

When graduates of the Erikson Institute cross the stage with their diploma, they are each handed a yellow rose. This tradition began in Barbara's own garden, and it continues to this day as a symbol of her care and commitment to Erikson, its graduates, and our Nation's children. When future graduates receive their yellow rose, I hope they feel Barbara's presence with them and carry her legacy forward.

Loretta and I send my deepest condolences to all of Barbara's family and friends who are mourning her passing but celebrating her amazing life.

#### ARMS SALES NOTIFICATIONS

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY  
COOPERATION AGENCY,  
Washington, DC.

Hon. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN,  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 24-114, concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Greece for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$160 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL F. MILLER,  
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 24-114

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Greece.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment\* \$0.

Other \$160 million.

Total \$160 million.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase: The Government of Greece has requested to buy equipment and services for follow-on support of its F-16 engines.

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-Major Defense Equipment: The following non-MDE items will be included: engine components, parts, and accessories; aircraft engine and ground handling equipment; major and minor modifications, spare parts, consumables and accessories, and repair and return support; classified and unclassified software delivery and support; classified and unclassified publications and technical documentation; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (GR-D-QBN).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: GR-D-SBD.

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

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: November 14, 2024.

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

#### POLICY JUSTIFICATION

##### Greece—F-16 Engine Follow-On Support

The Government of Greece has requested to buy equipment and services for follow-on support of its F-16 engines. The following non-MDE items will be included: engine components, parts, and accessories; aircraft engine and ground handling equipment; major and minor modifications; spare parts, consumables and accessories, and repair and return support; classified and unclassified software delivery and support; classified and unclassified publications and technical documentation; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$160 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by improving the security of a NATO Ally that continues to be a force for political and economic stability in Europe.

The proposed sale will improve Greece's capability to maintain its F-16 aircraft fleet, which it operates to promote security in the Eastern Mediterranean. Greece will have no difficulty absorbing these articles and services into its armed forces.

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

The principal contractor will be General Electric Aerospace, located in Evendale, OH. 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 Greece.

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

#### CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO § 620C(D) OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961, AS AMENDED

Pursuant to Section 620C(d) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended (the Act), Executive Order 12163, State Department Delegation of Authority No. 293-2, and State Department Delegation of Authority 510; I hereby certify that the furnishing to Greece of equipment and services for the refurbishment of F-16 aircraft engines and related defense articles and services is consistent with the principles contained in Section 620C(b) of the Act.

This certification will be made part of the notification to Congress under Section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended,

regarding the proposed sale of the above-named articles and services and is based on the justification accompanying such notification, of which such justification constitutes a full explanation.

BONNIE D. JENKINS,

Under Secretary for Arms Control and  
International Security.

#### VOTE EXPLANATION

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I was absent for one rollcall vote on November 19, 2024. On November 19, had I been present, I would have voted yea on the Motion to Instruct the Sergeant at Arms to Request the Presence of Absentee Senators (rollcall vote No. 283).

#### TRIBUTE TO FRANCIS J. FLYNN

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise, on behalf of myself and Senator WHITEHOUSE, to congratulate Francis J. Flynn, president of the Rhode Island Federation of Teachers and Health Professionals, on his upcoming retirement and to thank him for his nearly five decades of service to Rhode Island students, educators, and working families. Frank's kindness, expertise, and commitment to lifting up educators and the communities they serve have made him an indispensable resource for public servants at all levels of government across our State.

A proud graduate of Rhode Island College, Frank started his career in Cranston as a special education teacher. He served at all levels from elementary school through high school and worked to ensure that students with special needs had the supports necessary to fully participate in academics and the school community. Frank's devotion to his students and the community put him on a leadership path where he could focus his advocacy in support of students and educators. The skills and values he developed as a special education teacher—a focus on inclusion and the ability to address people's unique needs—served him well as he assumed a leadership role in the Cranston Teachers' Alliance, where he served as president for 8 years. During that time, he worked with the district to establish new teacher mentoring programs, a professional development institute, and other reforms, looking for ways to collaborate on things that were, in his words, “good for the kids and good for the district.”

In 2010, Frank was elected president of the Rhode Island Federation of Teachers and Health Professionals, where he continued his pragmatic approach to leadership, maintaining open lines of communication and looking for areas to collaborate. His steady leadership helped Rhode Island educators navigate the once-in-a-generation pandemic, moving to online and hybrid learning and providing the extra support that students needed to stay connected to their studies and their communities.

Frank's leadership is widely recognized and valued across the labor



movement. He has served on the executive committee of the Rhode Island AFL-CIO, Working Rhode Island, the Providence Central Labor Committee, and as a national vice president for the American Federation of Teachers. He was recently awarded the Dante F. Mollo Labor United Award from the United Way of Rhode Island.

We thank him for his friendship and kindness over many years and for his great inspiration. Frank always demonstrated that, even during the most contentious times, you can find ways to work collaboratively. That is a lesson that resonates during these challenging times and an example that we should follow.

We join countless other Rhode Islanders in wishing Frank a happy and healthy retirement in the company of his wife Sharon and their children and grandchildren. He has earned it.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### RECOGNIZING REPAINT STUDIOS

• Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize Repaint Studios of Hampton, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

At the beginning of 2021, Billie Asmus left her career in the agriculture industry to pursue furniture refinishing and refurbishing full-time while caring for her first child. As time went on, Billie became acutely aware of the waste and mess generated by disposable plastic paint trays and was motivated to explore sustainable alternatives that wasn't available in the market.

