bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2905. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2906. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2907. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2908. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2909. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2910. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2911. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2912. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2913. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2914. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2915. Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Mr. CURTIS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2916. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2917. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2918. Mr. KING (for himself and Mr. CRAMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2919. Mr. KING (for himself and Mr. SHEEHY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2920. Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. REED) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2921. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2922. Mr. COONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2923. Mr. COONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2924. Mr. COONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2925. Mr. COONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2926. Ms. HASSAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2927. Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Ms. ERNST) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2928. Ms. HASSAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2929. Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Mr. LANKFORD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2930. Ms. HASSAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2931. Ms. HASSAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2932. Ms. HASSAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2933. Ms. HASSAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2934. Ms. HASSAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2935. Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Mr. BOOZMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2936. Ms. HASSAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2937. Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Ms. HIRONO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2938. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2939. Mrs. MURRAY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2940. Mr. COONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2941. Mr. COONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2942. Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2943. Mr. MERKLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2944. Mr. MERKLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2945. Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2946. Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Ms. HIRONO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2947. Mr. LUJÁN (for himself and Mr. HEINRICH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2948. Mrs. GILLIBRAND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2949. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2950. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2951. Ms. ROSEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2952. Mr. WARNOCK submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2953. Mr. WARNOCK submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2954. Mr. WARNOCK submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2955. Mr. WARNOCK submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2956. Mr. WARNOCK submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2900. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE RELIABILITY RESEARCH FOR DEFENSE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Defense of the Advanced Research Projects Agency shall, in collaboration with the heads of relevant Federal agencies—

(1) identify fundamental research work streams to enable more robust evaluations of artificial intelligence models before deployment, including methods to analyze model internals, detect hidden behaviors that could compromise mission effectiveness, and protect artificial intelligence systems from physical tampering and side-channel attacks; and

(2) initiate the review, research, and development of advanced techniques for assessment of reliability of artificial intelligence models, mechanistic interpretability of such models, and related hardware security.

(b) RESEARCH SHARING.—The Director shall share with the broader scientific community the findings of the Director with respect to the activities carried out under subsection (a) and the results of research conducted under such subsection whenever doing so does not compromise classified information or national security interests.

(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director shall submit to Congress a

report on the findings of the Director with respect to the activities carried out under subsection (a) and the results of research conducted under such subsection. Such report shall include recommendations for further related avenues of research.

SA 2901. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title XXVIII, add the following:

SEC. 2827. LIMITATION ON OPPOSITION TO CERTAIN LAND USE CHANGES THAT WOULD ALLOW ADDITIONAL HOUSING SUPPLY.

Prior to a Regional Environmental Coordinator or other official of the Department of Defense taking a position in opposition to land use changes that would allow additional housing supply in an area already zoned for residential use, such official shall obtain approval for such position from the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment and shall notify the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives.

SA 2902. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title III, insert the following:

SEC. 3____. REPORT ON IMPACT TO ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES AT INSTALLATIONS OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE IN THE INDO-PACIFIC REGION AS A RESULT OF EXTREME WEATHER HAZARDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report analyzing the potential risk exposure of water and energy utilities at installations of the Department of Defense in the Indo-Pacific region as a result of extreme weather events.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) A categorized list of incidents or malfunctions that led to a major disruption of water or energy services as a result of extreme weather that impeded the utilities at an installation of the Department in the Indo-Pacific region from functioning properly.

(2) An assessment of installations of the Department in the Indo-Pacific region that the Secretary determines are at a unique risk for energy and water utility disruptions due to extreme weather events and any mitigating actions those installations took to reduce that risk.

(3) A list of administrative policies of the Department and statutes that the Secretary determines are inhibiting the abilities of installation commanders to better prepare and develop resilience strategies to address vulnerability of water and energy utilities to extreme weather events.

(4) An assessment of how the design of water and energy utility infrastructure at future installations of the Department is being adjusted to account for extreme weather events.

SA 2903. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE COMPLIANCE WITH NAGPRA.

(a) CLARIFICATION.—Cultural items (as defined in section 2 of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (25 U.S.C. 3001)) relating to an Indian Boarding School that are located, buried, or otherwise found on property of the Department of Defense are subject to that Act (25 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.).

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Defense to assist claimants in carrying out the responsibilities of those claimants under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (25 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) $2,000,000, to remain available until expended.

SA 2904. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. EXPANSION OF EXCEPTIONS TO RESTRICTION ON DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE IN CONNECTION WITH REALIGNMENT OF MARINE CORPS FORCES IN ASIA-PACIFIC REGION.

Section 2844(b)(2) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–328; 130 Stat. 2742) is amended by inserting ‘‘, including operations and maintenance relating to the curation of archeological and cultural artifacts’’ after ‘‘artifacts’’.

SA 2905. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle C of title II, add the following:

SEC. 228. HARDWARE-ENABLED GOVERNANCE MECHANISMS FOR EXPORT CONTROL ENFORCEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of the Act, the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, in coordination with the Under Secretary of Commerce for Industry and Security, shall initiate the research and development of hardware-enabled governance mechanisms for advanced chips to ensure that such chips are not exported in violation of export controls imposed by the United States. Such mechanisms may include—

(1) tamper-resistant chip location verification;

(2) high-bandwidth communication bottlenecking;

(3) on-chip metering and licensing; and

(4) tamper-resistant or tamper-evident encasing.

(b) BRIEFING REQUIRED.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering shall provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives to make recommendations for future steps to implement hardware-enabled governance mechanisms described in subsection (a).

SA 2906. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 12____. REPORT ON BENEFITS OF FACT-BASED JOURNALISM IN INDO-PACIFIC REGION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of State, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report outlining the benefits, to United States defense and security objectives in the Indo-Pacific region, of editorially independent, fact-based journalism in the Indo-Pacific region, including throughout the Pacific Islands.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include an assessment of the following:

(1) The benefits to United States defense and security interests of an information environment in the Indo-Pacific region, including the Pacific Islands, that includes fact-based reporting on the malign activities of competitors and adversaries in the region.

(2) The risks to Department of Defense operations and activities of insufficient editorially independent news media in the Indo-Pacific region.

(c) FORM.—The report required by subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

SA 2907. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal

year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title III, add the following:

SEC. 334. REPORT ON RISKS FROM SURFACE AND SUBSURFACE HAZARDS IN THE INDO-PACIFIC REGION.

Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, shall submit to Congress a report that includes the following:

(1) An assessment of the risk from surface and subsurface explosive ordnance hazards, submerged maritime vessels, and related hazards, as determined by the Secretary of Defense, to operations, security cooperation, and other activities of the Department of Defense in the Indo-Pacific region, including—

(A) an assessment of the expected prevalence of unexploded hazards throughout such region in locations that the Secretary of Defense is expecting to begin major or minor construction projects during the one-year period beginning on the date of the report; and

(B) a review of threats to critical infrastructure in Pacific Island countries and territories that could be relevant to potential contingency operations of the Department, including airports, ports, bridges, and hospitals.

(2) An assessment of authorities to allow the Department to partner with the militaries or police forces of Pacific Island countries to conduct surface and subsurface explosive ordnance removal, including underwater ordnance.

(3) An assessment of the value a region-wide survey of unexploded ordnance in the Indo-Pacific region could provide for operations, security cooperation, and other activities of the Department that support the defense and security interests of the United States.

SA 2908. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title III, insert the following:

SEC. 3___. WORKING GROUP ON MARINE BIOSECURITY AT JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, HAWAII.

(a) IN GENERAL.—On and after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Navy shall participate in good faith with a working group on marine biosecurity at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii (in this section referred to as the ''working group'').

(b) MEMBERS.—The members of the working group shall consist of representatives from the following:

(1) The United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

(2) The United States Geological Survey.

(3) The Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources.

(4) The Hawaii Invasive Species Council.

(5) The University of Hawaii.

(6) The Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum.

(7) Williams College.

(8) Such additional entities as may prove necessary or expedient, as determined by the Secretary of the Navy.

(c) EXISTING OR NEW ENTITY.—The working group may be either a newly-constituted entity or an existing entity with substantially the same members.

(d) MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In order to facilitate cooperation among the members of the working group, the Secretary of the Navy shall seek to enter into a memorandum of agreement with the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources.

(2) ELEMENTS.—A memorandum of agreement entered into under paragraph (1) shall contain, at a minimum, the commitment of the Department of Defense—

(A) to work collaboratively and in good faith with all members of the working group;

(B) to the eradication of invasive corals discovered at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in 2020;

(C) to supporting the health of the coastal and marine ecosystem of Hawaii; and

(D) to creating a mechanism for an independent third party, approved by the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, to verify and, as warranted, oversee efforts by the Department of Defense to eradicate invasive corals from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

SA 2909. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 12___. REPORT ON USE OF ADVANCED MARITIME DOMAIN AWARENESS TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS TO COMBAT ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED, AND UNREGULATED FISHING IN PACIFIC ISLANDS REGION.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) many countries in the Pacific Islands region depend on commercial tuna fisheries as a critical component of their economies;

(2) the Government of the People's Republic of China has used its licensed fishing fleet to exert greater influence in the Pacific Islands region, but at the same time, such licensed fishing fleet is also a major contributor to illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing (in this section referred to as ''IUU fishing'') activities;

(3) the sustainability of the fisheries in the Pacific Islands region is threatened by IUU fishing, which depletes both commercially important fish stocks and nontargeted species that help maintain the integrity of the ocean ecosystem;

(4) IUU fishing puts pressure on protected species of marine mammals, sea turtles, and sea birds, which also jeopardizes the integrity of the ocean ecosystem;

(5) because IUU fishing goes unrecorded, the loss of biomass compromises scientists' work to assess and model fishery stocks and advise managers on sustainable catch levels;

(6) beyond the damage to living marine resources, IUU fishing also contributes directly to illegal activity in the Pacific Islands region, such as food fraud, smuggling, and human trafficking;

(7) current approaches to IUU fishing enforcement rely on established methods, such as vessel monitoring systems, logbooks maintained by government fisheries enforcement authorities to record the catches landed by fishing vessels, and corroborating data on catches hand-collected by human observer programs;

(8) such established methods are imperfect because—

(A) vessels can turn off monitoring systems and unlicensed vessels do not use such systems; and

(B) observer coverage is thin and subject to human error and corruption;

(9) maritime domain awareness technology solutions for vessel monitoring have gained credibility in recent years and include systems such as observing instruments deployed on satellites, crewed and uncrewed air and surface systems, aircraft, and surface vessels, and electronic monitoring systems on fishing vessels;

(10) maritime domain awareness technologies hold the promise of significantly augmenting the current IUU fishing enforcement capacities; and

(11) maritime domain awareness technologies offer an avenue for addressing key United States national interests, including such interests relating to—

(A) increasing bilateral diplomatic ties with key allies and partners in the Pacific Islands region;

(B) countering illicit trafficking in arms, narcotics, and human beings associated with IUU fishing;

(C) advancing security, long-term growth, and development in the Pacific Islands region;

(D) supporting ocean conservation objectives;

(E) reducing food insecurity; and

(F) countering attempts by the Government of the People's Republic of China to increase its influence in the Pacific Islands region.

(b) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Commandant of the Coast Guard, and the Secretary of State, shall submit to Congress a report assessing the use of advanced maritime domain awareness technology systems to combat IUU fishing in the Pacific Islands region.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) a review of the effectiveness of existing monitoring technologies, including electronic monitoring systems, to combat IUU fishing;

(B) recommendations for effectively integrating effective monitoring technologies into a Pacific Islands region-wide strategy for IUU fishing enforcement;

(C) an assessment and recommendations for the secure and reliable processing of data from such monitoring technologies, including the security and verification issues;

(D) the technical and financial capacity of countries of the Pacific Islands region to deploy and maintain large-scale use of maritime domain awareness technological systems for the purposes of combating IUU fishing and supporting fisheries resource management;

(E) a review of the technical and financial capacity of regional organizations and international structures to support countries in the Pacific Islands region in the deployment and maintenance of large-scale use of maritime domain awareness technology systems for the purpose of combating IUU fishing and supporting fisheries resource management;

(F) an evaluation of the utility of using foreign assistance, security assistance, and development assistance provided by the United States to countries in the Pacific Islands region to support the large-scale deployment and operations of maritime domain awareness systems to increase maritime security across such region; and

(G) an assessment of the role of large-scale deployment and operations of maritime domain awareness systems throughout the Pacific Islands region to supporting United States economic and national security interests in such region, including efforts related to countering IUU fishing, improving maritime security, and countering malign foreign influence.

SA 2910. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title XII, insert the following:

SEC. 12___. REPORT ON ESTABLISHING A PACIFIC ISLANDS SECURITY DIALOGUE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a report assessing the feasibility and advisability of establishing a United States-based public-private sponsored security dialogue (to be known as the ''Pacific Islands Security Dialogue'') among the Pacific Islands for the purposes of jointly exploring and discussing issues affecting the economic, diplomatic, and national security of the Pacific Islands.

(b) REPORT REQUIRED.—The report required by subsection (a) shall, at a minimum, include the following:

(1) A review of the ability of the Department of State to participate in a public-private sponsored security dialogue.

(2) A survey of Pacific Island countries on their interest in engaging in such a dialogue and potential topics for discussion.

(3) An assessment of the potential locations for conducting a Pacific Islands Security Dialogue in the jurisdiction of the United States.

(4) Consideration of dates for conducting a Pacific Islands Security Dialogue that would maximize participation of representatives from the Pacific Islands.

(5) A review of the funding modalities available to the Department of State to help finance a Pacific Islands Security Dialogue, including grant-making authorities available to the Department of State.

(6) An assessment of any administrative, statutory, or other legal limitations that would prevent the establishment of a Pacific Islands Security Dialogue with participation and support of the Department of State as described in subsection (a).

(7) An analysis of how a Pacific Islands Security Dialogue could help to advance the Boe Declaration on Regional Security, including its emphasis on the changing environment as the greatest existential threat to the Pacific Islands.

(8) An evaluation of how a Pacific Islands Security Dialogue could help amplify the issues and work of existing regional structures and organizations dedicated to the security of the Pacific Islands region, such as the Pacific Island Forum and Pacific Environmental Security Forum.

(9) An analysis of how a Pacific Islands Security Dialogue would assist in the implementation of the Pacific Partnership Strategy of the United States and the National Security Strategy of the United States.

(c) INTERAGENCY CONSULTATION.—To the extent practicable, the Secretary of State may consult with the Secretary of Defense and, where appropriate, evaluate the lessons learned of the Regional Centers for Security Studies of the Department of Defense to assess the feasibility and advisability of establishing the Pacific Islands Security Dialogue.

SA 2911. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 12___. INDO-PACIFIC MARITIME SECURITY INITIATIVE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall cooperate to develop and carry out a program to strengthen maritime security partnerships in the Indo-Pacific region using assets of the Department of Defense and the Department of Homeland Security.

(b) GOALS.—The goals of the program under paragraph (1) shall be, to the extent practicable—

(1) to enhance interoperability between—

(A) Coast Guard and Navy personnel; and

(B) the maritime forces of allied and partner countries in the Indo-Pacific region;

(2) to strengthen Coast Guard, and, as appropriate, Navy, participation in, and coordination with, organizations in the Indo-Pacific region dedicated to coordination and cooperation in support of fisheries policies, ocean conservation, maritime security, and related initiatives;

(3) to strengthen maritime domain awareness, enforcement of exclusive economic zones, marine environment protection, activities to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, and disaster preparedness and resilience;

(4) to mature logistics delivery among countries in the Indo-Pacific region to enhance the ability of the Department of Defense and the Department of Homeland Security to supply remote areas after extreme weather events and other major natural disasters;

(5) to increase the presence of Coast Guard personnel and capabilities to support law enforcement, maritime protection, and capacity-building initiatives in the Indo-Pacific region; and

(6) to conduct research and development in, and, as practicable, deploy technologies or related capabilities to, countries in the Indo-Pacific region that will—

(A) improve maritime domain awareness and the ability to monitor fisheries and other marine resources; and

(B) strengthen disaster warning and response.

(c) STRATEGY.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall jointly submit to Congress a strategy that includes the following:

(1) A review of ongoing United States efforts to promote maritime security, environmental protection, and disaster resilience and preparedness in the Indo-Pacific region.

(2) An assessment of the feasibility and advisability of—

(A) routine ports of call by the Navy and the Coast Guard at ports in countries in the Indo-Pacific region;

(B) expanding shiprider agreements between the United States and countries in the Indo-Pacific region; and

(C) developing joint and multinational exercises focused on improving combined response and logistics delivery in support of humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations.

(3) An assessment of ways in which the presence of Coast Guard cutters and personnel in the Indo-Pacific region may be increased to support law enforcement, maritime security, disaster response, and related goals, which assessment shall include—

(A) a review of challenges related to the deployment of medium-range and long-range cutters, including personnel and logistical requirements;

(B) a review of budgetary constraints that would limit the deployment of additional Coast Guard cutters and resources to the Indo-Pacific region; and

(C) any other consideration the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Commandant of the Coast Guard, considers appropriate.

SA 2912. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. 12___. REPORT ON INCREASED COAST GUARD PRESENCE AND OPERATIONS IN THE INDO-PACIFIC REGION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Commandant of the Coast Guard, the Coast Guard Commander for the Pacific Area, the Commander of the United States Indo-Pacific Command, and the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, shall submit to Congress a report outlining the benefits, with respect to United States defense and security objectives in the Indo-Pacific region, of increased Coast Guard operations in the Western Pacific region.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) An assessment of the risks—

(A) to United States defense and security interests posed by not fully using the range of Coast Guard maritime capabilities, vessels, exercises, and engagements in the Indo-Pacific region, given increased maritime activities, including partner engagement, by the People's Republic of China;

(B) to Department of Defense operations posed by the United States Coast Guard not fully staffing and equipping Coast Guard operations in the Western Pacific region; and

(C) to United States strategic maritime interests in general, including to bilateral maritime partners of the United States, posed by not fully staffing and equipping Coast Guard operations in the Western Pacific region.

(2) An assessment of the opportunity costs of—

(A) using other service capabilities within the Department of Defense to address challenges and threats in the Indo-Pacific region

typically addressed by the Coast Guard, including fentanyl and other illicit drug trafficking; and

(B) not expanding Coast Guard presence and cooperation in Southeast Asia, South Asia, and the Pacific Islands, with a focus on advising, training, deployment, and capacity building.

(3) An assessment of the associated needs of the Department of Defense to fully achieve regional defense and security objectives if the Coast Guard were not to significantly expand its presence in the Indo-Pacific region.

SA 2913. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CONTAMINATED LANDS.

(a) FINDING.—Congress finds that there is a need to systematically advance the geostrategic, military-political, and economic interests of the United States in the Pacific Theater, particularly within the westernmost island State of the United States, which serves as the forward defense platform of the United States and requires a clear foundation for possible regional conflicts and current and future national security threats.

(b) ASSISTANCE REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense (referred to in this subsection as the ''Secretary'') shall provide assistance to the State of Hawaii for the cleanup of hazardous materials, munition debris, unsafe buildings or structures, lead-based paint or asbestos, abandoned equipment, and unexploded ordnance in the State.

(2) PRIORITY.—In providing assistance under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall prioritize cleanup on or near Hawaiian Home Lands (as defined in section 801 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4221)) and pre-1970 military sites.

SA 2914. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of part I of subtitle F of title V, add the following:

SEC. 5___. REPORT ON MATERIALS, PROGRAMS, AND ACTIVITIES RESTRICTED AT DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY SCHOOLS.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Department of Defense Education Activity may be engaging in censorship that could violate the rights of members of the Armed Forces and their families under the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

(b) REPORT REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report enumerating the educational materials, programs, and activities affected by the memoranda issued by the Department of Defense Education Activity on February 5, 2025, restricting the use of materials by covered schools.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) A list of books restricted at a covered school as a result of the memoranda described in paragraph (1).

(B) A list of any curriculum materials or educational guidance that has been modified at a covered school as a result of those memoranda.

(C) A list of programs restricted at a covered school as a result of those memoranda.

(D) A list of activities restricted at a covered school as a result of those memoranda.

(E) A list of holidays or commemorative heritage activities restricted at covered school as a result of those memoranda.

(F) A description of a process by which administrators, teachers, parents, students, and other interested parties at a covered school can submit a complaint about restrictions imposed pursuant to those memoranda to the Director of the Department of Defense Education Activity, including an option for maintaining the anonymity of individuals submitting a complaint.

(3) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

(A) CONGRESSIONAL DEFENSE COMMITTEES.—The term ''congressional defense committees'' has the meaning given that term in section 101(a) of title 10, United States Code.

(B) COVERED SCHOOL.—The term ''coverd school'' means a school operated—

(i) by the Department of Defense Education Activity; or

(ii) with support provided by the Non-Department of Defense Schools Program.

