

In the Senate of the United States,

November 10, 2015.

Resolved, That the bill from the House of Representatives (H.R. 2029) entitled “An Act making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes.”, do pass with the following

AMENDMENT:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 *That the following sums are appropriated, out of any*
2 *money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for*
3 *military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs,*
4 *and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September*
5 *30, 2016, and for other purposes, namely:*

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

For acquisition, construction, installation, and equipment of temporary or permanent public works, military installations, facilities, and real property for the Army as currently authorized by law, including personnel in the Army Corps of Engineers and other personal services necessary for the purposes of this appropriation, and for construction and operation of facilities in support of the functions of the Commander in Chief, \$663,245,000, to remain available until September 30, 2020: Provided, That, of this amount, not to exceed \$109,245,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services, and host nation support, as authorized by law, unless the Secretary of the Army determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

For acquisition, construction, installation, and equipment of temporary or permanent public works, naval installations, facilities, and real property for the Navy and Marine Corps as currently authorized by law, including personnel in the Naval Facilities Engineering Command

1 *and other personal services necessary for the purposes of this*
2 *appropriation, \$1,619,699,000, to remain available until*
3 *September 30, 2020: Provided, That, of this amount, not*
4 *to exceed \$91,649,000 shall be available for study, planning,*
5 *design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized*
6 *by law, unless the Secretary of the Navy determines that*
7 *additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and*
8 *notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses*
9 *of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor.*

10 *MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE*

11 *For acquisition, construction, installation, and equip-*
12 *ment of temporary or permanent public works, military in-*
13 *stallations, facilities, and real property for the Air Force*
14 *as currently authorized by law, \$1,389,185,000, to remain*
15 *available until September 30, 2020: Provided, That, of this*
16 *amount, not to exceed \$89,164,000 shall be available for*
17 *study, planning, design, and architect and engineer serv-*
18 *ices, as authorized by law, unless the Secretary of Air Force*
19 *determines that additional obligations are necessary for*
20 *such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropria-*
21 *tions of both Houses of Congress of the determination and*
22 *the reasons therefor.*

1 *MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE*2 *(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)*

3 *For acquisition, construction, installation, and equip-*
4 *ment of temporary or permanent public works, installa-*
5 *tions, facilities, and real property for activities and agen-*
6 *cies of the Department of Defense (other than the military*
7 *departments), as currently authorized by law,*
8 *\$2,290,767,000, to remain available until September 30,*
9 *2020: Provided, That such amounts of this appropriation*
10 *as may be determined by the Secretary of Defense may be*
11 *transferred to such appropriations of the Department of De-*
12 *fense available for military construction or family housing*
13 *as the Secretary may designate, to be merged with and to*
14 *be available for the same purposes, and for the same time*
15 *period, as the appropriation or fund to which transferred:*
16 *Provided further, That, of the amount appropriated, not to*
17 *exceed \$160,404,000 shall be available for study, planning,*
18 *design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized*
19 *by law, unless the Secretary of Defense determines that ad-*
20 *ditional obligations are necessary for such purposes and no-*
21 *tifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of*
22 *Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor.*

23 *MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD*

24 *For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilita-*
25 *tion, and conversion of facilities for the training and ad-*

1 *ministration of the Army National Guard, and contribu-*
2 *tions therefor, as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10,*
3 *United States Code, and Military Construction Authoriza-*
4 *tion Acts, \$197,237,000, to remain available until Sep-*
5 *tember 30, 2020: Provided, That, of the amount appro-*
6 *priated, not to exceed \$20,337,000 shall be available for*
7 *study, planning, design, and architect and engineer serv-*
8 *ices, as authorized by law, unless the Director of the Army*
9 *National Guard determines that additional obligations are*
10 *necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on*
11 *Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determina-*
12 *tion and the reasons therefor.*

13 *MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR NATIONAL GUARD*

14 *For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilita-*
15 *tion, and conversion of facilities for the training and ad-*
16 *ministration of the Air National Guard, and contributions*
17 *therefor, as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United*
18 *States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts,*
19 *\$138,738,000, to remain available until September 30,*
20 *2020: Provided, That, of the amount appropriated, not to*
21 *exceed \$5,104,000 shall be available for study, planning, de-*
22 *sign, and architect and engineer services, as authorized by*
23 *law, unless the Director of the Air National Guard deter-*
24 *mines that additional obligations are necessary for such*
25 *purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of*

1 *both Houses of Congress of the determination and the rea-*
2 *sons therefor.*

3 *MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY RESERVE*

4 *For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilita-*
5 *tion, and conversion of facilities for the training and ad-*
6 *ministration of the Army Reserve as authorized by chapter*
7 *1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Con-*
8 *struction Authorization Acts, \$113,595,000, to remain*
9 *available until September 30, 2020: Provided, That, of the*
10 *amount appropriated, not to exceed \$9,318,000 shall be*
11 *available for study, planning, design, and architect and en-*
12 *gineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Chief of*
13 *the Army Reserve determines that additional obligations*
14 *are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees*
15 *on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the deter-*
16 *mination and the reasons therefor.*

17 *MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY RESERVE*

18 *For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilita-*
19 *tion, and conversion of facilities for the training and ad-*
20 *ministration of the reserve components of the Navy and Ma-*
21 *rine Corps as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United*
22 *States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts,*
23 *\$36,078,000, to remain available until September 30, 2020:*
24 *Provided, That, of the amount appropriated, not to exceed*
25 *\$2,208,000 shall be available for study, planning, design,*

1 *and architect and engineer services, as authorized by law,*
2 *unless the Secretary of the Navy determines that additional*
3 *obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the*
4 *Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress*
5 *of the determination and the reasons therefor.*

6 *MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE RESERVE*

7 *For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilita-*
8 *tion, and conversion of facilities for the training and ad-*
9 *ministration of the Air Force Reserve as authorized by*
10 *chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military*
11 *Construction Authorization Acts, \$65,021,000, to remain*
12 *available until September 30, 2020: Provided, That, of the*
13 *amount appropriated, not to exceed \$13,400,000 shall be*
14 *available for study, planning, design, and architect and en-*
15 *gineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Chief of*
16 *the Air Force Reserve determines that additional obliga-*
17 *tions are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Com-*
18 *mittees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the*
19 *determination and the reasons therefor.*

20 *NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION*

21 *SECURITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM*

22 *For the United States share of the cost of the North*
23 *Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Pro-*
24 *gram for the acquisition and construction of military facili-*
25 *ties and installations (including international military*

1 headquarters) and for related expenses for the collective de-
2 fense of the North Atlantic Treaty Area as authorized by
3 section 2806 of title 10, United States Code, and Military
4 Construction Authorization Acts, \$120,000,000, to remain
5 available until expended.

6 *FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, ARMY*

7 *For expenses of family housing for the Army for con-*
8 *struction, including acquisition, replacement, addition, ex-*
9 *pansion, extension, and alteration, as authorized by law,*
10 *\$99,695,000, to remain available until September 30, 2020.*

11 *FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY*

12 *For expenses of family housing for the Army for oper-*
13 *ation and maintenance, including debt payment, leasing,*
14 *minor construction, principal and interest charges, and in-*
15 *surance premiums, as authorized by law, \$393,511,000.*

16 *FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE*

17 *CORPS*

18 *For expenses of family housing for the Navy and Ma-*
19 *rine Corps for construction, including acquisition, replace-*
20 *ment, addition, expansion, extension, and alteration, as au-*
21 *thorized by law, \$16,541,000, to remain available until*
22 *September 30, 2020.*

1 *FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY*
2 *AND MARINE CORPS*

3 *For expenses of family housing for the Navy and Ma-*
4 *rine Corps for operation and maintenance, including debt*
5 *payment, leasing, minor construction, principal and inter-*
6 *est charges, and insurance premiums, as authorized by law,*
7 *\$353,036,000.*

8 *FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE*

9 *For expenses of family housing for the Air Force for*
10 *construction, including acquisition, replacement, addition,*
11 *expansion, extension, and alteration, as authorized by law,*
12 *\$160,498,000, to remain available until September 30,*
13 *2020.*

14 *FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR*
15 *FORCE*

16 *For expenses of family housing for the Air Force for*
17 *operation and maintenance, including debt payment, leas-*
18 *ing, minor construction, principal and interest charges,*
19 *and insurance premiums, as authorized by law,*
20 *\$331,232,000.*

21 *FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE,*
22 *DEFENSE-WIDE*

23 *For expenses of family housing for the activities and*
24 *agencies of the Department of Defense (other than the mili-*

1 tary departments) for operation and maintenance, leasing,
2 and minor construction, as authorized by law, \$58,668,000.

3 *DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE ACCOUNT*

4 *For deposit into the Department of Defense Base Clo-*
5 *sure Account 1990, established by section 2906(a) of the De-*
6 *fense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (10 U.S.C.*
7 *2687 note), \$251,334,000, to remain available until ex-*
8 *pended.*

9 *ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS*

10 *SEC. 101. None of the funds made available in this*
11 *title shall be expended for payments under a cost-plus-a-*
12 *fixed-fee contract for construction, where cost estimates ex-*
13 *ceed \$25,000, to be performed within the United States, ex-*
14 *cept Alaska, without the specific approval in writing of the*
15 *Secretary of Defense setting forth the reasons therefor.*

16 *SEC. 102. Funds made available in this title for con-*
17 *struction shall be available for hire of passenger motor vehi-*
18 *cles.*

19 *SEC. 103. Funds made available in this title for con-*
20 *struction may be used for advances to the Federal Highway*
21 *Administration, Department of Transportation, for the con-*
22 *struction of access roads as authorized by section 210 of*
23 *title 23, United States Code, when projects authorized there-*
24 *in are certified as important to the national defense by the*
25 *Secretary of Defense.*

1 *SEC. 104. None of the funds made available in this*
2 *title may be used to begin construction of new bases in the*
3 *United States for which specific appropriations have not*
4 *been made.*

5 *SEC. 105. None of the funds made available in this*
6 *title shall be used for purchase of land or land easements*
7 *in excess of 100 percent of the value as determined by the*
8 *Army Corps of Engineers or the Naval Facilities Engineer-*
9 *ing Command, except: (1) where there is a determination*
10 *of value by a Federal court; (2) purchases negotiated by*
11 *the Attorney General or the designee of the Attorney Gen-*
12 *eral; (3) where the estimated value is less than \$25,000; or*
13 *(4) as otherwise determined by the Secretary of Defense to*
14 *be in the public interest.*

15 *SEC. 106. None of the funds made available in this*
16 *title shall be used to: (1) acquire land; (2) provide for site*
17 *preparation; or (3) install utilities for any family housing,*
18 *except housing for which funds have been made available*
19 *in annual Acts making appropriations for military con-*
20 *struction.*

21 *SEC. 107. None of the funds made available in this*
22 *title for minor construction may be used to transfer or relo-*
23 *cate any activity from one base or installation to another,*
24 *without prior notification to the Committees on Appropria-*
25 *tions of both Houses of Congress.*

1 *SEC. 108. None of the funds made available in this*
2 *title may be used for the procurement of steel for any con-*
3 *struction project or activity for which American steel pro-*
4 *ducers, fabricators, and manufacturers have been denied the*
5 *opportunity to compete for such steel procurement.*

