenditure of any appropriation under title I of this Act for any consulting service through procurement contract, pursuant to section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except where otherwise provided under existing law, or under existing Executive order issued pursuant to existing law.

DIPLOMATIC FACILITIES

SEC. 7004. (a) CAPITAL SECURITY COST SHARING EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding paragraph (2) of section 604(e) of the Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act of 1999 (title VI of division A of H.R. 3427, as enacted into law by section 1000(a)(7) of Public Law 106-113 and contained in appendix G of that Act), as amended by section 111 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323), a project to construct a facility of the United States may include office space or other accommodations for members of the United States Marine Corps.

(b) CONSULTATION AND NOTIFICATION.—Funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, which may be made available for the acquisition of property or award of construction contracts for overseas United States diplomatic facilities during fiscal year 2024, shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That notifications pursuant to this subsection shall include the information enumerated under the heading “Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance” in the report accompanying this Act.

(c) INTERIM AND TEMPORARY FACILITIES ABROAD.—

(1) SECURITY VULNERABILITIES.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance” may be made available, following consultation with the appropriate congressional committees, to address security vulnerabilities at interim and temporary United States diplomatic facilities abroad, including physical security upgrades and local guard staffing.

(2) CONSULTATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the opening, closure, or any significant modification to an interim or temporary United States diplomatic facility shall be subject to prior consultation with the appropriate congressional committees and the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, except that such consultation and notification may be waived if there is a security risk to personnel.

(d) SOFT TARGETS.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance” may be made available for security upgrades to soft targets, including schools, recreational facilities, and residences used by United States diplomatic personnel and their dependents.

(e) LIMITATION ON ART IN EMBASSIES.—Section 5112 of the Department of State Authorization Act of 2021 (title LI of division E of Public Law 117-81) shall continue in effect during fiscal year 2024, notwithstanding subsection (c) of such section.

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

SEC. 7005. Any costs incurred by a department or agency funded under title I of this Act resulting from personnel actions taken in response to funding reductions included in this Act shall be absorbed within the total budgetary resources available under title I to such department or agency: *Provided*, That the authority to transfer funds between appropriations accounts as may be necessary to carry out this section is provided in addition to authorities included elsewhere in this Act: *Provided further*, That use of funds to carry out this section shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 7015 of this Act.

PROHIBITION ON PUBLICITY OR PROPAGANDA

SEC. 7006. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be used for publicity or propaganda purposes within the United States not authorized before enactment of this Act by Congress: *Provided*, That up to \$25,000 may be made available to carry out the provisions of section 316 of the International Security and Development Cooperation Act of 1980 (Public Law 96-533; 22 U.S.C. 2151a note).

PROHIBITION AGAINST DIRECT FUNDING FOR CERTAIN COUNTRIES

SEC. 7007. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available pursuant to titles III through VI of this Act shall be obligated or expended to finance directly any assistance or reparations for the governments of Cuba, North Korea, Iran, or Syria: *Provided*, That for purposes of this section, the prohibition on obligations or expenditures shall include direct loans, credits, insurance, and guarantees of the Export-Import Bank or its agents.

COUPS D’ÉTAT

SEC. 7008. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available pursuant to titles III through VI of this Act shall be obligated or expended to finance directly any assistance to the government of any country whose duly elected head of government is deposed by military coup d'état or decree or, after the date of enactment of this Act, a coup d'état or decree in which the military plays a decisive role: *Provided*, That assistance may be resumed to such government if the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that subsequent to the termination of assistance a democratically elected government has taken office: *Provided further*, That the provisions of this section shall not apply to assistance to promote democratic elections or public participation in democratic processes, or to support a democratic transition:

Provided further, That funds made available pursuant to the previous provisos shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

TRANSFER OF FUNDS AUTHORITY

SEC. 7009. (a) DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR GLOBAL MEDIA.—

(1) DEPARTMENT OF STATE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the Department of State under title I of this Act may be transferred between, and merged with, such appropriations, but no such appropriation, except as otherwise specifically provided, shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers, and no such transfer may be made to increase the appropriation under the heading “Representation Expenses”.

(B) EMBASSY SECURITY.—Funds appropriated under the headings “Diplomatic Programs”, including for Worldwide Security Protection, “Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance”, and “Emergencies in the Diplomatic and Consular Service” in this Act may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated under such headings if the Secretary of State determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that to do so is necessary to implement the recommendations of the Benghazi Accountability Review Board, for emergency evacuations, or to prevent or respond to security situations and requirements, following consultation with, and subject to the regular notification procedures of, such Committees.

(C) EMERGENCIES IN THE DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR SERVICE.—Of the amount made available under the heading “Diplomatic Programs” for Worldwide Security Protection, not to exceed \$50,000,000 may be transferred to, and merged with, funds made available by this Act under the heading “Emergencies in the Diplomatic and Consular Service”, to be available only for emergency evacuations and rewards, as authorized.

(D) CAPITAL INVESTMENT FUND.—Of the amount made available under the heading, “Diplomatic Programs”, up to \$43,000,000 may be transferred to, and merged with, funds made available in title I of this Act under the heading “Capital Investment Fund”.

(E) PRIOR CONSULTATION.—The transfer authorities provided by subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D) are in addition to any transfer authority otherwise available in this Act and under any other provision of law and the exercise of such authority shall be subject to prior consultation with the Committees on Appropriations.

(2) UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR GLOBAL MEDIA.—Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the United States Agency for Global Media under title I of this Act may be transferred between, and merged with, such appropriations, but no such appropriation, except as otherwise specifically provided, shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers.

(3) TREATMENT AS REPROGRAMMING.—Any transfer pursuant to this subsection shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 7015 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

(b) LIMITATION ON TRANSFERS OF FUNDS BETWEEN AGENCIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds made available under titles II through V of this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a

transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriations Act.

(2) ALLOCATION AND TRANSFERS.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), in addition to transfers made by, or authorized elsewhere in, this Act, funds appropriated by this Act to carry out the purposes of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 may be allocated or transferred to agencies of the United States Government pursuant to the provisions of sections 109, 610, and 632 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, and section 1434(j) of the BUILD Act of 2018 (division F of Public Law 115-254).

(3) NOTIFICATION.—Any agreement entered into by the United States Agency for International Development or the Department of State with any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government pursuant to section 632(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 valued in excess of \$1,000,000 and any agreement made pursuant to section 632(a) of such Act, with funds appropriated by this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs under the headings “Global Health Programs”, “Development Assistance”, “Economic Support Fund”, and “Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia” shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That the requirement in the previous sentence shall not apply to agreements entered into between USAID and the Department of State.

(c) UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION.—

(1) TRANSFERS.—Amounts transferred pursuant to section 1434(j) of the BUILD Act of 2018 (division F of Public Law 115-254) may only be transferred from funds made available under title III of this Act: *Provided*, That any such transfers, and any amounts transferred to the United States International Development Finance Corporation (the Corporation) pursuant to section 632 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of State, the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation, as appropriate, shall ensure that the programs funded by such transfers are coordinated with, and complement, foreign assistance programs implemented by the Department of State and USAID.

(2) TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION.—Funds appropriated under the heading “Millennium Challenge Corporation” in this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs may be transferred to accounts under the heading “United States International Development Finance Corporation” and, when so transferred, may be used for the costs of activities described in subsections (b) and (c) of section 1421 of the BUILD Act of 2018: *Provided*, That such funds shall be subject to the limitations provided in the second, third, and fifth provisos under the heading “United States International Development Finance Corporation—Program Account” in this Act: *Provided further*, That any transfer executed pursuant to the transfer authority provided in this paragraph shall not exceed 10 percent of an individual

Compact awarded pursuant to section 609(a) of the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003 (title VI of Public Law 108-199): *Provided further*, That such funds shall not be available for administrative expenses of the United States International Development Finance

Corporation: *Provided further*, That such authority shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That within 60 days of the termination in whole or in part of the Compact from which funds were transferred under this authority to the United States International Development Finance Corporation, any unobligated balances shall be transferred back to the Millennium Challenge Corporation, subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(d) TRANSFER OF FUNDS BETWEEN ACCOUNTS.—None of the funds made available under titles II through V of this Act may be obligated under an appropriations account to which such funds were not appropriated, except for transfers specifically provided for in this Act, unless the President, not less than 5 days prior to the exercise of any authority contained in the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to transfer funds, consults with and provides a written policy justification to the Committees on Appropriations.

(e) AUDIT OF INTER-AGENCY TRANSFERS OF FUNDS.—Any agreement for the transfer or allocation of funds appropriated by this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs entered into between the Department of State or USAID and another agency of the United States Government under the authority of section 632(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, or any comparable provision of law, shall expressly provide that the Inspector General (IG) for the agency receiving the transfer or allocation of such funds, or other entity with audit responsibility if the receiving agency does not have an IG, shall perform periodic program and financial audits of the use of such funds and report to the Department of State or USAID, as appropriate, upon completion of such audits: *Provided*, That such audits shall be transmitted to the Committees on Appropriations by the Department of State or USAID, as appropriate: *Provided further*, That funds transferred under such authority may be made available for the cost of such audits.

PROHIBITION AND LIMITATION ON CERTAIN EXPENSES

SEC. 7010. (a) FIRST-CLASS TRAVEL.—None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for first-class travel by employees of United States Government departments and agencies funded by this Act in contravention of section 301-10.122 through 301-10.124 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations.

(b) COMPUTER NETWORKS.—None of the funds made available by this Act for the operating expenses of any United States Government department or agency may be used to establish or maintain a computer network for use by such department or agency unless such network has filters designed to block access to sexually explicit websites: *Provided*, That nothing in this subsection shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, Tribal, or local law enforcement agency, or any other entity carrying out the following activities: criminal investigations, prosecutions, and adjudications; administrative discipline; and the monitoring of such websites undertaken as part of official business.

(c) PROHIBITION ON PROMOTION OF TOBACCO.—None of the funds made available by this Act should be available to promote the sale or export of tobacco or tobacco products (including electronic nicotine delivery systems), or to seek the reduction or removal

by any foreign country of restrictions on the marketing of tobacco or tobacco products (including electronic nicotine delivery systems), except for restrictions which are not applied equally to all tobacco or tobacco products (including electronic nicotine delivery systems) of the same type.

(d) EMAIL SERVERS OUTSIDE THE .GOV DOMAIN.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Diplomatic Programs” and “Capital Investment Fund” in title I, and “Operating Expenses” and “Capital Investment Fund” in title II that are made available to the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development may be made available to support the use or establishment of email accounts or email servers created outside the .gov domain or not fitted for automated records management as part of a Federal government records management program in contravention of the Presidential and Federal Records Act Amendments of 2014 (Public Law 113–187).

(e) REPRESENTATION AND ENTERTAINMENT EXPENSES.—Each Federal department, agency, or entity funded in titles I or II of this Act, and the Department of the Treasury and independent agencies funded in titles III or VI of this Act, shall take steps to ensure that domestic and overseas representation and entertainment expenses further official agency business and United States foreign policy interests, and—

- (1) are primarily for fostering relations outside of the Executive Branch;
- (2) are principally for meals and events of a protocol nature;
- (3) are not for employee-only events; and
- (4) do not include activities that are substantially of a recreational character.

(f) LIMITATIONS ON ENTERTAINMENT EXPENSES.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act under the headings “International Military Education and Training” or “Foreign Military Financing Program” for Informational Program activities or under the headings “Global Health Programs”, “Development Assistance”, “Economic Support Fund”, and “Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia” may be obligated or expended to pay for—

- (1) alcoholic beverages; or
- (2) entertainment expenses for activities that are substantially of a recreational character, including entrance fees at sporting events, theatrical and musical productions, and amusement parks.

AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

SEC. 7011. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation after the expiration of the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided by this Act: *Provided*, That funds appropriated for the purposes of chapters 1 and 8 of part I, section 661, chapters 4, 5, 6, 8, and 9 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2763), and funds made available for “United States International Development Finance Corporation” and under the heading “Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia” shall remain available for an additional 4 years from the date on which the availability of such funds would otherwise have expired, if such funds are initially obligated before the expiration of their respective periods of availability contained in this Act: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, any funds made available for the purposes of chapter 1 of part I and chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 which are allocated or obligated for cash disbursements in order to address balance of payments or economic policy reform objectives,

shall remain available for an additional 4 years from the date on which the availability of such funds would otherwise have expired, if such funds are initially allocated or obligated before the expiration of their respective periods of availability contained in this Act: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations not later than October 31, 2024, detailing by account and source year, the use of this authority during the previous fiscal year: *Provided further*, That any funds obligated for an additional period of availability pursuant to this section in this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That any notification submitted pursuant to the previous proviso shall indicate the source year of funds, the purpose of initial obligation, the reason for de-obligation, and the purpose for re-obligation.

LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES IN DEFAULT

SEC. 7012. No part of any appropriation provided under titles III through VI in this Act shall be used to furnish assistance to the government of any country which is in default during a period in excess of 1 calendar year in payment to the United States of principal or interest on any loan made to the government of such country by the United States pursuant to a program for which funds are appropriated under this Act unless the President determines, following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations, that assistance for such country is in the national interest of the United States.

PROHIBITION ON TAXATION OF UNITED STATES ASSISTANCE

SEC. 7013. (a) PROHIBITION ON TAXATION.—None of the funds appropriated under titles III through VI of this Act may be made available to provide assistance for a foreign country under a new bilateral agreement governing the terms and conditions under which such assistance is to be provided unless such agreement includes a provision stating that assistance provided by the United States shall be exempt from taxation, or reimbursed, by the foreign government, and the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall expeditiously seek to negotiate amendments to existing bilateral agreements, as necessary, to conform with this requirement.

(b) NOTIFICATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF FOREIGN TAXES.—An amount equivalent to 200 percent of the total taxes assessed during fiscal year 2024 on funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs by a foreign government or entity against United States assistance programs, either directly or through grantees, contractors, and subcontractors, shall be withheld from obligation from funds appropriated for assistance for fiscal year 2025 and for prior fiscal years and allocated for the central government of such country or for the West Bank and Gaza program, as applicable, if, not later than September 30, 2025, such taxes have not been reimbursed.

(c) DE MINIMIS EXCEPTION.—Foreign taxes of a de minimis nature shall not be subject to the provisions of subsection (b).

(d) REPROGRAMMING OF FUNDS.—Funds withheld from obligation for each foreign government or entity pursuant to subsection (b) shall be reprogrammed for assistance for

countries which do not assess taxes on United States assistance or which have an effective arrangement that is providing substantial reimbursement of such taxes, and that can reasonably accommodate such assistance in a programmatically responsible manner.

(e) DETERMINATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The provisions of this section shall not apply to any foreign government or entity that assesses such taxes if the Secretary of State reports to the Committees on Appropriations that—

(A) such foreign government or entity has an effective arrangement that is providing substantial reimbursement of such taxes; or

(B) the foreign policy interests of the United States outweigh the purpose of this section to ensure that United States assistance is not subject to taxation.

(2) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations at least 15 days prior to exercising the authority of this subsection with regard to any foreign government or entity.

(f) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary of State shall issue and update rules, regulations, or policy guidance, as appropriate, to implement the prohibition against the taxation of assistance contained in this section.

(g) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section:

(1) BILATERAL AGREEMENT.—The term “bilateral agreement” refers to a framework bilateral agreement between the Government of the United States and the government of the country receiving assistance that describes the privileges and immunities applicable to United States foreign assistance for such country generally, or an individual agreement between the Government of the United States and such government that describes, among other things, the treatment for tax purposes that will be accorded the United States assistance provided under that agreement.

(2) TAXES AND TAXATION.—The term “taxes and taxation” shall include value added taxes and customs duties but shall not include individual income taxes assessed to local staff.

RESERVATIONS OF FUNDS

SEC. 7014. (a) EXTENSION OF AVAILABILITY.—The original period of availability of funds appropriated by this Act and administered by the Department of State or the United States Agency for International Development that are specifically designated for particular programs or activities by this or any other Act may be extended for an additional fiscal year if the Secretary of State or the USAID Administrator, as appropriate, determines and reports promptly to the Committees on Appropriations that the termination of assistance to a country or a significant change in circumstances makes it unlikely that such designated funds can be obligated during the original period of availability: *Provided*, That such designated funds that continue to be available for an additional fiscal year shall be obligated only for the purpose of such designation.

(b) OTHER ACTS.—Ceilings and specifically designated funding levels contained in this Act shall not be applicable to funds or authorities appropriated or otherwise made available by any subsequent Act unless such Act specifically so directs: *Provided*, That specifically designated funding levels or minimum funding requirements contained in any other Act shall not be applicable to funds appropriated by this Act.

NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

SEC. 7015. (a) NOTIFICATION OF CHANGES IN PROGRAMS, PROJECTS, AND ACTIVITIES.—None of the funds made available in titles I, II, and VI, and under the headings “Peace Corps” and “Millennium Challenge Corporation”, of

this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs to the departments and agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation in fiscal year 2024, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees or of currency reflows or other offsetting collections, or made available by transfer, to the departments and agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation to—

- (1) create new programs;
- (2) suspend or eliminate a program, project, or activity;
- (3) close, suspend, open, or reopen a mission or post;
- (4) create, close, reorganize, downsize, or rename bureaus, centers, or offices; or
- (5) contract out or privatize any functions or activities presently performed by Federal employees;

unless previously justified to the Committees on Appropriations or such Committees are notified 15 days in advance of such obligation.

(b) NOTIFICATION OF REPROGRAMMING OF FUNDS.—None of the funds provided under titles I, II, and VI of this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, to the departments and agencies funded under such titles that remain available for obligation 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 department and agency funded under title I of this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure for programs, projects, or activities through a reprogramming of funds in excess of \$1,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, that—

- (1) augments or changes existing programs, projects, or activities;
- (2) relocates an existing office or employees;
- (3) reduces by 10 percent funding for any existing program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel by 10 percent as approved by Congress; or

(4) results from any general savings, including savings from a reduction in personnel, which would result in a change in existing programs, projects, or activities as approved by Congress; unless the Committees on Appropriations are notified 15 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds.

(c) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—None of the funds made available by this Act under the headings “Global Health Programs”, “Development Assistance”, “Economic Support Fund”, “Democracy Fund”, “Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia”, “Peace Corps”, “Millennium Challenge Corporation”, “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement”, “Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs”, “Peacekeeping Operations”, “International Military Education and Training”, “Foreign Military Financing Program”, “United States International Development Finance Corporation”, and “Trade and Development Agency” shall be available for obligation for programs, projects, activities, type of materiel assistance, countries, or other operations not justified or in excess of the amount justified to the Committees on Appropriations for obligation under any of these specific headings unless the Committees on Appropriations are notified 15 days in advance of such obligation: *Provided*, That the President shall not enter into any commitment of funds appropriated for the purposes of section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act for the provision of major defense equipment, other than conventional ammu-

nition, or other major defense items defined to be aircraft, ships, missiles, or combat vehicles, not previously justified to Congress or 20 percent in excess of the quantities justified to Congress unless the Committees on Appropriations are notified 15 days in advance of such commitment: *Provided further*, That requirements of this subsection or any similar provision of this or any other Act shall not apply to any reprogramming for a program, project, or activity for which funds are appropriated under titles III through VI of this Act of less than 10 percent of the amount previously justified to Congress for obligation for such program, project, or activity for the current fiscal year: *Provided further*, That any notification submitted pursuant to subsection (f) of this section shall include information (if known on the date of transmittal of such notification) on the use of notwithstanding authority.

(d) DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAMS AND FUNDING NOTIFICATIONS.—

(1) PROGRAMS.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs may be made available to support or continue any program initially funded under any authority of title 10, United States Code, or any Act making or authorizing appropriations for the Department of Defense, unless the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and in accordance with the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, submits a justification to such Committees that includes a description of, and the estimated costs associated with, the support or continuation of such program.

(2) FUNDING.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds transferred by the Department of Defense to the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development for assistance for foreign countries and international organizations shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(3) NOTIFICATION ON EXCESS DEFENSE ARTICLES.—Prior to providing excess Department of Defense articles in accordance with section 516(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, the Department of Defense shall notify the Committees on Appropriations to the same extent and under the same conditions as other committees pursuant to subsection (f) of that section: *Provided*, That before issuing a letter of offer to sell excess defense articles under the Arms Export Control Act, the Department of Defense shall notify the Committees on Appropriations in accordance with the regular notification procedures of such Committees if such defense articles are significant military equipment (as defined in section 47(9) of the Arms Export Control Act) or are valued (in terms of original acquisition cost) at \$7,000,000 or more, or if notification is required elsewhere in this Act for the use of appropriated funds for specific countries that would receive such excess defense articles: *Provided further*, That such Committees shall also be informed of the original acquisition cost of such defense articles.

(e) WAIVER.—The requirements of this section or any similar provision of this Act or any other Act, including any prior Act requiring notification in accordance with the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, may be waived if failure to do so would pose a substantial risk to human health or welfare: *Provided*, That in case of any such waiver, notification to the Committees on Appropriations shall be provided as early as practicable, but in no event later than 3 days after taking the action to which such notification requirement was applicable, in the context of the cir-

cumstances necessitating such waiver: *Provided further*, That any notification provided pursuant to such a waiver shall contain an explanation of the emergency circumstances.

(f) COUNTRY NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.—None of the funds appropriated under titles III through VI of this Act may be obligated or expended for assistance for Afghanistan, Burma, Central African Republic, Cambodia, Colombia, Cuba, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Haiti, Honduras, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Mexico, Nicaragua, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Ukraine, Venezuela, Yemen, and Zimbabwe except as provided through the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(g) TRUST FUNDS.—Funds appropriated or otherwise made available in title III of this Act and prior Acts making funds available for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs that are made available for a trust fund held by an international financial institution shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, and such notification shall include the information specified under this section in the report accompanying this Act.

(h) OTHER PROGRAM NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) OTHER PROGRAMS.—Funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs that are made available for the following programs and activities shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations—

- (A) the Global Engagement Center;
- (B) the Power Africa and Prosper Africa initiatives;

(C) funds under the headings “International Disaster Assistance” and “Migration and Refugee Assistance” that are made available to a country listed in section 7007 of this Act;

(D) the Prevention and Stabilization Fund and the Multi-Donor Global Fragility Fund;

(E) the Indo-Pacific Strategy;

(F) the Countering PRC Influence Fund;

(G) assistance made available pursuant to section 7059; and

(H) funds specifically allocated for the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment.

(2) DEMOCRACY PROGRAM POLICY AND PROCEDURES.—Modifications to democracy program policy and procedures, including relating to the use of consortia, by the Department of State and USAID shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

(3) ARMS SALES.—The reports, notifications, and certifications, and any other documents, required to be submitted pursuant to section 36(a) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2776), and such documents submitted pursuant to section 36(b) through (d) of such Act with respect to countries that have received assistance provided with funds appropriated by this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, shall be concurrently submitted to the Committees on Appropriations and shall include information about the source of funds for any sale or transfer, as applicable, if known at the time of submission.

(i) WITHHOLDING OF FUNDS.—Funds appropriated by this Act under titles III and IV that are withheld from obligation or otherwise not programmed as a result of application of a provision of law in this or any other Act shall, if reprogrammed, be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(j) REQUIREMENT TO INFORM.—The Secretary of State and Administrator of USAID, as applicable, shall promptly inform the appropriate congressional committees of each instance in which funds appropriated by this Act for assistance have been diverted or destroyed, to include the type and amount of assistance, a description of the incident and parties involved, and an explanation of the response of the Department of State or USAID, as appropriate.

DOCUMENTS, REPORT POSTING, RECORDS MANAGEMENT, AND RELATED CYBERSECURITY PROTECTIONS

SEC. 7016. (a) DOCUMENT REQUESTS.—None of the funds appropriated or made available pursuant to titles III through VI of this Act shall be available to a nongovernmental organization, including any contractor, which fails to provide upon timely request any document, file, or record necessary to the auditing requirements of the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development.

(b) PUBLIC POSTING OF REPORTS.—

(1) Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), any report required by this Act to be submitted to Congress by any Federal agency receiving funds made available by this Act shall be posted on the public website of such agency not later than 45 days following the receipt of such report by Congress.

(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to a report if—

(A) the head of such agency determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that—

(i) the public posting of the report would compromise national security, including the conduct of diplomacy; or

(ii) the report contains proprietary or other privileged information; or

(B) the public posting of the report is specifically exempted in the report accompanying this Act.

(3) The agency posting such report shall do so only after the report has been made available to the Committees on Appropriations.

(4) The head of the agency posting such report shall do so in a central location on the public website of such agency.

(c) RECORDS MANAGEMENT AND RELATED CYBERSECURITY PROTECTIONS.—The Secretary of State and USAID Administrator shall—

(1) regularly review and update the policies, directives, and oversight necessary to comply with Federal statutes, regulations, and presidential executive orders and memoranda concerning the preservation of all records made or received in the conduct of official business, including record emails, instant messaging, and other online tools;

(2) use funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Diplomatic Programs” and “Capital Investment Fund” in title I, and “Operating Expenses” and “Capital Investment Fund” in title II, as appropriate, to improve Federal records management pursuant to the Federal Records Act (44 U.S.C. Chapters 21, 29, 31, and 33) and other applicable Federal records management statutes, regulations, or policies for the Department of State and USAID;

(3) direct departing employees, including senior officials, that all Federal records generated by such employees belong to the Federal Government;

(4) substantially reduce, compared to the previous fiscal year, the response time for identifying and retrieving Federal records, including requests made pursuant to section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the “Freedom of Information Act”); and

(5) strengthen cybersecurity measures to mitigate vulnerabilities, including those re-

sulting from the use of personal email accounts or servers outside the .gov domain, improve the process to identify and remove inactive user accounts, update and enforce guidance related to the control of national security information, and implement the recommendations of the applicable reports of the cognizant Office of Inspector General.

USE OF FUNDS IN CONTRAVENTION OF THIS ACT

SEC. 7017. If the President makes a determination not to comply with any provision of this Act on constitutional grounds, the head of the relevant Federal agency shall notify the Committees on Appropriations in writing within 5 days of such determination, the basis for such determination and any resulting changes to program or policy.

PROHIBITION ON FUNDING FOR ABORTIONS AND INVOLUNTARY STERILIZATION

SEC. 7018. None of the funds made available to carry out part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, may be used to pay for the performance of abortions as a method of family planning or to motivate or coerce any person to practice abortions. None of the funds made available to carry out part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, may be used to pay for the performance of involuntary sterilization as a method of family planning or to coerce or provide any financial incentive to any person to undergo sterilizations. None of the funds made available to carry out part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, may be used to pay for any biomedical research which relates in whole or in part, to methods of, or the performance of, abortions or involuntary sterilization as a means of family planning. None of the funds made available to carry out part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, may be obligated or expended for any country or organization if the President certifies that the use of these funds by any such country or organization would violate any of the above provisions related to abortions and involuntary sterilizations.

ALLOCATIONS AND REPORTS

SEC. 7019. (a) ALLOCATION TABLES.—Subject to subsection (b), funds appropriated by this Act under titles III through V shall be made available in the amounts specifically designated in the respective tables included in the report accompanying this Act: *Provided*, That such designated amounts for foreign countries and international organizations shall serve as the amounts for such countries and international organizations transmitted to Congress in the report required by section 653(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, and shall be made available for such foreign countries and international organizations notwithstanding the date of the transmission of such report.

(b) AUTHORIZED DEVIATIONS.—Unless otherwise provided for by this Act, the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, as applicable, may only deviate up to 5 percent from the amounts specifically designated in the respective tables included in the report accompanying this Act.

(c) LIMITATION.—For specifically designated amounts that are included, pursuant to subsection (a), in the report required by section 653(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, deviations authorized by subsection (b) may only take place after submission of such report.

(d) EXCEPTIONS.—Subsections (a) and (b) shall not apply to—

(1) funds for which the initial period of availability has expired; and

(2) amounts designated by this Act as minimum funding requirements.

(e) REPORTS.—The Secretary of State, USAID Administrator, and other designated

officials, as appropriate, shall submit the reports required, in the manner described, in the report accompanying this Act.

(f) CLARIFICATION.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “International Disaster Assistance” and “Migration and Refugee Assistance” shall not be included for purposes of meeting amounts designated for countries in this Act, unless such headings are specifically designated as the source of funds.

MULTI-YEAR PLEDGES

SEC. 7020. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to make any pledge for future year funding for any multilateral or bilateral program funded in titles III through VI of this Act unless such pledge was: (1) previously justified, including the projected future year costs, in a congressional budget justification; (2) included in an Act making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs or previously authorized by an Act of Congress; (3) notified in accordance with the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, including the projected future year costs; or (4) the subject of prior consultation with the Committees on Appropriations and such consultation was conducted at least 7 days in advance of the pledge.

PROHIBITION ON ASSISTANCE TO GOVERNMENTS SUPPORTING INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

SEC. 7021. (a) LETHAL MILITARY EQUIPMENT EXPORTS.—

(1) PROHIBITION.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under titles III through VI of this Act may be made available to any foreign government which provides lethal military equipment to a country the government of which the Secretary of State has determined supports international terrorism for purposes of section 1754(c) of the Export Reform Control Act of 2018 (50 U.S.C. 4813(c)): *Provided*, That the prohibition under this section with respect to a foreign government shall terminate 12 months after that government ceases to provide such military equipment: *Provided further*, That this section applies with respect to lethal military equipment provided under a contract entered into after October 1, 1997.

(2) DETERMINATION.—Assistance restricted by paragraph (1) or any other similar provision of law, may be furnished if the President determines that to do so is important to the national interest of the United States.

(3) REPORT.—Whenever the President makes a determination pursuant to paragraph (2), the President shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a report with respect to the furnishing of such assistance, including a detailed explanation of the assistance to be provided, the estimated dollar amount of such assistance, and an explanation of how the assistance furthers the United States national interest.

(b) BILATERAL ASSISTANCE.—

(1) LIMITATIONS.—Funds appropriated for bilateral assistance in titles III through VI of this Act and funds appropriated under any such title in prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, shall not be made available to any foreign government which the President determines—

(A) grants sanctuary from prosecution to any individual or group which has committed an act of international terrorism;

(B) otherwise supports international terrorism; or

(C) is controlled by an organization designated as a terrorist organization under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189).

(2) WAIVER.—The President may waive the application of paragraph (1) to a government if the President determines that national security or humanitarian reasons justify such waiver: *Provided*, That the President shall publish each such waiver in the Federal Register and, at least 15 days before the waiver takes effect, shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the waiver (including the justification for the waiver) in accordance with the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

AUTHORIZATION REQUIREMENTS

SEC. 7022. Funds appropriated by this Act, except funds appropriated under the heading “Trade and Development Agency”, may be obligated and expended notwithstanding section 10 of Public Law 91-672 (22 U.S.C. 2412), section 15 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2680), section 313 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1994 and 1995 (22 U.S.C. 6212), and section 504(a)(1) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3094(a)(1)).

DEFINITION OF PROGRAM, PROJECT, AND ACTIVITY

SEC. 7023. For the purpose of titles II through VI of this Act, “program, project, and activity” shall be defined at the appropriations Act account level and shall include all appropriations and authorizations Acts funding directives, ceilings, and limitations with the exception that for the “Economic Support Fund”, “Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia”, and “Foreign Military Financing Program” accounts, “program, project, and activity” shall also be considered to include country, regional, and central program level funding within each such account, and for the development assistance accounts of the United States Agency for International Development, “program, project, and activity” shall also be considered to include central, country, regional, and program level funding, either as—

(1) justified to Congress; or
 (2) allocated by the Executive Branch in accordance with the report required by section 653(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 or as modified pursuant to section 7019 of this Act.

AUTHORITIES FOR THE PEACE CORPS, INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION, AND UNITED STATES AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

SEC. 7024. Unless expressly provided to the contrary, provisions of this or any other Act, including provisions contained in prior Acts authorizing or making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, shall not be construed to prohibit activities authorized by or conducted under the Peace Corps Act, the Inter-American Foundation Act, or the African Development Foundation Act: *Provided*, That prior to conducting activities in a country for which assistance is prohibited, the agency shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations and report to such Committees within 15 days of taking such action.

COMMERCE, TRADE AND SURPLUS COMMODITIES

SEC. 7025. (a) WORLD MARKETS.—None of the funds appropriated or made available pursuant to titles III through VI of this Act for direct assistance and none of the funds otherwise made available to the Export-Import Bank and the United States International Development Finance Corporation shall be obligated or expended to finance any loan, any assistance, or any other financial commitments for establishing or expanding production of any commodity for export by any country other than the United States, if the commodity is likely to be in surplus on world markets at the time the resulting productive capacity is expected to become operative and if the assistance will cause sub-

stantial injury to United States producers of the same, similar, or competing commodity: *Provided*, That such prohibition shall not apply to the Export-Import Bank if in the judgment of its Board of Directors the benefits to industry and employment in the United States are likely to outweigh the injury to United States producers of the same, similar, or competing commodity, and the Chairman of the Board so notifies the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That this subsection shall not prohibit—

(1) activities in a country that is eligible for assistance from the International Development Association, is not eligible for assistance from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and does not export on a consistent basis the agricultural commodity with respect to which assistance is furnished; or

(2) activities in a country the President determines is recovering from widespread conflict, a humanitarian crisis, or a complex emergency.

(b) EXPORTS.—None of the funds appropriated by this or any other Act to carry out chapter 1 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 shall be available for any testing or breeding feasibility study, variety improvement or introduction, consultancy, publication, conference, or training in connection with the growth or production in a foreign country of an agricultural commodity for export which would compete with a similar commodity grown or produced in the United States: *Provided*, That this subsection shall not prohibit—

(1) activities designed to increase food security in developing countries where such activities will not have a significant impact on the export of agricultural commodities of the United States;

(2) research activities intended primarily to benefit United States producers;

(3) activities in a country that is eligible for assistance from the International Development Association, is not eligible for assistance from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and does not export on a consistent basis the agricultural commodity with respect to which assistance is furnished; or

(4) activities in a country the President determines is recovering from widespread conflict, a humanitarian crisis, or a complex emergency.

(c) INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution to use the voice and vote of the United States to oppose any assistance by such institution, using funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act, for the production or extraction of any commodity or mineral for export, if it is in surplus on world markets and if the assistance will cause substantial injury to United States producers of the same, similar, or competing commodity.

SEPARATE ACCOUNTS

SEC. 7026. (a) SEPARATE ACCOUNTS FOR LOCAL CURRENCIES.—

(1) AGREEMENTS.—If assistance is furnished to the government of a foreign country under chapters 1 and 10 of part I or chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 under agreements which result in the generation of local currencies of that country, the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall—

(A) require that local currencies be deposited in a separate account established by that government;

(B) enter into an agreement with that government which sets forth—

(i) the amount of the local currencies to be generated; and

(ii) the terms and conditions under which the currencies so deposited may be utilized, consistent with this section; and

(C) establish by agreement with that government the responsibilities of USAID and that government to monitor and account for deposits into and disbursements from the separate account.

(2) USES OF LOCAL CURRENCIES.—As may be agreed upon with the foreign government, local currencies deposited in a separate account pursuant to subsection (a), or an equivalent amount of local currencies, shall be used only—

(A) to carry out chapter 1 or 10 of part I or chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (as the case may be), for such purposes as—

(i) project and sector assistance activities; or

(ii) debt and deficit financing; or

(B) for the administrative requirements of the United States Government.

(3) PROGRAMMING ACCOUNTABILITY.—USAID shall take all necessary steps to ensure that the equivalent of the local currencies disbursed pursuant to subsection (a)(2)(A) from the separate account established pursuant to subsection (a)(1) are used for the purposes agreed upon pursuant to subsection (a)(2).

(4) TERMINATION OF ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.—Upon termination of assistance to a country under chapter 1 or 10 of part I or chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (as the case may be), any unencumbered balances of funds which remain in a separate account established pursuant to subsection (a) shall be disposed of for such purposes as may be agreed to by the government of that country and the United States Government.

(b) SEPARATE ACCOUNTS FOR CASH TRANSFERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If assistance is made available to the government of a foreign country, under chapter 1 or 10 of part I or chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as cash transfer assistance or as nonproject sector assistance, that country shall be required to maintain such funds in a separate account and not commingle with any other funds.

(2) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER PROVISIONS OF LAW.—Such funds may be obligated and expended notwithstanding provisions of law which are inconsistent with the nature of this assistance, including provisions which are referenced in the Joint Explanatory Statement of the Committee of Conference accompanying House Joint Resolution 648 (House Report No. 98-1159).

(3) NOTIFICATION.—At least 15 days prior to obligating any such cash transfer or non-project sector assistance, the President shall submit a notification through the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, which shall include a detailed description of how the funds proposed to be made available will be used, with a discussion of the United States interests that will be served by such assistance (including, as appropriate, a description of the economic policy reforms that will be promoted by such assistance).

(4) EXEMPTION.—Nonproject sector assistance funds may be exempt from the requirements of paragraph (1) only through the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

ELIGIBILITY FOR ASSISTANCE

SEC. 7027. (a) ASSISTANCE THROUGH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS.—Restrictions contained in this or any other Act with respect to assistance for a country shall not be construed to restrict assistance in support of programs of nongovernmental organizations from funds appropriated by this Act to

carry out the provisions of chapters 1, 10, 11, and 12 of part I and chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and from funds appropriated under the heading “Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia”: *Provided*, That before using the authority of this subsection to furnish assistance in support of programs of nongovernmental organizations, the President shall notify the Committees on Appropriations pursuant to the regular notification procedures, including a description of the program to be assisted, the assistance to be provided, and the reasons for furnishing such assistance: *Provided further*, That nothing in this subsection shall be construed to alter any existing statutory prohibitions against abortion or involuntary sterilizations contained in this or any other Act.

(b) PUBLIC LAW 480.—During fiscal year 2024, restrictions contained in this or any other Act with respect to assistance for a country shall not be construed to restrict assistance under the Food for Peace Act (Public Law 83-480; 7 U.S.C. 1721 et seq.): *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated to carry out title I of such Act and made available pursuant to this subsection may be obligated or expended except as provided through the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(c) EXCEPTION.—This section shall not apply—

(1) with respect to section 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 or any comparable provision of law prohibiting assistance to countries that support international terrorism; or

(2) with respect to section 116 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 or any comparable provision of law prohibiting assistance to the government of a country that violates internationally recognized human rights.

IMPACT ON JOBS IN THE UNITED STATES

SEC. 7028. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under titles III through VI of this Act may be obligated or expended to provide—

(1) any financial incentive to a business enterprise currently located in the United States for the purpose of inducing such an enterprise to relocate outside the United States if such incentive or inducement is likely to reduce the number of employees of such business enterprise in the United States because United States production is being replaced by such enterprise outside the United States;

(2) assistance for any program, project, or activity that contributes to the violation of internationally recognized workers' rights, as defined in section 507(4) of the Trade Act of 1974, of workers in the recipient country, including any designated zone or area in that country: *Provided*, That the application of section 507(4)(D) and (E) of such Act (19 U.S.C. 2467(4)(D) and (E)) should be commensurate with the level of development of the recipient country and sector, and shall not preclude assistance for the informal sector in such country, micro and small-scale enterprise, and smallholder agriculture;

(3) any assistance to an entity outside the United States if such assistance is for the purpose of directly relocating or transferring jobs from the United States to other countries and adversely impacts the labor force in the United States; or

(4) for the enforcement of any rule, regulation, policy, or guidelines implemented pursuant to the Supplemental Guidelines for High Carbon Intensity Projects approved by the Export-Import Bank of the United States on December 12, 2013, when enforcement of such rule, regulation, policy, or guidelines would prohibit, or have the effect of prohib-

iting, any coal-fired or other power-generation project the purpose of which is to—

(A) provide affordable electricity in International Development Association (IDA)-eligible countries and IDA-blend countries; and

(B) increase exports of goods and services from the United States or prevent the loss of jobs from the United States.

INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

SEC. 7029. (a) COMPENSATION.—None of the funds appropriated under title V of this Act may be made as payment to any international financial institution while the United States executive director to such institution is compensated by the institution at a rate which, together with whatever compensation such executive director receives from the United States, is in excess of the rate provided for an individual occupying a position at level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, or while any alternate United States executive director to such institution is compensated by the institution at a rate in excess of the rate provided for an individual occupying a position at level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of title 5, United States Code.

(b) HUMAN RIGHTS.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution to use the voice and vote of the United States to promote human rights due diligence and risk management, as appropriate, in connection with any loan, grant, policy, or strategy of such institution.

(c) FRAUD AND CORRUPTION.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution to use the voice of the United States to include in loan, grant, and other financing agreements improvements in borrowing countries' financial management and judicial capacity to investigate, prosecute, and punish fraud and corruption.

(d) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP INFORMATION.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution to use the voice of the United States to encourage such institution to collect, verify, and publish, to the maximum extent practicable, beneficial ownership information (excluding proprietary information) for any corporation or limited liability company, other than a publicly listed company, that receives funds from any such financial institution.

(e) WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution to use the voice of the United States to encourage such institution to effectively implement and enforce policies and procedures which meet or exceed best practices in the United States for the protection of whistleblowers from retaliation, including—

(1) protection against retaliation for internal and lawful public disclosure;

(2) legal burdens of proof;

(3) statutes of limitation for reporting retaliation;

(4) access to binding independent adjudicative bodies, including shared cost and selection external arbitration; and

(5) results that eliminate the effects of proven retaliation, including provision for the restoration of prior employment.

(f) GRIEVANCE MECHANISMS AND PROCEDURES.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution to use the voice of the United States to support independent investigative and adjudicative mechanisms and procedures that meet or exceed best practices in the United States to

provide due process and fair compensation, including the right to reinstatement, for employees who are subjected to harassment, discrimination, retaliation, false allegations, or other misconduct.