SA 2915. Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Mr. CURTIS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. BANNING OF PRODUCTS CONTAINING A HIGH CONCENTRATION OF SODIUM NITRITE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Any consumer product containing a high concentration of sodium nitrite shall be considered to be a banned hazardous product under section 8 of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2057).

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to—

(1) prohibit any commercial or industrial purpose in which high concentration sodium nitrite is not customarily produced or distributed for sale to, or use or consumption by, or enjoyment of, a consumer; and

(2) apply to high concentration sodium nitrite that meets the definition of a ''drug'', ''device'', or ''cosmetic'' (as such terms are defined in sections 201(g), (h), and (i) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 321(g), (h), and (i))), or ''food'' (as defined in section 201(f) of such Act (21 U.S.C. 321(f))), including poultry and poultry products (as such terms are defined in sections 4(e) and (f) of the Poultry Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 453(e)and (f))), meat and meat food products (as such terms are defined in section 1(j) of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 601(j))), and eggs and egg products (as such terms are defined in section 4 of the Egg Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 1033)).

(c) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

(1) CONSUMER PRODUCT.—The term ''consumer product'' has the meaning given that term under section 3(a)(5) of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2052(a)(5)).

(2) HIGH CONCENTRATION OF SODIUM NITRITE.—The term ''high concentration of sodium nitrite'' means a concentration of 10 or more percent by weight of sodium nitrite.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 2916. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in subtitle C of title XV, insert the following:

SEC. 15___. REPORT ON ENHANCED INTEGRATED AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE SYSTEM IN GUAM.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than December 1, 2025, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the Enhanced Integrated Air and Missile Defense System in Guam.

(b) CONTENTS.—The report submitted pursuant to subsection (a) shall cover the following:

(1) The impact of the Enhanced Integrated Air and Missile Defense System on public infrastructure in Guam, along with a plan to assist with mitigating the resulting effects.

(2) The feasibility of any alternatives to the Enhanced Integrated Air and Missile Defense System in conjunction with the Guam environmental impact statement.

(3) The feasibility of establishing an Economic Adjustment Committee for Guam in accordance with Executive Order 12788 (10 U.S.C. 2391 note; relating to Defense Economic Adjustment Program).

SA 2917. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. REPORT ON IMPACTS OF SANCTIONS ON MILITARIES OF CERTAIN ADVERSARIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Secretary of the Treasury, shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report analyzing the impacts of sanctions imposed by the United States on the armed forces and proxy forces of the Russian Federation and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) An assessment of how sanctions imposed by the United States have impacted the overall readiness of the armed forces of the Russian Federation and the Islamic Republic of Iran, including how those forces have had to reorganize to address readiness gaps as a result of the sanctions.

(2) An assessment of—

(A) the overall health of the domestic defense industrial bases in the Russian Federation and the Islamic Republic of Iran as a result of sanctions imposed by the United States since 2018;

(B) whether those defense industrial bases can keep up with the demands of the armed forces; and

(C) military technology areas that have been stunted or halted by the imposition of the sanctions.

(3) A description of—

(A) the impacts of sanctions imposed by the United States on the ability of proxy forces of the Russian Federation and the Islamic Republic of Iran to conduct extraterritorial operations; and

(B) alternative sources of support that those forces have had to incorporate as a result of the imposition of those sanctions.

(4) The assessment of the Department of Defense with respect to whether sanctions imposed by the United States have had a meaningful effect on deterring Russian or Iranian aggression.

SA 2918. Mr. KING (for himself and Mr. CRAMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. REINSTATEMENT OF ENTITLEMENT TO POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT OR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 33 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 3319, the following:

"§ 3319A. Victims of sexual assault and domestic violence; authority to retain transferred education benefits

''(a) REINSTATEMENT OF EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary concerned may, subject to regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Homeland Security in coordination with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, reinstate terminated educational assistance payments that were transferred to a spouse or a dependent child under section 3319 of this title if the Secretary concerned determines that the proximate cause for the termination of payment is—

''(1) the administrative separation or conviction by a court martial, or by civilian, Tribal, or State court, of a covered individual for a dependent-abuse offense; and

''(2) the administrative separation or conviction resulted in a discharge characterization of the covered individual that does not meet the requirements of section 3311(c) of this title.

''(b) APPLICATION.—(1) A spouse or dependent child described in subsection (a) seeking reinstatement of terminated educational assistance payments for a termination described in such subsection shall apply for such reinstatement.

''(2) An application under paragraph (1) shall include sufficient information to substantiate that a spouse or dependent child was the victim of dependent-abuse that resulted in a discharge characterization that does not meet the requirements of section 3311(c) of this title.

''(3) The Secretary shall consult with veterans service organizations to ensure that the application process under this subsection is trauma-informed.

''(c) LIMITATION.—Reinstated payments shall not exceed any unused portion of the educational benefits that were transferred to a spouse or dependent child pursuant to section 3319 of this title that remain unobligated at the time of discharge of the covered member.

''(d) DETERMINATION BY THE SECRETARY CONCERNED.—The Secretary concerned may determine that the proximate cause of termination of education benefits is dependent-abuse, as specified in regulations prescribed in subsection (e), only if—

''(1) the record for the administrative separation establishes, by a preponderance of evidence presented, that the covered individual perpetrated a dependent-abuse offense; or

''(2) the covered individual is convicted of a dependent-abuse offense.

''(e) REVIEW OF DETERMINATIONS.—(1) The Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall, in coordination with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, establish procedures by which a spouse or dependent child whose application for reinstatement of terminated educational assistance under subsection (b) is denied by the Secretary concerned may request the applicable Secretary review the application and denial.

''(2) Pursuant to a review by the Secretary of Defense or the Secretary of Homeland Security under paragraph (1) of an application and denial, the Secretary of Defense or the Secretary of Homeland Security, as the case may be, may overturn the denial if the Secretary determines such denial was made in error.

''(3) The Secretary receiving a request for a review of an application and denial pursuant to the procedures required by paragraph (1) shall review the application and denial and respond to the request not later than 30 days after receiving the request.

''(4) The Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall, in coordination with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, develop and make available to the public guidance on how a spouse or dependent child may request a review pursuant to the procedures established under paragraph (1).

''(f) REGULATIONS.—(1) The Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, shall prescribe regulations to carry out this section.

''(2) Regulations under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

''(A) The procedure for application of reinstatement of education benefits.

''(B) The criminal offenses, or categories of offenses, under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (chapter 47 of title 10), Federal criminal law, the criminal laws of the States and other jurisdictions of the United States, and the laws of other nations that are to be considered dependent-abuse offenses for the purposes of this section.

''(g) BAR TO DUPLICATION OF EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE BENEFITS.—An individual entitled to education assistance under this chapter who is also eligible for educational assistance under chapter 30, 31, 32, or 35 of this title, chapter 107, 1606, or 1607 or section 510 of title 10, may not receive assistance under two or more such program concurrently, but shall elect (in such form and manner as the Secretary may prescribe) under which section to receive educational assistance.

''(h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) The term 'covered individual' means a member of the Armed Forces described in section 3311(b) of this title.

''(2) The term 'dependent-abuse offense' means conduct by a covered individual while a member of the Armed Forces on active duty for a period of more than 30 days that—

''(A) involves abuse of the spouse or a dependent child of the member; and

''(B) is a criminal offense specified in regulations prescribed under subsection (e).

''(3) The term 'dependent child' has the meaning given such term in section 1408(h) of title 10.

''(4) The term 'spouse' means a person who was the beneficiary of transferred educational assistance payments at the time of discharge of a covered individual, who—

''(A) was married to the covered individual; or

''(B) divorced such individual prior to discharge for, as determined by the Secretary concerned, reasons relating to a dependent abuse-offense that resulted in a discharge characterization that does not meet the requirements of section 3311(c) of this title.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 33 of such title is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 3319 the following new item:

''Sec. 3319A. Victims of sexual assault and domestic violence; authority to retain transferred education benefits .''.

SA 2919. Mr. KING (for himself and Mr. SHEEHY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title X, insert the following:

SEC. 10____. PROGRAM OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO FURNISH TO CERTAIN VETERANS ITEMS USED FOR SECURE STORAGE OF FIREARMS.

(a) PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 17 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"§ 1720M. Program to furnish to eligible individuals items intended to be used for the secure storage of firearms

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a program to provide to an eligible individual, upon the request of the eligible individual—

''(1) a covered item or a redeemable voucher to aid in the distribution of a covered item; and

''(2) information relating to the benefits of, and options for, secure firearm storage.

''(b) DISTRIBUTION OF COVERED ITEMS.—In carrying out the program under subsection (a), the Secretary is authorized to work with organizations that have experience, expertise, and business knowledge regarding secure firearm storage and secure firearm storage devices.

''(c) PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall design and carry out a public education campaign to inform eligible individuals of the

availability of covered items under the program under subsection (a).

''(2) PARTNERSHIP.—In carrying out the public education campaign required under paragraph (1), the Secretary may partner with organizations that have experience with respect to secure firearm storage devices.

''(3) ASSURANCE ABOUT LAWFUL OWNERSHIP OF FIREARMS.—The Secretary shall include in the public education campaign required under paragraph (1) material that assures eligible individuals that their participation in the program under subsection (a) does not impact lawful ownership of firearms.

''(d) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than October 1, 2025, and not less frequently than annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that includes—

''(1) a description of the program under subsection (a) in a manner consistent with applicable law;

''(2) during the period covered by the report, the number of covered items distributed by the Veterans Health Administration and the number of covered items redeemed outside of the Veterans Health Administration under the program;

''(3) an assessment of efforts made to increase outreach and distribution of covered items under the program to eligible individuals who are not enrolled in the system of annual patient enrollment of the Department established and operated under section 1705 of this title;

''(4) an assessment of any obstacles to increasing outreach to eligible individuals who are enrolled in such system and those who are not enrolled in such system; and

''(5) an identification of additional steps that will be taken during the one-year period after the submission of the report to improve the processes through which eligible individuals receive a covered item under the program.

''(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) The term 'appropriate committees of Congress' means—

''(A) the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

''(B) the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

''(2) The term 'covered item' means a lockbox that—

''(A) is used for the secure storage of a firearm and ammunition;

''(B) is designed, intended, and marketed to prevent unauthorized access to a firearm or ammunition;

''(C) may be unlocked only by means of a key, combination, or other similar means;

''(D) is in compliance with the standard of the American Society for Testing and Materials F2456–20, or any successor standard;

''(E) is manufactured in the United States; and

''(F) is not eligible or intended for commercial or individual resale.

''(3) The term 'eligible individual' means—

''(A) a veteran; or

''(B) an individual described in section 1720I(b) of this title.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1720L the following new item:

''1720M. Program to furnish to eligible individuals items intended to be used for the secure storage of firearms.''.

(b) EDUCATION AND TRAINING.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall—

(1) in consultation with representatives of organizations and agencies that are subject to a memorandum of understanding with the Secretary on preventing veteran suicide and other such entities as the Secretary determines appropriate—

(A) develop an informational video on secure storage of firearms as a suicide prevention strategy; and

(B) publish such informational video on an internet website of the Department of Veterans Affairs; and

(2) publish information to inform individuals who participate in the program under section 1720M of title 38, United States Code (as added by subsection (a)(1)) that any lockbox furnished pursuant to such program is not eligible or intended for commercial or individual resale.

(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act or the amendments made by this Act may be construed—

(1) to collect personally identifiable information of an individual who participates in the program under section 1720M of title 38, United States Code (as added by subsection (a)(1)) for the purposes of tracking firearm ownership;

(2) to require any such individual to register a firearm with the Department of Veterans Affairs, or any other Federal, State, Tribal, or local unit of government;

(3) to require mandatory firearm storage for any such individual;

(4) to prohibit any such individual from purchasing, owning, or possessing a firearm under section 922 of title 18, United States Code;

(5) to discourage the lawful ownership of firearms; or

(6) to create or maintain a list of individuals participating in such program.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to the appropriated to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs $5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2036 to carry out this section and the amendments made by this section.

SA 2920. Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. REED) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title VI, add the following:

SEC. 614. ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF CERTAIN EXPIRING BONUS AND SPECIAL PAY AUTHORITIES.

(a) AUTHORITIES RELATING TO RESERVE FORCES.—Section 910(g) of title 37, United States Code, relating to income replacement payments for reserve component members experiencing extended and frequent mobilization for active duty service, is amended by striking ''December 31, 2025'' and inserting ''December 31, 2026''.

(b) TITLE 10 AUTHORITIES RELATING TO HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS.—The following sections of title 10, United States Code, are amended by striking ''December 31, 2025'' and inserting ''December 31, 2026'':

(1) Section 2130a(a)(1), relating to nurse officer candidate accession program.

(2) Section 16302(d), relating to repayment of education loans for certain health professionals who serve in the Selected Reserve.

(c) AUTHORITIES RELATING TO NUCLEAR OFFICERS.—Section 333(i) of title 37, United States Code, is amended by striking ''December 31, 2025'' and inserting ''December 31, 2026''.

(d) AUTHORITIES RELATING TO TITLE 37 CONSOLIDATED SPECIAL PAY, INCENTIVE PAY, AND BONUS AUTHORITIES.—The following sections of title 37, United States Code, are amended by striking ''December 31, 2025'' and inserting ''December 31, 2026'':

(1) Section 331(h), relating to general bonus authority for enlisted members.

(2) Section 332(g), relating to general bonus authority for officers.

(3) Section 334(i), relating to special aviation incentive pay and bonus authorities for officers.

(4) Section 335(k), relating to special bonus and incentive pay authorities for officers in health professions.

(5) Section 336(g), relating to contracting bonus for cadets and midshipmen enrolled in the Senior Reserve Officers' Training Corps.

(6) Section 351(h), relating to hazardous duty pay.

(7) Section 352(g), relating to assignment pay or special duty pay.

(8) Section 353(i), relating to skill incentive pay or proficiency bonus.

(9) Section 355(h), relating to retention incentives for members qualified in critical military skills or assigned to high priority units.

(e) AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE TEMPORARY INCREASE IN RATES OF BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING.—Section 403(b) of title 37, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (7)(E), relating to an area covered by a major disaster declaration or containing an installation experiencing an influx of military personnel, by striking ''December 31, 2025'' and inserting ''December 31, 2026''; and

(2) in paragraph (8)(C), relating to an area where actual housing costs differ from current rates by more than 20 percent, by striking ''December 31, 2025'' and inserting ''December 31, 2026''.

SA 2921. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 12___. REPORT ON COLLABORATION WITH NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION ALLIES AND PARTNERS ON DETERRENCE IN INDO-PACIFIC REGION.

Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to Congress a report that includes—

(A) a description of efforts by the Secretary, together with North Atlantic Treaty Organization allies and partners, to deter an armed attack against the State of Hawaii and the United States Pacific territories of Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa;

(B) a description of capabilities of North Atlantic Treaty Organization allies and partners to engage in deterrence measures throughout the Indo-Pacific region, including—

(i) an assessment of defense assets available for deployment to and within the Indo-Pacific region; and

(ii) an assessment of joint defense strategies of the Department of Defense and North

Atlantic Treaty Organization allies and partners for deterrence in the Indo-Pacific region; and

(C) a description of engagements conducted by the Secretary with North Atlantic Treaty Organization allies and partners to reinforce United States policy regarding the defense of the State of Hawaii and the United States Pacific territories of Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa.

SA 2922. Mr. COONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle F of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1067. FINDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESOURCE EXPLORATION.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the United States should prioritize, to the greatest extent practicable, the onshoring of critical mineral processing.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ALLIED FOREIGN COUNTRY.—The term ''allied foreign country'' means a member country of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization or a country that has been designated as a major non-NATO ally under section 517 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2321k).

(2) CRITICAL MINERAL.—The term ''critical mineral'' has the meaning given the term in section 7002(a) of the Energy Act of 2020 (30 U.S.C. 1606(a)).

(3) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term ''institution of higher education'' has the meaning given the term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

(4) PARTNER FOREIGN COUNTRY.—The term ''partner foreign country'' means a country that is a source of a critical mineral or rare earth element.

(5) RARE EARTH ELEMENT.—The term ''rare earth element'' means cerium, dysprosium, erbium, europium, gadolinium, holmium, lanthanum, lutetium, neodymium, praseodymium, promethium, samarium, scandium, terbium, thulium, ytterbium, or yttrium.

(6) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the United States Geological Survey.

(c) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH RESPECT TO THE MAPPING OF CRITICAL MINERALS AND RARE EARTH ELEMENTS.—

(1) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.—The Secretary may enter into a memorandum of understanding with 1 or more heads of agencies of partner foreign countries with respect to scientific and technical cooperation in the mapping of critical minerals and rare earth elements.

(2) OBJECTIVES.—In negotiating a memorandum of understanding under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall seek to increase the security and resilience of international supply chains for critical minerals and rare earth elements by—

(A) committing to assisting the partner foreign country through cooperative activities described in paragraph (3) that help the partner foreign country map reserves of critical minerals and rare earth elements;

(B) ensuring that private companies headquartered in the United States or an allied foreign country are offered the right of first refusal in the further development of critical minerals and rare earth elements in the partner foreign country;

(C) facilitating private-sector investment in the exploration and development of critical minerals and rare earth elements; and

(D) ensuring that mapping data created through the cooperative activities described in paragraph (3) is protected against unauthorized access by, or disclosure to, governmental or private entities based in countries that are not—

(i) a party to the memorandum of understanding; or

(ii) an allied foreign country.

(3) COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES.—The cooperative activities referred to in paragraph (2) include—

(A) acquisition, compilation, analysis, and interpretation of geologic, geophysical, geochemical, and spectroscopic remote sensing data;

(B) prospectivity mapping and mineral resource assessment;

(C) analysis of geoscience data, including developing derivative map products that can help more effectively evaluate the mineral resources of the partner foreign country;

(D) scientific collaboration to enhance the understanding and management of the natural resources of the partner foreign country to contribute to the sustainable development of the mineral resources sector of that partner foreign country;

(E) training and capacity building in each area described in subparagraphs (A) through (D);

(F) facilitation of education and specialized training in geoscience and mineral resource management at institutions of higher education;

(G) training in relevant international standards for relevant officials of the government and private companies of the partner foreign country; and

(H) cooperation among entities of the partner foreign country that are a party to the memorandum of understanding and entities in the United States, including Federal departments and agencies, institutions of higher education, research centers, and private companies.

(4) NOTIFICATION AND REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

(A) DEFINITION OF APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—In this paragraph, the term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(i) the Committees on Energy and Natural Resources, Foreign Relations, and Appropriations of the Senate; and

(ii) the Committees on Natural Resources, Foreign Affairs, and Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(B) NOTIFICATION AND REPORT.—Not later than 30 days before the Secretary intends to enter into a memorandum of understanding under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall—

(i) notify the appropriate committees of Congress; and

(ii) submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report detailing the implementing partners, scope of the memorandum of understanding, activities to be undertaken, estimated costs, and source of funding.

(5) CONCURRENCE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE.—The Secretary shall obtain the concurrence of the Secretary of State in—

(A) prioritizing and selecting partner foreign countries with which to enter into a memorandum of understanding under paragraph (1);

(B) negotiating a memorandum of understanding under paragraph (1);

(C) implementing a memorandum of understanding entered into under paragraph (1), including through the use of funds made available to the Secretary of State; and

(D) carrying out paragraph (4).

(6) CONSULTATION WITH PRIVATE SECTOR.—The Secretary shall consult with relevant private sector actors, as the Secretary determines to be appropriate, in—

(A) prioritizing and selecting partner foreign countries with which to enter into a memorandum of understanding under paragraph (1); and

(B) assessing how a memorandum of understanding can best facilitate private sector interest in pursuing the further development of critical minerals and rare earth elements in accordance with the objectives described in paragraph (2).

(d) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in this section impedes or otherwise alters any authority of the Director of the United States Geological Survey provided by—

(1) the matter under the heading ''GEOLOGICAL SURVEY'' of the first section of the Act of March 3, 1879 (43 U.S.C. 31(a)); or

(2) the first section of Public Law 87–626 (43 U.S.C. 31(b)).

SA 2923. Mr. COONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title X, insert the following:

SEC. 10____. AUTHORITY FOR USE OF VETERANS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENTS TO RECEIVE CREDIT TOWARD DEGREES AWARDED BY INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—An individual who is entitled to veterans educational assistance may use such assistance to cover the costs of covered examinations and assessments to receive credit toward degrees awarded by institutions of higher learning for approved programs of education.

(b) VETERANS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE.—For purposes of this section, veterans educational assistance is educational assistance available to veterans and other eligible individuals under the provisions of law as follows:

(1) Chapters 30, 32, 33, 34, and 35 of title 38, United States Code.

(2) Any other provision of law providing educational assistance to a veteran, or to another individual in connection with the service of a veteran in the Armed Forces.

(c) LIMITATION ON AMOUNT USABLE.—The total amount of veterans educational assistance that may be used for the costs of a covered examination or assessment under subsection (a) may not exceed the lesser of—

(1) the amount charged for the examination or assessment by the entity administering the examination or assessment; or

(2) $500.

