

building were not informed about the incident until hours after it happened. This is simply unacceptable.

When a firearm is discharged near a Federal building and chaos ensues, the people inside should not be left wondering what the heck is happening. They should not have to rely on social media, a phone call from a family member, or news reports to learn about a threat outside of their workplace. They should receive clear and timely information from the officials responsible for protecting that building in an emergency because, as you know, every minute matters. Employees and visitors need to know whether they should shelter in place, evacuate the building, avoid a particular entrance, or take other immediate steps to protect themselves and to protect the public.

The incident in Detroit exposed a serious gap in our Federal security procedures, and it occurred at a time when threats against government facilities are increasing. Over the last 5 years, there has been a sharp increase in terrorist attacks and plots against government targets, including bomb threats.

We have a responsibility to make sure everyone inside these buildings has the information they need during a crisis, and that is exactly what this bipartisan bill will do.

The Federal Building Threat Notification Act would require the Federal Protective Service and the Department of Homeland Security to develop and implement clear guidance for emergency communications within 1 year. That guidance would establish best practices and protocols for promptly notifying building tenants that violent threats are occurring inside or immediately surrounding a Federal building. That includes shootings and other firearm incidents, threats involving other types of weapons, and potential terrorist activity as well as suspicious devices.

Just as importantly, the guidance must provide employees and other building tenants with clear instructions about the appropriate safety measures they should take in response. This bill would also ensure that every building protected by the Federal Protective Service has a designated security official responsible for carrying out these procedures.

Finally, the Department of Homeland Security and Federal Protective Service would report back to Congress on the guidance they put into place.

These are straightforward, commonsense protections, and I am proud to have the support of my colleagues from across the aisle, Senator LANKFORD and Senator ERNST. We know these threats are real, we know there is a gap in our current system, and we know what needs to be done to address it.

This legislation is bipartisan because keeping Federal employees and the public safe should never be a partisan issue. We should not wait for another dangerous incident or a tragedy before

taking action. So I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense bill, strengthen emergency communications in Federal buildings, and help ensure that employees and visitors receive timely information when their safety is at risk.

Mr. President, notwithstanding rule XXII, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 545, S. 2542.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2542) to direct the Director of the Federal Protective Service to establish guidance relating to emergency protocols for buildings, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill which had been reported from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs 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 "Federal Building Threat Notification Act".*

#### SEC. 2. GUIDANCE FOR BUILDINGS.

(a) *DEFINITION.*—In this section, the term "law enforcement-related" means requiring a law enforcement response.

(b) *GUIDANCE.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Federal Protective Service shall, in coordination with the Secretary of Homeland Security, develop and implement guidance for emergency communication regarding law enforcement-related events for Federal tenants in buildings under the protection of the Federal Protective Service.

(2) *CONTENTS.*—The guidance developed under paragraph (1) shall include best practices and protocols relating to—

(A) *standard operating procedures to inform building tenants in a timely manner of violent threats in the building or within approximately 150 feet of the building perimeter, including all firearm events, other weapons threats, acts of or threats of potential, suspected, or confirmed terrorism, and the discovery of suspicious devices or materials; and*

(B) *ensuring that tenants receive instructions for safety practices in response to an immediate threat or a heightened risk of a threat.*

(c) *SECURITY OFFICIALS.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—The designated official of the Facility Security Committee for each building under the protection of the Federal Protective Service shall be responsible for implementing the guidance at the respective building.

(2) *DESIGNATED OFFICIAL.*—Consistent with the Interagency Security Committee guidelines and applicable Federal law, the Director of the Federal Protective Service shall confirm that each department or agency with a building or office space under the protection of the Federal Protective Service has a designated official of the Facility Security Committee.

(d) *ASSESSMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT-RELATED CRISIS RESPONSE.*—The Director of the Federal Protective Service shall—

(1) *ensure that all Federal tenants in buildings under the protection of the Federal Protective Service are able to adequately respond to a law enforcement-related crisis; and*

(2) *conduct periodic testing to prepare for such event.*

(e) *REPORT.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director

of the Federal Protective Service shall, in coordination with the Secretary of Homeland Security, electronically submit to Congress a report, not longer than 10 pages, on the best practices and protocols implemented under this Act.

(2) *BRIEFING.*—The Director of the Federal Protective Service shall provide to Congress a briefing on the report required under paragraph (1) and shall present any information relating to support needed to maintain the safety of buildings under the protection of the Federal Protective Service.

(f) *NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.*—No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act.

Mr. PETERS. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute amendment be agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

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

The bill (S. 2542), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CRAMER). The Senator from Ohio.

#### RECESS

Mr. MORENO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess until 7:30 p.m. and that all time in the recess count postcloture.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:25 p.m., recessed until 7:30 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. HAGERTY).

#### AGOA EXTENSION ACT—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

#### RECESS

Mr. MORENO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess until 8:15 p.m. and that all time in the recess count postcloture.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:30 p.m., recessed until 8:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. MORENO).

#### AGOA EXTENSION ACT—Continued

(Mr. HUSTED assumed the Chair.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ARMSTRONG). The Senator from Ohio.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MORENO. Mr. President, notwithstanding rule XXII, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations on the Secretary's

desk: PN1104-2, John A. Goodwin in the Army, and all nominations in the Coast Guard with the exception of PN846; that the nominations be confirmed; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nomination; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's actions and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S  
DESK

IN THE ARMY

PN1104-2 ARMY nomination of JOHN A. GOODWIN, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 23, 2026.

IN THE COAST GUARD

\*PN1174 COAST GUARD nomination of James C. Meyers, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 13, 2026.

\*PN1175 COAST GUARD nominations (2) beginning AARON J. CASAVANT, and ending JEREMY A. WEISS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 13, 2026.

\*PN1176 COAST GUARD nominations (2) beginning CAROLINE M. JENKINS, and ending CHRISTINE E. OLDS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 13, 2026.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

OFFICER JOHN BARNES AND  
CHIEF MICHAEL ANSBRO PUBLIC  
SAFETY OFFICERS' BENEFIT  
PROGRAM EXPANSION ACT OF  
2026

Mr. MORENO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 416, S. 3897.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3897) to revise administrative procedures relating to public safety officers' death benefits, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on the Judiciary 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 "Officer John Barnes and Chief Michael Ansbro Public Safety Officers' Benefit Program Expansion Act of 2026".*

**SEC. 2. ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER BENEFITS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1205 of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10285) is amended—

(1) in subsection (e)(2)(E), by inserting “, including whether the delay is due to the inaction

of the claimant or an agency from which information is required” after “basis for delay”; and (2) by adding at the end the following:

“(f) NOTICE AND INTERIM BENEFITS.—

“(1) NOTICE OF MISSING INFORMATION.—Not later than 90 calendar days after receiving a claim filed under this subpart, the Bureau shall notify the claimant or the relevant agency of any missing information required to process the claim.

“(2) NOTICE OF DETERMINATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 calendar days after receiving all information required to process the claim, the Bureau shall inform the claimant of the Bureau's final, appealable determination as to the claimant's benefit eligibility.

“(B) INTERIM BENEFITS AS NOTICE.—Provision of interim benefits under section 1201(c) shall be deemed to be notice under subparagraph (A).

“(3) INTERIM BENEFITS.—

“(A) ENTITLEMENT.—If the Bureau fails to inform a claimant of the Bureau's determination on or before the date that is 270 calendar days after receiving all information required to process the claim, the Bureau shall issue a single interim benefit payment with respect to the claim, payable only to—

“(i) a claimant whose status as an eligible beneficiary is undisputed; or

“(ii) if beneficiary status remains unresolved, an escrow or fiduciary account, pending final determination under section 1201.

