

(C) the number of referrals—
 (i) from the Department of Justice; and
 (ii) from sources other than the Department of Justice, such as the Inspector General of another agency; and
 (D) the disposition of each referral described in subparagraph (C), specifically whether the referral resulted in prosecution or declination.

The amendment (No. 5440), in the nature of a substitute, as amended, was agreed to.

The bill (S. 1199), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 1199

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “SBA Fraud Enforcement Extension Act”.

SEC. 2. STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR CERTAIN PROGRAMS.

(a) SHUTTERED VENUE OPERATORS.—Section 324 of division N of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (15 U.S.C. 9009a) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(g) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any criminal prosecution or civil enforcement action for a violation of, or conspiracy to violate, section 371, 641, 1001, 1028A, 1029, 1341, 1343, 1349, 1956, or 1957 of title 18, United States Code, or section 3729 or 3802 of title 31, United States Code, with respect to any grant for shuttered venue operators under this section shall be filed not later than 10 years after the date of the violation or conspiracy.”.

(b) RESTAURANT REVITALIZATION.—Section 5003 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (15 U.S.C. 9009c) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any criminal prosecution or civil enforcement action for a violation of, or conspiracy to violate, section 371, 641, 1001, 1028A, 1029, 1341, 1343, 1349, 1956, or 1957 of title 18, United States Code, or section 3729 or 3802 of title 31, United States Code, with respect to any restaurant revitalization grant under this section shall be filed not later than 10 years after the date of the violation or conspiracy.”.

(c) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and every 90 days thereafter until the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit to Congress a report on activities of the Department of Justice relating to the shuttered venue operators program under section 324 of division N of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (15 U.S.C. 9009a) and the restaurant revitalization program under section 5003 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (15 U.S.C. 9009c), which shall include—

(1) the total number of investigations initiated, the total number of prosecutions initiated, the total dollar amount recovered by prosecutions, and the total number of referrals and source of such referrals; and

(2) with respect to such programs—

(A) the number of investigations initiated, the number of prosecutions initiated, and the disposition of each prosecution;

(B) the number of prosecutions and the number of investigations of applicants of such programs in each State and territory based on the address listed on the application of the entity that is the subject of an investigation or prosecution;

(C) the number of referrals—

(i) from the Department of Justice; and

(ii) from sources other than the Department of Justice, such as the Inspector General of another agency; and

(D) the disposition of each referral described in subparagraph (C), specifically whether the referral resulted in prosecution or declination.

EXPANDING THE SURETY BOND PROGRAM ACT OF 2025

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (S. 2232) to expand the surety bond program under the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes, which had been reported from the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*, as follows:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Expanding the Surety Bond Program Act of 2025”.

SEC. 2. EXPANSION OF THE SURETY BOND PROGRAM.

Part B of title IV of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 694a et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 411 (15 U.S.C. 694b)—

(A) in subsection (a)(1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) by striking “\$6,500,000” and inserting “\$18,000,000”; and

(II) by inserting “, subject to the exception in subparagraph (B)” after “United States Code”; and

(ii) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

“(B) (i) In any fiscal year in which the Administrator submits a formal request, including budget justification documents submitted by the Administrator to Congress, for supplemental funds under section 412(d), the amount described in subparagraph (A) shall be reduced by 33 percent.

“(ii) The limit described in clause (i) shall apply until the first of either—

“(I) 12 months after the date on which the Administrator submits the formal request described in that clause; or

“(II) 150 days after the date on which—

“(aa) the requested funds are provided, and the Administrator attests that the fee collection activities of the Administration are sufficient to maintain a deficit-neutral revolving fund; or

“(bb) the Administrator notifies Congress that funds are no longer required and attests that the fee collection activities of the Administration are sufficient to maintain a deficit-neutral revolving fund.

“(iii) After the expiration of the period described in clause (ii), the limit described in clause (i) shall revert to the amount designated in subparagraph (A).”; and

(B) in subsection (e)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking the comma at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(ii) in paragraph (2), by striking “\$6,500,000,” and inserting “the amount described in subparagraph (A) or (B)(i) of subsection (a)(1), as applicable.”; and

(iii) in paragraph (3), by striking “, or” and inserting “; or”;

(2) in section 412 (15 U.S.C. 694c)—

(A) in subsection (a), in the third sentence, by striking “, excluding administrative expenses.”;
(B) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c);

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

“(b) Not more than 2 percent of the amount in the fund described in subsection (a) on the first day of each fiscal year may be obligated during

that fiscal year to cover costs incurred by the Administration in connection with the management and administration of this part, including costs related to information technology and systems, outreach activities, and relevant contracts.”; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

“(d) If the Administrator notifies any committee of the Senate or the House of Representatives that supplemental funding is necessary to carry out the Surety Bond Program authorized under section 411(a)(3), the Administrator shall, on the same date, notify in writing the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives regarding the need for the supplemental funds.”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 413. REPORT.

“(a) SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION.—Not later than 90 days after the first day of each fiscal year, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives a report covering the period of the previous fiscal year describing the status and activities carried out under this part and the financial health of the revolving fund created under section 412(a), which shall include—

“(1) with respect to guarantees under this part—

“(A) the total dollar value in the aggregate among all sureties;

“(B) the total dollar value issued by sureties participating in the Prior Approval Program;

“(C) the total dollar value issued by sureties participating in the Preferred Surety Bond Guarantee Program authorized under section 411(a)(3);

“(D) the average bond size; and

“(E) the number of issued bonds that exceed the limits established under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 411(a)(1);

“(2) with respect to claims paid—

“(A) the total dollar value of claims paid in the aggregate;

“(B) the total dollar value of claims originating from bonds issued by sureties participating in the Prior Approval Program and the number of such claims; and

“(C) the total dollar value of claims originating from bonds issued by sureties participating in the Preferred Surety Bond Guarantee Program authorized under section 411(a)(3) and the number of such claims.

“(3) information on the solvency of the revolving fund, including—

“(A) the revolving fund balance at the end of the reporting period;

“(B) net cash flow;

“(C) administrative expenses incurred; and

“(D) the revolving fund balance at the end of the reporting period, adjusted for administrative expenses under subparagraph (C);

“(4) the number of sureties participating in the Prior Approval Program;

“(5) the number of sureties participating in the Preferred Surety Bond Guarantee Program authorized under section 411(a)(3); and

“(6) information on administrative expenses, including—

“(A) a description of administrative expenses claimed from the revolving fund under section 412(b) as of the end of the reporting period; and

“(B) the total cost of administrative expenses claimed.

“(b) GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of the Expanding the Surety Bond Program Act of 2025, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives a report on the current processes of the Small Business Administration for approving applicants to the Surety

Bond Program, including recommendations for improving program efficiency and simplifying paperwork requirements."

The committee-reported amendment, in the nature of a substitute, was agreed to.

The bill (S. 2232), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I want to thank the Chair for working with me to pass these two bills that were reported favorably out of our committee: Chair ERNST's SBA Fraud Enforcement Act and my Expanding the Surety Bond Program Act.

Senator ERNST's bill extends the statute of limitations for two COVID-era programs and incorporates my amendment to ensure that enforcement by the Department of Justice is carried out in a nonpartisan manner.

My Expanding the Surety Bond Program Act will expand opportunities for small contracting businesses looking to access larger contracts.

Not everyone is aware of the important role that surety bonds play in the contracting process, but every builder, every supplier, every producer in Massachusetts and across the country understands that without them, significant contracts cannot move forward.

In the last 7 years, SBA's Surety Bond Program has supported more than \$13 billion in revenues—including \$165 million in Massachusetts. My bill actually expands this program by raising the limit on SBA-backed surety bonds to \$18 million on all contracts, and it also includes provisions that Chair ERNST added to mitigate risks to the program.

Again, I want to thank Chair ERNST for her commitment to seeing these bills through to passage, and I thank the Chamber for unanimously accepting our recommendations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, I also would like to thank Ranking Member MARKEY for his great collaboration on these bills. It is another example of truly bipartisan work and collaboration to get these bills done, to get them off the floor of the Senate and on their way.

So I really appreciate the consideration that you have given, Ranking Member.

This is a major win for taxpayers who had their hard-earned money stolen by fraudsters. Now the investigators have been given the time they need to track down the thieves who stole taxpayer dollars and to build strong, prosecutable cases.

Today's action also sends a clear message to fraudsters: You will be held accountable. You will not get away with your crimes.

This is critical to ensure that this blatant fraud is stopped in its tracks.

I look forward to working with the SBA, the IG, and the Department of

Justice to track down every single crook who defrauded our taxpayers.

Again, I thank the ranking member for the collaboration.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following resolutions, which are at the desk: S. Res. 701, S. Res. 702, S. Res. 703, S. Res. 704, and S. Res. 705.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

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

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

PIPELINE INTEGRITY, PROTECTION, AND ENHANCEMENT FOR LEVERAGING INVESTMENTS IN THE NATION'S ENERGY TO ASSURE SAFETY ACT OF 2025

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 331, S. 2975.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2975) to amend title 49, United States Code, to enhance the safety of pipeline transportation, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Pipeline Integrity, Protection, and Enhancement for Leveraging Investments in the Nation's Energy to assure Safety Act of 2025" or the "PIPELINE Safety Act of 2025".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Definitions.

TITLE I—REAUTHORIZATIONS

Sec. 101. Gas and hazardous liquid.

Sec. 102. Operational expenses of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.

Sec. 103. Other programs.

TITLE II—MODERNIZING PIPELINE SAFETY

Sec. 201. Inspection of in-service breakout tanks.

Sec. 202. Risk assessment obligations.

Sec. 203. Timely incorporation by reference.

Sec. 204. Report on updates to the National Pipeline Mapping System.

Sec. 205. Pipeline safety enhancement programs.

Sec. 206. Technical safety standards committees.

Sec. 207. Enforcement procedures.

Sec. 208. Civil penalties.

Sec. 209. Improving whistleblower protections.

Sec. 210. Assessment of composite materials.

Sec. 211. Elements and evaluation of State damage prevention programs.

Sec. 212. Pipeline safety voluntary information-sharing system.

Sec. 213. Transporting gas.

Sec. 214. Inspection and management of rights-of-way.

Sec. 215. Geological hazards.

Sec. 216. Alternative technologies.

Sec. 217. Fire shutoff valves.

Sec. 218. Exemption from post-accident testing.

Sec. 219. Maximum allowable operating pressure records.

Sec. 220. Pipeline operating status.

Sec. 221. Potential impact radius.

Sec. 222. Effects of weather on natural gas pipelines.

Sec. 223. Aldyl-A pipelines.

Sec. 224. Improvements to pipeline safety integrity management programs.

Sec. 225. Nonemergency waivers by the Secretary.

TITLE III—STREAMLINING OVERSIGHT OF PIPELINES

Sec. 301. Regulatory updates.

Sec. 302. State use of integrated inspections.

Sec. 303. Optimizing pipeline safety inspections.

Sec. 304. Sense of Congress on PHMSA engagement prior to rulemaking activities.

TITLE IV—IMPROVING SAFETY OF EMERGING GASES

Sec. 401. Studies of hydrogen pipeline transportation.

Sec. 402. Safety of carbon dioxide pipelines.

Sec. 403. Reporting of blended products.

TITLE V—IMPROVING EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND TRANSPARENCY

Sec. 501. Bitumen oil response plan review.

Sec. 502. National Center of Excellence for Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Leak Detection.

Sec. 503. Operator financial disclosure.

Sec. 504. Data and transparency.

Sec. 505. Office of Public Engagement.

Sec. 506. Clarification of confirmed discovery.

Sec. 507. Public alert notification system for pipeline facilities.

TITLE VI—OTHER MATTERS

Sec. 601. Prohibition on PHMSA operation, procurement, or contracting action with respect to covered unmanned aircraft systems.

Sec. 602. Natural gas distribution pipeline infrastructure safety and modernization grants.

Sec. 603. Issues affecting federally recognized Indian Tribes.

Sec. 604. Identification of and justification for redactions.

Sec. 605. Fees for loan guarantees.

Sec. 606. Improving pipeline cybersecurity.

Sec. 607. Technical corrections.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ADMINISTRATION.—The term "Administration" means the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.

(2) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term "Administrator" means the Administrator of the Administration.

(3) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term "appropriate committees of Congress" means—