(d) CHARGE AGAINST ENTITLEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The number of months (or fraction thereof) of entitlement charged an individual under the applicable provision of law specified in subsection (b) for use of veterans educational assistance for costs of covered examinations and assessments under this section shall be equal to the quotient obtained by dividing—

(A) the cost of the examination or assessment (as determined pursuant to subsection (c)); by

(B) the monthly rate of veterans educational assistance to which the individual is

entitled under such provision of law at the time of the examination or assessment.

(2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—A charge against entitlement to educational assistance under a law administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in order to receive assistance under this section shall not be construed to affect entitlement to educational assistance under a law administered by the Secretary of Defense, including entitlement to educational assistance under the Department of Defense Tuition Assistance Program.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term ''approved program of education'' means a program of education approved for use of veterans educational assistance pursuant to chapter 35 or 36 of title 38, United States Code, or another applicable provision of law.

(2) The term ''covered examinations and assessments'' means the following:

(A) A DANTES Subject Standardized Test Program (DSST) examination.

(B) A College Level Examination Program (CLEP) examination.

(C) The National Career Readiness Certificate examination.

(D) Any other examination of a similar nature to an exam specified in subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) specified by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for purposes of this section.

(E) An assessment by an institution of higher learning of a portfolio or written narrative by a student with supporting documentation that demonstrates prior military training or learning.

(3) The term ''institution of higher learning'' has the meaning given such term in section 3452(f) of title 38, United States Code.

SA 2924. Mr. COONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle F of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1067. INCREASING BARDA STRATEGIC INITIATIVES.

Section 319L(c)(4)(F) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d–7e(c)(4)(F)) is amended—

(1) in the second sentence, in the matter preceding clause (i), by inserting '', manufacturing technologies, platforms,'' after ''countermeasures''; and

(2) by inserting after the first sentence the following: ''Such strategic coordination may include collaborating with the network of Manufacturing USA institutes established under section 34 of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act in biomanufacturing missions to develop, demonstrate, and deploy technologies and response capabilities to improve public health and medical preparedness.''.

SA 2925. Mr. COONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title XII, add the following::

Subtitle F—Defending International Security by Restricting Unacceptable Partnerships and Tactics

SEC. 1271. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the ''Defending International Security by Restricting Unacceptable Partnerships and Tactics Act'' or ''DISRUPT Act''.

SEC. 1272. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are each considered—

(A) a foreign adversary (as defined in section 825(d) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118–31; 137 Stat. 322; 46 U.S.C. 50309 note));

(B) a country of risk (as defined in section 6432(a) of the Servicemember Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025 (Public Law 118–159; 138 Stat. 2488; 42 U.S.C. 7144b note)) for purposes of assessing counterintelligence risks posed by certain visitors to National Laboratories;

(C) a foreign country of concern (as defined in section 10612(a) of the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act (Public Law 117–167; 136 Stat. 1635; 42 U.S.C. 19221 note));

(D) a covered foreign country (as defined in section 164 of the Servicemember Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025 (Public Law 118–159; 138 Stat. 1818; 10 U.S.C. 4651 note prec.)) for purposes of a prohibition on operation, procurement, and contracting relating to foreign-made light detection and ranging technology; and

(E) a covered foreign country (as defined in section 1622 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117–81; 135 Stat. 2086; 10 U.S.C. 421 note prec.)) for purposes of a strategy and plan to implement certain defense intelligence reforms.

(2) According to the 2025 Intelligence Community Annual Threat Assessment, the United States faces an increasingly contested and dangerous global landscape as the four adversaries named in paragraph (1) deepen cooperation in a manner that—

(A) reinforces threats posed by each such adversary individually; and

(B) poses new challenges to the strength and power of the United States globally.

(3) Much of the cooperation referred to in paragraph (2) is occurring bilaterally, as the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea strengthen diplomatic, economic, and military ties in accordance with bilateral agreements, which include—

(A) the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between China and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, signed at Beijing July 11, 1961;

(B) the Joint Statement on Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the People's Republic of China, issued on March 27, 2021;

(C) the Joint Statement of the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China on International Relations Entering a New Era and Global Sustainable Development, issued on February 4, 2022;

(D) the Treaty on Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between the Russian Federation and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, signed at Pyongyang June 18, 2024;

(E) the Iranian-Russian Treaty on Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, signed at Moscow January 17, 2025; and

(F) traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

(4) The most concerning forms of such cooperation with respect to the interests of the United States occur bilaterally in the realm of defense cooperation. Examples include the following:

(A) The transfer and sharing of weapons and munitions. Since 2022, the Islamic Republic of Iran has supplied the Russian Federation with drones and ballistic missiles, and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has provided artillery ammunition and ballistic missiles. Likewise, the Russian Federation has agreed to provide the Islamic Republic of Iran with Su–35 fighter jets and air defense assistance.

(B) The transfer and sharing of dual-use technologies and capabilities. Dual-use goods supplied by the People's Republic of China have enabled the Russian Federation to continue defense production in the face of wide-ranging sanctions and export controls intended to prevent the Russian Federation from accessing the necessary components to fuel its defense industry. In turn, reporting indicates that the Russian Federation has provided technical expertise on satellite technology to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and is working closely with the People's Republic of China on air defense and submarine technology.

(C) Joint military activities and exercises. The military forces of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are actively participating in the Russian Federation's invasion of Ukraine, and joint military exercises between the People's Republic of China and the Russian Federation are expanding in scope, scale, and geographic reach, including in close proximity to territory of the United States.

(D) Coordination on disinformation and cyber operations, including coordinated messaging aimed at denigrating and isolating the United States internationally.

(5) Adversaries of the United States are also cooperating in a manner that may circumvent United States and multilateral economic tools. Examples include the following:

(A) The continued purchase by the People's Republic of China of oil from the Islamic Republic of Iran despite sanctions imposed by the Treasury of the United States on oil from the Islamic Republic of Iran.

(B) The veto by the Russian Federation of, and abstention by the People's Republic of China in a vote on, a United Nations Security Council resolution relating to monitoring United Nations Security Council-levied sanctions on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

(6) Adversaries of the United States are cooperating multilaterally in international institutions such as the United Nations and through expanded multilateral groupings, such as the Brazil-Russia-India-China-South Africa group (commonly known as ''BRICS''), to isolate and erode the influence of the United States.

(7) Such increased cooperation and alignment among the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, to an unprecedented extent, poses a significant threat to United States interests and national security.

(8) Such increasing alignment—

(A) allows each such adversary to modernize its military more quickly than previously anticipated;

(B) enables unforeseen breakthroughs in capabilities through the sharing among such adversaries of critical military technologies, which could erode the technological edge of the United States Armed Forces;

(C) presents increasing challenges to strategies of isolation or containment against

such individual adversaries, since the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea now provide critical lifelines to each other;

(D) threatens the effectiveness of United States economic tools, as such adversaries cooperate to evade United States sanctions and export controls and seek to establish alternative payment mechanisms that do not require transactions in United States dollars; and

(E) increases the chances of United States conflict or tensions with any one of such adversaries drawing in another, thereby posing a greater risk that the United States will have to contend with simultaneous threats from such adversaries in one or more theaters.

SEC. 1273. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States—

(1) to disrupt or frustrate the most dangerous aspects of cooperation between and among the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including by using the threat of sanctions and export controls, bringing such cooperation to light, and sharing information with United States allies and partners who may—

(A) share the concerns and objectives of the United States; and

(B) have influence over such adversaries;

(2) to constrain such grouping from expanding its footprint or capabilities across the world; and

(3) to prepare for the increasing likelihood that the United States could face simultaneous challenges or conflict with multiple such adversaries in multiple theaters, including by bolstering deterrence across all priority theaters.

SEC. 1274. TASK FORCES AND REPORTS.

(a) TASK FORCES ON ADVERSARY ALIGNMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Commerce, the Director of National Intelligence, and the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency shall each—

(A) establish a task force on adversary alignment; and

(B) designate a point of contact on adversary alignment, who shall serve as the head of the task force for the applicable department, office, or agency.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—Each task force established pursuant to paragraph (1) shall—

(A) comprise—

(i) subject matter experts covering each of—

(I) the People's Republic of China;

(II) the Russian Federation;

(III) the Islamic Republic of Iran; and

(IV) the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(ii) representatives covering all core functions of the department, office, or agency of the Secretary or Director establishing the task force; and

(iii) a mix of analysts, operators, and senior management;

(B) ensure that the task force members have the requisite security clearances and access to critical compartmented information streams necessary to assess and understand the full scope of adversary cooperation, including how events in one theater might trigger actions in another; and

(C) not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, submit to the Secretary or Director who established the task force, and to the appropriate committees of Congress, a report—

(i) evaluating the impact of adversary alignment on the relevant operations carried out by the individual department, office, or agency of the task force; and

(ii) putting forth recommendations for such organizational changes as the task force considers necessary to ensure the department, office, or agency of the task force is well positioned to routinely evaluate and respond to the rapidly evolving nature of adversary cooperation and the attendant risks.

(3) QUARTERLY INTERAGENCY MEETING.—Not less frequently than quarterly, the heads of the task forces established under this section shall meet to discuss findings, problems, and next steps with respect to adversary alignment.

(b) REPORT ON NATURE, TRAJECTORY, AND RISKS OF BILATERAL COOPERATION BETWEEN, AND MULTILATERAL COOPERATION AMONG, ADVERSARIES OF THE UNITED STATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence, in coordination with the head of any Federal agency the Director considers appropriate, shall submit to the President, any Federal officer of Cabinet-level rank the Director considers appropriate, and the appropriate committees of Congress, a report on bilateral and multilateral cooperation among adversaries of the United States and the resulting risks of such cooperation.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) A description of the current nature and extent of bilateral or multilateral cooperation among the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea across the diplomatic, information, military, and economic spheres, and an assessment of the advantages that accrue to each adversary from such cooperation.

(B) An assessment of the trajectory for cooperation among the adversaries described in subparagraph (A) during the 5-year period beginning on the date on which the report is submitted.

(C) An outline of the risks to the United States and allied diplomatic, military, intelligence, and economic operations, and broader security interests around the world, including the following:

(i) The risk of technology transfers dramatically increasing the military capabilities of adversaries of the United States and the impact on the relative balance of United States and allied capabilities as compared to that of the adversary.

(ii) The risk posed to the United States by efforts made by adversaries to establish alternate payment systems, in particular with respect to the dominance of the United States dollar and the effectiveness of United States sanctions and export control tools.

(iii) The risk that an adversary of the United States might assist or otherwise enable another adversary of the United States in the event that one or more adversaries become party to a conflict with the United States.

(iv) The risk that adversary cooperation poses a growing threat to United States intelligence collection efforts.

(D) An evaluation of the vulnerabilities and tension points within such adversary bilateral or multilateral relationships, and an assessment of the likely effect of efforts by the United States to separate adversaries.

(3) FORM.—The report submitted pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be submitted in classified form.

(c) REPORT ON STRATEGIC APPROACH.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Commerce, the Director of National Intelligence, and the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report outlining the strategic approach of the United States to adversary alignment and the necessary steps to disrupt, frustrate, constrain, and prepare for adversary cooperation during the two-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) A detailed description of the methods and tools available to the United States to disrupt the most dangerous elements of adversary cooperation, including the growing connectivity between the defense industrial bases of each adversary.

(B) A timeline for using diplomatic engagement, intelligence diplomacy, security cooperation, and foreign assistance, as appropriate—

(i) to educate allies and partners about the increasing risk of adversary alignment;

(ii) to secure the support of allies and partners in combating adversary alignment; and

(iii) to assess and help address, as appropriate, the vulnerabilities and capability gaps of allies and partners to counter threats from adversary alignment.

(C) A plan for ensuring the integrity of United States methods of economic statecraft, including an assessment of the efficiency of the United States sanctions and export control enforcement apparatus and any accompanying resourcing requirements.

(D) A clear plan to bolster deterrence within the priority theaters of the Indo-Pacific region, Europe, and the Middle East by—

(i) increasing United States and allied munitions stockpiles, particularly such stockpiles that are most critical for supporting frontline partners such as Israel, Taiwan, and Ukraine in the event of aggression by a United States adversary;

(ii) facilitating collaborative efforts with allies for the co-production, co-maintenance, and co-sustainment of critical munitions and platforms required by the United States and allies and partners of the United States in the event of a future conflict with the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, or the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; and

(iii) more effectively using funding through the United States Foreign Military Financing program to support allied and partner domestic defense production that can contribute to deterrence in each such priority theater.

(E) A plan for digitizing and updating war-planning tools of the Department of Defense not later than 1 year after the date on which the report is submitted to ensure that United States war planners are better equipped to update and modify war plans in the face of rapidly evolving information on adversary cooperation.

(F) An assessment of the capability gaps and vulnerabilities the United States would face in deterring an adversary in the event that the United States is engaged in a conflict with another adversary, and a plan to work with allies and partners to address such gaps and vulnerabilities.

(3) FORM.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall be submitted in classified form.

(d) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(1) the Committee on Armed Services, the Select Committee on Intelligence, the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, and the

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Armed Services, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Financial Services, and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives.

SA 2926. Ms. HASSAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. 2. INTEGRATED CROSS BORDER AERIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS PROGRAM.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the ''Cross Border Aerial Law Enforcement Operations Act''.

(b) AUTHORIZATION.—If authorized pursuant to a bilateral agreement between the United States Government and the Government of Canada, the Secretary of Homeland Security may establish an integrated cross border aerial law enforcement program (referred to in this section as the ''Program'') along the international border between the United States and Canada, which should be modeled off the Framework Agreement on Integrated Cross-Border Maritime Law Enforcement Operations Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Canada, done at Detroit May 26, 2009.

(c) PROGRAM ELEMENTS.—

(1) PARTICIPANTS.—The Program may be staffed by approved law enforcement officers from—

(A) U.S. Customs and Border Protection;

(B) the United States Coast Guard;

(C) Homeland Security Investigations;

(D) any other Federal law enforcement agency, as appropriate, designated by the Secretary of Homeland Security; and

(E) appropriate law enforcement agencies of the Government of Canada.

(2) SCOPE.—The jurisdiction of the Program shall be limited to the territory located within 50 miles of either side of the international border between the United States and Canada unless—

(A) a situation within such territory requires an aircraft to leave from or return to an airport, heliport, or base of operations located outside such territory; or

(B) there are exigent circumstances relating to authorized Program activities, as defined in the underlying bilateral agreement, including an emergency on an aircraft or an emergency on the ground.

(3) CIVIL RIGHTS.—The Program shall ensure that the civil rights, civil liberties, and privacy of all individuals within the jurisdiction of the United States are guaranteed in accordance with Federal law.

(4) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) BILATERAL AGREEMENT.—Not later than 30 days after receiving a copy of a bilateral agreement described in subsection (b), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a signed copy of such agreement to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(B) PROGRAM ELEMENTS AND SCOPE.—Not later than 30 days after the implementation of the Program, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a written description of the elements and scope of the Program to the congressional committees listed under subparagraph (A).

(5) PRIVACY, CIVIL RIGHTS, AND CIVIL LIBERTIES TRAINING.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Any agreement described in subsection (b) shall include specific provisions that—

(i) are intended to protect the privacy and civil liberties of United States citizens; and

(ii) ensure that cross border aerial law enforcement operations are conducted in a manner that—

(I) respects individual rights; and

(II) complies with applicable United States laws.

(B) TRAINING.—Any officer of the United States or of Canada, before participating in the Program, shall complete sufficient training to ensure they understand their responsibilities to protect the privacy, civil liberties, and civil rights of United States citizens.

(d) COMMUNICATIONS.—Each of the agencies referred to in subsection (c)(1) are authorized to establish necessary communication protocols for the safety of cross border aerial law enforcement operations.

(e) FAILURE TO FINALIZE PROGRAM REPORT.—If the Program is not established on or before the date that is 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a report to the congressional committees referred to in subsection (c)(4)(A) that includes—

(1) a description of any unresolved issues that are preventing the establishment of the Program;

(2) any actions that Congress could take to facilitate the establishment of such Program;

(3) any potential concerns relating to civil rights, civil liberties, or privacy that have impacted the establishment of the Program; and

(4) a recommendation regarding whether—

(A) the Secretary should continue trying to establish such Program; or

(B) such Program is not needed.

(f) UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit an unclassified report, with a classified annex, if necessary, to the congressional committees referred to in subsection (c)(4)(A) that describes the use of unmanned aircraft systems (referred to in this section as ''UAS'') along the northern international border of the United States, including—

(1) interagency coordination to mitigate incursions from unauthorized UAS;

(2) any jurisdictional issues that would prevent the mitigation of unauthorized UAS;

(3) the use of UAS by malign actors—

(A) to collect intelligence or surveil law enforcement operations;

(B) to move contraband, persons, or payloads across the international border; or

(C) to conduct espionage;

(4) an assessment of the feasibility for joint, cross-border law enforcement operations involving UAS or counter-unmanned aircraft systems; and

(5) the potential risks to civil rights, civil liberties, and privacy resulting from the Department of Homeland Security operating UAS and counter-unmanned aircraft systems along the northern border of the United States.

(g) NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated for the purpose of carrying out this section.

SA 2927. Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Ms. ERNST) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title X, add the following:

Subtitle H—Sentencing Enhancements for Certain Criminal Offenses Directed by or Coordinated With Foreign Governments

SEC. 1091. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the ''Deterring External Threats and Ensuring Robust Responses to Egregious and Nefarious Criminal Endeavors Act'' or the ''DETERRENCE Act''.

SEC. 1092. KIDNAPPING.

Section 1201 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (h) as subsection (i);

(2) by inserting after subsection (g) the following:

''(h) SENTENCE ENHANCEMENTS FOR OFFENSES DIRECTED BY OR COORDINATED WITH FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The sentence of a person convicted of an offense under subsection (a) may be increased by up to 10 years if such offense was committed knowingly at the direction of or in coordination with a foreign government or an agent of a foreign government.

''(2) CONSPIRACY.—The sentence of a person convicted of conspiring to commit a violation of subsection (a) as part of a conspiracy under the elements specified in subsection (c) may be increased by up to 10 years if—

''(A) 1 or more of the persons involved in such conspiracy were knowingly acting in coordination with a foreign government or an agent of a foreign government; and

''(B) the person convicted of conspiring to commit a violation of subsection (a) knew that 1 or more of the persons involved in such conspiracy were knowingly acting in coordination with a foreign government or an agent of a foreign government.

''(3) ATTEMPT.—The sentence of a person convicted of an attempt to violate subsection (a) may be increased by up to 5 years if such attempt was knowingly at the direction of or in coordination with a foreign government or an agent of a foreign government.''; and

(3) in subsection (i), as so designated, by inserting ''DEFINITION.—'' before ''As used in this section''.

SEC. 1093. USE OF INTERSTATE COMMERCE FACILITIES IN THE COMMISSION OF MURDER-FOR-HIRE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1958 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c);

(2) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

''(b) SENTENCE ENHANCEMENTS FOR OFFENSES DIRECTED BY OR COORDINATED WITH FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.—The sentence of a person convicted of an offense under subsection (a)—

''(1) may be increased by up to 5 years, if such offense was committed knowingly at the direction of or in coordination with a foreign government or an agent of a foreign government; and

''(2) may be increased by up to 10 years—

''(A) if such offense was committed knowingly at the direction of or in coordination

with a foreign government or an agent of a foreign government; and

''(B) personal injury results.''; and

(3) in subsection (c), as so redesignated, by inserting ''DEFINITIONS.—'' before ''As used in this section''.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 2332b(g)(2) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking ''section 1958(b)(2)'' and inserting ''section 1958''.

(2) Section 1010A(d) of the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. 960a(d)) is amended by striking ''section 1958(b)(1)'' and inserting ''section 1958''.

SEC. 1094. INFLUENCING, IMPEDING, OR RETALIATING AGAINST A FEDERAL OFFICIAL BY THREATENING OR INJURING A FAMILY MEMBER.

Section 115(b) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(5) The sentence of a person convicted of an offense under subsection (a), if such offense was committed knowingly at the direction of or in coordination with a foreign government or an agent of a foreign government—

''(A) may be increased by up to 5 years if the offense committed was an assault involving physical contact with the victim of that assault or the intent to commit another felony;

''(B) may be increased by up to 10 years if—

''(i) the offense committed was an assault resulting in bodily injury (including serious bodily injury (as that term is defined in section 1365 of this title));

''(ii) the offense involved any conduct that, if the conduct occurred in the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States, would violate section 2241 or 2242 of this title; or

''(iii) a dangerous weapon was used during and in relation to the offense; and

''(C) may be increased by up to 10 years if the offense committed was a murder, attempted murder, or conspiracy to murder.''.

SEC. 1095. STALKING.