6 *SEC. 109. None of the funds available to the Depart-*
7 *ment of Defense for military construction or family housing*
8 *during the current fiscal year may be used to pay real prop-*
9 *erty taxes in any foreign nation.*

10 *SEC. 110. None of the funds made available in this*
11 *title may be used to initiate a new installation overseas*
12 *without prior notification to the Committees on Appropria-*
13 *tions of both Houses of Congress.*

14 *SEC. 111. None of the funds made available in this*
15 *title may be obligated for architect and engineer contracts*
16 *estimated by the Government to exceed \$500,000 for projects*
17 *to be accomplished in Japan, in any North Atlantic Treaty*
18 *Organization member country, or in countries bordering the*
19 *Arabian Gulf, unless such contracts are awarded to United*
20 *States firms or United States firms in joint venture with*
21 *host nation firms.*

22 *SEC. 112. None of the funds made available in this*
23 *title for military construction in the United States terri-*
24 *ories and possessions in the Pacific and on Kwajalein*
25 *Atoll, or in countries bordering the Arabian Gulf, may be*

1 *used to award any contract estimated by the Government*
2 *to exceed \$1,000,000 to a foreign contractor: Provided, That*
3 *this section shall not be applicable to contract awards for*
4 *which the lowest responsive and responsible bid of a United*
5 *States contractor exceeds the lowest responsive and respon-*
6 *sible bid of a foreign contractor by greater than 20 percent:*
7 *Provided further, That this section shall not apply to con-*
8 *tract awards for military construction on Kwajalein Atoll*
9 *for which the lowest responsive and responsible bid is sub-*
10 *mitted by a Marshallese contractor.*

11 *SEC. 113. The Secretary of Defense shall inform the*
12 *appropriate committees of both Houses of Congress, includ-*
13 *ing the Committees on Appropriations, of plans and scope*
14 *of any proposed military exercise involving United States*
15 *personnel 30 days prior to its occurring, if amounts ex-*
16 *pended for construction, either temporary or permanent,*
17 *are anticipated to exceed \$100,000.*

18 *SEC. 114. Not more than 20 percent of the funds made*
19 *available in this title which are limited for obligation dur-*
20 *ing the current fiscal year shall be obligated during the last*
21 *2 months of the fiscal year.*

22 *SEC. 115. Funds appropriated to the Department of*
23 *Defense for construction in prior years shall be available*
24 *for construction authorized for each such military depart-*

1 *ment by the authorizations enacted into law during the cur-*
2 *rent session of Congress.*

3 *SEC. 116. For military construction or family housing*
4 *projects that are being completed with funds otherwise ex-*
5 *pired or lapsed for obligation, expired or lapsed funds may*
6 *be used to pay the cost of associated supervision, inspection,*
7 *overhead, engineering and design on those projects and on*
8 *subsequent claims, if any.*

9 *SEC. 117. Notwithstanding any other provision of law,*
10 *any funds made available to a military department or de-*
11 *fense agency for the construction of military projects may*
12 *be obligated for a military construction project or contract,*
13 *or for any portion of such a project or contract, at any*
14 *time before the end of the fourth fiscal year after the fiscal*
15 *year for which funds for such project were made available,*
16 *if the funds obligated for such project: (1) are obligated from*
17 *funds available for military construction projects; and (2)*
18 *do not exceed the amount appropriated for such project,*
19 *plus any amount by which the cost of such project is in-*
20 *creased pursuant to law.*

21 *(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)*

22 *SEC. 118. Subject to 30 days prior notification, or 14*
23 *days for a notification provided in an electronic medium*
24 *pursuant to sections 480 and 2883 of title 10, United States*
25 *Code, to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses*

1 of Congress, such additional amounts as may be determined
2 by the Secretary of Defense may be transferred to: (1) the
3 Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund
4 from amounts appropriated for construction in “Family
5 Housing” accounts, to be merged with and to be available
6 for the same purposes and for the same period of time as
7 amounts appropriated directly to the Fund; or (2) the De-
8 partment of Defense Military Unaccompanied Housing Im-
9 provement Fund from amounts appropriated for construc-
10 tion of military unaccompanied housing in “Military Con-
11 struction” accounts, to be merged with and to be available
12 for the same purposes and for the same period of time as
13 amounts appropriated directly to the Fund: Provided, That
14 appropriations made available to the Funds shall be avail-
15 able to cover the costs, as defined in section 502(5) of the
16 Congressional Budget Act of 1974, of direct loans or loan
17 guarantees issued by the Department of Defense pursuant
18 to the provisions of subchapter IV of chapter 169 of title
19 10, United States Code, pertaining to alternative means of
20 acquiring and improving military family housing, military
21 unaccompanied housing, and supporting facilities.

22 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

23 SEC. 119. In addition to any other transfer authority
24 available to the Department of Defense, amounts may be
25 transferred from the accounts established by sections

1 2906(a)(1) and 2906A(a)(1) of the Defense Base Closure
2 and Realignment Act of 1990 (10 U.S.C. 2687 note), to the
3 fund established by section 1013(d) of the Demonstration
4 Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966 (42
5 U.S.C. 3374) to pay for expenses associated with the Home-
6 owners Assistance Program incurred under 42 U.S.C.
7 3374(a)(1)(A). Any amounts transferred shall be merged
8 with and be available for the same purposes and for the
9 same time period as the fund to which transferred.

10 *SEC. 120. Notwithstanding any other provision of law,*
11 *funds made available in this title for operation and mainte-*
12 *nance of family housing shall be the exclusive source of*
13 *funds for repair and maintenance of all family housing*
14 *units, including general or flag officer quarters: Provided,*
15 *That not more than \$35,000 per unit may be spent annu-*
16 *ally for the maintenance and repair of any general or flag*
17 *officer quarters without 30 days prior notification, or 14*
18 *days for a notification provided in an electronic medium*
19 *pursuant to sections 480 and 2883 of title 10, United States*
20 *Code, to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses*
21 *of Congress, except that an after-the-fact notification shall*
22 *be submitted if the limitation is exceeded solely due to costs*
23 *associated with environmental remediation that could not*
24 *be reasonably anticipated at the time of the budget submis-*
25 *sion: Provided further, That the Under Secretary of Defense*

1 *(Comptroller) is to report annually to the Committees on*
2 *Appropriations of both Houses of Congress all operation*
3 *and maintenance expenditures for each individual general*
4 *or flag officer quarters for the prior fiscal year.*

5 *SEC. 121. Amounts contained in the Ford Island Im-*
6 *provement Account established by subsection (h) of section*
7 *2814 of title 10, United States Code, are appropriated and*
8 *shall be available until expended for the purposes specified*
9 *in subsection (i)(1) of such section or until transferred pur-*
10 *suant to subsection (i)(3) of such section.*

11 *(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)*

12 *SEC. 122. During the 5-year period after appropri-*
13 *ations available in this Act to the Department of Defense*
14 *for military construction and family housing operation and*
15 *maintenance and construction have expired for obligation,*
16 *upon a determination that such appropriations will not be*
17 *necessary for the liquidation of obligations or for making*
18 *authorized adjustments to such appropriations for obliga-*
19 *tions incurred during the period of availability of such ap-*
20 *propriations, unobligated balances of such appropriations*
21 *may be transferred into the appropriation "Foreign Cur-*
22 *rency Fluctuations, Construction, Defense", to be merged*
23 *with and to be available for the same time period and for*
24 *the same purposes as the appropriation to which trans-*
25 *ferred.*

1 *SEC. 123. Amounts appropriated or otherwise made*
2 *available in an account funded under the headings in this*
3 *title may be transferred among projects and activities with-*
4 *in the account in accordance with the reprogramming*
5 *guidelines for military construction and family housing*
6 *construction contained in Department of Defense Financial*
7 *Management Regulation 7000.14–R, Volume 3, Chapter 7,*
8 *of February 2009, as in effect on the date of enactment of*
9 *this Act.*

10 *SEC. 124. None of the funds made available in this*
11 *title may be obligated or expended for planning and design*
12 *and construction of projects at Arlington National Ceme-*
13 *tery.*

14 *SEC. 125. For an additional amount for “Military*
15 *Construction, Army”, \$34,500,000, to remain available*
16 *until September 30, 2020: Provided, That such funds may*
17 *only be obligated to carry out construction projects, in pri-*
18 *ority order, identified in the Department of the Army’s Un-*
19 *funded Priority List for Fiscal Year 2016 submitted to Con-*
20 *gress: Provided further, That such funding is subject to au-*
21 *thorization prior to obligation and expenditure of funds to*
22 *carry out construction: Provided further, That, not later*
23 *than 30 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of*
24 *the Army shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations*

1 *of both Houses of Congress an expenditure plan for funds*
2 *provided under this section.*

3 *SEC. 126. For an additional amount for “Military*
4 *Construction, Navy and Marine Corps”, \$34,320,000, to re-*
5 *main available until September 30, 2020: Provided, That*
6 *such funds may only be obligated to carry out construction*
7 *projects, in priority order, identified in the Department of*
8 *the Navy’s Unfunded Priority List for fiscal year 2016:*
9 *Provided further, That such funding is subject to authoriza-*
10 *tion prior to obligation and expenditure of funds to carry*
11 *out construction: Provided further, That, not later than 30*
12 *days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Navy*
13 *shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both*
14 *Houses of Congress an expenditure plan for funds provided*
15 *under this section.*

16 *SEC. 127. For an additional amount for “Military*
17 *Construction, Army National Guard”, \$51,300,000, to re-*
18 *main available until September 30, 2020: Provided, That*
19 *such funds may only be obligated to carry out construction*
20 *projects, in priority order, identified in the Department of*
21 *the Army’s Unfunded Priority List for Fiscal Year 2016*
22 *submitted to Congress: Provided further, That such funding*
23 *is subject to authorization prior to obligation and expendi-*
24 *ture of funds to carry out construction: Provided further,*
25 *That, not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act,*

1 *rescinded from the following accounts and programs in the*
2 *specified amounts:*

3 *“Military Construction, Army”, \$45,000,000;*

4 *“Military Construction, Air Force”, \$46,400,000; and*

5 *“Military Construction, Defense-Wide”, \$80,500,000.*

6 *(RESCISSION OF FUNDS)*

7 *SEC. 130. Of the unobligated balances made available*
8 *in prior appropriations Acts for the fund established in sec-*
9 *tion 1013(d) of the Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan*
10 *Development Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 3374), \$65,000,000 are*
11 *hereby rescinded.*

12 *SEC. 131. Notwithstanding any other provision of law,*
13 *none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available*
14 *by this or any other Act may be used to consolidate or relo-*
15 *cate any element of a United States Air Force Rapid Engi-*
16 *neer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron En-*
17 *gineer (RED HORSE) outside of the United States until*
18 *the Secretary of the Air Force (1) completes an analysis*
19 *and comparison of the cost and infrastructure investment*
20 *required to consolidate or relocate a RED HORSE squad-*
21 *ron outside of the United States versus within the United*
22 *States; (2) provides to the Committees on Appropriations*
23 *of both Houses of Congress (“the Committees”) a report de-*
24 *tailing the findings of the cost analysis; and (3) certifies*
25 *in writing to the Committees that the preferred site for the*

1 consolidation or relocation yields the greatest savings for
2 the Air Force: Provided, That the term “United States” in
3 this section does not include any territory or possession of
4 the United States.

