

SA 3748 proposed by Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. REED) 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.

SA 3891. Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Mr. LUJÁN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3748 proposed by Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. REED) to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3892. Mr. BOOKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3893. Mr. KIM submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3748 proposed by Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. REED) to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3894. Mr. BOOKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3748 proposed by Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. REED) to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3895. Mr. BOOKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3896. Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3748 proposed by Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. REED) to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3897. Mr. BOOKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3748 proposed by Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. REED) to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3898. Mr. SANDERS 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 3890. Mr. CRUZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3748 proposed by Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. REED) 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. ____ . SKYFOUNDRY PROGRAM.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) **PROGRAM REQUIRED.**—The Secretary of Defense shall establish a program to encourage the rapid development, testing, and scalable manufacturing of small unmanned aircraft systems and components, with potential expansion to associated energetics and other autonomous systems as determined by the Secretary, leveraging existing competencies within the commercial sector and the Department of Defense organic industrial base.

(2) **DESIGNATION.**—The program established pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be known as the “SkyFoundry Program” (in this section the “Program”).

(3) **ADMINISTRATION.**—The Secretary of Defense shall—

(A) administer the Program through the Secretary of the Army; and

(B) establish the Program as part of the Defense Industrial Resilience Consortium.

(b) **ALTERNATIVE ACQUISITION MECHANISM.**—In carrying out the Program, the Secretary of Defense shall prioritize alternative acquisition mechanisms to accelerate development and production, including—

(1) other transaction authority under section 4022 of title 10, United States Code;

(2) middle tier of acquisition pathway for rapid prototyping and rapid fielding as authorized by section 3602 of such title; and

(3) software acquisition pathway as authorized by section 3603 of such title.

(c) **COMPONENTS.**—The Program shall have two components as follows:

(1) **INNOVATION FACILITY.**—An innovation facility for the development of small unmanned aircraft systems. The facility may be operated by United States Special Operations Command in collaboration with United States Army Materiel Command, serving as the research, development, and testing hub, integrating lessons learned from global conflicts to rapidly evolve United States small unmanned aircraft systems designs in partnership with contractor entities.

(2) **PRODUCTION FACILITY.**—The Commander of United States Army Materiel Command shall identify a production facility with the competencies for producing various forms of small unmanned aircraft systems and components of small unmanned aircraft systems. The facility shall be operated by United States Army Materiel Command in collaboration with industry partners to enable scalable production as needed.

(d) **PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP MODEL.**—To support the Program, the Secretary may leverage authorities, including section 2474 of title 10, United States Code, to foster voluntary public-private partnerships. Such partnerships may include—

(1) agreements with private industry, academic institutions, and nonprofit organizations in support of the Program; and

(2) innovative arrangements that allow industry partners to utilize government facilities and equipment, such as co-located hybrid teams of military, civilian, and contractor personnel, to promote technology transfer, workforce development, and surge capacity.

(e) FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE.—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—In carrying out the Program, the Secretary shall prioritize utilizing or modifying existing Army Depot facilities and select at least two separate sites for the Program, one to house the innovation facility required by paragraph (1) of subsection (c) and one to house the production facility required by paragraph (2) of such subsection.

(2) **AUTHORITY TO RENOVATE, EXPAND, AND CONSTRUCT.**—The Secretary may renovate, expand, or construct facilities for the Program using available funds, notwithstanding chapter 169 of title 10, United States Code.

(3) **SELECTION OF SITES.**—When selecting sites for the Program, the Secretary shall consider that the production facility required by subsection (c)(2) shall be housed at an existing Army Depot.

(f) **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS.**—The Secretary shall ensure that any public-private partnership established under this section provides the United States delivery of technical data and rights in technical data for any systems or technologies developed under the Program using Federal Government funding in accordance with sections 3771 through 3775 of title 10, United States Code.

(g) **DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT DESIGNATION.**—The President (or the Secretary of Defense under delegated authority) may use authorities under title III of the Defense Pro-

duction Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. 4531 et seq.) to support domestic industrial base capacity for small unmanned aircraft systems and associated energetics and autonomous systems.