Section 2261A of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''Whoever—'' and inserting ''(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), whoever—''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(b) ENHANCED PENALTIES FOR OFFENSES INVOLVING FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.—The sentence of a person convicted of an offense under paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (a), if such offense was committed knowingly at the direction of or in coordination with a foreign government or an agent of a foreign government—

''(1) may be increased by up to 5 years if—

''(A) serious bodily injury (including permanent disfigurement or life threatening bodily injury) to the victim results;

''(B) the offender uses a dangerous weapon during the offense; or

''(C) the victim of the offense is under the age of 18 years;

''(2) may be increased by up to 10 years if death of the victim results; and

''(3) may be increased by up to 30 months in any other case.''.

SEC. 1096. PROTECTION OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE UNITED STATES.

Section 1114 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

''(b) SENTENCE ENHANCEMENTS FOR OFFENSES DIRECTED BY OR COORDINATED WITH FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.—The sentence of a person convicted of an offense under subsection (a) may be increased by up to 10 years if such offense was committed knowingly at the direction of or in coordination with a foreign government or an agent of a foreign government.''.

SEC. 1097. PRESIDENTIAL AND PRESIDENTIAL STAFF ASSASSINATION, KIDNAPPING, AND ASSAULT.

Section 1751 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (f) through (k) as subsections (g) through (i), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (e) the following:

''(f)(1) The sentence of a person convicted of an offense under subsection (a), (b), or (c) may be increased by up to 10 years if such offense was committed knowingly at the direction of or in coordination with a foreign government or an agent of a foreign government.

''(2) The sentence of a person convicted of conspiring to kill or kidnap any individual designated in subsection (a) as part of a conspiracy under the elements specified in subsection (d) may be increased by up to 10 years if—

''(A) 1 or more of the persons involved in such conspiracy were knowingly acting in coordination with a foreign government or an agent of a foreign government; and

''(B) the person convicted of conspiring to kill or kidnap an individual designated in subsection (a) knew that 1 or more of the persons involved in such conspiracy were knowingly acting in coordination with a foreign government or an agent of a foreign government.

''(3) The sentence of a person convicted of an offense under subsection (e) may be increased by up to 10 years if—

''(A) the victim was any person designated in subsection (a)(1); and

''(B) such offense was committed knowingly at the direction of or in coordination with a foreign government or an agent of a foreign government.

''(4) The sentence of a person convicted of an offense under subsection (e) may be increased by up to 10 years if—

''(A) the victim was any person designated in subsection (a)(2); and

''(B) such offense was committed knowingly at the direction of or in coordination with a foreign government or an agent of a foreign government.

''(5) The sentence of a person convicted of an offense under subsection (e) may be increased by up to 10 years if—

''(A)(i) the offense involved the use of a dangerous weapon; or

''(ii) personal injury resulted; and

''(B) such offense was committed knowingly at the direction of or in coordination with a foreign government or an agent of a foreign government.''.

SA 2928. Ms. HASSAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title X, insert the following:

SEC. _____. ELIGIBILITY OF SPOUSES FOR SERVICES UNDER THE DISABLED VETERANS' OUTREACH PROGRAM.

Section 4103A of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting ''and eligible persons'' after ''eligible veterans''; and

(ii) in subparagraph (C), by inserting '', and eligible persons,'' after ''Other eligible veterans'';

(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting ''and eligible persons'' after ''veterans'' each place it appears; and

(C) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by inserting ''or eligible person'' after ''veteran'' each place it appears; and

(ii) by inserting ''or eligible person's'' after ''veteran's'';

(2) in subsection (d)(1)—

(A) by inserting ''and eligible persons'' after ''eligible veterans'' each place it appears; and

(B) by striking ''non-veteran-related''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(e) ELIGIBLE PERSON DEFINED.—In this section, the term 'eligible person' means—

''(1) any spouse described in section 4101(5) of this title; or

''(2) the spouse of any person who died while a member of the Armed Forces.''.

SA 2929. Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Mr. LANKFORD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle A of title XV, add the following:

SEC. 15____. REPORT ON RISKS TO GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM AND ASSOCIATED POSITIONING, NAVIGATION, AND TIMING SERVICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on risks to the Global Positioning System and associated positioning, navigation, and timing services.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) A description of risks posed by a lack of access to the Global Positioning System and associated positioning, navigation, and timing services during a potential conflict in which the United States is involved or in the case of an attack on a United States ally.

(2) A description of risks to United States allies from a disruption of access to the Global Positioning System and associated positioning, navigation, and timing services provided by the United States.

(3) An assessment of each of the following:

(A) The capabilities of competitor countries, including the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, Iran, and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, to degrade or deny United States access to the Global Positioning System and associated positioning, navigation, and timing services during a potential conflict with the United States or in the case of an attack on a United States ally.

(B) Current Department of Defense efforts to develop or procure technology or systems to provide redundant global positioning and positioning, navigation, and timing capabilities, including space-based and terrestrial-based (including quantum sensing technology) efforts.

(C) The ability of the Resilient Global Positioning System (R-GPS) program of the Space Force to achieve, not later than 10 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, full capacity to provide Global Positioning System resilience to existing United States satellites.

(4) A framework for developing a full-scale terrestrial-based Global Positioning System redundancy system that could be operational not later than 15 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) FORM.—The report required by subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(A) the Committee on Armed Services, the Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Armed Services, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

(2) UNITED STATES ALLY.—The term ''United States ally'' means—

(A) a member country of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization;

(B) a major non-NATO ally (as defined in section 644(q) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2403(q))); and

(C) Taiwan.

SA 2930. Ms. HASSAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. NATIONAL SECURITY QUANTUM COORDINATION AND COMPETITION.

(a) OFFICE OF QUANTUM CAPABILITIES AND COMPETITION.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall establish or designate an office in the Department of Defense to serve as the lead for all quantum efforts of the Department relating to the following:

(A) Quantum technology research, including quantum sensing, quantum computing, and quantum communications.

(B) Quantum technology development, including quantum sensing, quantum computing, and quantum communications.

(C) Quantum technology application, including quantum sensing, quantum computing, and quantum communications.

(D) Quantum technology policy, including quantum sensing, quantum computing, and quantum communications.

(E) Such other quantum related efforts as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(2) DESIGNATION.—The office established or designated pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be known as the ''Department of Defense Office of Quantum Capabilities and Competition'' (in this section the ''Office'').

(3) PRIMARY MISSION.—The primary mission of the Office shall be coordinating, leading, and directing quantum technology efforts of the Department in order—

(A) to advance Department research efforts in quantum technology;

(B) to develop quantum technology expertise that enables advancements in United States national security capabilities;

(C) to aggressively pursue a national competitive advantage in quantum technology, vis-à-vis other countries; and

(D) to develop quantum technologies that can be utilized for real-world application by the Department of Defense or other United States national security entities.

(b) COORDINATION WITH OTHER QUANTUM EFFORTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, acting through the Office, regularly coordinate with the heads of other Federal departments and agencies that work on quantum science, quantum technology, or quantum research.

(2) QUANTUM COORDINATION OFFICE FOR NATIONAL SECURITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary shall establish within the Office a subcomponent to liaise with, share expertise with, and whenever feasible, coordinate and, if necessary, deconflict efforts with other relevant U.S. government entities pursuing efforts on quantum science, quantum technology, or quantum research.

(B) DESIGNATION.—The subcomponent established pursuant to subparagraph (A) shall be known as the ''Quantum Coordination Office for National Security''.

(c) TRIENNIAL REPORTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and not less frequently than once every three years thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on national security quantum capabilities and competition.

(2) CONTENTS GENERALLY.—Each report submitted pursuant to paragraph (1) shall cover the following:

(A) The state of current quantum efforts within the Department of Defense, including specific sections on quantum sensing, quantum computing, and quantum communications.

(B) The state of current quantum efforts of adversarial and competitor countries, including specific sections on quantum sensing, quantum computing, and quantum communications.

(C) The state of current quantum efforts of any other countries with advanced capabilities in quantum technology and quantum science, including specific sections on quantum sensing, quantum computing, and quantum communications.

(D) A comparison of the capabilities of the United States and those of adversarial and competitor countries, as well as any other countries with advanced capabilities in quantum technology and quantum science.

(E) An assessment of capabilities of the United States compared to those of China, Russia, and Iran, combined with an assessment of how such countries (in addition to any other countries the Secretary considers relevant) may utilize quantum technology in a conflict against the United States or allies and partners of the United States, including via hybrid warfare.

(F) A realistic pathway forward, both short term (3 years) and long term (10 years and beyond), for the United States to compete with and outpace other countries in quantum technology and quantum science in regard to national security.

(3) CONTENTS OF INITIAL REPORT.—In addition to the matter covered by paragraph (2), the first report submitted pursuant to paragraph (1) shall include an annex on quantum communication efforts that covers the following:

(A) The current state of United States national security quantum communications technology and capabilities.

(B) A comparison of the national security quantum communications technology and capabilities of the United States compared to that of China, Russia, Iran, and such other countries as the Secretary considers relevant.

(C) An immediate (2 years) and long-term (10 years and beyond) plan—

(i) to close any gaps that may exist between national security quantum communications technology and capabilities of the United States and those of China, Russia, Iran, and such other countries as the Secretary considers relevant; and

(ii) to outpace the quantum communications technology and capabilities for China, Russia, Iran, and such other countries as the Secretary considers relevant.

(4) FORM.—Each report submitted pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be submitted in classified form.

(5) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(A) the Committee on Armed Services, the Select Committee on Intelligence, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Armed Services, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

(d) PROTECTION OF NATIONAL SECURITY.—The Secretary shall carry out this section in accordance will all applicable provisions of law and policies relating to classified information and national security.

(e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to require any action that is not consistent with a provision of law or policy that was in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 2931. Ms. HASSAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. NORTHERN BORDER THREAT ANALYSIS AND STRATEGY.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the ''Northern Border Security Enhancement and Review Act''.

(b) NORTHERN BORDER THREAT ANALYSIS.—Section 3(a) of the Northern Border Security Review Act (Public Law 114–267) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''180 days after the date of enactment of this Act'' and inserting ''September 2, 2025, and every 3 years thereafter'';

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) as paragraphs (3), (4), and (5), respectively; and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) an assessment of recent changes in the amount and demographics of apprehensions at the Northern Border, including an analysis of apprehension changes at the sector level.''.

(c) NORTHERN BORDER STRATEGY UPDATES.—Section 3 of the Northern Border Security Review Act (Public Law 114–267) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

''(c) NORTHERN BORDER STRATEGY UPDATES.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall update the Department of Homeland Security's Northern Border strategy not later than September 2, 2026, and every 5 years thereafter, and shall incorporate the results of the most recent threat analysis in each such update.''.

(d) CLASSIFIED BRIEFINGS.—Section 3 of the Northern Border Security Review Act, as amended by subsections (b) and (c), is further amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) CLASSIFIED BRIEFINGS.—Not later than 30 days after the submission of each threat analysis pursuant to subsection (a), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide a classified briefing regarding such analysis to the appropriate congressional committees.''.

(e) IMPLEMENTATION OF CERTAIN GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting through the Executive Assistant Commissioner of Air and Marine Operations of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, shall develop performance measures to assess the effectiveness of Air and Marine Operations at securing the northern border between ports of entry in the air and maritime environments.

(f) NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated for the purpose of carrying out this section or the amendments made by this section.

SA 2932. Ms. HASSAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. DUTY TO REPORT ACTS OF TERRORISM.

(a) SHORT TITLES.—This section may be cited as the ''Reporting Efficiently to Proper Officials in Response to Terrorism Act of 2025'' or the ''REPORT Act''.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ACT OF TERRORISM.—The term ''act of terrorism'' has the meaning given such term in section 3077(1) of title 18, United States Code.

(2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

(C) the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives;

(E) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives; and

(F) the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

(c) REQUIREMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Whenever an act of terrorism occurs in the United States, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Attorney General, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and, as appropriate, the head of the National Counterterrorism Center shall—

(A) submit to the appropriate congressional committees, by not later than 1 year after the completion of the investigation concerning such act by the primary Government agency conducting such investigation, an unclassified report (which may be accompanied by a classified annex) concerning such act of terrorism; and

(B) make the report required under subparagraph (A) available on a publicly accessible website.

(2) OTHER REPORTS.—Reports required under this subsection may be combined into a quarterly report submitted to Congress.

(3) AVAILABILITY.—Each unclassified report and classified annex described in paragraph (1)(A) shall be made available upon request by any Member of Congress.

(d) CONTENT OF REPORTS.—Each report submitted pursuant to subsection (c) shall—

(1) include a statement of the facts of each act of terrorism covered by the report, to the extent such facts are known at the time the report is submitted to the appropriate congressional committees;

(2) identify any gaps in homeland or national security that could be addressed to prevent similar future acts of terrorism; and

(3) include any recommendations for additional measures that could be taken to improve homeland or national security, including recommendations relating to potential changes in law enforcement practices or changes in law, with particular attention to changes that could help prevent future acts of terrorism.

(e) EXCEPTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Attorney General, or the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation determines any information described in subsection (d) that is required to be included in the report required under subsection (c) could jeopardize an ongoing investigation or prosecution, the Secretary, Attorney General, or Director, as the case may be—

(A) may withhold from reporting such information; and

(B) shall notify the appropriate congressional committees of such determination.

(2) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Withholding of information pursuant to a determination described in paragraph (1) shall not affect, in any manner, the responsibility of the appropriate Federal official to submit a report required under subsection (c) containing other information described in subsection (d) that is not subject to such determination.

(f) SUNSET.—This section shall terminate on the date that is 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(g) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this section may be construed to provide the National Counterterrorism Center with prosecutorial or investigatory authority.

SA 2933. Ms. HASSAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SOUTHBOUND INSPECTIONS TO COMBAT CARTELS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the ''Enhancing Southbound Inspections to Combat Cartels Act''.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives;

(E) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives; and

(F) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

(2) SOUTHERN BORDER.—The term ''southern border'' means the international land border between the United States and Mexico.

(c) ADDITIONAL INSPECTION EQUIPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE.—

(1) IMAGING SYSTEMS.—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection is authorized—

(A) to purchase up to 50 additional non-intrusive imaging systems; and

(B) to procure additional associated supporting infrastructure.

(2) DEPLOYMENT.—The systems and infrastructure purchased or otherwise procured pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be deployed along the southern border for the primary purpose of inspecting any persons, conveyances, or modes of transportation traveling from the United States to Mexico.

(3) ALTERNATIVE EQUIPMENT.—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection is authorized to procure additional infrastructure or alternative inspection equipment that the Commissioner deems necessary for the purpose of inspecting any persons, conveyances, or modes of transportation traveling from the United States to Mexico.

(4) SUNSET.—Paragraphs (1) and (3) shall cease to have force and effect beginning on the date that is 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) ADDITIONAL HOMELAND SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS PERSONNEL FOR INVESTIGATIONS OF SOUTHBOUND SMUGGLING.—

(1) HSI SPECIAL AGENTS.—The Director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement shall hire, train, and assign—

(A) not fewer than 100 new Homeland Security Investigations special agents to primarily assist with investigations involving the smuggling of currency and firearms from the United States to Mexico; and

(B) not fewer than 100 new Homeland Security Investigations special agents to assist with investigations involving the smuggling of contraband, human trafficking and smuggling (including that of children), drug smuggling, and unauthorized entry into the United States from Mexico.

(2) SUPPORT STAFF.—The Director is authorized to hire, train, and assign such additional support staff as may be necessary to support the functions carried out by the special agents hired pursuant to paragraph (1).

(e) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees that—

(A) identifies the resources provided, including equipment, personnel, and infrastructure, and the annual budget to carry out outbound and inbound inspections, including, to the extent practicable, resources specifically used for inspections of any individuals and modes of transportation—

(i) from the United States to Mexico or to Canada; and

(ii) from Mexico or Canada into the United States.

(B) describes the operational cadence of all outbound and inbound inspections of individuals and conveyances traveling from the United States to Mexico or to Canada and from Mexico or Canada into the United States, described as a percentage of total encounters or as the total number of inspections conducted;

(C) describes any plans that would allow for the use of alternative inspection sites near a port of entry;

(D) includes an estimate of—

(i) the number of vehicles and conveyances that can be inspected with up to 50 additional non-intrusive imaging systems dedicated to southbound inspections; and

(ii) the number of vehicles and conveyances that can be inspected with up to 50 additional non-intrusive imaging systems that may be additionally dedicated to inbound inspections along the southwest border; and

(E) assesses the capability of inbound inspections by authorities of the Government of Mexico, in cooperation with United States law enforcement agencies, to detect and interdict the flow of illicit weapons and currency being smuggled—

(i) from the United States to Mexico; and

(ii) from Mexico into the United States.

(2) CLASSIFICATION.—The report submitted pursuant to paragraph (1), or any part of such report, may be classified or provided with other appropriate safeguards to prevent public dissemination.

(f) MINIMUM MANDATORY SOUTHBOUND INSPECTION REQUIREMENT.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than March 30, 2027, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall ensure, to the extent practicable, that not fewer than 10 percent of all conveyances and other modes of transportation traveling from the United States to Mexico are inspected before leaving the United States.

(2) AUTHORIZED INSPECTION ACTIVITIES.—Inspections required under paragraph (1) may include non-intrusive imaging, physical inspections by officers or canine units, or other means authorized by the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(3) REPORT ON ADDITIONAL INSPECTIONS CAPABILITIES.—Not later than March 30, 2028, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees that assesses the Department of Homeland Security's timeline and resource requirements for increasing inspection rates to 15 and 20 percent, respectively, of all conveyances and modes of transportation traveling from the United States to Mexico.

(g) CURRENCY AND FIREARMS SEIZURES QUARTERLY REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 90 days thereafter until the date that is 4 years after such date of enactment, the Commissioner for U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees that describes the seizure of currency, firearms, and ammunition attempted to be trafficked out of the United States.

(2) CONTENTS.—Each report submitted pursuant to paragraph (1) shall include, for the most recent 90-day period for which such information is available—

(A) the total number of currency seizures that occurred from outbound inspections at United States ports of entry;

(B) the total dollar amount associated with the currency seizures referred to in subparagraph (A);

(C) the total number of firearms seized from outbound inspections at United States ports of entry;

(D) the total number of ammunition rounds seized from outbound inspections at United States ports of entry; and

(E) the total number of incidents of firearm seizures and ammunition seizures that occurred at United States ports of entry.

SA 2934. Ms. HASSAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title X, insert the following:

SEC. 10___. MONITORING BY UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE OF INDUSTRIAL SUBSIDIES PROVIDED BY GOVERNMENT OF PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

(a) MONITORING.—The United States Trade Representative, in coordination with the entities specified in subsection (b), shall regularly monitor—

(1) industrial subsidies provided by the Government of the People's Republic of China; and

(2) plans by the Government of the People's Republic of China to implement new industrial subsidies or expand existing industrial subsidies.

(b) ENTITIES SPECIFIED.—The entities specified in this subsection are the following:

(1) The Bureau of Economics and Business Affairs of the Department of State.

(2) The United States and Foreign Commercial Service of the Department of Commerce (established by section 2301 of the Export Enhancement Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 4721)).

(3) The International Trade Administration of the Department of Commerce (other than the United States and Foreign Commercial Service).

(4) The Foreign Agricultural Service of the Department of Agriculture.

(5) The Small Business Administration.

(6) Any other department or agency of the Federal Government, as determined by the President.

SEC. 10___. REPORTING BY UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE ON RISKS POSED BY INDUSTRIAL SUBSIDIES PROVIDED BY GOVERNMENT OF PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

(a) REPORTING.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the United States Trade Representative, in coordination with the entities specified in subsection (b), shall submit to the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives a report that—

(1) identifies current and expected industrial subsidies provided by the Government of the People's Republic of China that pose significant risk to—

(A) employment in the United States, including employment in strategically critical industries; and

(B) manufacturing in the United States, including production of strategically critical goods; and

(2) recommends legislative, administrative, or other actions that could mitigate the risks posed by industrial subsidies identified in paragraph (1).

(b) ENTITIES SPECIFIED.—The entities specified in this subsection are the following:

(1) The Bureau of Economics and Business Affairs of the Department of State.

(2) The United States Agency for International Development.

(3) The United States and Foreign Commercial Service of the Department of Commerce (established by section 2301 of the Export Enhancement Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 4721)).

(4) The Industry and Analysis unit and the Enforcement and Compliance unit of the International Trade Administration of the Department of Commerce.

(5) The Bureau of Industry and Security of the Department of Commerce.

(6) The Small Business Administration.

(7) The Department of Labor.

(8) The Department of Transportation.

(9) The Department of Energy.

(10) Any other department or agency of the Federal Government, as determined by the President.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE.—The term ''critical infrastructure'' has the meaning given that term in the Critical Infrastructures Protection Act of 2001 (42 U.S.C. 5195c).

(2) KEY TECHNOLOGY FOCUS AREAS.—The term ''key technology focus areas'' means the key technology focus areas included in the list required under section 10387(a)(2) of the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act (42 U.S.C. 19107(a)(2)).