5 *SEC. 132. For an additional amount for “Military*
6 *Construction, Air Force”, \$21,000,000, to remain available*
7 *until September 30, 2020: Provided, That such funds may*
8 *only be obligated to carry out construction projects, in pri-*
9 *ority order, identified in the Department of the Air Force’s*
10 *Unfunded Priority List for Fiscal Year 2016 submitted to*
11 *Congress: Provided further, That such funding is subject to*
12 *authorization prior to obligation and expenditure of funds*
13 *to carry out construction: Provided further, That not later*
14 *than 30 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of*
15 *the Air Force shall submit to the Committees on Appropria-*
16 *tions of both Houses of Congress an expenditure plan for*
17 *funds provided under this section.*

18 *SEC. 133. For an additional amount for “Military*
19 *Construction, Air National Guard”, \$6,100,000, to remain*
20 *available until September 30, 2020: Provided, That such*
21 *funds may only be obligated to carry out construction*
22 *projects, in priority order, identified in the Department of*
23 *the Air Force’s Unfunded Priority List for Fiscal Year 2016*
24 *submitted to Congress: Provided further, That such funding*
25 *is subject to authorization prior to obligation and expendi-*

1 tions as authorized by section 107 and chapters 11, 13, 18,
2 51, 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United States Code; pension
3 benefits to or on behalf of veterans as authorized by chapters
4 15, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United States Code; and
5 burial benefits, the Reinstated Entitlement Program for
6 Survivors, emergency and other officers' retirement pay, ad-
7 justed-service credits and certificates, payment of premiums
8 due on commercial life insurance policies guaranteed under
9 the provisions of title IV of the Servicemembers Civil Relief
10 Act (50 U.S.C. App. 541 et seq.) and for other benefits as
11 authorized by sections 107, 1312, 1977, and 2106, and
12 chapters 23, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United States
13 Code, \$166,271,436,000, to remain available until ex-
14 pended, of which \$87,146,761,000 shall become available on
15 October 1, 2016: Provided, That not to exceed \$15,562,000
16 of the amount appropriated for fiscal year 2016 and
17 \$16,021,000 of the amount made available for fiscal year
18 2017 under this heading shall be reimbursed to "General
19 Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration",
20 and "Information Technology Systems" for necessary ex-
21 penses in implementing the provisions of chapters 51, 53,
22 and 55 of title 38, United States Code, the funding source
23 for which is specifically provided as the "Compensation and
24 Pensions" appropriation: Provided further, That such sums
25 as may be earned on an actual qualifying patient basis,

1 *shall be reimbursed to “Medical Care Collections Fund” to*
2 *augment the funding of individual medical facilities for*
3 *nursing home care provided to pensioners as authorized.*

4 *READJUSTMENT BENEFITS*

5 *For the payment of readjustment and rehabilitation*
6 *benefits to or on behalf of veterans as authorized by chapters*
7 *21, 30, 31, 33, 34, 35, 36, 39, 41, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of*
8 *title 38, United States Code, \$32,088,826,000, to remain*
9 *available until expended, of which \$16,743,904,000 shall be-*
10 *come available on October 1, 2016: Provided, That expenses*
11 *for rehabilitation program services and assistance which the*
12 *Secretary is authorized to provide under subsection (a) of*
13 *section 3104 of title 38, United States Code, other than*
14 *under paragraphs (1), (2), (5), and (11) of that subsection,*
15 *shall be charged to this account.*

16 *VETERANS INSURANCE AND INDEMNITIES*

17 *For military and naval insurance, national service life*
18 *insurance, servicemen’s indemnities, service-disabled vet-*
19 *erans insurance, and veterans mortgage life insurance as*
20 *authorized by chapters 19 and 21, title 38, United States*
21 *Code, \$169,080,000, to remain available until expended, of*
22 *which \$91,920,000 shall become available on October 1,*
23 *2016.*

1 *VETERANS HOUSING BENEFIT PROGRAM FUND*

2 *For the cost of direct and guaranteed loans, such sums*
3 *as may be necessary to carry out the program, as authorized*
4 *by subchapters I through III of chapter 37 of title 38,*
5 *United States Code: Provided, That such costs, including*
6 *the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in sec-*
7 *tion 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: Provided*
8 *further, That, during fiscal year 2016, within the resources*
9 *available, not to exceed \$500,000 in gross obligations for*
10 *direct loans are authorized for specially adapted housing*
11 *loans.*

12 *In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out*
13 *the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$164,558,000.*

14 *VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT*

15 *For the cost of direct loans, \$31,000, as authorized by*
16 *chapter 31 of title 38, United States Code: Provided, That*
17 *such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall*
18 *be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget*
19 *Act of 1974: Provided further, That funds made available*
20 *under this heading are available to subsidize gross obliga-*
21 *tions for the principal amount of direct loans not to exceed*
22 *\$2,952,381.*

23 *In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to*
24 *carry out the direct loan program, \$367,000, which may*

1 *be paid to the appropriation for “General Operating Ex-*
2 *penses, Veterans Benefits Administration”.*

3 *NATIVE AMERICAN VETERAN HOUSING LOAN PROGRAM*

4 *ACCOUNT*

5 *For administrative expenses to carry out the direct*
6 *loan program authorized by subchapter V of chapter 37 of*
7 *title 38, United States Code, \$1,134,000.*

8 *VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION*

9 *MEDICAL SERVICES*

10 *For necessary expenses for furnishing, as authorized*
11 *by law, inpatient and outpatient care and treatment to*
12 *beneficiaries of the Department of Veterans Affairs and vet-*
13 *erans described in section 1705(a) of title 38, United States*
14 *Code, including care and treatment in facilities not under*
15 *the jurisdiction of the Department, and including medical*
16 *supplies and equipment, bioengineering services, food serv-*
17 *ices, and salaries and expenses of healthcare employees*
18 *hired under title 38, United States Code, aid to State homes*
19 *as authorized by section 1741 of title 38, United States*
20 *Code, assistance and support services for caregivers as au-*
21 *thorized by section 1720G of title 38, United States Code,*
22 *loan repayments authorized by section 604 of the Caregivers*
23 *and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010 (Public*
24 *Law 111–163; 124 Stat. 1174; 38 U.S.C. 7681 note), and*
25 *hospital care and medical services authorized by section*

1 1787 of title 38, United States Code; \$3,104,197,000, which
2 shall be in addition to funds previously appropriated under
3 this heading that become available on October 1, 2015; and,
4 in addition, \$51,673,000,000, plus reimbursements, shall
5 become available on October 1, 2016, and shall remain
6 available until September 30, 2017: Provided, That, of the
7 amount made available on October 1, 2016, under this
8 heading, \$1,400,000,000 shall remain available until Sep-
9 tember 30, 2018: Provided further, That, notwithstanding
10 any other provision of law, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
11 shall establish a priority for the provision of medical treat-
12 ment for veterans who have service-connected disabilities,
13 lower income, or have special needs: Provided further, That,
14 notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary
15 of Veterans Affairs shall give priority funding for the provi-
16 sion of basic medical benefits to veterans in enrollment pri-
17 ority groups 1 through 6: Provided further, That, notwith-
18 standing any other provision of law, the Secretary of Vet-
19 erans Affairs may authorize the dispensing of prescription
20 drugs from Veterans Health Administration facilities to en-
21 rolled veterans with privately written prescriptions based
22 on requirements established by the Secretary: Provided fur-
23 ther, That the implementation of the program described in
24 the previous proviso shall incur no additional cost to the
25 Department of Veterans Affairs: Provided further, That, of

1 *the amount made available on October 1, 2016, under this*
2 *heading, not less than \$900,000,000 shall be available for*
3 *highly effective Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) clinical treat-*
4 *ments including clinical treatments with modern medica-*
5 *tions that have significantly higher cure rates than older*
6 *medications, are easier to prescribe, and have fewer and*
7 *milder side effects: Provided further, That the Secretary of*
8 *Veterans Affairs shall ensure that amounts appropriated to*
9 *the Department of Veterans Affairs for medical supplies and*
10 *equipment are allocated to ensure the provision of gender*
11 *appropriate prosthetics.*

12 *MEDICAL SUPPORT AND COMPLIANCE*

13 *For necessary expenses in the administration of the*
14 *medical, hospital, nursing home, domiciliary, construction,*
15 *supply, and research activities, as authorized by law; ad-*
16 *ministrative expenses in support of capital policy activities;*
17 *and administrative and legal expenses of the Department*
18 *for collecting and recovering amounts owed the Department*
19 *as authorized under chapter 17 of title 38, United States*
20 *Code, and the Federal Medical Care Recovery Act (42*
21 *U.S.C. 2651 et seq.), \$6,524,000,000, plus reimbursements,*
22 *shall become available on October 1, 2016, and shall remain*
23 *available until September 30, 2017: Provided, That, of the*
24 *amount made available on October 1, 2016, under this*

1 heading, \$100,000,000 shall remain available until Sep-
2 tember 30, 2018.

3 *MEDICAL FACILITIES*

4 *For necessary expenses for the maintenance and oper-*
5 *ation of hospitals, nursing homes, domiciliary facilities,*
6 *and other necessary facilities of the Veterans Health Admin-*
7 *istration; for administrative expenses in support of plan-*
8 *ning, design, project management, real property acquisition*
9 *and disposition, construction, and renovation of any facil-*
10 *ity under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department;*
11 *for oversight, engineering, and architectural activities not*
12 *charged to project costs; for repairing, altering, improving,*
13 *or providing facilities in the several hospitals and homes*
14 *under the jurisdiction of the Department, not otherwise pro-*
15 *vided for, either by contract or by the hire of temporary*
16 *employees and purchase of materials; for leases of facilities;*
17 *and for laundry services, \$5,074,000,000, plus reimburse-*
18 *ments, shall become available on October 1, 2016, and shall*
19 *remain available until September 30, 2017: Provided, That,*
20 *of the amount made available on October 1, 2016, under*
21 *this heading, \$250,000,000 shall remain available until*
22 *September 30, 2018.*

23 *MEDICAL AND PROSTHETIC RESEARCH*

24 *For necessary expenses in carrying out programs of*
25 *medical and prosthetic research and development as author-*

1 ized by chapter 73 of title 38, United States Code,
2 \$621,813,000, plus reimbursements, shall remain available
3 until September 30, 2017: Provided, That such sums are
4 allocated to ensure the provision of gender appropriate
5 prosthetics and to conduct research related to toxic expo-
6 sure.

7 NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION

8 For necessary expenses of the National Cemetery Ad-
9 ministration for operations and maintenance, not otherwise
10 provided for, including uniforms or allowances therefor;
11 cemeterial expenses as authorized by law; purchase of one
12 passenger motor vehicle for use in cemeterial operations;
13 hire of passenger motor vehicles; and repair, alteration or
14 improvement of facilities under the jurisdiction of the Na-
15 tional Cemetery Administration, \$266,220,000, of which
16 not to exceed \$26,600,000 shall remain available until Sep-
17 tember 30, 2017.