SA 3891. Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Mr. LUJÁN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3748 proposed by Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. REED) 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 ____ . PERMITTING FOR INTERNATIONAL BRIDGES AND LAND PORTS OF ENTRY.

Section 6 of the International Bridge Act of 1972 (33 U.S.C. 535d) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “December 31, 2024,” and inserting “December 31, 2035;” and

(ii) by striking subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C), and inserting the following:

“(A) An international bridge between the United States and Mexico.

“(B) An international bridge between the United States and Canada.

“(C) A port of entry on the international land border between the United States and Mexico.

“(D) A port of entry on the international land border between the United States and Canada;” and

(B) in paragraph (2)(A)(ii), by inserting “or land port of entry” after “international bridge”; and

(2) in subsection (b), by inserting “or land port of entry” after “international bridge”; and

(3) in subsection (c)(2), by inserting “or land port of entry” after “international bridge”; and

(4) in subsection (f), by inserting “or land port of entry” after “international bridge” each place it appears.

SA 3892. Mr. BOOKER 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 ADDRESSING THE DEVELOPMENT OF ANTI-MICROBIAL RESISTANCE AS A GLOBAL HEALTH THREAT.

Not later than 160 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives analyzing how the Bureau of Global Health Security and Diplomacy can develop programming that addresses the development of anti-microbial resistance as a global health threat.

SA 3893. Mr. KIM submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to

amendment SA 3748 proposed by Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. REED) 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. ACCESS TO COUNSEL AT INSTALLATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (e), the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of Homeland Security—

(1) shall ensure prompt access to counsel for aliens detained by the Government on installations of the Department of Defense;

(2) shall not require counsel of an alien detained at such an installation to provide prior notification of intent to visit such alien at the installation;

(3) with respect to counsel representing an alien detained at such an installation, may request from such counsel such information as may be necessary to allow counsel to enter and exit the installation without delay; and

(4) shall provide counsel and the detained alien concerned access to a designated location, within the detention facility at the installation concerned, with a measure of privacy to discuss sensitive information.

(b) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary of Defense may limit access to installations of the Department of Defense by counsel in an emergency.

(c) PRESERVATION AND PUBLICATION OF RECORDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Security, in collaboration with the Secretary of Defense, shall maintain a record of each counsel who seeks access to an alien detained at an installation of the Department of Defense, including—

(A) the name of the counsel;

(B) an identification of the installation to which counsel seeks access;

(C) the date and time of arrival of counsel at the installation;

(D) the date and time at which counsel obtains entry to the installation, if such entry was obtained; and

(E) in the case of counsel denied entry to the installation at which an alien is detained, a justification for the denial.

(2) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—Not less frequently than daily, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall, make the record required by paragraph (1) for the preceding day available to the public on a website of the Department of Homeland Security.

(d) ALTERNATIVE ACCESS.—In a case in which counsel cannot physically visit an alien detained at an installation of the Department of Defense whom such counsel represents, the Secretary of Defense shall provide for an alternate manner by which counsel and the alien concerned may communicate, such as by telephone, teleconference, or video teleconference.

(e) RESTORATION OF LEGAL ACCESS AND REPRESENTATION PROGRAMS.—The Attorney General shall restore funding and operations for the following legal access and representation programs of the Executive Office for Immigration Review:

(1) The legal orientation program for detained adults.

(2) The immigration court help desk.

(3) Family group legal orientation.

(4) The counsel for children initiative.

(f) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION REGARDING IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT.—Nothing in this Act or any amendment made by this Act may be construed to authorize the Secretary of Defense to engage in or support immigration enforcement.

SA 3894. Mr. BOOKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3748 proposed by Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. REED) 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:

In title X, after section 1035, add the following:

SEC. 1035A. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE STANDARDS FOR THE DETENTION OF ALIENS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Every Department of Defense facility in which aliens are detained shall comply with the facility requirements set forth in the National Detention Standards for Non-Dedicated Facilities, established by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement in 2019, and any successor standards.