(g) CAPITAL INCREASES.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available to support a new capital increase for an international financial institution unless the President submits a budget request for such increase to Congress and determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that—

(1) the institution has completed a thorough analysis of the development challenges facing the relevant geographical region, the role of the institution in addressing such challenges and its role relative to other financing partners, and the steps to be taken to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the institution; and

(2) the governors of such institution have approved the capital increase.

(h) OPPOSITION TO LENDING TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director at each multilateral development bank to use the voice and vote of the United States to oppose any loan, extension of financial assistance, or technical assistance by such bank to the People's Republic of China.

(i) CONTRIBUTIONS TO FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARY FUNDS.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall ensure that no United States contribution to a financial intermediary fund may be used to provide any loan, extension of financial assistance, or technical assistance to the People's Republic of China or to any country or region subject to comprehensive sanctions by the United States.

(j) REPORT TO CONGRESS AND WITHHOLDING.—

(1) Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations indicating the amount of funds that a financial intermediary fund is budgeting for the year in which the report is submitted for a country or region described in subsection (i).

(2) If a report under paragraph (1) indicates that a financial intermediary fund plans to spend funds for a country or region described under subsection (i), including through projects implemented by a multilateral development bank, then 10 percent of the United States contribution to such bank shall be withheld from obligation for the remainder of the fiscal year in which the report is submitted.

(k) GUIDANCE ON MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act under the heading “Multilateral Assistance” may be used to implement, administer, or otherwise carry out Executive Order 14008 (relating to Executive Order on Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad), including the memorandum entitled “Guidance on Fossil Fuel Energy at the Multilateral Development Banks”, issued by the Department of the Treasury on August 16, 2021.

TECHNOLOGY SECURITY

SEC. 7030. (a) INSECURE COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS.—Funds appropriated by this Act shall be made available for programs, including through the Digital Connectivity and Cybersecurity Partnership, to—

(1) advance the adoption of secure, next-generation communications networks and services, including 5G, and cybersecurity policies, in countries receiving assistance under this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs;

(2) counter the establishment of insecure communications networks and services, including 5G, promoted by the People's Republic of China and other state-backed enterprises that are subject to undue or extrajudicial control by their country of origin; and

(3) provide policy and technical training on deploying open, interoperable, reliable, and secure networks to information communication technology professionals in countries receiving assistance under this Act, as appropriate:

Provided, That such funds, including funds appropriated under the heading “Economic Support Fund”, may be used to strengthen civilian cybersecurity and information and communications technology capacity, including participation of foreign law enforcement and military personnel in non-military activities, notwithstanding any other provision of law and following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations.

(b) CHIPS FOR AMERICA INTERNATIONAL TECHNOLOGY SECURITY AND INNOVATION FUND.—

(1) Within 45 days of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall allocate amounts made available from the Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors (CHIPS) for America International Technology Security and Innovation Fund for fiscal year 2024 pursuant to the transfer authority in section 102(c)(1) of the CHIPS Act of 2022 (division A of Public Law 117-167), to the accounts specified and in the amounts specified, in the table titled “CHIPS for America International Technology Security and Innovation Fund” in the report accompanying this Act: *Provided*, That such funds shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That amounts transferred to the Export-Import Bank of the United States and the United States International Development Finance Corporation pursuant to the transfer authority in section 102(c)(1) of the CHIPS Act of 2022 (division A of Public Law 117-167) may be made available for the costs of direct loans and loan guarantees, including the cost of modifying such loans, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

(2) Neither the President nor his designee may allocate any amounts that are made available for any fiscal year under section 102(c)(2) of the CHIPS Act of 2022 if there is in effect an Act making or continuing appropriations for part of a fiscal year for the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs: *Provided*, That in any fiscal year, the matter preceding this proviso shall not apply to the allocation, apportionment, or allotment of amounts for continuing administration of programs allocated using funds transferred from the CHIPS for America International Technology Security and Innovation Fund, which may be allocated pursuant to the transfer authority in section 102(c)(1) of the CHIPS Act of 2022 only in amounts that are no more than the allocation for such purposes in paragraph (1) of this subsection.

(3) Concurrent with the annual budget submission of the President for fiscal year 2025, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations proposed allocations by account and by program, project, or activity, with detailed justifications, for amounts made available under section 102(c)(2) of the CHIPS Act of 2022 for fiscal year 2025.

(4) The Secretary of State shall provide the Committees on Appropriations quarterly reports on the status of balances of projects and activities funded by the CHIPS for America International Technology Security

and Innovation Fund for amounts allocated pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection, including all uncommitted, committed, and unobligated funds.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, BUDGET TRANSPARENCY, AND ANTI-CORRUPTION

SEC. 7031. (a) LIMITATION ON DIRECT GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE.—

(1) REQUIREMENTS.—Funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for direct government-to-government assistance only if—

(A)(i) each implementing agency or ministry to receive assistance has been assessed and is considered to have the systems required to manage such assistance and any identified vulnerabilities or weaknesses of such agency or ministry have been addressed;

(ii) the recipient agency or ministry employs and utilizes staff with the necessary technical, financial, and management capabilities;

(iii) the recipient agency or ministry has adopted competitive procurement policies and systems;

(iv) effective monitoring and evaluation systems are in place to ensure that such assistance is used for its intended purposes;

(v) no level of acceptable fraud is assumed; and

(vi) the government of the recipient country is taking steps to publicly disclose on an annual basis its national budget, to include income and expenditures;

(B) the recipient government is in compliance with the principles set forth in section 7013 of this Act;

(C) the recipient agency or ministry is not headed or controlled by an organization designated as a foreign terrorist organization under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189);

(D) the Government of the United States and the government of the recipient country have agreed, in writing, on clear and achievable objectives for the use of such assistance, which should be made available on a cost-reimbursable basis;

(E) the recipient government is taking steps to protect the rights of civil society, including freedoms of expression, association, and assembly; and

(F) the government of the recipient country is taking steps to reduce corruption.

(2) CONSULTATION AND NOTIFICATION.—In addition to the requirements in paragraph (1), funds may only be made available for direct government-to-government assistance subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That such notification shall contain an explanation of how the proposed activity meets the requirements of paragraph (1): *Provided further*, That the requirements of this paragraph shall only apply to direct government-to-government assistance in excess of \$5,000,000 and all funds available for cash transfer, budget support, and cash payments to individuals.

(3) SUSPENSION OF ASSISTANCE.—The Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development or the Secretary of State, as appropriate, shall suspend any direct government-to-government assistance if the Administrator or the Secretary has credible information of material misuse of such assistance, unless the Administrator or the Secretary reports to the Committees on Appropriations that it is in the national interest of the United States to continue such assistance, including a justification, or that such misuse has been appropriately addressed.

(4) SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION.—The Secretary of State shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations, concurrent with the

fiscal year 2025 congressional budget justification materials, amounts planned for assistance described in paragraph (1) by country, proposed funding amount, source of funds, and type of assistance.

(5) DEBT SERVICE PAYMENT PROHIBITION.—None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the government of any foreign country for debt service payments owed by any country to any international financial institution or to the Government of the People's Republic of China.

(b) NATIONAL BUDGET AND CONTRACT TRANSPARENCY.—

(1) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS OF FISCAL TRANSPARENCY.—The Secretary of State shall continue to update and strengthen the “minimum requirements of fiscal transparency” for each government receiving assistance appropriated by this Act, as identified in the report required by section 7031(b) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2014 (division K of Public Law 113-76).

(2) DETERMINATION AND REPORT.—For each government identified pursuant to paragraph (1), the Secretary of State, not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, shall make or update any determination of “significant progress” or “no significant progress” in meeting the minimum requirements of fiscal transparency, and make such determinations publicly available in an annual “Fiscal Transparency Report” to be posted on the Department of State website: *Provided*, That such report shall include the elements included under this section in the report accompanying this Act.

(3) ASSISTANCE.—Funds appropriated under title III of this Act shall be made available for programs and activities to assist governments identified pursuant to paragraph (1) to improve budget transparency and to support civil society organizations in such countries that promote budget transparency.

(c) ANTI-KLEPTOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS.—

(1) INELIGIBILITY.—

(A) Officials of foreign governments and their immediate family members about whom the Secretary of State has credible information have been involved, directly or indirectly, in significant corruption, including corruption related to the extraction of natural resources, or a gross violation of human rights, including the wrongful detention of locally employed staff of a United States diplomatic mission or a United States citizen or national, shall be ineligible for entry into the United States.

(B) Concurrent with the application of subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall, as appropriate, refer the matter to the Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, to determine whether to apply sanctions authorities in accordance with United States law to block the transfer of property and interests in property, and all financial transactions, in the United States involving any person described in such subparagraph.

(C) The Secretary shall also publicly or privately designate or identify the officials of foreign governments and their immediate family members about whom the Secretary has such credible information without regard to whether the individual has applied for a visa.

(2) EXCEPTION.—Individuals shall not be ineligible for entry into the United States pursuant to paragraph (1) if such entry would further important United States law enforcement objectives or is necessary to permit the United States to fulfill its obligations under the United Nations Headquarters Agreement: *Provided*, That nothing in paragraph (1) shall be construed to derogate from United States

Government obligations under applicable international agreements.

(3) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the application of paragraph (1) if the Secretary determines that the waiver would serve a compelling national interest or that the circumstances which caused the individual to be ineligible have changed sufficiently.

(4) REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and every 90 days thereafter until September 30, 2025, the Secretary of State shall submit a report, including a classified annex if necessary, to the appropriate congressional committees and the Committees on the Judiciary describing the information related to corruption or violation of human rights concerning each of the individuals found ineligible in the previous 12 months pursuant to paragraph (1)(A) as well as the individuals who the Secretary designated or identified pursuant to paragraph (1)(B), or who would be ineligible but for the application of paragraph (2), a list of any waivers provided under paragraph (3), and the justification for each waiver.

(d) EXTRACTION OF NATURAL RESOURCES.—

(1) ASSISTANCE.—Funds appropriated by this Act may be made available to promote and support transparency and accountability of expenditures and revenues related to the extraction of natural resources, including by strengthening implementation and monitoring of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, implementing and enforcing section 8204 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-246; 122 Stat. 2052) and the amendments made by such section, and to prevent the sale of conflict diamonds, and for technical assistance to promote independent audit mechanisms and support civil society participation in natural resource management.

(2) PROHIBITION.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act under title III may be made available to support mining activities related to the extraction of minerals until the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that comparable mining activities are permitted in areas in the United States which were allowable prior to 2023: *Provided*, That the restriction in this paragraph shall not apply to United States entities.

(e) FOREIGN ASSISTANCE WEBSITE.—Funds appropriated by this Act under titles I and II, and funds made available for any independent agency in title III, as appropriate, shall be made available to support the provision of additional information on United States Government foreign assistance on the “ForeignAssistance.gov” website: *Provided*, That all Federal agencies funded under this Act shall provide such information on foreign assistance, upon request and in a timely manner, to the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development.

DEMOCRACY PROGRAMS

SEC. 7032. (a) FUNDING.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Development Assistance”, “Economic Support Fund”, “Democracy Fund”, “Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia”, and “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement”, \$2,900,000,000 shall be made available for democracy programs.

(b) AUTHORITIES.—

(1) AVAILABILITY.—Funds made available by this Act for democracy programs pursuant to subsection (a) and under the heading “National Endowment for Democracy” may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law, and with regard to the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), any regulation.

(2) BENEFICIARIES.—Funds made available by this Act for the NED are made available

pursuant to the authority of the National Endowment for Democracy Act (title V of Public Law 98-164), including all decisions regarding the selection of beneficiaries.

(c) DEFINITION OF DEMOCRACY PROGRAMS.—For purposes of funds appropriated by this Act, the term “democracy programs” means programs that support: outcomes of improved democratic governance; credible and observable electoral processes; strong, multi-party political systems with rights to contest government; rule of law; freedoms of expression, assembly, association, and religion; human rights, including property rights; activities by non-governmental organizations and other civil society, including independent media, that promote the outcomes described in this subsection.

(d) PROGRAM PRIORITIZATION.—Funds made available for support to strengthen government institutions, including ministries, should be prioritized for countries demonstrating strong separation of powers, checks and balances, rule of law, and credible and observable electoral processes.

(e) RESTRICTIONS ON FOREIGN GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE.—With respect to the provision of assistance for democracy programs in this Act, the organizations implementing such assistance, the specific nature of the assistance, and the participants in such programs shall not be subject to prior approval by the government of any foreign country.

(f) INFORMING PROGRAMMING.—The Secretary of State, Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and President of the NED should coordinate on plans for democracy programs supported with funds appropriated by this Act during joint regional and country planning for fiscal year 2024.

INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

SEC. 7033. (a) INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM OFFICE.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Diplomatic Programs” shall be made available for the Office of International Religious Freedom, Department of State.

(b) ASSISTANCE.—(1) Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Economic Support Fund”, “Democracy Fund”, and “International Broadcasting Operations”, not less than \$50,000,000 shall be made available for international religious freedom programs: *Provided*, That funds made available by this Act under the headings “Economic Support Fund” and “Democracy Fund” pursuant to this section shall be the responsibility of the Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom, in consultation with other relevant United States Government officials, and shall be subject to prior consultation with the Committees on Appropriations.

(2) Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “International Disaster Assistance” and “Migration and Refugee Assistance” shall be made available for humanitarian assistance for vulnerable and persecuted ethnic and religious minorities

(c) AUTHORITY.—Funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs under the heading “Economic Support Fund” may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law for assistance for ethnic and religious minorities in Iraq and Syria.

(d) DESIGNATION OF NON-STATE ACTORS.—Section 7033(e) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2017 (division J of Public Law 115-31) shall continue in effect during fiscal year 2024.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 7034. (a) VICTIMS OF WAR, DISPLACED CHILDREN, AND DISPLACED BURMESE.—Funds

appropriated in title III of this Act that are made available for victims of war, displaced children, displaced Burmese, and to combat trafficking in persons and assist victims of such trafficking may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law.

(b) FORENSIC ASSISTANCE.—

(1) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund” shall be made available for forensic anthropology assistance related to the exhumation and identification of victims of war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide, which shall be administered by the Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State.

(2) Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement”, not less than \$10,000,000 shall be made available for DNA forensic technology programs to combat human trafficking in Central America and Mexico.

(c) WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME.—Funds managed by the Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance, United States Agency for International Development from this Act may be made available as a general contribution to the World Food Programme.

(d) DIRECTIVES AND AUTHORITIES.—

(1) RESEARCH AND TRAINING.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia” shall be made available to carry out the Program for Research and Training on Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union as authorized by the Soviet-Eastern European Research and Training Act of 1983 (22 U.S.C. 4501 et seq.).

(2) GENOCIDE VICTIMS MEMORIAL SITES.—Funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs under the headings “Economic Support Fund” and “Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia” may be made available as contributions to establish and maintain memorial sites of genocide, subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(3) SPECIAL ENVOY FOR HOLOCAUST ISSUES.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Diplomatic Programs” may be made available for the Special Envoy for Holocaust Issues notwithstanding the limitation of section 7064(e)(3) of this Act.

(4) PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Development Assistance” and “Economic Support Fund” that are made available for private sector partnerships, including partnerships with philanthropic foundations, up to \$50,000,000 may remain available until September 30, 2026: *Provided*, That funds made available pursuant to this paragraph may only be made available following prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

(5) INNOVATION.—The USAID Administrator may use funds appropriated by this Act under title III to make innovation incentive awards in accordance with the terms and conditions of section 7034(e)(4) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2019 (division F of Public Law 116-6): *Provided*, That each individual award may not exceed \$100,000.

(6) EXCHANGE VISITOR PROGRAM.—None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to modify the Exchange Visitor Program administered by the Department of State to implement the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 (Public Law 87-256; 22 U.S.C. 2451 et seq.), except through the formal rulemaking process pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act

(5 U.S.C. 551 et seq.) and notwithstanding the exceptions to such rulemaking process in such Act: *Provided*, That funds made available for such purpose shall only be made available after consultation with, and subject to the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations, regarding how any proposed modification would affect the public diplomacy goals of, and the estimated economic impact on, the United States: *Provided further*, That such consultation shall take place not later than 30 days prior to the publication in the Federal Register of any regulatory action modifying the Exchange Visitor Program.

(7) PAYMENTS.—Funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs under the headings “Diplomatic Programs” and “Operating Expenses”, except for funds designated by Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, are available to provide payments pursuant to section 901(i)(2) of title IX of division J of the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (22 U.S.C. 2680b(i)(2)): *Provided*, That funds made available pursuant to this paragraph shall be subject to prior consultation with the Committees on Appropriations.

(e) PARTNER VETTING.—Prior to initiating a partner vetting program, providing a direct vetting option, or making a significant change to the scope of an existing partner vetting program, the Secretary of State and USAID Administrator, as appropriate, shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That the Secretary and the Administrator shall provide a direct vetting option for prime awardees in any partner vetting program initiated or significantly modified after the date of enactment of this Act, unless the Secretary or Administrator, as applicable, informs the Committees on Appropriations on a case-by-case basis that a direct vetting option is not feasible for such program: *Provided further*, That the Secretary and the Administrator may restrict the award of, terminate, or cancel contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements or require an awardee to restrict the award of, terminate, or cancel a sub-award based on information in connection with a partner vetting program.

(f) INTERNATIONAL CHILD ABDUCTIONS.—The Secretary of State should withhold funds appropriated under title III of this Act for assistance for the central government of any country that is not taking appropriate steps to comply with the Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abductions, done at the Hague on October 25, 1980: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall report to the Committees on Appropriations within 15 days of withholding funds under this subsection.

(g) TRANSFER OF FUNDS FOR EXTRAORDINARY PROTECTION.—The Secretary of State may transfer to, and merge with, funds under the heading “Protection of Foreign Missions and Officials” unobligated balances of expired funds appropriated under the heading “Diplomatic Programs” for fiscal year 2024, at no later than the end of the fifth fiscal year after the last fiscal year for which such funds are available for the purposes for which appropriated: *Provided*, That not more than \$50,000,000 may be transferred.

(h) EXTENSION OF AUTHORITIES.—

(1) INCENTIVES FOR CRITICAL POSTS.—The authority contained in section 1115(d) of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009 (Public Law 111-32) shall remain in effect through September 30, 2024.

(2) SPECIAL INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR AFGHANISTAN RECONSTRUCTION COMPETITIVE STA-

TUS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any employee of the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR) who completes at least 12 months of continuous service after enactment of this Act or who is employed on the date on which SIGAR terminates, whichever occurs first, shall acquire competitive status for appointment to any position in the competitive service for which the employee possesses the required qualifications.

(3) TRANSFER OF BALANCES.—Section 7081(h) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2017 (division J of Public Law 115-31) shall continue in effect during fiscal year 2024.

(4) PROTECTIVE SERVICES.—Section 7071 of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2022 (division K of Public Law 117-103) shall continue in effect during fiscal year 2024 and shall be applied to funds appropriated by this Act by substituting “\$40,000,000” for “\$30,000,000”.

(5) EXTENSION OF LOAN GUARANTEES TO ISRAEL.—Chapter 5 of title I of the Emergency Wartime Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2003 (Public Law 108-11; 117 Stat. 576) is amended under the heading “Loan Guarantees to Israel”—

(A) in the matter preceding the first proviso, by striking “September 30, 2028” and inserting “September 30, 2029”; and

(B) in the second proviso, by striking “September 30, 2028” and inserting “September 30, 2029”.

(6) EXTENSION OF CERTAIN PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—The authority provided in section 2401 of division C of the Extending Government Funding and Delivering Emergency Assistance Act (Public Law 117-43) shall remain in effect through September 30, 2024.

(7) EXTENSION OF CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS.—During the current fiscal year, sections (2), (3), and (4) of the PEPFAR Extension Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-305) shall be applied by substituting “2024” for “2023” each place it occurs.

(i) MONITORING AND EVALUATION.—

(1) BENEFICIARY FEEDBACK.—Funds appropriated by this Act that are made available for monitoring and evaluation of assistance under the headings “Development Assistance”, “International Disaster Assistance”, and “Migration and Refugee Assistance” shall be made available for the regular and systematic collection of feedback obtained directly from beneficiaries to enhance the quality and relevance of such assistance: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State and USAID Administrator shall regularly conduct oversight to ensure that such feedback is collected and used by implementing partners to maximize the cost-effectiveness and utility of such assistance.

(2) EX-POST EVALUATIONS.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under titles III and IV, not less than \$10,000,000 should be made available for ex-post evaluations of the effectiveness and sustainability of United States Government-funded assistance programs.

(j) HIV/AIDS WORKING CAPITAL FUND.—Funds available in the HIV/AIDS Working Capital Fund established pursuant to section 525(b)(1) of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2005 (Public Law 108-447) may be made available for pharmaceuticals and other products for child survival, malaria, and tuberculosis to the same extent as HIV/AIDS pharmaceuticals and other products, subject to the terms and conditions in such section: *Provided*, That the authority in section 525(b)(5) of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2005 (Public Law 108-447)

shall be exercised by the Assistant Administrator for Global Health, USAID, with respect to funds deposited for such non-HIV/AIDS pharmaceuticals and other products, and shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of State shall include in the congressional budget justification an accounting of budgetary resources, disbursements, balances, and reimbursements related to such fund.

(k) LOANS, CONSULTATION, AND NOTIFICATION.—

(1) LOAN GUARANTEES.—Funds appropriated under the headings “Economic Support Fund” and “Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia” by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs may be made available for the costs, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, of loan guarantees for Egypt, Jordan, Small Island Developing States, and Ukraine, which are authorized to be provided: *Provided*, That amounts made available under this paragraph for the costs of such guarantees shall not be considered assistance for the purposes of provisions of law limiting assistance to a country.

(2) FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING DIRECT LOANS.—During fiscal year 2024, direct loans under section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act may be made available for North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) or Major Non-NATO Allies, notwithstanding section 23(c)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, gross obligations for the principal amounts of which shall not exceed \$8,000,000,000: *Provided*, That funds appropriated under the heading “Foreign Military Financing Program” in this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, including balances that were previously designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operation/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, may be made available for the costs, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, of such loans: *Provided further*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and may include the costs of selling, reducing, or cancelling any amounts owed to the United States or any agency of the United States: *Provided further*, That the Government of the United States may charge fees for such loans, which shall be collected from borrowers in accordance with section 502(7) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That no funds made available to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) or Major Non-NATO Allies by this or any other appropriations Act for this fiscal year or prior fiscal years may be used for payment of any fees associated with such loans: *Provided further*, That such loans shall be repaid in not more than 12 years, including a grace period of up to one year on repayment of principal: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this paragraph for such costs shall not be considered assistance for the purposes of provisions of law limiting assistance to a country.

(3) FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING LOAN GUARANTEES.—Funds appropriated under the heading “Foreign Military Financing Program” in this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, including balances that were previously designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism

pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, may be made available, notwithstanding the third proviso under such heading, for the costs of loan guarantees under section 24 of the Arms Export Control Act for North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) or Major Non-NATO Allies: *Provided*, That such funds are available to subsidize gross obligations for the principal amount of commercial loans, and total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, not to exceed \$8,000,000,000: *Provided further*, That no loan guarantee with respect to any one borrower may exceed 80 percent of the loan principal: *Provided further*, That any loan guaranteed under this paragraph may not be subordinated to another debt contracted by the borrower or to any other claims against the borrower in the case of default: *Provided further*, That repayment in United States dollars of any loan guaranteed under this paragraph shall be required within a period not to exceed 12 years after the loan agreement is signed: *Provided further*, That the Government of the United States may charge fees for such loan guarantees, as may be determined, notwithstanding section 24 of the Arms Export Control Act, which shall be collected from borrowers or third parties on behalf of such borrowers in accordance with section 502(7) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this paragraph for the costs of such guarantees shall not be considered assistance for the purposes of provisions of law limiting assistance to a country.

(4) LIMITATION.—Prior to offering Foreign Military Financing Program loans or loan guarantees to Major Non-NATO Allies, the Secretary of State shall determine and report to the appropriate congressional committees that such partners do not support any foreign adversary as defined by 15 CFR § 7.4.

(5) CONSULTATION AND NOTIFICATION.—Funds made available pursuant to the authorities of this subsection shall be subject to prior consultation with the appropriate congressional committees and the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(1) LOCAL WORKS.—

(1) FUNDING.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Development Assistance” and “Economic Support Fund”, not less than \$50,000,000 shall be made available for Local Works pursuant to section 7080 of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2015 (division J of Public Law 113–235), which may remain available until September 30, 2028.

(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—For the purposes of section 7080 of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2015 (division J of Public Law 113–235), “eligible entities” shall be defined as small local, international, and United States-based nongovernmental organizations, educational institutions, and other small entities that have received less than a total of \$5,000,000 from USAID over the previous 5 fiscal years: *Provided*, That departments or centers of such educational institutions may be considered individually in determining such eligibility.

(m) DEFINITIONS.—

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—Unless otherwise defined in this Act, for purposes of this Act the term “appropriate congressional committees” means the Committees on Appropriations and Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committees on Appropriations and Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(2) FUNDS APPROPRIATED BY THIS ACT AND PRIOR ACTS.—Unless otherwise defined in this

Act, for purposes of this Act the term “funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs” means funds that remain available for obligation, and have not expired.

(3) INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.—In this Act “international financial institutions” means the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Development Association, the International Finance Corporation, the Inter-American Development Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the Asian Development Bank, the Asian Development Fund, the Inter-American Investment Corporation, the North American Development Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the African Development Bank, the African Development Fund, and the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency.

(4) SPEND PLAN.—In this Act, the term “spend plan” means a plan for the uses of funds appropriated for a particular entity, country, program, purpose, or account and which shall include, at a minimum, a description of—

(A) realistic and sustainable goals, criteria for measuring progress, and a timeline for achieving such goals;

(B) amounts and sources of funds by account;

(C) how such funds will complement other ongoing or planned programs; and

(D) implementing partners, to the maximum extent practicable.

(5) SUCCESSOR OPERATING UNIT.—Any reference to a particular operating unit or office in this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs shall be deemed to include any successor operating unit performing the same or similar functions.

(6) USAID.—In this Act, the term “USAID” means the United States Agency for International Development.

LAW ENFORCEMENT AND SECURITY

SEC. 7035. (a) ASSISTANCE.—

(1) COMMUNITY-BASED POLICE ASSISTANCE.—Funds made available under titles III and IV of this Act to carry out the provisions of chapter 1 of part I and chapters 4 and 6 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, may be used, notwithstanding section 660 of that Act, to enhance the effectiveness and accountability of civilian police authority through training and technical assistance in human rights, the rule of law, anti-corruption, strategic planning, and through assistance to foster civilian police roles that support democratic governance, including assistance for programs to prevent conflict, respond to disasters, address violence against women and girls, and foster improved police relations with the communities they serve.

(2) COMBAT CASUALTY CARE.—

(A) Consistent with the objectives of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and the Arms Export Control Act, funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Peacekeeping Operations” and “Foreign Military Financing Program” shall be made available for combat casualty training and equipment in an amount above the prior fiscal year.

(B) The Secretary of State shall offer combat casualty care training and equipment as a component of any package of lethal assistance funded by this Act with funds appropriated under the headings “Peacekeeping Operations” and “Foreign Military Financing Program”: *Provided*, That the requirement of this subparagraph shall apply to a country in conflict, unless the Secretary determines that such country has in place, to

the maximum extent practicable, functioning combat casualty care treatment and equipment that meets or exceeds the standards recommended by the Committee on Tactical Combat Casualty Care: *Provided further*, That any such training and equipment for combat casualty care shall be made available through an open and competitive process.

(b) AUTHORITIES.—

(1) RECONSTITUTING CIVILIAN POLICE AUTHORITY.—In providing assistance with funds appropriated by this Act under section 660(b)(6) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, support for a nation emerging from instability may be deemed to mean support for regional, district, municipal, or other sub-national entity emerging from instability, as well as a nation emerging from instability.

(2) DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILIZATION, AND RE-INTEGRATION.—Section 7034(d) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2015 (division J of Public Law 113–235) shall continue in effect during fiscal year 2024.

(3) COMMERCIAL LEASING OF DEFENSE ARTICLES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, the authority of section 23(a) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2763) may be used to provide financing to Israel, Egypt, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and Major Non-NATO Allies for the procurement by leasing (including leasing with an option to purchase) of defense articles from United States commercial suppliers, not including Major Defense Equipment (other than helicopters and other types of aircraft having possible civilian application), if the President determines that there are compelling foreign policy or national security reasons for those defense articles being provided by commercial lease rather than by government-to-government sale under such Act.

(4) SPECIAL DEFENSE ACQUISITION FUND.—Not to exceed \$900,000,000 may be obligated pursuant to section 51(c)(2) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2795(c)(2)) for the purposes of the Special Defense Acquisition Fund (the Fund), to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2026: *Provided*, That the provision of defense articles and defense services to foreign countries or international organizations from the Fund shall be subject to the concurrence of the Secretary of State.

(5) EXTENSION OF WAR RESERVES STOCKPILE AUTHORITY.—

(A) Section 12001(d) of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2005 (Public Law 108–287; 118 Stat. 1011) is amended by striking “2025” and inserting “2026”.

(B) Section 514(b)(2)(A) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2321h(b)(2)(A)) is amended by striking “or 2025” and inserting “2025 and 2026”.

(6) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Notwithstanding Section 503(a)(3) of Public Law 87–195 (22 U.S.C. 2311(a)(3)), the procurement of defense articles and services funded on a non-repayable basis under section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act may be priced to include the costs of salaries of members of the Armed Forces of the United States engaged in security assistance activities pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 341 (relating to the State Partnership Program): *Provided*, That this section shall only apply to funds that remain available for obligation in fiscal year 2024.

(B) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, equipment procured with funds appropriated by this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs

under the heading “Pakistan Counterinsurgency Capability Fund” may be used for any other program and in any region: *Provided*, That use of this authority shall be subject to prior consultation with the Committees on Appropriations.

(c) LIMITATIONS.—

(1) CHILD SOLDIERS.—Funds appropriated by this Act should not be used to support any military training or operations that include child soldiers.

(2) LANDMINES AND CLUSTER MUNITIONS.—

(A) AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, demining equipment available to the United States Agency for International Development and the Department of State and used in support of the clearance of landmines and unexploded ordnance for humanitarian purposes may be disposed of on a grant basis in foreign countries, subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary of State may prescribe.

(B) CLUSTER MUNITIONS.—No military assistance shall be furnished for cluster munitions, no defense export license for cluster munitions may be issued, and no cluster munitions or cluster munitions technology shall be sold or transferred, unless—

(i) the submunitions of the cluster munitions, after arming, do not result in more than 1 percent unexploded ordnance across the range of intended operational environments, and the agreement applicable to the assistance, transfer, or sale of such cluster munitions or cluster munitions technology specifies that the cluster munitions will only be used against clearly defined military targets and will not be used where civilians are known to be present or in areas normally inhabited by civilians; or

(ii) such assistance, license, sale, or transfer is for the purpose of demilitarizing or permanently disposing of such cluster munitions.

(3) CROWD CONTROL.—If the Secretary of State has information that a unit of a foreign security force uses excessive force to repress peaceful expression or assembly concerning corruption, harm to the environment or human health, or the fairness of electoral processes, or in countries that are undemocratic or undergoing democratic transition, the Secretary shall promptly determine if such information is credible: *Provided*, That if the information is determined to be credible, funds appropriated by this Act should not be used for tear gas, small arms, light weapons, ammunition, or other items for crowd control purposes for such unit, unless the Secretary of State determines that the foreign government is taking effective measures to bring the responsible members of such unit to justice.

(d) REPORTS.—

(1) SECURITY ASSISTANCE REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a report on funds obligated and expended during fiscal year 2023, by country and purpose of assistance, under the headings “Peacekeeping Operations”, “International Military Education and Training”, and “Foreign Military Financing Program”.

(2) ANNUAL FOREIGN MILITARY TRAINING REPORT.—For the purposes of implementing section 656 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, the term “military training” provided to foreign military personnel by the Department of Defense and the Department of State” shall be deemed to include all military training provided by foreign governments with funds appropriated to the Department of Defense or the Department of State, except for training provided by the government of a country designated by section 517(b) of such Act (22 U.S.C. 2321k(b)) as a Major Non-North Atlantic Treaty Organi-

zation ally: *Provided*, That such third-country training shall be clearly identified in the report submitted pursuant to section 656 of such Act.

COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

SEC. 7036. (a) OFFICE TO MONITOR AND COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Diplomatic Programs”, not less than \$25,000,000 shall be made available for the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons.

(b) PROGRAMS TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Development Assistance”, “Economic Support Fund”, “Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia”, and “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement”, not less than \$123,900,000 shall be made available for activities to combat trafficking in persons internationally, including for the Program to End Modern Slavery, of which not less than \$92,000,000 shall be from funds made available under the heading “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement”: *Provided*, That funds made available by this Act under the headings “Development Assistance”, “Economic Support Fund”, and “Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia” that are made available for activities to combat trafficking in persons should be obligated and programmed consistent with the country-specific recommendations included in the annual Trafficking in Persons Report, and shall be coordinated with the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, Department of State.

(c) TRAINING.—Of the funds made available by this Act, not less than \$1,000,000 shall be made available to further develop, standardize, and update training for all United States Government personnel under Chief of Mission authority posted at United States embassies and consulates abroad, on recognizing signs of human trafficking, and protocols for reporting such cases.

(d) CONFERENCES.—Funds appropriated by this Act that are made available for international conferences may not be made available for such conferences in Tier 3 countries, as defined by section 104 of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-386), unless the purpose of the conference is to combat human trafficking or is in the United States national security interest, as determined by the Secretary of State.

PALESTINIAN STATEHOOD

SEC. 7037. (a) LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE.—None of the funds appropriated under titles III through VI of this Act may be provided to support a Palestinian state unless the Secretary of State determines and certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that—

(1) the governing entity of a new Palestinian state—

(A) has demonstrated a firm commitment to peaceful co-existence with the State of Israel; and

(B) is taking appropriate measures to counter terrorism and terrorist financing in the West Bank and Gaza, including the dismantling of terrorist infrastructures, and is cooperating with appropriate Israeli and other appropriate security organizations; and

(2) the Palestinian Authority (or the governing entity of a new Palestinian state) is working with other countries in the region to vigorously pursue efforts to establish a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace in the Middle East that will enable Israel and an independent Palestinian state to exist within the context of full and normal relationships, which should include—

(A) termination of all claims or states of belligerency;

(B) respect for and acknowledgment of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and political independence of every state in the area through measures including the establishment of demilitarized zones;

(C) their right to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries free from threats or acts of force;

(D) freedom of navigation through international waterways in the area; and

(E) a framework for achieving a just settlement of the refugee problem.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the governing entity should enact a constitution assuring the rule of law, an independent judiciary, and respect for human rights for its citizens, and should enact other laws and regulations assuring transparent and accountable governance.

(c) WAIVER.—The President may waive subsection (a) if the President determines that it is important to the national security interest of the United States to do so.

(d) EXEMPTION.—The restriction in subsection (a) shall not apply to assistance intended to help reform the Palestinian Authority and affiliated institutions, or the governing entity, in order to help meet the requirements of subsection (a), consistent with the provisions of section 7040 of this Act (“Limitation on Assistance for the Palestinian Authority”).

PROHIBITION ON ASSISTANCE TO THE PALESTINIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

SEC. 7038. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to provide equipment, technical support, consulting services, or any other form of assistance to the Palestinian Broadcasting Corporation.

ASSISTANCE FOR THE WEST BANK AND GAZA

SEC. 7039. (a) OVERSIGHT.—For fiscal year 2024, 30 days prior to the initial obligation of funds for the bilateral West Bank and Gaza Program, the Secretary of State shall certify to the Committees on Appropriations that procedures have been established to assure the Comptroller General of the United States will have access to appropriate United States financial information in order to review the uses of United States assistance for the Program funded under the heading “Economic Support Fund” for the West Bank and Gaza.

(b) VETTING.—Prior to the obligation of funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund” for assistance for the West Bank and Gaza, the Secretary of State shall take all appropriate steps to ensure that such assistance is not provided to or through any individual, private or government entity, or educational institution that the Secretary knows or has reason to believe advocates, plans, sponsors, engages in, or has engaged in, terrorist activity nor, with respect to private entities or educational institutions, those that have as a principal officer of the entity’s governing board or governing board of trustees any individual that has been determined to be involved in, or advocating terrorist activity or determined to be a member of a designated foreign terrorist organization: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State shall, as appropriate, establish procedures specifying the steps to be taken in carrying out this subsection and shall terminate assistance to any individual, entity, or educational institution which the Secretary has determined to be involved in or advocating terrorist activity.

(c) PROHIBITION.—

(1) RECOGNITION OF ACTS OF TERRORISM.—None of the funds appropriated under titles III through VI of this Act for assistance under the West Bank and Gaza Program may be made available for—

(A) the purpose of recognizing or otherwise honoring individuals who commit, or have committed acts of terrorism; and

(B) any educational institution located in the West Bank or Gaza that is named after an individual who the Secretary of State determines has committed an act of terrorism.

(2) SECURITY ASSISTANCE AND REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds made available by this or prior appropriations Acts, including funds made available by transfer, may be made available for obligation for security assistance for the West Bank and Gaza until the Secretary of State reports to the Committees on Appropriations on—

(A) the benchmarks that have been established for security assistance for the West Bank and Gaza and on the extent of Palestinian compliance with such benchmarks; and

(B) the steps being taken by the Palestinian Authority to end torture and other cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment of detainees, including by bringing to justice members of Palestinian security forces who commit such crimes.

(d) OVERSIGHT BY THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.—

(1) The Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall ensure that Federal or non-Federal audits of all contractors and grantees, and significant subcontractors and sub-grantees, under the West Bank and Gaza Program, are conducted at least on an annual basis to ensure, among other things, compliance with this section.

(2) Of the funds appropriated by this Act, up to \$1,500,000 may be used by the Office of Inspector General of the United States Agency for International Development for audits, investigations, and other activities in furtherance of the requirements of this subsection: *Provided*, That such funds are in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes.

(e) COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES AUDIT.—Subsequent to the certification specified in subsection (a), the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct an audit and an investigation of the treatment, handling, and uses of all funds for the bilateral West Bank and Gaza Program, including all funds provided as cash transfer assistance, in fiscal year 2024 under the heading “Economic Support Fund”, and such audit shall address—

(1) the extent to which such Program complies with the requirements of subsections (b) and (c); and

(2) an examination of all programs, projects, and activities carried out under such Program, including both obligations and expenditures.

(f) NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES.—Funds made available in this Act for West Bank and Gaza shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE FOR THE PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY

SEC. 7040. (a) PROHIBITION OF FUNDS.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act to carry out the provisions of chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 may be obligated or expended with respect to providing funds to the Palestinian Authority.

(b) WAIVER.—The prohibition included in subsection (a) shall not apply if the President certifies in writing to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President pro tempore of the Senate, and the Committees on Appropriations that waiving such prohibition is important to the national security interest of the United States.

(c) PERIOD OF APPLICATION OF WAIVER.—Any waiver pursuant to subsection (b) shall

be effective for no more than a period of 6 months at a time and shall not apply beyond 12 months after the enactment of this Act.

(d) REPORT.—Whenever the waiver authority pursuant to subsection (b) is exercised, the President shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations detailing the justification for the waiver, the purposes for which the funds will be spent, and the accounting procedures in place to ensure that the funds are properly disbursed: *Provided*, That the report shall also detail the steps the Palestinian Authority has taken to arrest terrorists, confiscate weapons and dismantle the terrorist infrastructure.

(e) CERTIFICATION.—If the President exercises the waiver authority under subsection (b), the Secretary of State must certify and report to the Committees on Appropriations prior to the obligation of funds that the Palestinian Authority has established a single treasury account for all Palestinian Authority financing and all financing mechanisms flow through this account, no parallel financing mechanisms exist outside of the Palestinian Authority treasury account, and there is a single comprehensive civil service roster and payroll, and the Palestinian Authority is acting to counter incitement of violence against Israelis and is supporting activities aimed at promoting peace, coexistence, and security cooperation with Israel.

(f) PROHIBITION TO HAMAS AND THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION.—

(1) None of the funds appropriated in titles III through VI of this Act may be obligated for salaries of personnel of the Palestinian Authority located in Gaza or may be obligated or expended for assistance to Hamas or any entity effectively controlled by Hamas, any power-sharing government of which Hamas is a member, or that results from an agreement with Hamas and over which Hamas exercises undue influence.

(2) Notwithstanding the limitation of paragraph (1), assistance may be provided to a power-sharing government only if the President certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that such government, including all of its ministers or such equivalent, has publicly accepted and is complying with the principles contained in section 620K(b)(1) (A) and (B) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended.

(3) The President may exercise the authority in section 620K(e) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as added by the Palestinian Anti-Terrorism Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-446) with respect to this subsection.

(4) Whenever the certification pursuant to paragraph (2) is exercised, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations within 120 days of the certification and every quarter thereafter on whether such government, including all of its ministers or such equivalent are continuing to comply with the principles contained in section 620K(b)(1) (A) and (B) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended: *Provided*, That the report shall also detail the amount, purposes and delivery mechanisms for any assistance provided pursuant to the abovementioned certification and a full accounting of any direct support of such government.

(5) None of the funds appropriated under titles III through VI of this Act may be obligated for assistance for the Palestine Liberation Organization.

