

agree, we have got to be able to fix that.

In this bill, we changed it. As of next year, every American who pays taxes, if you donate to a nonprofit—and you pick who it is; it doesn't matter—if you donate to a nonprofit, you can write off up to \$2,000 of your donations to a nonprofit on your taxes.

Why did we do that? We did that because we strongly believe that government is not the only safety net in America. There are three safety nets in America. The family is the first safety net. The second safety net are nonprofits and houses of worship all over the country. The third is government.

Government can never meet all the needs. Government may be able to send you a check, but if you are going to get a mentor, if you are going to get somebody to walk alongside you, that is often a nonprofit.

Nonprofits are the ones who take care of the hungry and the homeless and the hurting face-to-face in every single community—tiny little nonprofits, houses of worship all over the country that volunteer their time.

This will encourage more investment in those nonprofits to strengthen our safety net. For those who are hurting the most in our country, they would be able to get help directly where they are.

Quite frankly, if we want to incentivize great help toward the people who are right there in their community, then let's have stronger nonprofits. We did that in this bill. We are not talking about it; we did it.

President Biden put in a rule last year that many of us were shocked by, quite frankly, on both sides of the aisle. He put in a rule saying, for nursing homes all across the country, skilled nursing facilities, whoever it may be, they have got to have a certain new level of staffing. That sounds like a nice idea to say you have got to have more nurses there all the time. That seems nice if you are in Washington, DC, but if you are in rural America, guess what. There just aren't enough nurses to do that.

So in many of these nursing facilities, they have a nurse who is nearby, and when there is a crisis, they are on call all the time, but they are not physically there. But they are putting in a new requirement that they have to physically be there. Do you know what that means? That means rural nursing homes could not operate because they physically don't have enough nurses in the area to do that.

That meant many rural nursing homes in my State were already looking at closing and just moving operations into the suburbs and into the cities where they can get enough nurses. That makes people in my State have to drive farther to see their loved one. That is wrong. That is just wrong.

We changed that in this bill, and we said, no, we are not going to have that.

It sounds like a nice idea. In reality, it shuts down access in rural America

to family members who are at one of the most vulnerable moments they have ever had in their life. We want to make sure families can surround people in those really tough days that happen for many people in nursing and skilled nursing facilities.

Just three quick stories. I know I have talked for a long time. But when I say it is a big beautiful bill, it is big. There is a lot that is in it that I think a lot of people have missed. But if I can just give you three quick stories.

Let me talk about a senior adult in Bethany, OK. Her name is Marilyn. She just found out about the new standard deduction that is in the One Big Beautiful Bill for senior adults that are working senior adults. She just found out about it.

She told us: Our Social Security benefits that we've paid into for all these years are key, but they're buying less and less these days. So we're really excited about maybe having some improvement on that.

She said: You just never know what life's going to bring. And so the benefit of not being taxed now on my Social Security benefits and being able to keep more of my Social Security that I paid into is essential for me, as she said, because many of us that are using that for our living expenses and with the intention of not drawing down our reserves, our savings so we can make sure that it is still there for the future.

She is pretty excited about this change in the law where working seniors will not have to pay as much taxes and won't pay taxes on their Social Security benefits.

Todd Gibson, he is the police chief in Moore, OK. We talked to him about the no tax on overtime. This was his statement: Police Officers do a lot of work on overtime.

There are a lot of Capitol Police who walk around here. In the last couple of weeks, they have done a lot of overtime.

Todd said this: Any bit of money that a police officer can pour back into their family and back into their home is a positive thing. In the rural and smaller organizations, this is really going to make an impact to retain quality people in the community that provide public safety.

He is pretty excited about the no tax on overtime.

Finally, last story, there is a waitress in Yukon, OK. Her name is Rheanna. She is really excited about the no tax on tips.

She told us this: Tips play a huge role in my take-home pay. Being able to take home more of my hard-earned tips means I will be able to support my family a lot better. Not only does every hard-earned dollar that I make go towards things like my car note, a mortgage, and childcare, being able to keep more of it and to put it toward the things that I love and people that I love, that will go a long ways. It's coming at a great time.

She said: The interest rates and the groceries are going up. That gives me

an upper hand to be able to have extra cash in my pocket.

So we were thinking about people all over our States as we worked on the One Big Beautiful Bill.