18 DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

19 GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

20 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

21 For necessary operating expenses of the Department of
22 Veterans Affairs, not otherwise provided for, including ad-
23 ministrative expenses in support of Department-Wide cap-
24 ital planning, management and policy activities, uniforms,
25 or allowances therefor; not to exceed \$25,000 for official re-

1 *ception and representation expenses; hire of passenger*
2 *motor vehicles; and reimbursement of the General Services*
3 *Administration for security guard services, \$311,591,000,*
4 *of which not to exceed \$10,000,000 shall remain available*
5 *until September 30, 2017: Provided, That funds provided*
6 *under this heading may be transferred to “General Oper-*
7 *ating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration”.*

8 *BOARD OF VETERANS APPEALS*

9 *For necessary operating expenses of the Board of Vet-*
10 *erans Appeals, \$107,884,000, of which not to exceed*
11 *\$10,788,000 shall remain available until September 30,*
12 *2017.*

13 *GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES, VETERANS BENEFITS*

14 *ADMINISTRATION*

15 *For necessary operating expenses of the Veterans Bene-*
16 *fits Administration, not otherwise provided for, including*
17 *hire of passenger motor vehicles, reimbursement of the Gen-*
18 *eral Services Administration for security guard services,*
19 *and reimbursement of the Department of Defense for the*
20 *cost of overseas employee mail, \$2,697,734,000: Provided,*
21 *That expenses for services and assistance authorized under*
22 *paragraphs (1), (2), (5), and (11) of section 3104(a) of title*
23 *38, United States Code, that the Secretary of Veterans Af-*
24 *fairs determines are necessary to enable entitled veterans:*
25 *(1) to the maximum extent feasible, to become employable*

1 *and to obtain and maintain suitable employment; or (2)*
2 *to achieve maximum independence in daily living, shall be*
3 *charged to this account: Provided further, That, of the funds*
4 *made available under this heading, not to exceed*
5 *\$160,000,000 shall remain available until September 30,*
6 *2017.*

7 *INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS*

8 *For necessary expenses for information technology sys-*
9 *tems and telecommunications support, including develop-*
10 *mental information systems and operational information*
11 *systems; for pay and associated costs; and for the capital*
12 *asset acquisition of information technology systems, includ-*
13 *ing management and related contractual costs of said ac-*
14 *quisitions, including contractual costs associated with oper-*
15 *ations authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States*
16 *Code, \$4,106,363,000, plus reimbursements: Provided, That*
17 *\$1,115,757,000 shall be for pay and associated costs, of*
18 *which not to exceed \$34,800,000 shall remain available*
19 *until September 30, 2017: Provided further, That*
20 *\$2,512,863,000 shall be for operations and maintenance, of*
21 *which not to exceed \$175,000,000 shall remain available*
22 *until September 30, 2017: Provided further, That*
23 *\$477,743,000 shall be for information technology systems*
24 *development, modernization, and enhancement, and shall*
25 *remain available until September 30, 2017: Provided fur-*

1 *ther, That amounts made available for information tech-*
2 *nology systems development, modernization, and enhance-*
3 *ment may not be obligated or expended until the Secretary*
4 *of Veterans Affairs or the Chief Information Officer of the*
5 *Department of Veterans Affairs submits to the Committees*
6 *on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a certifi-*
7 *cation of the amounts, in parts or in full, to be obligated*
8 *and expended for each development project: Provided fur-*
9 *ther, That amounts made available for salaries and ex-*
10 *penses, operations and maintenance, and information tech-*
11 *nology systems development, modernization, and enhance-*
12 *ment may be transferred among the three subaccounts after*
13 *the Secretary of Veterans Affairs requests from the Commit-*
14 *tees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress the au-*
15 *thority to make the transfer and an approval is issued: Pro-*
16 *vided further, That amounts made available for the “Infor-*
17 *mation Technology Systems” account for development, mod-*
18 *ernization, and enhancement may be transferred among*
19 *projects or to newly defined projects: Provided further, That*
20 *no project may be increased or decreased by more than*
21 *\$1,000,000 of cost prior to submitting a request to the Com-*
22 *mittees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress to*
23 *make the transfer and an approval is issued, or absent a*
24 *response, a period of 30 days has elapsed: Provided further,*
25 *That funds under this heading may be used by the Inter-*

1 agency Program Office through the Department of Veterans
2 Affairs to develop a standard data reference terminology
3 model: Provided further, That, of the funds made available
4 for information technology systems development, mod-
5 ernization, and enhancement for VistA Evolution, not more
6 than 25 percent may be obligated or expended until the Sec-
7 retary of Veterans Affairs submits to the Committees on Ap-
8 propriations of both Houses of Congress, and such Commit-
9 tees approve, a report that describes: (1) the status of and
10 changes to the VistA Evolution program plan dated March
11 24, 2014 (hereinafter referred to as the “Plan”), the VistA
12 4 product roadmap dated February 26, 2015 (“Roadmap”),
13 and the VistA 4 Incremental Life Cycle Cost Estimate,
14 dated October 26, 2014; (2) any changes to the scope or
15 functionality of projects within the VistA Evolution pro-
16 gram as established in the Plan; (3) actual program costs
17 incurred to date; (4) progress in meeting the schedule mile-
18 stones that have been established in the Plan; (5) a Project
19 Management Accountability System (PMAS) Dashboard
20 Progress report that identifies each VistA Evolution project
21 being tracked through PMAS, what functionality it is in-
22 tended to provide, and what evaluation scores it has re-
23 ceived throughout development; (6) the definition being used
24 for interoperability between the electronic health record sys-
25 tems of the Department of Defense and the Department of

1 *Veterans Affairs, the metrics to measure the extent of inter-*
2 *operability, the milestones and timeline associated with*
3 *achieving interoperability, and the baseline measurements*
4 *associated with interoperability; (7) progress toward devel-*
5 *oping and implementing all components and levels of inter-*
6 *operability, including semantic interoperability; (8) the*
7 *change management tools in place to facilitate the imple-*
8 *mentation of VistA Evolution and interoperability; and (9)*
9 *any changes to the governance structure for the VistA Evo-*
10 *lution program and its chain of decisionmaking authority:*
11 *Provided further, That the funds made available under this*
12 *heading for information technology systems development,*
13 *modernization, and enhancement, shall be for the projects,*
14 *and in the amounts, specified under this heading in the*
15 *report accompanying this Act.*

16 *OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL*

17 *For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector Gen-*
18 *eral, to include information technology, in carrying out the*
19 *provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C.*
20 *App.), \$126,766,000, of which \$12,676,000 shall remain*
21 *available until September 30, 2017.*

22 *CONSTRUCTION, MAJOR PROJECTS*

23 *For constructing, altering, extending, and improving*
24 *any of the facilities, including parking projects, under the*
25 *jurisdiction or for the use of the Department of Veterans*

1 *Affairs, or for any of the purposes set forth in sections 316,*
2 *2404, 2406 and chapter 81 of title 38, United States Code,*
3 *not otherwise provided for, including planning, architec-*
4 *tural and engineering services, construction management*
5 *services, maintenance or guarantee period services costs as-*
6 *sociated with equipment guarantees provided under the*
7 *project, services of claims analysts, offsite utility and storm*
8 *drainage system construction costs, and site acquisition,*
9 *where the estimated cost of a project is more than the*
10 *amount set forth in section 8104(a)(3)(A) of title 38, United*
11 *States Code, or where funds for a project were made avail-*
12 *able in a previous major project appropriation,*
13 *\$1,027,064,000, of which \$967,064,000 shall remain avail-*
14 *able until September 30, 2020, and of which \$60,000,000*
15 *shall remain available until expended: Provided, That ex-*
16 *cept for advance planning activities, including needs assess-*
17 *ments which may or may not lead to capital investments,*
18 *and other capital asset management related activities, in-*
19 *cluding portfolio development and management activities,*
20 *and investment strategy studies funded through the advance*
21 *planning fund and the planning and design activities fund-*
22 *ed through the design fund, including needs assessments*
23 *which may or may not lead to capital investments, and*
24 *salaries and associated costs of the resident engineers who*
25 *oversee those capital investments funded through this ac-*

1 *count, and funds provided for the purchase of land for the*
2 *National Cemetery Administration through the land acqui-*
3 *sition line item, none of the funds made available under*
4 *this heading shall be used for any project which has not*
5 *been approved by the Congress in the budgetary process:*
6 *Provided further, That funds made available under this*
7 *heading for fiscal year 2016, for each approved project shall*
8 *be obligated: (1) by the awarding of a construction docu-*
9 *ments contract by September 30, 2016; and (2) by the*
10 *awarding of a construction contract by September 30, 2017:*
11 *Provided further, That the Secretary of Veterans Affairs*
12 *shall promptly submit to the Committees on Appropriations*
13 *of both Houses of Congress a written report on any ap-*
14 *proved major construction project for which obligations are*
15 *not incurred within the time limitations established above:*
16 *Provided further, That, of the amount made available on*
17 *October 1, 2016, under this heading, \$490,700,000 for Vet-*
18 *erans Health Administration major construction projects*
19 *shall not be available until the Secretary of Veterans Af-*
20 *fairs:*

21 (1) *Enters into an agreement with the U.S.*
22 *Army Corps of Engineers, to serve as the design and*
23 *construction agent for Veterans Health Administra-*
24 *tion projects with a Total Estimated Cost of*
25 *\$250,000,000 or above.*

1 (2) *That such an agreement will designate the*
2 *U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as the design and con-*
3 *struction agent to serve as—*

4 (A) *the overall construction project man-*
5 *ager, with a dedicated project delivery team in-*
6 *cluding engineers, medical facility designers, and*
7 *professional project managers;*

8 (B) *the facility design manager, with a*
9 *dedicated design manager and technical support;*

10 (C) *the design agent, with standardized and*
11 *rigorous facility designs;*

12 (D) *the architect/engineer designer; and*

13 (E) *the overall construction agent, with a*
14 *dedicated construction and technical team dur-*
15 *ing pre-construction, construction, and commis-*
16 *sioning phases.*

17 (3) *Certifies in writing that such an agreement*
18 *is in effect and will prevent subsequent major con-*
19 *struction project cost overruns, provides a copy of the*
20 *agreement entered into (and any required supple-*
21 *mentary information) to the Committees on Appro-*
22 *propriations of both Houses of Congress, and a period of*
23 *60 days has elapsed.*

1 *measures necessary to prevent or to minimize further loss*
2 *by such causes.*

3 *GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF STATE EXTENDED CARE*
4 *FACILITIES*

5 *For grants to assist States to acquire or construct*
6 *State nursing home and domiciliary facilities and to re-*
7 *model, modify, or alter existing hospital, nursing home, and*
8 *domiciliary facilities in State homes, for furnishing care*
9 *to veterans as authorized by sections 8131 through 8137 of*
10 *title 38, United States Code, \$100,000,000, to remain avail-*
11 *able until expended.*

12 *GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF VETERANS CEMETERIES*

13 *For grants to assist States and tribal organizations*
14 *in establishing, expanding, or improving veterans ceme-*
15 *teries as authorized by section 2408 of title 38, United*
16 *States Code, \$46,000,000, to remain available until ex-*
17 *pended.*

18 *ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS*

19 *(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)*

20 *SEC. 201. Any appropriation for fiscal year 2016 for*
21 *“Compensation and Pensions”, “Readjustment Benefits”,*
22 *and “Veterans Insurance and Indemnities” may be trans-*
23 *ferred as necessary to any other of the mentioned appro-*
24 *priations: Provided, That, before a transfer may take place,*
25 *the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall request from the*