“(B) RESCISSION OR REPAYMENT.—Any interim benefits paid under this subsection—

“(i) shall be credited against any final benefit determination made under section 1201;

“(ii) shall not be subject to recoupment or affirmative repayment by the Bureau, except in cases of fraud or material misrepresentation; and

“(iii) shall not be construed to create an entitlement to benefits if the claimant or decedent is determined to be ineligible under this part.

“(4) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to—

“(A) limit the Bureau's authority to deny a claim for failure to meet statutory eligibility requirements;

“(B) alter the determination of eligible beneficiaries under section 1201; or

“(C) require payment of interim benefits to multiple claimants if the statute authorizes payment to only 1 or more mutually exclusive beneficiaries.

“(g) OUTREACH.—The Bureau shall—

“(1) conduct outreach efforts on an ongoing basis to ensure that public safety officers and underserved public agencies are aware of the program under this part, including outreach efforts for disabled public safety officers; and

“(2) include in the outreach efforts under paragraph (1) regular communications with national public safety organizations, public safety agencies, and organizations supporting disabled public safety officers and the families of fallen officers.

“(h) SUMMARY OF BACKLOGGED CLAIMS.—Not later than 30 days after publishing the report required under subsection (e)(2), the Bureau shall submit a summary of the information required to be reported under subsection (e)(2)(E) to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

“(i) AUDIT OF BACKLOGGED CLAIMS.—On an annual basis, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct an audit of any pending claims under this part that were submitted to the Bureau more than 1 year before the date on which the audit is commenced, to identify programmatic challenges to the timely processing of death, disability, and educational assistance claims. As part of the audit, the Comptroller General of the United States shall also review—

“(1) where the claim is in the determination process;

“(2) the reasons for delay, including any processes, such as legal review, that prevent timely processing of claims;

“(3) whether the agency has used its subpoena authority for the claims;

“(4) the frequency of outreach to the claimant and efforts to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of outreach and claims assistance efforts;

“(5) the efforts of the Bureau to implement a claims processing manual to ensure consistency across staff in determining claims; and

“(6) efforts to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of outreach and claims assistance efforts.”.

(b) SUBPOENA REQUIREMENT.—Section 1206(b) of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10288(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) with respect to information or documentation in the possession of a public agency that the Bureau has determined is necessary to adjudicate the claim that the public agency has failed to provide by the date that is 30 days after the date of the Bureau's or the claimant's request to provide the information or documentation, shall issue a subpoena to the public agency to obtain the information or documentation, unless the Bureau has approved an extension not exceeding 60 days.”.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1204 of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10284) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (4)(B)(ii), by striking “parapalegic” and inserting “paralegic”;

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (8) through (14) as paragraphs (9) through (15), respectively; and

(C) by inserting after paragraph (7) the following:

“(8) ‘gainful work’ means gainful work activity, as defined in section 32.23 of title 28, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation.”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) INTERNAL REVENUE CODE.—Section 402(l)(4)(C) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “(9)(A)” each place it appears.

(B) TITLE 28.—Section 1863(b)(5)(B) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by striking “section 1203(6)” and inserting “section 1204”.

**SEC. 3. EXPEDITED PAYMENT FOR VCF OR WTCHP DETERMINATIONS.**

Section 1205(b) of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10285(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(4) In making determinations under section 1201(a), the Bureau shall, absent clear and convincing evidence to the contrary, as determined by the Bureau, approve any claim if the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund of 2001 (49 U.S.C. 40101 note; Public Law 107-42) (commonly referred to as the ‘VCF’) or the World Trade Center Health Program under title XXXIII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300mm et seq.) provides a certification of facts that—

“(A) the claim is eligible for death benefits under the Victim Compensation Fund; or

“(B) the cause of claimant's death is a World Trade Center Health Program-related condition.”.

**SEC. 4. IMPLEMENTATION OF CERTAIN GAO RECOMMENDATIONS.**

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall ensure that the Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance implements the recommendations provided in the report of the Government Accountability Office entitled “Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program: Transparency, Claims