

25-105, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Ukraine for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$185 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL F. MILLER,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-105

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Ukraine.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* \$0.
Other \$185 million.
Total \$185 million.

Funding Source: Foreign Military Financing.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-Major Defense Equipment: The following non-MDE items will be included: Class IX spare parts in support of U.S. Army-supplied vehicles and weapon systems and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (UP-B-B-AF).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: KA-B-WDA, NX-B-VGH.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: February 6, 2026.

* As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Ukraine—Class IX Spare Parts

The Government of Ukraine has requested to buy Class IX spare parts in support of U.S. Army-supplied vehicles and weapon systems, as well as other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$185 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a partner country that is a force for political stability and economic progress in the Europe.

Ukraine has an urgent need to strengthen local sustainment capabilities to maintain high operational rates for U.S.-provided vehicles and weapon systems. The spare parts will directly contribute to battlefield effectiveness with higher overall operational rates, improved logistics, and a reduced financial burden as a result of a more resilient and rapid repair cycle.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the military balance in the region.

The principal contractor(s) will be determined from approved vendors. At this time, the U.S. Government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. government or contractor representatives to Ukraine.

There will be no adverse impact on defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. LUJÁN. Mr. President, I was unavailable for rollcall vote No. 21, on Motion to Invoke Cloture on the nomination of David Clay Fowlkes to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Arkansas. Had I been present, I would have voted nay.

I was unavailable for rollcall vote No. 22, on Motion to Invoke Cloture on David Clay Fowlkes to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Arkansas. Had I been present, I would have voted nay.

I was unavailable for rollcall vote No. 23, on Motion to Invoke Cloture on Nicholas Jon Ganjei, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas. Had I been present, I would have voted nay.

I was unavailable for rollcall vote No. 24, on the confirmation on Nicholas Jon Ganjei, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas. Had I been present, I would have voted nay.

I was unavailable for rollcall vote No. 25, on Motion to Invoke Cloture on Aaron Christian Peterson, to be United States District Judge for the District of Alaska. Had I been present, I would have voted nay.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING MESCHER FAMILY BUSINESSES

• Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, as chair of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to honor the Mescher family's collection of retail clothing businesses in Plymouth County, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

This successful group of clothing shops got its start in 2013 when Jill Mescher founded Sugar N Spice in downtown Le Mars. As a mother of three with a passion for fashion, she set out to create a children's boutique that reflected the individual styles of her own children. What began as a trunk show turned into a small retail shop before transforming into a trusted destination for families in search of clothes to mark life's important moments.

As the business grew, Jill encountered a challenge unique to children's stores: Her customers were growing up. Rather than letting those relationships fade, she expanded to continue growing alongside her clients. In 2021, Jill launched Lily Zita as a teen boutique designed to serve young customers transitioning out of Sugar N Spice.

Then, in 2024, Jill and her husband Chad added menswear to their portfolio when they reopened the former Claussen's store as Mescher's Clothing. The newest addition to the business provides services including men's ap-

parel, tuxedo rentals, and dry cleaning, all of which are often difficult to find in rural areas.

Today, the Mescher family retail businesses collectively serve children, teens, and adults, operating as a family-owned small business ecosystem. Thanks to a team of dedicated employees, the storefronts are active contributors to downtown Le Mars. The Meschers represent a unique example of how small businesses can grow while maintaining personalized service and strong community ties.

Beyond their retail success, the Meschers are deeply engaged in the Plymouth County community. They are active members of the Le Mars Chamber of Commerce, where Jill serves on the board. Their businesses regularly participate in community events, including collaborative fashion shows organized with other downtown small businesses and the Le Mars Bridal Show, where Mescher's Clothing showcases formalwear and tuxedo options for men. The Meschers' leadership and service have earned them well-deserved recognition. In 2024, Jill was named the Le Mars Chamber of Commerce's Boss of the Quarter. In the same year, Jill and Chad were also honored as KLEM Radio's Citizens of the Day.

From a single children's boutique to a family of downtown storefronts serving multiple generations, the Meschers exemplify the ingenuity and dedication to community that define Iowa's small businesses.

It is my honor to recognize Jill and Chad Mescher and the entire team behind Sugar N Spice, Lily Zita, and Mescher's Clothing for their dedication to their community and continued contributions to Main Street Iowa. I look forward to their continued success and wish them the very best in the years ahead.●

RECOGNIZING THE STOCKTON SYMPHONY'S CENTENNIAL

• Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the centennial of the Stockton Symphony in Stockton, CA.