Billie returned to school to pursue a sustainable alternative to paint trays when she was pregnant with her second child. She entered a pitch competition and won third place for her concept: the Repaint Tray. Encouraged by the success and feedback, Billie filed the nonprovisional patent for the Repaint Tray and found a manufacturing team that helped her expand her business. She attended meetings with her newborn strapped to her chest and was committed to following through what would later be categorized as groundbreaking innovation. Later that year, Billie publicly announced the Repaint Tray at the Iowa EntreFEST pitch competition, secured third place, and earned recognition as one of Iowa's Top 10 Startups.

After winning the Lowe's Global Blue Product Pitch Competition in December 2023, Repaint Studios officially launched the Repaint Tray to the market in February 2024. In August, Repaint Studios won first place at the Pappajohn Iowa Entrepreneurial Venture Competition. The company now

sells Repaint Trays, lids, and liners worldwide through its online marketplace. Partnering with six independent retailers, as well as Lowe's and Home Depot, Repaint Studios expanded its reach and will launch in Lowe's stores nationwide, including all locations in Iowa, later this year.

After graduating from the Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center at North Iowa Area Community College, Billie returned to the venture school program as a coach. In this role, she helps new entrepreneurs navigate the process and challenges of product-based manufacturing. Repaint Studios has also created a giveback program to recycle all damaged products. Billie has partnered with TerraCycle, a global leader in recycling, to ensure Repaint Studios materials are repurposed for the construction of accessible playgrounds with features for children with disabilities. Today, Repaint Studios has two community-based employees and looks forward to celebrating its third anniversary next year.

Repaint Studio's commitment to sustainability and customer service is inspiring. I want to congratulate Billie, her family, and the entire team at Repaint Studios for their dedication to innovative problem-solving and entrepreneurship. I look forward to seeing their continued success in Iowa.●

##### TRIBUTE TO MATTHEW GREGG

• Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I am honored to recognize Matthew "Matty" Gregg of Nashua as October's Granite Stater of the Month. Matty ran the entire length of New Hampshire earlier this month—230 miles—to raise awareness about hunger in our state.

Matty's run was motivated by his desire to draw attention to the thousands of Granite Staters who experience food insecurity, to inspire others to help those in need, and to encourage State government leaders to evaluate what more they could do to address hunger. He raised funds for NH Hunger Solutions, which connects Granite State families with resources, and also highlighted additional organizations that address food insecurity. For instance, Matty spotlighted White Mountains Community College, which allows all students to eat for free, and the Manchester Food Collaborative, which focuses on expanding access to healthy food for everyone in Manchester while reducing food waste. Matty is also focused on ending the stigma that can sometimes be associated with seeking help, whether it is receiving free lunch at school or visiting a food bank.

Matty's 230-mile New Hampshire run took 8 days, and he made 11 stops. He was cheered on by students from local schools at his stops up and down the State—in his hometown of Nashua, 100 students from Mt. Pleasant Elementary came to his stop and even ran with him for a few minutes. Matty's run for hunger was not the first time that he has combined his love of run-

ning with his passion for making a difference. In 2018, he ran across America for the Firefighter Cancer Support Network, running more than 5,245 miles and raising thousands of dollars. According to Matty, these extreme runs act like "lightning rods" to draw attention to a cause, and over the past decade, he has raised over \$600,000 for different charities. He says that the support of his family—including from his wife Alicia and his children Noah, Ethan, and Emma—makes it easier to endure the grueling distances.

Matty's dedication to ending hunger in our State is a true example of the New Hampshire spirit of taking action to address issues affecting our communities. His creativity and willingness to—literally—go the extra mile to help more people get the food that they need is why I am proud to name him Granite Stater of the Month.●

##### TRIBUTE TO LINDA SARETTE

• Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I am honored to recognize Linda Sarette of Sanbornton as November's Granite Stater of the Month. Linda has been tending the gardens at the New Hampshire State Veterans Cemetery since 2019, ensuring that the final resting place of fallen servicemembers is a place of beauty and calm.

Linda was raised to understand the value of service. Her father served in the Coast Guard, and after his death in 2019, he was buried at the New Hampshire State Veterans Cemetery in Boscaawen. The cemetery is a place that is deeply important to our State, where we can reflect on the brave Granite Staters who gave the words "Live Free or Die" true meaning. Linda noticed that there was no garden in the section that her father was buried in, and the staff told her that they would put one in if she would care for it—and she has been tending gardens at the cemetery ever since. Linda has been gardening for her entire life, and she uses her knowledge and skills to plant flowers, weed, and trim the hedges at the more than 100 gardens throughout the cemetery, working up to 4 days a week in the spring.

Over the years, Linda has found a family of volunteers at the cemetery. She has gotten to know many of the people that come to visit loved ones at the cemetery. Throughout the years, different people have also joined Linda in volunteering to take care of the gardens, but regardless of whether other volunteers are there, she has remained a constant presence. Linda is there on quiet days, comforting families going through a difficult time, and she is there on holidays to place wreaths and flags at each grave.

Linda's commitment to ensuring that all fallen servicemembers are shown dignity at their final resting place is a beautiful example of the Granite State spirit of showing respect toward those who serve, in life and in death. Her kindness in supporting the