(b) FAILURE TO COMPLY.—Beginning on the date that is 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, any Department of Defense facility that is not in compliance with the requirements described in subsection (a) may not be used to detain aliens.

SA 3895. Mr. BOOKER 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. REPORTING ON MILITARY READINESS AND USE OF INSTALLATIONS OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the military readiness impacts of operations conducted based on the request of the Secretary of Homeland Security for assistance in immigration enforcement, including any operations undertaken pursuant to section 284 of title 10, United States Code.

(b) MATTERS INCLUDED.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include a detailed description of—

(1) the installations of the Department of Defense used by the Secretary of Homeland Security for purposes of immigration detention and removal operations;

(2) the population detained by the Secretary of Homeland Security at each such installation, including country of origin, age, gender, and immigration disposition for each individual detained;

(3) the number of aircraft of the Armed Forces used for removal flights, including the destination of such aircraft and the number of military personnel on each flight;

(4) in the case of installations of the Department of Defense used to detain individ-

uals pursuant to section 284 of title 10, United States Code, the alleged nexus to drug or transnational organized crime activities for each individual detained; and

(5) an assessment by the Secretary of Defense of the operational and readiness impact from the use of military personnel, installations, or other resources for detention and removal operations of the Department of Homeland Security.

(c) UPDATE.—Not less frequently than once every 90 days after the date of the submittal of the report required by subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees an update to the information included in such report.

(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section confers any authority to engage in or support immigration enforcement.

SA 3896. Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3748 proposed by Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. REED) 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 V, add the following:

SEC. 515. LIMITATIONS ON DOMESTIC DEPLOYMENTS OF NATIONAL GUARD MEMBERS.

Section 12406 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking “Whenever” and inserting “(a) IN GENERAL.—Whenever”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsections:

“(b) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—(1) Not later than 24 hours before calling into Federal service members and units of the National Guard of any State under subsection (a), the President shall notify Congress of the planned deployment.

“(2) The notice required under paragraph (1) shall assert a good-faith claim for federalizing the National Guard and describe with specificity—

“(A)(i) the invasion, including the United States territory, the foreign power, and the act or acts of the foreign power that constitute an invasion necessitating the use of authority pursuant to subsection (a)(1);

“(ii) the rebellion against the authority of the Government of the United States, including the place and time of the rebellion, the person, persons, or group engaged in the rebellion, and the activities of those engaged in the rebellion necessitating the use of authority pursuant to subsection (a)(2); or

“(iii) the laws of the United States which the President is unable to execute, the reasons that regular military forces are unable to execute the law, and, where the President is taking such action without the consent of the Governor of the State, evidence of the Governor’s inability or refusal to provide for the safety and welfare of the public, or the Governor’s refusal to obey a court order, or other active steps the Governor has taken to obstruct the President from faithfully executing the law; and

“(B) the geographical area where the National Guard will be called to and the duration of the federalization of the National Guard.”.

SA 3897. Mr. BOOKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to

amendment SA 3748 proposed by Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. REED) 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. _____ . LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER SUITABILITY AND FITNESS REQUIREMENTS.

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section, the term “law enforcement officer” has the meaning given the term in section 115(c)(1) of title 18, United States Code.

(b) **BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION.**—Each Federal agency hiring a law enforcement officer shall, before hiring such officer, ensure that the applicant is subject to a Moderate Risk Public Trust Background Investigation to determine if the officer meets the suitability and fitness requirements for employment.

(c) **INELIGIBILITY.**—If the background investigation described in subsection (b) finds any of the following, the applicant shall not be eligible to be employed as a law enforcement officer:

(1) Membership in or affiliation with white supremacist, anti-government, and other extremist organizations that advocate for violence or advocate acts of terrorism or activities designed to overthrow the United States Government by force.

(2) Participation or involvement in, or past conviction for, a conspiracy to overthrow the Government of the United States in violation of section 231(a)(3) of title 18, United States Code, or obstruction of Congress in violation of section 1512(c)(2) of that title.