1 *Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress*
2 *the authority to make the transfer and such Committees*
3 *issue an approval, or absent a response, a period of 30 days*
4 *has elapsed.*

5 *(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)*

6 *SEC. 202. Amounts made available for the Department*
7 *of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2016, in this Act or any*
8 *other Act, under the “Medical Services”, “Medical support*
9 *and compliance”, and “Medical Facilities” accounts may*
10 *be transferred among the accounts: Provided, That any*
11 *transfers between the “Medical Services” and “Medical*
12 *Support and Compliance” accounts of 1 percent or less of*
13 *the total amount appropriated to the account in this or any*
14 *other Act may take place subject to notification from the*
15 *Secretary of Veterans Affairs to the Committees on Appro-*
16 *priations of both Houses of Congress of the amount and*
17 *purpose of the transfer: Provided further, That any trans-*
18 *fers between the “Medical Services” and “Medical Support*
19 *and Compliance” accounts in excess of 1 percent, or exceed-*
20 *ing the cumulative 1 percent for the fiscal year, may take*
21 *place only after the Secretary requests from the Committees*
22 *on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress the authority*
23 *to make the transfer and an approval is issued: Provided*
24 *further, That any transfers to or from the “Medical Facili-*
25 *ties” account may take place only after the Secretary re-*

1 *quests from the Committees on Appropriations of both*
2 *Houses of Congress the authority to make the transfer and*
3 *an approval is issued.*

4 *SEC. 203. Appropriations available in this title for sal-*
5 *aries and expenses shall be available for services authorized*
6 *by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code; hire of pas-*
7 *senger motor vehicles; lease of a facility or land or both;*
8 *and uniforms or allowances therefore, as authorized by sec-*
9 *tions 5901 through 5902 of title 5, United States Code.*

10 *SEC. 204. No appropriations in this title (except the*
11 *appropriations for “Construction, Major Projects”, and*
12 *“Construction, Minor Projects”) shall be available for the*
13 *purchase of any site for or toward the construction of any*
14 *new hospital or home.*

15 *SEC. 205. No appropriations in this title shall be*
16 *available for hospitalization or examination of any persons*
17 *(except beneficiaries entitled to such hospitalization or ex-*
18 *amination under the laws providing such benefits to vet-*
19 *erans, and persons receiving such treatment under sections*
20 *7901 through 7904 of title 5, United States Code, or the*
21 *Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assist-*
22 *ance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.)), unless reimbursement*
23 *of the cost of such hospitalization or examination is made*
24 *to the “Medical Services” account at such rates as may be*
25 *fixed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.*

1 *SEC. 206. Appropriations available in this title for*
2 *“Compensation and pensions”, “Readjustment benefits”,*
3 *and “Veterans insurance and indemnities” shall be avail-*
4 *able for payment of prior year accrued obligations required*
5 *to be recorded by law against the corresponding prior year*
6 *accounts within the last quarter of fiscal year 2015.*

7 *SEC. 207. Appropriations available in this title shall*
8 *be available to pay prior year obligations of corresponding*
9 *prior year appropriations accounts resulting from sections*
10 *3328(a), 3334, and 3712(a) of title 31, United States Code,*
11 *except that if such obligations are from trust fund accounts*
12 *they shall be payable only from “Compensation and Pen-*
13 *sions”.*

14 *(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)*

15 *SEC. 208. Notwithstanding any other provision of law,*
16 *during fiscal year 2016, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs*
17 *shall, from the National Service Life Insurance Fund under*
18 *section 1920 of title 38, United States Code, the Veterans’*
19 *Special Life Insurance Fund under section 1923 of title 38,*
20 *United States Code, and the United States Government Life*
21 *Insurance Fund under section 1955 of title 38, United*
22 *States Code, reimburse the “General operating expenses,*
23 *Veterans Benefits Administration” and “Information Tech-*
24 *nology Systems” accounts for the cost of administration of*
25 *the insurance programs financed through those accounts:*

1 *Provided, That reimbursement shall be made only from the*
2 *surplus earnings accumulated in such an insurance pro-*
3 *gram during fiscal year 2016 that are available for divi-*
4 *dends in that program after claims have been paid and ac-*
5 *tuarily determined reserves have been set aside: Provided*
6 *further, That, if the cost of administration of such an insur-*
7 *ance program exceeds the amount of surplus earnings accu-*
8 *mulated in that program, reimbursement shall be made*
9 *only to the extent of such surplus earnings: Provided fur-*
10 *ther, That the Secretary shall determine the cost of adminis-*
11 *tration for fiscal year 2016 which is properly allocable to*
12 *the provision of each such insurance program and to the*
13 *provision of any total disability income insurance included*
14 *in that insurance program.*

15 *SEC. 209. Amounts deducted from enhanced-use lease*
16 *proceeds to reimburse an account for expenses incurred by*
17 *that account during a prior fiscal year for providing en-*
18 *hanced-use lease services, may be obligated during the fiscal*
19 *year in which the proceeds are received.*

20 *(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)*

21 *SEC. 210. Funds available in this title or funds for*
22 *salaries and other administrative expenses shall also be*
23 *available to reimburse the Office of Resolution Management*
24 *of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Office of Em-*
25 *ployment Discrimination Complaint Adjudication under*

1 *section 319 of title 38, United States Code, for all services*
2 *provided at rates which will recover actual costs but not*
3 *to exceed \$43,700,000 for the Office of Resolution Manage-*
4 *ment and \$3,400,000 for the Office of Employment Dis-*
5 *crimination Complaint Adjudication: Provided, That pay-*
6 *ments may be made in advance for services to be furnished*
7 *based on estimated costs: Provided further, That amounts*
8 *received shall be credited to the “General Administration”*
9 *and “Information Technology Systems” accounts for use by*
10 *the office that provided the service.*

11 *(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)*

12 *SEC. 211. Of the amounts made available to the De-*
13 *partment of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2016 for the*
14 *Office of Rural Health under the heading “Medical Serv-*
15 *ices”, including any advance appropriation for fiscal year*
16 *2016 provided in prior appropriation Acts, up to*
17 *\$20,000,000 may be transferred to and merged with funds*
18 *appropriated under the heading “Grants for Construction*
19 *of State Extended Care Facilities”.*

20 *SEC. 212. No funds of the Department of Veterans Af-*
21 *fairs shall be available for hospital care, nursing home care,*
22 *or medical services provided to any person under chapter*
23 *17 of title 38, United States Code, for a non-service-con-*
24 *nected disability described in section 1729(a)(2) of such*
25 *title, unless that person has disclosed to the Secretary of*

1 *Veterans Affairs, in such form as the Secretary may require,*
2 *current, accurate third-party reimbursement information*
3 *for purposes of section 1729 of such title: Provided, That*
4 *the Secretary may recover, in the same manner as any other*
5 *debt due the United States, the reasonable charges for such*
6 *care or services from any person who does not make such*
7 *disclosure as required: Provided further, That any amounts*
8 *so recovered for care or services provided in a prior fiscal*
9 *year may be obligated by the Secretary during the fiscal*
10 *year in which amounts are received.*

11 *(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)*

12 *SEC. 213. Notwithstanding any other provision of law,*
13 *proceeds or revenues derived from enhanced-use leasing ac-*
14 *tivities (including disposal) may be deposited into the*
15 *“Construction, Major Projects” and “Construction, Minor*
16 *Projects” accounts and be used for construction (including*
17 *site acquisition and disposition), alterations, and improve-*
18 *ments of any medical facility under the jurisdiction or for*
19 *the use of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Such sums*
20 *as realized are in addition to the amount provided for in*
21 *“Construction, Major Projects” and “Construction, Minor*
22 *Projects”.*

23 *SEC. 214. Amounts made available under “Medical*
24 *Services” are available—*

1 (1) *for furnishing recreational facilities, sup-*
2 *plies, and equipment; and*

3 (2) *for funeral expenses, burial expenses, and*
4 *other expenses incidental to funerals and burials for*
5 *beneficiaries receiving care in the Department.*

6 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

7 *SEC. 215. Such sums as may be deposited to the Med-*
8 *ical Care Collections Fund pursuant to section 1729A of*
9 *title 38, United States Code, may be transferred to “Medical*
10 *Services”, to remain available until expended for the pur-*
11 *poses of that account: Provided, That, for fiscal year 2016,*
12 *up to \$27,000,000 deposited in the Department of Veterans*
13 *Affairs Medical Care Collections Fund shall be transferred*
14 *to “Information Technology Systems”, to remain available*
15 *until expended, for development of the Medical Care Collec-*
16 *tions Fund electronic data exchange provider and payer*
17 *system.*

18 *SEC. 216. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may enter*
19 *into agreements with Indian tribes and tribal organizations*
20 *which are party to the Alaska Native Health Compact with*
21 *the Indian Health Service, and Indian tribes and tribal*
22 *organizations serving rural Alaska which have entered into*
23 *contracts with the Indian Health Service under the Indian*
24 *Self Determination and Educational Assistance Act, to pro-*
25 *vide healthcare, including behavioral health and dental*

1 *care. The Secretary shall require participating veterans and*
2 *facilities to comply with all appropriate rules and regula-*
3 *tions, as established by the Secretary. The term “rural Alas-*
4 *ka” shall mean those lands sited within the external bound-*
5 *aries of the Alaska Native regions specified in sections*
6 *7(a)(1)–(4) and (7)–(12) of the Alaska Native Claims Set-*
7 *tlement Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1606), and those lands*
8 *within the Alaska Native regions specified in sections*
9 *7(a)(5) and 7(a)(6) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement*
10 *Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1606), which are not within*
11 *the boundaries of the municipality of Anchorage, the Fair-*
12 *banks North Star Borough, the Kenai Peninsula Borough*
13 *or the Matanuska Susitna Borough.*

14 *(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)*

15 *SEC. 217. Such sums as may be deposited to the De-*
16 *partment of Veterans Affairs Capital Asset Fund pursuant*
17 *to section 8118 of title 38, United States Code, may be*
18 *transferred to the “Construction, Major Projects” and “Con-*
19 *struction, Minor Projects” accounts, to remain available*
20 *until expended for the purposes of these accounts.*

21 *SEC. 218. None of the funds made available in this*
22 *title may be used to implement any policy prohibiting the*
23 *Directors of the Veterans Integrated Services Networks from*
24 *conducting outreach or marketing to enroll new veterans*
25 *within their respective Networks.*

1 *SEC. 219. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall sub-*
2 *mit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses*
3 *of Congress a quarterly report on the financial status of*
4 *the Veterans Health Administration.*

5 *(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)*

6 *SEC. 220. Amounts made available under the “Medical*
7 *Services”, “Medical Support and Compliance”, “Medical*
8 *Facilities”, “General Operating Expenses, Veterans Bene-*
9 *fits Administration”, “General Administration”, and “Na-*
10 *tional Cemetery Administration” accounts for fiscal year*
11 *2016 may be transferred to or from the “Information Tech-*
12 *nology Systems” account: Provided, That, before a transfer*
13 *may take place, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall re-*
14 *quest from the Committees on Appropriations of both*
15 *Houses of Congress the authority to make the transfer and*
16 *an approval is issued.*