Founded in 1926 by Italian immigrant Manlio Silva, the Stockton Symphony is the third-oldest continuously operating professional orchestra in the State of California. In May of 1926, Mr. Silva assembled 20 local musicians to perform for the Stockton Musical Club, laying the foundation for a cherished and enduring cultural institution. Mr. Silva initially supported the symphony out of his own pocket, guided by a deep belief in the potential of music to enrich community life.

Over the past century, the Symphony has grown from a 20-member community ensemble into a professional orchestra of metropolitan stature, drawing musical talent from across the globe. They have elevated artistic excellence in the region, expanded innovative educational programs, and

achieved national recognition through high-profile composer residencies and critically acclaimed world premieres.

Throughout its history, the symphony has remained dedicated to Mr. Silva's mission of inspiring joy and building community through the power of music. Today's performers carry on his tradition of excellence as they electrify audiences and shape a vibrant and inclusive culture in the Central Valley.

As the Stockton Symphony celebrates its 100th anniversary, I commend the musicians, staff, and community whose commitment ensure its enduring success. I ask all Members to join me in honoring the centennial of the Stockton Symphony on February 27, 2026 and in recognizing a century of artistic excellence, community service, and cultural enrichment in California's Central Valley. ●

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 3805. A bill to amend chapter 93 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit obstruction of immigration laws by official interference.

H.R. 1834. An act to advance policy priorities that will break the gridlock.

H.R. 6500. An act to extend duty-free treatment provided with respect to imports from certain countries in Africa under the African Growth and Opportunity Act, to extend customs user fees, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-2729. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services to Switzerland in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 25-049) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2730. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services to the United Kingdom in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 25-094) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2731. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revised Jurisdictional Thresholds for Section 8 of the Clayton Act" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2026; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2732. A communication from the Chief Regulatory Officer, Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the

report of a rule entitled "Exercise of Time-Limited Authority to Increase the Fiscal Year 2026 Numerical Limitation for the H-2B Temporary Nonagricultural Worker Program" (RIN1615-AD16) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2026; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2733. A communication from the Chief of Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revising Definition of 'Unlawful User of or Addicted to Controlled Substance'" (RIN1140-AB03) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2026; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2734. A communication from the General Counsel of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Repeal of Fair Lending, Fair Housing, and Equitable Housing Finance Plans Regulation" (RIN2590-AB53) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2026; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2735. A communication from the Senior Advisor, Office of the Secretary, Department of Health & Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to action on a nomination and discontinuation of service in an acting role for a position covered by the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998 for the position of Inspector General, Department of Health & Human Services, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2026; to the Committees on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; and Finance.

EC-2736. A communication from the Section Chief, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Section 45Z Clean Fuel Production Credit" (RIN1545-BR30) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2026; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2737. A communication from the Branch Chief, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishing the Gordie Howe International Bridge as a Port of Entry in Detroit, Michigan" (RIN1651-AB64) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2026; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2738. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Extension of SECURE 2.0 Act Amendment Deadline for IRAs" (Notice 2026-9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2026; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2739. A communication from the Director of Regulation Policy and Management, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Clarification of VA's Processing of Survivors Benefits Claims" (RIN2900-AR32) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2026; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-2740. A communication from the Director of Regulation Policy and Management, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Privacy Act of 1974; Implementation" (RIN2900-AS11) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2026; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-2741. A communication from the Director of Regulation Policy and Management,

Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Reproductive Health Services" (RIN2900-AS31) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2026; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-2742. A communication from the Director of Regulation Policy and Management, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance Traumatic Injury Protection Program Amendments" (RIN2900-AS12) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2026; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-2743. A communication from the Board Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration's proposed fiscal year 2027 Budget and Performance Plan received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2744. A communication from the Chief Executive Officer of the Peace Corps, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Corps' Agency Financial Report for fiscal year 2025; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2745. A communication from the Secretary of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's fiscal year 2025 Agency Financial Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2746. A communication from the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semi-annual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2747. A communication from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Agency Financial Report for fiscal year 2025; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2748. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 26-252, "Energy Efficiency Financing Debt Cap Temporary Amendment Act of 2026"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2749. A communication from the Commissioners, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and a Management Report for the period from April 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2750. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 26-204, "Early Childhood Educator Pay Scales Amendment Act of 2025"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2751. A communication from the President and CEO, Inter-American Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Foundation's Annual Management Report for fiscal year 2025; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2752. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 26-59, "Institution of Higher Education Sexual Misconduct Reporting and Resource Accessibility Act of 2025"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2753. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report