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

SEC. 7041. (a) EGYPT.—

(1) ASSISTANCE.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act for assistance for Egypt—

(A) not less than \$125,000,000 shall be made available from funds under the heading “Economic Support Fund”, of which not less than \$40,000,000 should be made available for

higher education programs, including not less than \$15,000,000 for scholarships for Egyptian students with high financial need to attend not-for-profit institutions of higher education in Egypt that are currently accredited by a regional accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education, or meets standards equivalent to those required for United States institutional accreditation by a regional accrediting agency recognized by such Department: *Provided*, That such funds shall be made available for democracy programs, and for development programs in the Sinai.

(B) not less than \$1,300,000,000 shall be made available from funds under the heading “Foreign Military Financing Program”, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That such funds may be transferred to an interest bearing account in the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

(2) ADDITIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE.—In addition to funds made available pursuant to paragraph (1), not less than \$75,000,000 of the funds appropriated under the heading “Foreign Military Financing Program” shall be made available for assistance for Egypt.

(3) CERTIFICATION AND REPORT.—Funds appropriated by this Act that are available for assistance for Egypt may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law restricting assistance for Egypt, except for this subsection and section 620M of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, and may only be made available for assistance for the Government of Egypt if the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that such government is—

(A) sustaining the strategic relationship with the United States; and

(B) meeting its obligations under the 1979 Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty.

(b) IRAN.—

(1) FUNDING.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Diplomatic Programs”, “Economic Support Fund”, and “Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs” shall be made available by the Secretary of State—

(A) to support the United States policy to prevent Iran from achieving the capability to produce or otherwise obtain a nuclear weapon;

(B) to support an expeditious response to any violation of United Nations Security Council Resolutions or to efforts that advance Iran’s nuclear program;

(C) to support the implementation and enforcement of sanctions against Iran for support of nuclear weapons development, terrorism, human rights abuses, and ballistic missile and weapons proliferation; and

(D) for democracy programs in support of the aspirations of the Iranian people.

(2) REPORTS.—

(A) SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT.—The Secretary of State shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations the semi-annual report required by section 135(d)(4) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2160e(d)(4)), as added by section 2 of the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-17).

(B) SANCTIONS REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on—

(i) the status of United States bilateral sanctions on Iran;

(ii) the reimposition and renewed enforcement of secondary sanctions; and

(iii) the impact such sanctions have had on Iran’s destabilizing activities throughout the Middle East.

(3) LIMITATIONS.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be—

(A) used to implement or enforce a future agreement with the Government of Iran relating to the nuclear program of Iran, or a renewal of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action adopted on October 18, 2015, until such agreement is transmitted to Congress pursuant to section 135 of the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act of 2015 (42 U.S.C. 2160e) and such agreement is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate as a treaty and has received the concurrence of two-thirds of Senators concurring;

(B) made available to any foreign entity or person that is subject to United Nations or United States bilateral sanctions with respect to the Government of Iran or an entity organized under the laws of Iran or otherwise subject to the jurisdiction of such government; or

(C) used to revoke the designation of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps as a Foreign Terrorist Organization pursuant to section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189).

(c) IRAQ.—

(1) PURPOSES.—Funds appropriated under titles III and IV of this Act shall be made available for assistance for Iraq for—

(A) bilateral economic assistance and international security assistance, including in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq;

(B) stabilization assistance;

(C) programs to support government transparency and accountability, judicial independence, protect the right of due process, and combat corruption;

(D) humanitarian assistance, including in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq;

(E) programs to protect and assist religious and ethnic minority populations; and

(F) programs to increase United States private sector investment.

(2) LIMITATION.—Funds appropriated by this Act under titles III through VI may not be made available to an organization or entity controlled by, or an affiliate of, the Badr Organization or to any other organization or entity for which the Secretary of State has credible information is a proxy of Iran.

(d) ISRAEL.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Foreign Military Financing Program”, not less than \$3,300,000,000 shall be available for grants only for Israel which shall be disbursed within 30 days of enactment of this Act: *Provided*, That to the extent that the Government of Israel requests that funds be used for such purposes, grants made available for Israel under this heading shall, as agreed by the United States and Israel, be available for advanced weapons systems, of which not less than \$725,300,000 shall be available for the procurement in Israel of defense articles and defense services, including research and development.

(e) JORDAN.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under titles III and IV, not less than \$1,650,000,000 shall be made available for assistance for Jordan, of which not less than \$845,100,000 shall be made available for budget support for the Government of Jordan and not less than \$425,000,000 shall be made available under the heading “Foreign Military Financing Program”.

(f) LEBANON.—

(1) LIMITATION.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for the Lebanese Internal Security Forces (ISF) or the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) if the ISF or the LAF is controlled by a foreign terrorist organization, as designated pursuant to section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189).

(2) SECURITY ASSISTANCE.—

(A) Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement” and “Foreign Military Financing Program” that are made

available for assistance for Lebanon may be made available for programs and equipment for the ISF and the LAF to address security and stability requirements in areas affected by conflict in Syria, following consultation with the appropriate congressional committees.

(B) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Foreign Military Financing Program” that are made available for assistance for Lebanon may only be made available for programs to—

(i) professionalize the LAF to mitigate internal and external threats from non-state actors, including Hezbollah;

(ii) strengthen the security of borders and combat terrorism, including training and equipping the LAF to secure the borders of Lebanon and address security and stability requirements in areas affected by conflict in Syria, interdicting arms shipments, and preventing the use of Lebanon as a safe haven for terrorist groups; and

(iii) implement United Nations Security Council Resolution 1701: *Provided*, That prior to obligating funds made available by this subparagraph for assistance for the LAF, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a spend plan, including actions to be taken to ensure equipment provided to the LAF is used only for the intended purposes, except such plan may not be considered as meeting the notification requirements under section 7015 of this Act or under section 634A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961: *Provided further*, That any notification submitted pursuant to such section shall include any funds specifically intended for lethal military equipment.

(g) MOROCCO.—Funds appropriated under titles III and IV of this Act shall be made available for assistance for Morocco.

(h) SAUDI ARABIA.—

(1) None of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “International Military Education and Training” should be made available for assistance for the Government of Saudi Arabia.

(2) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs should be obligated or expended by the Export-Import Bank of the United States to guarantee, insure, or extend (or participate in the extension of) credit in connection with the export of nuclear technology, equipment, fuel, materials, or other nuclear technology-related goods or services to Saudi Arabia unless the Government of Saudi Arabia—

(A) has in effect a nuclear cooperation agreement pursuant to section 123 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2153);

(B) has committed to renounce uranium enrichment and reprocessing on its territory under that agreement; and

(C) has signed and implemented an Additional Protocol to its Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency.

(i) SYRIA.—

(1) NON-LETHAL ASSISTANCE.—Funds appropriated by this Act under titles III and IV may be made available, notwithstanding any other provision of law, for non-lethal stabilization assistance to address the needs of civilians affected by conflict in Syria.

(2) LIMITATIONS.—Funds made available pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection—

(A) may not be made available for a project or activity that supports or otherwise legitimizes the Government of Iran, foreign terrorist organizations (as designated pursuant to section 219 of the Immigration

and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189)), or a proxy of Iran in Syria;

(B) may not be made available for activities that further the strategic objectives of the Government of the Russian Federation that the Secretary of State determines may threaten or undermine United States national security interests; and

(C) may not be used in areas of Syria controlled by a government led by Bashar al-Assad or associated forces or made available to an organization or entity effectively controlled by an official or immediate family member of an official of such government.

(3) MONITORING, OVERSIGHT, CONSULTATION, AND NOTIFICATION.—

(A) Prior to the obligation of funds appropriated by this Act and made available for assistance for Syria, the Secretary of State shall take all practicable steps to ensure that mechanisms are in place for monitoring, oversight, and control of such assistance inside Syria.

(B) Section 7015(j) of this Act regarding the notification of assistance diverted or destroyed shall apply to funds made available for assistance for Syria.

(C) Funds made available pursuant to this subsection may only be made available following consultation with the appropriate congressional committees and shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That such consultation shall include the steps taken to comply with subparagraph (A).

(j) WEST BANK AND GAZA.—

(1) REPORT ON ASSISTANCE.—Prior to the initial obligation of funds made available by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund” for assistance for the West Bank and Gaza, the Secretary of State shall report to the Committees on Appropriations that the purpose of such assistance is to—

(A) advance Middle East peace;

(B) improve security in the region;

(C) continue support for transparent and accountable government institutions;

(D) promote a private sector economy; or

(E) address urgent humanitarian needs.

(2) LIMITATIONS.—

(A) None of the funds appropriated under the heading “Economic Support Fund” in this Act may be made available for assistance for the Palestinian Authority, if after the date of enactment of this Act—

(i) the Palestinians obtain the same standing as member states or full membership as a state in the United Nations or any specialized agency thereof outside an agreement negotiated between Israel and the Palestinians; or

(ii) the Palestinians initiate an International Criminal Court (ICC) judicially authorized investigation, or actively support such an investigation, that subjects Israeli nationals to an investigation for alleged crimes against Palestinians.

(B)(i) The President may waive the provisions of section 1003 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1988 and 1989 (Public Law 100-204) if the President determines and certifies in writing to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President pro tempore of the Senate, and the appropriate congressional committees that the Palestinians have not, after the date of enactment of this Act—

(I) obtained in the United Nations or any specialized agency thereof the same standing as member states or full membership as a state outside an agreement negotiated between Israel and the Palestinians;

(II) initiated or actively supported an ICC investigation against Israeli nationals for alleged crimes against Palestinians; and

(III) initiated any further action, whether directly or indirectly, based on an Advisory

Opinion of the International Court of Justice that undermines direct negotiations to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, including matters related to final status and Israel's longstanding security rights and responsibilities.

(ii) Not less than 90 days after the President is unable to make the certification pursuant to clause (i) of this subparagraph, the President may waive section 1003 of Public Law 100-204 if the President determines and certifies in writing to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President pro tempore of the Senate, and the Committees on Appropriations that the Palestinians have entered into direct and meaningful negotiations with Israel: *Provided*, That any waiver of the provisions of section 1003 of Public Law 100-204 under clause (i) of this subparagraph or under previous provisions of law must expire before the waiver under this clause may be exercised.

(iii) Any waiver pursuant to this subparagraph shall be effective for no more than a period of 6 months at a time and shall not apply beyond 12 months after the enactment of this Act.

(3) APPLICATION OF TAYLOR FORCE ACT.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund” that are made available for assistance for the West Bank and Gaza shall be made available consistent with section 1004(a) of the Taylor Force Act (title X of division S of Public Law 115-141).

(4) SECURITY REPORT.—The reporting requirements in section 1404 of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 (Public Law 110-252) shall apply to funds made available by this Act, including a description of modifications, if any, to the security strategy of the Palestinian Authority.

(5) INCITEMENT REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees detailing steps taken by the Palestinian Authority to counter incitement of violence against Israelis and to promote peace and co-existence with Israel.

(6) OFFICE REQUIREMENTS.—The Office of Palestinian Affairs in Jerusalem shall report directly to the United States Ambassador to Israel, consistent with the operations of the previous Palestinian Affairs Unit, and may not administer or manage funds appropriated under title III of this Act.

AFRICA

SEC. 7042. (a) COUNTER ILLICIT ARMED GROUPS.—Funds appropriated by this Act shall be made available for programs and activities in areas affected by the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) or other illicit armed groups in Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Central African Republic, including to improve physical access, telecommunications infrastructure, and early-warning mechanisms and to support the disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration of former LRA combatants, especially child soldiers.

(b) ETHIOPIA.—Funds appropriated by this Act that are made available for assistance for Ethiopia should be used to support—

(1) implementation of the cessation of hostilities agreement in Tigray;

(2) political dialogues and confidence building measures to end other conflicts in the country;

(3) civil society and protect human rights;

(4) efforts to provide unimpeded access to humanitarian assistance;

(5) investigations and prosecutions of gross violations of human rights; and

(6) restoration of basic services in areas impacted by conflict.

(c) MALAWI.—Funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations

for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs that are made available for higher education programs in Malawi shall be made available for higher education and workforce development programs in agriculture as described under this section in the report accompanying this Act.

(d) POWER AFRICA ALL-OF-THE-ABOVE ENERGY POLICY.—None of the funds appropriated under title III of this Act may be made available for renewable energy programs as part of Power Africa until the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development certifies and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that no less than the total funds allocated for renewable energy during the previous fiscal year has been allocated in fiscal year 2024 for other sources of energy included in paragraph (8) of section 3 of the Electrify Africa Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-121).

(e) SOUTH SUDAN.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act under title IV may be made available for assistance for the central Government of South Sudan, except to support implementation of outstanding issues of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, mutual arrangements related to post-referendum issues associated with such Agreement, or any other viable peace agreement in South Sudan: *Provided*, That funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs that are made available for any new program, project, or activity in South Sudan shall be subject to prior consultation with the appropriate congressional committees.

(f) SUDAN.—Funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs that are made available for any new program, project, or activity in Sudan shall be subject to prior consultation with the appropriate congressional committees and the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(g) ZIMBABWE.—

(1) INSTRUCTION.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution to vote against any extension by the respective institution of any loan or grant to the Government of Zimbabwe, except to meet basic human needs or to promote democracy, unless the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the rule of law has been restored, including respect for ownership and title to property, and freedoms of expression, association, and assembly.

(2) LIMITATION.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act shall be made available for assistance for the central Government of Zimbabwe, except for health and education, unless the Secretary of State certifies and reports as required in paragraph (1).

EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

SEC. 7043. (a) BURMA.—

(1) USES OF FUNDS.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund” may be made available for assistance for Burma to support implementation of paragraphs (1) through (7) of section 5575 of the BURMA Act of 2022 (subtitle E of title LV of division E of Public Law 117-263), and, which—

(A) may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law that restricts assistance to countries, except for the limitations of section 5576 of such Act and section 7008 of this Act, and following consultation with the appropriate congressional committees;

(B) may be made available for support for the administrative operations and programs of entities that support peaceful efforts to

establish an inclusive and representative democracy in Burma and a federal union to foster equality and justice among Burma’s diverse ethnic groups;

(C) shall be made available for programs to promote ethnic and religious tolerance, unity, and accountability and to combat violence against women and girls across Burma, and among Burmese displaced and refugee populations in the region;

(D) shall be made available for community-based organizations with experience operating in Thailand and may be made available elsewhere outside of Burma to provide food, medical, and other humanitarian assistance to internally displaced persons in Burma, in addition to assistance for Burmese refugees from funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Migration and Refugee Assistance”; and

(E) shall be made available for programs and activities to investigate and document violations of human rights in Burma committed by the military junta and its affiliated militias.

(2) INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “International Military Education and Training” and “Foreign Military Financing Program” may be made available for assistance for Burma.

(3) LIMITATIONS.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act that are made available for assistance for Burma may be made available to the State Administration Council or any organization or entity controlled by, or an affiliate of, the armed forces of Burma, or to any individual or organization that has committed a gross violation of human rights or advocates violence against ethnic or religious groups or individuals in Burma, as determined by the Secretary of State for programs administered by the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development or the President of the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) for programs administered by NED.

(4) CONSULTATION.—Any new program or activity in Burma initiated in fiscal year 2024 shall be subject to prior consultation with the appropriate congressional committees.

(b) CAMBODIA.—

(1) CERTIFICATION AND EXCEPTIONS.—

(A) CERTIFICATION.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act that are made available for assistance for the Government of Cambodia may be obligated or expended unless the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that such Government is taking effective steps to—

(i) strengthen regional security and stability, particularly regarding territorial disputes in the South China Sea and the enforcement of international sanctions with respect to North Korea;

(ii) assert its sovereignty against interference by the People’s Republic of China, including by verifiably maintaining the neutrality of Ream Naval Base, other military installations in Cambodia, and dual use facilities such as the runway at the Dara Sakor development project;

(iii) cease violence, threats, and harassment against civil society and the political opposition in Cambodia, and dismiss any politically motivated criminal charges against critics of the government; and

(iv) respect the rights, freedoms, and responsibilities enshrined in the Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia as enacted in 1993.

(B) EXCEPTIONS.—The certification required by subparagraph (A) shall not apply to funds appropriated by this Act and made

available for programs to strengthen the sovereignty of Cambodia, and programs to educate and inform the people of Cambodia of the influence activities of the People's Republic of China in Cambodia.

(2) USES OF FUNDS.—Funds appropriated under title III of this Act for assistance for Cambodia shall be made available for—

(A) research, documentation, and education programs associated with the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia; and

(B) programs in the Khmer language to monitor, map, and publicize the efforts by the People's Republic of China to expand its influence in Cambodia.

(c) INDO-PACIFIC STRATEGY AND THE ASIA REASSURANCE INITIATIVE ACT OF 2018.—

(1) DIPLOMATIC ENGAGEMENT.—Of the funds appropriated under title I of this Act, not less than \$1,238,255,000 should be made available to support implementation of the Indo-Pacific Strategy and the Asia Reassurance Initiative Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-409): *Provided*, That funds under the heading “Diplomatic Program” that are allocated pursuant to this paragraph may be transferred to, and merged with, funds under the heading “Related Programs” in title I of this Act and under the heading “Operating Expenses” in title II of this Act to carry out the purposes of this paragraph: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority of this paragraph is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by this Act or any other Act and shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

(2) ASSISTANCE.—Of the funds appropriated under titles III and IV of this Act, not less than \$2,161,745,000 shall be made available to support implementation of the Indo-Pacific Strategy and the Asia Reassurance Initiative Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-409).

(3) COUNTERING PRC INFLUENCE FUND.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Development Assistance”, “Economic Support Fund”, “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement”, “Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs”, and “Foreign Military Financing Program”, not less than \$400,000,000 shall be made available for a Countering PRC Influence Fund to counter the influence of the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party and entities acting on their behalf globally, which shall be subject to prior consultation with the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That such funds are in addition to amounts otherwise made available for such purposes: *Provided further*, That up to 10 percent of such funds shall be held in reserve to respond to unanticipated opportunities to counter PRC influence: *Provided further*, That the uses of such funds shall be the joint responsibility of the Secretary of State and the USAID Administrator, and shall be allocated as described under this section in the report accompanying this Act: *Provided further*, That funds made available pursuant to this paragraph under the heading “Foreign Military Financing Program” may remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated by this Act for such Fund under the headings “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement”, “Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs”, and “Foreign Military Financing Program” may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated under such headings: *Provided further*, That such transfer authority is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by this Act or any other Act, and is subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(4) RESTRICTION ON USES OF FUNDS.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs may be made available for any project or activity that directly supports or promotes—

(A) the Belt and Road Initiative or any dual-use infrastructure projects of the People's Republic of China; or

(B) the use of technology, including biotechnology, digital, telecommunications, and cyber, developed by the People's Republic of China unless the Secretary of State, in consultation with the USAID Administrator and the heads of other Federal agencies, as appropriate, determines that such use does not adversely impact the national security of the United States.

(5) MAPS.—None of the funds made available by this Act should be used to create, procure, or display any map that inaccurately depicts the territory and social and economic system of Taiwan and the islands or island groups administered by Taiwan authorities.

(d) NORTH KOREA.—

(1) CYBERSECURITY.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs may be made available for assistance for the central government of a country the Secretary of State determines and reports to the appropriate congressional committees engages in significant transactions contributing materially to the malicious cyber-intrusion capabilities of the Government of North Korea: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State shall submit the report required by section 209 of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-122; 22 U.S.C. 9229) to the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of State may waive the application of the restriction in this paragraph with respect to assistance for the central government of a country if the Secretary determines and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that to do so is important to the national security interest of the United States, including a description of such interest served.

(2) BROADCASTS.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “International Broadcasting Operations” shall be made available to maintain broadcasting hours into North Korea at levels not less than the prior fiscal year.

(3) HUMAN RIGHTS.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Economic Support Fund” and “Democracy Fund” shall be made available for the promotion of human rights in North Korea: *Provided*, That the authority of section 7032(b)(1) of this Act shall apply to such funds.

(4) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—None of the funds made available by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund” may be made available for assistance for the Government of North Korea.

(e) PACIFIC ISLANDS COUNTRIES.—

(1) OPERATIONS.—Funds appropriated under title I in this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs may be made available for establishing and operating diplomatic facilities in Kiribati, Tonga, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu, subject to section 7015(a)(3) of this Act and following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations.

(2) ASSISTANCE.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Development Assistance”, “Economic Support Fund”, “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement”, “Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs”,

and “Foreign Military Financing Program”, not less than \$175,000,000 shall be made available for assistance for Pacific Islands countries following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That funds made available pursuant to this paragraph shall be made available for joint development and security programs between the United States and such countries in coordination with regional allies and partners, including Taiwan.

(f) PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.—

(1) PROHIBITION.—

(A) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for assistance for the Government of People's Republic of China or the Chinese Communist Party.

(B) None of the funds made available by this Act shall be used to implement, administer, carry out, modify, revise, or enforce any action that directly supports or facilitates forced labor or other violations of human rights, crimes against humanity, or genocide in the People's Republic of China.

(2) HONG KONG.—

(A) DEMOCRACY PROGRAMS.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the first paragraph under the heading “Democracy Fund”, not less than \$5,000,000 shall be made available for democracy and Internet freedom programs for Hong Kong, including legal and other support for democracy activists.

(B) REPORT.—The report required under section 7043(f)(3)(C) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2021 (division K of Public Law 116-260) shall be updated and submitted to the Congress in the manner described.

(g) PHILIPPINES.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Foreign Military Financing Program”, not less than \$40,000,000 shall be made available for assistance for the Philippines.

(h) TAIWAN.—

(1) GLOBAL COOPERATION AND TRAINING FRAMEWORK.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund”, not less than \$4,000,000 shall be made available for the Global Cooperation and Training Framework, which shall be administered by the American Institute in Taiwan, and shall be apportioned and allotted to the American Institute in Taiwan not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING PROGRAM.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Foreign Military Financing Program”, not less than \$500,000,000 shall be made available for assistance for Taiwan, as authorized by section 5502(h) of the Taiwan Enhanced Resilience Act (subtitle A of title LV of division E of Public Law 117-263): *Provided*, That the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, shall prioritize the delivery of defense articles and services for Taiwan.

(3) FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING PROGRAM LOAN AND LOAN GUARANTEE AUTHORITY.—Funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs under the heading “Foreign Military Financing Program”, except for amounts designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, may be made available for the costs, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, of direct loans and loan guarantees for Taiwan, as authorized by section 5502(g) of the Taiwan Enhanced Resilience Act (subtitle A of title LV of division E of Public Law 117-263).

(4) FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Payment to the American Institute in Taiwan” shall be made available to establish a Taiwan Fellowship Program.

(5) CONSULTATION.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the uses of funds made available pursuant to this subsection: *Provided*, That such funds shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(i) TIBET.—

(1) PROGRAMS FOR TIBETAN COMMUNITIES.—

(A) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund”, not less than \$10,000,000 shall be made available to nongovernmental organizations with experience working with Tibetan communities to support activities which preserve cultural traditions and promote sustainable development, education, and environmental conservation in Tibetan communities in the Tibet Autonomous Region and in other Tibetan communities in China, as authorized by section 346(d) of the Tibetan Policy and Support Act of 2020 (subtitle E of title III of division FF of Public Law 116–260).

(B) Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund”, not less than \$8,000,000 shall be made available for programs to promote and preserve Tibetan culture and language in the refugee and diaspora Tibetan communities, development, and the resilience of Tibetan communities and the Central Tibetan Administration in India and Nepal, and to assist in the education and development of the next generation of Tibetan leaders from such communities, as authorized by section 346(e) of the Tibetan Policy and Support Act of 2020 (subtitle E of title III of division FF of Public Law 116–260): *Provided*, That such funds are in addition to amounts made available in subparagraph (A) for programs inside Tibet.

(C) Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund”, not less than \$5,000,000 shall be made available for programs to strengthen the capacity of the Central Tibetan Administration, as authorized by section 346(f) of the Tibetan Policy and Support Act of 2020 (subtitle E of title III of division FF of Public Law 116–260), of which not less than \$2,000,000 shall be provided to address economic growth and capacity building activities, including for displaced Tibetan refugee families in India and Nepal to help them meet basic needs: *Provided*, That such funds shall be administered by USAID.

SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA

SEC. 7044. (a) AFGHANISTAN.—

(1) RESTRICTION.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs and made available for assistance for Afghanistan may be made available for—

(A) assistance to the Taliban; or

(B) a United States contribution to a multi-donor trust fund for Afghanistan unless the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that such contribution will not benefit the Taliban, directly or indirectly.

(2) AFGHAN WOMEN-LED ORGANIZATIONS.—Funds appropriated by this Act that are made available for assistance for Afghanistan shall be made available for a program for Afghan women-led organizations to support education, human rights, and economic livelihoods in Afghanistan: *Provided*, That such program shall be co-designed by Afghan women.

(3) AFGHAN STUDENTS.—Funds appropriated under title III of this Act and prior Acts

making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs shall be made available to—

(A) support the higher education of students from Afghanistan studying outside of the country, including the costs of reimbursement to institutions hosting such students, as appropriate: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, as appropriate, shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to the initial obligation of funds for such purposes; and

(B) provide modified learning opportunities for women and girls in Afghanistan, including but not limited to, efforts to expand internet access, online schooling, and distribution of educational content.

(b) PAKISTAN.—

(1) LIMITATION.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Foreign Military Financing Program” that are made available for assistance for Pakistan may only be made available to support counterterrorism and counterinsurgency capabilities in Pakistan.

(2) WITHHOLDING.—Of the funds appropriated under titles III and IV of this Act that are made available for assistance for Pakistan, \$33,000,000 shall be withheld from obligation until the Secretary of State reports to the appropriate congressional committees that Dr. Shakil Afridi has been released from prison and cleared of all charges relating to the assistance provided to the United States in locating Osama bin Laden.

(c) SRI LANKA.—

(1) ASSISTANCE.—Funds appropriated under title III of this Act shall be made available for assistance for Sri Lanka for democracy and economic development programs, particularly in areas recovering from ethnic and religious conflict.

(2) CERTIFICATION.—Funds appropriated by this Act for assistance for the central Government of Sri Lanka may be made available only if the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that such Government is taking effective and consistent steps to—

(A) protect the rights and freedoms of the people of Sri Lanka regardless of ethnicity and religious belief, including by investigating violations of human rights and the laws of war and holding perpetrators of such violations accountable;

(B) engage in the fundamental, systemic, political, economic, military, and legal reform necessary to recover from the current financial collapse and to prevent conflict and economic crises in the future;

(C) increase transparency and accountability in governance and combat corruption;

(D) assert its sovereignty against influence by the People’s Republic of China; and

(E) promote reconciliation between ethnic and religious groups, particularly arising from past conflict in Sri Lanka: *Provided*, That the limitations of this paragraph shall not apply to funds made available for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief; to protect human rights, locate and identify missing persons, and assist victims of torture and trauma; to promote justice, accountability, and reconciliation; to enhance maritime security and domain awareness; to promote fiscal transparency and sovereignty; and for International Military Education and Training.

(3) LIMITATION.—Funds appropriated by this Act that are made available for assistance for the Sri Lankan armed forces may only be made available for humanitarian assistance, disaster relief, instruction in human rights and related curricula development, maritime security and domain aware-

ness, including professionalization and training for the navy and coast guard, and for programs and activities under the heading “International Military Education and Training”.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

SEC. 7045. (a) ASSISTANCE FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN.—

(1) ASSISTANCE.—Funds appropriated by this Act under titles III and IV and made available for countries in Latin America and the Caribbean shall be prioritized for countries and programs that are—

(A) countering fentanyl and other narcotics trafficking;

(B) respecting norms of democracy, constitutional order, and human rights;

(C) cooperating in the countering of regional and global authoritarian threats; and

(D) demonstrating commitment and progress in offsetting large-scale migration and human trafficking from or through the Western Hemisphere.

(2) STRATEGIC PRIORITIES.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall consult with the appropriate congressional committees on a hemispheric plan to further the strategic priorities contained in paragraph (1): *Provided*, That such plan shall include baseline definitions for the requirements in subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), and (D).

(b) CENTRAL AMERICA.—

(1) ASSISTANCE.—Funds appropriated under titles III and IV of this Act shall be made available for assistance for countries in Central America, including Panama and Costa Rica, and shall be allocated to address the unique circumstances of each country in support of United States security interests in the region.

(2) LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE TO CERTAIN CENTRAL GOVERNMENTS.—

(A) Of the funds made available pursuant to paragraph (1), 50 percent of such funds that are made available for assistance for each of the central governments of El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, may only be obligated after the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that such government is—

(i) cooperating with the United States to counter drug trafficking, human trafficking and smuggling, and other illicit transnational crime;

(ii) cooperating with the United States and other governments in the region to facilitate the return, repatriation, and reintegration of migrants arriving at the southwest border of the United States who do not qualify for asylum, consistent with international law;

(iii) taking demonstrable actions to secure national borders and stem mass migration towards Mexico and the United States, including positive governance related to combating crime and violence, building economic opportunity, improving services, and protecting human rights;

(iv) improving strategies to combat money laundering and other global financial crimes, and counter corruption, including investigating and prosecuting government officials, military personnel, and police officers credibly alleged to be corrupt;

(v) improving rule of law and taking positive steps to counter impunity; and

(vi) improving the conditions for businesses to operate and invest, including investment-friendly tax reform, transparent and expeditious dispute resolution, and legal frameworks protecting private property rights.

(B) EXCEPTIONS.—The limitation of subparagraph (A) shall not apply to funds appropriated by this Act that are made available for—

(i) judicial entities to combat corruption and impunity;

(ii) investigation of human rights abuses;
 (iii) support for women's economic empowerment;
 (iv) prevention of violence against women and girls;
 (v) security assistance to combat transnational crime, including narcotics trafficking;
 (vi) security assistance to protect national borders; and
 (vii) security assistance associated with migration protection.

(c) COLOMBIA.—

(1) LIMITATION.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs that are made available for assistance for Colombia may be made available for—

(A) reparation payments or cash subsidies outlined in the 2016 Peace Accords; and

(B) alternative development assistance on properties where substances deemed illegal under the Controlled Substance Act of 1970 are grown, produced, imported, or distributed.

(2) OVERSIGHT.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs under the heading “Economic Support Fund”, up to \$1,000,000 may be used by the Inspector General of the United States Agency for International Development for audits and other activities related to compliance with the limitations in paragraph (1): *Provided*, That such funds are in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes.

(3) AUTHORITY.—Aircraft supported by funds made available by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs and made available for assistance for Colombia may be used to transport personnel and supplies involved in drug eradication and interdiction, including security for such activities.

(d) CUBA.—

(1) DEMOCRACY PROGRAMS.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund”, not less than \$30,000,000 shall be made available to promote democracy and strengthen civil society in Cuba, including to support political prisoners, and shall be administered by the United States Agency for International Development, the National Endowment for Democracy, and the Bureau for Democracy Human Rights and Labor, Department of State: *Provided*, That no funds shall be obligated for business promotion, economic reform, entrepreneurship, or any other assistance that is not democracy building as expressly authorized in the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996 and the Cuban Democracy Act of 1992.

(2) OFFICE OF CUBA BROADCASTING.—Not less than 50 percent of broadcast production of the Office of Cuba Broadcasting shall be allocated for medium- and short-wave broadcasting.

(e) CUBAN DOCTORS.—

(1) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees listing the countries and international organizations for which the Secretary has credible information are directly paying the Government of Cuba for coerced and trafficked labor of Cuban medical professionals: *Provided*, That such report shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

(2) LIMITATION.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act under title III may be made available for assistance for the central government of a country or international or-

ganization that is listed in the report required by paragraph (1).

(3) RESUMPTION OF ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary may resume assistance to the government of a country or international organization listed in the report required by paragraph (1) if the Secretary determines and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that such government or international organization no longer pays the Government of Cuba for coerced and trafficked labor of Cuban medical professionals.

(f) FACILITATING IRRESPONSIBLE MIGRATION.—

(1) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to encourage, mobilize, publicize, or manage mass-migration caravans towards the United States southwest border: *Provided*, That not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall report to the appropriate congressional committees with analysis on the organization and funding of mass-migration caravans in the Western Hemisphere.

(2) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to designate foreign nationals residing in Mexico and awaiting entry into the United States on the Mexico side of the United States border as of May 19, 2023 for Priority 2 processing under the refugee resettlement priority system unless such Priority 2 designation is expressly authorized by a subsequent Act of Congress.

(g) HAITI.—

(1) ASSISTANCE.—Funds appropriated by this Act under titles III and IV shall be made available for assistance for Haiti to support the basic needs of the Haitian people.

(2) CERTIFICATION.—Funds appropriated by this Act that are made available for assistance for Haiti may only be made available for the central Government of Haiti if the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the appropriate congressional committees by January 1, 2025 that credible elections have been held in Haiti and it is in the national interest of the United States to provide such assistance.

(3) EXCEPTIONS.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), funds may be made available to support—

(A) free and fair elections;

(B) anti-gang police and administration of justice programs, including to reduce pretrial detention and eliminate inhumane prison conditions;

(C) public health, food security, subsistence farmers, water and sanitation, education, and other programs to meet basic human needs; and

(D) disaster relief and recovery.

(4) CONSULTATION.—Funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs that are made available for assistance for Haiti shall be subject to prior consultation with the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That the requirement of this paragraph shall also apply to any funds from such Acts that are made available for support for an international security force in Haiti.

(5) HAITIAN COAST GUARD.—The Government of Haiti shall be eligible to purchase defense articles and services under the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.) for the Coast Guard.

(h) MEXICO.—

(1) Of the funds appropriated under title IV in this Act that are made available for assistance for Mexico, 15 percent shall be withheld from obligation until the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that the Government of Mexico has taken steps to—

(A) reduce the amount of fentanyl arriving at the United States-Mexico border; and

(B) dismantle and hold accountable transnational criminal organizations.

(2) Prior to the initial obligation of funds made available for assistance for Mexico under the heading “Economic Support Fund”, but not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall report to the appropriate congressional committees on how such funds are strategically aligned to address the proliferation of fentanyl and other opioids from Mexico to the United States.

(i) NICARAGUA.—Funds appropriated by this Act that are made available for assistance for Nicaragua shall only be made available for democracy promotion, including to support religious freedom.

(j) ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES.—The Secretary of State shall reduce funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Development Assistance” and “Economic Support Fund” that are made available for assistance for Member States of the Organization of American States (OAS) by an amount equal to the amount of arrears in excess of 100 percent of 2023 assessed quotas, as of the date of enactment of this Act, and re-apply such amount to the Coordinating Office of the OAS General Secretariat: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State may waive the requirement of this subsection for a Member State if the Secretary determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that it is important to the national security interest of the United States.

(k) THE CARIBBEAN.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under titles III and IV, not less than \$97,500,000 shall be made available for the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative: *Provided*, That funds made available above the fiscal year 2023 level shall be prioritized for countries within the transit zones of illicit drug shipments toward the United States, that have increased interdiction of illicit drugs, and are most directly impacted by the crisis in Haiti.

(l) VENEZUELA.—

(1) ASSISTANCE.—

(A) Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund”, \$50,000,000 shall be made available for democracy programs for Venezuela.

(B) Of the funds made available pursuant to subparagraph (A) that are allocated for electoral-related activities, 50 percent may only be obligated after the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that elections related to such activities—

(i) allow for the diaspora from Venezuela to participate; and

(ii) are open for credible, unaccompanied international observation.

(C) Funds shall be made available for assistance for communities in countries supporting or otherwise impacted by migrants from Venezuela: *Provided*, That such amounts are in addition to funds otherwise made available for assistance for such countries and are subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(2) LIMITATIONS.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to negotiate the lifting of sanctions on the purchase or trade of gold extracted from Venezuela until the Secretary of State submits a report to the appropriate congressional committees on human rights abuses, crimes against humanity involving Indigenous peoples, environmental harm, and patrimonial theft associated with state-sponsored and illegal gold extraction from Venezuela's Orinoco Mining Arc and in national parks and reserves in Venezuela, including the Canaima National Park, and following consultation with such committees.

(m) WITHHOLDING.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Diplomatic Programs” and made available for the Office of the Secretary, 15 percent shall be withheld from obligation until the Secretary of State reports to the appropriate congressional committees that negotiations have begun with each of the governments listed in section 302 of H.R. 2, as passed by the House of Representatives on May 5, 2023, to carry out the directives of such section: *Provided*, That such report shall detail the status of such negotiations with each government.

EUROPE AND EURASIA

SEC. 7046. (a) GEORGIA.—Funds appropriated by this Act under titles III and IV may be made available for assistance for Georgia.

(b) UKRAINE.—

(1) STRATEGY REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the appropriate congressional committees a strategy to prioritize United States national security interests and respond to Russian aggression in Ukraine and its impact on the region, which shall include an explanation of how United States assistance for Ukraine and affected countries in the region advances the objectives of such strategy: *Provided*, That such strategy shall include clear goals, benchmarks, timelines, and strategic objectives with respect to funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs that are made available for assistance for Ukraine: *Provided further*, That such strategy shall also include details on the staffing requirements necessary to carry out such strategy.

(2) PURPOSE.—

(A) Funds appropriated under titles I and II of this Act shall be made available to support additional staff in Ukraine and neighboring countries to conduct monitoring and oversight of funds and ensure the safety and security of United States personnel.

(B) Funds appropriated under titles III through VI of this Act and made available for assistance for Ukraine shall only be made available to support the ability of the Government of Ukraine to—

(i) defend their sovereignty and withstand the impacts of Russia’s invasion;

(ii) combat corruption; and

(iii) promote transparency and democracy.

(3) IN-PERSON MONITORING.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Economic Support Fund”, “Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia”, “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement”, and “Nonproliferation, Anti-Terrorism, Demining and Related Programs”, and “Foreign Military Financing Program”, the Secretary of State, following consultation with the USAID Administrator, shall certify and report to the appropriate congressional committees that mechanisms for monitoring and oversight of funds are in place and functioning across all programs and activities to ensure accountability of such funds to prevent waste, fraud, abuse, diversion, and corruption, including such mechanisms as—

(A) use of third-party monitors;

(B) enhanced end-use monitoring;

(C) external and independent audits and evaluations;

(D) randomized spot checks; and

(E) regular reporting on outcomes achieved and progress made toward stated program objectives.

(6) CONTINUATION.—The requirements of section 1705 of the Additional Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2023 (division M of Public Law 117-328) shall apply to funds appropriated by this Act under title III that are made available for assistance for Ukraine for such purposes.

(7) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—Notifications submitted pursuant to the requirement of section 7015(f) of this Act with respect to assistance for Ukraine shall include for each program notified, as applicable—

(A) the total amount made available for such program by account and fiscal year;

(B) any amount that remains unobligated for such program;

(C) any amount that is obligated but unexpended for such program; and

(D) any amount committed but not yet notified for such program.

(8) OBLIGATION REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act and every 90 days thereafter until all such funds have been expended, the Secretary of State and the USAID Administrator shall

provide a comprehensive report to the appropriate congressional committees on assistance for Ukraine since February 24, 2022 that includes total amounts—

(A) made available by account and fiscal year;

(B) that remain unobligated;

(C) that is obligated but unexpended; and

(D) that is committed but not yet notified.

(9) OVERSIGHT REPORTS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act and every 90 days thereafter until all such funds have been expended, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the USAID Administrator, shall report to the appropriate congressional committees on the use and planned uses of funds provided for Ukraine, including categories and amounts, the intended results and the results achieved, a summary of other donor contributions, and a description of the efforts undertaken by the Secretary and Administrator to increase other donor contributions: *Provided*, That such reports shall also include the metrics established to measure such results and determine effectiveness of funds provided and a detailed description of coordination and information sharing with the Offices of the Inspectors General, including a full accounting of any reported allegations of waste, fraud, abuse, and corruption, steps taken to verify such allegations, and steps taken to address all verified allegations.

(10) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The requirements of paragraphs (1), (8), and (9) shall be publicly posted on the Department of State and the USAID website not later than 5 days after submission: *Provided*, That the reports shall be easily accessible and centrally located on such websites.

(c) TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for assistance for a government of an Independent State of the former Soviet Union if such government directs any action in violation of the territorial integrity or national sovereignty of any other Independent State of the former Soviet Union, such as those violations included in the Helsinki Final Act: *Provided*, That except as otherwise provided in section 7047(a) of this Act, funds may be made available without regard to the restriction in this subsection if the President determines that to do so is in the national security interest of the United States: *Provided further*, That prior to executing the authority contained in the previous proviso, the Secretary of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations on how such assistance supports the national security interest of the United States.

(d) SECTION 907 OF THE FREEDOM SUPPORT ACT.—Section 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act (22 U.S.C. 5812 note) shall not apply to—

(1) activities to support democracy or assistance under title V of the FREEDOM Support Act (22 U.S.C. 5851 et seq.) and section 1424 of the Defense Against Weapons of Mass Destruction Act of 1996 (50 U.S.C. 2333) or non-proliferation assistance;

(2) any assistance provided by the Trade and Development Agency under section 661 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961;

(3) any activity carried out by a member of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service while acting within his or her official capacity;

(4) any insurance, reinsurance, guarantee, or other assistance provided by the United States International Development Finance Corporation as authorized by the BUILD Act of 2018 (division F of Public Law 115-254);

(5) any financing provided under the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (Public Law 79-173); or

(6) humanitarian assistance.

(e) TURKEY.—None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to facilitate or

(4) COST MATCHING.—

(A) At any time during fiscal years 2024 and 2025, no United States contribution from

support the sale of defense articles or defense services to the Turkish Presidential Protection Directorate (TPPD) under chapter 2 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2761 et seq.) unless the Secretary of State determines and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that members of the TPPD who are named in the July 17, 2017, indictment by the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, and against whom there are pending charges, have returned to the United States to stand trial in connection with the offenses contained in such indictment or have otherwise been brought to justice: *Provided*, That the limitation in this paragraph shall not apply to the use of funds made available by this Act for the security of borders, for North Atlantic Treaty Organization or coalition operations, or to enhance the protection of United States officials and facilities in Turkey.