(3) STRATEGICALLY CRITICAL GOOD.—The term ''strategically critical good'' means any raw, in process, or manufactured material (including any mineral, metal, or advanced processed material), article, commodity, supply, product, or item of supply the absence of which would have a significant effect on—

(A) the national security or economic security of the United States; and

(B) critical infrastructure.

(4) STRATEGICALLY CRITICAL INDUSTRY.—The term ''strategically critical industry'' means an industry that is critical for the national security or economic security of the United States, considering key technology focus areas and critical infrastructure.

SA 2935. Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Mr. BOOZMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle F of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1067. IMPLEMENTATION OF AND REPORT ON EFFORTS OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO IMPROVE HEALTH CARE APPOINTMENT SCHEDULING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a plan to improve the process for scheduling appointments for health care from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(b) ELEMENTS OF PLAN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The plan required by subsection (a) shall include such actions, resources, technology, and process improvements as the Secretary determines necessary to ensure the Department delivers to patients and employees of the Department in a timely manner improved delivery of health care, access to health care, customer experience and service relating to the receipt of health care, and efficiency with respect to the delivery of health care.

(2) OBJECTIVES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall ensure that the plan required by subsection (a) addresses the following objectives:

(i) To develop or continue the development of a scheduling system that enables both personnel and patients of the Department to view available appointments for care furnished by the Department, including primary care, mental health care, and all forms of specialty care.

(ii) To develop or continue the development of a self-service scheduling platform, available for use by all patients of the Department, which shall—

(I) enable such patients to view available appointments and, subject to the process described in clause (iii), fully schedule appointments for all care furnished by the Department;

(II) if a referral is required for an appointment, provide a method for the patient to request a referral and subsequently book an appointment if the referral is approved; and

(III) provide such patients with the ability to cancel or reschedule appointments.

(iii) To create a process through which all patients of the Department can telephonically speak with a scheduler who can assist the patient to determine appointment availability and can fully schedule appointments on behalf of the patient for all care furnished by the Department.

(iv) To carry out such other functions, oversight, metric development and tracking, change management, cross-Department coordination, and other related matters as the Secretary determines appropriate as it relates to scheduling tools, functions, and operations with respect to health care appointments furnished by the Department.

(B) EXPLANATION OF INABILITY TO IMPLEMENT CERTAIN OBJECTIVES, FEATURES, OR SERVICES.—If the Secretary determines that an objective under subparagraph (A), or any feature or service in connection with that objective, cannot be implemented or otherwise incorporated into a final product pursuant to the plan required by subsection (a), the Secretary shall include with the plan submitted under such subsection a report containing—

(i) an explanation as to why that objective, feature, or service cannot be implemented or incorporated, as the case may be; and

(ii) a plan for implementing the plan required by subsection (a) without that objective, feature, or service.

(c) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than two years after submitting to the appropriate committees of Congress the plan required by subsection (a), the Secretary shall fully implement the plan.

(d) COORDINATION WITH ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD MODERNIZATION PROGRAM.—In developing the plan required by subsection (a), the Secretary shall ensure that the elements and objectives of such plan set forth under subsection (b) are developed in consideration of the deployment schedule and capabilities of the Electronic Health Record Modernization Program of the Department to ensure a smooth transition to using the tools and features under such plan as relevant and appropriate.

(e) IMPLEMENTATION REPORTS.—Not later than each of one year and two years after the date on which the Secretary submits the plan required by subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the progress of the Secretary in implementing such plan, including—

(1) the costs incurred to implement the plan as of the date of the report;

(2) the expected costs to complete implementation of the plan (including costs for management and technology);

(3) the schedule for deployment of any capabilities developed pursuant to the plan; and

(4) the goals and metrics achieved, challenges, and lessons learned in implementing the plan.

(f) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to require the Secretary to include in the plan required by subsection (a) any technology or process that would preclude or impede the ability of a veteran to contact or schedule an appointment directly with a facility or provider through a non-online scheduling process, should the veteran choose to do so.

(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(2) FULLY SCHEDULE.—The term ''fully schedule'', with respect to an appointment for health care, means that the appointment booking is completed, rather than simply requested.

SA 2936. Ms. HASSAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title XII, insert the following:

SEC. 12___. PILOT PROGRAM ON USE OF BIG DATA ANALYTICS TO IDENTIFY VESSELS EVADING SANCTIONS AND EXPORT CONTROLS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting through the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, shall establish a pilot program at the National Targeting Center to assess the feasibility and advisability of using big data analytics to identify and predict instances in which disabling or manipulating the Automatic Identification System on a vessel is an indication that there is a high risk that the vessel is transporting goods in a manner that evades sanctions or export controls imposed by the United States.

(b) LAW ENFORCEMENT USE.—The Secretary, acting through the Commissioner, shall design the pilot program required by subsection (a) to provide actionable intelligence with respect to instances described in subsection (a) to—

(1) operational components of the Department of Homeland Security, including U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Coast Guard;

(2) other Federal law enforcement agencies; and

(3) such agencies of foreign countries that are partners of the United States as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(c) DATA ELEMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In developing the pilot program required by subsection (a), the Secretary, acting through the Commissioner, shall consider the inclusion of the following data with respect to a vessel described in that subsection:

(A) The type of goods being transported on the vessel.

(B) The destination of the vessel.

(C) The ownership and nationality of the vessel, the shipper, and the importer.

(D) The ownership and nationality of vessels located in close proximity to the vessel while the Automatic Identification System was disabled or being manipulated.

(E) The period of time for which the Automatic Identification System on the vessel was disabled or being manipulated.

(F) The frequency of issues with the Automatic Identification System on that vessel.

(2) DATA MODELS.—The pilot program required by subsection (a) may include multiple data models to account for different behavior patterns for different shippers and different types of goods.

(d) INTERAGENCY COORDINATION.—The Secretary, acting through the Commissioner, shall coordinate with the Secretary of Commerce and the Director of National Intelligence in developing and carrying out the pilot program required by subsection (a).

(e) TERMINATION.—The pilot program required by subsection (a) shall terminate on the date that is 4 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(f) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 4 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Director of National Intelligence, shall submit to Congress a report—

(1) assessing the usefulness of the pilot program required by subsection (a) in identifying and predicting instances described in that subsection;

(2) with respect to each instance in which a vessel was identified under the pilot program as posing a high risk of transporting goods in a manner that evades sanctions or export controls imposed by the United States and the vessel was successfully interdicted by the United States or a country that is a partner of the United States—

(A) specifying whether or not the vessel was confirmed to be evading such sanctions or export controls;

(B) if the vessel was confirmed to be evading such sanctions or export controls, specifying the penalty imposed; and

(C) if the vessel was not confirmed to be evading such sanctions or export controls, specifying whether a United States agency took action against the vessel based on reasonable suspicion;

(3) with respect to each instance in which a vessel was identified under the pilot program as posing a high risk of transporting goods in a manner that evades sanctions or export controls imposed by the United States and the vessel was not successfully interdicted by the United States or a country that is a partner of the United States, specifying whether the vessel traveled to—

(A) a country with respect to which the United States has imposed sanctions or export controls with respect to goods suspected of being transported on the vessel;

(B) a country not described in subparagraph (A) but that the Secretary of Homeland Security has identified as a country posing a high risk of transshipment of goods suspected of being transported on the vessel to a country described in subparagraph (A); or

(C) a country not described in subparagraph (A) or (B); and

(4) making recommendations with respect to whether big data analytics should be used to identify and predict instances described in subsection (a) in the future.

(g) NO ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS AUTHORIZED.—No additional amounts are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the pilot program required by subsection (a).

(h) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION ON COLLECTION OR ACQUISITION OF INFORMATION.—Nothing in this section authorizes any new collection or acquisition of information not otherwise authorized by existing law as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 2937. Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Ms. HIRONO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title III, add the following:

SEC. 334. REPORT ON JUSTIFICATION FOR THE CURRENT AND PROPOSED EXPANSION OF INERT BOMBING AND GUNFIRE TRAINING ON THE ISLAND OF KAULA, HAWAII.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Navy shall submit to the Subcommittee on Defense of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Subcommittee on Defense of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report on the national security justification for the current and proposed expansion of inert bombing and gunfire training by the Navy, the Army, the Air Force, and the Marine Corps on the island of Kaula, Hawaii.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) An identification of a national security justification for the proposed expansion of inert bombing and gunfire training on Kaula, Hawaii, that is not limited to scheduling needs of a unit and training site availability.

(2) An identification of the tangible impacts to readiness of units operating in the area of responsibility of the United States Indo-Pacific Command if Kaula is not available for training.

(3) An assessment by the Secretary of the Navy of whether there is an irreplaceable need for access to Kaula that cannot be fulfilled by an alternative site or alternative method of training.

(4) A consideration by the Secretary of the Navy to program specific funding for environmental remediation, including existing and future ordnance clean up.

SA 2938. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title XVI, insert the following:

SEC. _____. REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLICLY DISTRIBUTED CONTENT BY THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

(a) AUTHENTIC CONTENT DISCLOSURES.—The Secretary of Defense shall—

(1) ensure that any covered content that it distributes or displays to the United States public does not contain any false designation of origin, false or misleading description of fact, or false or misleading representation of fact, which—

(A) is likely to cause confusion, to cause mistake, or to deceive as to the affiliation, connection, or association of the covered content with another person, event, good, service, or activity; and

(B) in promotion, misrepresents the nature, characteristics, qualities, or origin of the covered content; and

(2) ensure that any covered artificial intelligence-generated content it distributes or displays to the United States public incorporates a clear and conspicuous disclosure that—

(A) identifies that the covered content includes artificial intelligence-generated content;

(B) meets accessibility standards for people with disabilities as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.); and

(C) is embedded in the covered content.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COVERED ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE-GENERATED CONTENT.—The term ''covered *artificial intelligence*-generated content'' means digital content that is created or substantially modified by a generative artificial intelligence system such that—

(A) the use of the system materially alters, adds, or removes the meaning or significance that a reasonable person would interpret from the content; and

(B) a reasonable person would believe that the content is not generated using a generative artificial intelligence system.

(2) COVERED CONTENT.—The term ''covered content'' means an image, video, or audio content, or any combination thereof, including covered artificial intelligence-generated content.

SA 2939. Mrs. MURRAY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title X, insert the following:

SEC. _____. PILOT PROGRAM FOR SOUND INSULATION REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT.

(a) GOVERNMENT SHARE.—Section 47109 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(i) SPECIAL RULE FOR SOUND INSULATION REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT.—With respect to a project to carry out sound insulation that is granted a waiver under section 47110(j), the allowable project cost for such project shall be calculated without consideration of any costs that were previously paid by the Government.''.

(b) SOUND INSULATION TREATMENT REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT PROJECTS.—Section 47110 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(j) PILOT PROGRAM FOR SOUND INSULATION REPAIR AND REPLACEMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall establish a pilot program at up to 4 large hub public-use airports for local airport operators that have established a local program to fund secondary noise using non-aeronautical revenue that provides a one-time waiver of the requirement of subsection (b)(4) for a qualifying airport as applied to projects to carry out repair and replacement of sound insulation for a residential building for which the airport previously received Federal assistance or Federally authorized airport assistance under this subchapter if—

''(A) the Secretary determines that the additional assistance is justified due to the residence containing any sound insulation treatment or other type of sound proofing material previously installed under this subchapter that is determined to be eligible pursuant to paragraph (2); and

''(B) the residence—

''(i) falls within the Day Night Level (DNL) of 65 to 75 decibel (dB) noise contours, according to the most recent noise exposure map (as such term is defined in section 150.7 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations) available as of the date of enactment of this subsection;

''(ii) fell within such noise contours at the time the initial sound insulation treatment was installed, but a qualified noise auditor has determined that—

''(I) such sound insulation treatment caused physical damage to the residence; or

''(II) the materials used for sound insulation treatment were of low quality and have deteriorated, broken, or otherwise no longer function as intended; and

''(iii) is shown through testing that current interior noise levels exceed DNL 45 dB, and the new insulation would have the ability to achieve a 5 dB noise reduction.

''(2) ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION.—To be eligible for a waiver under this subsection for repair or replacement of sound insulation treatment projects, an applicant shall—

''(A) ensure that the applicant and the property owner have made a good faith effort to exhaust any amounts available through warranties, insurance coverage, and legal remedies for the sound insulation treatment previously installed on the eligible residence;

''(B) verify the sound insulation treatment for which Federal assistance was previously provided was installed prior to the year 2002; and

''(C) demonstrate that a qualified noise auditor, based on an inspection of the residence, determined that—

''(i) the sound insulation treatment for which Federal assistance was previously provided has resulted in structural deterioration that was not caused by failure of the property owner to repair or adequately maintain the residential building or through the negligence of the applicant or the property owner; and

''(ii) the condition of the sound insulation treatment described in clause (i) is not attributed to actions taken by an owner or occupant of the residence.

''(3) ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY FOR SURVEYS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary shall consider a cost allowable under this subchapter for an airport to conduct periodic surveys of properties in which repair and replacement of sound insulation treatment was carried out as described in paragraph (1) and for which the airport previously received Federal assistance or Federally authorized airport assistance under this subchapter. The surveys shall be conducted only for those properties for which the airport has identified a property owner who is interested in having a survey be undertaken to assess the current effectiveness of the sound insulation treatment. Such surveys shall be carried out to identify any properties described in the preceding sentence that are eligible for funds under this subsection.''.

SA 2940. Mr. COONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1248. STRATEGY TO RESPOND TO THE PRC'S GLOBAL BASING INTENTIONS.

(a) SHORT TITLES.—This section may be cited as the ''Combating PRC Overseas and Unlawful Networked Threats through Enhanced Resilience Act of 2025'' or the ''COUNTER Act of 2025''.

(b) FINDINGS.—According to multiple sources, including the 2024 annual report to Congress, titled ''Military and Security Developments Involving the People's Republic of China'' and known informally as the ''China Military Power Report''—

(1) the PRC is seeking to expand its overseas logistics and basing infrastructure to allow the PLA to project and sustain military power at greater distances;

(2) a global PLA logistics network could give the PRC increased capabilities to surveil or disrupt United States military operations;

(3) in August 2017, the PRC officially opened the first overseas PLA military base near the commercial port of Doraleh in Djibouti;

(4) in 2019, the PRC also attempted to acquire strategically important port infrastructure at Subic Bay in the Philippines, but was stopped by the Governments of the United States, the Philippines, and Japan, and by private investors;

(5) in April 2025, officials from the PRC and Cambodia officially inaugurated the China-Cambodia Ream Naval Base Joint Support and Training Center and celebrated the expansion of port facilities at Ream Naval Base, some of which appear to have been reserved for the use of PRC ships that have been continuously stationed at Ream Naval Base since December 2023; and

(6) in addition to the base in Djibouti and the PRC's access to the port at the Ream Naval Base in Cambodia, the PRC is likely pursuing access to additional military facilities to support naval, air, and ground forces projection in many countries.

(c) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—While the executive branch has undertaken case-by-case efforts to forestall the establishment of new PRC permanent military presence in several countries, it is the sense of Congress that future efforts to counter the PRC's global basing intentions must—

(1) proceed with the urgency required to address the strategic implications of the PRC's actions;

(2) reflect sufficient interagency coordination with respect to a problem that necessitates a whole-of-government approach;

(3) ensure that the United States Government maintains a proactive posture rather than a reactive posture in order to maximize strategic decision space;

(4) identify a comprehensive menu of actions that would be influential in shaping a partner's decision making regarding giving the PRC military access to its sovereign territory;

(5) appropriately prioritize the subject of the PRC's global basing intentions within the context of the overall United States strategic competition with the PRC;

(6) consider how the PRC uses commercial and scientific cooperation as a guise for establishing access for the PLA and other PRC security forces in foreign countries;

(7) factor in the potential contributions of key allies and partners to help respond to the PRC's pursuit of global basing, many of which—

(A) have historic ties and influence in many of the geographic areas the PRC is targeting for potential future bases; and

(B) rely on the same basic intelligence picture to form our baseline understanding of the PRC's global intentions;

(8) establish and ensure sufficient resourcing for enduring organizational structures and security and foreign assistance and cooperation efforts to effectively address the issue of PRC global basing intentions; and

(9) ensure that future force posture, freedom of movement, and other interests of the United States and our allies are not jeopardized by the continued expansion of PRC bases.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

(C) the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(E) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives;

(F) the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives;

(G) the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives; and

(H) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(2) PLA.—The term ''PLA'' means the People's Liberation Army of the PRC.

(3) PRC.—The term ''PRC'' means the People's Republic of China.

(4) PRC GLOBAL BASING.—The term ''PRC global basing'' means the establishment of physical locations outside the geographic boundaries of the PRC where the PRC maintains some element of the People's Liberation Army, PRC intelligence or security forces, or infrastructure designed to support the presence of PRC military, intelligence, or security forces, for the purposes of potential power projection.

(e) ASSESSMENT OF EXECUTIVE BRANCH'S C–PRC GLOBAL BASING STRATEGY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit an intelligence assessment, in classified form, if needed, to the appropriate congressional committees. The assessment shall analyze the risk posed by PRC global basing to the United States or to any United States allies with respect to their ability to project power, maintain freedom of movement, and protect other interests as a function of the PRC's current or potential locations identified pursuant to subsection (f)(2)(A).

(f) STRATEGY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense and other appropriate senior Federal officials, shall submit a strategy to the appropriate congressional committees that contains the information described in paragraph (2).

(2) CONTENTS.—The strategy required under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) identify not fewer than 5 locations that pose the greatest potential risks, as identified in the assessment required under subsection (e), where the PRC maintains a physical presence, or is suspected to be seeking a physical presence, which could ultimately transition into a PRC global base;

(B) include a comprehensive listing of executive branch entities currently involved in addressing aspects of PRC global basing, including estimated programmatic and personal resource requirements on an agency-by-agency basis to effectively address the issue of PRC global basing intentions, and any relevant resource constraints;

(C) describe in detail all executive branch efforts to mitigate the impacts to the national interests of the United States and partner countries of the locations referred to in subparagraph (A) and prevent the PRC from establishing new global bases, including with resources described in subparagraph (B); and

(D) for each of the locations referred to in subparagraph (A), identify the actions by the United States or its allies that would be most effective in ensuring the respective foreign governments terminate plans for hosting a PRC base.

(g) TASK FORCE.—Not later than 90 days after submitting the strategy described in subsection (f), the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense and other appropriate senior Federal officials, shall establish an interagency task force—

(1) to implement such strategy to counter the PRC's efforts at the locations of chief concern; and

(2) to identify mitigation measures that would prevent the PRC from establishing new bases in locations beyond the locations of chief concern identified pursuant to subsection (f)(2)(A).

(h) QUADRENNIAL REVIEWS AND REPORTS.—Not later than 4 years after the submission of the strategy required under subsection (f), and not less frequently than once every 4 years thereafter, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, the Director of National Intelligence, and other appropriate senior Federal officials, shall—

(1) conduct a review of the Executive Branch's strategy and overall approach in response to the PRC global basing intentions; and

(2) submit the results of such review, including the information described in subsection (f)(2), to the appropriate congressional committees.

SA 2941. Mr. COONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

TITLE _____—DRIVING FOR OPPORTUNITY

SEC. _____01. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''Driving for Opportunity Act of 2025''.

SEC. _____02. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Driving a vehicle is an essential aspect of the daily lives of most people in the United States.

(2) Driving is often required to access jobs and healthcare, take care of family, get groceries, and fulfill other basic responsibilities.

(3) In many small cities, towns, and rural areas that do not have public transportation and ridesharing alternatives, driving is often the only realistic means of transportation.

(4) In the United States, millions of Americans have had their driver's licenses suspended for unpaid court fines and fees.

(5) A person whose driver's license is suspended or revoked for unpaid fines and fees will often find it more difficult to earn a living and therefore pay the debt owed to the government.

(6) Drunk and dangerous driving are some of the leading causes of death and serious bodily injury in the United States, and promoting safety on the roads is a legitimate,

necessary, and core governmental function. Suspending a license for unsafe driving conduct presents different considerations than suspending a license for unpaid fines and fees. Suspending a license for unsafe driving is an appropriate tool to protect public safety. Policymakers also may consider alternatives to suspension of a license for unsafe driving such as ignition interlock device programs.

(7) According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, every year on average, over 34,000 people are killed and 2,400,000 more people are injured in motor vehicle crashes. Some of the major causes of these crashes include speeding, impaired driving, and distracted driving. Nearly half of passenger vehicle occupants killed in crashes are unrestrained. The societal harm caused by motor vehicle crashes has been valued at $836,000,000,000 annually. The enactment of, enforcement of, and education regarding traffic laws are key to addressing unsafe behavior and promoting public safety.

(8) However, most driver's license suspensions are not based on the need to protect public safety.

(9) Between 2010 and 2017, all but 3 States increased the amount of fines and fees for civil and criminal violations.