(3) Participation or involvement in the planning of, or past conviction for, any act under section 1512(c)(2) or 2383 of title 18, United States Code.

(d) **RULE.**—Nothing in this section shall be construed to infringe upon, or otherwise impact, the protections provided by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

SA 3898. Mr. SANDERS 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 V, add the following:

SEC. 550. ASSISTANCE FOR DEPLOYMENT-RELATED SUPPORT OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES UNDERGOING DEPLOYMENT AND THEIR FAMILIES BEYOND THE YELLOW RIBBON RE-INTEGRATION PROGRAM.

Section 582 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (10 U.S.C. 10101 note) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (k) and (l) as subsections (l) and (m), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (j) the following new subsection (k):

“(k) **SUPPORT BEYOND PROGRAM.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Defense shall provide funds to States, Territories, and government entities to carry out programs, and other activities as the Secretary

considers appropriate, that provide deployment cycle information, services, and referrals to eligible individuals throughout the deployment cycle. Such programs may include the provision of access to outreach services, including the following:

“(A) Employment counseling.

“(B) Behavioral health counseling.

“(C) Suicide prevention.

“(D) Housing advocacy.

“(E) Financial counseling.

“(F) Referrals for the receipt of other related services.

“(2) **APPROPRIATION.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—There are authorized to be appropriated, and there are appropriated, to carry out paragraph (1)—

“(i) for fiscal year 2026, \$25,000,000; and

“(ii) for fiscal year 2027 and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount appropriated for the preceding fiscal year, adjusted to reflect the percentage (if any) of the increase in the average of the Consumer Price Index for the preceding 12-month period compared to the Consumer Price Index for fiscal year 2025.

“(B) **CONSUMER PRICE INDEX DEFINED.**—In this paragraph, the term ‘Consumer Price Index’ means the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor.”.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. HOEVEN. 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 THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 16, 2025, at 9 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 16, 2025, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 16, at 3 p.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to grant floor privileges to my interns for their shadow days on the following dates: Flora Xia for October 1, 2025; Alexander Aguilar for October 7, 2025; Samuel Armour for October 9, 2025; Nidhi Nair for October 21; Maxwell Robben for the 23rd; Audrey Schlotter for the 28th; Malina Yuen for the 30th of October; Andrew Faris for November 4; Jeremy Zwick for November 6; Mrinmayee Kulkarni for November 19; and Inez Nieves for December 3, 2025.

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

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2025

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in recess until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, September 17, and that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day.

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

ORDER FOR RECESS

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand in recess under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator DURBIN.

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

The Democratic whip.

NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, last week, the world witnessed an unprovoked violation of NATO airspace by Russia. Nearly 20 Russian drones entered Polish airspace, some traveling up to 300 miles in the country. For nearly 6 hours, NATO aircraft sought out and destroyed these Russian intruders.

Then this weekend, fighter jets intercepted another Russian drone that entered NATO airspace—in this case, Romania.

The EU’s chief diplomat Kaja Kallas promptly said of the recent incident: “The violation of Romanian airspace by Russian drones is another unacceptable breach of an EU member’s state sovereignty. This continued reckless escalation threatens regional security.”

I couldn’t agree more. With such brazen testing of NATO defenses, one would expect our leader, the President of the United States, to make a similar condemnation and reaffirm the alliance’s formidable defensive capabilities.

But the response from President Trump has been silence or bizarre musings saying maybe it was just a mistake by Russia. After months of Russian President Putin ignoring Trump’s deadlines for negotiations to end the war in Ukraine, he is once again letting Putin embarrass him on a global stage.

Can anyone here imagine Ronald Reagan being played over and over again by the Russians like this? How about John McCain? How about the Republican Party before Trump, which has sat quietly month after month afraid to speak the truth about Vladimir Putin?

Is there anyone in this Chamber who would argue with a straight face that a Democratic President repeatedly kowtowing to Russian aggression wouldn’t be met with howls of criticism?