COUNTERING RUSSIAN INFLUENCE AND AGGRESSION

SEC. 7047. (a) PROHIBITION.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for assistance for the central Government of the Russian Federation.

(b) ANNEXATION OF TERRITORY.—

(1) PROHIBITION.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for assistance for the central government of a country that the Secretary of State determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations has taken affirmative steps intended to support or be supportive of the Russian Federation annexation of Crimea or other territory in Ukraine: *Provided*, That except as otherwise provided in subsection (a), the Secretary may waive the restriction on assistance required by this paragraph if the Secretary determines and reports to such Committees that to do so is in the national interest of the United States, and includes a justification for such interest.

(2) LIMITATION.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for—

(A) the implementation of any action or policy that recognizes the sovereignty of the Russian Federation over Crimea or other territory in Ukraine;

(B) the facilitation, financing, or guarantee of United States Government investments in Crimea or other territory in Ukraine under the control of the Russian Federation or Russian-backed forces, if such activity includes the participation of Russian Government officials, or other Russian owned or controlled financial entities; or

(C) assistance for Crimea or other territory in Ukraine under the control of the Russian Federation or Russian-backed forces, if such assistance includes the participation of Russian Government officials, or other Russian owned or controlled financial entities.

(3) INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution to use the voice and vote of the United States to oppose any assistance by such institution (including any loan, credit, grant, or guarantee) for any program that violates the sovereignty or territorial integrity of Ukraine.

(4) DURATION.—The requirements and limitations of this subsection shall cease to be in effect if the Secretary of State determines and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that the Government of Ukraine has reestablished sovereignty over Crimea and other territory in Ukraine under the control of the Russian Federation or Russian-backed forces.

(c) OCCUPATION OF THE GEORGIAN TERRITORIES OF ABKHAZIA AND TSKHINVALI REGION/SOUTH OSSETIA.—

(1) PROHIBITION.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available

for assistance for the central government of a country that the Secretary of State determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations has recognized the independence of, or has established diplomatic relations with, the Russian Federation occupied Georgian territories of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall publish on the Department of State website a list of any such central governments in a timely manner: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may waive the restriction on assistance required by this paragraph if the Secretary determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that to do so is in the national interest of the United States, and includes a justification for such interest.

(2) LIMITATION.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available to support the Russian Federation occupation of the Georgian territories of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia.

(3) INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution to use the voice and vote of the United States to oppose any assistance by such institution (including any loan, credit, grant, or guarantee) for any program that violates the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia.

(d) COUNTERING RUSSIAN INFLUENCE FUND.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia”, “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement”, “International Military Education and Training”, and “Foreign Military Financing Program”, not less than \$300,000,000 shall be made available to carry out the purposes of the Countering Russian Influence Fund, as authorized by section 254 of the Countering Russian Influence in Europe and Eurasia Act of 2017 (Public Law 115-44; 22 U.S.C. 9543) and notwithstanding the country limitation in subsection (b) of such section, and programs to enhance the capacity of law enforcement and security forces in countries in Europe, Eurasia, and Central Asia and strengthen security cooperation between such countries and the United States and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, as appropriate: *Provided*, That funds made available pursuant to this paragraph under the heading “Foreign Military Financing Program” may remain available until September 30, 2025.

(e) FUNDING LIMITATION.—None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to remove prohibitions related to transactions involving the Central Bank of the Russian Federation, the National Wealth Fund of the Russian Federation, or the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation unless the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that the Government of Ukraine has entered into an agreement with the Government of the Russian Federation resolving compensation to Ukraine by the Russian Federation for damages resulting from the invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation.

UNITED NATIONS

SEC. 7048. (a) TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act that are available for contributions to the United Nations (including the Department of Peacekeeping Operations), international organizations, or any United Nations agency, 15 percent may not be obligated for such organization, department, or agency until the Secretary of State determines and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that the organization, department, or agency is—

(1) posting on a publicly available website, consistent with privacy regulations and due

process, regular financial and programmatic audits of such organization, department, or agency, and providing the United States Government with necessary access to such financial and performance audits;

(2) effectively implementing and enforcing policies and procedures which meet or exceed best practices in the United States for the protection of whistleblowers from retaliation, including—

(A) protection against retaliation for internal and lawful public disclosures;

(B) legal burdens of proof;

(C) statutes of limitation for reporting retaliation;

(D) access to binding independent adjudicative bodies, including shared cost and selection of external arbitration; and

(E) results that eliminate the effects of proven retaliation, including provision for the restoration of prior employment; and

(3) effectively implementing and enforcing policies and procedures on the appropriate use of travel funds, including restrictions on first-class and business-class travel.

(b) RESTRICTIONS ON UNITED NATIONS DELEGATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS.—

(1) RESTRICTIONS ON UNITED STATES DELEGATIONS.—None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to pay expenses for any United States delegation to any specialized agency, body, or commission of the United Nations if such agency, body, or commission is chaired or presided over by a country, the government of which the Secretary of State has determined, for purposes of section 1754(c) of the Export Reform Control Act of 2018 (50 U.S.C. 4813(c)), supports international terrorism.

(2) RESTRICTIONS ON CONTRIBUTIONS.—None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Secretary of State as a contribution to any organization, agency, commission, or program within the United Nations system if such organization, agency, commission, or program is chaired or presided over by a country the government of which the Secretary of State has determined, for purposes of section 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, section 40 of the Arms Export Control Act, section 1754(c) of the Export Reform Control Act of 2018 (50 U.S.C. 4813(c)), or any other provision of law, is a government that has repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism.

(c) UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL.—

(1) None of the funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs may be made available in support of the United Nations Human Rights Council unless the Secretary of State determines and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that participation in the Council is important to the national security interest of the United States and that such Council is taking significant steps to remove Israel as a permanent agenda item and ensure integrity in the election of members to such Council: *Provided*, That such report shall include a description of the national security interest served and provide a detailed reform agenda, including a timeline to remove Israel as a permanent agenda item and ensure integrity in the election of members to such Council: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of State shall withhold, from funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs made available under the heading “Contributions to International Organizations” in title I of such acts for a contribution to the United Nations Regular Budget, the United States proportionate share of the total annual

amount of the United Nations Regular Budget funding for the United Nations Human Rights Council until such determination and report is made: *Provided further*, That if the Secretary is unable to make such determination and report, such amounts may be reprogrammed for purposes other than the United Nations Regular Budget, subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall report to the Committees on Appropriations not later than September 30, 2024, on the resolutions considered in the United Nations Human Rights Council during the previous 12 months, and on steps taken to remove Israel as a permanent agenda item and to improve the quality of membership through competitive elections.

(2) None of the funds appropriated by this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs may be made available for the United Nations International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel.

(d) UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY.—Prior to each obligation of funds for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), the Secretary of State shall certify and report to the appropriate congressional committees, in writing, on whether UNRWA is—

(1) utilizing Operations Support Officers in the West Bank, Gaza, and other fields of operation to inspect UNRWA installations and reporting any inappropriate use;

(2) acting promptly to address any staff or beneficiary violation of its own policies (including the policies on neutrality and impartiality of employees) and the legal requirements under section 301(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961;

(3) implementing procedures to maintain the neutrality of its facilities, including implementing a no-weapons policy, and conducting regular inspections of its installations, to ensure they are only used for humanitarian or other appropriate purposes;

(4) taking necessary and appropriate measures to ensure it is operating in compliance with the conditions of section 301(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and continuing regular reporting to the Department of State on actions it has taken to ensure conformance with such conditions;

(5) not engaging in operations with financial institutions or related entities in violation of relevant United States law, and is taking steps to improve the financial transparency of the organization;

(6) in compliance with the United Nations Board of Auditors' biennial audit requirements and is implementing in a timely fashion the Board's recommendations; and

(7) establishing or updating, and implementing procedures to—

(A) prevent the use of UNRWA resources for disseminating anti-American, anti-Israel, or anti-Semitic rhetoric; or incitement of violence; and

(B) ensure the content of all educational materials currently taught in UNRWA-administered schools and summer camps is consistent with the values of human rights, dignity, and tolerance and does not induce incitement of violence or antisemitism.

(e) PROHIBITION OF PAYMENTS TO UNITED NATIONS MEMBERS.—None of the funds appropriated or made available pursuant to titles III through VI of this Act for carrying out the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, may be used to pay in whole or in part any assessments, arrearages, or dues of any member of the United Nations or, from funds appropriated by this Act to carry out chapter 1 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961,

the costs for participation of another country's delegation at international conferences held under the auspices of multilateral or international organizations.

(f) REPORTS.—

(1) Not later than 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations detailing the amount of funds available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2024 for contributions to any organization, department, agency, or program within the United Nations system or any international program that are withheld from obligation or expenditure due to any provision of law: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall update such report each time additional funds are withheld by operation of any provision of law: *Provided further*, That the reprogramming of any withheld funds identified in such report, including updates thereof, shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

(2) Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees on United Nations buildings and facilities, as described under this section in the report accompanying this Act.

(g) SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE IN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS.—The Secretary of State shall, to the maximum extent practicable, withhold assistance to any unit of the security forces of a foreign country if the Secretary has credible information that such unit has engaged in sexual exploitation or abuse, including while serving in a United Nations peacekeeping operation, until the Secretary determines that the government of such country is taking effective steps to hold the responsible members of such unit accountable and to prevent future incidents: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall promptly notify the government of each country subject to any withholding of assistance pursuant to this paragraph, and shall notify the appropriate congressional committees of such withholding not later than 10 days after a determination to withhold such assistance is made: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, assist such government in bringing the responsible members of such unit to justice.

(h) ADDITIONAL AVAILABILITY.—Subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, funds appropriated by this Act which are returned or not made available due to the second proviso under the heading “Contributions for International Peacekeeping Activities” in title I of this Act or section 307(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2227(a)), shall remain available for obligation until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That the requirement to withhold funds for programs in Burma under section 307(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 shall not apply to funds appropriated by this Act.

(i) PROCUREMENT RESTRICTIONS.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs may be used for the procurement by any entity of the United Nations system or any other multilateral organization of goods or services originating in or produced by any person in the Russian Federation, including any entity that is a shell or front company organized to disguise or obscure financial activity relating to such goods or services.

(j) ACCOUNTABILITY REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, shall seek to enter into written

agreements with each international organization that receives funding appropriated by this Act to provide timely access to the Inspectors General of the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development and the Comptroller General of the United States to such organization's financial data and other information, including investigative records and reports of sexual misconduct, relevant to United States contributions to such organization, as determined by the Inspectors and Comptroller General: *Provided*, That not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Inspectors and Comptroller General shall consult with the appropriate congressional committees on the implementation of such requirements.

(k) WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available for the World Health Organization.

(l) INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS.—None of the funds provided by this Act shall be made available to implement or support any international convention, agreement, protocol, legal instrument, or agreed outcome with legal force drafted by the intergovernmental negotiating body of the World Health Assembly or any other United Nations body until such instrument has been subject to the requirements of article II, section 2, clause 2 of the Constitution of the United States, which requires the advice and consent of the Senate, with two-thirds of Senators concurring.

ARMS TRADE TREATY

SEC. 7049. None of the funds appropriated 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.

GLOBAL INTERNET FREEDOM

SEC. 7050. (a) FUNDING.—Of the funds available for obligation during fiscal year 2024 under the headings “International Broadcasting Operations”, “Economic Support Fund”, “Democracy Fund”, and “Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia”, not less than \$94,000,000 shall be made available for programs to promote Internet freedom globally, as authorized by section 9707 of the Department of State Authorization Act 2022 (title XCIV of division I of Public Law 117-263).

(b) COORDINATION AND SPEND PLANS.—After consultation among the relevant agency heads to coordinate and de-conflict planned activities, but not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State and the Chief Executive Officer of the United States Agency for Global Media, in consultation with the President of the Open Technology Fund, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations spend plans for funds made available by this Act for programs to promote Internet freedom globally, which shall include a description of safeguards established by relevant agencies to ensure that such programs are not used for illicit purposes: *Provided*, That the Department of State spend plan shall include funding for all such programs for all relevant Department of State and United States Agency for International Development offices and bureaus.

TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL, INHUMAN, OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT

SEC. 7051. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to support or justify the use of torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment by any official or contract employee of the United States Government.

AIRCRAFT TRANSFER, COORDINATION, AND USE

SEC. 7052. (a) TRANSFER AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law or

regulation, aircraft procured with funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs under the headings "Diplomatic Programs", "International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement", "Andean Counterdrug Initiative", and "Andean Counterdrug Programs" may be used for any other program and in any region.

(b) PROPERTY DISPOSAL.—The authority provided in subsection (a) shall apply only after the Secretary of State determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the equipment is no longer required to meet programmatic purposes in the designated country or region: *Provided*, That any such transfer shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

(c) AIRCRAFT COORDINATION.—

(1) AUTHORITY.—The uses of aircraft purchased or leased by the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development with funds made available in this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs shall be coordinated under the authority of the appropriate Chief of Mission: *Provided*, That such aircraft may be used to transport, on a reimbursable or non-reimbursable basis, Federal and non-Federal personnel supporting Department of State and USAID programs and activities: *Provided further*, That official travel for other agencies for other purposes may be supported on a reimbursable basis, or without reimbursement when traveling on a space available basis: *Provided further*, That funds received by the Department of State in connection with the use of aircraft owned, leased, or chartered by the Department of State may be credited to the Working Capital Fund of the Department and shall be available for expenses related to the purchase, lease, maintenance, chartering, or operation of such aircraft.

(2) SCOPE.—The requirement and authorities of this subsection shall only apply to aircraft, the primary purpose of which is the transportation of personnel.

(d) AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE.—To the maximum extent practicable, the costs of operations and maintenance, including fuel, of aircraft funded by this Act shall be borne by the recipient country.

PARKING FINES AND REAL PROPERTY TAXES OWED BY FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS

SEC. 7053. The terms and conditions of section 7055 of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2010 (division F of Public Law 111-117) shall apply to this Act: *Provided*, That subsection (f)(2)(B) of such section shall be applied by substituting "September 30, 2023" for "September 30, 2009".

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

SEC. 7054. (a) EXTENSIONS.—The terms and conditions of sections 7086(b)(1) and (2) and 7090(a) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2010 (division F of Public Law 111-117) shall apply to this Act.

(b) REPAYMENT.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to seek to ensure that any loan will be repaid to the IMF before other private or multilateral creditors.

EXTRADITION

SEC. 7055. (a) LIMITATION.—None of the funds appropriated in this Act may be used to provide assistance (other than funds provided under the headings "Development Assistance", "International Disaster Assist-

ance", "Complex Crises Fund", "International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement", "Migration and Refugee Assistance", "United States Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund", and "Non-proliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Assistance") for the central government of a country which has notified the Department of State of its refusal to extradite to the United States any individual indicted for a criminal offense for which the maximum penalty is life imprisonment without the possibility of parole or for killing a law enforcement officer, as specified in a United States extradition request.

(b) CLARIFICATION.—Subsection (a) shall only apply to the central government of a country with which the United States maintains diplomatic relations and with which the United States has an extradition treaty and the government of that country is in violation of the terms and conditions of the treaty.

(c) WAIVER.—The Secretary of State may waive the restriction in subsection (a) on a case-by-case basis if the Secretary certifies to the Committees on Appropriations that such waiver is important to the national interest of the United States.

ENTERPRISE FUNDS

SEC. 7056. (a) NOTIFICATION.—None of the funds made available under titles III through VI of this Act may be made available for Enterprise Funds unless the appropriate congressional committees are notified at least 15 days in advance.

(b) DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS PLAN.—Prior to the distribution of any assets resulting from any liquidation, dissolution, or winding up of an Enterprise Fund, in whole or in part, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a plan for the distribution of the assets of the Enterprise Fund.

(c) TRANSITION OR OPERATING PLAN.—Prior to a transition to and operation of any private equity fund or other parallel investment fund under an existing Enterprise Fund, the President shall submit such transition or operating plan to the appropriate congressional committees.

LIMITATIONS RELATED TO GLOBAL HEALTH ASSISTANCE

SEC. 7057. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available for the United Nations Population Fund.

(b) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act for global health assistance may be made available to any foreign nongovernmental organization that promotes or performs abortion, except in cases of rape or incest or when the life of the mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to term.

GLOBAL HEALTH ACTIVITIES

SEC. 7058. (a) IN GENERAL.—Funds appropriated by titles III and IV of this Act that are made available for bilateral assistance for child survival activities or disease programs including activities relating to research on, and the prevention, treatment and control of, HIV/AIDS may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law except for provisions under the heading "Global Health Programs" and the United States Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of 2003 (117 Stat. 711; 22 U.S.C. 7601 et seq.), as amended.

(b) LIMITATION.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act, not more than \$461,000,000 may be made available for family planning/reproductive health.

(c) PANDEMICS AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASE OUTBREAKS.—

(1) GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading

"Global Health Programs" shall be made available for global health security programs to accelerate the capacity of countries to prevent, detect, and respond to infectious disease outbreaks, including by strengthening public health capacity where there is a high risk of emerging zoonotic infectious diseases: *Provided*, That not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development and the Secretary of State, as appropriate, shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the planned uses of such funds.

(2) EXTRAORDINARY MEASURES.—If the Secretary of State determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that an international infectious disease outbreak is sustained, severe, and is spreading internationally, or that it is in the national interest to respond to a Public Health Emergency of International Concern, not to exceed an aggregate total of \$200,000,000 of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings "Global Health Programs", "Development Assistance", "International Disaster Assistance", "Complex Crises Fund", "Economic Support Fund", "Democracy Fund", "Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia", "Migration and Refugee Assistance", and "Millennium Challenge Corporation" may be made available to combat such infectious disease or public health emergency, and may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated under such headings for the purposes of this paragraph.

(3) EMERGENCY RESERVE FUND.—Up to \$50,000,000 of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading "Global Health Programs" may be made available for the Emergency Reserve Fund established pursuant to section 7058(c)(1) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2017 (division J of Public Law 115-31): *Provided*, That such funds shall be made available under the same terms and conditions of such section.

(4) CONSULTATION AND NOTIFICATION.—Funds made available by this subsection shall be subject to prior consultation with the appropriate congressional committees and the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(d) LIMITATIONS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds made available by this Act may be made available to support, directly or indirectly,—

(1) the Wuhan Institute of Virology located in the City of Wuhan in the People's Republic of China;

(2) the EcoHealth Alliance, Inc.;

(3) any laboratory owned or controlled by the governments of the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Cuba, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela under the regime of Nicolás Maduro Moros, or any other country determined by the Secretary of State to be a foreign adversary; or

(4) gain-of-function research.

(e) CHILDHOOD CANCER.—Funds appropriated under titles III and VI of this Act may be made available for public-private partnerships, including in coordination with relevant multilateral organizations and research entities, to address childhood cancer: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State, in consultation with the USAID Administrator, shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act on the feasibility of such partnerships: *Provided further*, The Secretary and Administrator shall consult with the appropriate congressional committees on uses of funds

for such partnerships prior to the initial obligation of funds and submission of such report.

WOMEN'S EQUALITY AND EMPOWERMENT

SEC. 7059. (a) IN GENERAL.—Funds appropriated by this Act shall be made available to promote the equality and empowerment of women and girls in United States Government diplomatic and development efforts by raising the status, increasing the economic participation and opportunities for political leadership, and protecting the rights of women and girls worldwide.

(b) WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT.—Of the funds appropriated under title III of this Act, \$200,000,000 shall be made available to expand economic opportunities for women by increasing the number and capacity of women-owned enterprises, improving property rights for women, increasing women's access to financial services and capital, enhancing the role of women in economic decision-making at the local, national, and international levels, and improving women's ability to participate in the global economy: *Provided*, That prior to the initial obligation of funds, the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, as applicable, shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the uses of funds made available pursuant to this subsection.

(c) WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP PROGRAM.—Of the funds appropriated under title III of this Act, not less than \$50,000,000 shall be made available for programs specifically designed to increase leadership opportunities for women in countries where women and girls suffer discrimination due to law, policy, or practice, by strengthening protections for women's political status, expanding women's participation in political parties and elections, and increasing women's opportunities for leadership positions in the public and private sectors at the local, provincial, and national levels.

(d) PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS.—

(1) Of the funds appropriated under titles III and IV of this Act, not less than \$250,000,000 shall be made available to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls.

(2) Funds appropriated under titles III and IV of this Act that are available to train foreign police, judicial, and military personnel, including for international peacekeeping operations, shall address, where appropriate, prevention and response to violence against women and girls and trafficking in persons, and shall promote the integration of women into the police and other security forces.

(3) Funds made available pursuant to this subsection should include efforts to combat a variety of forms of violence against women and girls, including child marriage, rape, and female genital cutting and mutilation.

(e) WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Development Assistance”, “Economic Support Fund”, “Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia”, and “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement”, \$150,000,000 should be made available to support a multi-year strategy to expand, and improve coordination of, United States Government efforts to empower women as equal partners in conflict prevention, peace building, transitional processes, and reconstruction efforts in countries affected by conflict or in political transition, and to ensure the equal provision of relief and recovery assistance to women and girls.

(f) PROHIBITION.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for the Gender Equity and Equality Action Fund.

SECTOR ALLOCATIONS

SEC. 7060. (a) BASIC EDUCATION AND HIGHER EDUCATION.—

(1) BASIC EDUCATION.—

(A) Of the funds appropriated under title III of this Act, not less than \$970,000,000 shall be made available for the Nita M. Lowey Basic Education Fund: *Provided*, That such funds shall also be used for secondary education activities: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available by this paragraph, \$150,000,000 should be available for the education of girls in areas of conflict.

(B) Of the funds appropriated under title III of this Act for assistance for basic education programs, not less than \$160,000,000 shall be made available for contributions to multilateral partnerships that support education.

(2) HIGHER EDUCATION.—Of the funds appropriated by title III of this Act, not less than \$285,000,000 shall be made available for assistance for higher education: *Provided*, That of such amount, not less than \$35,000,000 shall be made available for new and ongoing partnerships between higher education institutions in the United States and developing countries focused on building the capacity of higher education institutions and systems in developing countries: *Provided further*, That of such amount and in addition to the previous proviso, not less than \$50,000,000 shall be made available for higher education programs pursuant to section 7060(a)(3) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2021 (division K of Public Law 116-260).

(b) CONSERVATION PROGRAMS.—

(1) BIODIVERSITY.—Of the funds appropriated under title III of this Act, not less than \$385,000,000 shall be made available for biodiversity conservation programs.

(2) WILDLIFE POACHING AND TRAFFICKING.—

(A) Of the funds appropriated under titles III and IV of this Act, not less than \$125,000,000 shall be made available to combat the transnational threat of wildlife poaching and trafficking.

(B) None of the funds appropriated under title IV of this Act may be made available for training or other assistance for any military unit or personnel that the Secretary of State determines has been credibly alleged to have participated in wildlife poaching or trafficking, unless the Secretary reports to the appropriate congressional committees that to do so is in the national security interest of the United States.

(c) DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Development Assistance”, not less than \$18,500,000 shall be made available for United States Agency for International Development cooperative development programs and not less than \$31,500,000 shall be made available for the American Schools and Hospitals Abroad program.

(d) DISABILITY PROGRAMS.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Development Assistance” shall be made available for programs and activities administered by USAID to address the needs of, and protect and promote the rights of, people with disabilities in developing countries.

(e) FOOD SECURITY AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT.—Of the funds appropriated by title III of this Act, not less than \$1,010,600,000 shall be made available for food security and agricultural development programs to carry out the purposes of the Global Food Security Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-195), as amended, including for the Feed the Future Innovation Labs: *Provided*, That funds may be made available for a contribution as authorized by section 3202 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-246), as amended by section

3310 of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-334).

(f) MICRO, SMALL, AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act, not less than \$265,000,000 shall be made available to support the development of, and access to financing for, micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises that benefit the poor, especially women.

(g) WATER AND SANITATION.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act, not less than \$475,000,000 shall be made available for water supply and sanitation projects pursuant to section 136 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, of which not less than \$237,000,000 shall be for programs in sub-Saharan Africa.

(h) DEVIATION.—Unless otherwise provided for by this Act, the Secretary of State and the USAID Administrator, as applicable, may deviate below the minimum funding requirements designated in sections 7059 and 7060 of this Act by up to 10 percent, notwithstanding such designation: *Provided*, That such deviations shall only be exercised to address unforeseen or exigent circumstances, including a change in country context: *Provided further*, That concurrent with the submission of the report required by section 653(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations in writing any proposed deviations utilizing such authority that are planned at the time of submission of such report: *Provided further*, That any deviations proposed subsequent to the submission of such report shall be subject to prior consultation with such Committees: *Provided further*, That not later than November 1, 2025, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations on the use of the authority of this subsection.

ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMS

SEC. 7061. (a) GREEN CLIMATE FUND.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available as a contribution, grant, or any other payment to the Green Climate Fund.

(b) CLEAN TECHNOLOGY FUND.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available as a contribution, grant, or any other payment to the Clean Technology Fund.

(c) CLIMATE DAMAGES.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to pay compensation to any country, organization, or individual for loss and damages attributed to climate change.

(d) ATTRIBUTION.—Funds appropriated by this Act and made available for the sectors and programs in sections 7032, 7036, 7059, and 7060 shall not be attributed to, or counted toward targets for, climate change programs.

(e) TRANSIT PIPELINES.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used by the Secretary of State to impede the uninterrupted transmission of hydrocarbons by pipeline through the territory of one Party not originating in the territory of that Party, for delivery to the territory of the other Party as ratified by The Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Canada concerning Transit Pipelines, signed at Washington on January 28, 1977.

(f) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study on funds appropriated in prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs from fiscal years 2020 through 2023 made available for climate change programs and whether such funds have had a direct result on lowering global temperatures.

BUDGET DOCUMENTS

SEC. 7062. (a) OPERATING PLANS.—Not later than 45 days after the date of enactment of

this Act, each department, agency, or organization funded in titles I, II, and VI of this Act, and the Department of the Treasury and Independent Agencies funded in title III of this Act, including the Inter-American Foundation and the United States African Development Foundation, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations an operating plan for funds appropriated to such department, agency, or organization in such titles of this Act, or funds otherwise available for obligation in fiscal year 2024, that provides details of the uses of such funds at the program, project, and activity level: *Provided*, That such plans shall include, as applicable, a comparison between the congressional budget justification funding levels, the most recent congressional directives or approved funding levels, and the funding levels proposed by the department or agency; and a clear, concise, and informative description/justification: *Provided further*, That operating plans that include changes in levels of funding for programs, projects, and activities specified in the congressional budget justification, in this Act, or amounts specifically designated in the respective tables included in the report accompanying this Act, as applicable, shall be subject to the notification and reprogramming requirements of section 7015 of this Act.

(b) SPEND PLANS.—

(1) Prior to the initial obligation of funds, the Secretary of State or Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, as appropriate, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a spend plan for funds made available by this Act for—

(A) assistance for countries in Central America and the Caribbean, Iraq, Pacific Islands Countries, Pakistan, and Tunisia;

(B) assistance for the Africa Regional Counterterrorism program, Caribbean Basin Security Initiative, Central America Regional Security Initiative, Global Peace Operations Initiative, Indo-Pacific Strategy and the Countering PRC Influence Fund, Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment, Power Africa, and Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership;

(C) assistance made available pursuant to the following sections in this Act: section 7032; section 7036; section 7047(d) (on a country-by-country basis); section 7059; and subsections (a), (b), (d), (e), (f), and (g) of section 7060;

(D) Funds provided under the heading “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement” for International Organized Crime and for Cybercrime and Intellectual Property Rights: *Provided*, That the spend plans shall include bilateral and global programs funded under such heading along with a brief description of the activities planned for each country; and

(E) implementation of the Global Fragility Act of 2019.

(2) Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a detailed spend plan for funds made available by this Act under the heading “Department of the Treasury, International Affairs Technical Assistance” in title III.

(3) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), up to 10 percent of the funds contained in a spend plan required by this subsection may be obligated prior to the submission of such spend plan if the Secretary of State, the USAID Administrator, or the Secretary of the Treasury, as applicable, determines that the obligation of such funds is necessary to avoid significant programmatic disruption: *Provided*, That not less than seven days prior to such obligation, the Secretary or Administrator, as appropriate, shall consult with the

Committees on Appropriations on the justification for such obligation and the proposed uses of such funds.

(c) CLARIFICATION.—The spend plans referenced in subsection (b) shall not be considered as meeting the notification requirements in this Act or under section 634A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

(d) CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET JUSTIFICATION.—The congressional budget justification for Department of State operations and foreign operations shall be provided to the Committees on Appropriations concurrent with the date of submission of the President’s budget for fiscal year 2025: *Provided*, That the appendices for such justification shall be provided to the Committees on Appropriations not later than 10 calendar days thereafter.

REORGANIZATION

SEC. 7063. (a) PRIOR CONSULTATION AND NOTIFICATION.—Funds appropriated by this Act, prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, or any other Act may not be used to implement a reorganization, redesign, or other plan described in subsection (b) by the Department of State, the United States Agency for International Development, or any other Federal department, agency, or organization funded by this Act without prior consultation by the head of such department, agency, or organization with the appropriate congressional committees: *Provided*, That such funds shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That any such notification submitted to such Committees shall include a detailed justification for any proposed action: *Provided further*, That congressional notifications submitted in prior fiscal years pursuant to similar provisions of law in prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs may be deemed to meet the notification requirements of this section.

(b) DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES.—Pursuant to subsection (a), a reorganization, redesign, or other plan shall include any action to—

(1) expand, eliminate, consolidate, or downsize covered departments, agencies, or organizations, including bureaus and offices within or between such departments, agencies, or organizations, including the transfer to other agencies of the authorities and responsibilities of such bureaus and offices;

(2) expand, eliminate, consolidate, or downsize the United States official presence overseas, including at bilateral, regional, and multilateral diplomatic facilities and other platforms; or

(3) expand or reduce the size of the permanent Civil Service, Foreign Service, eligible family member, and locally employed staff workforce of the Department of State and USAID from the staffing levels previously justified to the Committees on Appropriations for fiscal year 2024.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE MANAGEMENT

SEC. 7064. (a) WORKING CAPITAL FUND.—Funds appropriated by this Act or otherwise made available to the Department of State for payments to the Working Capital Fund that are made available for new service centers, shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(b) CERTIFICATION.—

(1) COMPLIANCE.—Not later than 45 days after the initial obligation of funds appropriated under titles III and IV of this Act that are made available to a Department of State bureau or office with responsibility for the management and oversight of such funds, the Secretary of State shall certify and report to the Committees on Appropriations,

on an individual bureau or office basis, that such bureau or office is in compliance with Department and Federal financial and grants management policies, procedures, and regulations, as applicable.

(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—When making a certification required by paragraph (1), the Secretary of State shall consider the capacity of a bureau or office to—

(A) account for the obligated funds at the country and program level, as appropriate;

(B) identify risks and develop mitigation and monitoring plans;

(C) establish performance measures and indicators;

(D) review activities and performance; and

(E) assess final results and reconcile finances.

(3) PLAN.—If the Secretary of State is unable to make a certification required by paragraph (1), the Secretary shall submit a plan and timeline detailing the steps to be taken to bring such bureau or office into compliance.

(c) INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PLATFORM.—None of the funds appropriated in title I of this Act under the heading “Administration of Foreign Affairs” may be made available for a new major information technology investment without the concurrence of the Chief Information Officer, Department of State.

(d) OTHER MATTERS.—

(1) In addition to amounts appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act under the heading “Diplomatic Programs”—

(A) as authorized by section 810 of the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act, not to exceed \$5,000,000, to remain available until expended, may be credited to this appropriation from fees or other payments received from English teaching, library, motion pictures, and publication programs and from fees from educational advising and counseling and exchange visitor programs; and

(B) not to exceed \$15,000, which shall be derived from reimbursements, surcharges, and fees for use of Blair House facilities.

(2) Funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act under the heading “Diplomatic Programs” are available for acquisition by exchange or purchase of passenger motor vehicles as authorized by law and, pursuant to section 1108(g) of title 31, United States Code, for the field examination of programs and activities in the United States funded from any account contained in title I of this Act.

(3) Of the funds appropriated under the heading “Diplomatic Programs” in this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, \$2,000,000 shall be made available to carry out section 9803 of the Department of State Authorization Act of 2022 (division I of Public Law 117-263).

(4) Consistent with section 204 of the Admiral James W. Nance and Meg Donovan Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 2000 and 2001 (22 U.S.C. 2452b), up to \$25,000,000 of the amounts made available under the heading “Diplomatic Programs” in this Act may be obligated and expended for United States participation in international fairs and expositions abroad, including for construction and operation of a United States pavilion at Expo 2025.

(5) Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Diplomatic Programs”, not less than \$500,000 shall be made available for additional personnel for the Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State.

(e) LIMITATIONS.—

(1) None of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Diplomatic Programs” may be made available to carry out

the functions of the Global Engagement Center established pursuant to section 1287 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (22 U.S.C. 2656 note) unless prior to the initial obligation of such funds—

(A) the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that—

(i) no funds will be used for purposes other than countering foreign propaganda and disinformation by foreign state and non-state actors that threaten United States national security pursuant to section 1287(i) of such Act;

(ii) programs and activities will not be designed to influence public opinion in the United States or in a manner that abridges the freedom of speech or of the press of United States persons enshrined in the First Amendment of the United States Constitution;

(iii) the development of tactics, techniques, and procedures to expose and refute foreign propaganda and disinformation and proactively support the promotion of credible, fact-based narratives and policies will be directed solely on audiences outside the United States; and

(iv) the Department of State has resolved with the Office of Inspector General, Department of State (OIG) and the OIG has closed each of the 18 recommendations detailed in the report “Inspection of the Global Engagement Center” (ISP I-22-15) dated September 2022; and

(B) the Secretary submits to the Committees on Appropriations a spend plan for the activities of the Center in fiscal year 2024: *Provided*, That such plan shall detail amounts planned for each function authorized in section 1287(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (22 U.S.C. 2656 note): *Provided further*, That such plan shall also include a list of each entity that received funding in the previous fiscal year.

(2) None of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Diplomatic Programs” may be reprogrammed for support of an international conference unless such conference has been previously justified in a congressional budget justification: *Provided*, That any such reprogramming shall be subject to prior consultation with the Committees on Appropriations.

(3)(A) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under the heading “Diplomatic Programs” in this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs may be made available for support of a Special Envoy, Special Representative, Special Coordinator, Special Negotiator, Envoy, Representative, Coordinator, Special Advisor, or other position performing a similar function unless such Special Envoy, Special Representative, Special Coordinator, Special Negotiator, Envoy, Representative, Coordinator, Special Advisor, or other position performing a similar function—

(i) is expressly authorized by statute; or

(ii) has affirmatively received the advice and consent of the Senate.

(B) The limitations of this paragraph shall be construed to include the applicable office personnel and bureau managed funds of such office.

(4) Not later than 15 days prior to entering into a bilateral or multilateral agreement authorized by section 303(a) of the Convention on Cultural Property Implementation Act (19 U.S.C. 2602) or the extension of an agreement pursuant to section 303(e) of such Act, the Secretary of State shall certify and report to the Committees on Appropriations that any import restrictions authorized by

such agreement comply with the provisions of sections 302 and 305 of such Act.

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

SEC. 7065. (a) AUTHORITY.—Up to \$170,000,000 of the funds made available in title III of this Act pursuant to or to carry out the provisions of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, including funds appropriated under the heading “Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia”, may be used by the United States Agency for International Development to hire and employ individuals in the United States and overseas on a limited appointment basis pursuant to the authority of sections 308 and 309 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 3948 and 3949).

(b) RESTRICTION.—The authority to hire individuals contained in subsection (a) shall expire on September 30, 2025.

(c) PROGRAM ACCOUNT CHARGED.—The account charged for the cost of an individual hired and employed under the authority of this section shall be the account to which the responsibilities of such individual primarily relate: *Provided*, That funds made available to carry out this section may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated by this Act in title II under the heading “Operating Expenses”.

(d) FOREIGN SERVICE LIMITED EXTENSIONS.—Individuals hired and employed by USAID, with funds made available in this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, pursuant to the authority of section 309 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 3949), may be extended for a period of up to 4 years notwithstanding the limitation set forth in such section.

(e) DISASTER SURGE CAPACITY.—Funds appropriated under title III of this Act to carry out part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, including funds appropriated under the heading “Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia”, may be used, in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes, for the cost (including the support costs) of individuals detailed to or employed by USAID whose primary responsibility is to carry out programs in response to natural disasters, or man-made disasters subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(f) PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACTORS.—Funds appropriated by this Act to carry out chapter 1 of part I, chapter 4 of part II, and section 667 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, and title II of the Food for Peace Act (Public Law 83-480; 7 U.S.C. 1721 et seq.), may be used by USAID to employ up to 40 personal services contractors in the United States, notwithstanding any other provision of law, for the purpose of providing direct, interim support for new or expanded overseas programs and activities managed by the agency until permanent direct hire personnel are hired and trained: *Provided*, That not more than 15 of such contractors shall be assigned to any bureau or office: *Provided further*, That such funds appropriated to carry out title II of the Food for Peace Act (Public Law 83-480; 7 U.S.C. 1721 et seq.), may be made available only for personal services contractors assigned to the Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance.

(g) SMALL BUSINESS.—In entering into multiple award indefinite-quantity contracts with funds appropriated by this Act, USAID may provide an exception to the fair opportunity process for placing task orders under such contracts when the order is placed with any category of small or small disadvantaged business.

(h) CRISIS OPERATIONS STAFFING.—Up to \$86,000,000 of the funds made available in title III of this Act pursuant to, or to carry

out the provisions of, part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and section 509(b) of the Global Fragility Act of 2019 (title V of division J of Public Law 116-94) may be made available for the United States Agency for International Development to appoint and employ personnel in the excepted service to prevent or respond to foreign crises and contexts with growing instability: *Provided*, That functions carried out by personnel hired under the authority of this subsection shall be related to the purpose for which the funds were appropriated: *Provided further*, That such funds are in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes and may remain attributed to any minimum funding requirement for which they were originally made available: *Provided further*, That the USAID Administrator shall coordinate with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management and consult with the appropriate congressional committees on implementation of this provision.

STABILIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN REGIONS IMPACTED BY EXTREMISM AND CONFLICT

SEC. 7066. (a) PREVENTION AND STABILIZATION FUND.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Economic Support Fund”, “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement”, “Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs”, “Peacekeeping Operations”, and “Foreign Military Financing Program” may be made available for the Prevention and Stabilization Fund for the purposes enumerated in section 509(a) of the Global Fragility Act of 2019 (title V of division J of Public Law 116-94).

(b) TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Economic Support Fund” and “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement” may be made available for programs to promote accountability for genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes, which shall be in addition to any other funds made available by this Act for such purposes: *Provided*, That such programs shall include components to develop local investigative and judicial skills, and to collect and preserve evidence and maintain the chain of custody of evidence, including for use in prosecutions, and may include the establishment of, and assistance for, transitional justice mechanisms: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be administered by the Ambassador-at-Large for the Office of Global Criminal Justice, Department of State, and shall be subject to prior consultation with the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That funds made available by this paragraph shall be made available on an open and competitive basis.

DEBT-FOR-DEVELOPMENT

SEC. 7067. In order to enhance the continued participation of nongovernmental organizations in debt-for-development and debt-for-nature exchanges, a nongovernmental organization which is a grantee or contractor of the United States Agency for International Development may place in interest bearing accounts local currencies which accrue to that organization as a result of economic assistance provided under title III of this Act and, subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, any interest earned on such investment shall be used for the purpose for which the assistance was provided to that organization.

EXTENSION OF CONSULAR FEES AND RELATED AUTHORITIES

SEC. 7068. (a) Section 1(b)(1) of the Passport Act of June 4, 1920 (22 U.S.C. 214(b)(1)) shall be applied through fiscal year 2024 by substituting “the costs of providing consular services” for “such costs”.

(b) Section 21009 of the Emergency Appropriations for Coronavirus Health Response and Agency Operations (division B of Public Law 116-136; 134 Stat. 592) shall be applied during fiscal year 2024 by substituting “2020 through 2024” for “2020 and 2021”.

(c) Discretionary amounts made available to the Department of State under the heading “Administration of Foreign Affairs” of this Act, and discretionary unobligated balances under such heading from prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, may be transferred to the Consular and Border Security Programs account if the Secretary of State determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that to do so is necessary to sustain consular operations, following consultation with such Committees: *Provided*, That such transfer authority is in addition to any transfer authority otherwise available in this Act and under any other provision of law: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be transferred from amounts designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

(d) In addition to the uses permitted pursuant to section 286(v)(2)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1356(v)(2)(A)), for fiscal year 2024, the Secretary of State may also use fees deposited into the Fraud Prevention and Detection Account for the costs of providing consular services.

(e) Amounts repurposed pursuant to this section that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 or a concurrent resolution on the budget are designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to legislation establishing fiscal year 2024 budget enforcement in the House of Representatives.

PROMOTION OF UNITED STATES ECONOMIC INTERESTS

SEC. 7069. (a) DIPLOMATIC ENGAGEMENT.—Pursuant to section 704 of the Championing American Business Through Diplomacy Act of 2019 (title VII of division J of Public Law 116-94) the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, shall prioritize the allocation of funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Diplomatic Programs” for support of Chief of Mission diplomatic engagement to foster commercial relations and safeguard United States economic and business interests in the country in which each Chief of Mission serves, including activities and initiatives to create and maintain an enabling environment, promote and protect such interests, and resolve commercial disputes: *Provided*, That each Mission Resource Request and Bureau Resource Request shall include amounts required to prioritize the activities described in this subsection.

(b) TRAINING.—In carrying out section 705 of the Championing American Business Through Diplomacy Act of 2019 (title VII of division J of Public Law 116-94) the Secretary of State shall annually assess training needs across the economic and commercial diplomacy issue areas and ensure after a review of course offerings, course attendance records, and course evaluation results, that current offerings meet training needs.

(c) ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary of State should direct each Chief of Mission to consider how best to advance and support commercial relations and the safeguarding of United States business interests in the development and execution of the applicable Integrated Country Strategy and the Mission Resource Request for each country receiving bilateral assistance from funds appropriated by this Act.

ADDITIONAL LIMITATIONS ON OPERATIONS AND ASSISTANCE

SEC. 7070. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs may be made available for drag queen workshops, performances, or documentaries.

(b) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to carry out any program, project, or activity that teaches or trains any idea or concept that condones an individual being discriminated against or receiving adverse or beneficial treatment based on race or sex, that condones an individual feeling discomfort, guilt, anguish, or any other form of psychological distress on account of that individual’s race or sex, as well as any idea or concept that regards one race as inherently superior to another race, the United States or its institutions as being systemically racist or sexist, an individual as being inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive by virtue of that individual’s race or sex, an individual’s moral character as being necessarily determined by race or sex, an individual as bearing responsibility for actions committed in the past by other members of the same race or sex, or meritocracy being racist, sexist, or having been created by a particular race to oppress another race.

(c) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to implement, administer, apply, enforce, or carry out Executive Order 13985 of January 20, 2021 (86 Fed. Reg. 7009), Executive Order 14035 of June 25, 2021 (86 Fed. Reg. 34593), or Executive Order 14091 of February 16, 2023 (88 Fed. Reg. 10825).

(d) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be obligated or expended to—

(1) classify or facilitate the classification of any communications by a United States person as misinformation, disinformation, or malinformation; or

(2) partner with or fund nonprofit or other organizations that pressure or recommend private companies to censor, filter, or otherwise suppress lawful and constitutionally protected speech of United States persons, including recommending the censoring or removal of content on social media platforms.

(e) None of the funds made available by this Act or any other Act shall be used or transferred to another Federal Agency, board, or commission to fund any domestic or international non-governmental organization or any other program, organization, or association coordinated or operated by such non-governmental organization that either offers counseling regarding sex change surgeries, promotes sex change surgeries for any reason as an option, conducts or subsidizes sex change surgeries, promotes the use of medications or other substances to halt the onset of puberty or sexual development of minors, or otherwise promotes transgenderism.

(f) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be obligated or expended to fly or display a flag over a facility of a United States Federal department or agency funded by this Act other than the—

- (1) United States flag;
- (2) Foreign Service flag pursuant to 2 FAM 154.2-1;
- (3) POW/MIA flag;
- (4) flag of a State, insular area, or the District of Columbia at domestic locations;
- (5) flag of an Indian Tribal government; or
- (6) sovereign flag of other countries.

PRESIDENTIAL PERMIT REFORM

SEC. 7071. Funds appropriated by this Act shall be made available to carry out the re-

sponsibilities delegated to the Secretary of State pursuant to Executive Order 13867 (April 10, 2019) or any successor Executive Order: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall carry out such responsibilities within the 60 day time period set forth in section 2 of such Executive Order: *Provided further*, That Agency heads for whom the Secretary refers such applications for pertinent information or advise pursuant to such Executive Order should respond not later than the 30 days: *Provided further*, That Executive Order 13867, or any successor Executive Order, should not be construed to require the application of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 prior to the Secretary providing advice to the President of the United States concerning any new or amended Presidential permit application.

RESCISSESS

(INCLUDING RESCISSESS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 7072. (a) EMBASSY SECURITY, CONSTRUCTION, AND MAINTENANCE.—Of the unobligated balances from amounts available under the heading “Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance” from prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, \$174,000,000 are rescinded.

(b) DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE.—Of the unobligated and unexpended balances from amounts available under the heading “Development Assistance” from prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, \$709,500,000 are rescinded.

(c) ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND.—Of the unobligated and unexpended balances from amounts available under the heading “Economic Support Fund” from prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, \$808,600,000 are rescinded.

(d) PEACE CORPS.—Of the unobligated balances from amounts available under the heading “Peace Corps” from prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, \$18,000,000 are rescinded.

(e) INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT.—Of the unobligated, and unexpended balances from amounts available under the heading “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement” from prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, \$40,000,000 are rescinded.

(f) EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES.—Of the unobligated balances available under the heading “Export and Investment Assistance, Export-Import Bank of the United States, Subsidy Appropriation” for tied-aid grants from prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, \$59,000,000 are rescinded.

(g) SECTION 60103.—Of the unobligated balances of amounts appropriated or otherwise made available for activities of the Environmental Protection Agency under section 60103 of Public Law 117-169 (commonly known as the “Inflation Reduction Act of 2022”), \$11,135,000,000 are hereby permanently rescinded.

(h) RESTRICTION.—No amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were previously 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.

TITLE VIII—COUNTERING THE MALIGN INFLUENCE OF THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND

For an additional amount for “Economic Support Fund”, \$1,000,000,000, to remain

available until expended for programs to advance United States national security interests in the Indo-Pacific and counter the malign influence of the People's Republic of China: *Provided*, That, if expressly authorized and established in the Treasury of the United States, funds made available under this title may be transferred to a "Compact Assistance Fund".

TITLE IX—ADDITIONAL GENERAL PROVISION

SPENDING REDUCTION ACCOUNT

SEC. 9001. \$0 (increased by \$1,000,000,000).

This Act may be cited as the "Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2024".

The Acting CHAIR. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived.

No further amendment to the bill, as amended, shall be in order except those printed in part D of House Report 118-216, amendments en bloc described in section 9 of House Resolution 723, and pro forma amendments described in section 13 of that resolution.

Each further amendment printed in part D of 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, 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. DIAZ-BALART

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Chair, pursuant to House Resolution 723, I offer amendments en bloc.

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

Amendments en bloc consisting of amendment Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 12, 19, 21, 24, 32, 33, 34, 35, 37 and 52 printed in part D of House Report 118-216, offered by Mr. DIAZ-BALART of Florida:

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MRS. BOEBERT OF COLORADO

Page 3, line 5, after the dollar amount, insert "reduced by \$3,000,000".

Page 44, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$3,000,000)".

Page 136, line 25, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$3,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MRS. MILLER OF WEST VIRGINIA

Page 3, line 5, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$1,000,000)(increased by \$1,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MR. GOTTHEIMER OF NEW JERSEY

Page 3, line 5, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 4 OFFERED BY MR. GROTHMAN OF WISCONSIN

Page 3, line 5, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$1,000,000) (reduced by \$1,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 5 OFFERED BY MRS. MILLER OF WEST VIRGINIA

Page 3, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$500,000) (increased by \$500,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 6 OFFERED BY MR. MOLINARO OF NEW YORK

Page 3, line 22, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$5,000,000) (reduced by \$5,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 12 OFFERED BY MR. GROTHMAN OF WISCONSIN

Page 24, line 8, after the first dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$1,000,000) (reduced by \$1,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 19 OFFERED BY MS. TITUS OF NEVADA

Page 34, line 13, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$45,000,000)(reduced by \$45,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 21 OFFERED BY MR. CONNOLY OF VIRGINIA

Page 36, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$10,000,000) (increased by \$10,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 24 OFFERED BY MR. OGLES OF TENNESSEE

Page 38, line 2, after the second dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$2,700,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 32 OFFERED BY MR. MOSKOWITZ OF FLORIDA

Page 65, line 7, strike "and residences" and insert ", residences, and places of worship".

AMENDMENT NO. 33 OFFERED BY MR. MAST OF FLORIDA

Page 163, beginning line 10, strike ";" and insert a semicolon.

Page 163, after line 10, insert the following new subparagraph and redesignate the subsequent subparagraph accordingly:

(B) exercises full territorial jurisdiction over the Gaza strip; and

AMENDMENT NO. 34 OFFERED BY MR. OGLES OF TENNESSEE

Page 204, line 4, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$10,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 35 OFFERED BY MR. MOLINARO OF NEW YORK

Page 266, line 5, after the dollar amount insert "(increased by \$9,000,000) (reduced by \$9,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 37 OFFERED BY MR. TIFFANY OF WISCONSIN

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

SEC. 9002. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used in contravention of section 221 of the Immigration and Nationality Technical Corrections Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-416; 108 Stat. 4321; 8 U.S.C. 1101 note).

AMENDMENT NO. 52 OFFERED BY MR. OGLES OF TENNESSEE

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

SEC. _____. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to create, procure, or display any map that inaccurately depicts the occupied country of Tibet as part of the People's Republic of China.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DIAZ-BALART) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) each will control 10 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of this bipartisan en bloc amendment, which represents amendments with support from both sides of the aisle.

The amendment includes 15 non-controversial amendments that advance the priorities of both sides, including support for Taiwan and addressing the passport processing backlog, which is happening everywhere in the country.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this en bloc. There is a list of bipartisan amendments in this to address various Members' priorities. I appreciate the collaborative way in which we have agreed on this package.

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

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Chairman, we spoke on the amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia. Mr. Chair, American frontier investors can be a powerful partner of the State Department and emissaries of American values in developing regions of the world. In these critical regions, they provide ideal alternative sources of capital over China or other authoritarian regimes. For our friends and allies with developing or unstable economies that China or other adversaries want to undermine, American investment is hard power, creating infrastructure, factories, boosting crop yields, industrial output, and jobs. In countries where America is locked in competition for influence, American investment in a gas plant, pipeline, or telecom network can sway the strategic calculation of the home government.

We rightly hold our investors to a high standard, through the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and other laws, but that higher standard makes it harder for them to compete against Chinese or Russian investors that are heavily and unfairly subsidized. In exchange, when they come under attack by corrupt home governments, we owe them the support of our diplomats and the full weight of the U.S. Federal Government.

Diplomatic support can persuade corrupt governments to change course and to play by the rules, but too often, the State Department takes a hands-off approach.

The hands-off approach can reach absurd heights. Even in cases where a kleptocratic government blatantly expropriated American investments, these investors took that government to arbitration and won, and then took that award to our United States Federal

Courts to get recognition of the award under the Federal Arbitration Act, our State Department has refused to help Americans right the wrong and collect the award.

This has to stop. We are in competition with corrupt dictators all across the globe. American investors need to know that American diplomats have their back.

I ask for your support of the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendments en bloc offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DIAZ-BALART).

The en bloc amendments were agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. The Chair understands that amendment No. 7 will not be offered.

AMENDMENT NO. 8 OFFERED BY MR. CRANE

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

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Chair, I rise to offer amendment No. 8 as the designee of Mr. BIGGS of Arizona.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 18, line 25, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$38,634,000)”.

Page 296, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$38,634,000)”.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to speak in support of this amendment that eliminates nearly \$39 million in funding for the United States Institute of Peace.

This institute funds programs located in several adversarial nations, including China, Pakistan, and Russia.

Their mission is to combat violence and promote peace through education. However, the institute covers issue areas such as gender equality, LGBTQ+ rights, and climate policy—hardly topics related to peace between nations.

The United States Institute of Peace claims to prioritize U.S. national security while using U.S. funds to counsel and mitigate feuds with known enemies of the United States.

The expenses of this institute, whose mission would be better accomplished by nonprofits, charities, and religious groups, is an undue burden on the American taxpayer.

Mr. Chair, I urge the passage of this amendment to prevent this unnecessary funding, and work toward getting our fiscal house in order.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, it is really hard to believe that you all want to eliminate funding for the Insti-

tute of Peace, P-E-A-C-E. The Institute of Peace is one of the best tools the United States has to bring people together to prevent wars—government officials, civil society practitioners, and defense experts—to really to creatively solve our world’s thorniest issues.

Congress created the United States Institute of Peace for this purpose in 1984. USIP applies practical solutions in conflict zones, and provides analysis, education, and resources to those working for peace. Peace is patriotic, my Republican friends.

USIP has specialized teams of mediators, trainers, and others in some of the world’s most dangerous places and works to equip communities with the skills necessary to prevent or resolve their own violent conflicts before they threaten the United States.

Mr. Chair, I hope they understand that peace is the only option that we have to war. USIP works on the ground with local partners on the root causes of conflict that all too frequently result in America’s military gains or diplomatic and development investments going to waste.

In a world that becomes more dangerous and complex every day, we need the services and the creative thinking of the United States Institute of Peace.

It is hard to believe the Republicans oppose peace. I guess that says that war is the option for settling conflicts, and I think the American people are war weary and support our efforts for peace. It is really a shame and a disgrace that you are uncovering this issue in terms of your opposition to peace.

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

The Acting CHAIR. Members are reminded to direct their comments at the Chair.

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

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona will be postponed.

The Acting CHAIR. The Chair understands that amendment No. 9 will not be offered.

AMENDMENT NO. 10 OFFERED BY MR. CRANE

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

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Chair, I rise to offer amendment No. 10 as the designee of Mr. BIGGS of Arizona.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 22, line 8, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$2,908,000)”.

Page 296, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$2,908,000)”.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Chair, I rise this morning in support of this amendment, which eliminates nearly \$3 million in funding for the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, salaries and expenses.

This funding goes towards functions such as gender equality, and there has even been a Gender Action Plan, a Gender Unit in the Secretariat appointed a special representative to the Chairperson-in-Office on gender issues.

□ 1015

The work of this Commission would probably be better done by an independent think tank than by a congressionally funded Commission. With the current debt of the U.S. being \$33 trillion, we must look for ways to cut unnecessary spending. The work of this Commission is not unique to it and similar consolation, if necessary, could be found in third-party sources that do not affect the already distressed national debt.

Mr. Chair, I urge passage of my amendment to prevent this unnecessary funding and work toward getting our fiscal house in order. I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, the OSCE is the world’s largest regional security organization and has been critical in addressing the violent aggression of Russia.

The OSCE is actively engaged in conflict prevention, conventional arms control, peacekeeping, promoting good governance and human rights, rule-of-law programming, also border security measures, counternarcotics work, efforts to combat organized crime, anticorruption and anti-money laundering activities, and election support.

The OSCE is currently leading a Special Monitoring Mission in Ukraine. This mission is an unarmed civilian mission tasked to observe and to report on the situation resulting from ongoing Russian aggression to facilitate dialogue among all parties to restore peace, p-e-a-c-e, and to monitor and support the implementation of the cease-fire and other tenets of the Minsk peace agreements.

It is the only nonpartisan international body that maintains a continuous presence at the line of contact between the Ukrainian Armed Forces and Russian-led forces in eastern Ukraine. Peace in Ukraine, that is p-e-a-c-e, will be through organizations like the OSCE.

I am completely perplexed by my colleagues and can’t figure out why they would not find this a good investment

of taxpayer dollars. I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment.

Mr. Chair, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON).

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Chairman, as we are here today, we appreciate so much the leadership of Chairman MARIO DIAZ-BALART. He was so correct earlier to identify the appeasement of Afghanistan has endangered all American families in the continuing global war on terrorism, with Afghanistan sadly now becoming a safe haven for terrorists.

As the chairman of the Helsinki Commission, I strongly support the continuation of its very meaningful work. For nearly 50 years, the U.S. Helsinki Commission, uniquely made up of Senators and Members of Congress, with rotating chairmanship of House and Senate Members, has worked to promote American values in Europe and the former Soviet Union.

Its small, professional staff support bicameral, bipartisan commissioners to advance American national security and national interests in human rights, military security, and economic cooperation in 57 countries. It is the fulfillment of the dream of Barry Goldwater and Ronald Reagan of "Why Not Victory?".

The Commission has worked with fellow legislative members from each country to ensure respect for freedom of religion, to defend those persecuted from criticizing dictatorships to fight against corruption and to prevent human trafficking. It is a vital forum in the ongoing worldwide conflict between dictators with rule of gun who are opposing democracies with rule of law. We must stand and meet the challenge of power coming from the barrel of a gun.

Commissioners have worked with countries to update their religious laws to allow smaller Christian and other groups to practice freely. Commissioners have put together numerous legislative proposals to counter corruption, including by highlighting the priority of anticorruption in U.S. foreign policy, providing further authorities to end the impunity enjoyed by kleptocrats and preventing them from entering the United States, and highlighting the work of U.S. law enforcement to recover stolen money hidden in America.

Commissioners have authored much of the antihuman trafficking legislation here with the leadership of Chairman CHRIS SMITH and set standards for preventing human trafficking internationally. Most recently, the Commission has focused on supporting Ukrainian children who have been forcibly relocated by kidnapping or who have experienced extreme trauma due to war.

With only a small staff, the Commission has had a large impact. It is crucial that this important work continues and the Commission be funded for its future.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH).

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this amendment. I associate myself with the remarks of my distinguished chairman.

I have been on the Helsinki Commission, serving on it since 1982. It is a remarkable Commission. We get political prisoners out of prison. We did it during Soviet times. I worked with STENY HOYER, when he was chair and I was ranking and also when I was chair and he was ranking member.

It is truly a bipartisan Commission that promotes democracy, human rights, and as my good friend mentioned a moment ago, we also combat horrible things like human trafficking. I am the special rep for human trafficking, and we are making a difference, so please vote "no" on this amendment.

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

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

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona will be postponed.

The Chair understands amendment No. 11 will not be offered.

AMENDMENT NO. 13 OFFERED BY MR. CRANE

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 13 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Mr. CRANE. 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 24, line 8, after the first dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$607,404,000)".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Chair, I rise this morning to offer my amendment to the State and Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriation Act which would reduce funding for USAID by 50 percent.

USAID was established over 60 years ago with the noble intention of fostering the advancement of the developing world, a goal that could benefit the United States by creating new trade partners and stable neighbors. Unfortunately, current budget allocations at USAID indicate a shift toward a social and cultural agenda that caters to the radical priorities of woke global elites.

USAID has become a front for unelected bureaucrats to impose woke

nonsense and harmful agendas across the globe, all on the U.S. taxpayers' dime. We shouldn't continue to fund this organization that aims to undercut American values and objectives.

Cutting USAID's funding by 50 percent would dramatically conserve taxpayer resources otherwise wasted abroad on programs that do little to nothing to advance American interests. In fact, our core interests are instead undermined by these programs that include climate change alarmism and wasting money on ridiculous studies and programs that promote distorted gender ideology.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this amendment to prevent American tax dollars from being wasted on an Agency bent on sabotaging our best efforts around the globe. I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, the United States Agency for International Development's global operations are essential to defending United States national security, asserting United States leadership and foreign policy influence, and advancing stability, security, and prosperity worldwide.

This account supports a direct-hire workforce focused on advancing the most critical and effective foreign assistance programs and ensuring strong relationships and stewardship and accountability of U.S. taxpayer dollars. A 50 percent reduction to the operating expenses account would devastate USAID operations, including its workforce, and its ability to implement critical foreign assistance and humanitarian assistance programs.

At this level, the Agency would be forced to reduce permanent U.S. direct-hire levels by about 1,845 positions. USAID would cut approximately 965 Foreign Service and 880 civil service positions. This 50 percent workforce reduction would require a reduction in force since eliminating the backfilling of positions lost through attrition would achieve only about an 8 percent cut.

USAID would significantly reduce its presence overseas, including closing some missions, once again leaving this void for our adversaries. This would leave these missions without American personnel to deliver aid from the American people and ensure our national security through development and humanitarian assistance.

This drastic staff cut would leave programs extremely vulnerable to waste, fraud, and abuse, and impair the Agency's ability to respond to ongoing and future natural and human crises, pandemics, and development challenges. It also will result in the termination of programs overseas, once again creating a void for our adversaries to fill.

This amendment is really counterproductive. We can't short fund staff charged with managing our foreign assistance programs and expect them to be effective. If we reduce our development efforts, we are not countering Russia and the PRC's influence. We are, instead, opening the door for their expanded global influence. I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GAETZ).

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Florida is recognized for 2 minutes.

□ 1030

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support of my colleague from Arizona's amendment to cut funding to USAID.

For the American taxpayer watching, USAID is essentially a venture capital fund that Americans pay for that invests in businesses and economic development in other countries overseas.

At a time when we are \$33 trillion in debt and facing \$2 trillion annual deficits in this country, it would seem to me to be an easy decision to reduce the investments in Albania or the developing world, for which we are borrowing money from China to make. That seems like an easy thing to do, yet our colleagues call it drastic.

I would take the USAID fund down to zero. They would fund it to the tune of billions of dollars. Maybe a compromise position is that we would be willing to send USAID everything that was found in Senator MENENDEZ' jacket.

Maybe that is something that can bring us all together. If there is going to be international bribe money paid that we are going to be involved in, rather than sourcing it from the American taxpayer, we could source it from corrupt Democratic politicians. I am here to bring us together.

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

The Acting CHAIR. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DIAZ-BALART).

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Chairman, I respectfully rise in opposition.

The gentleman from Arizona brings up, I think, really legitimate reasons for his concern about the out-of-control spending and, frankly, what this administration has done. However, because of that, the operating account of USAID in this bill has been significantly reduced below the FY 2019 enacted level.

As the gentleman is aware, we get to the point if we do further reductions, that this account, frankly, stops our ability to actually do some serious oversight.

While I agree with his concerns, I don't think this is the right way to do

that. Further reductions to this account would mean less oversight, less efficiency, and, frankly, I think fewer positive outcomes.

By the way, in the manager's amendment, we reduce it even further. I totally understand and look forward to working with the gentleman about his concern. I think we are addressing it in this bill.

Again, it is one of those issues that I understand where he is going, but I think this is not the right way to do it, so I respectfully oppose the amendment.

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

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

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona will be postponed.

The Acting CHAIR. The Chair understands that amendment No. 14 will not be offered.

AMENDMENT NO. 15 OFFERED BY MR. PERRY

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 15 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk as the designee of the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. BIGGS).

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 25, line 21, after the dollar amount, insert "reduced by \$230,599,000".

Page 296, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert "increased by \$230,599,000".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this amendment, which eliminates \$230,599,000—a lot of money whether you are in Arizona, Pennsylvania, or Washington, D.C.—in funding to the U.S. Agency for International Development, funds appropriated to the President capital investment fund.

I once again bring up the amendment to address the massive spending that is appropriated to USAID. The capital investment fund is for expenses for overseas construction and related costs and for the procurement and enhancement of information technology and related capital investments.

We all want a new office. We all want a new computer. We all want a new phone. We have massive debt right now. We are going to run \$2.2 trillion behind this year alone.

I don't know who at home when they can't pay their bills, when they are lit-

erally borrowing money from their enemy, goes out and spends more.

We are not even talking about spending more on our own home or our own phone or our own computer. We are talking about spending more on somebody else's and, quite honestly, in many cases in places where they don't even like America.

Mr. Chairman, our country is now \$33 trillion in debt. How in good conscience can we continue with this spending?

This is the time to invest in the United States of America and our constituents who are struggling to pay for their groceries, to pay for gasoline, to pay for their ever-rising electricity bill, and it is going to keep on rising.

Your gas prices are going to keep going up, and so are your food prices because of the policies of this administration.

Mr. Chairman, we don't have any more money to spend on things that might be great to have, might be nice to have, might make us feel good. We don't have the money. When you don't have the money, you don't spend it.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I claim the time in opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, the United States Agency for International Development's capital investment fund supports facility construction, information technology, and real property maintenance.

These include efforts to accelerate the construction of new, secure, safe, and functional office facilities for USAID personnel overseas. Without this funding, these diplomats would be vulnerable and at greater risk for harm on less secured compounds.

This fund also supports information technology security, including efforts critical to cybersecurity and real property maintenance and repairs.

I don't hear the gentleman talking about the fact that the policy of countering Chinese influence costs a little bit of money, also. I think this provides us a bigger bang for our buck.

Without this funding, the Agency would be unable to upgrade and secure the IT environment against external and internal threats that could damage our national security and expose personally identifiable information of not only Americans but the participants we assist in times of crisis.

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

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Chair, I agree with the gentlewoman from the other side of the aisle. We should be countering China. If we are going to use USAID to do that, well, that is all well and good, too, but let's enumerate how we are actually going to use this money to counter China.

What we are expected to believe is that they need this money, and we are

going to counter China somewhere in Eastern Europe. Maybe we are, but let's make the case.

What you are asking is the American people to borrow money from China to then somehow counter China and just give all these folks that are smarter than all the rest of us all the money, and I am sure they will figure it out.

I don't know if you are keeping up with current events, but China is eating our lunch right now while we are spending all this money that we are borrowing from China.

I think the case makes itself. Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 16 OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON LEE

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 16 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. 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 27, line 12, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I thank the manager and the chairman and ranking member of this committee.

State, foreign operations, and related programs are the face of America, the most powerful nation in the world, the nation that the world looks to for guidance and direction in the interactions of this world. I am saddened to say that this face has been altered and threatened desperately by some of the shortchanges in the funding.

The threat to national security by abdicating U.S. leadership, and the underfunding of the U.N. Development Program and the U.N., the underfunding of the State Department, and the threat to women's health equality globally around the world, is why my amendment is so very important, and I ask my colleagues to support it.

I thank the Rules Committee, and I thank the subcommittee, for my amendment is an important and potentially lifesaving amendment in an un-

fortunate and distracting approach to State and foreign relations.

My amendment increases funds by \$1 million and decreases funding by \$1 million for the global health programs account to highlight and support the fight against the practice of female genital mutilation.

I have been a dedicated champion of this and introduced legislation in years past supporting the elimination of this very difficult and ludicrous practice of mutilating young women around the world.

Female genital mutilation or cutting, FGMC, comprises all procedures that involve partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs for nonmedical reasons.

My colleagues may be shocked to know that some of this occurs in the United States of America. This practice is rooted in gender inequalities often linked to other elements of gender-based violence and discrimination, such as child marriage, and is recognized internationally as a violation of the human rights of women and girls. That is why it is so important that we fund women's global health.

Unfortunately, this means an estimated 200 million girls and women alive today have been victims of FGMC, with girls 14 and younger representing 44 million of those who have been cut.

For example, consider that around the world at least five girls are mutilated, cut, every hour. More than 3 million girls are estimated to be at risk right now with FGMC annually.

The impacts of FGMC on the physical health of women and girls can include bleeding, infection, obstetric fistula, complications during childbirth, and death.

Mr. Chair, I ask my colleagues to support the Jackson Lee amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I claim the time in opposition, although I am not opposed to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. Without objection, the gentlewoman is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, while this amendment does not have a budgetary effect, I thank my colleague for raising such an important issue for millions of women around the world.

For more than 200 women, female genital mutilation can mean health problems that haunt them for the rest of their lives.

The quest for gender equality will not be complete until women are no longer subjected to these practices, and I thank my colleague for raising this important issue.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, let me, first of all, thank the ranking member, Congresswoman BARBARA LEE, for her consistent, steady, and unrelenting commitment to world affairs

as well as to the peace and harmony of women around the world and humanitarian practices.

That is why this amendment and this emphasis on FGMC is so important because other significant barriers to combating the practice of FGMC include the high concentration in Pacific regions associated with several cultural traditions that are not tied to any one religion, so it spreads all over.

I emphasize to this body that girls as young as 14 who can make no determination are put upon by this process. According to UNICEF, FGMC is reported to occur in all parts of the world but is most prevalent in parts of Africa, the Middle East, and Asia.

Due to the commonality of this practice, many migrants to the U.S. bring the practices of FGMC with them, increasing the importance of combating FGMC abroad.

As I said, it happens in the United States. My amendment prioritizes funding for foreign assistance to combat female genital mutilation or cutting, an internationally recognized violation of the human rights of girls and women, so that it can finally come to an end.

With the negatives of this Defense appropriation, let's do something positive with the State Department appropriations.

I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of the Jackson Lee amendment, notwithstanding the vast, extensive work that is going on that is without restraint of dealing with FGMC around the world.

Mr. Chairman, I rise to speak in support of the Jackson Lee Amendment 16 to H.R. 4665—Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2024.

I want to thank my colleagues on the Rules Committee for making this amendment in order.

The Jackson Lee Amendment 16 is an important and potentially life-saving amendment in an unfortunate and distracting appropriations bill.

The Jackson Lee Amendment 16 increases funds by \$1,000,000 and decreases funding by \$1,000,000 for the Global Health Programs account to highlight and support the fight against the practice of Female Genital Mutilation.

I have been a dedicated champion against this practice for a long while, working closely with former Congressman Joe Crowley of New York to introduce legislation targeted at supporting the elimination of this ludicrous practice of mutilating young women.

Female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C) comprises all procedures that involve partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons.

This practice is rooted in gender inequality and is often linked to other elements of gender-based violence and discrimination, such as child marriage and recognized internationally as a violation of the human rights of women and girls.

Unfortunately, this means an estimated 200 million girls and women alive today have been

victims of FGM/C, with girls 14 and younger representing 44 million of those who have been cut.

For example, consider that around the world, at least five girls are mutilated/cut every hour and more than 3 million girls are estimated to be at risk of FGM/C, annually.

The impacts of FGM/C on the physical health of women and girls can include bleeding, infection, obstetric fistula, complications during childbirth and death.

Other significant barriers to combatting the practice of FGM/C include the high concentration in specific regions associated with several cultural traditions, that is not tied to any one religion.

According to UNICEF, FGM/C is reported to occur in all parts of the world, but is most prevalent in parts of Africa, the Middle East, and Asia.

Due to the commonality of this practice many migrants to the U.S. bring the practice of FGM/C with them, increasing the importance of combatting FGMC abroad.

Jackson Lee Amendment 16 prioritizes funding for foreign assistance to combat Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C), an internationally recognized violation of the human rights of girls and women comes to an end.

While the negatives of this State appropriations bill disappointedly outweigh my positive amendment, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of the Jackson Lee Amendment 16—notwithstanding my strong opposition and encouragement to vote down the underlying bill.

Mr. Chair, I ask my colleagues to support the Jackson Lee amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1045

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DIAZ-BALART).

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Chairman, I strongly support this amendment.

Look, this is a horrifying practice of literally just mutilating women around the world. An estimated 200 million women and girls have undergone this form of female genital mutilation, including, by the way, ones who are 15 or younger.

Mr. Chair, I don't have to tell you about the extreme psychological and physical harm that this does to these young girls and women.

I thank my colleague, Representative JACKSON LEE, for condemning this practice wherever—wherever—it is occurring. Anywhere in the world we should object to minors, young girls, young women, having genital mutilation performed for whatever reason.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to strongly support this amendment.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chairman, let me indicate my appreciation to the chairman and to the ranking member for their support of this amendment.

I ask my colleagues to support the Jackson Lee amendment. Let's end FGMC against women and girls around the world forever.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. SALINAS).

Ms. SALINAS. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to this bill for reasons beyond what I can list in the allotted time, but primarily because it would force America to abdicate its leadership role on the global stage.

This bill contains too many harmful provisions to count, but for the benefit of the American people, I will do my best to summarize a few of them:

This bill would severely reduce our ability to combat the climate crisis.

It would make massive cuts to global health programming through USAID and the WHO.

It would shortchange economic and humanitarian assistance and global peacekeeping funding.

And as if those self-imposed restrictions on our international leadership weren't bad enough, my Republican colleagues are using this bill as a Trojan horse for more poison pill riders, just as they have done with other appropriations bills.

The majority's obsession with anti-choice, anti-LGBTQ, and anti-diversity politics precludes them from putting forth a bill that has any chance of becoming law.

Specifically, their bill would reinstate the global gag rule and prohibit contributions to the UNFPA, restricting women and girls around the world from receiving the reproductive and maternal healthcare they need.

They are just not content to undermine reproductive freedom at home. No, they need to take their draconian quest abroad to the tremendous shame of the majority of Americans who value reproductive freedom.

Mr. Chair, at the appropriate time, I will offer a motion to recommit this bill back to committee. If the House rules permitted, I would have offered the motion with an important amendment to this bill.

My amendment would strike the global gag rule and allow contributions to UNFPA.

Mr. Chair, I strongly support reproductive rights and believe we should be a global leader guaranteeing it to all women and girls, regardless of where they may have been born. I hope my colleagues will join me in voting for the motion to recommit.

Mr. Chair, I include in the RECORD the text of my amendment.

Ms. Salinas moves to recommit the bill H.R. 4665 to the Committee on Appropriations with the following amendment:

Strike section 7057.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 17 OFFERED BY MR. GAETZ

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 17 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Mr. GAETZ. 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 27, line 12, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$750,000,000)".

Page 32, line 18, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$3,000,000,000)".

Page 33, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$750,000,000)".

Page 296, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$4,500,000,000)".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Chair, this amendment reduces the amount of funding allocated to USAID by \$4.5 billion.

As I mentioned earlier, USAID is a vehicle through which the American taxpayer pays for economic development in other countries. I think instead we should spend more money on economic development of our own country, and actually, if we spent less money overall, we probably would see less inflation, more prosperity, and the type of economic growth that we saw during President Trump's time in office.

USAID may have started with laudable goals, but today, they are promoting abortion globally with American tax dollars. They are pushing President Biden's national gender strategy.

I never thought we needed a national gender strategy, but if we need a national gender strategy, can we at least not spend so much money promoting it abroad?

It is silly.

The DEI programs that are embedded in The 1619 Project have been embraced by United Nations Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield, and we see that continue to manifest through USAID.

American taxpayers should focus their resources and their efforts on the American people and the American economy. This is a thoughtful reduction. It should be easily agreed to.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, once again, I have no idea what my colleagues are trying to achieve.

All this amendment would do is double down on the harm Russia's aggression has already wreaked on the poorest countries of the world through higher food, fertilizer, and fuel costs.

This amendment would cut \$750 million each from global health programs and the International Disaster Assistance accounts. These cuts would impose tremendous harm and suffering to the most vulnerable, including:

4 million children with malaria will go untreated;

350,000 deaths attributable to tuberculosis;

13 million fewer children vaccinated resulting in a possible 115,000 additional deaths; and

A reduction by over 45 percent of humanitarian assistance to Sudan compared to FY 2023 levels.

This doesn't sound much like pro-life to me, Mr. Chairman.

It would also eliminate the entire Official Development Assistance accounts, affecting agriculture and food security programs, education, and clean water for millions of the most vulnerable people in the world.

Development assistance is also used for Countering PRC Influence programs, which represents one of our most effective tools to counter and compete with the PRC globally.

It is really ridiculous, it is cruel, and it is not pro-life. These are not funds that would be targeted to Ukraine in any significant way. It has no impact on the Ukraine debate and would inflict harm on millions of people.

Mr. Chair, I would be happy to discuss with my colleagues about how we support Ukraine's pursuit of freedom, but this amendment would only alienate the rest of the world and forsake many of our allies' reliant on assistance from the United States.

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

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Chair, my amendment makes a \$4.5 billion cut; \$3.5 billion of that stops us from retiring global debt for Ukraine.

Now, I don't think it is an unrealistic position to say that the United States of America should not deficit spend to retire the debt of other countries.

Think about that. We are borrowing money from China to go settle the debts of Ukraine that they accrued far before this war with Russia.

My colleagues say this exists to counter the PRC. We are never going to out-bribe the PRC on the global scene. We are going to need another strategy.

If you listen to the debate of those opposing my amendment, hear the substance: Oh, my goodness, people around the world are having problems buying food and buying fuel, and if the U.S. taxpayer would just sacrifice a little more, it might be easier to buy food and fuel in other countries.

I have a message for my Democratic colleagues: People are having a hard time buying food and fuel in this country as a consequence of the very inflationary spending that I am trying to reduce with this amendment.

We should retire our debt before we retire Ukraine's debt.

That is such an obvious statement, I am shocked I have to say it on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives, where I am just glad we are still hanging our flag.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, let me just suggest this: It really is an unrealistic position for the United States to allow 4 million children with

malaria to go untreated, to allow 350,000 deaths attributable to tuberculosis, to allow 13 million fewer children vaccinated, resulting in a possible 115,000 additional deaths, and a reduction of over 45 percent of humanitarian assistance to Sudan compared to 2023 levels.

Very unrealistic, cruel, and unusual. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Chairman, it is hard to believe what I am hearing.

The gentlewoman is saying: But there is malaria and tuberculosis and sickness and ailment all around the world.

The gentlewoman need look no further than her home State of California where the human condition continues to decline. She would need to look no further than the major cities throughout our country that are under Democrat control.

Maybe before we go solve all of the world's problems, maybe before we function as the world's policeman and the world's piggy bank and the world's debt payer, we ought to focus on the issues that we have here in this country. They are real, and frankly, too often, they metastasize from the gentlewoman's home State.

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

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

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 18 OFFERED BY MR. PERRY

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 18 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Mr. PERRY. 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 33, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$3,905,460,000)".

Page 296, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$3,905,460,000)".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Chairman, when everyday Americans, like the folks I have the honor to represent in Pennsylvania's 10th Congressional District, have too many expenses, they are simply forced to cut back. They don't have any choice.

That is what they had to do in this high inflation, high cost of living,

Biden economy where gas, food—seemingly everything. I don't know that anything has gone down. For sure, food, gas, electricity prices are just going up and up.

So what do folks do at home?

They don't go out to eat as often. They don't have a meal out with their family. They might have to cancel a few subscriptions, put off some repairs around the house, put off buying a new pair of shoes, you name it. The point is that they pare back their spending sometimes to the bare bones because they have to keep a roof over their head and food in their bellies.

Now, the paring back that I just discussed is something that this body, this institution has been unwilling, unable, and simply refused to do now for decades. Decades, \$33 trillion worth of that.

Many of my colleagues on this side of the aisle have highlighted via amendment the wasteful, bloated spending that this place has perpetuated, especially during the pandemic; unbelievable amounts during the pandemic.

I appreciate the work of the chairman. He has worked diligently to bring this thing back closer in line with some reality, but there are still places we can cut.

This amendment reduces the amount of international disaster assistance from \$3.9 billion to zero.

Now, everybody is going to take a gasp.

Zero international disaster assistance?

Ladies and gentlemen, in our country, the International Disaster Assistance account is zero. It has dried up.

□ 1100

The good gentleman from Florida, his State just suffered a hurricane. There isn't any disaster money for them. What about the folks in Hawaii? What about the folks all across the country dealing with floods and fires?

There isn't any money in the United States of America for them, but heaven forbid, we have to make sure we are all around the globe helping all those folks at the expense of the people in America.

I am not trying—and no one is trying—to be punitive or cruel here. The fact is that this process is broken and the results of it are broken, and the American people are tired of being broke from what we do here in Washington.

This is a nearly \$4 billion line item that we simply can't afford. We want to be helpful. Every single one of us wants to help, but we are using the money that other people earn to help other people overseas while the people that earn the money are struggling, and that is immoral and unacceptable.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. USAID's International Disaster Assistance Account, or IDA, is a critical tool which supports our country's foreign policy objectives and serves as a lifeline for millions of people.

The IDA account provides lifesaving support including food, water, shelter, emergency healthcare, sanitation and hygiene, and critical nutrition services to the world's most vulnerable and hardest to reach people.

This assistance is needed now more than ever. After 20 years of decline, there are more people facing hunger now than in 2019, almost 30 percent of the global population.

Regardless of whether you have faith or not, I think that our values compel us to really address those in most need, not only in our own country, but, yes, throughout the world.

It is important to provide this humanitarian assistance because it is morally the right thing to do. Once again, those who are people of faith, or not, do this because it really does solidify our commitment to humankind, and, also, yes, our leadership and influence throughout the world.

It is unthinkable that the United States would stop providing this support to those who have lost everything through a natural disaster or conflict.

I am really ashamed that the Republicans want to do this. It is really a disgrace.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Chair, I am glad that the gentlewoman mentioned people of faith and their care for people, not only in their community but around the globe. It is awesome. In the church that I attend, that is exactly what we do, and that is exactly what we should do—be our brother's keeper, be our brother's and sister's keeper—but the good Lord never said force your brother to be someone else's keeper. That is between them. And that is exactly what we are doing here is forcing people that can ill afford their own bills and their own tragedies that they are suffering in the United States to pay for the tragedies in other places. That is immoral.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman has the only time remaining.

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

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

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by

the gentleman from Pennsylvania will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 20 OFFERED BY MR. PERRY

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 20 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Mr. PERRY. 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 35, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$1,161,119,000)”.

Page 296, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$1,161,119,000)”.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania. . .

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Chair, this amendment reduces the amount of economic support funding from \$2.9 billion to \$1.8 billion.

Like a few of my colleagues on this side of the aisle have said this week, this is a necessary haircut to a program that has ballooned massively just since two Presidents ago.

In the 5 years from fiscal year 2018 to 2023, this account went from \$1.8 billion to \$4.3 billion. People wonder, how do we get \$33 trillion in debt? You get it a billion at a time just adding up.

Let's look at the use of these funds from the report of this bill. Cooperative projects, sustainability challenges relating to water resources, agriculture, and energy storage. That is interesting. Have you ever heard of Flint, Michigan? They are concerned about their water resources.

Agriculture? Our farmers aren't allowed to buy fertilizer—or can't afford it in this country based on the policies of the administration.

Energy storage? We are paying for batteries overseas. It is not enough that we force our own constituents to use unreliable power, now we are going to force the rest of the world to do it and pay for it.

How about scientific research collaboration in the Middle East? That is awesome because other than our one ally there, there is not much scientific collaboration that I am interested in participating in—certainly not with Iran.

The Middle East partnership initiative, which according to the State Department supports governments and their citizens to achieve shared political, economic and stability objectives, how much money are we going to throw in this money pit year after year after year, decade after decade?

In the administration's budget request they will say the use of funds to foster economic resilience in Greenland. Are they in peril in Greenland?

Strengthen transparent governance and promote civil society and independent media in South Asia and provide rapid, flexible support and assist-

ance to government and civil society in Africa.

These are all laudable things. The question is can you afford them, and we cannot. I remind everybody we are simply borrowing from China to pay for these things—all of these things.

Reasonable people can disagree about whether the American taxpayer dollars need to promote civil society or scientific collaboration abroad; however, the fact remains we must find places to save, and this reverts a highly inflated item—highly inflated. Again, \$1.8 billion to \$4.3 billion in 5 years.

I would just ask what is the metric we use to determine whether this is successful or does anything at all to support the American people?

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, this amendment is shortsighted. It would potentially cut programs to strengthen democracy and human rights, protect religious freedom, and support economic reforms, among others.

Many of these programs counter malign influences and provide an alternative to the PRC's influence, financing, and activities.

These programs also offer and demonstrate another narrative from the authoritarianism promoted by the government of the PRC. The Economic Support Fund also advances critical security programs, such as countering terrorist radicalization and recruitment and improving governance and accountability. These are bigger challenges than they were just 5 years ago.

The fiscal year level that is sought by this amendment is totally unrealistic to accomplish our goals.

I urge my colleagues to vote “no” on this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Chair, again, we all want to do what we can, but we shouldn't be borrowing money from China, our number one adversary. We are borrowing it from them allegedly to counter them, and, oh, by the way, while we are borrowing it from them to counter them, we are allowing them to operate in our financial markets without the same controls and restrictions we place on American companies.

That is ridiculous. It is so ridiculous that it probably costs us more to counter them. We could do much more by just not allowing that, but, instead, we are going to allow that and take taxpayers' money and spend it to do this. It would cost so much less to do this if we would just do the right thing in the first place.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, this budget, first of all, is less than one half of 1 percent of the United States' GDP.

I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM).

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Chair, this amendment would have catastrophic consequences for priorities our conference champions, including elimination of religious freedom programming, gutting the Counter China Influence Fund, and hamstringing international cybersecurity capacity building at a time when each of those foreign policy priorities is under great pressure.

The funds from the Economic Support Fund are available to protect human rights and freedom of the press, combat human trafficking and corruption, and increase public accountability.

This account goes to countries of strategic significance to the United States and often intended to promote the political and economic stability of our U.S. allies.

Mr. Chair, the fiscal year 2024 bill already marks a \$2.4 billion reduction from the President's request and a \$1.3 billion reduction from the fiscal year 2023 level.

The dramatic shift proposed in this amendment would be an absolute whiplash for our partners and allies overseas and detrimental to many of the GOP and bipartisan priorities funded through this account.

Mr. Chair, I would go on about the priorities that would be lost if this amendment were adopted, like training for Taiwan and Cuba democracy programs, but I will simply say this amendment is a disservice to responsible and effective diplomacy.

I encourage my colleagues to oppose this amendment, with all due respect.

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

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

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 22 OFFERED BY MR. PERRY

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 22 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Mr. PERRY. 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 37, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$2,548,250,000)”.

Page 296, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$2,548,250,000)”.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Chair, this amendment cuts migration and refugee assistance funding from \$2.5 billion to \$0.

This money, the \$2.5 billion, goes toward refugee programs around the world, including for shelter, healthcare, and sanitation.

Again, we all want to do what we can. We all want to help. Nobody is trying to be cruel or punitive here, but we don't have enough money to deal with the refugee crisis in our own country, which is self-imposed.

Our constituents here at home can't afford their own shelter, can't afford their own healthcare, their own food because of the policies of the administration, yet we are forcing them to pay for it around the globe, oftentimes with companies that have encouraged and inspired people to migrate to their countries and become refugees in their countries, and yet we are paying for that.

Furthermore, during the debate on the Homeland Security funding bill this week, many of my colleagues on this side of the aisle rightfully pointed out the disaster occurring at our southern border to the tune of thousands of people every single day coming in.

Oh, by the way, what other countries around the world are helping with our refugee crisis, with our refugee and migration assistance?

So our taxpayers are paying for the one that we are encouraging and allowing in our country, and they are being forced under penalty of law in their taxes to pay for the ones in other countries, too.

All of our districts have been affected by the influx of drugs, including fentanyl. In my district just in the last week, half a dozen people died from fentanyl that came across the southern border into my town thousands of miles away from the border.

□ 1115

One of the refrains of the Biden administration and border czar Harris seems to be that the only way to solve this is to address the root causes instead of simply enforcing our own border.

Mr. Chair, we are not going to solve any of this under the current policies that we are seeing, and we are certainly not going to solve it around the globe by forcing our taxpayers to pay for it, encouraging more of it all around the globe.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, the migration and refugee assistance account supports protection and assistance to ease the suffering of those who had to leave everything behind and become refugees. The funding also contributes to broader USG and international efforts to resolve conflicts that cause displacement.

This humanitarian aid saves lives and upholds the dignity of tens of millions of forcibly displaced and crisis-affected people, including refugees, victims of conflict, stateless persons, and vulnerable migrants.

There were more than 108 million forcibly displaced people globally at the end of 2022. This is the largest ever annual increase and represents the largest number of forcibly displaced in history.

Without assistance, nations will not accept the growing refugee populations in their countries, potentially destabilizing regions and threatening global peace, security, and stability. We should be doing more, not less, to support these individuals.

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

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Chair, like I said, every single one of us wants to help. Every single one of our hearts breaks for people who are forcibly displaced.

I would say, as well, that I question the numbers of forcibly displaced. There are people in this country saying that all the people coming illegally to this country are being forcibly displaced when that is obviously not true.

By the way, maybe we would be more amenable to taking the taxpayers' hard-earned money and spending it overseas on these migrations if we would solve our problems here in the United States of America. How can we force them, how can we ask them, to spend their hard-earned tax dollars overseas when we refuse to solve the problems right here at home and force them to pay for that, as well? It is insult upon injury.

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

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

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

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

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 23 OFFERED BY MR. OGLES

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 23 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Mr. OGLES. 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 38, line 2, after the first dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$14,300,000)”.

Page 296, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$14,300,000)”.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chair, when we fund specific programs, we should ask ourselves one question: What is the real return on investment?

In the case of the Peace Corps, we are spending a little over \$410 million. Is the investment worth it, given the rising costs of food and gas? Is it appropriate for Congress to prioritize the Peace Corps over our veterans, prioritize the Peace Corps over securing our border?

Keep in mind, my proposed cut is a modest cut. How is the Peace Corps justifying its budget in light of financial hardships borne by millions of Americans today?

In separate testimonies before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Carol Spahn, the Peace Corps Director, pointed out the agency's work on the following: helping illegals at the southern border, promoting DEI amongst its volunteers, promoting COVID-19 vaccinations in low-income areas, and climate change adaptation, just to name a few.

In the latter case, the Peace Corps is working to promote climate-smart approaches in agriculture and to focus on gender equity issues. It is clear the Peace Corps has become more of an activist organization than an organization determined to help people.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, the Peace Corps is one of the best investments in public diplomacy that we make. There is no way that Democrats have prioritized Peace Corps over veterans. We support our veterans. We support the Peace Corps.

What better ambassadors do we have than young American people willing to spend 2 years overseas and build goodwill with people around the world?

I know many of us have met these young people when traveling overseas or have discussed with our own constituents after they have participated in this life-changing experience.

The Peace Corps account in this bill is already \$20 million below its current level, endangering the return of volunteers in the field after COVID and the reopening of new sites, particularly in the Pacific Islands, where strong American diplomacy is sorely needed.

Cuts are already threatening the ability to support the 5,000 volunteers across 51 countries that the Peace Corps has responsibility for.

Once again, Democrats support the Peace Corps. Democrats support and thank our veterans for their service.

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

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chair, best investments? This is the best we can do? How about we invest in our veterans? How about we invest in our border? How about we take care of America? I want to help those around the world, but not at the expense of Americans.

It should be noted that the Peace Corps has a long and sordid history of covering up sexual abuse of its participants. Think about that. Are we going to aid and abet an agency, an organization, that has this sordid past while our veterans suffer, while our border is open, while we have migrants being abused on the border? I should think not.

This is a modest cut. It simply returns the funding back to pre-COVID levels, merely a \$14 million cut. We can do this.

At a time when Americans are suffering, at a time when interest rates are high, gas has gone up, food is more expensive, surely we put hardworking Americans first.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I am not so sure that our veterans would appreciate being used as a pawn in this game to try to defund and cut funding for young people. I have talked to many veterans who appreciate the Peace Corps and appreciate the work that they are doing to help ensure that Americans have the best ambassadors in the world. Our veterans would not want to hear of this pawn game being played in opposition to the Peace Corps.

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

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chair, I would argue that the Gold Star families would like us to invest in our veterans. I would argue the veterans who are homeless would like for us to invest in our veterans.

When we look at the suicide rates among our servicemen and -women, we should be investing in our veterans. To say that putting our veterans first and using them as a pawn is offensive.

Mr. Chair, I ask my colleagues to support this. I ask that we put our veterans and Americans first, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Tennessee will be postponed.

The Acting CHAIR. The Chair understands that amendment Nos. 25 and 26 will not be offered.

AMENDMENT NO. 27 OFFERED BY MR. KELLY OF MISSISSIPPI

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 27 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. 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 52, line 8, after the dollar amount, insert "reduced by \$10,000,000".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mississippi.

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of my amendment to reduce funding for the Global Environment Facility fund from \$139 million to \$129 million, or by \$10 million.

We do well what we measure. That is what my father told me growing up. We do well what we measure. Unfortunately, many of the organizations and much of the money that is spent by America are not measured well.

We need to force people to prioritize and to account for the funds that they spend. This is a small, little cut.

Americans are struggling every day as they face high gas prices, inflation due to the reckless spending of this administration, and the radical climate change agenda of the Biden administration.

My amendment claws back just a little bit of those hard-earned tax dollars going to fund climate change initiatives outside of our borders.

Mr. Chair, I encourage my colleagues to vote in support of my amendment. Remember, we do well what we measure.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, this amendment would reduce the contribution of the United States to the Global Environmental Facility by \$10 million. The Global Environmental Facility is a multilateral trust fund that provides grant-based funding to developing countries to address the real global environmental challenges.

Last month was the hottest August, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's 174-year record. In that one month, Hawaii had a devastating wildfire, the Southeast suffered from Category 3 Hurricane Idalia, and southern California had its first-ever tropical storm watch, with many areas receiving more rain in 48 hours than they typically get all year. These disasters come with huge costs in the communities they directly affect and impact our entire planet.

The Global Environmental Facility fund benefits the United States economy and environment by addressing problems that affect our domestic health, safety, and prosperity, such as by protecting tropical forests, reducing global levels of transboundary pollutants, and combating illegal wildlife

trafficking, which I know is of concern to many on both sides of the aisle.

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

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Chair, I point out that we spend a lot of money overseas to preserve our environment. None of it is measured. There are no metrics of success. We spend billions and billions of dollars outside of the United States for climate preservation, which countries like China just refuse to acknowledge, or other areas in South America that do not do those.

Mr. Chair, I ask for support for my amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Chair, I ask people to remember that we are asking for a small cut. We do well what we measure and what we account for.

Mr. Chair, I ask for a “yes” vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Mississippi will be postponed.

The Acting CHAIR. The Chair understands that amendment Nos. 28 through 31 will not be offered.

□ 1130

AMENDMENT NO. 36 OFFERED BY MS. PLASKETT

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 36 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Ms. PLASKETT. 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:

Strike subsection (d) of section 7070.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of my amendment.

This amendment would strike section 7070(d) from the bill, removing language banning the State Department and other agencies from identifying, classifying, or facilitating the classification of any communication by a United States person as misinformation, disinformation, or malinformation, and banning the Federal Government from partnering with non-partisan, nonprofit, outside experts to identify these threats.

On January 7, 2021, a day after the January 6 insurrection, the National

Intelligence Council, Central Intelligence Agency, Department of Homeland Security, FBI, NSA, and the State Department disseminated a then-classified report entitled, “Foreign Threats to the 2020 U.S. Federal Elections.”

That report was declassified 2 months later, and in it, the best minds of our intelligence community wrote, “. . . Russian President Putin authorized, and a range of Russian Government organizations conducted, influence operations aimed at denigrating President Biden’s candidacy and the Democratic Party, supporting former President Trump, undermining public confidence in the electoral process and exacerbating sociopolitical divisions in the U.S.”

It went on to say that: “Unlike in 2016 . . . A key element of Moscow’s strategy this election cycle was its use of proxies linked to Russian intelligence to push influence narratives—including misleading or unsubstantiated allegations. . . .”

Mr. Chair, in the wake of the chaos and destruction caused by the former President and his followers on January 6, I fear these facts are being forgotten.

So why are we here today with multiple appropriation bills that prevent the Federal Government of the United States from even acknowledging misinformation, disinformation, malinformation, and getting that information to the American public no matter who it is spouted by, whether it is domestic or foreign threats?

Seems to be that my colleagues across the aisle want to use First Amendment rights as a blanket for those kinds of words and uses that are going to destroy the American people. We are not saying that people cannot say these things; what the Federal Government needs to be able to do is inform the American people where that information comes from, if it is, in fact, not factual, if it is conspiracy theories.

I fear that this is being allowed because some empowered corners of our Republican Caucus know another Presidential election is coming and they have been given a cookbook on how to keep chaos in our society.

We know that page one of that cookbook, that first recipe, is Russian propaganda and its penetration of the American people. Let’s be clear: It is not only the Kremlin that wants in on this mis-, dis-, and malinformation game, this meal that they are trying to cook for the American people, Iran and China want to get into the kitchen, too.

We know foreign influence efforts are already active and we know many more are coming. Let’s make sure that our Federal Government has the expertise and the research to be able to stop it.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to approve my amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

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

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Chair, when George Orwell wrote the book “1984,” most people took it as a cautionary tale. Some of our friends on the left took it as an instruction manual. We have literally seen this administration try to stand up a ministry of truth. We have seen accurate information about where a lab leak might have come from labeled as disinformation. We have seen medical experts with lifesaving information be labeled as spreaders of misinformation, having their careers ruined and tragically costing the lives of thousands, if not millions, of people.

Let’s talk about Russian information for a moment. The Hunter laptop was labeled as Russian information. We had the dossier that was paid for by the DNC labeled as Russian information, and all this has been on the backs of the taxpayer. The U.S. taxpayer is having to fund not only the demise of their own country, but having their First Amendment rights squelched by the government that is meant to serve them.

As if that is not enough, apparently, for our friends on the left, they want to export that on the backs of the U.S. taxpayer to the people around the world. This is how this works.

Right now, the State Department is funding a misinformation tracking group called the Global Disinformation Index, and they have labeled some news outlets like The American Spectator, Newsmax, The Federalist, The American Conservative, One America News, The Blaze, The Daily Wire, RealClearPolitics, the Reason, and the New York Post as potential spreaders of misinformation.

They created this list and they aggregate this list to potential sponsors and basically the word is, don’t put any advertisement on these sites because they might be “spreaders of misinformation.” This is a way to strong-arm and try to drain them of any sort of finances, all sponsored by the U.S. taxpayer.

This is unconscionable. Of course, the understanding shtick is like if you are a business who maybe sponsors one of these things, we might lean heavily on you when it comes to government grants or when it comes to enforcing regulatory burdens and all of these kinds of things. This is not how things are supposed to work in a free society in a government of the people, by the people, for the people.

We need to stop this nonsense, and we certainly shouldn’t be exporting it across the world on the backs of the U.S. taxpayer.

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

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Chair, let me just say that private media companies acting in their own business interest and in the understood interest of public health in the midst of global pandemics are going to do what they think is best for their bottom line. That is what drives them.

As for Orwellian cries, that is absolutely ludicrous that you would be concerned with that. You are only concerned with free speech now because it is impeding conspiracy theories that you want to put forward.

Free speech is not an absolute protection. That is one of the first things you learn in law school in constitutional law. It is not an absolute. It is not an absolute when it is going against the American people and our democracy, and when it is malicious speech.

Additionally, we are not saying that people cannot say these words; we are saying that where the information comes from and how it is used, our Federal Government should be allowed to track that.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Chair, I remind my colleague to direct her comments to the Chair and also remind her that our Constitution understands that those rights are a gift from God, not a grant from government.

The Acting CHAIR. The Chair acknowledges that Members should direct their remarks to the Chair.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CLYDE), my friend and colleague.

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to amendment 36 offered by my colleague on the left.

Protecting free speech is a vital duty and founding principle enshrined in our Constitution. Our Founders embedded this protection in the First Amendment, the very bedrock of our Republic. Yet, today, forces inside our government seek to trample this freedom through censorship and intimidation.

The so-called Disinformation Governance Board was a dystopian scheme allowing unelected bureaucrats to silence dissent. Though now dismantled, its specter remains. Recently, shocking evidence emerged of Federal agencies, specifically CISA, pressuring social media platforms to suppress lawful speech.

Make no mistake: Any attempt by the government to dictate approved narratives, stifle open debate, or chill free speech is unconstitutional. The Founders rebelled against such tyranny and wrote those protections into law, but, once again, Americans face efforts to control thought and decree acceptable speech.

Amendment 36 would remove vital protections against these abuses of power. It would open the door to continued coercion with Big Tech, the harvesting of private data without warrants, and other violations of the First and Fourth Amendments.

I call on each Member here to search your conscience. Will you defend the bill of rights or bow to illiberal forces attacking our liberties?

The choice is clear. Stand alongside the Framers of our Constitution in upholding freedom. Oppose this amendment and affirm that government has

no place policing protected speech or compromising privacy rights without due process.

The American spirit rejects thought control and censorship. Our Constitution enshrines the right to voice beliefs openly, however controversial. Let's uphold this heritage. Vote down amendment 36 and any attempt to enable silencing of dissent. The integrity of our Republic hangs in the balance.

Will you defend it or will you attack it?

Amendment 36 attacks it, and so I urge all my colleagues to vote against it.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Chair, may I inquire as to the time remaining.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman has 15 seconds remaining.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 38 OFFERED BY MR. TIFFANY

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 38 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Mr. TIFFANY. 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:

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

SEC. _____. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to enforce the restrictions outlined under the headings "Visits and Travel" (regarding limitations on "Travel to Taiwan") and "Communications" (regarding limitations on "Name", "Symbols of Sovereignty", and "Correspondence") in the Department of State's June 29, 2021, Memorandum for All Department and Agency Executive Secretaries entitled "Revised Guidelines on Interacting with Taiwan".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. TIFFANY. Mr. Chair, my amendment would prevent the enforcement of several arbitrary, self-imposed State Department restrictions that limit communication and cooperation between U.S. officials and their counterparts in Taiwan.

This amendment is similar to one that was adopted earlier in the Department of Defense appropriations bill. As I discussed then, these restrictions are not required by any provision of law

and have been put in place at the behest of Communist China.

They make it difficult for senior U.S. officials to travel to Taiwan and to interact with their Taiwanese counterparts. In essence, these guidelines are designed to prevent and limit high-level, bilateral cooperation.

Not only does this make little sense, it is in direct conflict with existing laws that call for expanding such cooperation, such as the Taiwan Travel Act.

Mr. Chair, a State Department memorandum should never trump the laws we pass in this body or outsource American foreign policy to the CCP.

My amendment will make sure that neither of those things happen by scrapping these restrictive guidelines. I ask for a "yes" vote on this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, first, the executive branch has the ability to determine how the United States engages and manages our relationship with Taiwan. It had that ability during the last administration. That is because Congress left it to the executive branch to conduct diplomacy and the recognition or nonrecognition of foreign states and governments in this case.

If you wish to legislate how the executive branch should engage with Taiwan, then markup a separate bill in the Foreign Affairs Committee that just deals with that. In the absence of that, the executive branch needs to determine how to handle diplomatic engagements abroad. Again, the last administration did just that.

It is their job to weigh multiple equities and balance delicate factors that are simply not considered by this amendment today.

The gentleman knows that Taiwan is a sensitive geopolitical subject with respect to our relations with the People's Republic of China. That is why we have a Select Committee in the House on it. I think this is something that they could examine, but there is too much at stake to have this amendment decide what the guidelines for engagement will be.

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

Mr. TIFFANY. Mr. Chair, why do we allow the State Department through a bureaucratic memo to impose these unnecessary and counterproductive limits on communication and cooperation with Taiwan?

We don't have rules like this in place for the totalitarian rulers of Cuba or Russia, both of whom operate embassies just a few miles away from where we are standing right now.

met on several occasions with high-ranking Iranian officials, and the White House just paid a \$6 billion hostage ransom to the ayatollah.

We don't have rules like this for U.S. interaction with Communist China. Biden administration officials continue to sit down at the table with the same CCP officials who our own Secretary of State has accused of committing genocide.

Yet, we continue to enforce these degrading conditions on Taiwan, a long-time friend and fellow democracy.

Mr. Chair, as the old Sesame Street song goes, "One of these things is not like the other."

It is time to stop treating our friends like enemies and our enemies like friends.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TIFFANY. Mr. Chair, here is part of the memo that I read last night from the State Department:

You should not refer to Taiwan as a country or to the authorities of Taiwan as a government, instead, refer to Taiwan authorities or Taiwan counterparts.

That is the kind of thing that is happening in our State Department and it projects weakness to countries across the world, in particular, our adversaries, when we need a foreign policy that is strong, we are not receiving it now. That is why this amendment should be passed.

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

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

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 39 OFFERED BY MR. OGLES

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 39 printed part D of House Report 118-216.

Mr. OGLES. 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:

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

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to pay Secretary Antony John Blinken a salary that exceeds \$1.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chair, if you want to come up with the right policy position on an issue related to foreign affairs, talk to Antony Blinken first, and then do the opposite.

We have all seen the Secretary's inability to be correct about any major foreign policy concern for the last 20 years, whether that be Iraq, Libya, Yemen, giving the Iranians \$6 billion to

deploy—as their president says, "wherever they need it"—or in Afghanistan.

He is undoubtedly one of the most professionally ineffective and incompetent individuals to hold the title of Secretary of State. But if incompetence by itself were sufficient grounds to a Senate-confirmed Cabinet official, the President would have very few advisers left.

In the case of Secretary Blinken, it is about incompetence and perhaps outright corruption. For instance, Secretary Blinken received more than \$5,000 in payment from the former Prime Minister of Pakistan, who notably praised the Taliban.

He received more than \$5,000 for speaking at a bank opening in China.

He offered advisory services to a Japanese company who invested heavily in a CCP company that was blacklisted by Trump.

Let's take one more. Mr. Blinken's consulting firm, WestExec Advisors, it advertised its ability to help American colleges secure CCP donations without compromising their Pentagon research grants. Think about that. Usurping America's rules for engagement with the CCP.

That advertisement, by the way, was removed just 2 weeks prior to Joe Biden's acceptance of the Democratic Party's Presidential nomination.

We have since learned from the former acting CIA Director Mike Morrell that the infamous spies who lie letter—a letter that impacted our Presidential race—was led by no one other than Antony Blinken. The letter was signed by 51 intelligence experts, and was intended, according to Morrell, to give Joe Biden a way to refute the Hunter Biden laptop story ahead of a Presidential debate.

You would think this would be worthy of investigation, if not outright impeachment, but certainly defunding.

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

The Acting CHAIR. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, this is really despicable to target dedicated public servants and threaten their livelihoods—public servants doing their jobs and carrying out the policy of the administration—regardless of which administration it is—they serve. They should be commended and not demonized.

Our government is dependent on being able to attract the best talent to bring their skills to public service, especially when in most cases they could earn much more in the private sector.

Who is going to be willing to do that if their names can be dragged through the political mud?

Secretary Blinken is a dedicated public servant who has proudly represented the United States while serving in multiple high-level positions.

This is not how we solve policy differences. We should not make it personal and about people doing their jobs.

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

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chairman, serving the country or serving Hunter Biden?

Because we know through the work of Senators JOHNSON and GRASSLEY, that Hunter Biden kept his Burisma colleagues apprised of meetings and emails he held with Mr. Blinken.

Mr. Blinken had previously said to Senate staffers that he wasn't aware of any communications with Hunter Biden, aside from one in-person meeting, which is a materially false statement and should subject him to criminal penalties under 18 U.S.C. 1001.

Of course, the U.S. Congress never holds anyone accountable for misleading Congress. Why tell the truth?

Mr. Chairman, Blinken has lied to Congress. He worked to prevent critical information, including the July 2021 dissent cable from being reviewed by this Chamber until confronted by the gentleman from Texas.

He clearly has a closer relationship with Hunter Biden than he led on, and, further, engaged in questionable activities prior to serving as Secretary of State, very little of which has been investigated or vetted.

These questions deserve to be asked.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, this, quite frankly, is unconstitutional, first of all. It doesn't make any sense, second. It really sends the worst signal in the world for those young people who want to go into public service serving our country. I am really shocked.

Mr. Chair, I urge a "no" vote on this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chairman, William Holman, with the Holman rule, did come up with a way to defund someone like the Secretary.

Back to the Secretary, there should be accountability for our botched Afghanistan withdrawal and for helping establish the Islamist theocracy that is in power there today. It is an insult to the memory of those who lost their lives at Abbey Gate. This man is responsible, and he is complicit.

Mr. Chair, I urge adoption of this amendment. He should be defunded. Quite frankly, I would say he should be impeached.

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

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

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 40 OFFERED BY MR. OGLES

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 40 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Mr. OGLE. 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:

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

SEC. _____. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available for the Office of Palestinian Affairs.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. OGLE. Mr. Chair, I am a big proponent of Israel, our closest ally in that region. Yet, this administration has stopped at nothing to marginalize that relationship with the State of Israel.

When President Trump shuttered the U.S. consulate in Jerusalem, it was a shot heard around the world. President Trump's action clarified our diplomatic mission to Israel—the U.S. consulate was inappropriately treated as something close to a de facto embassy to a nonexistent Palestinian State.

By getting rid of the consulate, President Trump made it clear that our only diplomatic outreach to that area is and should be the State of Israel. In place of that consulate, the Trump administration established the PAU, and housed its operations within the U.S. Embassy. The PAU reported directly to the U.S. Ambassador to Israel and cannot act independently of that Ambassador.

These actions created transparency in our foreign policy where there was previously confusion. You would think that that would be appreciated by both sides here. Unfortunately, you would be wrong.

Since taking office, the Biden administration has worked to roll back progress initiated under President Trump by announcing the administration's intent to reopen the consulate general.

Joe Biden has since closed the PAU in favor of the so-called Office of Palestinian Affairs, an intended halfway step toward reestablishing their consulate.

If you need further proof of the administration's intent, take note that the Office of Palestinian Affairs, the OPA, doesn't report to our ambassador in Jerusalem, it receives its instruction from the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs at the Department of State here in Washington.

Our commitment should be to Israel and Israel alone, not to the PLO.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this amendment.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. OBERNOLTE). The gentlewoman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, this amendment is a clear attempt to return to the punitive and shortsighted policies of the previous administration with regard to the Palestinians.

Let's get one thing straight. American diplomacy and engagement are not rewards to our friends and things to hold over the heads of those we are trying to pressure to bring about change. Diplomacy and engagement serve our own interests.

United States policy is to support a two-state solution in the Middle East—that is the United States policy, and the only path to peace—and to avoid any steps by any party that makes that goal harder to reach.

By keeping a channel of communications open, the Palestinian Affairs Unit is an important part of that strategy.

I have and will continue to urge the Biden administration to reset U.S. relations with the Palestinian people, and to resume the United States' role as a credible and constructive leader in the region.

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

Mr. OGLE. Mr. Chairman, to my colleague, I thank her for the idea of communication.

Mr. Chairman, we need communication with folks from around the world. But as far as diplomatic missions, Mr. Chairman, we should be focused on Israel.

The creation of the Office of Palestinian Affairs is an affront to both our most important ally in the world and to U.S. law, which clearly states that Jerusalem should be the undivided capital of Israel, the Jerusalem Embassy Act of 1995.

The OPA is, unfortunately, just the latest in a legacy of foreign policy driven by an animus toward the State of Israel. This should be a bipartisan bill. Israel is our greatest ally in that region, arguably, one of our greatest allies in the world, and to diminish that is really unjust.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, just to clarify and to tell the truth. This is a unit; it is not a mission. It is a unit, mind you, within the embassy.

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

Mr. OGLE. Mr. Chairman, it is often the case in foreign relations that symbolism is policy. What the Office of Palestinian Affairs symbolizes is a destructive policy that will only serve to embolden the enemies of Washington and Jerusalem.

Our friends in Israel are under attack daily from bombs lofted in the air to attacks on the streets. To do anything but to have unwavering diplomatic support really jeopardizes lives. It threatens their sovereignty, and we must stand with our important ally, the State of Israel.

Mr. Chairman, I urge the adoption of this bill. I urge my colleagues for this

to be unanimous, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The amendment was agreed to.

□ 1200

AMENDMENT NO. 41 OFFERED BY MS. GREENE OF GEORGIA

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 41 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. 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:

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

SEC. _____. The salary of Amanda Bennett, Chief Executive Officer of the United States Agency for Global Media, shall be reduced to \$1.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Georgia.

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Chair, my amendment is number 42.

I ask unanimous consent to withdraw amendment No. 41.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIR. The amendment is withdrawn.

AMENDMENT NO. 42 OFFERED BY MS. GREENE OF GEORGIA

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 42 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. 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:

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

SEC. _____. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available for assistance to Ukraine.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Georgia.

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Chair, my amendment would prohibit funds from being provided to assist Ukraine.

Over 1½ years ago, Russia invaded Ukraine, but now the United States has basically taken over Ukraine and is fighting a proxy war in Ukraine that we never voted for. We are funding their government. We are paying for their small businesses. We are paying their farmers. We are handing military equipment and weapons over to Ukraine and paying for their war.

According to the Congressional Research Service, in 2022, the United States provided \$113 billion in total assistance to Ukraine. Every single year, the United States spends billions of dollars on foreign aid, much more than any other country. Ukraine has now taken the top spot.

The \$50 billion State and Foreign Operations bill includes an unspecified funding amount for Ukraine. Section 7046(b)(2) would make funds available for Ukraine to support the ability of the Government of Ukraine to defend their sovereignty and withstand the impacts of Russia's invasion, combat corruption, and promote transparency and democracy.

This is nothing more than a blank check for Ukraine that Joe Biden's State Department will get to write. Even more dangerously, they get to waive oversight, claiming national security. All this will do is fuel another never-ending war and push the United States even closer to the brink of nuclear Holocaust.

After Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan wars, haven't we had enough of taxpayer-funded State and foreign operations. They tell us we have to fight them over there so we don't have to fight them over here, but paying for wars in foreign countries will eventually have consequences on our country. We will bring the war to America, and we will end up fighting them here when countries have had enough of the United States.

After 1½ years of being engaged in this conflict, the American people no longer support the additional assistance to Ukraine. My amendment will help stop this brutal war and help push for peace in Ukraine, which should be our ultimate goal.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, Russia's brutal and unprovoked attack on Ukraine is not just a threat to Ukraine and its neighbors but to the world. If Russia succeeds in its aggression, other unprovoked attacks are inevitable.

As my colleague, Representative HOYER, said last week on the House floor: "We are locked in a struggle between freedom and fascism, democracy and despotism, might and right. The war in Ukraine is that struggle manifest."

Ukraine's democracy is being undermined every single day. Entire cities have been demolished. Women and girls are being sexually abused by Russian soldiers. Hospitals and schools, which should be safe havens, are being intentionally attacked. Thousands of innocent children and their families have been brutally murdered. Millions of Ukrainians have been forced to flee their country.

Colleagues, we must continue to ensure that Ukraine has the funding and support it needs to defend itself and that vulnerable people continue to receive lifesaving assistance.

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

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. MILLER), my friend.

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Mr. Chair, Joe Biden has forced Americans to foot the bill for hundreds of billions of dollars to Ukraine while our southern border is being invaded by terrorists, drug cartels, gangs, and human traffickers.

I oppose sending any additional money to Ukraine oligarchs in a proxy war that we are being dragged into because Ukraine was paying the Biden family \$1 million a year in cash.

Americans deserve a spending bill that puts America first by securing our border and putting us back on the path to energy independence, which was achieved by the Trump administration.

Mr. Chair, I thank Congresswoman GREENE for offering this amendment.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON).

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Chairman, sadly, the world is in a conflict we did not choose between dictators with rule of gun opposing democracies with rule of law.

War criminal Putin began the current murderous conflict invading Ukraine, shocked to find that the Ukrainians courageously resisted. The brave Ukrainian people are an inspiration to the world, as they know Putin falsely claims Ukraine does not exist as Putin is trying to reassemble the evil empire of the Soviet Union.

Follow dictators clearly see the conflict as dictator or democracy, as North Korean Kim Jong-Un joins Putin. The Chinese Communist Party is conducting the largest peacetime military buildup in world history. The regime in Tehran builds drones for Putin to murder Ukrainian civilians as they plan death to America, death to Israel.

We must stop the dictators today or they will be a direct threat to American families tomorrow. We must always remember, of all things, Pearl Harbor. We must remember 9/11. For these reasons, I oppose the amendment.

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Chair, it needs to be recognized that we represent the American people, and the polling shows very clearly, the American people do not support continuing to fund a war in a foreign country when our own country has been having a war waged on us by the Mexican cartels.

Fifty-five percent of Americans say the U.S. Congress should not authorize additional funding to Ukraine. Fifty-one percent say the U.S. has already done enough to help Ukraine.

Americans demand their hard-earned tax dollars be used to secure our own southern border and stop the Mexican

cartels' war on America that is killing 300 Americans every single day.

Speaking of human trafficking and sex trafficking, we should care about the women and children who are being trafficked at our own southern border, not pay to defend another foreign country and worry about another country which, by the way, is not the 51st State. We only have 50 States in the United States of America, and our tax dollars should pay to defend our States here.

Mr. Chair, I urge the House to adopt my amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TURNER).

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Chair, when Ronald Reagan stood in front of the Berlin Wall and said, "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall," he did so not because we were in opposition to just the Soviet Union and Russians. He did so because we were in opposition to authoritarianism. We were in opposition to communism.

Now, that wall fell, but it didn't fall because the Soviet Union took it down. It fell because they merely didn't shoot the people who were doing so. When it fell as a result of Ronald Reagan's words and a call to the world, the line between authoritarianism and democracy marched all the way to the border of Russia.

Right now today, Putin has told us straight up he wants to move the line of authoritarianism back. He wants to reclaim that land, not just Ukraine, but Poland, Romania, Latvia, Lithuania, eastern Europe, and the Baltics.

We must support democracy or freedom. If we don't, ours is at risk. Ronald Reagan's words are meaningless if we allow Russia to reestablish authoritarianism and move that line of democracy back to where the Soviet Union had claimed eastern Europe and had imposed authoritarianism on people's lives.

This is not just an American mission. The world is with us. Democracies are with us. This chart shows the amount of contribution of the total aggregate of all aid. This is up on my official website, by the way. If you click on "Ukraine," you will see these, along with a report that verifies this information. The United States is not the major contributor of total aid.

What is more important, when you get to military aid, the United States is less than half of all military aid. The world's democracies are standing against Russia for democracy, against authoritarianism, and the United States, the light of the world for democracy, needs to be there and needs to support the Ukrainian people against these atrocities.

If you go to my website, you will see the documentation that supports this. We are \$42 billion. Our democracy allies are over \$50 billion. We need to stay in the fight by supplying Ukrainians the weapons that they need for

them to be in the fight, the fight for democracy.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Chair, as the designee of the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GRANGER), I move to strike the last word.

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

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Chair, something that has to be recognized on this floor is that my colleague from Georgia who is presenting this amendment has been transparent, open, and clear from day one, and that is something that is not always seen in this body. I think we need to recognize that, and I think that is something that has to be respected regardless of whether one agrees or disagrees with her. I think that is something that has to be recognized.

Now, I just want to take the opportunity to talk a little bit about the bill. I clearly recognize my colleague's frustration—and it is not only her—about the administration's lack of transparency, lack of articulation, lack of a strategy how the funds have been used, the communication from A to Z, I get that.

While there are no funds directed for Ukraine in this bill, there are a lot of directives in this bill for accountability for any assistance going to Ukraine.

Let me just take a moment to read the list of requirements that must be completed before one single penny would be used to go to Ukraine from this bill now or later or whenever:

A strategy within 90 days. We have not gotten that from the administration;

In-person monitoring of all programs; Cost-matching requirements, making sure that other donors must do more, more than the United States before one penny can go out;

A certification that comprehensive oversight mechanisms are in place;

A notification to Congress so we can assess how those funds may be used;

An obligation report every 90 days accounting for all moneys provided;

An oversight report every 90 days detailing any allegations of waste, fraud, and corruption, and how those will be addressed;

Finally, and I think this is key, all reports must be clearly posted on the internet so that every American can see where their taxpayer dollars are going.

The reason that I am so optimistic and so gung ho about this bill is that we need to pass this bill in order to have these requirements in order to not have a blank check. I am looking at not only the short term but also the long term. We need to have accountability. We need conditions. We need oversight. We need to take away as much flexibility from the administration. That is precisely what we are attempting to do in this bill.

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

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

□ 1215

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Georgia (Ms. GREENE).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Georgia will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 43 OFFERED BY MS. GREENE OF GEORGIA

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 43 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. 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:

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

SEC. ___. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Secretary of State to initiate a drawdown and delivery of defense articles and services from Department of Defense stocks to Ukraine.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Georgia.

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Chair, my amendment would prohibit the Secretary of State from using funds to initiate a drawdown and delivery of defense articles and services from the Department of Defense stocks to Ukraine.

Those stockpiles of our equipment and weapons are for the United States of America and should not be sent to Ukraine. I will reiterate and remind everyone: Ukraine is not the 51st State.

Just this past weekend when we were sent home, I had an emergency town-hall in my district, and many of my constituents showed up. Most of them were veterans, and they made it very clear to me that they would rather fight a war at our southern border against the Mexican cartels that are leading an invasion into our country, thousands and thousands every single day smuggling deadly fentanyl across our border, and many other drugs, killing 300 Americans every single day, than they would ever support a single penny of their hard-earned dollars to go fight a war in Ukraine.

Our veterans are fed up, and there are 22 million of them in this country. They want our border defended.

The Secretary of State plays a central role in the initiation and coordination of these drawdowns, and they put Ukraine first.

Since August 2021, the Secretary has exercised authority delegated by the

President to direct 44 drawdowns of defense articles and services from the United States Department of Defense to Ukraine, which, by the way, is not the 51st State.

As our southern border is being invaded every day, Joe Biden and Antony Blinken are shipping all of our weapons and equipment to Ukraine.

Nearly a week ago, President Biden announced that the Department of Defense is sending an additional security assistance package valued up to \$325 million more American hard-earned tax dollars, which would include AIM-9M missiles for air defense; additional ammunition for High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems; Avenger air defense systems; 50-caliber machine guns to counter unmanned aerial systems; 155-millimeter artillery rounds; 105-millimeter artillery rounds; tube-launched, optically tracked, wire-guided missiles; Javelin and AT-4 anti-armor systems; over 3 million rounds of small arms ammunition; 59 light tactical vehicles; demolition munitions for obstacle clearing; and spare parts, maintenance, and other field equipment.

By the way, that also goes for our paying farmers in Ukraine while our farmers are going broke and paying small businesses in Ukraine while our small businesses are going out of business under Biden's ridiculous inflation. This is America last across the board.

This security assistance package will utilize assistance previously authorized under Presidential drawdown authority for Ukraine.

This is utterly disgraceful. This administration will continue to deplete our military readiness and strength in favor of fueling another forever war in Ukraine that the American people no longer support.

While our own country is weakened and destabilized by the daily invasion of our border at the southern border and the northern border, and while we go even further in debt fighting Russia in Ukraine, not even defending our own border, China is getting stronger.

They are beating us economically. They are growing their military, growing their equipment. They are not wasting it on some other country defending their border. They are saving it up to fight us.

I am sick and tired of hearing we have to fight Ukraine in order to stop China from invading Taiwan. That is the biggest lie that is being told to the American people.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, Russia's brutal and unprovoked attack on Ukraine is not just a threat to Ukraine, as I said earlier, and its neighbors but also to the world.

If Russia succeeds in its aggression, other provoked attacks are inevitable.

Drawdown of existing equipment has proven to be the fastest and most efficient way to get defensive weapons—mind you, defensive weapons—to Ukraine.

We must continue to ensure Ukraine has the military equipment and materiel it needs to defend itself. This materiel is determined by the Department of Defense not to be needed domestically, and supplying it to Ukraine will not endanger U.S. readiness.

The stakes could not be higher. Russia will not stop with Ukraine if the resolve of the world is not clear.

Remember, this is the most efficient way to get defensive weapons to Ukraine.

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

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Chair, I yield 45 seconds to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GAETZ).

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Chair, the reason we are here debating this issue is because my colleague from Georgia (Ms. GREENE) has found there are distributions that could possibly go to Ukraine. She is fighting admirably, often alone, and she is the reason that we are actually making some progress in this Congress to comport the will of this body to the will of the American people who think we have sent too much to Ukraine.

\$115 billion—it is inflationary, escalatory, and could likely lead to an accident that could sleepwalk us into world war III.

I am in strong support of the Taylor Greene amendment and all of her amendments to engage in this very noble effort to stop the United States from funding the war in Ukraine.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON).

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Chairman, as a 31-year Army veteran myself, and the grateful father of four sons who have served overseas, I want America to maintain peace through strength.

As a senior member of the Armed Services Committee, I know firsthand we have the capability of drawdown not reducing our capabilities.