17 *SEC. 221. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise*
18 *made available by this Act or any other Act for the Depart-*
19 *ment of Veterans Affairs may be used in a manner that*
20 *is inconsistent with: (1) section 842 of the Transportation,*
21 *Treasury, Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary,*
22 *the District of Columbia, and Independent Agencies Appro-*
23 *priations Act, 2006 (Public Law 109–115; 119 Stat. 2506);*
24 *or (2) section 8110(a)(5) of title 38, United States Code.*

1 *designated in this section to the Joint Department of De-*
2 *fense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility*
3 *Demonstration Fund upon written notification by the Sec-*
4 *retary of Veterans Affairs to the Committees on Appropria-*
5 *tions of both Houses of Congress: Provided further, That sec-*
6 *tion 223 of Title II of Division I of Public Law 113–235*
7 *is repealed.*

8 *(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)*

9 *SEC. 224. Of the amounts appropriated to the Depart-*
10 *ment of Veterans Affairs which become available on October*
11 *1, 2016, for “Medical Services”, “Medical Support and*
12 *Compliance”, and “Medical Facilities”, up to*
13 *\$265,675,000, plus reimbursements, may be transferred to*
14 *the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans*
15 *Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund, established*
16 *by section 1704 of the National Defense Authorization Act*
17 *for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111–84; 123 Stat. 3571)*
18 *and may be used for operation of the facilities designated*
19 *as combined Federal medical facilities as described by sec-*
20 *tion 706 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Author-*
21 *ization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (Public Law 110–417; 122*
22 *Stat. 4500): Provided, That additional funds may be trans-*
23 *ferred from accounts designated in this section to the Joint*
24 *Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs*
25 *Medical Facility Demonstration Fund upon written notifi-*

1 *cation by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to the Commit-*
2 *tees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.*

3 *(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)*

4 *SEC. 225. Such sums as may be deposited to the Med-*
5 *ical Care Collections Fund pursuant to section 1729A of*
6 *title 38, United States Code, for healthcare provided at fa-*
7 *cilities designated as combined Federal medical facilities as*
8 *described by section 706 of the Duncan Hunter National*
9 *Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (Public*
10 *Law 110–417; 122 Stat. 4500) shall also be available: (1)*
11 *for transfer to the Joint Department of Defense-Department*
12 *of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund,*
13 *established by section 1704 of the National Defense Author-*
14 *ization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111–84; 123*
15 *Stat. 3571); and (2) for operations of the facilities des-*
16 *ignated as combined Federal medical facilities as described*
17 *by section 706 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Au-*
18 *thorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (Public Law 110–417;*
19 *122 Stat. 4500).*

20 *(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)*

21 *SEC. 226. Of the amounts available in this title for*
22 *“Medical Services”, “Medical Support and Compliance”,*
23 *and “Medical Facilities”, a minimum of \$15,000,000 shall*
24 *be transferred to the DOD–VA Health Care Sharing Incen-*
25 *tive Fund, as authorized by section 8111(d) of title 38,*

1 *United States Code, to remain available until expended, for*
2 *any purpose authorized by section 8111 of title 38, United*
3 *States Code.*

4 *(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)*

5 *SEC. 227. (a) Of the funds appropriated in division*
6 *I of Public Law 113–235, the following amounts which be-*
7 *come available on October 1, 2015, are hereby rescinded*
8 *from the following accounts in the amounts specified:*

9 *(1) “Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical*
10 *Services”, \$1,400,000,000.*

11 *(2) “Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical*
12 *Support and Compliance”, \$150,000,000.*

13 *(3) “Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical*
14 *Facilities”, \$250,000,000.*

15 *(b) In addition to amounts provided elsewhere in this*
16 *Act, an additional amount is appropriated to the following*
17 *accounts in the amounts specified to remain available until*
18 *September 30, 2017:*

19 *(1) “Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical*
20 *Services”, \$1,400,000,000.*

21 *(2) “Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical*
22 *Support and Compliance”, \$100,000,000.*

23 *(3) “Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical*
24 *Facilities”, \$250,000,000.*

1 *SEC. 228. The Secretary of the Department of Veterans*
2 *Affairs shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of*
3 *both Houses of Congress of all bid savings in major con-*
4 *struction projects that total at least \$5,000,000, or 5 percent*
5 *of the programmed amount of the project, whichever is less:*
6 *Provided, That such notification shall occur within 14 days*
7 *of a contract identifying the programmed amount: Provided*
8 *further, That the Secretary shall notify the Committees on*
9 *Appropriations of both Houses of Congress 14 days prior*
10 *to the obligation of such bid savings and shall describe the*
11 *anticipated use of such savings.*

12 *SEC. 229. The scope of work for a project included in*
13 *“Construction, Major Projects” may not be increased above*
14 *the scope specified for that project in the original justifica-*
15 *tion data provided to the Congress as part of the request*
16 *for appropriations.*

17 *SEC. 230. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall sub-*
18 *mit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses*
19 *of Congress a quarterly report that contains the following*
20 *information from each Veterans Benefits Administration*
21 *Regional Office: (1) the average time to complete a dis-*
22 *ability compensation claim; (2) the number of claims pend-*
23 *ing more than 125 days; (3) error rates; (4) the number*
24 *of claims personnel; (5) any corrective action taken within*
25 *the quarter to address poor performance; (6) training pro-*

1 *grams undertaken; and (7) the number and results of Qual-*
2 *ity Review Team audits: Provided, That each quarterly re-*
3 *port shall be submitted no later than 30 days after the end*
4 *of the respective quarter.*

5 *SEC. 231. Of the funds provided to the Department of*
6 *Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2016 for “Medical Services”*
7 *and “Medical Support and Compliance”, a maximum of*
8 *\$5,000,000 may be obligated from the “Medical Services”*
9 *account and a maximum of \$154,596,000 may be obligated*
10 *from the “Medical Support and Compliance” account for*
11 *the VistA Evolution and electronic health record interoper-*
12 *ability projects: Provided, That funds in addition to these*
13 *amounts may be obligated for the VistA Evolution and elec-*
14 *tronic health record interoperability projects upon written*
15 *notification by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to the Com-*
16 *mittees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.*

17 *SEC. 232. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall pro-*
18 *vide written notification to the Committees on Appropria-*
19 *tions of both Houses of Congress 15 days prior to organiza-*
20 *tional changes which result in the transfer of 25 or more*
21 *full-time equivalents from one organizational unit of the*
22 *Department of Veterans Affairs to another.*

23 *SEC. 233. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall pro-*
24 *vide on a quarterly basis to the Committees on Appropria-*
25 *tions of both Houses of Congress notification of any single*

- 1 (1) “*Medical Services*”;
- 2 (2) “*Medical and Prosthetic Research*”;
- 3 (3) “*National Cemetery Administration*”;
- 4 (4) “*Board of Veterans Appeals*”;
- 5 (5) “*General Operating Expenses, Veterans Ben-*
- 6 *efits Administration*”;
- 7 (6) “*Office of Inspector General*”;
- 8 (7) “*Grants for Construction of State Extended*
- 9 *Care Facilities*”; and
- 10 (8) “*Grants for Construction of Veterans Ceme-*
- 11 *teries*”.

12 (c) *No amounts may be rescinded from amounts that*
13 *were designated by the Congress as an emergency require-*
14 *ment pursuant to the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget*
15 *or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act*
16 *of 1985, as amended.*

17 (d) *The Secretary shall submit to the Committees on*
18 *Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a report speci-*
19 *fying the account and amount of each rescission not later*
20 *than 30 days following enactment of this Act.*

21 *SEC. 241. Section 2302(a)(2)(A)(viii) of title 5, United*
22 *States Code, is amended by inserting “or under title 38”*
23 *after “of this title”.*

24 *SEC. 242. The Department of Veterans Affairs is au-*
25 *thorized to administer financial assistance grants and enter*

1 *into cooperative agreements with organizations, utilizing a*
2 *competitive selection process, to train and employ homeless*
3 *and at-risk veterans in natural resource conservation man-*
4 *agement.*

5 *SEC. 243. Section 312 of title 38, United States Code,*
6 *is amended by adding at the end the following new sub-*
7 *section:*

8 *“(c)(1) Whenever the Inspector General, in carrying*
9 *out the duties and responsibilities established under the In-*
10 *pector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), issues a work*
11 *product that makes a recommendation or otherwise suggests*
12 *corrective action, the Inspector General shall—*

13 *“(A) submit the work product to—*

14 *“(i) the Secretary;*

15 *“(ii) the Committee on Veterans’ Af-*
16 *airs, the Committee on Homeland Security*
17 *and Governmental Affairs, and the Com-*
18 *mittee on Appropriations of the Senate;*

19 *“(iii) the Committee on Veterans’ Af-*
20 *airs, the Committee on Oversight and Gov-*
21 *ernment Reform, and the Committee on Ap-*
22 *propriations of the House of Representa-*
23 *tives;*

24 *“(iv) if the work product was initiated*
25 *upon request by an individual or entity*

1 *other than the Inspector General, that indi-*
2 *vidual or entity; and*

3 “(v) *any Member of Congress upon re-*
4 *quest; and*

5 “(B) *the Inspector General shall submit all*
6 *final work products to—*

7 “(i) *if the work product was initiated*
8 *upon request by an individual or entity*
9 *other than the Inspector General, that indi-*
10 *vidual or entity; and*

11 “(ii) *any Member of Congress upon re-*
12 *quest; and*

13 “(C) *not later than 3 days after the work*
14 *product is submitted in final form to the Sec-*
15 *retary, post the work product on the Internet*
16 *website of the Inspector General.*

17 “(2) *Nothing in this subsection shall be construed*
18 *to authorize the public disclosure of information that*
19 *is specifically prohibited from disclosure by any other*
20 *provision of law.”.*

21 *SEC. 244. None of the funds provided in this Act may*
22 *be used to pay the salary of any individual who (a) was*
23 *the Executive Director of the Office of Acquisition, Logistics*
24 *and Construction, and (b) who retired from Federal service*
25 *in the midst of an investigation, initiated by the Depart-*

1 *ment of Veterans Affairs, into delays and cost overruns as-*
2 *sociated with the design and construction of the new med-*
3 *ical center in Aurora, Colorado.*

4 *SEC. 245. Of the amounts appropriated or otherwise*
5 *made available to the Department of Veterans Affairs for*
6 *the “Medical Services” account for fiscal year 2016 in this*
7 *Act of any other Act, not less than \$10,000,000 shall be used*
8 *to hire additional caregiver support coordinators to support*
9 *the programs of assistance and support for caregivers of vet-*
10 *erans under section 1720G of title 38, United States Code.*

11 *SEC. 246. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise*
12 *made available to the Department of Veterans Affairs in*
13 *this Act may be used in a manner that would—*

14 *(1) interfere with the ability of a veteran to par-*
15 *ticipate in a State-approved medicinal marijuana*
16 *program;*

17 *(2) deny any services from the Department to a*
18 *veteran who is participating in such a program; or*

19 *(3) limit or interfere with the ability of a health*
20 *care provider of the Department to make appropriate*
21 *recommendations, fill out forms, or take steps to com-*
22 *ply with such a program.*

23 *SEC. 247. The Comptroller General of the United*
24 *States shall conduct random, periodic audits of medical fa-*
25 *cilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Vet-*