(10) In the United States, 40 percent of all driver's license suspensions are issued for conduct that was unrelated to driving.

(11) One in three people in the United States are affected by fines and fees debt.

(12) Arresting and prosecuting individuals for driving on a suspended license consumes a significant amount of law enforcement and prosecutorial resources. Driving on a suspended license is one of the most common criminal charges in jurisdictions across the country.

(13) Seventy-five percent of those with suspended licenses report continuing to drive.

(14) It is more likely that those people are also driving without insurance due to the costs and restrictions associated with obtaining auto insurance on a suspended license, thereby placing a greater financial burden on other drivers when a driver with a suspended license causes an accident.

(15) The American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators has concluded the following: ''Drivers who have been suspended for social non-conformance-related offenses are often trapped within the system. Some cannot afford to pay the original fines, and may lose their ability to legally get to and from work as a result of the suspension. Many make the decision to drive while suspended. The suspension results in increased financial obligations through new requirements such as reinstatement fees, court costs, and other penalties. While there is a clear societal interest in keeping those who are unfit to drive off the roads, broadly restricting licenses for violations unrelated to an individual's ability to drive safely may do more harm than good. This is especially true in areas of the country that lack alternative means of transportation. For those individuals, a valid driver's license can be a means to survive. Local communities, employers, and employees all experience negative consequences as a result of social non-conformity suspensions, including unemployment, lower wages, fewer employment opportunities and hiring choices, and increased insurance costs.''.

(16) A report by the Harvard Law School Criminal Justice Policy Program concluded the following: ''The suspension of a driver's or professional license is one of the most pervasive poverty traps for poor people assessed a fine that they cannot afford to pay. The practice is widespread. Nearly 40 percent of license suspensions nationwide stem from unpaid fines, missed child support payments, and drug offenses—not from unsafe or intoxicated driving or failing to obtain automotive insurance. Suspension of a driver's or professional licenses is hugely counterproductive; it punishes non-payment by taking away a person's means for making a living. License suspension programs are also expensive for States to run and they distract law enforcement efforts from priorities related to public safety. License suspensions may also be unconstitutional if the license was suspended before the judge determined the defendant had the ability to pay the criminal justice debt.''.

SEC. _____03. GRANTS FOR DRIVER'S LICENSES REINSTATEMENT PROGRAMS.

Subpart 1 of part E of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10151 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 501(a) (34 U.S.C. 10152(a)), by adding at the end the following:

''(3) GRANTS FOR DRIVER'S LICENSE REINSTATEMENT PROGRAMS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In addition to grants made under paragraph (1), the Attorney General may make grants to States described in subparagraph (B) to cover costs incurred by the State to reinstate or renew driver's licenses or motor vehicle registrations previously suspended, revoked, or failed to be renewed for unpaid civil or criminal fines or fees.

''(B) STATES DESCRIBED.—A State described in this subparagraph is a State that—

''(i) does not have in effect any State or local law that permits—

''(I) the suspension or revocation of, or refusal to renew, a driver's license of an individual based on the individual's failure to pay a civil or criminal fine or fee; or

''(II) the refusal to renew the registration of a motor vehicle based on the owner's failure to pay a civil or criminal fine or fee; and

''(ii) during the 3-year period ending on the date on which the State applies for or receives a grant under this paragraph, has repealed a State or local law that permitted the suspension or revocation of, or refusal to renew, driver's licenses or the registration of a motor vehicle based on the failure to pay civil or criminal fines or fees.

''(C) CRITERIA.—The Attorney General shall award grants under this paragraph to States described in subparagraph (B) that submit a plan to reinstate or renew driver's licenses or motor vehicle registrations previously suspended, revoked, or failed to be renewed for unpaid civil or criminal fines or fees—

''(i) to maximize the number of individuals with suspended or revoked driver's licenses or motor vehicle registrations eligible to have driving privileges reinstated or regained;

''(ii) to provide assistance to individuals living in areas where public transportation options are limited; and

''(iii) to ease the burden on States where the State or local law described in subparagraph (B)(ii) was in effect during the 3-year period ending on the date on which a State applies for a grant under this paragraph in accordance with section 502.

''(D) AMOUNT.—Each grant awarded under this paragraph shall be not greater than 5 percent of the amount allocated to the State in accordance with the formula established under section 505.

''(E) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which a grant is made to a State under this paragraph, the State shall submit to the Attorney General a report that describes the actions of the State to carry out activities described in subparagraph (A), including with respect to—

''(i) the population served by the program;

''(ii) the number of driver's licenses and motor vehicle registrations reinstated or renewed under the program; and

''(iii) all costs to the State of the program, including how the grants under this paragraph were spent to defray such costs.

''(F) ADDITIONAL ANALYSIS.—Not later than 2 years after the date on which a grant is made to a State under this paragraph, the State shall submit to the Attorney General an analysis of the impact of the program on the collections of civil or criminal fines or fees.''; and

(2) in section 508—

(A) by striking ''There'' and inserting ''(a) IN GENERAL.—There''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(b) DRIVER'S LICENSE REINSTATEMENT PROGRAMS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out section 501(a)(3) $10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2024 through 2028.''.

SEC. _____04. GAO STUDY.

(a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study of the implementation of the grant program in paragraph (3) of section 501(a) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10152(a)), as added by section _____03(a) of this Act, that—

(1) includes what is known about the effect of repealing State laws, in selected States, that had permitted the suspension or revocation of, or refusal to renew, driver's licenses or the registration of a motor vehicle based on the failure to pay civil or criminal fines or fees, including such factors, to the extent information is available, as—

(A) the collection of fines and fees;

(B) the usage of law enforcement resources;

(C) economic mobility and unemployment;

(D) rates of enforcement of traffic safety laws through the tracking of number of summonses and violations issued (including those related to automated enforcement technologies);

(E) the use of suspensions for public safety-related reasons (including reckless driving, speeding, and driving under the influence);

(F) safety-critical traffic events (including in localities with automated enforcement programs);

(G) the rates of license suspensions and proportion of unlicensed drivers;

(H) racial and geographic disparities; and

(I) administrative costs (including costs associated with the collection of fines and fees and with the reinstatement of driver's licenses); and

(2) includes what is known about—

(A) existing alternatives to driver's license suspension as methods of enforcement and collection of unpaid fines and fees; and

(B) existing alternatives to traditional driver's license suspension for certain kinds of unsafe driving, including models that allow drivers to continue to drive legally while pursuing driver improvement opportunities.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report on the study required under subsection (a).

SA 2942. Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense

activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle A of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1210. UNITED STATES FOUNDATION FOR INTERNATIONAL FOOD SECURITY.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the ''United States Foundation for International Food Security Act of 2025''.

(b) DEFINED TERM.—In this section, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

(2) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate;

(3) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(4) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives;

(5) the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives; and

(6) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(c) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) FINDING.—Congress finds that there has been established, in the District of Columbia, a private, nonprofit corporation, which is known as the United States Foundation for International Food Security (referred to in this section as the ''Foundation''), which is not an agency or establishment of the United States Government.

(2) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this section may be construed as—

(A) making the Foundation an agency or establishment of the United States Government; or

(B) making any member of the Board of Directors of the Foundation or any officer or employee of the Foundation an employee of the United States.

(3) TRANSFERS OR CONSOLIDATION REQUIRE ACT OF CONGRESS.—Neither the Foundation nor any of its functions, powers, or duties may be transferred to, or consolidated with, any department, agency, or entity of the Federal Government absent an Act of Congress to such effect.

(4) TAX-EXEMPT STATUS.—The Board shall take all necessary and appropriate steps to ensure that the Foundation is established as an organization described in subsection (c) of section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, which exempts the organization from taxation under subsection (a) of such section.

(d) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Foundation are—

(1) to accelerate enduring, primarily locally-led agriculture investments that foster food security and resilience in the crop, poultry, aquaculture, and livestock industries, that focus on building economically resilient food systems by investing in—

(A) financing for, distribution of, and training around key inputs required for increasing crop and animal productivity, distribution, and profits;

(B) infrastructure, such as irrigation, warehousing, storage, and food processing, to improve food production and market access through better product quality and the prevention of food loss;

(C) applied agricultural research; and

(D) economically viable technology deployment that reduces hunger and increases agriculture production or distribution methods;

(2) to prevent unnecessary or inefficient vetting processes, due diligence, project financing, or evaluation reviews by seeking out partnerships and contracting with existing government and nongovernmental entities that have proven track records;

(3) to deploy and scale technology and innovation to accelerate food security and agricultural-led economic growth that reduces global hunger and malnutrition;

(4) to coordinate with the United States Foundation for International Conservation;

(5) to advance the national security interests of the United States;

(6) to complement international and government investment and technical assistance mechanisms, such as those employed or managed by the United States International Development Finance Corporation, and United States Government food security programs, to jointly catalyze private and public sector engagement, spur agricultural-led economic growth, and strengthen local food and nutrition systems; and

(7) to ensure the effective use of United States taxpayer dollars and the prioritization of United States foreign policy interests.

(e) GOVERNANCE OF THE FOUNDATION.—

(1) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—

(A) GOVERNANCE.—The Foundation shall be governed by a voting Board of Directors (referred to in this subsection as the ''Board'') that—

(i) shall not exceed 15 members; and

(ii) may consult with a nonvoting Board of Advisors when making decisions related to the Foundation's work.

(B) QUALIFICATIONS.—Individuals appointed to the Board shall include individuals who are knowledgeable and experienced in matters relating to—

(i) agricultural production, livestock, land management, or forestry;

(ii) agricultural economics, business development, technology deployment, market access, agribusinesses (including food companies), market access, supply chains, infrastructure, or commodities groups;

(iii) international finance and multilateral governance;

(iv) outcome-based and impact funding concepts, including the role of impact evaluations and data collection, to measure the progress of ventures, and innovative grantee or investee selection and funding structures;

(v) agricultural research and development; or

(vi) national security.

(C) LIMITATION ON POLITICAL AFFILIATION.—The Directors of the Board shall include members of both major political parties in a relatively equal number.

(D) CHAIRPERSON.—A quorum of the voting Directors of the Board shall elect a Chairperson, who shall serve in such position for a 4-year term.

(E) VOTING.—All voting Directors of the Board shall have equal voting rights.

(F) TERMS; VACANCIES.—

(i) TERMS.—The term of service of each Director may not exceed 5 years and is renewable for not more than 1 additional 5-year term.

(ii) VACANCIES.—Any vacancy in the membership of the appointed Directors of the Board—

(I) shall be filled in accordance with the bylaws of the Foundation;

(II) does not affect the power of the remaining appointed Directors to execute the duties of the Board; and

(III) shall be filled by an individual selected in accordance with the bylaws of the Board.

(G) QUORUM.—A majority of the current membership of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of Foundation business.

(H) MEETINGS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The Board shall meet not less frequently than twice per year.

(ii) AUTHORITY.—The Board shall maintain full control and decision making authority of the Foundation.

(iii) REMOVAL.—Any Director may be removed from the Board if—

(I) the Director is absent from 2 consecutive regularly scheduled meetings without reasonable cause; or

(II) the Board, by a majority vote of the other Board members, determines that such Director should be removed from the Board.

(I) REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES.—Directors of the Board shall serve without pay, but may be reimbursed for the actual and necessary traveling and subsistence expenses incurred by such members in the performance of their duties on behalf of the Foundation.

(J) NOT FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—Appointment as a Director of the Board shall not constitute employment by, or the holding of an office of, the United States Government for purposes of any Federal law.

(K) DUTIES.—The Board shall—

(i) establish bylaws for the Foundation;

(ii) provide overall direction for the activities of the Foundation and establish priority activities;

(iii) carry out any other necessary activities of the Foundation;

(iv) hire and evaluate the performance of the Executive Director of the Foundation; and

(v) take steps to limit the Foundation's administrative expenses to the extent practicable and in accordance with industry standards.

(L) BYLAWS.—The bylaws of the Foundation shall require the Board to establish—

(i) policies for the selection of Directors of the Board, Members of the Board of Advisors, and officers, employees, agents, and contractors of the Foundation;

(ii) policies, including ethical standards, for—

(I) the acceptance, solicitation, and disposition of donations and grants to the Foundation; and

(II) the use and disposition of the assets of the Foundation;

(iii) policies that subject all employees, fellows, trainees, and other agents of the Foundation (including all of the Directors of the Board and all of the Members of the Board of Advisors) to prevailing conflict of interest standards for the industry;

(iv) the specific duties of the Executive Director of the Foundation;

(v) policies for winding down the activities of the Foundation upon termination, including a plan—

(I) to return unobligated appropriations to the Department of the Treasury; and

(II) to donate unspent private and philanthropic contributions to projects that align with the goals and requirements described in this Act; and

(vi) specific policies and requirements governing project criteria, measurable outcomes, impact evaluations, and country eligibility requirements.

(2) BOARD OF ADVISORS COMPOSITION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The nonvoting Board of Advisors may be composed of, at a minimum—

(i) members of the executive branch of the Federal Government from departments and agencies with expertise that would benefit the Foundation;

(ii) the Secretary of State, or the Secretary's designee;

(iii) the Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation, or his or her designee; and

(iv) 2 deans or other designated faculty members of United States land-grant colleges or universities that have an international agriculture program.

(B) DUTIES.—The Board of Advisors shall provide advice and consultation to the Board in accordance with the bylaws of the Foundation.

(C) REMOVAL.—The Board of Directors may remove an Advisor from the Board of Advisors by majority vote.

(3) PROCEDURES.—

(A) INITIAL MEETING.—The Board shall hold its initial meeting not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(B) ORGANIZING PRINCIPLES; APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—The Directors of the Board shall name an Executive Director of the Foundation not later than 120 days after the date of the initial meeting of the Board.

(4) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR; STAFF.—

(A) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—The Board shall hire a qualified individual to serve, at the pleasure of the Board, as the Executive Director of the Foundation.

(B) FOUNDATION STAFF.—Officers and employees of the Foundation—

(i) may not be employees of, or hold any office in, the United States Government;

(ii) shall be appointed without regard to the provisions of—

(I) title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service; and

(II) chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title, relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates; and

(iii) shall receive a salary that is commensurate with the salaries of similar positions in similar foundations.

(5) LIMITATION; CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS.—

(A) POLITICAL PARTICIPATION.—The Foundation may not participate or intervene in any political activities on behalf of any candidate for public office in any country.

(B) FINANCIAL INTERESTS.—All Directors of the Board, Advisors, officers, and employees of the Foundation are subject to industry standard conflicts of interest protocols set forth in the Foundation bylaws.

(f) CORPORATE POWERS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE FOUNDATION.—

(1) GENERAL AUTHORITIES.—The Foundation—

(A) may conduct business throughout the States, territories, and possessions of the United States and in foreign countries;

(B) shall have its principal offices in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area; and

(C) shall continuously maintain a designated agent in Washington, D.C. who is authorized to accept notice or service of process on behalf of the Foundation.

(2) AUTHORITIES.—In addition to powers explicitly authorized under this Act, the Foundation, in order to carry out the purposes described in subsection (d), shall have the usual powers of a corporation headquartered in Washington, D.C., including the authority—

(A) to accept, receive, solicit, hold, administer, and use any gift, devise, or bequest, either absolutely or in trust, or real or personal property or any income derived from such gift or property, or other interest in such gift or property;

(B) to acquire by donation, gift, devise, purchase, or exchange any real or personal property or interest in such property;

(C) unless otherwise required by the instrument of transfer, to sell, donate, lease, invest, reinvest, retain, or otherwise dispose of any property or income derived from such property;

(D) to complain and defend itself in any court of competent jurisdiction (except that the Directors of the Board shall not be personally liable, except for gross negligence);

(E) to enter into legal arrangements with public agencies, private organizations, and persons and to make such payments as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of such contracts or arrangements; and

(F) to engage in funding activities, which may include structured or project financing, grants, equity (provided that returns flow back to the Foundation), and concessional lending, for eligible projects, in accordance with subsection (h).

(3) FEDERAL FUNDS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Foundation may—

(i) hold Federal funds made available, but not immediately disbursed; and

(ii) use any interest or other investment income earned on such Federal funds to carry out the purposes of the Foundation under this section.

(B) LIMITATION.—Investments by the Foundation made with Federal funds may only be made in—

(i) interest-bearing obligations of the United States; or

(ii) obligations guaranteed as to both principal and interest by the United States.

(4) LIMITATION OF PUBLIC LIABILITY.—The United States shall not be liable for any debts, defaults, acts, or omissions of the Foundation. The Federal Government shall be held harmless from any damages or awards ordered by a court against the Foundation.

(g) OUTCOME-BASED FUNDING, SAFEGUARDS, AND ACCOUNTABILITY.—

(1) OUTCOME-BASED FUNDING.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Foundation shall establish a funding strategy that sets targets based on measurable outcomes to be improved in populations served through its investments, including—

(i) identifying and regularly reviewing any such outcomes that advance the purposes described in subsection (d), such as increased crop and animal productivity, increased profit to farmers, or decreased hunger rates; and

(ii) a portfolio, multi-year, approach to Foundation investments in which the failure of any specific program to achieve target outcomes is acceptable if the overall portfolio of projects meets target outcomes.

(B) FINANCING AND EVALUATION PROCESS.—The Foundation shall establish an efficient and streamlined financing and evaluation process that—

(i) prioritizes the achievement of defined outcomes;

(ii) assesses risk of corruption and employs a strategy to counter corruption;

(iii) prioritizes funding ventures with partners that are primarily locally-based or locally-run organizations, entities, and businesses that—

(I) achieve such outcomes; and

(II) demonstrate an ability to sustain the financed project; and

(iv) focuses venture evaluations on assessing such outcomes and minimizing unnecessary reporting on project activities.

(2) ACCOUNTABILITY.—

(A) IMPACT EVALUATIONS.—The achievement of venture outcomes shall be determined through impact evaluations that include a comparison group to determine any measured improvements that are attributable to the funded venture.

(B) METHODOLOGY ASSESSMENTS.—Foundation staff may assess the methodology used by grantees or investees that are already running impact evaluations to increase efficiency, and such evaluations may be accepted in place of additional evaluations.

(C) DEDICATED FUNDING.—Any grantee or investee that lacks impact evaluation capacity may receive dedicated funding to support in-house evaluations or to contract with independent, external evaluators.

(D) THIRD PARTY EVALUATIONS.—The Foundation may pay for third party evaluations of any grantee's project to verify the results derived from an in-house evaluation.

(3) SAFEGUARDS.—The Foundation shall develop, and incorporate into any agreement for support provided by the Foundation, appropriate safeguards, policies, and guidelines, consistent with internationally recognized best practices.

(4) INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM.—The Foundation shall establish or contract for a transparent and independent accountability mechanism, consistent with best practices, which shall provide—

(A) a compliance review function that assesses whether Foundation-supported ventures adhere to the requirements developed pursuant to paragraph (1);

(B) a dispute resolution function for resolving and remedying concerns between venture implementers regarding the impacts of specific Foundation-supported ventures with respect to such standards; and

(C) an advisory function that reports to the Board regarding ventures, policies, and practices.

(h) VENTURES, FINANCING, AND GRANTS.—

(1) VENTURE FUNDING REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Foundation shall award funding, which may include project financing, credit risk insurance, grants, concessional lending, or credit, in accordance with this subsection, for eligible projects described in subparagraph (B) that—

(i) increase agricultural productivity and incomes; and

(ii) ensure food security is achieved and sustained, while supporting farmers moving beyond subsistence agriculture to growing higher value crops that can be sold for profit.

(B) ELIGIBLE VENTURES.—A venture qualifies as an eligible venture if the venture seeks—

(i) to have cost matching from sources other than the United States Government;

(ii) to incorporate a set of key independently verified outcomes, which shall be measured by rigorous impact evaluations, such as measuring attributable increases in agricultural yields, infrastructure, or any other eligible use;

(iii) to not substantially duplicate the work of other funders or institutions or displace current profit-making ventures;

(iv) to leverage existing infrastructure and community-led development to allow for the immediate launch of ventures;

(v) to advance the national security interests of the United States;

(vi) to demonstrate—

(I) the ability to financially and operationally maintain and build on the outcomes or mission of the venture after the Foundation funding has ended; or

(II) a plan to strengthen the capacity of, and transfer skills and technologic tools to, local enterprises, organizations, or institutions to manage projects and other funded entities after the Foundation funding has been expended; and

(vii) to consider projects that meet the highest needs of food insecure populations based on food security, agriculture, and malnutrition assessments.

(2) ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES FOR VENTURES.—Before entering into any venture agreement pursuant to this subsection, the Board shall—

(A) establish criteria to determine whether a country is eligible to receive funding for such a venture;

(B) identify ventures to receive support that—

(i) advance the national security priorities of the United States;

(ii) have demonstrated leadership to modernize the country's agricultural food systems, in partnership with the private sector; and

(iii) are committed—

(I) to making policy reforms to help transform, scale, and build enduring food systems;

(II) to cofinancing and sustaining long-term projects implemented by the Foundation; and

(III) to collaborating with stakeholders—

(aa) to increase agricultural production and crop yields;

(bb) to scale resilient food systems; and

(cc) to improve food safety, processing, logistics, and supply chain processes for input and output markets.

(3) FUNDING AUTHORIZED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In order to maximize the impact of the funding authorized under this subsection, the Foundation should—

(i) coordinate with other international public and private donors or investors and local organizations active in food security to the extent possible; and

(ii) seek additional financial and non-financial contributions and commitments for its projects from host governments and other organizations.

(B) FUNDING CRITERIA.—Funding awarded pursuant to this subsection—

(i) shall be provided to ventures that demonstrate progress, during the funding period, in achieving clearly identified performance indicators and outcomes defined in the project agreement, which may include—

(I) increasing agricultural or food production through agriculture research and the competitive delivery of market-based financing, distribution and extension services, and supporting technology commercialization and adoption through such services;

(II) improving the nutritional status of intended beneficiaries by—

(aa) increasing the production, availability, and access of nutritious foods domestically;

(bb) promoting highly nutritious foods, diet diversification, and nutritional behaviors that improve maternal and child health; and

(cc) supporting the expansion of producer market opportunities;

(III) building resilient food systems to help mitigate against future food shocks among vulnerable populations and households; and

(IV) identifying additional revenue sources or financing mechanisms to meet the recurring costs of ventures by serving as a conduit between institutional investors and the agribusiness sector; and

(ii) may be terminated if the Board determines that the country receiving such funding—

(I) is not meeting applicable requirements under this section;

(II) is not making progress in achieving the key performance indicators described in the project agreement; or

(III) is not advancing United States national security priorities.

(i) PROHIBITION OF SUPPORT IN COUNTRIES THAT SUPPORT TERRORISM OR VIOLATE HUMAN RIGHTS AND OF SUPPORT FOR SANCTIONED PERSONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Foundation may not provide support for any government, or any entity owned or controlled by a government, if the Secretary of State determines that such government—

(A) has repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism, as determined under—

(i) section 1754(c)(1)(A)(i) of the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 (50 U.S.C. 4813(c)(1)(A)(i));

(ii) section 620A(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2371(a));

(iii) section 40(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2780(d)); or

(iv) any other relevant provision of law;

(B) has repeatedly engaged with any organizations designated as foreign terrorist organizations by the Secretary in accordance with section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189); or

(C) has engaged in a consistent pattern of gross violations of human rights, as determined under section 116(a) or 502B(a)(2) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151n(a) and 2304(a)(2)) or any other relevant provision of law.

(2) PROHIBITION OF SUPPORT FOR SANCTIONED PERSONS.—The Foundation may not engage in any dealing prohibited under United States sanctions laws or regulations, including dealings with persons on the list of specially designated persons and blocked persons maintained by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of the Treasury, except to the extent otherwise authorized by the Secretary of State or the Secretary of the Treasury.

(3) WAIVER.—The President may waive the application of paragraphs (1) and (2) with respect to any government, or any entity owned or controlled by a government, by notifying the appropriate congressional committees of the intention to exercise such waiver not later than 45 days before the waiver is scheduled to take effect.

(j) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter by March 31st of any year during which the Foundation is operational, the Executive Director of the Foundation shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that—

(1) has been approved by the Board of Directors;

(2) contains the expectations of the year ahead; and

(3) describes—

(A) the goals of the Foundation for the upcoming year, including areas to increase operational efficiency and further advance United States policy objectives and national security;

(B) lessons learned and best practices developed through projects funded by the Foundation during the prior fiscal year;

(C) a project specific and a portfolio-level report describing—

(i) the progress achieved against key performance indicators and the outcomes described in subsection (g); and

(ii) how such progress will benefit the American taxpayer;

(D) an assessment of—

(i) whether the grant making and financing processes are effective and expeditious;

(ii) how any necessary additional efficiencies can be built into future project selection; and

(iii) whether project evaluations are successfully measuring outcomes;

(E) how the funding and selected projects authorized under this Act were publicized in the selected country to expand recognition for the United States; and

(F) an annual financial report from an independent auditor.

(k) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Using funds appropriated to the Department of State to carry out chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2346 et seq.), the Secretary of State is authorized to award an annual grant to the Foundation to enable the Foundation to carry out the purposes specified in subsection (d)

(2) COST MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—Amounts authorized to be appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be made available, on a cost matching basis, to the maximum extent practicable, from sources other than the United States Government.

(3) CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State and the Executive Director of the Foundation shall consult with the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives regarding the implementation of this Act and the proposed activities of the Foundation.

(4) PROHIBITION OF USE OF GRANTS FOR LOBBYING EXPENSES.—No grant funds provided by the Foundation pursuant to subsection (h) may be used for any activity intended to influence legislation pending before Congress.

SA 2943. Mr. MERKLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1265. STATEMENT OF POLICY WITH RESPECT TO DEFINITION OF TRANSNATIONAL REPRESSION.

It is policy of the United States that the term ''transnational repression'' refers to a range of tactics deployed by a foreign government, or agents or proxies of a foreign government, to reach beyond their borders to intimidate, silence, harass, coerce, or harm individuals, such as political dissidents, activists, journalists, political opponents, religious and ethnic minority groups, international students, and members of diaspora and exile communities.

SA 2944. Mr. MERKLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title XII, add the following:

Subtitle F—Taiwan Relations Reinforcement Act of 2025

SEC. 1271. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the ''Taiwan Relations Reinforcement Act of 2025''.

SEC. 1272. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that the United States Government should continue strengthening cooperation with Taiwan under the framework of the Taiwan Relations Act (Public Law 96–8; 22 U.S.C. 3301 et seq.) and the Six Assurances with consideration of the ongoing military buildup in China and the imbalance in the security environment in the Taiwan Strait, including by—

(1) promoting dignity and respect for its Taiwan counterparts, who represent more than 23,000,000 citizens, by using the full range of the United States Government's diplomatic and financial tools to promote Taiwan's inclusion and meaningful participation in international organizations, as well as in bilateral and multilateral security

summits, military exercises, and economic dialogues and forums;

(2) urging Taiwan to increase its own investments in military capabilities that support implementation of its asymmetric defense strategy; and

(3) prioritizing the negotiation of a free-trade agreement with Taiwan that provides high levels of labor rights and environmental protection as soon as possible to deepen economic ties between the United States and Taiwan.

SEC. 1273. INTERAGENCY POLICY COORDINATION ON TAIWAN.

(a) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States to create and execute a plan for enhancing its relationship with Taiwan by strengthening the robust partnership that meets the challenges of the 21st century while remaining faithful to United States principles and values in keeping with the Taiwan Relations Act and the Six Assurances.

(b) INTERAGENCY TAIWAN POLICY TASK FORCE.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall review and consolidate existing interagency processes related to Taiwan (including formal National Security Council-led processes and other informal, ad-hoc interagency coordination processes) to create an interagency Taiwan Policy Task Force consisting of senior officials from the Office of the President, the National Security Council, the Department of State, the Department of Defense, the Department of the Treasury, the Department of Commerce, and the Office of the United States Trade Representative.

(c) REPORT.—The interagency Taiwan Policy Task Force established under subsection (b) shall contribute annually to existing congressionally mandated reports outlining policy and actions to be taken in the next year to enhance the United States partnership and relations with Taiwan, including reports required under the Taiwan Enhanced Resilience Act (subtitle A of title XII of Public Law 117–263), the Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative (TAIPEI) Act (Public Law 116–135), and the Taiwan Travel Act (Public Law 115–135).

SEC. 1274. AMERICAN INSTITUTE IN TAIWAN.

(a) APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR.—The Director of the American Institute in Taiwan's Taipei office shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and effective upon enactment of this Act shall have the title of Representative.

(b) VACANCY.—A vacancy in the position of Director shall be filled within 60 days. If such position remains unfilled for more than 60 days, the Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, in consultation with the Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, shall immediately appoint a senior Foreign Service Officer to serve as acting Director until a new Director is appointed and confirmed for such position pursuant to subsection (a).

SEC. 1275. PARTICIPATION OF TAIWAN IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States to promote Taiwan's inclusion and meaningful participation in meetings held by international organizations.

(b) SUPPORT FOR MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION.—The Permanent Representative of the United States to the United Nations and other relevant United States officials should actively support Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organizations, including membership where applicable.

(c) REPORT.—Beginning not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall annually incorporate reporting on China's efforts to block Taiwan's meaningful participation and inclusion at the United Nations and other international bodies, and recommend appropriate responses to be taken by the United States, as part of existing congressionally mandated reports, including reports required under the Taiwan Enhanced Resilience Act (subtitle A of title XII of Public Law 117–263), the Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative (TAIPEI) Act (Public Law 116–135), and the Taiwan Travel Act (Public Law 115–135).

SEC. 1276. INVITATION OF TAIWAN COUNTERPARTS TO HIGH-LEVEL BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL FORUMS AND EXERCISES.

It is the policy of the United States—

(1) to invite Taiwan counterparts to participate in high-level bilateral and multilateral summits, military exercises, and economic dialogues and forums on issues of mutual concern;

(2) that the United States Government and Taiwan counterparts should resume meetings under either the United States-Taiwan Trade and Investment Framework Agreement, the United States-Taiwan Initiative on 21st Century Trade, or other appropriate mechanisms to reach a bilateral free trade agreement;

(3) that the United States Government should invite Taiwan to participate in bilateral and multilateral military training exercises; and

(4) that the United States Government and Taiwan counterparts should engage in a regular and routine strategic bilateral dialogue on arms sales in accordance with Foreign Military Sales mechanisms, and the United States Government should support export licenses for direct commercial sales supporting Taiwan's indigenous defensive capabilities.

SEC. 1277. PROHIBITIONS AGAINST UNDERMINING UNITED STATES POLICY REGARDING TAIWAN.

(a) FINDING.—Congress finds that the efforts by the Government of the People's Republic of China (PRC) and the Chinese Communist Party to compel private United States businesses, corporations, and nongovernmental entities to use PRC-mandated language to describe the relationship between Taiwan and China are an intolerable attempt to enforce political censorship globally and should be considered an attack on the fundamental underpinnings of all democratic and free societies, including the constitutionally protected right to freedom of speech.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the President, in coordination with United States businesses and nongovernmental entities and in consultation with Congress, should develop and implement a strategy for interacting with the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party and affiliated entities, the aim of which is—

(1) to counter PRC sharp power operations, which threaten free speech, academic freedom, and the normal operations of United States businesses and nongovernmental entities; and

(2) to counter PRC efforts to censor the way the world refers to issues deemed sensitive to the Government of the People's Republic of China and Chinese Communist Party leaders, including issues related to Taiwan, Tibet, the Tiananmen Square Massacre, and the mass internment of Uyghurs and other Turkic Muslims, among many other issues.

(c) PROHIBITION ON RECOGNITION OF PRC CLAIMS TO SOVEREIGNTY OVER TAIWAN.—

(1) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(A) issues related to the sovereignty of Taiwan are for the people of Taiwan to decide through the democratic process they have established;

(B) the dispute between the People's Republic of China and Taiwan must be resolved peacefully and with the assent of the people of Taiwan;

(C) the primary obstacle to peaceful resolution is the authoritarian nature of the PRC political system under one-party rule of the Chinese Communist Party, which is fundamentally incompatible with Taiwan's democracy; and

(D) any attempt to coerce the people of Taiwan to accept a political arrangement that would subject them to direct or indirect rule by the PRC, including a ''one country, two systems'' framework, would constitute a grave challenge to United States security interests in the region.

(2) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States to oppose any attempt by the PRC authorities to unilaterally impose a timetable or deadline for unification on Taiwan.

(3) PROHIBITION ON RECOGNITION OF PRC CLAIMS WITHOUT ASSENT OF PEOPLE OF TAIWAN.—No department or agency of the United States Government should formally or informally recognize PRC claims to sovereignty over Taiwan without the assent of the people of Taiwan, as expressed directly through the democratic process.

(4) TREATMENT OF TAIWAN GOVERNMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Department of State and other United States Government agencies should treat the democratically elected Government of Taiwan as the legitimate representative of the people of Taiwan. Notwithstanding the continued supporting role of the American Institute in Taiwan in carrying out United States foreign policy and protecting United States interests in Taiwan, the United States Government should not place any restrictions on the ability of officials of the Department of State and other United States Government agencies from interacting directly and routinely with counterparts in the Taiwan government.

(B) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed as entailing restoration of diplomatic relations with the Republic of China, which were terminated on January 1, 1979, or altering the United States Government's position on Taiwan's international status.

(d) STRATEGY TO PROTECT UNITED STATES BUSINESSES AND NONGOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES FROM COERCION.—

(1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, shall submit an unclassified report, with a classified annex if necessary, to protect United States businesses and nongovernmental entities from sharp power operations, including coercion and threats that lead to censorship or self-censorship, or which compel compliance with political or foreign policy positions of the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party. The strategy shall include the following elements:

(A) Information on efforts by the Government of the People's Republic of China to censor the websites of United States airlines, hotels, and other businesses regarding the relationship between Taiwan and the People's Republic of China.

(B) Information on efforts by the Government of the People's Republic of China to target United States nongovernmental entities through sharp power operations intended to weaken support for Taiwan.

(C) Information on United States Government efforts to counter the threats posed by Chinese state-sponsored propaganda and disinformation, including information on best practices, current successes, and existing barriers to responding to this threat.

(D) Details of any actions undertaken to create a code of conduct pursuant to subsection (b) and a timetable for implementation.

(2) SUBSEQUENT REPORTING.—Beginning not later than one year after submission of the report required under paragraph (1), the Secretary of State shall include the elements required in such report as part of existing congressionally mandated reports, including reports required under the Taiwan Enhanced Resilience Act (subtitle A of title XII of Public Law 117–263), the Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative (TAIPEI) Act (Public Law 116–135), and the Taiwan Travel Act (Public Law 115–135).

SEC. 1278. REPORT AND STRATEGY TO SUPPORT TAIWAN'S RESPONSE TO SHARP POWER OPERATIONS.

(a) FINDING.—Taiwan is at the forefront in responding to sharp power operations supported by the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party.

(b) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall—

(1) submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on existing United States efforts supporting the Taiwan government's efforts in countering the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party's sharp power operations; and

(2) submit to the appropriate congressional committees a strategy developed in coordination with the heads of relevant Federal agencies and international partners to identify, and provide targeted assistance to address, remaining vulnerabilities in the Taiwan government's efforts to counter the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party's sharp power operations.

(c) REPORT ELEMENTS.—The report required under subsection (b)(1) shall describe the response of the United States to People's Republic of China propaganda and malign foreign influence campaigns and cyber-intrusions targeting Taiwan, including the following elements:

(1) A description of assistance in building the capacity of the Taiwan officials, media entities, and private-sector entities to document and expose propaganda and malign foreign influence supported by the Government of the People's Republic of China, the Chinese Communist Party, or affiliated entities.

(2) A description of assistance to the Taiwan government's efforts to develop a whole-of-government strategy to respond to sharp power operations, including election interference.

(3) A description of exchanges and other technical assistance the United States has collaborated with Taiwan on to strengthen Taiwan's legal system's ability to respond to sharp power operations.

(4) An assessment of the extent to which the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party have attempted to influence local political parties, financial institutions, media organizations, and other entities, and the degree to which these efforts could be considered successful.

(5) An assessment of the extent to which like-minded governments have collaborated with the Taiwan government on ways to address sharp power operations supported by the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party.

SEC. 1279. REPORT ON DETERRENCE IN THE TAIWAN STRAIT.

(a) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a joint report that assesses the military posture of Taiwan and the United States as it specifically pertains to the deterrence of military conflict and conflict readiness in the Taiwan Strait. In light of the changing military balance in the Taiwan Strait, the report should include analysis of whether current Taiwan and United States policies sufficiently deter efforts to determine the future of Taiwan by other than peaceful means.

(b) SUBSEQUENT REPORTING.—Beginning not later than one year after submission of the report required under subsection (a), the Secretary of State shall include the elements required in such report as part of existing congressionally mandated reports, including reports required under the Taiwan Enhanced Resilience Act (subtitle A of title XII of Public Law 117–263), the Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative (TAIPEI) Act (Public Law 116–135), and the Taiwan Travel Act (Public Law 115–135).

SEC. 1280. DEFINITIONS.

In this subtitle:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(2) SHARP POWER.—The term ''sharp power'' means the coordinated and often concealed application of disinformation, media manipulation, economic coercion, cyber-intrusions, targeted investments, and academic censorship that is intended—

(A) to corrupt political and nongovernmental institutions and interfere in democratic elections and encourage self-censorship of views at odds with those of the Government of the People's Republic of China or the Chinese Communist Party; or

(B) to foster attitudes, behavior, decisions, or outcomes in Taiwan and elsewhere that support the interests of the Government of the People's Republic of China or the Chinese Communist Party.

SA 2945. Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. COMBATING ILLICIT XYLAZINE.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In this title, the term ''xylazine'' has the meaning given the term in paragraph (60) of section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act, as added by paragraph (2) of this subsection.

(2) CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT.—Section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(60) The term 'xylazine' means the substance xylazine, including its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers whenever the existence of such salts, isomers, and salts of isomers is possible.''.

(b) ADDING XYLAZINE TO SCHEDULE III.—Schedule III of section 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(f) Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation which contains any quantity of xylazine.''.

(c) AMENDMENTS.—

(1) AMENDMENT.—Section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802) is amended by striking paragraph (27) and inserting the following:

''(27)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the term 'ultimate user' means a person who has lawfully obtained, and who possesses, a controlled substance for the use by the person or for the use of a member of the household of the person or for an animal owned by the person or by a member of the household of the person.

''(B)(i) In the case of xylazine, other than for a drug product approved under subsection (b) or (j) of section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355), the term 'ultimate user' means a person—

''(I) to whom xylazine was dispensed by—

''(aa) a veterinarian registered under this Act; or

''(bb) a pharmacy registered under this Act pursuant to a prescription of a veterinarian registered under this Act; and

''(II) who possesses xylazine for—

''(aa) an animal owned by the person or by a member of the household of the person;

''(bb) an animal under the care of the person;

''(cc) use in government animal-control programs authorized under applicable Federal, State, Tribal, or local law; or

''(dd) use in wildlife programs authorized under applicable Federal, State, Tribal, or local law.

''(ii) In this subparagraph, the term 'person' includes—

''(I) a government agency or business where animals are located; and

''(II) an employee or agent of an agency or business acting within the scope of their employment or agency.''.

(2) FACILITIES.—An entity that manufactures xylazine, as of the date of enactment of this Act, shall not be required to make capital expenditures necessary to install the security standard required of schedule III of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.) for the purposes of manufacturing xylazine.

(3) LABELING.—The requirements related to labeling, packaging, and distribution logistics of a controlled substance in schedule III of section 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812(c)) shall not take effect for xylazine until the date that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act.

(4) PRACTITIONER REGISTRATION.—The requirements related to practitioner registration, inventory, and recordkeeping of a controlled substance in schedule III of section 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812(c)) shall not take effect for xylazine until the date that is 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act. A practitioner that has applied for registration during the 60-day period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act may continue their lawful activities until such application is approved or denied.

(5) MANUFACTURER TRANSITION.—The Food and Drug Administration and the Drug Enforcement Administration shall facilitate and expedite the relevant manufacturer submissions or applications required by the placement of xylazine on schedule III of section 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812(c)).

(6) CLARIFICATION.—Nothing in this title, or the amendments made by this title, shall be construed to require the registration of an ultimate user of xylazine under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.) in order to possess xylazine in accordance with subparagraph (B) of section 102(27) of that Act (21 U.S.C. 802(27)), as added by paragraph (1) of this subsection.

(d) ARCOS TRACKING.—Section 307(i) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 827(i)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

(A) by inserting ''or xylazine'' after ''gamma hydroxybutyric acid'';

(B) by inserting ''or 512'' after ''section 505''; and

(C) by inserting ''respectively,'' after ''the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act,''; and

(2) in paragraph (6), by inserting ''or xylazine'' after ''gamma hydroxybutyric acid''.

(e) SENTENCING COMMISSION.—Pursuant to its authority under section 994(p) of title 28, United States Code, the United States Sentencing Commission shall review and, if appropriate, amend its sentencing guidelines, policy statements, and official commentary applicable to persons convicted of an offense under section 401 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 841) or section 1010 of the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. 960) to provide appropriate penalties for offenses involving xylazine that are consistent with the amendments made by this title. In carrying out this subsection, the Commission should consider the common forms of xylazine as well as its use alongside other scheduled substances.

(f) REPORT TO CONGRESS ON XYLAZINE.—

(1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General, acting through the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration and in coordination with the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, shall submit to Congress a report on the prevalence of illicit use of xylazine in the United States and the impacts of such use, including—

(A) where the drug is being diverted;

(B) where the drug is originating; and

(C) whether any analogues to xylazine, or related or derivative substances, exist and present a substantial risk of abuse.

