

## POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Japan—Rolling Airframe Missiles (RAM)  
Block 2B Tactical Missiles

The Government of Japan has requested to buy up to sixty-three (63) Rolling Airframe Missiles (RAM) Block 2B Tactical Missiles, RIM-116E. Also included are RAM Guided Missile Round Pack Tri-Pack shipping and storage containers; training equipment; operator manuals and technical documentation; U.S. Government and contractor engineering; technical and logistic support services; support for establishment of an Intermediate Level Maintenance Facility (ILMF); and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$74.6 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy goals and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a major ally that is a force for political stability and economic progress in the Indo-Pacific region.

The proposed sale will improve Japan's capability to meet current and future threats by providing significantly enhanced self-defense for surface units defending/transiting/patrolling critical air and sea lines of communication.

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

The principal contractor will be Raytheon Missiles and Defense Company, Tucson, AZ. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

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

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

## TRANSMITTAL NO. 23-68

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

## Annex Item No. vii

## (vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The RIM-116E Rolling Airframe Missile (RAM) is an autonomous, lightweight, supersonic, surface-to-air tactical missile for ship self-defense against current and evolving anti-ship cruise missile threats. Advanced technology in the RIM-116E includes dual-mode (radio frequency/infrared) (RF/IR) guidance with IR all-the-way capability for non-emitting threats.

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

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

4. A determination has been made that Japan can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Japan.

TRIBUTE TO MICHIGAN'S  
VETERANS

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I rise today to salute the people of

Michigan past and present who have served in our Armed Forces and to honor their families.

There are few actions as selfless as serving in our military. When our Nation called, these brave Michiganders stood up. They were willing to be sent anywhere—at any time—in order to protect our Nation, our people, and our values. Some of them never came home. Others came home, but were never quite the same. And many continue to serve their communities long after their military commitment is fulfilled: a U.S. Marine veteran from Holland who walks across the State each year to raise awareness of mental health issues and to highlight organizations that serve veterans; an Air Force veteran in Mid-Michigan who shares her own painful story about trying to fit in to help support other historically excluded veterans; an Upper Peninsula veteran who has spent decades coaching and mentoring young people through youth sports.

These veterans have our backs. It is crucial that we have theirs, too. That is why I was so pleased when President Biden signed the bipartisan PACT Act into law last year. This law helps ensure that veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange, burn pits, and other toxic substances during their service receive the healthcare and benefits they have earned.

One year later, the Department of Veterans Affairs has received more than 780,000 disability claims under the PACT Act and approved more than 348,000. And more than 111,000 veterans have enrolled in VA healthcare, including nearly 10,000 in Michigan. These 10,000 Michigan veterans served honorably and bravely. Sadly, they have paid a price for that service. And just as they were there for us in our Nation's time of need, now we can be with them in theirs.

Whether it is healthcare, education, a chance at a good job, or military recognition, veterans should not stand at the back of the line for anything. That is what my dad—a World War II veteran—taught me, and I have spent my time in public service ensuring that we keep our promises to our veterans. The PACT Act is one more promise kept.

On this Veterans Day and every day, I salute everyone who has served in our military and their families. I thank them for their service, their sacrifice, and their deep dedication to our Nation. Every day, they show us what patriotism is all about.

NATIONAL WILD TURKEY  
FEDERATION

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today, along with my colleague TIM SCOTT of South Carolina, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the National Wild Turkey Federation and to recognize the organization's significant contributions to research, habitat conservation, as well as its promotion and protection of the long-honored outdoor traditions of the United States.

The National Wild Turkey Federation was incorporated on March 28, 1973, with the aim of bringing together State, Federal, and nongovernmental partners to promote the conservation of wild turkeys. Edgefield, SC, is proud to house the organization's national headquarters, and both the State and Nation continue to benefit from their stewardship.

Since 1985, the National Wild Turkey Federation, its members, and chapters have invested more than \$500,000,000 to conserve or enhance more than 22,000,000 acres of critical wildlife habitat, forests, and grasslands, as well as more than \$8,500,000 in research to ensure a healthy wild turkey population. In addition, the organization is a long-standing Stewardship partner with the U.S. Forest Service and is heavily engaged in the development and implementation of the Department of Agriculture's Wildfire Crisis Strategy. These efforts have played a significant role in one of the greatest conservation success stories in the United States: the return of the wild turkey from the brink of extinction.

I ask that you and our colleagues join me in celebrating the 50th anniversary of the National Wild Turkey Federation and wish the organization and its members continued success in fulfilling their mission.

## MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:55 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to H. Res. 810, resolving that a message be sent to the Senate to inform that body that MIKE JOHNSON, a Representative from the State of Louisiana, has been elected Speaker of the House of Representatives.

## MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 3135. A bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for assistance for the situation in Israel for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER  
COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-2607. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Import Regulations for Horses" ((RIN0579-AE62) (Docket No. APHIS-2016-0033)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 12, 2023; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2608. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense,

transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Privacy Act of 1974; Implementation (CIG-16, Inspector General Administrative Investigation Records (IGAIR))” (RIN0790-AL62) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 16, 2023; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2609. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Limitation on Certain Institutes of Higher Education” (RIN0790-AL41) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 12, 2023; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2610. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to an inventory summary of certain required activities performed during the preceding fiscal year pursuant to staff augmentation contracts for services for on behalf of the Department; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2611. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a certification that the export of the listed items to the People’s Republic of China is not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2612. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Modernization of Beneficial Ownership Reporting” (RIN3235-AM93) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 16, 2023; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2613. A communication from the Secretary of the Interior, transmitting a legislative proposal relative to providing appropriations to carry out agreements related to the Compacts of free Association between the Government of the United States of America and the government of the three freely associated states; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-2614. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Dedicated Purpose Pool Pump Motors” (RIN1904-AF27) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 12, 2023; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-2615. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Commercial Water Heating Equipment” (RIN1904-AD34) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 23, 2023; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

## PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-77. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Alaska urging the United States Secretary of Commerce, the

National Marine Fisheries Service, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and other federal and state agencies to defend the state’s fisheries, including the Southeast Alaska troll fishery; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5

Whereas commercial fishing is a mainstay of the state’s economy and the largest private sector employer in the state; and

Whereas, in Southeast Alaska alone, the seafood industry directly employed 11,300 workers and provided \$653,000,000 in total economic output in 2019; and

Whereas the troll fleet is one of the largest fleets in the state and the largest fleet in Southeast Alaska, and, in 2019, approximately 1,450 fishers earned income directly from the fishery; and

Whereas state residents comprise 85 percent of the state’s commercial troll permit holders, making it the highest level of local ownership of any major fishery in the state; and

Whereas commercial salmon trolling contributes to the economy of Southeast Alaska year-round, with winter, spring, and summer troll seasons sustaining employment in fishing, seafood processing, and fisheries-related industries; and

Whereas, when accounting for multiplier effects of the fishing, seafood processing, and fisheries-related industries, commercial trolling is one of the three most valuable commercial fisheries in Southeast Alaska and has a total annual economic impact of approximately \$85,000,000, as measured in terms of total output; and

Whereas, as compared to the costs of entry to other state fisheries, the affordability of the troll fishery provides an entry level opportunity for new commercial fishers, and, as a result, there are troll fishery permit holders in nearly all 33 communities in Southeast Alaska, all of which will suffer if the Southeast Alaska chinook troll fishery is closed; and

Whereas the Wild Fish Conservancy filed a lawsuit against the United States Secretary of Commerce and the National Marine Fisheries Service alleging that the Southeast Alaska chinook troll fishery authorized by the National Marine Fisheries Service is contributing to the extinction of an endangered population of southern resident killer whales; and

Whereas only two to three percent of the total Alaska catch is from the Puget Sound chinook salmon and lower Columbia River fall stocks, which constitute the most important stocks for southern resident killer whales, and the Alaska fishery catch is only a small portion of those stocks’ runs; and

Whereas numerous studies have identified habitat loss and industrial activities in Puget Sound as factors negatively affecting southern resident killer whales; and

Whereas, while the population of southern resident killer whales has struggled, most of the northern and Alaska resident killer whale populations have at least doubled over the last 40 years; and

Whereas the Wild Fish Conservancy lawsuit has the potential to result in the closure of the Southeast Alaska troll fishery, despite the improbability of the closure resulting in meaningful benefits to southern resident killer whales; and

Whereas, if successful, the Wild Fish Conservancy lawsuit could affect other state fisheries by rescinding the state’s delegated authority to manage and implement salmon fisheries in state water and in the exclusive economic zone off the shores of the state, requiring changes in the allocation of salmon under the Pacific Salmon Treaty and implementing new restrictions and closures in the state’s fisheries; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Alaska State Legislature urges the National Marine Fisheries Service to find a way to hold the Southeast Alaska troll fishery harmless and prioritize preparation of the necessary documents and processes to support the continuation of the Southeast Alaska winter and summer troll fisheries while the National Marine Fisheries Service prepares a new biological opinion; and be it

*Resolved*, That the Alaska State Legislature urges the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to commit the necessary resources to effectively defend the state’s fisheries in present and future lawsuits, including the Wild Fish Conservancy lawsuit; and be it

*Resolved*, That the Alaska State Legislature urges the state to work with the Alaska Congressional delegation to keep the Southeast Alaska troll fishery open should the court adopt the magistrate judge’s recommendation that the troll fishery be closed.

Copies of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, President of the United States; the Honorable Kamala D. Harris, Vice President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Gina Raimondo, United States Secretary of Commerce; the Honorable Richard W. Spinrad, Ph.D., United States Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Administrator; Janet Coit, Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; the Honorable Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner, Alaska Department of Fish and Game; and the Honorable Lisa Murkowski and the Honorable Dan Sullivan, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Mary Peltola, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

POM-78. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Alaska disapproving the proposed rule by the National Park Service limiting non-subsistence hunting methods and urging the National Park Service to withdraw the rule; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 10

Whereas the United States Supreme Court has long interpreted the United States Constitution to provide state primacy in wildlife management; and

Whereas art. VIII, sec. 4, Constitution of the State of Alaska, provides for the conservation and sustainable use of wildlife, including the maintenance of healthy predator populations; and

Whereas federal law recognizes the state’s authority to manage wildlife, including the Alaska Statehood Act and the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act; and

Whereas the state has managed wildlife on both state and federal land in Alaska since the United States Department of the Interior granted the state management authority in 1959; and

Whereas the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act established each of the national preserves in the state as National Park Service land that would remain open to hunting and trapping under state management; and

Whereas the National Park Service proposed a rule to amend its regulations for non-subsistence hunting and trapping in national preserves that would prohibit certain hunting practices that have been approved by the Alaska Board of Game following a public process with significant input from biologists, local residents, and other stakeholders; and

Whereas, ignoring the state’s objection, the National Park Service has labeled certain hunting practices as predator control or