1 *erans Integrated Service Networks to assess whether such*
2 *facilities and Networks are complying with all standards*
3 *imposed by law or by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs with*
4 *respect to the timely access of veterans to hospital care, med-*
5 *ical services, and other health care from the Department.*

6 *SEC. 248. None of the amounts appropriated or other-*
7 *wise made available by this title may be used to transfer*
8 *any amount from the Filipino Veterans Equity Compensa-*
9 *tion Fund to any other account in the Treasury of the*
10 *United States.*

11 *SEC. 249. None of the amounts appropriated or other-*
12 *wise made available by title II may be used to carry out*
13 *the Home Marketing Incentive Program of the Department*
14 *of Veterans Affairs or to carry out the Appraisal Value*
15 *Offer Program of the Department with respect to an em-*
16 *ployee of the Department in a senior executive position (as*
17 *defined in section 713(g) of title 38, United States Code).*

18 *SEC. 250. (a) Not later than one year after the date*
19 *of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the*
20 *United States shall submit to the congressional veterans*
21 *committees a report evaluating the implementation by the*
22 *Department of Veterans Affairs of section 101 of the Vet-*
23 *erans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 (Pub-*
24 *lic Law 113–146; 38 U.S.C. 1701 note).*

1 **(b)** *The report required by subsection (a) shall include,*
2 *with respect to the implementation of such section 101, an*
3 *evaluation of the following:*

4 **(1)** *The effect of such implementation on the re-*
5 *duction in the use of purchased care by the Depart-*
6 *ment, including delays or denials of care and inter-*
7 *ruptions in courses and continuity of care.*

8 **(2)** *The ability of health care providers to meet*
9 *the demand for primary, specialty, and behavioral*
10 *health care under such section 101 that cannot rea-*
11 *sonably be provided in medical facilities of the De-*
12 *partment.*

13 **(3)** *The efforts of the Department to recruit*
14 *health care providers to provide health care under*
15 *such section 101.*

16 **(4)** *The accuracy of the information provided to*
17 *veterans through call centers regarding the receipt of*
18 *health care under such section 101.*

19 **(5)** *The timeliness of referrals of veterans by the*
20 *Department to health care providers under such sec-*
21 *tion 101.*

22 **(6)** *Unique issues and difficulties in the imple-*
23 *mentation of section 101 with respect to veterans re-*
24 *siding in rural areas, the States of Alaska and Ha-*
25 *waii and states lacking a full service VA Hospital.*

1 (7) *With respect to rural areas: (A) an identi-*
2 *fication of the average wait times for veterans in*
3 *rural areas to receive health care under such section*
4 *101, measured from when the veteran first calls the*
5 *Department or contracted call center to request an*
6 *appointment; (B) an assessment of utilization rates*
7 *for health care provided under such section 101 in*
8 *rural areas; (C) an assessment of the accessibility of*
9 *veterans in rural areas to primary and specialty care*
10 *at medical centers of the Department and from non-*
11 *Department health care providers under such section*
12 *101; (D) an assessment of the status of any pilot pro-*
13 *grams created by the Department to provide care*
14 *under such section 101; (E) an identification of the*
15 *number of health care providers providing health care*
16 *under such section 101 to veterans in rural areas,*
17 *broken out by primary care providers, specialty and*
18 *subspecialty providers, and behavioral health pro-*
19 *viders in each Veterans Integrated Service Network.*

20 (8) *Recommendations for such improvements to*
21 *the provision of health care under such section 101 as*
22 *the Comptroller General considers appropriate.*

23 (c) *In this section, the term “congressional veterans*
24 *committees” means the Veterans Affairs Committees of the*
25 *United States Senate and the House of Representatives and*

1 *the Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Af-*
2 *fairs and Related Agencies of the Committees on Appropria-*
3 *tions of the United States Senate and the House of Rep-*
4 *resentatives.*

5 *SEC. 251. Not later than February 1, 2016, the Sec-*
6 *retary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committee*
7 *on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on*
8 *Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives a report*
9 *that supplements the report required under section 4002(c)*
10 *of the Surface Transportation and Veterans Health Care*
11 *Choice Improvement Act of 2015 (Public Law 114–41) and*
12 *that contains the following:*

13 *(1) A description of the changes in access, if any,*
14 *of veterans in Alaska to purchased care from the De-*
15 *partment of Veterans Affairs that have resulted from*
16 *implementation of section 101 of the Veterans Access,*
17 *Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 (Public Law*
18 *113–146), including denials of care and interruptions*
19 *in the course and continuity of care.*

20 *(2) An assessment of the performance of the De-*
21 *partment in providing health care under such section*
22 *101 in Alaska, including—*

23 *(A) the performance of call center service*
24 *provided to veterans;*

1 (B) the accuracy of call center information
2 provided to veterans and health care providers;

3 (C) whether health care providers are agree-
4 ing to provide health care under such section 101
5 in each of the major communities in Alaska;

6 (D) gaps in the availability of health care
7 providers, disaggregated by primary, specialty,
8 subspecialty, and behavioral health care;

9 (E) impediments to the provision of health
10 care under such section 101; and

11 (F) plans to mitigate those impediments.

12 (3) An assessment of the status of health care
13 provider vacancies at the VA Alaska Healthcare Sys-
14 tem as of the date of submittal of the report under
15 this section, including impediments to filling those
16 vacancies and plans to mitigate those impediments.

17 (4) A description of the manner in which the De-
18 partment plans to serve the primary, specialty, and
19 behavioral health care needs of veterans in Alaska if
20 the plan and recommendations set forth in the report
21 submitted under such section 4002(c) are imple-
22 mented, including a description of specific strategies
23 to be employed by the Department to address gaps in
24 the provision of health care to veterans and the sup-
25 ply and demand of health care providers for veterans,

1 *including the roles of tribal health providers and com-*
2 *munity providers in addressing those gaps.*

3 *SEC. 252. None of the amounts appropriated or other-*
4 *wise made available by this title may be used—*

5 *(1) to carry out the memorandum of the Veterans*
6 *Benefits Administration known as “Fast Letter 13–*
7 *10”, issued on May 20, 2013; or*

8 *(2) to create or maintain any patient record-*
9 *keeping system other than those currently approved*
10 *by the Department of Veterans Affairs Central Office*
11 *in Washington, District of Columbia.*

12 *SEC. 253. (a) Not later than 180 days after the date*
13 *of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the*
14 *United States shall submit to Congress a report on the re-*
15 *cruitment and retention of health care providers by the De-*
16 *partment of Veterans Affairs.*

17 *(b) The report required by subsection (a) shall include*
18 *the following:*

19 *(1) An identification of the ratio of veterans to*
20 *health care providers of the Department,*
21 *disaggregated by State.*

22 *(2) An analysis of the workload of primary and*
23 *specialty care providers of the Department,*
24 *disaggregated by State.*

1 (3) *An assessment of initiatives carried out by*
2 *the Veterans Health Administration to recruit and re-*
3 *tain health care providers of the Department.*

4 (4) *An assessment of the extent to which the Vet-*
5 *erans Health Administration oversees health care pro-*
6 *viders of the Department.*

7 (5) *Such recommendations for improving the re-*
8 *ruitment and retention of health care providers of*
9 *the Department as the Comptroller General considers*
10 *appropriate.*

11 *SEC. 254. (a) Not later than 180 days after the date*
12 *of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Af-*
13 *airs shall submit to Congress a report on the implementa-*
14 *tion by the Department of Veterans Affairs of section 101*
15 *of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of*
16 *2014 (Public Law 113–146; 38 U.S.C. 1701 note) in rural*
17 *areas.*

18 *(b) The report required by subsection (a) shall include*
19 *the following:*

20 (1) *An identification of average wait times for*
21 *veterans in rural areas to receive health care under*
22 *such section 101, measured from when the veteran*
23 *first calls the Department to schedule an appoint-*
24 *ment.*

1 (2) *An assessment of utilization rates for health*
2 *care provided under such section 101 in rural areas.*

3 (3) *An assessment of the accessibility of veterans*
4 *in rural areas to primary and specialty care at med-*
5 *ical centers of the Department and from non-Depart-*
6 *ment health care providers under such section 101.*

7 (4) *An identification of the number of health*
8 *care providers providing health care under such sec-*
9 *tion 101 in each Veterans Integrated Service Network.*

10 (5) *An assessment of the status of any pilot pro-*
11 *grams created by the Department to provide care*
12 *under such section 101 in rural areas.*

13 *SEC. 255. REPORT ON USE OF SOCIAL SECURITY*
14 *NUMBERS BY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS. (a)*
15 *REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 120 days after the*
16 *date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans*
17 *Affairs shall submit to the appropriate committees of Con-*
18 *gress a report on the use of social security numbers by the*
19 *Department of Veterans Affairs and the plans of the Sec-*
20 *retary to discontinue the unnecessary use.*

21 *(b) CONTENTS.—The report required by subsection (a)*
22 *shall include the following:*

23 (1) *A list of documents and records of the De-*
24 *partment of Veterans Affairs that contain social secu-*
25 *rity numbers.*

1 (2) *A list of all government and non-government*
2 *entities and the numbers of their employees that have*
3 *access to the social security numbers of veterans that*
4 *are stored by the Department.*

5 (3) *A description of how the Department, other*
6 *governmental entities, and persons use social security*
7 *numbers they obtain from the Department, including*
8 *a description of any information sharing arrange-*
9 *ments that the Secretary may have with the heads of*
10 *other governmental entities.*

11 (4) *The number of data breaches of Department*
12 *of Veterans Affairs information systems that involved*
13 *social security numbers that occurred during the five-*
14 *year period ending on the date of the enactment of*
15 *this Act that the Secretary discovered or that were re-*
16 *ported to the Secretary, a description and status of*
17 *the investigations conducted by the Secretary regard-*
18 *ing such breaches, and a description of the plans of*
19 *the Secretary to remediate such breaches.*

20 (5) *The plans of the Secretary, including a*
21 *timeline, to discontinue the unnecessary use by the*
22 *Department of social security numbers.*

23 (c) *APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DE-*
24 *FINED.*—*In this section, the term “appropriate committees*
25 *of Congress” means—*

1 (1) *the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and the*
2 *Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and*

3 (2) *the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and the*
4 *Committee on Appropriations of the House of Rep-*
5 *resentatives.*

6 SEC. 256. (a) *Not later than 30 days after the date*
7 *of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Af-*
8 *fairs shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress*
9 *a report that includes, with respect to the South Texas Vet-*
10 *erans Health Care System of the Department of Veterans*
11 *Affairs, the following:*

12 (1) *A description of the nature and scope of any*
13 *foreseeable increase in wait times for medical ap-*
14 *pointments.*

15 (2) *An assessment of whether a shortage of health*
16 *care providers is the primary cause of any such in-*
17 *crease in wait times.*

18 (3) *An identification of any other causes of any*
19 *such increase in wait times.*

20 (4) *A description of any action taken by the De-*
21 *partment to correct any such increase in wait times.*

22 (5) *An assessment of any issues relating to access*
23 *to care.*

24 (6) *A plan for how the Secretary will remedy*
25 *any such increase in wait times, including a detailed*

1 *description of steps to be taken and a timeline for*
2 *completion.*

3 *(b) In this section, the term “appropriate committees*
4 *of Congress” means—*

5 *(1) the Committee on Appropriations and the*
6 *Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate; and*

7 *(2) the Committee on Appropriations and the*
8 *Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Rep-*
9 *resentatives.*

10 *SEC. 257. (a) Not later than 30 days after the date*
11 *of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Af-*
12 *fairs shall, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense,*
13 *enter into a contract with an independent third party de-*
14 *scribed in subsection (b) to carry out a study on the impact*
15 *of participation in combat during service in the Armed*
16 *Forces on suicides and other mental health issues among*
17 *members of the Armed Forces and veterans.*

18 *(b) An independent third party described in this sub-*
19 *section is an independent third party that has appropriate*
20 *credentials to access information in the possession of the*
21 *Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Af-*
22 *fairs that is necessary to carry out the study required under*
23 *subsection (a).*

24 *SEC. 258. (a) The amount appropriated or otherwise*
25 *made available by this title under the heading “MEDICAL*

1 *AND PROSTHETIC RESEARCH*” under the heading “*VET-*
2 *ERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION*” is hereby increased by
3 \$8,922,462.

4 (b) *The amount appropriated or otherwise made avail-*
5 *able by this title for fiscal year 2016 under the heading*
6 *“MEDICAL SERVICES” under the heading “VETERANS*
7 *HEALTH ADMINISTRATION” is hereby reduced by*
8 \$8,922,462.

9 *SEC. 259. Of the amounts appropriated or otherwise*
10 *made available by this title for “MEDICAL SERVICES”, not*
11 *more than \$5,000,000 shall be available to the Secretary*
12 *of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to assess*
13 *the feasibility and advisability of awarding grants to vet-*
14 *erans service agencies, veterans service organizations, and*
15 *nongovernmental organizations to provide furniture, house-*
16 *hold items, and other assistance to formerly homeless vet-*
17 *erans who are moving into permanent housing to facilitate*
18 *the settlement of such veterans in such housing.*

19 *SEC. 260. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AC-*
20 *TION PLAN TO IMPROVE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND*
21 *EDUCATION. (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days*
22 *after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary*
23 *of Veterans Affairs shall develop and publish an action plan*
24 *for improving the services and assistance provided under*
25 *chapter 31 of title 38, United States Code.*

1 (b) *ELEMENTS.*—*The plan required by subsection (a)*
2 *shall include each of the following:*

3 (1) *A comprehensive analysis of, and rec-*
4 *ommendations and a proposed implementation plan*
5 *for remedying workload management challenges at re-*
6 *gional offices of the Department of Veterans Affairs,*
7 *including steps to reduce counselor caseloads of vet-*
8 *erans participating in a rehabilitation program*
9 *under such chapter, particularly for counselors who*
10 *are assisting veterans with traumatic brain injury*
11 *and post-traumatic stress disorder and counselors*
12 *with educational and vocational counseling work-*
13 *loads.*

14 (2) *A comprehensive analysis of the reasons for*
15 *the disproportionately low percentage of veterans with*
16 *service-connected disabilities who served in the Armed*
17 *Forces after September 11, 2001, who opt to partici-*
18 *rate in a rehabilitation program under such chapter*
19 *relative to the percentage of such veterans who use*
20 *their entitlement to educational assistance under*
21 *chapter 33 of title 38, United States Code, including*
22 *an analysis of barriers to timely enrollment in reha-*
23 *bilitation programs under chapter 31 of such title*
24 *and of any barriers to a veteran enrolling in the pro-*
25 *gram of that veteran's choice.*

1 (3) *Recommendations and a proposed implemen-*
2 *tation plan for encouraging more veterans with serv-*
3 *ice-connected disabilities who served in the Armed*
4 *Forces after September 11, 2001, to participate in re-*
5 *habilitation programs under chapter 31 of such title.*

6 (4) *A national staff training program for voca-*
7 *tional rehabilitation counselors of the Department*
8 *that includes the provision of—*

9 (A) *training to assist counselors in under-*
10 *standing the very profound disorientation expe-*
11 *rienced by veterans with service-connected dis-*
12 *abilities whose lives and life-plans have been up-*
13 *ended and out of their control because of such*
14 *disabilities;*

15 (B) *training to assist counselors in working*
16 *in partnership with veterans on individual reha-*
17 *ilitation plans; and*

18 (C) *training on post-traumatic stress dis-*
19 *order and other mental health conditions and on*
20 *moderate to severe traumatic brain injury that*
21 *is designed to improve the ability of such coun-*
22 *selors to assist veterans with these conditions, in-*
23 *cluding by providing information on the broad*
24 *spectrum of such conditions and the effect of such*

1 *conditions on an individual's abilities and func-*
2 *tional limitations.*

3 *TITLE III*

4 *RELATED AGENCIES*

5 *AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION*

6 *SALARIES AND EXPENSES*

7 *For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, of*
8 *the American Battle Monuments Commission, including the*
9 *acquisition of land or interest in land in foreign countries;*
10 *purchases and repair of uniforms for caretakers of national*
11 *cemeteries and monuments outside of the United States and*
12 *its territories and possessions; rent of office and garage*
13 *space in foreign countries; purchase (one-for-one replace-*
14 *ment basis only) and hire of passenger motor vehicles; not*
15 *to exceed \$7,500 for official reception and representation*
16 *expenses; and insurance of official motor vehicles in foreign*
17 *countries, when required by law of such countries,*
18 *\$75,100,000, to remain available until expended.*

19 *FOREIGN CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS ACCOUNT*

20 *For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, of*
21 *the American Battle Monuments Commission, such sums as*
22 *may be necessary, to remain available until expended, for*
23 *purposes authorized by section 2109 of title 36, United*
24 *States Code.*

1 *UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS*2 *CLAIMS*3 *SALARIES AND EXPENSES*

4 *For necessary expenses for the operation of the United*
5 *States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims as authorized*
6 *by sections 7251 through 7298 of title 38, United States*
7 *Code, \$32,141,000: Provided, That \$2,500,000 shall be*
8 *available for the purpose of providing financial assistance*
9 *as described, and in accordance with the process and report-*
10 *ing procedures set forth, under this heading in Public Law*
11 *102-229.*

12 *DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—CIVIL*13 *CEMETERIAL EXPENSES, ARMY*14 *SALARIES AND EXPENSES*

15 *For necessary expenses for maintenance, operation,*
16 *and improvement of Arlington National Cemetery and Sol-*
17 *diers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery, including*
18 *the purchase or lease of passenger motor vehicles for replace-*
19 *ment on a one-for-one basis only, and not to exceed \$1,000*
20 *for official reception and representation expenses,*
21 *\$70,800,000, of which not to exceed \$28,000,000 shall re-*
22 *main available until September 30, 2018. In addition, such*
23 *sums as may be necessary for parking maintenance, repairs*
24 *and replacement, to be derived from the "Lease of Depart-*

1 *ment of Defense Real Property for Defense Agencies” ac-*
2 *count.*

3 *ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME*

4 *TRUST FUND*

5 *For expenses necessary for the Armed Forces Retire-*
6 *ment Home to operate and maintain the Armed Forces Re-*
7 *tirement Home—Washington, District of Columbia, and the*
8 *Armed Forces Retirement Home—Gulfport, Mississippi, to*
9 *be paid from funds available in the Armed Forces Retire-*
10 *ment Home Trust Fund, \$64,300,000, of which \$1,000,000*
11 *shall remain available until expended for construction and*
12 *renovation of the physical plants at the Armed Forces Re-*
13 *tirement Home—Washington, District of Columbia, and the*
14 *Armed Forces Retirement Home—Gulfport, Mississippi.*

15 *ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS*

16 *SEC. 301. Funds appropriated in this Act under the*
17 *heading “Department of Defense—Civil, Cemeterial Ex-*
18 *penses, Army”, may be provided to Arlington County, Vir-*
19 *ginia, for the relocation of the federally owned water main*
20 *at Arlington National Cemetery, making additional land*
21 *available for ground burials.*

22 *SEC. 302. Amounts deposited during the current fiscal*
23 *year to the special account established under 10 U.S.C.*
24 *4727 are appropriated and shall be available until ex-*

1 *SEC. 404. No part of any funds appropriated in this*
2 *Act shall be used by an agency of the executive branch, other*
3 *than for normal and recognized executive-legislative rela-*
4 *tionships, for publicity or propaganda purposes, and for*
5 *the preparation, distribution, or use of any kit, pamphlet,*
6 *booklet, publication, radio, television, or film presentation*
7 *designed to support or defeat legislation pending before*
8 *Congress, except in presentation to Congress itself.*

9 *SEC. 405. All departments and agencies funded under*
10 *this Act are encouraged, within the limits of the existing*
11 *statutory authorities and funding, to expand their use of*
12 *“E-Commerce” technologies and procedures in the conduct*
13 *of their business practices and public service activities.*

14 *SEC. 406. Unless stated otherwise, all reports and noti-*
15 *fications required by this Act shall be submitted to the Sub-*
16 *committee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs,*
17 *and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations*
18 *of the House of Representatives and the Subcommittee on*
19 *Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related*
20 *Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.*

21 *SEC. 407. None of the funds made available in this*
22 *Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or in-*
23 *strumentality of the United States Government except pur-*
24 *suant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided*
25 *in, this or any other appropriations Act.*

1 *SEC. 408. (a) Any agency receiving funds made avail-*
2 *able in this Act, shall, subject to subsections (b) and (c),*
3 *post on the public Web site of that agency any report re-*
4 *quired to be submitted by the Congress in this or any other*
5 *Act, upon the determination by the head of the agency that*
6 *it shall serve the national interest.*

7 *(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to a report if—*

8 *(1) the public posting of the report compromises*
9 *national security; or*

10 *(2) the report contains confidential or propri-*
11 *etary information.*

12 *(c) The head of the agency posting such report shall*
13 *do so only after such report has been made available to the*
14 *requesting Committee or Committees of Congress for no less*
15 *than 45 days.*

16 *SEC. 409. (a) None of the funds made available in this*
17 *Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer net-*
18 *work unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading,*
19 *and exchanging of pornography.*

20 *(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of*
21 *funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law*
22 *enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out crimi-*
23 *nal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities.*

24 *SEC. 410. (a) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds appro-*
25 *priated or otherwise made available to the Department of*

1 *Defense in this Act may be used to construct, renovate, or*
2 *expand any facility in the United States, its territories, or*
3 *possessions to house any individual detained at United*
4 *States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, for the pur-*
5 *poses of detention or imprisonment in the custody or under*
6 *the control of the Department of Defense.*

7 *(b) The prohibition in subsection (a) shall not apply*
8 *to any modification of facilities at United States Naval*
9 *Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba.*

10 *(c) An individual described in this subsection is any*
11 *individual who, as of June 24, 2009, is located at United*
12 *States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, and who—*

13 *(1) is not a citizen of the United States or a*
14 *member of the Armed Forces of the United States; and*

15 *(2) is—*

16 *(A) in the custody or under the effective*
17 *control of the Department of Defense; or*

18 *(B) otherwise under detention at United*
19 *States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba.*

1 *This Act may be cited as the “Military Construction,*
2 *Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act,*
3 *2016”.*

Attest:

Secretary.

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H.R. 2029

AMENDMENT