(2) ADDITIONAL REPORT.—Not later than 4 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General, acting through the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration and in coordination with the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, shall submit to Congress a report updating Congress on the prevalence and proliferation of xylazine trafficking and misuse in the United States.

SA 2946. Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Ms. HIRONO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title III, insert the following:

SEC. 3___. RED HILL HEALTH REGISTRY.

(a) REGISTRY FOR IMPACTED INDIVIDUALS OF THE RED HILL INCIDENT.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF REGISTRY.—The Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall establish within the Department of Defense or through an award of a grant or contract, as the Secretary determines appropriate, a Red Hill Incident exposure registry to collect data on health implications of petroleum-contaminated water for impacted individuals and potentially impacted individuals on a voluntary basis.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees and publish on the website of the Department of Defense a report on—

(A) the number of impacted individuals and potentially impacted individuals enrolled in the registry established under paragraph (1);

(B) measures and frequency of follow-up to collect data and specimens related to exposure, health, and developmental milestones, as appropriate; and

(C) a summary of data and analyses on exposure, health, and developmental milestones for impacted individuals.

(3) CONTRACTS.—The Secretary of Defense may contract with independent research institutes or consultants, nonprofit or public entities, laboratories, or medical schools, as the Secretary considers appropriate, that are not part of the Federal Government to assist with the registry established under paragraph (1).

(4) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary of Defense shall consult with non-Federal experts, including individuals with certification in epidemiology, toxicology, mental health, pediatrics, and environmental health, and members of the impacted community.

(b) USE OF EXISTING FUNDS.—The Secretary of Defense shall carry out activities under this section using amounts previously appropriated for the Defense Health Agency for such activities.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) IMPACTED INDIVIDUAL.—The term ''impacted individual'' means an individual who, at the time of the Red Hill Incident, lived or worked in a building or residence served by the community water system at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Oahu, Hawaii.

(2) POTENTIALLY IMPACTED INDIVIDUAL.—The term ''potentially impacted individual'' means an individual who, after the Red Hill Incident, lived or worked in a building or residence served by the community water system at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Oahu, Hawaii, including an individual who is not a beneficiary of the military health system.

(3) RED HILL INCIDENT.—The term ''Red Hill Incident'' means the release of fuel from the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility, Oahu, Hawaii, into the sole-source basal aquifer located 100 feet below the facility, contaminating the community water system at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on November 20, 2021.

SA 2947. Mr. LUJÁN (for himself and Mr. HEINRICH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle F of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1067. REFORESTATION OF LAND DESTROYED BY THE HERMIT'S PEAK/CALF CANYON FIRE.

Section 104(d)(4) of the Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon Fire Assistance Act (division G of Public Law 117–180; 136 Stat. 2172) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(D) REFORESTATION.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1)(B), a claim that is paid for injury under this Act may include damages resulting from the Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon Fire for otherwise uncompensated resource losses for costs of reasonable efforts, as determined by the Administrator, incurred by the State of New Mexico not later than December 31, 2030, to design, construct, and operate a center for the purpose of researching, developing, and generating native seedlings to successfully regenerate forests destroyed by the Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon Fire with native species.''.

SA 2948. Mrs. GILLIBRAND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in subtitle F of title X, insert the following:

SEC. 10___. REAUTHORIZATION OF LONG ISLAND SOUND PROGRAMS.

(a) LONG ISLAND SOUND GRANTS.—Section 119(h) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1269(h)) is amended by striking ''2019 through 2023'' and inserting ''2025 through 2029''.

(b) LONG ISLAND SOUND STEWARDSHIP GRANTS.—Section 11(a) of the Long Island Sound Stewardship Act of 2006 (33 U.S.C. 1269 note; Public Law 109–359) is amended, in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''2019 through 2023'' and inserting ''2025 through 2029''.

(c) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Section 119(g) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1269(g)) is amended by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (3).

SA 2949. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1248. REPORT ON PACIFIC ISLANDS EMBASSY STAFFING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State and the Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources shall—

(1) submit a report to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives that describes plans for addressing staffing needs at United States embassies in Pacific Island countries; and

(2) provide a briefing to the congressional committees listed in paragraph (1), which shall include—

(A) a discussion of the contents of the report submitted pursuant to paragraph (1); and

(B) nonfinancial incentives for Foreign Service officers serving at United States embassies in Pacific Island countries, including opportunities such as Mission-specific training.

(b) CONTENTS.—The report required under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) steps to implement the findings of the Foreign Service officer allowances study required under section 5302 of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2022 (Public Law 117–81) to provide incentives for Foreign Service officers to serve in Pacific Island countries, including—

(A) hardship and danger pay;

(B) the opportunity to provide one-grade stretches before stretch season and allow bidding on Pacific Island country posts on the early assignment cycle;

(C) eligibility to receive student loan repayments;

(D) incentive pay to extend tours at Pacific Island country posts;

(E) additional recreation entitlements;

(F) priority consideration for onward assignments;

(G) opportunities to serve repeated tours in the same region to develop expertise while aiding career advancement; and

(H) consideration of United States embassies in Pacific Island countries for Special Incentive Post (SIP) designation eligibility;

(2) the status of the virtual schooling pilot program undertaken by the Office of Overseas Schools and other programs to support the dependents and spouses of diplomats stationed at Pacific Island country posts;

(3) current administrative requirements, including reporting requirements, required for embassies in Pacific Island countries and proposals for how to lower the administrative burden on small embassies; and

(4) any additional measures and financial and nonfinancial incentives to encourage Foreign Service officers to seek assignments to, and remain at, hardship posts in countries where addressing growing and malign foreign government influence is especially critical to United States interests, especially at new posts in remote locations, such as the United States embassies in the Kingdom of Tonga, the Solomon Islands, and the Republic of Vanuatu.

SA 2950. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1265. REPORT ANALYZING THE FEASIBILITY OF ATTACHING CONSULAR OFFICERS TO COAST GUARD AND NAVY MISSIONS IN PACIFIC ISLAND COUNTRIES.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) Pacific Island countries, particularly the Freely Associated States, include close United States partners that are spread across highly strategic waters that are critical to the national security interests of the United States;

(2) it is in the national security interests of the United States to maintain and strengthen relations with the governments and citizens of Pacific Island countries; and

(3) many citizens of Pacific Island countries face difficulties in accessing United States consular services due to—

(A) the remote locations of the islands comprising such countries, only a few of which host United States embassies; and

(B) infrequent flights to islands with United States embassies, which makes applying for a United States visa and other consular procedures difficult, expensive, and time consuming.

(b) DEFINED TERM.—In this section, the term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

(2) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(3) the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

(4) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate;

(5) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives;

(6) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives;

(7) the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives; and

(8) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives.

(c) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Commandant of the United States Coast Guard, the Commander of United States Indo-Pacific Command, and the Chief of Naval Operations, shall submit a report to the appropriate committees of Congress that analyzes the feasibility of attaching Department of State consular officers to Coast Guard and Navy missions in Pacific Island countries.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) an assessment of—

(i) the current demand for consular services from citizens of Pacific Island countries;

(ii) the challenges such citizens face in obtaining consular services;

(B) an assessment of the approximate time and resources citizens of Pacific Island countries that do not host United States embassies would save by having their United States visas adjudicated or receiving other consular services through the initiative described in paragraph (1);

(C) an assessment of the cost that would be incurred by the Department of State, the United States Coast Guard, the United States Indo-Pacific Command, and the United States Navy through the implementation of such initiative, including potential alternative cost-effective options and recommendations for providing efficient consular services to Pacific Island countries;

(D) an assessment of the frequency and duration of United States Coast Guard and United States Navy deployments to Pacific Island countries, including—

(i) deployment frequency measured against the desired number of visits;

(ii) the amount of time typically spent in port for such visits; and

(iii) disruption to planned Coast Guard and Navy missions in order to visit locations needing consular assistance; and

(E) an evaluation of the logistical issues needing to be addressed to implement the initiative, including—

(i) analyzing spacing requirements to host Department of State personnel and equipment aboard Coast Guard and Navy vessels;

(ii) analyzing the information technology and connectivity requirements to conduct consular affairs activities;

(iii) the feasibility of printing visas aboard Coast Guard and Navy vessels or alternatives to such printing, including remote printing and mailing of passports with visas;

(iv) maintaining the physical security of consular officers and relevant adjudication equipment, including computer systems and visa foils, during such missions;

(v) the impacts to Coast Guard and Navy vessels' operations and security; and

(vi) the estimated time consular officers would spend on board Coast Guard and Navy vessels between visits to Pacific Island countries.

SA 2951. Ms. ROSEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title X, insert the following:

SEC. 10___. TREATMENT AS RADIATION-RISK ACTIVITIES BY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

Section 1112(c)(3) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B) by adding at the end the following new clause:

''(viii) At any time on or after January 27, 1951, onsite participation in any aspect of the development, construction, operation, or maintenance of a military installation (as defined in section 2801 of title 10) at a covered location at the Nevada Test and Training Range.''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(C) The term 'covered location at the Nevada Test and Training Range' means a location at the Nevada Test and Training Range, Nevada, where there was a potential of toxic exposure.''.

SEC. 10___. PRESUMPTIONS OF TOXIC EXPOSURE BY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

Section 1119(c) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as subparagraphs (B) and (C), respectively; and

(B) by inserting before subsection (B), as so redesignated, the following:

''(A) on or after January 27, 1951, performed active military, naval, air, or space service while assigned to a duty station in, including airspace above, a covered location at the Nevada Test and Training Range, Nevada;''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4) The term 'covered location at the Nevada Test and Training Range' means a location at the Nevada Test and Training Range, Nevada, where there was a potential of toxic exposure.''.

SEC. 10___. PRESUMPTION OF SERVICE CONNECTION BY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

Section 1120(b) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (15) as paragraph (16); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (14) the following new paragraph:

''(15) Only in the case of a covered veteran described in section 1119(c)(1)(A), lipomas and tumor related conditions.''.

SA 2952. Mr. WARNOCK submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title XXVIII, add the following:

SEC. 2827. IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPTROLLER GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO CRITICAL MILITARY HOUSING SUPPLY AND AFFORDABILITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall implement each recommendation of the Comptroller General of the United States contained in the report dated October 30, 2024, and entitled, ''Military Housing: DOD Should Address Critical Supply and Affordability Challenges for Service Members'' (GAO–25–106208), as those recommendations are modified under subsection (b).

(b) RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED.—In carrying out the requirements under subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense shall implement the recommendations specified under such subsection as follows:

(1) The Secretary shall—

(A) perform a structured analysis to develop a comprehensive list of housing areas in which members of the Armed Forces and their families may face the most critical challenges in finding and affording private sector housing in the community;

(B) in conducting the analysis under subparagraph (A), consider the unique characteristics of a location, such as vacation rental areas; and

(C) regularly update the list required under subparagraph (A) not less frequently than once every two years.

(2) The Secretary shall obtain and use feedback on the financial and quality-of-life effects of limited supply or unaffordable housing on members of the Armed Forces, through the status of forces survey and other service or installation-specific feedback mechanisms.

(3) The Secretary shall, in coordination with the Secretary of each military department—

(A) develop a plan for how the Department of Defense can respond to and address the financial and quality-of-life effects in housing areas identified under paragraph (1); and

(B) in developing the plan under subparagraph (A), examine strategies for increasing housing supply or providing alternative compensation to offset the effects of limited supply or unaffordable housing in housing areas identified under paragraph (1).

(4) The Secretary shall clarify, through the issuance of guidance to the military departments, the role of the Office of the Secretary of Defense in oversight of the Housing Requirements and Market Analysis process of the military departments to ensure that—

(A) the military departments conduct such process in a timely manner; and

(B) the Secretary submits to Congress any plans or other matters relating to such process for each fiscal year as required by existing law.

(5) The Secretary shall ensure that the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations, and Environment provides updated guidance to the military departments on how installations of the Department of Defense should coordinate with local communities, including by clearly defining the roles and responsibilities of commanders and military housing offices of such installations in addressing housing needs.

(c) NON-IMPLEMENTATION REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—If the Secretary of Defense elects not to implement a recommendation specified under subsection (a), as modified under subsection (b), the Secretary shall, not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report that includes a justification for such election.

SA 2953. Mr. WARNOCK submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title XXVIII, add the following:

SEC. 2827. MODIFICATION OF SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT ON PRIVATIZED MILITARY HOUSING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (c) of section 2884 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

''(15) An overview of the housing data being used by the Department and the housing data being sought from management companies.

''(16) An assessment of how the Secretary of each military department is using such housing data to inform the on-base housing decisions for such military department.

''(17) An explanation of the limitations of any customer satisfaction data collected (including with respect to the availability of survey data), the process for determining resident satisfaction, and reasons for missing data.

''(18) To the maximum extent practicable, a breakdown of the information under this paragraph by installation and military housing project.''.

(b) PUBLIC REPORTING.—Such subsection is further amended—

(1) in paragraph (14), by redesignating subparagraphs (A) through (D) as clauses (i) through (iv), respectively;

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (18) as subparagraphs (A) through (R), respectively;

(3) in subparagraph (E), as redesignated by paragraph (2), by striking ''paragraphs (1) through (4)'' and inserting ''subparagraphs (A) through (D)'';

(4) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), as so redesignated, by striking ''The Secretary'' and inserting ''(1) The Secretary''; and

(5) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(2) Not later than 30 days after submitting a report under paragraph (1), the Secretary of Defense shall publish the report on a publicly available website of the Department of Defense.''.

(c) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—The heading for such subsection is amended by striking ''ANNUAL'' and inserting ''SEMI-ANNUAL''.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (d)(1) of such section is amended by striking ''paragraphs (1) through (14) of subsection (c)'' and inserting ''subparagraphs (A) through (R) of subsection (c)(1)''.

SA 2954. Mr. WARNOCK submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title XXVIII, add the following:

SEC. 2827. RADON TESTING OF MILITARY HOUSING OWNED OR CONTROLLED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

(a) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report identifying the installations of the Department of Defense that have military housing owned or controlled by the Federal Government that should be monitored for levels of radon at or above the action level established by the Environmental Protection Agency, including those installations evaluated in the report dated April 30, 2020, and entitled, ''Evaluation of the DoD's Management of Health and Safety Hazards in Government-Owned and Government-Controlled Military Family Housing'' (DODIG–2020–082).

(b) TESTING PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS.—The Secretary of each military department shall establish procedures at installations identified under subsection (a) under the jurisdiction of the Secretary concerned for testing for radon at military housing owned or controlled by the Federal Government at such installations that are consistent with current national consensus standards and are in compliance with applicable Federal regulations in order to ensure radon levels at such housing are below recommended levels established by the Environmental Protection Agency, whether through—

(1) regular testing (a minimum of one time every five years for all housing, and a minimum of one time every two years for housing that is above recommended radon levels established by the Environmental Protection Agency until radon levels are reduced to at or below such levels) of such housing; or

(2) the installation of monitoring equipment in such housing.

(c) NOTIFICATION REGARDING NEED FOR MITIGATION.—If, as a result of testing conducted pursuant to procedures established under subsection (b), a unit of military housing owned or controlled by the Federal Government requires radon mitigation to ensure radon levels are below recommended levels established by the Environmental Protection Agency, the head of the installation providing the housing unit shall submit to the Secretary of the military department concerned, not later than seven days after the determination of the need for radon mitigation, the mitigation plan for the housing unit.

SA 2955. Mr. WARNOCK submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle C of title VI, add the following:

SEC. 629. PILOT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE COUPONS TO JUNIOR ENLISTED MEMBERS TO PURCHASE FOOD AT COMMISSARIES.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) members of the Armed Forces and their families deserve access to affordable and healthy food options, including during their duty day;

(2) there has been increased awareness about the challenges members and their families face in accessing affordable and healthy food options;

(3) those challenges have been especially acute for unaccompanied junior enlisted members who live in government-provided quarters on military installations; and

(4) the Department of Defense should explore a variety of proposals for expanding the accessibility of healthy and affordable food options to members, especially members who live in unaccompanied housing on military installations.

(b) PILOT PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense may conduct a pilot program to assess the efficacy of providing junior enlisted members of the Armed Forces a monthly coupon for use in procuring food at commissaries.

(2) SELECTION OF INSTALLATIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may conduct the pilot program authorized by paragraph (1) at 2 military installations.

(B) CONSIDERATIONS.—In selecting installations for the pilot program authorized by paragraph (1), the Secretary shall consider installations with—

(i) large numbers of enlisted members who live in unaccompanied housing;

(ii) the largest ratios of enlisted members to commissioned officers;

(iii) unaccompanied housing that provides access to functioning kitchens that residents may use to prepare meals;

(iv) commissaries that are experimenting with or expanding their selection of nutritious and minimally processed ready-made and easy-to-make food options;

(v) low rates of attendance at dining facilities;

(vi) low customer satisfaction ratings for dining facilities, including installations with complaints about dining facilities submitted through the Interactive Customer Evaluation system of the Department of Defense; and

(vii) commissaries located within easily accessible distances from unaccompanied housing.

(3) COUPONS.—

(A) AMOUNT.—The Secretary may determine the amount of the coupons to be provided under the pilot program authorized by paragraph (1).

(B) USE.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—A coupon provided under the pilot program authorized by paragraph (1) may be used only to purchase food at commissaries.

(ii) EXCLUSIONS.—A coupon provided under the pilot program authorized by paragraph (1) may not be used—

(I) to purchase alcoholic beverages or tobacco; or

(II) to pay any deposit fee in excess of the amount of the State fee reimbursement (if any) required to purchase any food or food product contained in a returnable bottle or can, without regard to whether the fee is included in the shelf price posted for the food or food product.

(C) SUPPLEMENT TO OTHER FOOD ASSISTANCE.—A coupon provided to a member under the pilot program authorized by paragraph (1) shall be supplement and not supplant—

(i) the basic allowance for subsistence under section 402 of title 37, United States Code; and

(ii) any program to provide meals or rations in kind for which the member is eligible.

(4) DURATION OF PILOT PROGRAM.—The pilot program authorized by paragraph (1) shall terminate not later than one year after the pilot program commences.

(5) REPORT REQUIRED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the termination under paragraph (4) of the pilot program authorized by paragraph (1), the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report detailing the results of the pilot program.

(B) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subparagraph (A) shall include an assessment of the following:

(i) The use of coupons by members who received coupons under the pilot program.

(ii) The satisfaction of and feedback from such members relating to the coupons.

(iii) The impact of providing the coupons on—

(I) the rates at which such members used commissaries; and

(II) the rates at which such members used dining facilities on their installations.

(iv) Historical rates of use of dining facilities on installations and historical customer satisfaction metrics for such facilities, including the number of complaints with respect to such facilities submitted through the Interactive Customer Evaluation system of the Department of Defense.

(v) The efficacy of the pilot program in—

(I) reducing food insecurity rates among junior enlisted members;

(II) increasing the availability of nutritious food options for such members at commissaries; and

(III) increasing the availability of nutritious food options for such members generally, including such members living in unaccompanied housing.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COUPON.—The term ''coupon'' means a voucher or monetary benefit for a member of the Armed Forces that may be used only at a commissary for the purchase of food.

(2) FOOD.—The term ''food'' means any food or food product intended for home consumption, including a ready-made food item.

SA 2956. Mr. WARNOCK submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

For fiscal year 2026, there is authorized to be appropriated $1,300,000,000 for the purpose of fully funding the basic allowance for housing for members of the uniformed services under section 403 of title 37, United States Code.

NOTICES OF INTENT TO OBJECT TO PROCEEDING

I, Senator ALEX PADILLA, intend to object to proceeding to the nomination of Lt. Gen. Thomas M. Carden Jr. for appointment as Vice Chief of the National Guard Bureau and for appointment to the grade indicated in the Reserve of the Army under title 10, U.S.C., sections 601 and 10505, dated July 17, 2025.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITEES TO MEET

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I have three requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH. EDUCATION. LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 17, 2025, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Indian Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 17, 2025, at 2:45 p.m., to conduct a hearing on a nomination.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 17, 2025, at 9:15 a.m., to conduct an executive business meeting.

NOTICE: REGISTRATION OF MASS MAILINGS

The filing date for the 2025 second quarter Mass Mailing report is Friday, July 25, 2025. An electronic option is available on Webster that will allow forms to be submitted via a fillable PDF document. If your office did no mass mailings during this period, please submit a form that states ''none.''

Mass mailing registrations or negative reports can be submitted electronically at http://webster.senate.gov/secretary/mass__mailing__form.htm or e-mailed to OPR__MassMailings@sec.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact the Senate Office of Public Records at (202) 224–0322.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

SIGNING AUTHORITY

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the majority leader and the senior Senator from Oklahoma be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions from July 17 through July 21.

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

ONE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL ACT

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I want to compliment my friend and colleague from Oklahoma. The One Big Beautiful Bill does have a lot of really