When concerns were expressed over providing 31 Abrams tanks to Ukraine would reduce our defense, I quickly researched and found that we have 8,000 tanks available, and actually, the 31 were in excess.

I support the proven Republican policies of Barry Goldwater and Ronald Reagan of: Why not victory over dictators?

Peace through strength with American leadership has led to the largest number of nations living in democracy in world history as fascism was defeated and communism crushed.

Ukraine should receive the weapons it needs to achieve victory of restoring Ukrainian territorial integrity.

The alliance of war criminal Putin, the Chinese Communist Party, and the

Tehran regime must be stopped before they achieve death to Israel, death to America.

I urge as quickly as possible that we provide the equipment that can bring peace to the region by bringing equipment to the people of Ukraine, who are so bravely fighting back against the war criminal Putin. Therefore, I oppose this amendment.

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

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Georgia (Ms. GREENE).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Georgia will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 44 OFFERED BY MR. STEUBE

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 44 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Mr. STEUBE. 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:

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

SEC. ___. None of the funds made available by this Act may be made available for Lebanese Armed Forces.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. STEUBE. Mr. Chair, I encourage my colleagues to answer the question: How can we justify appropriating America's hard-earned taxpayer dollars to a foreign military that emboldens Hezbollah in their reign of terror and hate for America?

Hezbollah's influence runs rampant throughout the Lebanese Government. Even advocates of aid to the Lebanese military concede that Hezbollah's influence runs rampant throughout the Lebanese Government.

What matters is not the addressee. It is the address—Hezbollah's house.

Money is fungible, and we are pumping cash and hard currency into a terror haven infested with terror finance and corruption.

Even those advocating to aid the Lebanese military say that this is an entity unwilling and unable to counter Hezbollah. Then why are we wasting our money?

My amendment ensures that none of Americans' taxpayer dollars may be made available for the Lebanese Armed Forces.

Funding to the Lebanese Armed Forces is a policy that has been in

place since 2006, essentially on autopilot. Since then, the U.S. has provided more than \$3 billion to the Lebanese military, supposedly to build up state institutions as a counterweight to Hezbollah, but with little to show in return.

In fact, Lebanon has come more under the sway of Hezbollah and Iran today than when the U.S. began funding Lebanon's military. Hezbollah's chief Christian ally, the Free Patriotic Movement, is the political party literally in control of Lebanon's defense ministry.

This is a policy on autopilot that gets renewed every year without Congress really having a chance to review this funding and ask whether this is a good place to spend taxpayer dollars and is in our national interests.

We are funding an army that just yesterday shot smoke bombs at Israeli troops, which it called enemy troops. This should not be a partisan issue.

Anyone who takes a look at this issue objectively, I think, will have serious questions about why we continue to fund the Lebanese Armed Forces, one of the most corrupt and bloated armies in the world. Most of Lebanon's military expenditures go to personnel salaries and benefits, a whopping 93 percent compared to 29 percent in the United States. These benefits include healthcare, maternity leave, compensation in the event of death, as well as domestic workers and drivers for high-ranking officers.

For example, the Lebanese military, which consists of 80,000 soldiers, has 400 generals that are extremely highly paid, while the U.S. Army has a force of half a million but just 295 generals.

This did not stop the Biden administration from notifying Congress last year that it was repurposing \$67 million in aid to the Lebanese military in order to provide them with livelihood support, which just funds their salaries even more.

Rather than funding armed Mercedes and other luxury goods for Lebanese generals, we should be funding our southern border.

Lebanon's financial system is soaked in Hezbollah money laundering and financial crimes, and the terrorist group touches almost every facet of life in that country.

It is impossible that any administration could vet all the recipients of these taxpayer dollars and their families because there are no controls. There is no way to know how these individuals use this money. Some of it could flow through Hezbollah exchange houses or possibly be spent in Hezbollah-run businesses.

Mr. Chair, by safeguarding the actions of Hezbollah and other terror groups, the Lebanese Armed Forces fuels Iran's mission to kill American troops and wipe Israel off the map. I can't justify funding such horrific activity.

Mr. Chair, I encourage my colleagues to recognize the dangers of funding the

Lebanese Armed Forces by voting for my amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1230

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, there is no doubt that Lebanon is in full-blown crisis. It has lacked an elected leader for almost a year. Its economy is crippled and the presence of Hezbollah, as both an armed actor and a political party, remains a challenge to national unity. At the same time, it hosts 1.5 million refugees from Syria.

However, the Lebanese Armed Forces are considered by many to be the only functioning institution in Lebanon, transcending sectarian divides. This is largely thanks to the successful United States program to train and equip it.

The Lebanese Armed Forces are broadly respected and traditionally played an important role in promoting national unity with neutrality and moderation. They have also been instrumental in maintaining domestic security and in counterterrorism by tackling threats posed by groups like ISIS or al-Qaida.

The United States needs to pursue a democratic, pluralistic, and sovereign Lebanon and the Armed Forces are a key part of that.

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

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA).

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Chair, I can only say that the gentleman from Florida is mistaken.

His amendment assumes the Lebanese Armed Forces is in some sort of disarray. It is not. It is the most respected institution in Lebanon.

It assumes that it has not been a good steward of the moneys it has received. It has. As a matter of fact, multiple administrations have certified that not a single piece of capital equipment has ever been lost.

It assumes that somehow it is in the pocket of Hezbollah.

I was in Lebanon and Israel in 2006 as Israel tried to defeat Hezbollah and did not. Since that time, we have continued to bolster the Lebanese Armed Forces to fight ISIS and other forces and to maintain a situation in which American oversight is possible, both military and civilian, because of the Lebanese Armed Forces.

Lebanon is in an economic free fall, and as a result of its economic situation, there is direct aid, but that aid is not highly paid generals. As a matter of fact, if not for our aid, it would be likely that most members of the Lebanese Armed Forces would not report to their barracks. They would not have

enough money for gasoline. This essential support was necessitated based on their economic downfall.

We who visited Lebanon, who have seen it, and worked with both our military and our State Department stand behind the necessity and the accuracy of this support aid, and we oppose the amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LAHOOD).

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Chair, I am proud to represent over 8,000 Lebanese-American families in my district in Illinois who care deeply about our U.S. national security.

The longstanding U.S. military investment in the independent Lebanese Armed Forces, known as the LAF, has worked to support U.S. security interests in the greater Middle East for over 15 years.

As the co-chair of the U.S.-Lebanon Friendship Caucus, we work closely with the brave men and women in the U.S. military to ensure robust and stringent oversight of the U.S. investment into the LAF and any other U.S. foreign military funding abroad.

The stability of the LAF is important not only to the security of Lebanon, but also to their neighboring countries, and the United States.

The LAF works to prevent the furtherance of terrorist and extremist groups like Hezbollah and ISIS in the region. It fights against weapons, drugs, and human smuggling, and maintains stability in a country that is a ripe target for terrorists and malign actors.

I agree with my colleagues that we must be stewards of taxpayer money and reduce wasteful government spending. However, we must also support successful policies that continue to return on our investment in protecting the long-term U.S. security interests here at home. That investment in the LAF has helped to promote U.S. interests in the greater Middle East and in Lebanon.

Mr. Chair, I oppose this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. STEUBE. Mr. Chairman, it was described on the other side as "a full-blown crisis in Lebanon."

Why in the world would we send money to a country that is recognized by the opposition to be in a full-blown crisis?

Another speaker said that this money goes to pay the salaries of Lebanese soldiers, and if they don't receive this money, some of these soldiers won't be able to pay for their gas.

Since when is it the American taxpayer's responsibility to pay the salaries of Lebanese soldiers and ensure that they can get from one place to another?

Mr. Chair, I watched the debate on this floor for the last week or so, and

we are giving money to the Palestinians, we are giving money to Lebanon. We are going to give \$500 million to Jordan for their border wall while we are not securing our border.

The American people are sick and tired of giving foreign governments money and not putting America first.

We have a \$33 trillion deficit and we are more concerned in this body about giving money to Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, Ukraine, you name it.

Mr. Chair, it is time to put America first. The American people have asked us to do that and that is why they put us in charge of the House.

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

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. MOYLAN). The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEUBE).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. STEUBE. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 45 OFFERED BY MR. STEUBE

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 45 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Mr. STEUBE. 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:

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

SEC. ___. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to provide assistance to Iraq.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. STEUBE. Mr. Chairman, as stewards of America's hard-earned taxpayer dollars we must ensure such funds only go to measures that advance our American interests, not undermine them.

We have provided billions of dollars to Iraq and lost thousands of lives in that country. Yet in 2023, we continue to provide a blank check to Iraq, despite this country going more and more against American interests and essentially having transformed into a proxy of Iran.

My amendment ensures that none of Americans' taxpayer dollars may be used to provide assistance to Iraq.

I served in Iraq, and while protecting American interests in the region remains critical, Mr. Chairman, we cannot justify sending our taxpayer dollars to a nation while being unable to safeguard those dollars from exploitation by Iran, ISIS, and other terror groups.

Iran's influence over Iraq is so emboldened that Iraq essentially serves as a proxy state and haven for Iranian terror activity. Iraq has a literal arrest warrant out for President Trump for killing terrorist Soleimani.

The Pentagon has disclosed that large portions of Iraq's security forces are overrun by Iranian-backed militants and IRGC terrorists, the same ones who continue to target American troops in the Middle East and the same ones who attacked the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad in 2019—and we want to send them money.

This money is not countering terrorism. On the contrary, throwing millions of dollars at a country which uses its resources to put Iranian-backed terrorists on the payroll, terrorists which have attacked U.S. forces and the U.S. Embassy is insane.

This does not give us leverage. It is unacceptable to appropriate American dollars for these purposes with the likelihood that some of the money could fall into the hands of the terrorists. This bill should support our diplomats and servicemembers serving overseas, not threaten them.

Mr. Chair, I encourage my colleagues to recognize these dangers by voting for my amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, there is no mistake with regard to the error the United States made in going to war with Iraq in 2003, a decision which I proudly opposed. It was based on lies that there were weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, and we knew there were none.

While two decades have passed since then, there is little doubt about the trauma experienced by the country that is still felt to this day.

Iraqis fell prey to conflict and instability, experienced an uncountable number of deaths and displacements, and saw an erosion of their basic services, including health and education. An entire generation of children grew up in a chaos-filled environment with war and the subsequent emergence of terrorist groups and militias.

That is as a result of the United States' invasion of Iraq, which I believe, as I remember it, very few, if any, Republicans, opposed. There were about 133 Democrats opposing this.

We cannot walk away from our responsibility to help Iraq, now a key partner in the Middle East. As Secretary Blinken has said, America's greatest strategic asset lies within the alliances and partnerships we have with other nations. In partnership with Iraq, we have worked to ensure a stable, prosperous, and democratic country, which, quite frankly, we in many ways destroyed.

Our assistance to Iraq mitigates extremism through programming that

promotes mutual respect, tolerance, and understanding, provides support to the recovery of religious and ethnic minorities liberated from ISIS, including Christians and the Yezidis, and supports private-sector development and increased work opportunities, especially for women and youth.

Additionally, USG-supported stabilization programs have enabled the return of nearly 5 million internally displaced persons to return to their communities of origin. But nearly 1.2 million people remain displaced, including 200,000 Yezidis who survived genocide at the hands of ISIS. USAID assistance is critical to restoring essential services and increasing stability among these vulnerable populations.

Furthermore, our continued assistance in Iraq is vital to ensure the defeat of ISIS by supporting the reintegration of Iraqis repatriated from northeast Syria which meets the national security priority of the U.S. Government's Al-Hol Action Plan.

It is in the security interests of the United States to continue supporting Iraq, as well as our moral responsibility not to abandon our partnership, especially with the unnecessary invasion and war in Iraq, which many of us opposed.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. STEUBE. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ADERHOLT).

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentlewoman for the time to speak on this.

Mr. Chair, I do rise in opposition to the amendment. I thank my colleague, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, for his leadership on this bill.

While certainly I don't think any of us want to send American dollars to terrorists, I do think this amendment would effectively prohibit financial assistance that is key to protecting religious minorities in Iraq.

The United States has long been committed to the principle of promoting religious freedom around the world, and our support for Iraq for this purpose is no exception.

As drafted, the amendment before us would eliminate critical assistance to religious and ethnic minorities, including the Christian Chaldeans, and Assyrians, who have been victims of ISIS extremism and genocide.

These people have suffered unspeakable harm in the name of their religious beliefs and, quite honestly, their Christian beliefs, and they need our assistance.

Mr. Chair, I would encourage my colleagues to oppose this amendment.

Mr. STEUBE. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, may I inquire how much time I have remaining.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman has 30 seconds remaining.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA).

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Chairman, in short, this is overly broad. I repeat, this is overly broad. As an American of Arab ancestry and a Christian, it would, in fact, be devastating to the Chaldean community left in Iraq. It would be devastating to the support we have.

Mr. Chair, representing one of the largest Chaldean districts in the country, I meet every week with these Iraqi Christians who know that their families depend on our continued engagement.

Mr. Chair, I oppose the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

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

□ 1245

Mr. STEUBE. Mr. Chair, may I ask how much time I have remaining.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Florida has 3 minutes remaining.

Mr. STEUBE. Mr. Chair, I had the opportunity to serve our country in Iraq and had the opportunity to work with the Iraqi Army and the Iraqi police, and it all sounds well and good if we are going to send money and it is going to go to these Christian organizations, it is going to go to these different individuals that we want to help; however, that is not the reality of what is happening based on the things that I originally said in my opening. You don't have control over that, and having had the experience of actually serving there and working with these individuals and the clans that are there and the groups that are there, the money isn't distributed the way that we want it to be distributed. You are seeing that in Lebanon, and you are seeing that in all these foreign entities.

It is very interesting to me to stand up here and listen to my colleagues who talk about cutting spending and that we have a deficit and that we have a spending problem in Washington, and they would rather prioritize moneys to Iraq, to Lebanon, to Palestine, to Ukraine over the needs that we have in this country.

The people in my district don't understand it. When I talk to people in my district, they don't get it. They don't understand why we would prioritize sending our hard-earned tax dollars to countries that are completely corrupt and hate us with no assurances that it is going in the places that it is going.

Why would we do that? I just don't understand why we would stand here in the current economic situation that we have in this country and send money to foreign governments that hate us and try to kill us.

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

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

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. STEUBE. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 46 OFFERED BY MR. GAETZ

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 46 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Mr. GAETZ. 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:

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

SEC. ___. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to implement the decision by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's 21st Conference of Parties in Paris, France, adopted December 12, 2015, commonly known as the "Paris Agreement".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Chair, this amendment ensures that none of the funds appropriated in this act will be used to administer the Paris climate accord.

The Paris climate accord is the unilateral surrender of the American economy, not for the sake of any environmental improvement; it merely uses the veneer of climate change to execute a permission structure for some of the dirtiest countries in the world, for some of the greatest polluters to be able to benefit at the expense of the United States.

The Paris climate accord represents a circumstance where we were dead money at the table, putting up cash in exchange for economic development in faraway lands that would not benefit our people.

This was a globalist enterprise. It was America last, and U.S. taxpayers should not be funding the Paris climate accord. That is the amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, it is very clear from the science that the most existential crisis this the world faces is from the growing climate crisis. Without intervention, our warming planet will have irreversible negative impacts on the United States and throughout the world.

Climate change has resulted in lives upended in Texas and Florida and has led to extreme flooding in California

and Vermont and throughout the country.

Climate is not an issue that can be addressed by countries on their own. Air, water, pollution—they do not respect boundaries or sovereignty. The Paris Agreement in recognition of this brought all countries together around joint goals achieved by individual country plans.

As proposed, this amendment would significantly damage the efforts of the United States to support developing countries as they pursue efforts to implement their commitments under the Paris Agreement.

In addition, a wide range of U.S. climate and development programs would be impacted by this amendment, and it would seriously impede our ability to implement our obligations under the Paris Agreement. It would also prohibit the Department of State from participating in critical international climate negotiations.

The climate crisis poses threats to the stability of countries, heightens social and political tensions, and adversely affects food prices and availability. This is according to our own military.

The need for foreign assistance will only increase if we do not address the significant driver of crisis around the world.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Chair, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DIAZ-BALART).

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentleman from Florida for this amendment because he raises some very important issues regarding the Paris Agreement.

Even if it were true that global emissions would result in this global apocalypse in the distant future, the truth is that most developing countries are irrelevant in any climate model used to speculate about temperatures 100 years down the road.

These countries have emissions that are nearly undetectable when compared to the real culprits, which are China and other countries in Asia which, by the way, are exempt for the most part from this climate accord. So while our bill already prohibits funds for the Green Climate Fund, the Clean Technology Fund, and other vehicles that could be used to carry out this Paris Agreement, I agree with the gentleman that we should ensure that no parts of this wasteful spending, this virtue signaling, is allowed to continue.

I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time, and I strongly support his amendment.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, many of our developing country allies have made it very clear that strengthening their ability to address climate change and the threat that it poses is an overriding national priority, and

they are looking to the United States for support. I was in COP27 in Egypt a couple of years ago, and this is exactly the message that was sent.

The FY24 House State and Foreign Ops bill willfully ignores the changing climate and its implications for so many other global challenges this bill is intended to address, including promoting food and water security, global health, the protection of tropical forests and other vital natural resources, and social and political stability in strategically important regions.

According to the World Bank, climate change could put 132 million people into extreme poverty by 2030 and could drive the internal migration of an additional 216 million people by 2050.

Every one of our districts has been challenged by severe drought, rainfall storms, and heat. We are continuing to spend more and more on humanitarian needs caused by these disasters both domestically and abroad.

We need to get ahead of these crises. Helping communities cope, especially those with the least means to do so, is both moral and smart. Why are we demonizing these programs and cutting ourselves off from valuable tools?

These are not problems anyone can solve alone. We must work with others which make cooperation and our multilateral tools work. That is what we need, such as the Clean Technology Fund, the Green Climate Fund, the Global Environmental Facility—all of these and more are so important.

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

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Chair, it is neither moral nor smart to drive our Nation deeper into debt, to jeopardize the future of this country so that we can engage in a globalist virtue signal.

If this global agreement were real and benefiting our country, I think you would find more people that were open-minded about a desire to ensure that we have an environment that is good for all of the inhabitants of the planet Earth, but, unfortunately, that is not what the Paris accord did.

The Paris accord required the United States to put up the cash, and then it gave the exemptions to China and India and the worst polluters on the planet Earth.

This isn't a question of whether or not we support the environment, this is a question about whether or not under the veneer of environmentalism we are going to kill American jobs, kill American manufacturing, make our country less competitive, drive down our GDP while China and India play us like fools.

We are better than that.

The underlying bill does great work to ensure that our resources are directed to America's interests, not to the interests of these global institutions.

Mr. Chair, I would encourage adoption of this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, just one point I would like to mention with regard to the climate emergency, which it is.

Our young people deserve a future. They deserve a planet that is here for them, and I think we need to understand that the work we do in this House—or that we are not doing—really affects their future and their lives and their livelihoods.

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

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

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 47 OFFERED BY MRS. BOEBERT

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 47 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Mrs. BOEBERT. 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:

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

SEC. _____. The salary of Linda Thomas Greenfield, Ambassador to the United Nations, shall be reduced to \$1.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Colorado.

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Chair, I rise today to offer my amendment that utilizes the Holman rule to reduce the salary of U.N. Ambassador Linda Thomas Greenfield to \$1.

Ms. Thomas-Greenfield has been entrusted with representing the United States on the world stage and has done a terrible job. She made the decision to allow the U.S. to rejoin the anti-Semitic United Nations Human Rights Council, which routinely ignores some of the world's worst atrocities and grants membership to countries with egregious human rights violations, giving countries like China, Russia, Cuba, Venezuela, Pakistan, and Somalia an international platform to speak on human rights.

Rather than focusing on China's systematic oppression of millions of Uyghur Muslims or the inhumane treatment of women and ethnic religious minorities across the Middle East, this council disproportionately targets the State of Israel.

She was also involved in the decision to resume funding the U.N. Population Fund account, which supports coercive abortion and involuntary sterilization.

During her Senate confirmation, Ms. Thomas-Greenfield expressed support for taxpayer-funded abortions in foreign countries.

In 2021, Ms. Thomas-Greenfield was quoted saying: "White supremacy is woven into America's founding documents and principles." In the same speech she went on to say: "We have to acknowledge that we are an imperfect Union and have been since the beginning . . ."

Let's give this very important job to someone who loves America and doesn't hate the values that our Founders ingrained into the strongest country in the world.

I urge my colleagues to support my amendment and hold Ms. Thomas-Greenfield accountable for her poor representation of America on the world stage.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to the amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, as I said earlier, it is quite despicable to target dedicated public servants and threaten their livelihoods—public servants doing their jobs and carrying out the policies of this administration or any administration. They deserve to be commended, not demonized.

Our government is dependent on being able to attract the best talent to bring their skills to public service, especially when in most cases they could earn much more in the private sector. Who is going to be willing to do that if their names can be dragged through the political mud?

Ambassador Thomas-Greenfield retired as one of our most distinguished foreign service officers after 35 years of service to this country.

□ 1300

She returned from retirement in order to take on her current role as United Nations Ambassador, and she represents the United States admirably each and every single day.

This is how we solve our policy differences? We should not make it personal and about people doing their jobs.

I have worked with and have known Ambassador Thomas-Greenfield. All the unbelievable bashing of who she is, her credentials, and what she has provided for this country is unacceptable and disgusting.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment.

Mr. Chair, I hope that the gentlewoman and others really understand that public service is public service. This is not a private corporation. This is our Federal Government. This is who we are as a country, bringing forth our efforts to achieve global peace and security in the world. To continue to try to demonize our public servants is something that hopefully our young

people are totally ignoring because we want them to come on board as Foreign Service ambassadors on behalf of this country.

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

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Chair, I once again urge my colleagues to support this amendment to hold Ms. Thomas-Greenfield accountable. This is an unelected, rogue bureaucrat, not a public servant. This is someone who has not taken her role seriously, being involved in the decisions to resume funding the U.N. Population Fund account, which supports coercive abortion and involuntary sterilization. This is absolutely grotesque to me.

There are many other reasons that I have listed here that we should be utilizing this Holman rule to hold this unelected, rogue bureaucrat accountable.

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

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. MAST). The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Colorado will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 48 OFFERED BY MRS. BOEBERT

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 48 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Mrs. BOEBERT. 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:

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

SEC. _____. The salary of Salman Ahmed, Director of Policy Planning Staff, shall be reduced to \$1.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Colorado.

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Chair, I rise today to offer my amendment that utilizes the Holman rule to reduce the salary of the director of the Secretary of State's Policy Planning Staff, Salman Ahmed, to \$1.

This extreme leftist was a partisan hack for the Obama administration for 8 years and, prior to that, spent 15 years pushing globalist and anti-America First policies for the United Nations.

In his role with the State Department, Ahmed has pushed for squandering tens of millions of dollars on misguided policy pursuits like the

Green New Deal and climate change, which he wrongfully believes is an existential threat.

Ahmed is a pro-China sympathizer who consistently criticized President Trump for taking a tough stance on Chinese adversaries.

As the director of the Secretary of State's Policy Planning Staff, Ahmed also played an instrumental role in the disastrous withdrawal from Afghanistan.

This poor planning and not-well-thought-out withdrawal resulted in the death of 13 American heroes, a shameful surrender to the Taliban that left our own lifeless.

Ahmed is a principle player and one of the main reasons America has become an embarrassment on the global stage. Our brave men and women in uniform and Department of State public servants overseas deserve better than Salman Ahmed.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support my amendment and hold Mr. Salman Ahmed accountable for his terrible performance and reduce his salary to \$1.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, let me just say, these amendments really are disgusting. They are a mockery of our serious foreign policy debates. They are harassing in many ways our public servants, and they become about vengeance.

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

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Chair, I see nothing wrong with taking a stand as an elected official to hold unelected, rogue bureaucrats accountable. The one way that we can effectively do that is through our House rules, utilizing the Holman rule, to affect the salary of these bureaucrats who are abusing their position, not taking it seriously, or should not have been appointed there in the first place.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, these are not rogue bureaucrats. These are public servants who are implementing the foreign policies of the United States of America.

If, in fact, one does not agree with our foreign policies, then it is up to Members of Congress to change those foreign policies, not denigrate and demean our public servants.

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

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Colorado will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 49 OFFERED BY MRS. BOEBERT

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 49 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Mrs. BOEBERT. 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:

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

SEC. _____. The salary of Constance Mayer, Acting Chief of Diversity and Inclusion, shall be reduced to \$1.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Colorado.

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Chair, I rise today to offer my amendment to reduce the salary of the Department's acting chief diversity and inclusion officer, Constance Mayer, to \$1.

Simply put, Ms. Mayer is working in an office that should not exist doing a job that should not exist.

In addition to hundreds of ambassadors, the Department already boasts a whopping 55 personal envoys, representatives, and coordinators with overlapping responsibilities.

Special positions, like Ms. Mayer's, often create both resentment within the Department's existing bureaucracy and confusion among foreign governments as to who is actually setting policy.

At the direction of Joe Biden's DEI executive order, the State Department produced and published a 19-page equity action plan, the first sentence of which proclaims: "Addressing systemic racism . . . is a core tenet of President Biden's foreign policy."

The core problem with this plan is that it does not identify a clear set of problems, and it does not prescribe specific, measurable solutions. It simply cuts the American social justice template and pastes it into a plan that is supposed to inform U.S. foreign policy across the world.

This office is also functionally redundant. To the extent that it has a mission, the responsibilities of the chief diversity and inclusion officer overlap with the Office of Civil Rights, which is charged with propagating "fairness, equity, and inclusion at the Department of State."

This job is yet another unaccountable, ideologically motivated, politically charged senior office with vague goals and no yardsticks for measuring success.

The Federal Government's obsession with diversity, equity, and inclusion needs to come to an end.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support my amendment to remove this unnecessary position that has proven to undercut our core American values and waste more taxpayer dollars.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, this amendment would reduce the salary of a career public servant to \$1. Why? Because this individual is the acting chief of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

The mission of the office is to build and support a workforce at the State Department that reflects the people of our Nation. The State Department is an essential component of our national security.

The gentlewoman said that no clear set of problems exist. Do you know what? The clear set of problems is systemic racism, discrimination, the lack of equal opportunity within our Foreign Service. That is all.

Conducting diplomacy that serves the interests and honors the values of the American people requires a Department of State that reflects the rich diversity of our Nation. Otherwise, if it doesn't, then that is a very unfortunate and backward perspective, given the fact that discrimination is still alive in America. It is alive and well.

Our diversity, once again, is our national strength. It is a comparative advantage that we have for our engagement and leadership in a diverse world.

This individual has over 30 years of State Department experience. She should not be personally demonized and targeted for her work on behalf of our Nation. What she is doing is trying to ensure that we honor our pledge to live up to liberty and justice for all. It is going to take some intentional work of the State Department to correct hundreds of years of racism.

Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I am so proud to be an American, and I am proud to be an American because the world watches as this experiment of so many different communities—racial, ethnic, and religious groups—have come together. By and large, we have been successful—our United States military, our educational system, and our neighborhoods.

I am so proud to be a Houstonian, an eclectic city with so many different, wonderful diverse communities, including the LGBTQ+ community.

Mr. Chair, I rise today with shock and dismay because my good friend from Colorado has a train wreck of amendments against those of color and diversity as well as the LGBTQ+ community.

Day after day, after all of these appropriations, these poison pill riders of getting rid of the Office of Civil Rights, getting rid of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, is absolutely absurd.

Why? Because I lived exclusion in this Nation, but it didn't make me bitter. We worked. We struggled. We marched. We died. Those in the civil rights movement died.

Dr. King was killed because he insisted on a place where we did not discriminate because of the color of your skin. Some have turned that around, but what he was saying is that race exists, and it still does in discrimination against people who are different and diverse.

□ 1315

Why did I have honors classes, and yet no college recruitment came, or I was not invited to any college recruitment in my high school? Why did I not have an acceptance in any college because of not being drawn to any college recruitment?

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Chair, I ask unanimous consent to reclaim the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Colorado?

There was no objection.

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Chair, I just want to clarify, once again, that the diversity inclusion officer should not exist. This office is functionally redundant to the extent that it has a mission. The responsibilities of the chief diversity and inclusion officer overlap with the Office of Civil Rights, which is charged with propagating fairness, equity, and inclusion at the Department of State.

This is yet another unacceptable, ideologically motivated, politically charged senior office with vague goals and no yardstick for measuring success. That is why I am offering this amendment to reduce the salary of the Department's Acting Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer, Constance Mayer, to \$1.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, may I inquire as to the time remaining.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from California has 1 minute remaining.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, it is not an ideological office. The gentlewoman didn't hear. There has been racism, there has been discrimination, and we have not accepted the fullness of the wonderment of America. We now insult a full-time dedicated employee.

Before the Charlie Rangel Fellows, we could find little individuals who are diverse in Foreign Service. We now have many because we reached out and made a difference. This train wreck of attacking inclusion, diversity, and equity is disgraceful, and my friend should stop it. Our cities are better, our States are better, the Nation is better because of it. This is a fine public servant, and I want to lift her up

and say thank you. The gentlewoman should cease and desist eliminating civil rights, diversity, and inclusion because it hurts people, it harms people whose very heritage is tied up to a history of racism and people who died fighting for justice and equality for all of America.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Colorado will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 50 OFFERED BY MRS. BOEBERT

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 50 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Mrs. BOEBERT. 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:

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

SEC. _____. The salary of George Noll, Palestinian Affairs Officer, shall be reduced to \$1.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Colorado.

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Chair, I rise today to offer my amendment that utilizes the Holman rule to reduce the salary of Palestinian Affairs Officer George Noll to \$1.

On March 13, the Office of Palestinian Affairs in the U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem posted on Twitter photos of its director, George Noll, visiting the Tomb of Lazarus north of Jerusalem.

The post referred to the tomb as "an important religious site maintained by the Palestinian Authority's Ministry of Tourism."

Mr. Noll praised the Palestinian Authority's "work preserving beautiful historical and religious sites like this throughout the West Bank."

We all know the truth. Instead of preserving beautiful historical and religious sites throughout Judea and Samaria, the Palestinian Authority is deliberately destroying them.

Shortly after this exchange, the State Department published its Country Reports on Human Rights practices. The section on Israel was incredibly hostile. This report attacks Israel for denying prison furloughs to Palestinian terrorists, fighting terrorism, and preventing unrestricted illegal immigration.

From Noll's praise for the Palestinian Authority, which is committed to erasing Jewish history, to the State

Department's denunciation of Israel's right to defend itself and enforce its laws, the Biden administration's abusive treatment of Israel needs to end.

As we all know, the Palestinian Authority is also known to pay the families of terrorists lavish monthly pensions for attacks against Americans and Israelis as a part of their so-called Martyr's Fund.

The taxpayers here in this country should not be footing the bill to pay a government employee to praise a terrorist organization.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Once again, the target of this amendment has been a career member of the Foreign Service for 26 years and served all around the world.

Now, the majority already passed an amendment to defund the Palestinian Affairs Unit at the United States Embassy. It is very clear to me that what the majority is attempting to do is to decimate our Foreign Service and its public servants, and I hope the country understands what this means in terms of the lack of a presence throughout the world in our efforts to achieve global peace and security.

Once again, it is a shame and disgrace, but the pattern is here. We understand the motives, and the motives are to decimate the State Department.

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

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

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Colorado will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 51 OFFERED BY MR. OGLES

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 51 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Mr. OGLES. 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:

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

SEC. 9002. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to provide assistance to Pakistan.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chair, I would just make a point of personal privilege. My colleagues and I, across the aisle and here with me in the Chamber, thank our staff for being here during these long days and long nights. We thank them.

Mr. Chair, in August 2021, as America looked in horror at the beginning of what would soon become the greatest foreign policy disaster of the 21st century, then-Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan praised the takeover of Kabul, joyfully proclaiming that the Taliban had thrown off the shackles of slavery.

Some Americans may have been puzzled that Pakistan, designated major non-NATO ally of the United States, would have been so bold as to support America's enemies back in 2021.

However, a cursory look at Pakistan's history would clarify that this country, a country whose many Islamist groups support attacks against innocent civilians, has always supported terrorism and terrorist groups.

The Haqqani Network, a designated foreign terrorist organization whose members now play a role of kingmaker in Afghanistan, is a proxy of Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence, or ISI, and has been for decades.

Along with many elements of the Taliban, the network was regularly given safe haven in Pakistan to operate and evade apprehension. The coordination between the Haqqani Network and Pakistan was so strong that in 2011, then-chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Mullen, described the network as a veritable arm of the Pakistani intelligence.

The Haqqani Network is guilty of horrific terrorist attacks against U.S. servicemembers. Perhaps not coincidentally, it was the Haqqani Network who was put in charge by the Taliban of security of Kabul 1 week before the tragedy at Abbey Gate that claimed the lives of 13 U.S. servicemembers and wounded many more.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, we all mourn for the loss of our brave soldiers, not only at the time of evacuation, but also in the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq and throughout America's history. However, the State Department is the face of our international policies that will create the opportunities for engagement and collaboration and change.

I chair the Pakistan Caucus. It is one of the largest caucus of Members of the

United States Congress who understand the relationship that the United States and Pakistan has enjoyed for 76 years. What my colleague speaks of is not the Pakistan Government or people.

Over the decades, both countries have built a multifaceted and diverse relationship driven by cooperation in areas such as defense, counterterrorism, trade, investment, agriculture, IT, energy, climate, health, and education. Enduring the raging aspects of the Afghan war, many Pakistan soldiers lost their lives fighting terrorism.

The cooperation is rooted in our shared democratic values that they are still working to improve, and human rights as well. Today, the bilateral relationship is moving in the right direction. This past year, both countries have recently held dialogue on security and nonsecurity areas. These include trade, investment, renewable energy, climate change, health, education, as well as security cooperation, counterterrorism, and defense.

The Pakistan diaspora has doctors and lawyers and business persons in our communities, and they are contributors philanthropic to the needs of this country. In the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan, Pakistan assisted the United States in safe and secure evacuation of its citizens.

I know some who went through Pakistan. I believe this is a wrongheaded decision. This will have a negative impact. In the midst of a horrific flood, one of the most catastrophic floods that happened in years that impacted 30 million people and caused the loss of life of so many, I was the first American to be in that area this past year.

Mr. Chair, I ask my colleagues to oppose the amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chair, like my colleague, I too believe in great relationships and dialogues, but when you are in a relationship with a country that consistently undermines and attacks you, then maybe that is not a relationship that is worth being in. Because of billions upon billions of assistance to Pakistan, we learned a few things. First, insofar as Pakistan goes after terrorists, it does so selectively. It often targets those who are allied with our friends in India.

Second, despite the enormous financial leverage we have historically had with Islamabad, we cannot obtain several key concessions, including the release of Dr. Shakil Afridi, a man who assisted in the capture of Osama bin Laden.

Instead, Pakistan has conditioned the release of Afridi on us releasing a known terrorist. Little wonder that President Trump canceled \$300 million in security aid to Pakistan back in 2018 due to its horrific record of going after militants in the border region between Pakistan and Afghanistan.

□ 1330

They are an adversary in the region, and I am not talking about the people,

but the government in control undermines the United States, our interests, and even our partner India.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, may I inquire how much time do I have remaining.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Texas has 3 minutes remaining.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), the ranking member of the subcommittee.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, just let me make a couple of points.

First of all, 2023 marked the 76th anniversary of our partnership with Pakistan, the fifth largest country in the world by population.

Strengthening Pakistan's economy, education system, delivering humanitarian assistance, such as the support we provided for the devastating floods that they faced in 2023—I remember the gentlewoman from Texas, we were in Africa, and she left Africa and went over to Pakistan to help with the response to the devastating humanitarian tragedy that occurred in Pakistan. I wasn't able to go with her. I thank her for her leadership in representing the United States.

We must maintain the stability of the country and the region and help prevent the spread of extremism that we see surfacing.

It is up to us to provide U.S. aid and assistance to Pakistan for programs that promote peace and security. This is important, just based on our humanitarian concern for people who have been impacted and have to live through such devastation.

Mr. Chair, I oppose this amendment.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chairman, all this amendment aims to do is continue mainstream U.S. policy in this Department of State and Foreign Operations bill.

The 2021 Country Report on Terrorism regarding Pakistan highlighted, once again, Pakistan's continued listing as a jurisdiction with strategic deficits in its AML/CFT system.

Pakistan does not sufficiently support anti-money laundering efforts and it does not support laying waste to terrorists in the border region. In a Gallup poll of Pakistanis it reflected that 72 percent of Pakistanis see us as an enemy. We spend billions and billions of dollars, they attack us, and they see us as an enemy.

There are many needs that this country has, that our veterans have, that our borders have, and it is money that could be spent better elsewhere.

There is no reason for us to continue to subsidize Pakistan or any function of its government until it changes its posture.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, who has the right to close?

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Tennessee has the right to close.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chair, may I inquire how much time I have.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman has 45 seconds remaining.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chairman, bleeding hearts can argue all they want about wanting to support Pakistan despite their overwhelming support for terrorism within and outside its borders. I would say our money is better spent elsewhere.

For what it is worth, according to a classified Pakistani Government document publicly released last month, the Biden administration apparently encouraged the overthrow of the former Prime Minister of Pakistan because he didn't want that country to abandon its neutrality stance on Ukraine.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is important that we take a stand against terrorists and terrorist states. If they are going to be our ally, if they are going to receive hard-earned American dollars, then they should act like our ally. That is all I am requesting here.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, how much time do I have remaining?

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Texas has 1½ minutes remaining.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chairman, many of our allies and friends live in tough neighborhoods, and I am very glad that Pakistan lives in a neighborhood with friends; that is India and Bangladesh, that at least they are engaged. They also live in the neighborhood of Afghanistan where the Taliban has risen again. Pakistan soldiers have fought against the Taliban.

You don't turn your back on a nation where 650,000 Pakistani Americans are living here in the United States, they are contributing, they are patriots, and they serve in the United States military.

We have been able to facilitate safe immigration and relocation of Afghans with Pakistan. Pakistan has provided humanitarian assistance to Ukraine, following our lead. Our bilateral ties are further strengthened by the presence of nearly 650,000 Pakistani Americans.

Pakistan is a democratic state working against challenges. Yes, it is. Its parliament has just completed its third consecutive 5-year cycle without disruption. They are planning democratic elections.

What we need to do is to ensure that Pakistan has access to migration and refugee assistance, economic support, international disaster assistance, global health, humanitarian assistance, and economic development. These are important taxpayer dollars that help Pakistan become even stronger as a democratic nation and an ally.

For the issues my good friend has spoken about, diplomacy works these issues out.

Mr. Chair, as the founder and Chair of the Congressional Pakistan Caucus, I stand in strong opposition to this irresponsible and dangerous amendment.

The passage of this amendment would be detrimental to Pakistani U.S. relations and would put the livelihood of millions of people at risk.

The United States and Pakistan have a long-standing and enduring partnership spanning 76 years.

Over the decades, both countries have built a multifaceted and diverse relationship, driven by cooperation in areas including defense, counter-terrorism, trade and investment, agriculture, energy, climate, health, and education.

This cooperation is rooted in our shared democratic values and convergence of interests on regional and strategic security.

The passage of this amendment would severely damage our unique and longstanding partnership.

In its Congressional Budget Justification for FY 2024 Foreign Operations, the United States State Department reported foreign assistance to Pakistan of about \$218 million.

These essential dollars fund critical programs in Pakistan that include:

Migration and Refugee Assistance: \$62 million;

Economic Support Funds: \$50 million ("Funding will support stability and political, economic, and judicial reforms in communities bordering Afghanistan, increase private-sector-led trade and investment, foster people-to-people exchanges, strengthen civil society, support climate mitigation and adaptation, and improve gender equity and women's empowerment");

International Disaster Assistance: \$47 million;

Global Health Programs: \$31 million (includes funding on Tuberculosis, Global Health Security, Maternal and Child Health, and Family Planning and Reproductive Health);

International Narcotics and Law Enforcement: \$25 million (these programs in Pakistan "combat violent extremism, transnational crime, strengthen the capacity of law enforcement, expand access to justice, and bolster the rule of law nationwide with a focus on the newly merged districts along the Afghanistan-Pakistan border"); and

International Military Education and Training: \$3.5 million (these programs "emphasize professional military education, respect for the rule of law, human rights, and civilian control of the military")

USAID has a total of \$82 million in obligated assistance for Pakistan in FY 2023, which funds 110 activities in five major sectors:

Humanitarian Assistance: \$40.12 million (15 activities led by emergency food assistance at \$21.5 million);

Economic Development: \$15.5 million (13 activities include power sector improvement at \$7.5 million);

Democracy, Human Rights and Governance: \$13.7 million (10 activities include those on good governance and rule of law/human rights);

Education and Social Services: \$4 million (13 activities focused on both basic and higher education); and

Health: \$1.2 million (6 activities mainly tuberculosis-related projects).

Last year Pakistan faced a catastrophic monsoon season with floods of Biblical proportions leaving over one third of the country under water and directly impacted the lives of 33 million Pakistanis.

1,700 people lost their lives, one third of whom were children, 12,900 people were in-

jured, 7.9 million people were displaced, and there were devastating impacts to the infrastructure, crops, and livestock throughout the country.

As the Chair of the Congressional Pakistan Caucus, I gathered members and personally organized the first congressional fact-finding mission to the hardest hit areas in Pakistan.

I have seen the devastation and human suffering firsthand, and I want to clarify that Congress must continue to fund programs that help support Pakistan's flood recovery efforts and humanitarian assistance.

By January of this year, the United States government had pledged more than \$200 million to support Pakistan's flood recovery efforts.

In June, USAID pledged an additional \$16.4 million in additional development and humanitarian assistance.

The support provided by the United States is essential to the recovery effort, which will likely take many years.

Pakistan is a democratic state and remains committed to promoting and protecting democratic values.

Pakistan remains a critical partner of the United States in stabilizing Afghanistan and promoting peace and stability in the region.

Our government should continue to engage with Pakistan, addressing important issues related to human rights, democracy and religious freedom, rule of law, to advance our shared commitment to these universal values.

The amendment is not in line with the long-standing ties between U.S. and Pakistan and its passage would disrupt the U.S. relations with a partner in the region.

I urge all my colleagues to oppose amendment No. 51.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Chair, I strongly oppose amendment 51 to the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2024, which would prohibit funds in this legislation from being used to aid the country of Pakistan. This amendment is misguided and counterproductive.

I traveled to Pakistan in September 2022 to assess in person the devastating flooding caused by record monsoon rains and melted glaciers in the region. More than 1,000 individuals had lost their lives to the flooding at that point, and approximately one third of Pakistan remained underwater. Pakistan produces less than one percent of global greenhouse gas emissions, yet it is at greater risk of ecological catastrophes from climate change. The World Bank estimated that the economic costs of the damage totaled over \$30 billion. Therefore, the international community should assist Pakistan in recovering from this natural disaster that was massive in scale. I am grateful for the relief funds that the U.S. has provided Pakistan, and I firmly oppose what amounts to a blanket prohibition on further relief, as this would include much needed humanitarian relief.

Blocking these funds will not only hurt Pakistan and prolong its recovery from the 2022 floods, but also give China the opportunity to provide much needed aid where American global leadership is lacking. We cannot abandon Pakistan in this time of crisis, and I urge My colleagues to oppose this amendment.

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

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Tennessee will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 53 OFFERED BY MR. GOODEN OF TEXAS

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 53 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Mr. GOODEN of Texas. 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:

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

SEC. 9002. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for the adoption or implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration set forth in the annex to the resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 18, 2018 (A/RES/73/195).

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. GOODEN of Texas. Mr. Chair, I rise to urge my colleagues to support amendment No. 53 to H.R. 4665 that puts an end to international organizations circumventing our immigration laws.

The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration is an anchor that ties down our Nation's right to determine our own immigration policies and handcuffs our government from acting in its own best interest. The United Nations should not be making immigration laws for our country.

President Trump pulled us out of this compact; President Biden, I believe, wrongfully put us back in. What this amendment does is it restricts any funding that will go to compliance with this.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration supports humane migration around the world. It is the first intergovernmental agreement to cover all dimensions of international migration at a time when we are facing a migration crisis, as my colleagues like to remind us.

The Global Compact's guiding principles and objectives encompass a range of humanitarian, development, and other migration management activities, most of which the United

States Government supported long before the Global Compact on Migration existed.

These activities include the provision of lifesaving humanitarian assistance, countering trafficking in persons, border management, access to consular services, and also dignified return and reintegration.

In 2022, we saw a 21 percent increase in displaced people around the world. The largest ever single-year increase, and the largest number of people forcibly displaced in written history. It is only common sense to work with others on this challenge.

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

Mr. GOODEN of Texas. Mr. Chair, I will quote Ambassador Nikki Haley, who said:

While we will continue to engage on a number of fronts at the United Nations, in this case, we simply cannot in good faith support a process that could undermine the sovereign right of the United States to enforce our immigration laws.

We don't need to outsource our law-making to the United Nations. One of the compact issues that I have is that it strongly encourages migrants who do not have permission to stay in the country of destination, they are able to return to their country preferably on a voluntary basis.

The United Nations should not be making immigration law for the United States. If we are admitting—which I am happy to hear my colleague admit—that we do have a crisis, the last thing we are going to admit on either side is that it is, in fact, orderly, which is what this compact seeks to achieve in an international body.

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

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

Mr. GOODEN of Texas. Mr. Chair, I urge adoption, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 54 OFFERED BY MR. GOODEN OF TEXAS

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 54 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Mr. GOODEN of Texas. 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:

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

SEC. 9002. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for the program of the Bureau for Population, Refugees, and Migration of the Department of State administered by the International Organization for Migration and known as the "Refugee Travel Loan Program".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOODEN) and a Mem-

ber opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. GOODEN of Texas. Mr. Chair, this amendment ends the United Nations International Organization for Migration taxpayer-funded slush funds, commonly referred to as the Refugee Travel Loan Program. While this may be a noble idea, a lot of Americans don't realize that what this money does is it first flows through the non-governmental organizations that then, cheerfully, take a cut of that, 25 percent.

Mr. Chair, 25 percent of all of these moneys go through NGOs and they keep 25 percent. It is turned into a loan that is obviously never paid back. These numbers of refugees are continuing to be encouraged, and the caps continue to be encouraged to be raised by these nongovernmental organizations that are making money off of this program.

Mr. Chair, I would say to anyone who is for this, I hope they will join me in reforming this program, but until then, I don't think it is wise to spend American taxpayer dollars on something that is just enriching these NGOs on the backs of the American taxpayer.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, the Department of State through the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration funds the transportation of refugees admitted into the United States Refugee Admissions Program for resettlement to the United States through IOM.

Refugees admitted into the program and ready for travel to the United States receive interest-free loans from IOM to pay for their transportation from their overseas location to their domestic resettlement site.

Upon accepting the travel loan, refugees sign a promissory note to repay the loan over time.

The transportation is provided in the form of a loan, not a grant because the core belief of the program is that refugees' financial participation in making repayments against their debt will strengthen their determination to make a success of their migration.

In a melting pot like the United States, which some have probably forgotten, I shouldn't have to remind anyone of the valuable contributions of refugees to our Nation. Maybe I do need to remind the other side of this.

Refugees from Afghanistan, Burma, or Yemen are seeking a new, more stable home, and they deserve our support.

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

Mr. GOODEN of Texas. Mr. Chair, it is true that this is issued as a loan, but

less than 1 percent of these have been paid back. These aren't real loans; these are giveaways of taxpayer dollars to refugees.

I don't have a problem supporting legitimate refugees, but what really bothers me is that these nongovernment organizations are taking a 25 percent cut. So the refugees are not even getting the total amount of this loan, but the enriched nongovernment organizations are.

That is why you hear from groups like Lutheran Family Services, Jewish Family Services, and Catholic Charities that say: We are happy to help with this refugee problem. We are happy to go down to the border. We are happy to help facilitate this loan program because we know that we are not going to be on the hook for any of this money, it is the American taxpayer. In fact, we are going to get a 25 percent cut of whatever fake loan we give out.

Mr. Chair, it is really un-American to force the American taxpayer to fund this ridiculous program. The fact that we have charitable organizations profiting off of it and encouraging more and more of it is offensive to me, as well.

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

□ 1345

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, once again, I guess I need to either clarify or tell the truth about the loan repayment percentage. My colleague indicated that less than 1 percent of these loans are paid back, but I have to tell you, approximately 81 percent of all IOM travel loan amounts are repaid within 10 years. As of the end of fiscal year 2022, 84 percent of IOM travel amounts were repaid within 15 years. That is the truth.

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

Mr. GOODEN of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I urge passage, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

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

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 55 OFFERED BY MRS. BOEBERT

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 55 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Mrs. BOEBERT. 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:

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

SEC. 9002. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to enforce or otherwise implement a requirement for individuals traveling outside of the United States to receive a vaccination against COVID-19.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Colorado.

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Chair, I rise today to offer my amendment that ensures no funds to enforce or implement a COVID-19 vaccine mandate for international travelers.

This simple, straightforward amendment will ensure that Joe Biden's bureaucrats can never, ever again implement or enforce another ludicrous and unscientific vaccine mandate for international travel.

When this rule was in place from 2021 to earlier this year, it made everyday life so much harder for so many people, from tearing apart family reunifications to punishing companies overseas for doing business with America.

Just a few stories my congressional office has come across include:

The mother of a Dutch tourist who died on the Appalachian Trail was unable to come to the United States to collect her son's body;

A woman's fiance who lives in Canada has been unable to visit her on American soil for the past 3 years;

A man working for a company in the United Kingdom who is unable to travel to the United States for business meetings; and

A family in New Hampshire with Canadian in-laws has been unable to have Canadian family members visit for Christmas in the United States since COVID started.

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle have already started ramping up the new round of COVID hysteria.

Last month, it was reported that TSA team members were told that they will receive new guidelines on how the restrictions will evolve and that by mid-October, pilots, flight staff, passengers, and airport patrons will be required to once again wear masks.

Allegedly, administration officials were told that it was not a matter of "if" but "when" COVID numbers rise, the Biden administration plans to roll out a new round of COVID restrictions.

Moreover, numerous Federal agencies have reported purchasing more COVID-19 equipment and have awarded contracts to private companies to help enforce COVID-19 pandemic-era safety protocols.

Joe Biden's unilateral vaccine mandates posed an existential threat to our system of government. It is long past time Congress takes our Article I authority outlined in the Constitution to rein in Biden's overreaching mandates that are trampling on our liberties.

The Biden administration fumbled the bag on handling COVID last time around. We should all be concerned

that hysteria regarding the new COVID-19 variant will be used as justification to return to shutdowns, mandates, restrictions, and so much more, despite the fact that the evidence shows that these measures did nothing to combat this virus.

COVID is over. Let's ensure Biden's bureaucrats don't have the power to impose unpopular and unconstitutional liberty-stripping vaccine mandates again. I urge my colleagues to support my amendment and put an end to this COVID hysteria led by the "branch Covidian" Joe Biden.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, first of all, let me just state a fact. President Biden and Vice President HARRIS saved many, many, many lives.

Secondly, this amendment would prohibit the use of funds to enforce or implement a COVID-19 vaccine mandate for individuals traveling outside of the United States. Guess what? Let me just point out that there is not and has not been a COVID vaccine requirement for travelers outside of the United States. I don't know why we would mandate people leaving the United States be vaccinated. The gentlewoman knows that. Those are requirements usually, and most of the time for countries that have those requirements, they are set by those countries for people entering their borders.

Once again, this is disingenuous, and I am determined to tell the truth about what the majority is trying to do and what message they are trying to send.

Setting health requirements for travelers coming into the United States may be an important health response, but that would not be a decision by the State Department. I am not sure what this amendment really is trying to achieve.

As the COVID pandemic continues to remind us—and, yes, COVID is still alive and well—infected diseases do not abide by national boundaries. While some would like to act like COVID is over, it is not. In the United States, more than 500 people die from COVID each week. That is a fact. That is a fact. It is clear to those families that COVID is not over.

New variants are an expected part of the evolution of viruses and can be more aggressive, transmittable, or cause more severe disease than the original strain. That is a fact. Our Nation's public health officials need to have options available to them to protect our communities as we continue to live with COVID, as well as other infectious diseases. That is a fact.

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

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Chair, I appreciate the gentlewoman's concern for

lives lost in America, and I would hope that the gentlewoman would join our efforts in securing our southern border. This administration has stripped title 42 away that prevented illegal aliens from coming into our country who may pose some sort of threat with an illness or a virus. If they were serious about COVID-19, this should never be something that they would want to eliminate. Instead, it is American citizens and those trying to travel to our country and from our country who are restricted by these unconstitutional vaccine mandates.

If the gentlewoman is concerned about the numbers of lives being lost, maybe she should join us in supporting our efforts to secure the southern border, where there is a flow of fentanyl coming into our country killing 300 Americans a day, making every State a border State.

It is hard to take any of the paper masks seriously when we know that they don't work. It has been proven time and time again while they are on their seventh booster shot and still supposedly getting COVID.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, this amendment has nothing to do with securing our southern border or fentanyl or anything else. What this amendment actually does is misrepresent the actual reality of our policy. There is not and has not been a COVID vaccine requirement for travelers outside of the United States. This amendment would prohibit the use of funds to enforce or implement a COVID vaccine mandate for individuals traveling outside of the United States, which does not exist. This amendment has nothing to do with the southern border or fentanyl.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 56 OFFERED BY MR. MOONEY

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 56 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Mr. MOONEY. 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:

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

SEC. ___. None of the funds made available by this Act under chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2346 et seq.) (relating to the economic support fund) may be obligated or expended for assistance for Mexico.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from West Virginia.

Mr. MOONEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of my amendment to prevent tax dollars from hardworking Americans from being sent to Mexico allegedly in support of economic development until the President of the United States of America informs Congress that Mexico has decided to stop the free flow of fentanyl across our southern border.

My plan is a simple and strong response to the Mexican Government's refusing to take action to address the crisis of fentanyl pouring across our border. The Mexican President continues to falsely state that fentanyl is not manufactured or consumed in his country.

On March 17, 2023, Mexico President Obrador said at a news conference in Mexico City, "Here, we do not produce fentanyl, and we do not have consumption of fentanyl." Suggesting why doesn't the United States take care of its own issues.

However, the numbers do not lie. The Drug Enforcement Administration said in December that "Most of the fentanyl trafficked by the Sinaloa and CJNG cartels is being mass-produced at secret factories in Mexico with chemicals sourced largely from China." There were 14,000 pounds of fentanyl seized last year at the southern border and more than 11,000 pounds this year so far.

Fentanyl is pouring across our border because of the disastrous open-border policies of President Biden and his Democrat allies in Congress. Meanwhile, Mexico refuses to act against the cartels. Todd Robinson, who is President Biden's Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics, testified before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in February 2023. To be honest, the challenge that we have with Mexico is their unwillingness to put sufficient resources into the fight against fentanyl, and we are pushing them to do that.

Multiple administrations have pushed Mexico to do more, yet they refuse to act. Now is the time for Congress to step up and use the power of the purse to hold Mexico accountable until they change their behavior.

Mr. Chair, this amendment is focused solely on economic aid. This amendment does not impact narcotics interdiction and border security assistance that we also provide to Mexico. Mexico should not be rewarded with economic support funding when they refuse to stop the production of fentanyl that has killed hundreds of thousands of Americans. West Virginia, in particular, has been hit hard by the drug epidemic, and a lot of the poison on our streets can be traced directly back to Mexican drug cartels.

We need to secure our border, but we also need Mexico to partner with us. Our practice of giving them more United States taxpayer dollars as an inducement to fight against drug trafficking has failed. It is time to cut off economic funding until the President

of the United States can report to Congress that Mexico is working with us to address the flow of fentanyl across the border. I call on all my colleagues to join me in supporting this amendment. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1400

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. LUTTRELL). The gentlewoman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, U.S. relations with Mexico are strong and vital. Our two countries share a 2,000-mile border with 55 active ports of entry, and our bilateral relations with Mexico have a direct impact on the lives and livelihoods of millions of Americans.

I was born and raised in the border town of El Paso, Texas, and I know the importance of the exchanges and support between Mexico and the United States. Our significant cooperation on issues, including trade and economic reform, entrepreneurship and innovation, and energy, are as critical today as they have ever been.

Cutting ESF assistance to Mexico would have severe detrimental impacts, crippling the work we do to reduce violence, build a better business environment, and address the root causes of migration.

Without our continued support, our assistance to keep youth released from prison from recommitting criminal offenses and being recruited by cartels and other organizations would not be able to continue.

The work we do to level the playing field for investors, which includes bringing greater transparency to corrupt business practices and promoting growth in key sectors central to the United States' businesses, such as semiconductors, for example, would be negatively impacted.

Cutting ESF would undermine our work to create economic opportunities in high out-migration areas in Mexico's least developed areas and states.

A prosperous and safe Mexico should not only and will not only benefit the Mexican people but us, as well.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to 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 West Virginia (Mr. MOONEY).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 57 OFFERED BY MRS. SPARTZ

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 57 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Mrs. SPARTZ. 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:

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

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Secretary of State as a contribution to any organization, agency, commission, or program within the United Nations system except as authorized by law.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. SPARTZ) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Indiana.

Mrs. SPARTZ. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I have a very simple but very important amendment. All this amendment says is that the Secretary of State cannot use any funds in this appropriation that are not explicitly authorized by Congress to be given to the United Nations. I think it is very important.

I have been in the trenches quite a bit with a lot of conflicts and where people are dying in many countries.

The American people are very generous and help a lot of people around the world, but we want to make sure that this money doesn't go to very fancy executives that pay themselves big salaries in the U.N. and are driving very fancy cars, eating steak dinners, and staying in very fancy hotels while the people next door are dying. It actually should go to the people that the American people are willing to help.

I think it is very important that unauthorized funds by Congress won't be frivolously given out by the Secretary of State.

That is the intent of Congress, and I think this is a very good amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, I recently returned from representing the United States at the United Nations General Assembly, and I would be happy to talk to any of my colleagues about the value of our partnership with the United Nations system.

It is not perfect—no large bureaucracy is—but our ability to improve its operations, make sure its stances reflect our values, and have the United Nations serve its mission for peace hinges on the United States being an active, participating member of the organization.

Organizations like UNICEF deliver last-mile education and health services in over 120 countries. If you have ever seen kids in South Sudan—and I have many times—walking with their blue UNICEF backpacks to school or visited with 1 of the 365 million kids under the age of 5 who received malnutrition services last year, you would know that their presence is real and felt by millions of kids and their families around the world.

This amendment would cut off contributions to UNICEF. What will these young people think about the United States, quite frankly, when they grow up?

I don't think they would be very happy to know that we actually cut off humanitarian assistance, especially what UNICEF delivers on behalf of the United States.

The United Nations Development Program worked with 26 countries in 2021 to implement national action plans to tackle radicalization and registered 38 million new voters. Eighty percent of these 38 million were women. They helped 82 countries adopt digital platforms for commerce and governance, cutting down on corruption. This amendment would cut off contributions to UNDP and many others.

I fully support the authorization of these entities, but we all know that will not happen overnight. While we work toward that goal, we can't cut off participation and support.

Once again, we are retreating from our responsibilities as a global leader throughout the world.

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

Mrs. SPARTZ. Mr. Chairman, I think the gentlewoman has misrepresented this amendment. This amendment says if Congress doesn't authorize these funds, they shouldn't be spent by the other branch and given to the U.N. It should not preclude Congress from doing its job and actually authorizing the funds.

I tell you, this organization failed many people around the world. Millions of people are dying in Africa.

When I talk to these people, they haven't seen the big input the U.N. is doing. They failed to deter from conflicts, including Ukraine. I haven't seen them on the ground in Ukraine or Poland.

We have major issues around the world. I saw what is happening in countries in South America. Don't tell me we are not giving money in the Middle East. I just went there. What is happening in Syria and other countries—don't tell me that this organization didn't fail the American people and people around the world.

If our Congress is going to continue this, we need to look seriously at why they cater to Russia and China at the expense of American taxpayers and their hard-earned money.

I think Congress needs to do its job. Before any money would be given to this organization, they have to be accountable to the American people, and they have to be authorized.

If Congress authorizes money and gives it to the Secretary of State to provide to the United Nations, you can still do that, but we have to start doing our job because a lot of people are suffering around the world. If America doesn't stand up for them, no one else will.

The American people expect accountability for our hard-earned money, and I hope that it can be on a bipartisan basis because there are a lot of people who make a lot of money around the world over there.

They have very high-paying jobs, but a lot of poorer people, including in Africa, are dying. I think we have to be accountable and responsible for that, and it shouldn't be a partisan issue.

We actually just had a bipartisan codex, and both the committee chair and the Middle East, North Africa, and Central Asia Subcommittee chair were concerned about what they heard about the U.N. from real people, not executives at the U.N. They have this job and protect their salaries and live a very good life, but actual, real people are suffering.

We are willing to help real people that are suffering, but we need to put pressure on the U.N. to be accountable to the American people.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to stand up with the people, not with the special interest groups that lobby for a lot of things here, destroying our Republic and destroying peace around the world.

These organizations were created for some purposes, and they failed. Maybe it is time to rethink what kind of structure we should have that actually benefits peace around the world.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, I guess I am totally confused, then, because I don't know why we would want to cut off the funds for children through UNICEF, UNDP, and other agencies when, in fact, the gentlewoman should take this to the Foreign Affairs Committee. That is where her initiative belongs.

In terms of the authorizing process, that belongs in the Foreign Affairs Committee. It doesn't belong here on an appropriations bill to defund programs that are providing badly needed malnutrition services for children.

We can't just cut this off. These are appropriated funds the authorizing committee authorizes, and that is where this belongs.

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

Mrs. SPARTZ. Mr. Chairman, I just want to say one more time that Congress is supposed to authorize this funding. If we are not doing the job, we shouldn't waive the rules.

Mr. Chair, are they doing their job or not? If Congress believes, based on consideration, that these funds should be provided, the other side needs to make the case. We can authorize these funds, but they have to be accountable that the funds are used wisely.

All it says is unauthorized spending is not going to be waived by Congress. We need to stop waiving and neglecting our job.

Maybe if we get a little bit more pressure, we will start doing our job. We should be actually authorizing funds and appropriating funds.

If not, then we have to be accountable. I truly believe this is very important for Congress to start looking at spending and start providing proper oversight.

I truly believe that this is an issue that I hope will be supported on a bipartisan basis, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. SPARTZ).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Indiana will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 58 OFFERED BY MS. HAGEMAN

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 58 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Ms. HAGEMAN. 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:

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

SEC. _____. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to the Office of Global Change of the Department of State.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. HAGEMAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Wyoming.

Ms. HAGEMAN. Mr. Chairman, I rise in favor of my amendment No. 58 to H.R. 4665. This amendment would prohibit funding for the State Department's Office of Global Change.

Mr. Chairman, the underlying bill rightfully targets U.S. taxpayer dollars from being sent to globalists who foment climate change hysteria and that provide no benefits to American citizens.

While the underlying bill provides temporary relief from these bad policies, we must target the actual source of this nonsense. That is why my amendment is needed.

The Office of Global Change is responsible for implementing and managing the U.S. international policy on climate change. It is, in other words, the executive office that was created with the mission statement of funding our enemies and destroying our own prosperity.

This is the office that oversees all of Mr. Biden's misguided policies, and we must, therefore, cut off the source of that funding by targeting the money, not just play whack-a-mole whenever a new issue arises.

Any American that is concerned about the globalist agenda infiltrating our sovereign decision-making process

should be concerned about any office whose mission statement is "global change," especially when this global change is all about disrupting and destroying our reliable, clean, and affordable domestic energy resources so that they can force a green dystopia that will cause energy poverty on a massive scale.

The Office of Global Change seeks to force CCP-inspired policies on the U.S. so that we become more and more energy insecure while the CCP, the Chinese Communist Party, becomes more and more energy independent and secure.

If this majority is to deliver on the promises that we made to the American people, which means substituting radical climate politics for actual real governance, we must identify and eradicate the source of the problems. That means defunding the Office of Global Change.

My amendment would do just that.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, it is clear from the science that the most existential crisis the world faces is from the growing climate crisis. It is an emergency.

Without intervention, our warming planet will have negative impacts on the United States and throughout the world.

This bill already ignores the changing climate and its implications for so many other global challenges, including promoting food and water security, global health, the protection of tropical forests and other vital natural resources, and social and political stability in strategically important regions.

According to the World Bank, changes in the environment could put 132 million people back into extreme poverty by 2030, only a few more years. It also could drive the internal migration of an additional 216 million people by 2050.

□ 1415

The State Department through the office that this amendment is defunding must be able to work with other countries and use every tool available to us to prevent the worst of increasingly ferocious natural disasters, failing crops, loss of biodiversity, and the rise of new diseases.

The climate crisis poses threats to the stability of countries, heightens social and political tensions, and adversely affects food prices and availability. This again, as I said earlier, is according to our own military.

The need for foreign assistance will only increase if we do not address this significant driver of crises around the world. At COP27, this is what we heard

over and over and over again, so it is critical that we continue to fund the work of this office.

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

Ms. HAGEMAN. Mr. Chair, again, I think what folks need to understand is that the Office of Global Change is responsible for implementing and managing the U.S. international policy on climate change, the very purpose of which is to destroy the prosperity of the United States of America.

As I listened to my colleagues on the other side talk about the "existential crisis" that we face because of climate change or the other rote talking points that they use, what you find is that none of those talking points, none of that hysteria is actually rooted in science, other than political science.

Every decision that has been made by the Biden administration in relation to energy policy has resulted in real, immediate energy poverty for thousands, if not millions, of people across the United States of America.

The failed policies of this administration have been visited upon us from the very moment that Joe Biden took office when he started canceling pipelines to be able to deliver affordable, clean, accessible, reliable energy.

I find it to be absolutely astounding to listen to the other side talk about issues of poverty and things around the world when we have an administration who right now with their policies is creating that very policy here.

We watch the border crisis and we see millions of people pouring across the border. We see what is happening in our inner cities. We see what is happening with people who have to make a decision about buying food or buying gasoline. Yet, they want to talk about funding an agency that the very purpose of which is to visit energy poverty around the world upon millions and millions of people.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of amendment 58. We do not need an Office of Global Change. We need to defund it. That is the purpose of my amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, the gentlewoman says that this office is going to destroy the prosperity of America, but I would suggest that this amendment will continue to destroy our planet. Our young people deserve better.

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

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. HAGEMAN).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Wyoming will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 59 OFFERED BY MS. HAGEMAN

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 59 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Ms. HAGEMAN. 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:

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

SEC. ___. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to carry out or administer any Remote Work Agreement of a domestically-assigned direct-hire employee if the employee's alternate worksite is located outside of the locality pay area of the regular worksite for the employee's position of record.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. HAGEMAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Wyoming.

Ms. HAGEMAN. Mr. Chairman, I rise in favor of my amendment No. 59 to H.R. 4665.

Mr. Chair, this amendment would prohibit State Department Remote Work Agreements, which allow a domestically assigned employee's alternative worksite to be located outside of the locality pay area of the regular worksite.

Now that is a lot of words that may seem confusing, but let me explain what I mean.

What it is at bottom is it is time for the Federal workforce to return to work. This has been the policy of the Republicans in the 118th Congress majority, and my amendment would bring the State Department in line with this stance.

Several concerns with Federal telework and remote work arose during COVID. One concern rightfully echoed by countless Americans struggling to make ends meet is whether Federal workers were receiving increased locality pay based off the cost of living in larger cities while they were actually working remotely from a different location where the cost of living was much less.

Mr. Chairman, you can imagine my concern when I found that the State Department's Foreign Affairs Manual defines its remote work agreement as "full-time core telework arrangements in which the teleworker's 'alternate worksite' is located outside of the locality pay area of the regular worksite for the employee's position of record."

Remote and telework for Federal employees should be used sparingly. It should be used to accommodate health issues. It should be used during a crisis. In other words, during select situations. It should not be used as a hidden

benefit for Federal workers so that they can pocket extra cost-of-living cash.

Our Republican House majority should be committed to reforming Federal remote work, so it is fair and reasonable and used only when needed.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, I understand the underlying wish for all of us to get back to the way things were prior to the onset of the COVID pandemic. However, a total ban seems a bit excessive.

The government as a whole is in competition with the private sector for workers. The priority of where they live has changed for some workers, and without being offered this flexibility, the State Department may find it more difficult to recruit or retrain exceptional employees, which seems to be the goal of some on the other side.

Technology now exists that was never contemplated only a few years ago and opens new possibilities for how to be effective, productive participants in any office, whether physically present or not.

We need to ensure that our national security and effective diplomacy is conducted by the most capable employees. Options should be available to the Department.

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

Ms. HAGEMAN. Mr. Chairman, I think there is a misunderstanding on the other side of the aisle as to the purpose of my bill. The purpose of this bill is very simple. If you are being paid to live in Denver and work in Denver and your cost of living is associated with living in Denver, you should not be able to live in a little, tiny town of 300 people 200 miles away that has a substantially less cost of living but continue to receive your benefits based upon the more expensive cost of living that is in Denver, Colorado.

That is just the purpose of this. If you are going to live in a lower cost-of-living area and telework, you shouldn't be paid as though you are living in a large city. That is the point of this. It is very simple.

It is about nothing more than fairness. I think the American people expect our Federal employees to be honest about where they are working and the cost of living that they have. I do not believe that it is fair, and the American people don't believe that it is fair that we are actually paying people to live in more expensive areas while they are living in less expensive areas.

That is not what we agreed to as Congress. I don't believe that it is appropriate, and I urge my fellow Members to support amendment No. 59.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. HAGEMAN).

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. The Chair understands that amendment No. 60 will not be offered.

AMENDMENT NO. 61 OFFERED BY MS. FOXX

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 61 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Ms. FOXX. 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:

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

SEC. ___. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available for any employee of the Department of State to travel to or attend any conference or event hosted by the Clinton Global Initiative.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of my amendment.

My amendment is simple. It would prevent taxpayer funds from paying for State Department employees to travel to or attend events hosted by the Clinton Global Initiative.

The rationale is quite simple. The Clinton Global Initiative has engaged in blatant corruption and influence peddling that would make even Hunter Biden blush.

In perhaps its most famous episode in 2014, Hillary Clinton approached the Moroccan Government about hosting a Clinton Global Initiative conference in Morocco. The Moroccans fronted the money for the event by funneling it through a state-owned enterprise that was extracting and exploiting phosphates from a non-self-governing territory: Western Sahara.

This sleight of hand amounted to condoning Morocco's sovereignty over this disputed land.

You heard that right. It was a cash-for-sovereignty deal, formulated just as former Secretary of State Clinton began her run for President of the free world.

This deal was so rotten that even Huffington Post deemed FOX News' investigation into this matter, "a brutal, clean hit on Hillary Clinton's campaign."

Indeed, the Clinton Global Initiative's scandals are myriad and include an episode uncovered by The New York Times revealing undisclosed donations linked to the sale of U.S. uranium production to a Russian Government agency.

As expected, the Clinton Global Initiative was unable to withstand the scrutiny and shuttered shortly after

the 2016 campaign. That is, until late last year when the organization reconstituted itself. Its operations are no longer dark, and this is the first State and Foreign Operations appropriations bill considered since its resurrection.

It has since morphed into a factory of radical elitist woke schemes.

Just last week, the Clinton Global Initiative convened in New York to discuss how to reshape our economy to tackle the left's pet projects that will make life for ordinary Americans more expensive and worse.

Given the State Department's enmeshment with the Clintons and the Initiative, we need to send a clear message:

No more coordination with the U.S. Government.

No more conferences with corrupt governments at the expense of the oppressed peoples of the globe.

No more representation and participation by the State Department—an end to its commingling with official policy.

And hopefully, the beginning of the end of this corrupt organization's influence on U.S. policymaking.

Mr. Chair, Americans simply can't afford more radical policies purveyed by an organization that allowed the global elite to buy and influence American foreign policy. Join me in condemning the Clinton Global Initiative's misconduct.

Mr. Chair, I ask my colleagues to support my amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, boy, is this the level we have gotten to, to tell the State Department what meetings they cannot attend?

Will we start saying what meetings they have to attend?

The Clinton Global Initiative is a platform for government philanthropy, business, media, and academia to discuss identified problems and brainstorm solutions. We should be encouraging such collaboration.

The problems facing the world are daunting, and solutions will not come from one place. Let's take good ideas from wherever we can and not micro-manage who goes to what meetings.

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chairman, I see that my colleague has not refuted any of the things that I have said about the Clinton Global Initiative.

Why in the world, again, would we ask American taxpayers to pay for people from the State Department to attend these conferences when they are likely not to gain anything positive from them and support a corrupt organization?

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, I understand what this amendment

does, and I don't accept the fact that it is a corrupt organization. I do know the importance of these meetings and conferences in terms of us coming together for solutions to lead us to global peace and security.

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

□ 1430

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chair, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from North Carolina has 1½ minutes remaining.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chair, we have a terrific debt on our hands in this country. We don't need to be spending any money that is not absolutely necessary to spend.

Curbing attendance at meetings such as the Clinton Global Initiative is a good way for us to chip away at that debt and to save the American taxpayers some money.

I think this is an excellent amendment. I believe that my colleagues will see that it is an excellent amendment, and I will continue to advocate for its passage.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, finally, I will just say what this does: It is another attempt to chip away at our diplomacy.

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chair, I appreciate the opportunity to offer this amendment. I believe, again, that it is good for us to highlight this organization and the fact that we do not need people from the State Department attending its meetings.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from North Carolina will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 62 OFFERED BY MR. ISSA

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 62 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Mr. ISSA. 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:

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

SEC. _____. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available to support the negotiations toward an extension of the Scientific and Technological Cooperation Protocol Between the United States of America and China.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

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

Mr. Chair, we are in a competition right now—it is undeniable—with a Chinese Communist Party-led country. We have been in that race for more than 40 years.

Decades ago, we made a decision that engagement would change the trajectory of China. It was a fair and reasonable attempt, but throughout those years, as China has gained power, they have only gained a ruthless disregard for the norms of our planet, including those that they bid into.

They claim to be a fair trader; they are not. They claimed that they would not steal technology; they did. As a matter of fact, they have ruthlessly become the largest spy organization, not just on our military and defense structures but, in fact, on our industries. It is legendary the level that they have one-sided done to.

For that reason it is time for us to shift.

Under the last administration, we began shifting. Under this administration we continue to recognize China as a threat. In those years since we opened up our relationship, we did a number of things as a planet, as a world, as countries.

Hong Kong and Macau were voluntarily given back, each based on a promise to their host nations that they would continue to operate in a way that was consistent with the democracies that had led them.

In both cases through a slow but steady change, that has been completely eroded.

An old communist statement that I think bears repeating, is that when we will be hung, when capitalism will be hung, they will be hung with a rope that we sold to the communist. It is time to stop selling rope to China.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, this science and technology agreement, or STA, with the PRC was extended for 6 months this past August and does not commit us to a longer-term extension. The extension will allow the administration time to amend and strengthen the terms of the STA. Without the STA, the United States would lose valuable insight into China's technical advances.

Additionally, many STA outcomes have been deeply beneficial to the United States and the rest of the world. This includes determining the importance of folic acid supplementation in preventing birth defects and

decreasing China's air pollution which blows across the Pacific contributing to our West Coast air pollution.

Opponents of this agreement cite concerns that the PRC would exploit civilian research partnerships for military purposes; however, all legitimate concerns about information sharing can be addressed through modifications to the STA, rather than eliminating it entirely.

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

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Chair, earlier I attempted to quote Vladimir Lenin: The capitalist will sell the rope with which we hang them. This is exactly what we have been doing.

There is another truism that came from Einstein: Insanity is doing the same thing over and over again expecting a different outcome.

If the administration wants to negotiate something new and bring it to us in a way in which we believe the outcome will be different, let them do it. We simply cannot continue doing the same thing for decades with currently tens of thousands of actual hits on our country by the Chinese Communist Party to steal our technology daily—something that our administrations have said.

It is no longer one of those instances in which they are stealing ancient technology or they are trying to catch up. When one of our Cabinet officers recently visited China, she arrived only to find them demonstrating 5G technology and 7 nanometer chip technology in order to show us that they had stolen the technology necessary to be cutting edge in the cellular world and in chip production.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, this amendment would not allow only renegotiation. That is why I oppose it.

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

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Chair, in closing, every day, this administration tells us the nature of the kind of technology theft that is going on.

The conclusion of this amendment is simply the result of the very statements made not by the previous administration but by the current administration, and this supports the recognition. It is time to make real change. This amendment does that.

Mr. Chair, I urge support of 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 California (Mr. ISSA).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 63 OFFERED BY MR. BURCHETT

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 63 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Mr. BURCHETT. 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:

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

SEC. _____. The salary of Setareh Sieg, Special Assistant to the Director of Programming at Voice of America, shall be reduced to \$1.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Chair, my amendment would do one thing: It will reduce the salary of the special assistant to the director of programming at Voice of America to \$1.

This amendment follows an internal investigation which concluded the special assistant to the director of programming at Voice of America had misused Federal taxpayer dollars and lied on her resume. She was fired under the previous administration and then rehired at the beginning of this administration.

Mr. Chair, I submit to you that people who misuse taxpayer dollars have no business being paid by taxpayers, and they should be fired.

We need to get rid of corruption in our government. My amendment would do just that. I am requesting to reduce her salary to \$1.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, once again, the subject of this amendment has been a public servant.

This public servant has worked at USAGM for nearly 25 years speaking truth to Iranians and promoting democratic values of American society.

Once again, if we have policy issues, let's discuss it, but, please, we have to stop demeaning our public servants.

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Chair, I submit to you that the duty of folks that work for the American taxpayer is not to lie and not to take taxpayer money illegally.

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

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

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Tennessee will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 64 OFFERED BY MR. BURCHETT

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 64 printed in part D of House Report 118-216.

Mr. BURCHETT. 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:

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

SEC. _____. The salary of David Kotz, Chief Management Officer at the United States Agency for Global Media, shall be reduced to \$1.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Chair, I rise to speak on this amendment, which will reduce the salary of the chief management officer for the U.S. Agency for Global Media to \$1.

The chief management officer of the U.S. Agency for Global Media is responsible for rehiring Setareh Sieg, who knowingly misused Federal tax dollars and lied on her resume.

Whistleblowers have come forth to shed light on the rampant misuse of taxpayer dollars, and the chief management officer at the U.S. Agency for Global Media is responsible for rehiring the individual that did so.

There should be no place for this conduct in public service, Mr. Chair. I am requesting the salary of the chief management officer at the U.S. Agency for Global Media be reduced to \$1.

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment.

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

Ms. LEE of California. The subject of this amendment, again, has served in the government for 15 years, including time in two inspectors general offices.

Once again, the other side continues to try to really destroy our dedicated public servants. I don't quite understand it.

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Chair, we cannot continue to keep rewarding bad behavior. This isn't some soccer game where nobody keeps score and everybody gets a trophy. This is the American government. We are responsible to the taxpayers for this money.

I submit to you, Mr. Chair, that this type of activity, if we turn the other cheek, it will continue to run rampant in our society and in our government, and we have got to start somewhere, Mr. Chair.

We are \$33 trillion in debt, and paying people that are doing things that are illegal should not be the makeup of this government.

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

□ 1445

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, bad behavior is not being rewarded. Public servants are doing their jobs, and they are carrying out the policies of the United States of America.

This is a personnel decision. All of these would be personnel decisions. Unfortunately, they are being politicized, and it is really a shame and disgrace that our public servants, who represent us so well, are the subject of these despicable attacks.

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

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

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Tennessee will be postponed.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. 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. ALFORD) having assumed the chair, Mr. LUTTRELL, 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. 4665) making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5692, UKRAINE SECURITY ASSISTANCE AND OVERSIGHT SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024; PROVIDING FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4365, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024; AND PROVIDING FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4367, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 730 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 730

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 5692) making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order

against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) 30 minutes of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 2. During further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4365) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, pursuant to House Resolution 723, the further amendment specified in section 3 shall be considered as adopted.

SEC. 3. The amendments referred to in section 2 is as follows:

(1) “On Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$300,000,000)”; and

(2) “Strike section 8104.”

SEC. 4. During further 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, pursuant to House Resolution 723, the further amendment specified in section 5 shall be considered as adopted.

SEC. 5. The amendment referred to in section 4 is as follows:

“Strike section 406 and strike section 407 and insert SEC. _____. Notwithstanding the numerical limitation set forth in section 214(g)(1)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1184(g)(1)(B)), the Secretary of Homeland Security, after consultation with the Secretary of Labor, and upon determining that the needs of American businesses cannot be satisfied during fiscal year 2024 with United States workers who are willing, qualified, and able to perform temporary nonagricultural labor, may increase the total number of aliens who may receive a visa under section 101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(b) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(b)) in such fiscal year above such limitation by not more than the highest number of H-2B nonimmigrants who participated in the H-2B returning worker program in any fiscal year in which returning workers were exempt from such numerical limitation.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Oklahoma is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. McGOVERN), my very good friend, the ranking member of the full committee, pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 730.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, last night, the Rules Committee met and reported out a rule, House Resolution 730, providing for the consideration of H.R. 5692, the Ukraine Security Assistance and Oversight Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2024, under a closed rule.

It provides 30 minutes of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees, and it provides for one motion to recommit.

I rise today, Mr. Speaker, in order to support that rule and the underlying legislation.

Mr. Speaker, although I know my friends in the minority will express some consternation about today's rule, it sets up a discussion that I think is important to have.

The rule takes \$300 million in funds intended to support Ukraine out of the current Defense appropriations process. It then makes in order a separate vote on those funds through H.R. 5692.

The bill also creates a special inspector general for Ukraine assistance, ensuring that American dollars going to Ukraine receive appropriate oversight and supervision.

Now, as my friends across the aisle are well aware, there is no mystery about how I will vote on this question. Ukraine has been and remains the victim of Vladimir Putin's unprovoked, unjust, and illegal invasion of his neighbor to the West. I firmly support continuing to provide funding to Ukraine so that they can continue to resist that invasion. It is not only in America's national interests to do so, but it is also the right thing to do.

For other Members of the House and for their constituents, a vote on funding for Ukraine is a matter of conscience. Shifting these funds out of the Defense appropriations process and into a separate bill allows those Members for whom there is a question of conscience to vote to support our troops through an otherwise robust Defense appropriations bill while also allowing all Members to vote separately on providing funding to Ukraine.

Mr. Speaker, it is never a bad thing to have all Members of the House take a vote on a question. It is especially helpful in this instance to give all Members the chance to be heard.

Some of my Republican colleagues are supportive of the overall Defense appropriations bill but want to vote separately on Ukraine. Conversely, the vast majority of my friends across the aisle support funding for Ukraine but are opposed to the Defense appropriations bill. Voting on this issue separately through H.R. 5692 gives everyone a chance to be recorded on this important topic.

This resolution does something else that I think is very important. It sets up a debate about American policy toward Ukraine. This is a very valuable discussion to have, Mr. Speaker, and one that the American people would assuredly benefit from.

A debate on American policy toward Ukraine is important. It would help answer certain key questions that Americans are asking, such as: What is America's overall strategy? How are funds being used in Ukraine? What oversight policies are in place?