And I understand the dissension and the divisions. We don't all agree on things. But as we worked on this bill, we are trying to figure out what is the best tax policy for every American. What are the areas where we are the most vulnerable, and what do we need to solve? That is what we worked on in the One Big Beautiful Bill.

Mr. President, you know full well because you know this bill well. I didn't even have time to cover all of it. That is hitting the high points of it. There is a lot more there, and I think in the days ahead, as people get the facts and the information about what really happened, they are going to be grateful to have a little bit of breathing room to be able to support their family just a little bit more.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 171.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Terrance Cole, of Virginia, to be Administrator of Drug Enforcement.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 171, Terrance Cole, of Virginia, to be Administrator of Drug Enforcement.

John Thune, Markwayne Mullin, John Barrasso, Tim Sheehy, Pete Ricketts, Steve Daines, Bernie Moreno, Mike Rounds, Rick Scott of Florida, Eric Schmitt, Tommy Tuberville, Jim Banks, Thom Tillis, David McCormick, James Lankford, Jon A. Husted, Bill Hagerty.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

**MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2026—Motion to Proceed**

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 121, H.R. 3944.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar 121, H.R. 3944, a bill making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes.

**CLOTURE MOTION**

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk for the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 121, H.R. 3944.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

**CLOTURE MOTION**

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 121, H.R. 3944, a bill making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes.

John Thune, David McCormick, Marsha Blackburn, James E. Risch, Jon A. Husted, Jim Banks, Tom Cotton, Steve Daines, Ashley B. Moody, Cynthia M. Lummis, Mike Crapo, Roger F. Wicker, Roger Marshall, James Lankford, Todd Young, Mike Rounds, Dan Sullivan.

**MORNING BUSINESS**

**ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION**

Mr. RISCH. 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. JAMES E. RISCH,  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 25-00. This transmittal notifies a cost increase in excess of the total value previously described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 23-42 of September 20, 2023.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL F. MILLER,  
Director.

Enclosure.

**TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-00**

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(b)(5)(C), AECA)

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Kuwait.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 23-42; Date: September 20, 2023; Implementing Agency: Army; Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description: On September 20, 2023, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 23-42 of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of the replacement of expiring limited life components and certifications testing in order to support an operational life of thirty (30) years for Patriot Advanced Capability-3 (PAC-3) missiles. Included in this potential sale were: test and repair of PAC-3 missiles; stockpile reliability testing and field returns; repair and return of classified and unclassified PAC-3 missile items and ground support equipment (GSE) component level parts; replenishment of classified and unclassified missile spares, GSE spares, and seeker spares; tools to improve the turnaround time of the repair and recertification efforts; air transportation services for missile processing; U.S. Government and contractor technical and logistics support; training devices; organizational equipment; support equipment; test equipment; technical data and publications; personnel training and training equipment; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost was \$150 million. There was no Major Defense Equipment (MDE) associated with this sale.

This transmittal notifies an increase in non-MDE value by \$100 million, due to recent cost increases. There are no additional MDE or non-MDE items being reported with this notification. The estimated non-MDE and total case values will increase by \$100 million to a revised \$250 million.

(iv) Significance: Recent cost increases have brought about the need to add value to the original notification. The proposed value increase will improve Kuwait's capability to meet current and future threats.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy goals and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a major non-NATO ally that is a force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: None.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: July 17, 2025.

**ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION**

Mr. RISCH. 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. JAMES E. RISCH,  
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. 25-38, concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Lebanon for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$100 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. 25-38**

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 Lebanon.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:  
Major Defense Equipment\* \$0.  
Other \$100 million.  
Total \$100 million.

Funding Source: Foreign Military Financing.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase: Foreign Military Sales (FMS) case LE-D-QAF was below congressional notification threshold at \$43.7 million (\$0 in Major Defense Equipment) and included Cartridge Actuated Devices and Propellant Actuated Devices (CAD/PADs); engine components, parts, and accessories; aircraft engine and ground handling equipment; major and minor modifications; aircraft components, spares, and accessories; spare parts, consumables, and accessories, and repair and return support; unclassified software delivery and support; unclassified publications and technical documentation; clothing, textiles, and individual equipment; transportation support; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The Government of Lebanon has requested that the case be amended to include support equipment; and other elements of logistics and program support. This amendment will cause the case to exceed the notification threshold, and thus notification of the entire program is required. The above notification requirements are combined as follows: