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Senate

The Senate met at 8:15 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JOHNNY ISAKSON, a Senator from the State of Georgia.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, we rejoice in Your strength, for You continue to withhold no good thing from those who do what is right. You are our God; be merciful to our Nation and world.

Lord, teach our lawmakers Your ways so that they may live according to Your truth with a purity of heart that honors You. Guide them with Your unfailing love, fortifying them for every challenge. May they never be put to shame, as they strive to live worthy of Your amazing grace. Listen closely to their prayers and provide them with answers to the questions that befuddle them.

And Lord, we thank You for the faithful service of our 2016 spring page class. We are grateful for the creativity, competence, and commitment of these outstanding young people. In all of their tomorrows, do for them more than they can ask or imagine.

We pray in Your mighty Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, June 10, 2016.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHNNY ISAKSON, a Senator from the State of Georgia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ORRIN G. HATCH,
President pro tempore.

Mr. ISAKSON thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. TOOMEY). The majority leader is recognized.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, in just a few minutes, the Senate will take another important step toward passing sweeping defense legislation that will support our troops and our national security. It will help drive defense innovation and research. It will authorize pay raises for our servicemembers and modernize retirement benefits. It will help prepare our country to deal with the threats of today and the challenges of tomorrow, and it will help prepare the force that the next Commander in Chief will lead to do so as well.

It is a responsible and important bill. Chairman MCCAIN and Ranking Member REED of Rhode Island have worked relentlessly to manage this bill, and I urge all my colleagues to join me in voting for cloture this morning.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I appreciate the hard work of Senator REED and of course of Senator MCCAIN. They have worked very hard on this bill, but it is not a good bill. I am going to vote against cloture for a lot of reasons. The White House has announced they have scores of reasons to veto the bill, and they will.

I also am concerned about the so-called robust amendment process we were supposed to have under the new Senate leadership. We have Senator GILLIBRAND, who has worked for years. All she wants is a vote, and she hasn't been given that opportunity. We have many other Senators. I know every Senator who has an amendment can't offer it, but, gee whiz, we have had a handful of amendments. I think we have been very outgoing and doing what we can to make sure these managers' packages are approved, but it has been unfair, the whole process. So for that, and many other reasons, I will vote no on cloture.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 2943, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2943) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

Pending:

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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S3787

McCain amendment No. 4607, to amend the provision on share-in-savings contracts.

Reed (for Reid) amendment No. 4603 (to amendment No. 4607), to change the enactment date.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I came to the floor yesterday to talk about a truly shameful change that is buried away in this bill. It is a change that would put us on a path to go back on a promise that we made to our servicemembers just 6 months ago and a change, if left unfixed, that will pull the rug out for men and women in the Armed Forces who are prepared to make the highest sacrifice for the country they love.

In case any of my colleagues are unaware, a single line in this massive Defense bill on page 1,455, buried in the funding chart, would zero out a new program that is intended to help men and women in our military realize their dream of having a family even if they go on to suffer catastrophic injuries when they are fighting on our behalf. I don't know how this line got in there, I don't know who thought it was a good idea, and I don't know why, but what I do know is this: It is wrong and it has to be fixed.

I just want to tell my colleagues that 6 months ago the Pentagon announced a pilot program that would offer servicemembers who are getting ready to deploy an opportunity at cryopreservation—in other words, freezing their eggs or sperm. This new program gave our deploying servicemembers not just the ability to have reproductive options in the event they are grievously injured but some deserved peace of mind. It took us a step forward in the promise we have made to our servicemembers to support them when they sacrifice so much for us, and it meant they wouldn't have to worry about choosing between defending their country or a chance of having a family some day.

This new program was met with widespread praise and relief. Men and women who were getting ready to deploy—many of whom were thinking about exploring cryopreservation, using their own money if they could afford it—were assured that their country had their back.

While the pilot program was not groundbreaking, these services have long been available in the private sector, and, in fact, fertility preservation techniques have been used by the British Armed Forces for years. It reflected a basic level of respect for servicemembers who are willing to risk suffering catastrophic injuries on our behalf, and it sent a clear message that no matter what happens to them on the battlefield, we will be ready to stand with them with whatever they need.

I was hoping this new program was a step we could build on, a move in the right direction, an important part of our larger work to help our warriors who sustained grievous injuries achieve

their dream of starting a family, which is why I was so upset when I learned this bill would move us the other way. It would take this promise we just made to our warriors and toss it in the trash. It would be a slap in the face to the men and women who serve us proudly and heroically. And honestly, it is the wrong thing to do.

Many people here in the Senate are quick to honor our military with their words, but for the men and women who signed up to fight on our behalf and are looking ahead to potentially massive sacrifices, we owe them so much more than that. We owe them action, respect, and a shot at their dream of having a family. We need to fix this bill. We owe them that much.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order to offer Murray amendment No. 4490 relating to fertility treatments and that the Senate vote in relation to this amendment with no second-degree amendments in order prior to the vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I reluctantly have to object, and that is because there is an objection on this side, which I have to honor.

I thank Senator MURRAY for her advocacy for the people who are serving in our military in uniform, and this is at least an important aspect of military life, and I thank the Senator for that.

I also thank Senator GILLIBRAND, who will speak in a moment on an issue that has been of great importance to her for several years now. She has been an advocate of this very compelling issue of sexual assault in the military.

Unfortunately, we have an objection to all the amendments, and that, in my view, is a great disservice to this body, to the men and women serving in the military, and to the American public. It shouldn't matter whether I happen to agree or disagree with Senator GILLIBRAND or Senator MURRAY; they deserve debate and votes, and they are not getting them because of these objections.

I wish to also point out that we are working on amendments by Senator MORAN, Senator CORKER, Senator GILLIBRAND, and Senator SHAHEEN.

I might point out gratuitously that one of the things I have seen in recent years is involvement on issues that bring new perspectives from people like Senator GILLIBRAND, Senator MURRAY, Senator AYOTTE, Senator MCCASKILL, Senator FISCHER, and Senator ERNST. They have brought perspectives to our committee and to this body that have been very helpful.

All I can say is this: Senator MURRAY, I will continue to fight to get a vote on your amendment.

Mr. President, I reluctantly object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from New York.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, I thank the chairman for his remarks, and I thank the leaders.

I urge my colleagues to allow a vote on my amendment No. 4310.

We now know far more about the extent of the military sexual assault problem than we did last year. We have more data, we have reviewed more case files, we heard from more survivors, and it is clear that very little has changed despite the Department of Defense's persistent claims that things are getting better and that they are making progress.

When the Department of Defense estimates that 20,000 servicemembers were sexually assaulted this year—the same number as in 2010—that is not progress. When an estimate of 8 out of 10 military sexual assault survivors don't report the crime, that is not progress. When more than half of all retaliation cases—58 percent of them—are perpetrated by someone in the chain of command of the accuser, that is not progress. When the percentage of survivors willing to report openly has declined for the past 5 years, that is not progress. When 62 percent of survivors have experienced retaliation since 2012 and there has not been one prosecution of this enumerated crime, that is not progress. When it is confirmed by the Associated Press that the Pentagon blatantly misled the Senate in order to skew our debate, this is perhaps the ultimate time that they are not making progress.

Our military justice system is broken. It is failing our men and women who so bravely serve. No matter how many small reforms we make, as long as commanders with no legal experience are continuing to make these important decisions about violent sexual crimes, we are not going to solve this problem. Our commanders are great at winning wars and training troops. They are not prosecutors. They are not even lawyers. They are warfighters, and their job is to keep our country safe, not make legal judgments about whether to prosecute a rape.

Once and for all, let's take this decision to prosecute these crimes and instead give it to trained military prosecutors. Let's give our servicemembers a justice system that is worthy of their service. This is our chance, and I urge everyone to vote yes if we have a vote.

Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent that if cloture is invoked for S. 2943, notwithstanding rule XXII, that Gillibrand amendment No. 4310, the Military Justice Improvement Act, be considered in order postcloture, and that it be in order to offer amendment No. 4310, and the Senate vote in relation to that amendment with a 60 affirmative vote threshold, with no second-degree amendments in order prior to the vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, again, it is the same comment I made to Senator MURRAY. It is with profound reluctance because it is not the way we are supposed to conduct business here in the U.S. Senate.

I have reached such a level of frustration that I would even consider changing the rules of the Senate that one individual out of 100 can't bring everything to a screeching halt, and that is what is taking place here over an issue.

One of the amendments that is being held up is literally putting the lives of our interpreters in Afghanistan at risk. That is the view of General Petraeus, Ambassador Crocker, General Nicholson, and others. If we don't allow these people to come to this country, they are going to die. It is that serious. Senator GILLIBRAND's and Senator MURRAY's amendments are important, and I do not in any way diminish them, but we are talking about human lives of people who assisted us in carrying out our mission in Iraq and Afghanistan, and that is what is at stake here.

I reluctantly object, and I want to assure Senator GILLIBRAND that I will do everything in my power—which is not a lot right now when you look at the rules of the Senate—to get a vote. I may have some differences with Senator GILLIBRAND, but no one has been more dedicated to addressing this issue of a very difficult and frankly embarrassing side of the military today, and that is the incidence of sexual assaults.

I reluctantly object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Democratic leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have been to a few of these rodeos, and I think the only way we are going to get some fairness here is that we do not invoke cloture.

As I said, I have been through this a number of times. I think if that happens, people will understand. We have to have a few votes—not a lot of votes but a few votes.

I was on the floor yesterday when Senator MCCAIN made this emphatic statement that, frankly, only he could make. He was talking about how people's lives are in jeopardy here, especially with the Shaheen amendment.

We don't have to change the rules of the Senate, but I suggest that we do not invoke cloture, give us some time to work out a few amendments, and I think that can happen.

We have two experienced legislators. The chairman of the committee and ranking member of the committee, Senator MCCAIN and Senator JACK REED of Rhode Island, are two of the best we have here in the Senate, and we should move forward in a way that is expeditious yet productive.

Earlier this morning I said that a robust amendment process has not taken place here. There hasn't been an amendment process. You can blame a lot of people, but it hasn't happened.

I think this is an important piece of legislation. Senator MCCAIN and I have worked on this issue for years, and we have been at odds on occasion. He was upset that I didn't bring the bill forward quickly enough, but I do remember that we always brought it to the floor. I can remember on one occasion

when he and Senator Levin, who has since retired, finished this bill in 2 days, and we had a good bill that came out of here. There were no vetoes, no threats of veto, and we worked out the problems. So I would hope that we can move forward and get some fairness in this bill.

It is a huge bill. I have some differences in the bill, but it is not fair that we don't have a better process than what we have had so far. So I would suggest that others vote no on cloture.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. CAPITO). The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. REED. Madam President, I simply want to underscore the importance of these amendments that Senator MURRAY and Senator GILLIBRAND are putting forward. There can be disagreement on the substance, but the merits, the importance, and the criticality should be obvious to all of us. I would hope to find a way to have votes on these amendments.

The same logic applies to Senator SHAHEEN and Senator MORAN. They have amendments that they have worked tirelessly on for days. They are being frustrated, not by the majority of the Senate but by a few individuals.

I think we have reached the point now where we have very little time left. If we could come together at least on a good-faith package of consents to deal with all of these or a majority of these and then continue to work forward for votes on all of them, I think that would be the appropriate thing to do.

So, again, I just want to underscore the fact that the issues that Senator MURRAY and Senator GILLIBRAND have raised are deserving of a vote, and we should have a vote on these issues.

With that, I yield the floor.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on Calendar No. 469, S. 2943, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

John McCain, John Cornyn, Orrin G. Hatch, Tom Cotton, Kelly Ayotte, Deb Fischer, Mike Rounds, Lindsey Graham, John Barrasso, Roger F. Wicker, Joni Ernst, Thom Tillis, Daniel Coats, Chuck Grassley, John Thune, Steve Daines, Mitch McConnell.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for

fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, as amended, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH).

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 68, nays 23, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 97 Leg.]

YEAS—68

Alexander	Flake	Nelson
Ayotte	Gardner	Perdue
Baldwin	Graham	Peters
Barrasso	Grassley	Portman
Bennet	Heinrich	Risch
Blumenthal	Heitkamp	Roberts
Blunt	Heller	Rounds
Boozman	Hoeben	Rubio
Burr	Inhofe	Sasse
Capito	Isakson	Schatz
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott
Coats	Kaine	Sessions
Cochran	King	Shelby
Collins	Kirk	Stabenow
Corker	Klobuchar	Sullivan
Cornyn	Lankford	Tester
Cotton	Manchin	Thune
Crapo	McCain	Tillis
Daines	McCaskill	Toomey
Donnelly	McConnell	Udall
Enzi	Moran	Vitter
Ernst	Murkowski	Wicker
Fischer	Murphy	

NAYS—23

Booker	Franken	Paul
Brown	Gillibrand	Reed
Cantwell	Hirono	Reid
Cardin	Lee	Schumer
Carper	Markey	Shaheen
Casey	Menendez	Warren
Cruz	Merkley	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Murray	

NOT VOTING—9

Boxer	Hatch	Sanders
Coons	Leahy	Warner
Durbin	Mikulski	Wyden

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 68, the nays are 23.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WICKER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

RECOGNIZING THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE "JAMES H. MEREDITH MARCH AGAINST FEAR"

Mr. WICKER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 488, submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 488) recognizing the historical significance and the 50th anniversary of the "James H. Meredith March Against Fear," a 220-mile walk down Highway 51 from Memphis, Tennessee, to Jackson, Mississippi.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. WICKER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 488) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

Mr. WICKER. Madam President, I think this is a very appropriate time to recognize the Meredith March Against Fear. On June 5, 1966, 4 years after becoming the first African-American student to enroll at the University of Mississippi, James Meredith began his historic Meredith March Against Fear. The march began at the Peabody Hotel in downtown Memphis and would conclude some 3 weeks later at the Mississippi State Capitol in Jackson.

On June 6, Mr. Meredith and his small band of supporters encountered gunshots about 1 mile south of Hernando, MS. James Meredith was shot three times on that day and was taken to a hospital. Although he would recover, Meredith was unable to complete his March Against Fear, and the leadership was taken over by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Floyd McKissick, and Stokely Carmichael. By the time the march reached the city limits of Canton, the number of marchers had doubled to 250. By the time it concluded in Jackson, there were 15,000 people in attendance. This overwhelming turnout made it the largest civil rights demonstration in the history of the State of Mississippi. More than 4,000 African Americans were registered to vote from rallies and drives during the march along U.S. Highway 51.

Mr. Meredith still lives in Jackson, where he is frequently seen wearing his Ole Miss cap and attending Ole Miss

athletic events in Oxford. He will turn 83 1 day before the 50th anniversary of the march's conclusion.

Today, the Senate recognizes the courageous leadership of James Meredith. I think it is appropriate that this resolution is sponsored by the three current Members of the Senate who are graduates of the University of Mississippi—Senator COCHRAN, Senator SHAHEEN, and this Senator.

I commend the Senate on its recognition of this important individual and this significant milestone in the history of the civil rights movement.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCAIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017—Continued

Mr. MCCAIN. Madam President, as we move forward with cloture, I wish to make a clarification for the record.

There has been a lot of conversation about this issue of the role of women as far as Selective Service is concerned. At the time the amendments were filed, there was no amendment, except one, from the Senator from Utah, who is on the floor.

As soon as we began consideration of the bill, I said to the Senator from Utah: When do you want to do your amendment on women in the Selective Service?

His response was that he wanted to do another amendment first.

I said: Look, the way things work, you may have great difficulty getting that up. Nor has the Senator from Utah or anyone else raised the amendment for a vote.

So I am sorry to say that out there, there seems to be some conversation that Senator MCCAIN was blocking a vote on women in the Selective Service. I am not. Right now, if it were germane—and I don't know if it is germane or not—I have repeatedly said that if that amendment is up for consideration, I would be glad to have that amendment considered and to have it voted on.

So I want to clarify that for the record. I did not block any amendment concerning women being eligible for Selective Service. I want the record to be very clear.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. COTTON. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. COTTON. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS GALYON

Mr. COTTON. Madam President, today I recognize Thomas Galyon of Rogers, AR, as this week's Arkansan of the Week for his advocacy work with the Arkansas chapter of the national ALS Association.

Tom was diagnosed with ALS in 2014 and has been a tireless advocate ever since. Tom isn't one to let ALS hold him back. In fact, after spending 33 successful years in the tourism industry, Tom decided retirement wasn't for him and went back to work as the property manager for the Center for Nonprofits at St. Mary's in northwest Arkansas. As luck would have it, the ALS Association is headquartered in the very building Tom manages, making his commitment to their organization that much stronger.

Recently I had the opportunity to meet with Tom when he came to Washington to advocate on behalf of the ALS Association. We had a long discussion, where I learned about Tom's story and the struggle of nearly 20,000 other Americans who are currently living with ALS. During our meeting, Tom asked me to address the problem that persons with ALS face when seeking disability insurance.

I was proud to work with my colleague Senator WHITEHOUSE to become the lead Republican sponsor of the ALS Disability Insurance Access Act, a bill that would waive the 5-month waiting period to receive disability insurance program benefits for those living with ALS. While the waiting period may be prudent in many cases, for ALS it consumes a lot of the remaining life expectancy once you get a diagnosis of ALS.

We now have nine sponsors. As we gain more support, I am hopeful this bill will move forward and eventually become law.

In a testimony about his journey with ALS, Tom writes: "Until there is a treatment or a cure for ALS I will continue to be an avid advocate for change in government policies and procedures that affect all ALS patients in a negative way."

I encourage all Arkansans to take a lesson from Tom's words: Advocacy works. If there is a bill or regulatory matter that impacts your life, I want to hear about it. To become an advocate, contact my office and tell me your story. It is part of my job to represent you in the Senate.

Tom's journey is a remarkable one. He has not let the unexpected discourage him. In fact, he has used his diagnosis to teach others about ALS and

bring us closer to a cure. As Tom himself always says, "Blue skies always." I think that is a mantra everyone in the Senate and Arkansas could adopt, too. It is my honor to recognize Thomas Galyon as this week's Arkansan of the Week.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, I rise to speak in support of the Fiscal Year 2017 National Defense Authorization Act, a bill upon which we have fortunately invoked cloture today and which I hope will allow us to proceed to finish this vitally important legislation.

I wish to commend both Chairman MCCAIN and Ranking Member REED for their leadership as they worked together. Their bill puts us on a path toward addressing the myriad threats we face today. In fact, in my years in the Senate, it is difficult to think of a time in which we have faced more threats from more different adversaries around the world. These national security challenges include the challenges posed by ISIS, as it continues to control territory and key cities in Syria and Iraq and spreads to other countries, such as Libya and Nigeria; Al Qaeda and other Islamic extremist terrorist groups determined to attack our country and our allies; Russia's aggressive operations in Ukraine, the Baltics, and Syria; and China's aggressive military activities in the South China Sea.

This bill funds programs that ensure our Nation's continued presence and deterrence missions, including \$271 million to help complete the construction of two DDG-1000 Destroyers. These ships provide capabilities including stealth technology, electric propulsion, and a smaller crew size. The Navy recently accepted delivery of the first DDG-1000, the Zumwalt—a major milestone for this revolutionary program. Given the ship's cutting-edge technology, unique hull, and advanced combat systems, the shipbuilders at Bath Iron Works in my State should be commended for their exceptional work and dedication in building the largest naval destroyer and the most advanced naval destroyer in history.

The bill before us also includes \$3.2 billion for the procurement of two Arleigh Burke-Class Destroyers as part of a multiyear procurement contract, as well as incremental funding for a third fiscal year 2016 Flight Three Destroyer. This much needed additional destroyer, which ranks No. 2 on the

Navy's unfunded priorities list, will be built at Bath Iron Works. As the workhorses of the Navy, these destroyers help ensure that our Navy's capabilities remain unrivaled in delivering power and presence across the globe. From freedom of navigation missions in the South China Sea to addressing Iranian aggression in the Strait of Hormuz, these ships signal to enemies and allies alike that the U.S. Navy is ready to respond wherever and whenever it is needed.

After years of advocacy, I am pleased this legislation also includes an important provision that requires the Department of Defense to finally comply with the Berry amendment by outfitting new recruits with high-quality athletic shoes made in America by skilled American workers. This amendment, sponsored by my colleague Senator KING, is based upon stand-alone legislation that I introduced with my colleague from Maine. It is good not only for our troops but also for American manufacturing. It is time to stop relying on goods manufactured in foreign countries to outfit those who wear the uniform of our Nation. It is past time for the Department's circumvention of the Berry amendment to be ended when it comes to athletic footwear.

This bill also provides for investments in our public shipyards, which are strategic assets for our national security. For Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, ME, almost \$75 million is authorized for necessary upgrades, including \$18 million for unaccompanied housing, \$30 million for utility improvements for nuclear platforms, and \$27 million to construct a replacement for a medical and dental unit that is in a building that is 100 years old and does not meet current safety standards.

As the senior member of the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee, I am pleased these authorizations match the funding included in our Military Construction and VA spending bill that passed the Senate overwhelmingly a few weeks ago. These investments at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard will result in the high-quality facilities that shipyard personnel deserve as they maintain, repair, and modernize our nuclear submarine fleet.

The bill also provides the resources necessary to help our allies and partners around the world. I am pleased it would authorize \$50 million for the U.S.-Israel Anti-Tunneling Cooperation Program. The terrorist organization Hamas continues to construct tunnels from Gaza to Israel, which have been used by terrorists to sneak across the border and carry out attacks on Israeli citizens.

Meanwhile, we have the problem of Iran, which has continued to defy a U.N. Security Council resolution on its ballistic missile program by conducting flight testing of missiles that

are inherently capable of delivering nuclear weapons that could someday reach the United States. They already are capable of reaching Israel, which is why this bill's continued support for the U.S.-Israeli cooperative missile defense programs is so important.

I am pleased to note that the National Defense Authorization Act contains several measures supporting our servicemembers, who perform the important missions we assign them. These provisions include a 1.6-percent pay raise and reauthorization of bonuses and special pay to help encourage retention. I know this has been a real problem, for example, for the Air Force in retaining the pilots it needs, who oftentimes can make so much more money and have far easier missions and hours in the private sector.

I filed an amendment, as I did last year, to strike a provision in this bill that would unfairly discriminate against women servicemembers. The provision mandates that if two or more servicemembers live in the same house, the amount of the basic allowance for housing payable to each member would be divided by the total number of members in the house. That means, in cases where a servicemember resides with his or her Active-Duty spouse or if a member resides with military roommates, each would proportionately lose his or her stipend for housing under this bill. This disproportionately affects female servicemembers because 20 percent of them are married to another servicemember. In contrast, less than 4 percent of Active-Duty men are married to Active-Duty women servicemembers. I hope we can change this provision.

Other provisions of this bill would provide additional protections for survivors of sexual assault to move closer to the goal of translating the military's stated policy of zero tolerance into reality. Specifically, the bill would create a new punitive article in the Uniform Code of Military Justice that criminalizes acts of retaliation. The article would hold servicemembers accountable if they threaten or take adverse personnel action against those who report or plan to report retaliation.

Finally, this bill would direct the Pentagon to rein in unnecessary and wasteful spending by reducing the number of general and flag officers by 25 percent. This is an issue that I have been working on with Chairman MCCAIN since 2012, and I am pleased to see the continued focus on ending the practice of rank inflation.

I should mention that I have the greatest respect for the high-ranking officials as well as for all who serve in our military. But this is an issue that we do need to deal with, and I believe this bill strikes the appropriate balance. We owe it to taxpayers to assess every efficiency and use every cost-saving measure while also ensuring the security of our Nation.

I thank the Presiding Officer for her patience. I know the Senate is soon to

adjourn. I urge support of this important bill.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PERDUE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION AND FEMALE VETERAN SUICIDE PREVENTION BILLS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, it was encouraging to see the Senate vote to advance the National Defense Authorization Act this morning. It reflects a recognition by this body of the importance of the bill and the moment. The defense authorization act will promote defense innovation and research, it will modernize retirement benefits for our men and women in uniform, and authorize the pay raises they deserve. It will help prepare our country for the threats of today and the challenges of tomorrow, and it will better enable the next Commander in Chief, regardless of party, to deal with them as well. That is critical given that the next President is about to inherit an array of threats and troubling instability in the Middle East.

Yesterday Senators laid out many ways in which President Obama's foreign policy has fallen short. One was lack of strategic vision. Take for instance his unnecessary threat to veto this very bill. He doesn't like bipartisan prohibitions on transferring hardcore terrorists from Guantanamo's secure facilities to American communities or unstable countries. We include similar bipartisan provisions year after year after year. He makes similar threats year after year after year, but he signs the bill year after year, so it is time to quit that.

This bill just advanced in the Senate by a bipartisan vote of 68 to 23. The funding levels this bill authorizes is exactly the same as what President Obama requested in his budget, and unless the President is actually more concerned about a campaign slogan from back in 2008 than he is about grave threats we face in 2016, he will sign it.

I thank colleagues on both sides for their hard work on this legislation, particularly Chairman MCCAIN. He is always on guard for our men and women in uniform, and he is always standing up for our national security. This bill is a reflection of his commitment. It is an important step for the American people, but it is not the only one we took this past week.

It has been reported that we lose over 20 veterans each day to suicide, and one study has revealed that suicide rates among female veterans grew by 40 percent between 2000 and 2010. This is heartbreaking, and it underlines the

importance of the Female Veterans Suicide Prevention Act that the Senate passed earlier this week. This legislation will require the VA to take a closer look at this issue and assess which mental health care and veteran suicide prevention programs are most successful for our female veterans. It builds upon the progress of the Clay Hunt Act, an important law we passed last year that provides more of the suicide prevention and mental health support our veterans deserve.

As Senator ERNST recently reminded us, our servicemembers have selflessly sacrificed in defense of our freedoms, and we should help ensure that they are prepared to transition back to civilian life, which includes access to quality and timely mental health care they deserve. Senator ERNST knows what it means to serve. I thank her for her continued leadership for Iowa and for her work on this bill with Senators BOXER, BLUMENTHAL, and BROWN.

This veterans mental health legislation is another example of what we can accomplish when we work together to find solutions for the American people, and it is another example of a Senate that is back to work.

SOCIAL IMPACT PARTNERSHIP BILL

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, I am pleased to be a cosponsor of S. 1089, a bill to encourage and support partnerships between the public and private sectors to improve our Nation's social programs, and for other purposes, known as the Social Impact Partnership Act, SIPA. This legislation would facilitate the creation of public-private partnerships that have the goal of improving the outcomes from our Nation's social services spending in order to benefit both the people intended to be helped by those programs and the U.S. taxpayer. It would do so by creating the Federal Interagency Council on Social Impact Partnerships, which would recommend to the Treasury Secretary that the Federal Government enter into agreements with State and local governments and private investors to pay for successful social improvement programs funded by private investors out of savings those programs create for the Federal Government.

The bill appropriates \$300 million for this purpose and aims to ensure that the savings to the Federal Government from the projects selected will exceed that \$300 million. If a social services program is not successful, the Federal Government will not pay for it. In this way, SIPA helps to reorient Federal social spending towards measurable improvements in the lives of those served.

While I am supportive of the bill, I do want to note for the record that this bill could benefit from further assurances at a committee markup that the funded projects will result in governmental savings.

The appropriations for the legislation should be offset with spending reduc-

tions in other areas, as has been done in the companion legislation in the House of Representatives.

There should be a specified role in the legislation for CBO and OMB to certify for taxpayers that the Federal performance payments authorized in the bill for successful projects do not exceed actual programmatic savings and that this bill provides better social outcomes for equal or less total money spent.

Finally, the bill should ensure that there is no way for any program stakeholder, government official, or member of the Federal Interagency Council on Social Impact Partnerships to unduly influence the measured outcome of these funded projects, which is required to receive federal payments. As part of these protections, there should be strict conflict of interest rules in place to prohibit those involved in selecting and measuring the projects from having a financial interest in their outcome.

The purpose of the Social Impact Partnership Act is to establish funding for innovative social service projects that work and ending funding for those that do not. If there is any evidence that such innovation is not occurring and SIPA is becoming yet another wasteful and politically influenced government program, I will work to end it.

I thank Senators HATCH and BENNET for their great work on this bill, and I look forward to its markup in the Finance Committee and passage in the full Senate.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO BILLY COX

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to Baxter County Sheriff's Deputy Billy Cox, the American Legion Department of Arkansas Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award recipient.

Deputy Cox has dedicated 13 years to law enforcement and currently serves as the Norfolk school resource officer. He provides a law enforcement presence, but also uses his skills and experiences to help students learn and grow in a safe environment through D.A.R.E. and other youth safety programs. Having worked as a paramedic for two decades, he also teaches CPR to high school students.

Known as Officer Billy to the students and educators around the Norfolk School District, Deputy Cox is a positive role model for the students. Students rely on him to listen to their problems, and he is always patient and willing to listen. Norfolk High School Principal Bobby Hulse says Deputy Cox means a lot to the students and staff.

His dedication to law enforcement has earned Deputy Cox certifications in drug abuse education and gang resistance education. He is a State-certified drug recognition expert.

The American Legion Department of Arkansas Law Enforcement Officer of

the Year Award recognizes law enforcement officers who exceed their responsibilities in uniform and show a commitment to community service. Deputy Cox was nominated for this award by his supervisor, Lt. Ralph Bird, because of the huge impact he has had on students and citizens in the county.

Deputy Cox is well-deserving of this recognition. His dedication, devotion, and commitment to Baxter County and the Norfolk School District are apparent every day.

I offer my congratulations to Deputy Billy Cox for receiving this honor and wish him continued success in his law enforcement career.●

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 3826. An act to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to modify provisions relating to certain land exchanges in the Mt. Hood Wilderness in the State of Oregon.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC-5706. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “D-glucurono-6-deoxy-L-manno-D-glucan, acetate, calcium magnesium potassium sodium salt (diutan gum); Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance” (FRL No. 9946-48) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 8, 2016; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5707. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Alpha-2,4,6-Tris[1-(phenylethyl)-Omega-hydroxypoly(oxyethylene) poly(oxypropylene) copolymer; Tolerance Exemption; Technical Correction” (FRL No. 9946-43) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 8, 2016; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5708. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Alcohols, C>14, ethoxylated; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance” (FRL No. 9946-16) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 8, 2016; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5709. A communication from the Board Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Rules of Practice and Procedure; Adjusting Civil Money Penalties for Inflation” (RIN3052-AD16) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 7, 2016; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5710. A communication from the Board Chairman, Farm Credit System Insurance

Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Rules of Practice and Procedure; Adjusting Civil Money Penalties for Inflation” (RIN3055-AA11) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 8, 2016; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5711. A communication from the Secretary of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Margin Requirements for Uncleared Swaps for Swap Dealers and Major Swap Participants—Cross-Border Application of the Margin Requirements” (RIN3038-AC97) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 8, 2016; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5712. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Implementation of the February 2015 Australia Group (AG) Interseasonal Decisions and the June 2015 AG Plenary Understandings” (RIN0694-AG88) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 8, 2016; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5713. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for Central Air Conditioners and Heat Pumps” ((RIN1904-AB94) (Docket No. EERE-2009-BT-TP-0004)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 8, 2016; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-5714. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations and Standards Branch, Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Oil and Gas and Sulfur Operations in the Outer Continental Shelf - Technical Corrections” (RIN1014-AA15) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2016; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-5715. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Standards of Performance for New Stationary Sources and Emission Guidelines for Existing Sources: Commercial and Industrial Solid Waste Incineration Units” ((RIN2060-AS11) (FRL No. 9945-72-OAR)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 8, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5716. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Secondary Aluminum Production” ((RIN2060-AS94) (FRL No. 9947-30-OAR)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 8, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5717. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Hazardous Chemical Reporting: Community Right-to-Know; Revisions to Hazard Categories and Minor Corrections” ((RIN2050-AG85) (FRL No. 9945-07-OLEM)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 8, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5718. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Completeness Findings for 110(a)(2)(C) State Implementation Plan Pertaining to the Fine Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5}) NAAQS; California; El Dorado County Air Quality Management District and Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District” (FRL No. 9947-35-Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 8, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5719. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; California; California Mobile Source Regulations” (FRL No. 9947-59-Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 8, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5720. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; Minnesota; Sulfur Dioxide” (FRL No. 9947-48-Region 5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 8, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5721. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; Indiana; Removal of Gasoline Vapor Recovery Requirements” (FRL No. 9947-39-Region 5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 8, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5722. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; Illinois; NAAQS Updates” (FRL No. 9946-80-Region 5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 8, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5723. A communication from the Acting Chief of the Unified Listing Team, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for the Zuni Bluehead Sucker” (RIN1018-AZ23) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 7, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5724. A communication from the Chief of the Wildlife Trade and Conservation Branch, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Revisions of the Section 4(d) Rule for the African Elephant (*Loxodonta africana*)” (RIN1018-AX84) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 7, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5725. A communication from the Acting Chief of the Unified Listing Team, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Determination That Designation of Critical Habitat is Not Prudent For The Northern Long-Eared Bat” (RIN1018-AZ62) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 7, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5726. A communication from the Acting Chief of the Unified Listing Team, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for the Oregon Spotted Frog" (RIN1018-AZ56) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 7, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5727. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Update of Weighted Average Interest Rates, Yield Curves, and Segment Rates" (Notice 2016-33) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 8, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5728. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Cosentino v. Commissioner, T.C. Memo 2014-186" (AOD 124337-15) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 8, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5729. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Applying for Certification as a Certified Professional Employer Organization" (Rev. Proc. 2016-33) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 8, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5730. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Certain Transfers of Property to Regulated Investment Companies [RICs] and Real Estate Investment Trusts" ((RIN1545-BN39) (TD 9770)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 8, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5731. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulations and Reports Clearance, Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015, section 701: Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015" (RIN0960-AH99) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 8, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5732. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System" (RIN0970-AB90) received during adjournment of the Senate in the office of the President of the Senate on May 27, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5733. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the extension of waiver authority for Belarus; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5734. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the extension of waiver authority for Turkmenistan; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5735. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the International Labor Organization Recommendations concerning the Transition from the Informal to

the Formal Economy (No. 204), adopted by the 104th session of the International Labor Conference at Geneva; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5736. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "International Traffic in Arms: Revisions to Definition of Export and Related Definitions" (RIN1400-AD70) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 26, 2016; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5737. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Paying Benefits" (29 CFR Part 4022) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 8, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5738. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Adjustment of Civil Penalties" (RIN1212-AB33) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 8, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5739. A communication from the Deputy Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Food Additives Permitted in Feed and Drinking Water of Animals; Chromium Propionate" (Docket No. FDA-2014-F-0232) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5740. A communication from the Inspector General of the General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5741. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Transportation's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5742. A joint communication from the Chairman and the General Counsel, National Labor Relations Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Inspector General Semiannual Report for the period of October 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5743. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and a Management Report for the period from October 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5744. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 21-292, "Sense of the Council in Support of a 'Statehood or Else' Signature Campaign Resolution of 2015"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5745. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Education's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2015 through

March 31, 2016; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5746. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "General Services Administration Acquisition Regulation (GSAR); Rewrite of GSAR Part 515, Contracting by Negotiation" (RIN3090-AI76) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2016; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5747. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "General Services Administration Acquisition Regulation (GSAR); Rewrite of GSAR Part 517, Special Contracting Methods" (RIN3090-AI51) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2016; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5748. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "General Services Administration Acquisition Regulation (GSAR); Purchasing by Non-Federal Entities" (RIN3090-AJ43) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2016; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5749. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of Grants Management, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Small Business Government Contracting and National Defense Authorization Act of 2013 Amendments" (RIN3245-AG58) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 8, 2016; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC-5750. A communication from the Senior Attorney Advisor, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Statewide and Nonmetropolitan Transportation Planning; Metropolitan Transportation Planning" (RIN2125-AF52) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 7, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5751. A communication from the Paralegal, Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Statewide and Nonmetropolitan Transportation Planning; Metropolitan Transportation Planning" (RIN2132-AB10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 7, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5752. A communication from the Senior Attorney Advisor, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Categorical Exclusions" (RIN2125-AF69) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 7, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5753. A communication from the Senior Attorney Advisor, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Commercial Zones at International Border with Mexico" (RIN2126-AB86) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 7, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 3048. A bill to withdraw certain Federal land located in Malheur County, Oregon, from all forms of entry, appropriation, or disposal under the public land laws, location, entry, and patent under the mining laws, and operation under the mineral leasing laws, to provide for the conduct of certain economic activities in Malheur County, Oregon, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. UDALL (for himself and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. 3049. A bill to designate the Organ Mountains and other public land as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 3050. A bill to limit donations made pursuant to settlement agreements in which the United States is a party; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. Res. 488. A resolution recognizing the historical significance and the 50th anniversary of the "James H. Meredith March Against Fear", a 220-mile walk down Highway 51 from Memphis, Tennessee, to Jackson, Mississippi; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. MCCONNELL):

S. Res. 489. A resolution honoring the life and achievements of Muhammad Ali; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. BENNET, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. HATCH, and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. Res. 490. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that ambush marketing adversely affects the United States Olympic and Paralympic teams; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BURR, and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. Res. 491. A resolution designating June 12, 2016, as a national day of racial amity and reconciliation; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. PAUL, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. MCCONNELL):

S. Res. 492. A resolution designating the week of June 6 through June 12, 2016, as "Hemp History Week"; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 386

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 386, a bill to limit the authority of States to tax certain income of employees for employment duties performed in other States.

S. 1089

At the request of Mr. CORKER, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1089, a bill to encourage and support partnerships between the public and private sectors to improve our Nation's social programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1212

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1212, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Small Business Act to expand the availability of employee stock ownership plans in S corporations, and for other purposes.

S. 1239

At the request of Mr. DONNELLY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1239, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act with respect to the ethanol waiver for the Reid vapor pressure limitations under that Act.

S. 1555

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1555, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the Filipino veterans of World War II, in recognition of the dedicated service of the veterans during World War II.

S. 1779

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1779, a bill to prevent conflicts of interest that stem from executive Government employees receiving bonuses or other compensation arrangements from nongovernment sources, from the revolving door that raises concerns about the independence of financial services regulators, and from the revolving door that casts aspersions over the awarding of Government contracts and other financial benefits.

S. 2031

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2031, a bill to reduce temporarily the royalty required to be paid for sodium produced on Federal lands, and for other purposes.

S. 2216

At the request of Mrs. MCCASKILL, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2216, a bill to provide immunity from suit for certain individuals who disclose potential examples of financial exploitation of senior citizens, and for other purposes.

S. 2904

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2904, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to elimi-

nate the five month waiting period for disability insurance benefits under such title for individuals with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

S. 2924

At the request of Mr. REID, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) and the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 2924, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to former United States Senator Max Cleland.

S. 2968

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2968, a bill to reauthorize the Office of Special Counsel, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 483

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 483, a resolution designating June 20, 2016, as "American Eagle Day" and celebrating the recovery and restoration of the bald eagle, the national symbol of the United States.

S. RES. 486

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 486, a resolution commemorating "Cruise Travel Professional Month" in October 2016.

AMENDMENT NO. 4383

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4383 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4417

At the request of Mr. Kaine, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4417 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4458

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4458 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of

the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4490

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4490 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4550

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4550 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4629

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4629 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4641

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4641 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 3048. A bill to withdraw certain Federal land located in Malheur County, Oregon, from all forms of entry, appropriation, or disposal under the public land laws, location, entry, and patent under the mining laws, and operation under the mineral leasing laws, to provide for the conduct of certain economic activities in Malheur County, Oregon, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, today I am introducing the Southeastern Or-

egon Mineral Withdrawal and Economic Preservation and Development Act to provide a boost to the rural Oregon economy and to protect the world-renowned Southeastern Oregon landscape. I am pleased to introduce this bill with my colleague from Oregon, Senator JEFF MERKLEY.

In Southeastern Oregon, the high desert landscape is home to hundreds of millions of acres of public lands that have hosted cattle ranching and visitors and locals for generations. These lands are supported by Oregonians who grew up there and who rely on them as a long-time linchpin for their local economies. The equation is simple: Healthy public lands mean healthy economies in this part of Oregon. And outside threats to those lands place local economies in peril.

I understand that companies, including foreign companies, want to come into Southeastern Oregon to explore for minerals, including uranium. This is deeply troubling because these mining operations are dangerous—to the existing local economies as well as to the environment, over all. By potentially hamstringing the creation of jobs in agriculture and recreation, and stunting the growth of small businesses, blocking mining in these areas protects this local potential.

Senator MERKLEY and I are introducing this bill because the risks posed by mineral exploration to the communities and their way of life are far too great to roll the dice.

Not only does our bill protect more than 2 million acres from mineral exploration and extraction, it creates and expands programs to support Southeastern Oregon communities so they can grow their economies and build on their strengths. These programs include grants to develop modern and efficient water storage systems to keep livestock out of rivers and streams and reduce the need to transport water. They also include infrastructure grants to improve roads for farmers and agriculture-related businesses, as well as job training for veterans and young people get started in agriculture. Finally, our bill would address broader economic issues by establishing an Agriculture Center of Excellence to expand local agriculture research, providing additional assistance to local and rural firefighters, improving water and wastewater systems, and deploying broadband service and cellphone towers.

With these investments in Southeastern Oregon, communities can create jobs, train a new generation of workers, and modernize their economies. All those gains can be achieved while protecting Malheur County's natural landscape and ensuring that the historic uses of the land can continue without interruption from harmful mining operations.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 488—RECOGNIZING THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE "JAMES H. MEREDITH MARCH AGAINST FEAR", A 220-MILE WALK DOWN HIGHWAY 51 FROM MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, TO JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 488

Whereas the Supreme Court of the United States, in *Brown v. Board of Education*, 347 U.S. 483 (1954), ruled that separating children in public schools on the basis of race violates the 14th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States;

Whereas in the years following *Brown v. Board of Education*, 347 U.S. 483 (1954), some Southern States, including the State of Mississippi, continued to uphold racial segregation;

Whereas, in 1962, the first African-American integrated the University of Mississippi (referred to in this preamble as "Ole Miss");

Whereas, in 1965, the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.), which passed Congress with bipartisan support and was signed by President Lyndon Johnson, prohibited racial discrimination in voting;

Whereas, in 1966, 4 years after integration, the first African-American student at Ole Miss planned a 220-mile march from Memphis, Tennessee, to Jackson, Mississippi (referred to in this preamble as the "Meredith March Against Fear")—

(1) to challenge the fear that dominated the day-to-day lives of African-Americans in the Southern United States, specifically in the State of Mississippi; and

(2) to encourage the 450,000 unregistered African-Americans in the State of Mississippi to register to vote and to go to the polls;

Whereas, on June 5, 1966, the historic Meredith March Against Fear began at the Peabody Hotel in downtown Memphis, Tennessee;

Whereas the self-reliant and determined leader of the Meredith March Against Fear carried no food, clothing, or sleeping bag, and was joined only by a small number of African-American supporters and Whites from the North;

Whereas on reaching the border between the States of Tennessee and Mississippi, the marchers were greeted with hostility;

Whereas, on June 6, 1966, the Meredith March Against Fear continued south along United States Highway 51 through DeSoto County toward the town of Hernando, Mississippi;

Whereas 150 African-American men and women greeted the marchers at the town square in Hernando, Mississippi;

Whereas the visit of the marchers to Hernando, Mississippi, embodied the purpose of the Meredith March Against Fear, "to explain [to African Americans] that the old order was passing, that they should stand up as men with nothing to fear";

Whereas, on June 6, 1966, about 1 mile south of Hernando, Mississippi, the leader of the Meredith March Against Fear was shot 3 times by an attempted assassin;

Whereas, on June 7, 1966, national civil rights leaders, including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Floyd McKissick, and Stokely Carmichael, resumed the Meredith March

Against Fear while their leader recovered from the attempted assassination;

Whereas, over the next 3 weeks, the marchers weathered violence and tear gas, but accomplished what the Meredith March Against Fear set out to accomplish;

Whereas voter rallies and drives along United States Highway 51 resulted in more than 4,000 African-Americans registering to vote;

Whereas the Meredith March Against Fear featured many African-Americans defying the intimidation of hostile Whites;

Whereas, on June 25, 1966, the leader of the Meredith March Against Fear, along with 125 allies, resumed the march from the Canton, Mississippi, courthouse, located 15 miles north of Jackson, Mississippi;

Whereas the number of marchers doubled to approximately 250 by the time the Meredith March Against Fear reached the city limits of Canton, Mississippi;

Whereas 1 mile north of Tougaloo College, the marchers were met by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and hundreds of additional followers;

Whereas hundreds of supporters were led through the iron-rod gate at the main entrance to the Tougaloo campus in Jackson, Mississippi;

Whereas, on June 26, 1966, the Meredith March Against Fear concluded with a walk from Tougaloo College to the Mississippi State Capitol building in Jackson, Mississippi;

Whereas approximately 15,000 individuals attended the climactic conclusion of the Meredith March Against Fear, making it the largest civil rights demonstration in the history of the State of Mississippi; and

Whereas the self-sufficiency and resolve that motivated the Meredith March Against Fear made its leader a revolutionary and a powerful figure in the history of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the 50th anniversary of the “James H. Meredith March Against Fear”;

(2) recognizes the discipline and focus required to complete the James H. Meredith March Against Fear during the most contentious decade in the Civil Rights Movement to encourage African-Americans to defy intimidation and register voters; and

(3) acknowledges the significance of the James H. Meredith March Against Fear.

SENATE RESOLUTION 489—HONORING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF MUHAMMAD ALI

Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. MCCONNELL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 489

Whereas Muhammad Ali was an Olympic gold medalist;

Whereas the athletic legacy of Muhammad Ali is cemented by a 21-year professional career amid a golden age of boxing, in which he amassed a record of 56-5 with 37 knockouts;

Whereas Muhammad Ali was the first individual ever to capture the World Heavyweight Title 3 times;

Whereas Muhammad Ali memorably recaptured the world title in the “Rumble in the Jungle” on October 30, 1974, when he knocked out then-undefeated World Heavyweight Champion George Foreman;

Whereas Muhammad Ali successfully defended his title 10 times, perhaps most famously during the “Thrilla in Manila” on October 1, 1975;

Whereas Muhammad Ali showed, beyond his impressive fighting prowess in the boxing

ring, even greater courage and tenacity as an advocate outside the ring;

Whereas Muhammad Ali was a great philanthropist and a widely recognized advocate of peace, equality, and freedom;

Whereas Muhammad Ali remains an icon of freedom of conscience;

Whereas Muhammad Ali was a prominent African American of the Muslim faith, and was and continues to be a role model to the citizens of the United States of all races, ethnicities, and religions;

Whereas Muhammad Ali used his fame to advocate for humanitarian causes in audiences with world leaders, such as Pope John Paul II, the Dalai Lama, and multiple presidents of the United States; and

Whereas Muhammad Ali inspired people around the globe in displaying the same vibrant and larger-than-life character and dedication in spite of his physical ailments: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate honors the life of Muhammad Ali and his achievements as an athlete, philanthropist, and humanitarian.

SENATE RESOLUTION 490—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT AMBUSH MARKETING ADVERSELY AFFECTS THE UNITED STATES OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC TEAMS

Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. BENNET, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. HATCH, and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 490

Whereas the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games will occur on August 5, 2016, through August 21, 2016, and September 7, 2016, through September 18, 2016, respectively, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil;

Whereas more than 10,500 athletes from 206 nations will compete in 28 Olympic sports and 4,350 Paralympic athletes from 176 nations will compete in 23 Paralympic sports;

Whereas American athletes have spent countless days, months, and years training to earn a spot on the United States Olympic or Paralympic teams;

Whereas the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act (36 U.S.C. 220501 et seq.)—

(1) established the United States Olympic Committee as the coordinating body for all Olympic and Paralympic athletic activity in the United States;

(2) gave the United States Olympic Committee the exclusive right in the United States to use the words “Olympic”, “Olympiad”, “Paralympic”, and “Paralympiad”, the emblem of the United States Olympic Committee, and the symbols of the International Olympic Committee and the International Paralympic Committee; and

(3) empowered the United States Olympic Committee to authorize sponsors that contribute to the United States Olympic or Paralympic teams to use any trademark, symbol, insignia, or emblem of the International Olympic Committee, the International Paralympic Committee, the Pan-American Sports Organization, or the United States Olympic Committee;

Whereas Team USA is significantly funded by 36 sponsors who ensure that the United States has the best Olympic and Paralympic teams possible;

Whereas in recent years, a number of entities in the United States have engaged in marketing strategies that appear to affiliate themselves with the Olympic and Paralympic Games without becoming official sponsors of Team USA;

Whereas any ambush marketing in violation of the Lanham Act (15 U.S.C. 1051 et seq.) undermines sponsorship activities and creates consumer confusion around official Olympic and Paralympic sponsors; and

Whereas ambush marketing impedes the goals of the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act (36 U.S.C. 220501 et seq.) to fund the United States Olympic and Paralympic teams through official sponsorships: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) official sponsor support is critical to the success of Team USA at all international competitions; and

(2) ambush marketing adversely affects the United States Olympic and Paralympic teams and their ability to attract and retain corporate sponsorships.

SENATE RESOLUTION 491—DESIGNATING JUNE 12, 2016, AS A NATIONAL DAY OF RACIAL AMITY AND RECONCILIATION

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BURR, and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 491

Whereas the greatest asset of the United States is the people of the United States;

Whereas the motto on the Great Seal of the United States is E Pluribus Unum, “out of many, one”;

Whereas the United States is comprised of multicultural, multiethnic, and multiracial people;

Whereas friendship, collegiality, civility, respect, and kindness are commonly shared ideals of the people of the United States; and

Whereas organizations and communities across the United States, motivated by the ideals behind the motto of E Pluribus Unum, have joined together in introspection and reflection on how the diversity of the people of the United States has been indispensable in creating the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates June 12, 2016, as a national day of racial amity and reconciliation;

(2) supports all people of the United States who join in activities in support of the goals and ideals of racial amity; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 492—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF JUNE 6 THROUGH JUNE 12, 2016, AS “HEMP HISTORY WEEK”

Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. PAUL, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. MCCONNELL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 492

Whereas Hemp History Week will be held from June 6 through June 12, 2016;

Whereas the goals of Hemp History Week are to commemorate the historical relevance of industrial hemp in the United States and to promote the full growth potential of the industrial hemp industry;

Whereas industrial hemp is an agricultural commodity that has been used for centuries to produce many innovative industrial and consumer products, including soap, fabric, textiles, construction materials, clothing, paper, cosmetics, food, and beverages;

Whereas the global market for hemp is estimated to consist of more than 25,000 products;

Whereas the value of hemp imported into the United States for use in the production of other retail products is estimated at approximately \$76,000,000 annually;

Whereas the United States hemp industry estimates that the annual market value of hemp retail sales in the United States is more than \$570,000,000;

Whereas despite the legitimate uses of hemp, many agricultural producers of the United States are prohibited under current law from growing hemp;

Whereas because most hemp cannot be grown legally in the United States, raw hemp material and hemp products are imported for sale in the United States;

Whereas the United States is the largest consumer of hemp products in the world, but the United States is the only major industrialized country that restricts hemp farming; and

Whereas industrial hemp holds great potential to bolster the agricultural economy of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of June 6 through June 12, 2016, as “Hemp History Week”;

(2) recognizes the historical relevance of industrial hemp; and

(3) recognizes the growing economic potential of industrial hemp.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4670. Mr. NELSON (for himself and Mr. GARDNER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4607 submitted by Mr. MCCAIN to the bill S. 2943, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4671. Mr. NELSON (for himself and Mr. GARDNER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2943, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4672. Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. VITTER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4253 submitted by Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. VITTER) and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 2943, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4673. Mr. TOOMEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4609 submitted by Mr. ALEXANDER and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 2943, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4674. Mr. TOOMEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4608 submitted by Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mrs. MURRAY) and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 2943, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4675. Mr. BENNETT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2943, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4676. Mr. VITTER (for himself and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4253 submitted by Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. VITTER) and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 2943, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4677. Mr. MCCAIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2943, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4678. Mr. REID (for himself and Mr. HELLER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2943, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4670. Mr. NELSON (for himself and Mr. GARDNER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4607 submitted by Mr. MCCAIN to the bill S. 2943, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1, between lines 3 and 4, insert the following:

SEC. 829B. COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT AND PHASE OUT OF ROCKET ENGINES FROM THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION IN THE EVOLVED EXPENDABLE LAUNCH VEHICLE PROGRAM FOR SPACE LAUNCH OF NATIONAL SECURITY SATELLITES.

(a) INEFFECTIVENESS OF SUPERSEDED REQUIREMENTS.—Sections 1036 and 1037 shall have no force or effect, and the amendments proposed to be made by section 1037 shall not be made.

(b) IN GENERAL.—Any competition for a contract for the provision of launch services for the evolved expendable launch vehicle program shall be open for award to all certified providers of evolved expendable launch vehicle-class systems.

(c) AWARD OF CONTRACTS.—In awarding a contract under subsection (b), the Secretary of Defense—

(1) subject to paragraph (2) and subsection (d), and notwithstanding any other provision of law, may, during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on December 31, 2022, award the contract to a provider of launch services that intends to use any certified launch vehicle in its inventory without regard to the country of origin of the rocket engine that will be used on that launch vehicle; and

(2) may only award contracts utilizing an engine designed or manufactured in the Russian Federation for phase 1(a) and phase 2 evolved expendable launch vehicle procurements.

(d) LIMITATION.—The total number of rocket engines designed or manufactured in the Russian Federation and used on launch vehicles for the evolved expendable launch vehicle program shall not exceed 18.

SA 4671. Mr. NELSON (for himself and Mr. GARDNER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2943, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike sections 1036 and 1037 and insert the following:

SEC. 1036. COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT AND PHASE OUT OF ROCKET ENGINES FROM THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION IN THE EVOLVED EXPENDABLE LAUNCH VEHICLE PROGRAM FOR SPACE LAUNCH OF NATIONAL SECURITY SATELLITES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Any competition for a contract for the provision of launch services

for the evolved expendable launch vehicle program shall be open for award to all certified providers of evolved expendable launch vehicle-class systems.

(b) AWARD OF CONTRACTS.—In awarding a contract under subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense—

(1) subject to paragraph (2) and subsection (c), and notwithstanding any other provision of law, may, during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on December 31, 2022, award the contract to a provider of launch services that intends to use any certified launch vehicle in its inventory without regard to the country of origin of the rocket engine that will be used on that launch vehicle; and

(2) may only award contracts utilizing an engine designed or manufactured in the Russian Federation for phase 1(a) and phase 2 evolved expendable launch vehicle procurements.

(c) LIMITATION.—The total number of rocket engines designed or manufactured in the Russian Federation and used on launch vehicles for the evolved expendable launch vehicle program shall not exceed 18.

SA 4672. Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. VITTER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4253 submitted by Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. VITTER) and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 2943, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

DIVISION F—SBIR AND STTR REAUTHORIZATION AND IMPROVEMENTS

SEC. 6001. SHORT TITLE.

This division may be cited as the “SBIR and STTR Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 2016”.

TITLE LXI—REAUTHORIZATION OF PROGRAMS

SEC. 6101. PERMANENCY OF SBIR PROGRAM AND STTR PROGRAM.

(a) SBIR.—Section 9(m) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(m)) is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by striking “TERMINATION” and inserting “SBIR PROGRAM AUTHORIZATION”; and

(2) by striking “terminate on September 30, 2017” and inserting “be in effect for each fiscal year”.

(b) STTR.—Section 9(n)(1)(A) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(n)(1)(A)) is amended by striking “through fiscal year 2017”.

TITLE LXII—ENHANCED SMALL BUSINESS ACCESS TO FEDERAL INNOVATION INVESTMENTS

SEC. 6201. ALLOCATION INCREASES AND TRANSPARENCY IN BASE CALCULATION.

(a) SBIR.—Section 9(f) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(f)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “expend” and inserting “obligate for expenditure”; and

(B) in subparagraph (H), by striking “and” at the end;

(C) in subparagraph (I), by striking “in fiscal year 2017 and each fiscal year thereafter,” and inserting “in each of fiscal years 2017 through 2021”; and

(D) by inserting after subparagraph (I) the following:

“(J) for a Federal agency other than the Department of Defense, the National Science Foundation, or the Department of Health and Human Services—

“(i) not less than 3.4 percent of the extramural budget for research or research and development of the Federal agency in fiscal year 2022;

“(ii) not less than 3.6 percent of such extramural budget in fiscal year 2023;

“(iii) not less than 3.8 percent of such extramural budget in fiscal year 2024;

“(iv) not less than 4 percent of such extramural budget in fiscal year 2025;

“(v) not less than 4.2 percent of such extramural budget in fiscal year 2026;

“(vi) not less than 4.4 percent of such extramural budget in fiscal year 2027; and

“(vii) not less than 4.54 percent of such extramural budget in fiscal year 2028 and each fiscal year thereafter;

“(K) for the Department of Defense—

“(i) not less than 2.6 percent of the budget for research, development, test, and evaluation of the Department of Defense in fiscal year 2022;

“(ii) not less than 2.7 percent of such budget in fiscal year 2023;

“(iii) not less than 2.8 percent of such budget in fiscal year 2024;

“(iv) not less than 2.9 percent of such budget in fiscal year 2025;

“(v) not less than 3 percent of such budget in fiscal year 2026;

“(vi) not less than 3.1 percent of such budget in fiscal year 2027;

“(vii) not less than 3.2 percent of such budget in fiscal year 2028;

“(viii) not less than 3.3 percent of such budget in fiscal year 2029;

“(ix) not less than 3.4 percent of such budget in fiscal year 2030; and

“(x) not less than 3.5 percent of such budget in fiscal year 2031 and each fiscal year thereafter; and

“(L) for the National Science Foundation and the Department of Health and Human Services, for fiscal year 2022 and each fiscal year thereafter, the lesser of—

“(i) the percentage of the extramural budget for research or research and development of the National Science Foundation or the Department of Health and Human Services, respectively, equal to the sum of—

“(I) the percentage in effect under this paragraph for the National Science Foundation or the Department of Health and Human Services, respectively, for the previous fiscal year; and

“(II)(aa) 0.04 percent; or

“(bb) if the extramural budget for research or research and development of the National Science Foundation or the Department of Health and Human Services, respectively, for the fiscal year is not less than 103 percent of such extramural budget for the previous fiscal year, 0.2 percent; or

“(ii) 4.5 percent of the extramural budget for research or research and development of the National Science Foundation or the Department of Health and Human Services, respectively.”;

(2) in paragraph (2)(B), by inserting “(or for the Department of Defense, an amount of the budget for basic research of the Department of Defense)” after “research”; and

(3) in paragraph (4), by inserting “(or for the Department of Defense an amount of the budget for research, development, test, and evaluation of the Department of Defense)” after “of the agency”.

(b) STTR.—Section 9(n)(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(n)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) by striking “expend” and inserting “obligate for expenditure”; and

(B) by striking “not less than the percentage of that extramural budget specified in subparagraph (B)” and inserting “for a Federal agency other than the Department of Defense, the National Science Foundation, or the Department of Health and Human Services, not less than the percentage of that extramural budget specified in subparagraph (B), for the Department of Defense, not less than the percentage of the budget for research, development, test, and evaluation of the Department of Defense specified in subparagraph (B), and for the National Science Foundation and the Department of Health and Human Services, not less than the percentage of that extramural budget specified in subparagraph (C)”;

(2) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) in the subparagraph heading, by inserting “OTHER THAN FOR NSF AND HHS” after “AMOUNTS”;

(B) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “the extramural budget required to be expended by an agency” and inserting “the extramural budget, for a Federal agency other than the Department of Defense, the National Science Foundation, or the Department of Health and Human Services, and of the budget for research, development, test, and evaluation, for the Department of Defense, required to be obligated for expenditure with small business concerns”;

(C) in clause (iv), by striking “and” at the end;

(D) in clause (v), by striking “fiscal year 2016 and each fiscal year thereafter.” and inserting “each of fiscal years 2016 through 2021.”; and

(E) by adding at the end the following:

“(vi) 0.5 percent for fiscal year 2022;

“(vii) 0.55 percent for fiscal year 2023;

“(viii) 0.6 percent for fiscal year 2024;

“(ix) 0.65 percent for fiscal year 2025;

“(x) 0.7 percent for fiscal year 2026;

“(xi) 0.75 percent for fiscal year 2027;

“(xii) 0.8 percent for fiscal year 2028;

“(xiii) 0.85 percent for fiscal year 2029;

“(xiv) 0.9 percent for fiscal year 2030; and

“(xv) 0.95 percent for fiscal year 2031 and each fiscal year thereafter.”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) EXPENDITURE AMOUNTS FOR NSF AND HHS.—The percentage of the extramural budget required to be expended by the National Science Foundation and the Department of Health and Human Services in accordance with subparagraph (A) shall be—

“(i) for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2021, 0.45 percent; and

“(ii) for fiscal year 2022 and each fiscal year thereafter, the lesser of—

“(I) the percentage of the extramural budget for research or research and development of the National Science Foundation or the Department of Health and Human Services, respectively, equal to the sum of—

“(aa) the percentage in effect under this paragraph for the National Science Foundation or the Department of Health and Human Services, respectively, for the previous fiscal year; and

“(bb)(AA) 0 percent; or

“(BB) if the extramural budget for research or research and development of the National Science Foundation or the Department of Health and Human Services, respectively, for the fiscal year is not less than 103 percent of such extramural budget for the previous fiscal year, 0.05 percent; or

“(II) 0.95 percent of the extramural budget for research or research and development of the National Science Foundation or the Department of Health and Human Services, respectively.”.

SEC. 6202. REGULAR OVERSIGHT OF AWARD AMOUNTS.

(a) ELIMINATION OF AUTOMATIC INFLATION ADJUSTMENTS.—Section 9(j) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(j)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)(D), by inserting “through fiscal year 2016” after “every year”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) 2016 MODIFICATIONS FOR DOLLAR VALUE OF AWARDS.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of the SBIR and STTR Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 2016, the Administrator shall modify the policy directives issued under this subsection to—

“(A) eliminate the annual adjustments for inflation of the dollar value of awards described in paragraph (2)(D); and

“(B) clarify that Congress intends to review the dollar value of awards every 3 fiscal years.”.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING REGULAR REVIEW OF THE AWARD SIZES.—It is the sense of Congress that for fiscal year 2019, and every third fiscal year thereafter, Congress should evaluate whether the maximum award sizes under the Small Business Innovation Research Program and the Small Business Technology Transfer Program under section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638) should be adjusted and, if so, take appropriate action to direct that such adjustments be made under the policy directives issued under subsection (j) of such section.

(c) CLARIFICATION OF SEQUENTIAL PHASE II AWARDS.—Section 9(ff) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(ff)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(3) CLARIFICATION OF SEQUENTIAL PHASE II AWARDS.—The head of a Federal agency shall ensure that any sequential Phase II award is made in accordance with the limitations on award sizes under subsection (aa).

“(4) CROSS-AGENCY SEQUENTIAL PHASE II AWARDS.—A small business concern that receives a sequential Phase II SBIR or Phase II STTR award for a project from a Federal agency is eligible to receive an additional sequential Phase II award that continues work on that project from another Federal agency.”.

TITLE LXIII—COMMERCIALIZATION IMPROVEMENTS

SEC. 6301. PERSISTENCY OF THE COMMERCIALIZATION PILOT PROGRAM FOR CIVILIAN AGENCIES.

Section 9(gg) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(gg)) is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by striking “PILOT PROGRAM” and inserting “COMMERCIALIZATION DEVELOPMENT AWARDS”;

(2) by striking paragraphs (2), (7), and (8);

(3) by redesignating paragraphs (3), (4), (5), and (6) as paragraphs (2), (3), (4), and (5), respectively;

(4) by adding at the end the following:

“(6) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection—

“(A) the term ‘commercialization development program’ means a program established by a covered Federal agency under paragraph (1); and

“(B) the term ‘covered Federal agency’—

“(i) means a Federal agency participating in the SBIR program or the STTR program; and

“(ii) does not include the Department of Defense.”; and

(5) by striking “pilot program” each place it appears and inserting “commercialization development program”.

SEC. 6302. ENFORCEMENT OF NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS GOAL FOR FEDERAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

Section 9(h) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(h)) is amended to read as follows:

“(h) NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS GOAL FOR FEDERAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator, in consultation with Federal agencies, shall establish a Governmentwide goal for each fiscal year, which shall be not less than 10 percent, for the percentage of the amounts made available for research or research and development that shall be obligated for funding agreements—

“(A) with small business concerns; or

“(B) that will facilitate the development of research and development small business concerns.

“(2) AGENCY GOALS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The head of each Federal agency which has a budget for research or research and development in excess of \$20,000,000, in consultation with the Administrator, shall establish a goal for the Federal agency for each fiscal year that is appropriate to the mission of the Federal agency for the percentage of such budget that shall be obligated for funding agreements—

“(i) with small business concerns; or

“(ii) that will facilitate the development of research and development small business concerns.

“(B) LIMITATION.—The head of a Federal agency may not establish a percentage goal under subparagraph (A) for a fiscal year that is less than the percentage goal that was established under subparagraph (A) for the Federal agency for the previous fiscal year.”.

SEC. 6303. TRACKING RAPID INNOVATION FUND AWARDS IN ANNUAL CONGRESSIONAL REPORT.

Section 9(b)(7) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(b)(7)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (F), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (G), by adding “and” at the end; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(H) information regarding awards under the Rapid Innovation Program under section 1073 of the Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011 (Public Law 111-383; 124 Stat. 4366; 10 U.S.C. 2359 note), including—

“(i) the number and dollar amount of awards made under the Rapid Innovation Program to business concerns receiving an award under the SBIR program or the STTR program;

“(ii) the proportion of awards under the Rapid Innovation Program made to business concerns receiving an award under the SBIR program or the STTR program;

“(iii) the proportion of awards under the Rapid Innovation Program made to small business concerns; and

“(iv) a projection of the effect on the number of awards under the Rapid Innovation Program if amounts to carry out the program were made available as a fixed allocation of the amount appropriated to the Department of Defense for research, development, test, and evaluation, excluding amounts appropriated for the defense universities.”.

SEC. 6304. PROTECTING INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES.

Section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(tt) PROTECTING INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES.—

“(1) COST-REIMBURSEMENT CONTRACTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B)(ii), the cost of seeking protection for intellectual property, including a trademark, copyright, or patent, that was created through work performed under an STTR award that uses a cost-reimbursement contract or an SBIR award that uses a cost-reimbursement contract is allowable as an indirect cost under that award.

“(B) CLARIFICATION OF PATENT COSTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A Federal agency shall not directly or indirectly inhibit, through the policies, directives, or practices of the Federal agency, an otherwise eligible small business concern performing under an award described in subparagraph (A) from recovering patent costs incurred as requirements under that award, including—

“(I) the costs of preparing—

“(aa) invention disclosures;

“(bb) reports; and

“(cc) other documents;

“(II) the costs for searching the art to the extent necessary to make the invention disclosures;

“(III) other costs in connection with the filing and prosecution of a United States patent application where title or royalty-free license is to be conveyed to the Federal Government; and

“(IV) general counseling services relating to patent matters, including advice on patent laws, regulations, clauses, and employee agreements.

“(ii) RECOVERY LIMITATIONS.—The patent costs described in clause (i) shall be allowable for technology developed under a—

“(I) Phase I award, as indirect costs in an amount not greater than \$5,000;

“(II) Phase II award, as indirect costs in an amount not greater than \$15,000; and

“(III) Phase III award in which the Federal Government has government purpose rights (as defined in section 227.7103-5 of title 48, Code of Federal Regulations).

“(2) FIRM FIXED-PRICE CONTRACTS.—An otherwise eligible small business concern performing under an STTR award that uses a firm fixed-price contract or an SBIR award that uses a firm fixed-price contract may recover fair and reasonable costs arising from seeking protection for intellectual property, including a trademark, copyright, or patent, that was created through work performed under that award.”.

SEC. 6305. ANNUAL GAO AUDIT OF COMPLIANCE WITH COMMERCIALIZATION GOALS.

Section 9(nn) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(nn)) is amended to read as follows:

“(nn) ANNUAL GAO REPORT ON GOVERNMENT COMPLIANCE WITH GOALS, INCENTIVES, AND PHASE III PREFERENCE.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the SBIR and STTR Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 2016, and every year thereafter until the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of the SBIR and STTR Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 2016, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives a report that—

“(1) discusses the status of the compliance of Federal agencies with the requirements or authorities established under—

“(A) subsection (h), relating to the establishment by certain Federal agencies of a goal for funding agreements for research and research and development with small business concerns;

“(B) subsection (y)(5)(A), relating to the requirement for the Department of Defense to establish goals for the transition of Phase III technologies in subcontracting plans;

“(C) subsection (y)(5)(B), relating to the requirement for the Department of Defense to establish procedures for a prime contractor to report the number and dollar amount of contracts with small business concerns for Phase III SBIR projects or STTR projects of the prime contractor; and

“(D) subsection (y)(6), relating to the requirement for the Department of Defense to set a goal to increase the number of Phase II SBIR and STTR contracts that transition into programs of record or fielded systems;

“(2) includes, for a Federal agency that is in compliance with a requirement described under paragraph (1), a description of how the Federal agency achieved compliance; and

“(3) includes a list, organized by Federal agency, of small business concerns that have asserted that—

“(A) the Government or prime contractor—

“(i) did not protect the intellectual property of the small business concern in accordance with data rights under the SBIR or STTR award; or

“(ii) issued a Phase III SBIR or STTR award conditional on relinquishing data rights;

“(B) the Federal agency solicited bids for a contract, or provided funding to an entity other than the small business concern receiving the SBIR or STTR award, that was for work that derived from, extended, or completed efforts made under prior funding agreements under the SBIR program or STTR program;

“(C) the Government or prime contractor did not comply with the SBIR and STTR policy directives and the small business concern filed a comment or complaint to the Office of the National Ombudsman or appealed to the Administrator for intervention; or

“(D) the Federal agency did not comply with subsection (g)(12) or (o)(16) requiring timely notice to the Administrator of any case or controversy before any Federal judicial or administrative tribunal concerning the SBIR program or the STTR program of the Federal agency.”.

SEC. 6306. CLARIFYING THE PHASE III PREFERENCE.

Section 9(r) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(r)) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (4);

(2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (4), and transferring such paragraph to after paragraph (3); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

“(2) PHASE III AWARD DIRECTION FOR AGENCIES AND PRIME CONTRACTORS.—To the greatest extent practicable, Federal agencies and Federal prime contractors shall issue Phase III awards relating to technology, including sole source awards and awards under the Defense Research and Development Rapid Innovation Program under section 1073 of the Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011 (Public Law 111-383; 124 Stat. 4366; 10 U.S.C. 2359 note), to the SBIR and STTR award recipients that developed the technology.”.

SEC. 6307. IMPROVEMENTS TO TECHNICAL AND BUSINESS ASSISTANCE.

Section 9(q) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(q)) is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by inserting “AND BUSINESS” after “TECHNICAL”;

(2) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking “a vendor selected under paragraph (2)” and inserting “1 or more vendors selected under paragraph (2)(A)”;

(ii) by inserting “and business” before “assistance services”; and

(iii) by inserting “assistance with product sales, intellectual property protections, market research, market validation, and development of regulatory plans and manufacturing plans,” after “technologies.”; and

(B) in subparagraph (D), by inserting “, including intellectual property protections” before the period at the end;

(3) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by striking “Each agency may select a vendor to assist small business concerns to meet” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Each agency may select 1 or more vendors from which small business concerns may obtain assistance in meeting”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) SELECTION BY SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN.—A small business concern may, by contract or otherwise, select 1 or more vendors to assist the small business concern in meeting the goals listed in paragraph (1).”; and

(4) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by inserting “(A)” after “paragraph (2)” each place it appears;

(B) in subparagraph (A), by striking “\$5,000 per year” each place it appears and inserting “\$6,500 per project”;

(C) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) by striking “\$5,000 per year” each place it appears and inserting “\$35,000 per project”; and

(ii) in clause (ii), by striking “which shall be in addition to the amount of the recipient’s award” and inserting “which may, as determined appropriate by the head of the Federal agency, be included as part of the recipient’s award or be in addition to the amount of the recipient’s award”;

(D) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) by inserting “or business” after “technical”;

(ii) by striking “the vendor” and inserting “a vendor”; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following: “Business-related services aimed at improving the commercialization success of a small business concern may be obtained from an entity, such as a public or private organization or an agency of or other entity established or funded by a State that facilitates or accelerates the commercialization of technologies or assists in the creation and growth of private enterprises that are commercializing technology.”;

(E) in subparagraph (D)—

(i) by inserting “or business” after “technical” each place it appears; and

(ii) in clause (i)—

(I) by striking “the vendor” and inserting “1 or more vendors”; and

(II) by striking “provides” and inserting “provide”; and

(F) by adding at the end the following:

“(E) MULTIPLE AWARD RECIPIENTS.—The Administrator shall establish a limit on the amount of technical and business assistance services that may be received or purchased under subparagraph (B) by small business concerns with respect to multiple Phase II SBIR or STTR awards for a fiscal year.”.

SEC. 6308. EXTENSION OF PHASE 0 PROOF OF CONCEPT PARTNERSHIP PILOT.

Section 9(jj) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(jj)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (6) by striking “The Director” and inserting “Not later than February 1, 2019, the Director”; and

(2) in paragraph (7), by striking “2017” and inserting “2019”.

TITLE LXIV—PROGRAM DIVERSIFICATION INITIATIVES

SEC. 6401. REGIONAL SBIR STATE COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVE PILOT PROGRAM.

Section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638) is amended—

(1) in subsection (mm)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “2017” and inserting “2021”;

(ii) in subparagraph (I), by striking “and” at the end;

(iii) in subparagraph (J), by striking the period and inserting “; and”; and

(iv) by adding at the end the following:

“(K) funding for improvements that increase commonality across data systems, re-

duce redundancy, and improve data oversight and accuracy.”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(7) SBIR AND STTR PROGRAMS; FAST PROGRAM.—

“(A) DEFINITION.—In this paragraph, the term ‘covered Federal agency’ means a Federal agency that—

“(i) is required to conduct an SBIR program; and

“(ii) elects to use the funds allocated to the SBIR program of the Federal agency for the purposes described in paragraph (1).

“(B) REQUIREMENT.—Each covered Federal agency shall transfer an amount equal to 15 percent of the funds that are used for the purposes described in paragraph (1) to the Administration—

“(i) for the Regional SBIR State Collaborative Initiative Pilot Program established under subsection (uu);

“(ii) for the Federal and State Technology Partnership Program established under section 34; and

“(iii) to support the Office of the Administration that administers the SBIR program and the STTR program, subject to agreement from other agencies about how the funds will be used, in carrying out those programs and the programs described in clauses (i) and (ii).

“(8) PILOT PROGRAM.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Of amounts provided to the Administration under paragraph (7), not less than \$5,000,000 shall be used to provide awards under the Regional SBIR State Collaborative Initiative Pilot Program established under subsection (uu) for each fiscal year in which the program is in effect.

“(B) DISBURSEMENT FLEXIBILITY.—The Administration may use any unused funds made available under subparagraph (A) as of April 1 of each fiscal year for awards to carry out clauses (ii) and (iii) of paragraph (7)(B) after providing written notice to—

“(i) the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

“(ii) the Committee on Small Business and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.”; and

(2) by adding after subsection (tt), as added by section 6304 of this Act, the following:

“(uu) REGIONAL SBIR STATE COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVE PILOT PROGRAM.—

“(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection—

“(A) the term ‘eligible entity’ means—

“(i) a research institution; and

“(ii) a small business concern;

“(B) the term ‘eligible State’ means—

“(i) a State that the Administrator determines is in the bottom half of States, based on the average number of annual SBIR program awards made to companies in the State for the preceding 3 years for which the Administration has applicable data; and

“(ii) an EPSCoR State that—

“(I) is a State described in clause (i); or

“(II) is—

“(aa) not a State described in clause (i); and

“(bb) invited to participate in a regional collaborative;

“(C) the term ‘EPSCoR State’ means a State that participates in the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research of the National Science Foundation, as established under section 113 of the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 1862g);

“(D) the term ‘FAST program’ means the Federal and State Technology Partnership Program established under section 34;

“(E) the term ‘pilot program’ means the Regional SBIR State Collaborative Initiative Pilot Program established under paragraph (2);

“(F) the term ‘regional collaborative’ means a collaborative consisting of eligible entities that are located in not less than 3 eligible States; and

“(G) the term ‘State’ means any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and any territory or possession of the United States.

“(2) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator shall establish a pilot program, to be known as the Regional SBIR State Collaborative Initiative Pilot Program, under which the Administrator shall provide awards to regional collaboratives to address the needs of small business concerns in order to be more competitive in the proposal and selection process for awards under the SBIR program and the STTR program and to increase technology transfer and commercialization.

“(3) GOALS.—The goals of the pilot program are—

“(A) to create regional collaboratives that allow eligible entities to work cooperatively to leverage resources to address the needs of small business concerns;

“(B) to grow SBIR program and STTR program cooperative research and development and commercialization through increased awards under those programs;

“(C) to increase the participation of States that have historically received a lower level of awards under the SBIR program and the STTR program;

“(D) to utilize the strengths and advantages of regional collaboratives to better leverage resources, best practices, and economies of scale in a region for the purpose of increasing awards and increasing the commercialization of the SBIR program and STTR projects;

“(E) to increase the competitiveness of the SBIR program and the STTR program;

“(F) to identify sources of outside funding for applicants for an award under the SBIR program or the STTR program, including venture capitalists, angel investor groups, private industry, crowd funding, and special loan programs; and

“(G) to offer increased one-on-one engagements with companies and entrepreneurs for SBIR program and STTR program education, assistance, and successful outcomes.

“(4) APPLICATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—A regional collaborative that desires to participate in the pilot program shall submit to the Administrator an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Administrator may require.

“(B) INCLUSION OF LEAD ELIGIBLE ENTITIES AND COORDINATOR.—A regional collaborative shall include in an application submitted under subparagraph (A)—

“(i) the name of each lead eligible entity from each eligible State in the regional collaborative, as designated under paragraph (5)(A); and

“(ii) the name of the coordinator for the regional collaborative, as designated under paragraph (6).

“(C) AVOIDANCE OF DUPLICATION.—A regional collaborative shall include in an application submitted under subparagraph (A) an explanation as to how the activities of the regional collaborative under the pilot program would differ from other State and Federal outreach activities in each eligible State in the regional collaborative.

“(5) LEAD ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible State in a regional collaborative shall designate 1 eligible entity located in the eligible State to serve as the lead eligible entity for the eligible State.

“(B) AUTHORIZATION BY GOVERNOR.—Each lead eligible entity designated under subparagraph (A) shall be authorized to act as

the lead eligible entity by the Governor of the applicable eligible State.

“(C) RESPONSIBILITIES.—Each lead eligible entity designated under subparagraph (A) shall be responsible for administering the activities and program initiatives described in paragraph (7) in the applicable eligible State.

“(6) REGIONAL COLLABORATIVE COORDINATOR.—Each regional collaborative shall designate a coordinator from amongst the eligible entities located in the eligible States in the regional collaborative, who shall serve as the interface between the regional collaborative and the Administration with respect to measuring cross-State collaboration and program effectiveness and documenting best practices.

“(7) USE OF FUNDS.—Each regional collaborative that is provided an award under the pilot program may, in each eligible State in which an eligible entity of the regional collaborative is located—

“(A) establish an initiative under which first-time applicants for an award under the SBIR program or the STTR program are reviewed by experienced, national experts in the United States, as determined by the lead eligible entity designated under paragraph (5)(A);

“(B) engage national mentors on a frequent basis to work directly with applicants for an award under the SBIR program or the STTR program, particularly during Phase II, to assist with the process of preparing and submitting a proposal;

“(C) create and make available an online mechanism to serve as a resource for applicants for an award under the SBIR program or the STTR program to identify and connect with Federal labs, prime government contractor companies, other industry partners, and regional industry cluster organizations;

“(D) conduct focused and concentrated outreach efforts to increase participation in the SBIR program and the STTR program by small business concerns owned and controlled by women, small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans, small business concerns owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals (as defined in section 8(d)(3)(C)), and historically black colleges and universities;

“(E) administer a structured program of training and technical assistance—

“(i) to prepare applicants for an award under the SBIR program or the STTR program—

“(I) to compete more effectively for Phase I and Phase II awards; and

“(II) to develop and implement a successful commercialization plan;

“(ii) to assist eligible States focusing on transition and commercialization to win Phase III awards from public and private partners;

“(iii) to create more competitive proposals to increase awards from all Federal sources, with a focus on awards under the SBIR program and the STTR program; and

“(iv) to assist first-time applicants by providing small grants for proof of concept research; and

“(F) assist applicants for an award under the SBIR program or the STTR program to identify sources of outside funding, including venture capitalists, angel investor groups, private industry, crowd funding, and special loan programs.

“(8) AWARD AMOUNT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall provide an award to each eligible State in which an eligible entity of a regional collaborative is located in an amount that is not more than \$300,000 to carry out the activities described in paragraph (7).

“(B) LIMITATION.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—An eligible State may not receive an award under both the FAST program and the pilot program for the same year.

“(ii) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in clause (i) shall be construed to prevent an eligible State from applying for an award under the FAST program and the pilot program for the same year.

“(9) DURATION OF AWARD.—An award provided under the pilot program shall be for a period of not more than 1 year, and may be renewed by the Administrator for 1 additional year.

“(10) TERMINATION.—The pilot program shall terminate on September 30, 2021.

“(11) REPORT.—Not later than February 1, 2021, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives a report on the pilot program, which shall include—

“(A) an assessment of the pilot program and the effectiveness of the pilot program in meeting the goals described in paragraph (3);

“(B) an assessment of the best practices, including an analysis of how the pilot program compares to the FAST program and a single-State approach; and

“(C) recommendations as to whether any aspect of the pilot program should be extended or made permanent.”.

SEC. 6402. FEDERAL AND STATE TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.

Section 34 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657d) is amended—

(1) in subsection (h)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “2001 through 2005” and inserting “2017 through 2021”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “fiscal years 2001 through 2005” and inserting “each of fiscal years 2017 through 2021”; and

(2) in subsection (i), by striking “September 30, 2005” and inserting “September 30, 2021”.

TITLE LXV—OVERSIGHT AND SIMPLIFICATION INITIATIVES

SEC. 6501. DATA REALIGNMENT AND MODERNIZATION.

Section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638) is amended by adding after subsection (uu), as added by section 6401 of this Act, the following:

“(vv) SBIR AND STTR INTERAGENCY POLICY COMMITTEE.—

“(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection—

“(A) the term ‘Committee’ means the SBIR and STTR Interagency Policy Committee established under paragraph (2);

“(B) the term ‘participating Federal agency’ means a Federal agency with an SBIR program or an STTR program; and

“(C) the term ‘phase’ means Phase I, Phase II, and Phase III.

“(2) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established an interagency committee to be known as the ‘SBIR and STTR Interagency Policy Committee’.

“(3) MEMBERSHIP.—The Committee shall include—

“(A) 4 representatives from each participating Federal agency, of which—

“(i) 1 shall have expertise with respect to the SBIR program and STTR program of the Federal agency;

“(ii) 1 shall have expertise with respect to the broader research and development missions and programs of the Federal agency;

“(iii) 1 shall have expertise with respect to marketplace commercialization or to the transition of technologies to support the missions of the Federal agency; and

“(iv) 1 shall have expertise with respect to the information technology systems of the Federal agency; and

“(B) 2 representatives from the Administration, of which—

“(i) 1 shall serve as chairperson of the Committee; and

“(ii) 1 shall be from the Information Technology Development Team of the Office of Investment and Innovation of the Administration.

“(4) WORKING GROUPS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall establish working groups as necessary to ensure consistency and clarity between the participating Federal agencies.

“(B) DATA REALIGNMENT AND MODERNIZATION WORKING GROUP.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall establish a data alignment and modernization working group, which shall review the recommendations made in the report to Congress by the Office of Science and Technology of the Administration entitled ‘SBIR/STTR TechNet Public & Government Databases’, dated September 15, 2014, and the practices of participating Federal agencies to—

“(I) determine how to collect data on achievements by small business concerns in each phase of the SBIR program and the STTR program and ensure collection and dissemination of such data in a timely, efficient, and uniform manner;

“(II) establish a uniform baseline for metrics that support improving the solicitation, contracting, funding, and execution of program management in the SBIR program and the STTR program;

“(III) normalize formatting and database usage across participating Federal agencies; and

“(IV) determine the feasibility of developing a common system across all participating Federal agencies and the paperwork requirements under such a common system.

“(ii) MEMBERSHIP.—Each member of the Committee shall serve as a member of the data alignment and modernization working group.

“(5) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than September 31, 2018, the Committee shall brief the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives on the solutions identified by the working group under paragraph (4) and resources needed to execute the solutions.”.

SEC. 6502. IMPLEMENTATION OF OUTSTANDING REAUTHORIZATION PROVISIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 9(mm) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(mm)), as amended by section 6401(1) of this Act, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “paragraph (3)” and inserting “paragraphs (3) and (9)”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(9) SUSPENSION OF FUNDING.—

“(A) FOR FEDERAL AGENCIES.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—For fiscal years 2018 and 2019, any Federal agency that has not implemented each provision of law described in clause (ii)—

“(I) shall continue to provide amounts to the Administration in accordance with paragraph (7)(B); and

“(II) may not use any additional amounts as described in paragraph (1) until 30 days after the date on which the Federal agency submits to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives documentation demonstrating that the Federal agency has implemented and is in compliance with each provision of law described in clause (ii).

“(ii) PROVISIONS.—The provisions of law described in this subparagraph are the following:

“(I) Subsection (r)(4), relating to Phase III preferences.

“(II) Paragraphs (5) and (6) of subsection (y), relating to insertion goals.

“(III) Subsection (g)(4)(B), relating to shortening the decision time for SBIR awards.

“(IV) Subsection (o)(4)(B), relating to shortening the decision time for STTR awards.

“(V) Subsection (v), relating to reducing paperwork and compliance burdens.

“(B) FOR ADMINISTRATION.—For fiscal years 2018 and 2019, if the Administration is not in compliance with subsection (b)(7), relating to annual reports to Congress, the Administration may not use amounts received under paragraph (7)(B) of this subsection for a purpose described in clause (iii) of such paragraph (7)(B).”.

(b) CLARIFICATION OF REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Section 9(b)(7) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(b)(7)) is amended in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “not less than annually” and inserting “not later than December 31 of each year”.

SEC. 6503. STRENGTHENING OF THE REQUIREMENT TO SHORTEN THE APPLICATION REVIEW AND DECISION TIME.

Section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638) is amended—

(1) in subsection (g)(4), by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

“(B) make a final decision on each proposal submitted under the SBIR program—

“(i) for the Department of Health and Human Services, not later than 1 year after the date on which the applicable solicitation closes, with a goal to reduce the review and decision time to less than 10 months by September 30, 2019;

“(ii) for the Department of Agriculture and the National Science Foundation, not later than 6 months after the date on which the applicable solicitation closes; or

“(iii) for any other Federal agency—

“(I) not later than 90 days after the date on which the applicable solicitation closes; or

“(II) if the Administrator authorizes an extension with respect to a solicitation, not later than 90 days after the date that would otherwise be applicable to the Federal agency under subclause (I);”;

(2) in subsection (o)(4), by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

“(B) make a final decision on each proposal submitted under the STTR program—

“(i) for the Department of Health and Human Services, not later than 1 year after the date on which the applicable solicitation closes, with a goal to reduce the review and decision time to less than 10 months by September 30, 2019;

“(ii) for the Department of Agriculture and the National Science Foundation, not later than 6 months after the date on which the applicable solicitation closes; or

“(iii) for any other Federal agency—

“(I) not later than 90 days after the date on which the applicable solicitation closes; or

“(II) if the Administrator authorizes an extension with respect to a solicitation, not later than 90 days after the date that would otherwise be applicable to the Federal agency under subclause (I);”.

SEC. 6504. CONTINUED GAO OVERSIGHT OF ALLOCATION COMPLIANCE AND ACCURACY IN FUNDING BASE CALCULATIONS.

Section 5136(a) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (15 U.S.C. 638 note) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “until the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act” and insert “until the date on which the Comptroller General of the United States submits the report relating to fiscal year 2019”;

(2) in paragraph (1), by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting the following:

“(C) assess whether the change in the base funding for the Department of Defense as required by subparagraphs (J) and (K) of section 9(f)(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(f)(1))—

“(i) improves transparency for determining whether the Department is complying with the allocation requirements;

“(ii) reduces the burden of calculating the allocations; and

“(iii) improves the compliance of the Department with the allocation requirements; and”;

(3) in paragraph (2) by striking “under subparagraph (B)” and inserting “under subparagraphs (B) and (C)”.

SEC. 6505. COORDINATION BETWEEN AGENCIES ON COMMERCIALIZATION ASSISTANCE.

Section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638) is amended—

(1) in subsection (j), as amended by section 6202(a) of this Act, by adding at the end the following:

“(5) COORDINATION OF COMMERCIALIZATION ASSISTANCE.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Administrator shall modify the policy directive issued pursuant to this subsection to clarify that a small business concern receiving training through the Innovation Corps program with administrative funds made available under subsection (mm) shall not receive discretionary business assistance funds for the same or similar activities as allowed under subsection (q).”;

(2) in subsection (p), by adding at the end the following:

“(4) COORDINATION OF COMMERCIALIZATION ASSISTANCE.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Administrator shall modify the policy directive issued pursuant to this subsection to clarify that a small business concern receiving training through the Innovation Corps program with administrative funds made available under subsection (mm) shall not receive discretionary business assistance funds for the same or similar activities as allowed under subsection (q).”.

TITLE LXVI—PARTICIPATION BY WOMEN AND MINORITIES

SEC. 6601. SBA COORDINATION ON INCREASING OUTREACH FOR WOMEN AND MINORITY-OWNED BUSINESSES.

Section 9(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (8), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (9), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(10) to coordinate with participating agencies on efforts to increase outreach and awards under each of the SBIR and STTR programs to small business concerns owned and controlled by women and socially and economically disadvantaged small business concerns, as defined in section 8(a)(4).”.

SEC. 6602. FEDERAL AGENCY OUTREACH REQUIREMENTS FOR WOMEN AND MINORITY-OWNED BUSINESSES.

Section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638) is amended—

(1) in subsection (g)—

(A) in paragraph (11), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in paragraph (12), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(13) implement an outreach program to small business concerns for the purpose of enhancing its SBIR program, under which the Federal agency shall—

“(A) provide outreach to small business concerns owned and controlled by women

and socially and economically disadvantaged small business concerns, as defined in section 8(a)(4); and

“(B) establish goals for outreach by the Federal agency to the small business concerns described in subparagraph (A).”;

(2) in subsection (o)(14), by striking “SBIR program;” and inserting “SBIR program, under which the Federal agency shall—

“(A) provide outreach to small business concerns owned and controlled by women and socially and economically disadvantaged small business concerns, as defined in section 8(a)(4); and

“(B) establish goals for outreach by the Federal agency to the small business concerns described in subparagraph (A).”.

SEC. 6603. STTR POLICY DIRECTIVE MODIFICATION.

Section 9(p) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(p)), as amended by section 6505 of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(5) ADDITIONAL MODIFICATIONS.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Administrator shall modify the policy directive issued pursuant to this subsection to provide for enhanced outreach efforts to increase the participation of small business concerns owned and controlled by women and socially and economically disadvantaged small business concerns, as defined in section 8(a)(4), in technological innovation and in STTR programs.”.

SEC. 6604. INTERAGENCY SBIR/STTR POLICY COMMITTEE.

Section 5124 of the SBIR/STTR Reauthorization Act of 2011 (Public Law 112-81; 125 Stat. 1837) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (e); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (c) the following:

“(d) MEETINGS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Interagency SBIR/STTR Policy Committee shall meet not less than twice per year to carry out the duties under subsection (c).

“(2) OUTREACH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES.—If the Interagency SBIR/STTR Policy Committee meets to discuss outreach and technical assistance activities to increase the participation of small business concerns that are underrepresented in the SBIR and STTR programs, the Committee shall invite to the meeting—

“(A) a representative of the Minority Business Development Agency; and

“(B) relevant stakeholders that work to advance the interests of—

“(i) small business concerns owned and controlled by women, as defined in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632); and

“(ii) socially and economically disadvantaged small business concerns, as defined in section 8(a)(4) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(a)(4)).”.

SEC. 6605. DIVERSITY AND STEM WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the Small Business Administration;

(2) the term “covered STEM intern” means a student at, or recent graduate from, an institution of higher education serving as an intern—

(A) whose course of study studied is focused on the STEM fields; and

(B) who is a woman or a person from an underrepresented population in the STEM fields;

(3) the term “eligible entity” means a small business concern that—

(A) is receiving amounts under an award under the SBIR program or the STTR program of a Federal agency on the date on which the Federal agency awards a grant to the small business concern under subsection (b); and

(B) provides internships for covered STEM interns;

(4) the terms “Federal agency”, “SBIR”, and “STTR” have the meanings given those terms under section 9(e) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(e));

(5) the term “institution of higher education” has the meaning given the term under section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a));

(6) the term “person from an underrepresented population in the STEM fields” means a person from a group that is underrepresented in the population of STEM students, as determined by the Administrator;

(7) the term “pilot program” means the Diversity and STEM Workforce Development Pilot Program established under subsection (b);

(8) the term “recent graduate”, relating to a woman or a person from an underrepresented population in the STEM fields, means that the woman or person from an underrepresented population in the STEM fields earned an associate degree, baccalaureate degree, or postbaccalaureate from an institution of higher education during the 1-year period beginning on the date of the internship;

(9) the term “small business concern” has the meaning given the term under section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632); and

(10) the term “STEM fields” means the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math.

(b) **PILOT PROGRAM FOR INTERNSHIPS FOR WOMEN AND PEOPLE FROM UNDERREPRESENTED POPULATIONS.**—The Administrator shall establish a Diversity and STEM Workforce Development Pilot Program to encourage the business community to provide workforce development opportunities for covered STEM interns, under which a Federal agency participating in the SBIR program or STTR program may make a grant to 1 or more eligible entities for the costs of internships for covered STEM interns.

(c) **AMOUNT AND USE OF GRANTS.**—

(1) **AMOUNT.**—A grant under subsection (b)—

(A) may not be in an amount of more than \$15,000 per fiscal year; and

(B) shall be in addition to the amount of the award to the recipient under the SBIR program or the STTR program.

(2) **USE.**—Not less than 90 percent of the amount of a grant under subsection (b) shall be used by the eligible entity to provide stipends or other similar payments to interns.

(d) **EVALUATION.**—Not later than January 31 of the first calendar year after the third fiscal year during which the Administrator carries out the pilot program, the Administrator shall submit to Congress—

(1) data on the results of the pilot program, such as the number and demographics of the covered STEM interns participating in an internship funded under the pilot program and the amount spent on such internships; and

(2) an assessment of whether the pilot program helped the SBIR program and STTR program achieve the congressional objective of fostering and encouraging the participation of women and persons from underrepresented populations in the STEM fields.

(e) **TERMINATION.**—The pilot program shall terminate after the end of the fourth fiscal year during which the Administrator carries out the pilot program.

(f) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the pilot program.

TITLE LXVII—TECHNICAL CHANGES

SEC. 6701. UNIFORM REFERENCE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

Section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638) is amended—

(1) in subsection (cc), by striking “National Institutes of Health” and inserting “Department of Health and Human Services”; and

(2) in subsection (dd)(1)(A), by striking “Director of the National Institutes of Health” and inserting “Secretary of Health and Human Services”.

SEC. 6702. FLEXIBILITY FOR PHASE II AWARD INVITATIONS.

Section 9(e)(4)(B) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(e)(4)(B)) is amended in the matter preceding clause (i)—

(1) by striking “, which shall not include any invitation, pre-screening, or pre-selection process for eligibility for Phase II.”; and

(2) by inserting “in which eligibility for an award shall not be based only on an invitation, pre-screening, or pre-selection process and” before “in which awards”.

SA 4673. Mr. TOOMEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4609 submitted by Mr. ALEXANDER and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 2943, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike page 1 line 2 through page 15 line 2 and insert:

SEC. 578. BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR EMPLOYEES OF AGENCIES AND SCHOOLS PROVIDING ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION FOR DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DEPENDENTS.

(a) **BACKGROUND CHECKS.**—Commencing not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act, each covered local educational agency and each Department of Defense domestic dependent elementary and secondary school established pursuant to section 2164 of title 10, United States Code, shall have in effect policies and procedures that—

(1) require that a criminal background check be conducted for each school employee of the agency or school, respectively, that includes—

(A) a search of the State criminal registry or repository of the State in which the school employee resides;

(B) a search of State-based child abuse and neglect registries and databases of the State in which the school employee resides;

(C) a Federal Bureau of Investigation fingerprint check using the Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System; and

(D) a search of the National Sex Offender Registry established under section 119 of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (42 U.S.C. 16919);

(2) prohibit the employment of a school employee as a school employee at the agency or school, respectively, if such employee—

(A) refuses to consent to a criminal background check under paragraph (1);

(B) makes a false statement in connection with such criminal background check;

(C) has been convicted of a felony consisting of—

(i) murder;

(ii) child abuse or neglect;

(iii) a crime against children, including child pornography;

(iv) spousal abuse;

(v) a crime involving rape or sexual assault;

(vi) kidnapping;

(vii) arson; or

(viii) physical assault, battery, or a drug-related offense, committed on or after the date that is five years before the date of such employee's criminal background check under paragraph (1); or

(D) has been convicted of any other crime that is a violent or sexual crime against a minor;

(3) require that each criminal background check conducted under paragraph (1) be periodically repeated or updated in accordance with policies established by the covered local educational agency or the Department of Defense (in the case of a Department of Defense domestic dependent elementary and secondary school established pursuant to section 2164 of title 10, United States Code);

(4) upon request, provide each school employee who has had a criminal background check under paragraph (1) with a copy of the results of the criminal background check;

(5) provide for a timely process, by which a school employee of the school or agency may appeal, but which does not permit the employee to be employed as a school employee during such appeal, the results of a criminal background check conducted under paragraph (1) which prohibit the employee from being employed as a school employee under paragraph (2) to—

(A) challenge the accuracy or completeness of the information produced by such criminal background check; and

(B) establish or reestablish eligibility to be hired or reinstated as a school employee by demonstrating that the information is materially inaccurate or incomplete, and has been corrected; and

(6) allow the covered local educational agency or school, as the case may be, to share the results of a school employee's criminal background check recently conducted under paragraph (1) with another local educational agency that is considering such school employee for employment as a school employee.

(b) **FEES FOR BACKGROUND CHECKS.**—The Attorney General, attorney general of a State, or other State law enforcement official may charge reasonable fees for conducting a criminal background check under subsection (a)(1), but such fees shall not exceed the actual costs for the processing and administration of the criminal background check.

(c) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **COVERED LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.**—The term ‘covered local educational agency’ means a local educational agency that receives funds—

(A) under subsection (b) or (d) of section 8003, or section 8007, of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7703, 7707), as such sections are in effect before the effective date for title VII of the Every Student Succeeds Act (Public Law 114-95); or

(B) under subsection (b) or (d) of section 7003, or section 7007, of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7703, 7707), beginning on the effective date of such title VII.

(2) **SCHOOL EMPLOYEE.**—The term ‘school employee’ means—

(A) a person who—

(i) is an employee of, or is seeking employment with—

(I) a covered local educational agency; or

(II) a Department of Defense domestic dependent elementary and secondary school established pursuant to section 2164 of title 10,

United States Code, such elementary and secondary school; and

(ii) as a result of such employment, has (or will have) a job duty that results in unsupervised access to elementary school or secondary school students; or

(B)(i) any person, or an employee of any person, who has a contract or agreement to provide services to a covered local educational agency or a Department of Defense domestic dependent elementary and secondary school established pursuant to section 2164 of title 10, United States Code; and

(ii) such person or employee, as a result of such contract or agreement, has a job duty that results in unsupervised access to elementary school or secondary school students.

SEC. 578A. PROHIBITION ON AIDING AND ABETTING SEXUAL ABUSE.

SA 4674. Mr. TOOMEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4608 submitted by Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mrs. MURRAY) and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 2943, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike page 1 line 2 through page 6 line 15 and insert:

SEC. 578. BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR EMPLOYEES OF AGENCIES AND SCHOOLS PROVIDING ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION FOR DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DEPENDENTS.

(a) **BACKGROUND CHECKS.**—Commencing not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act, each covered local educational agency and each Department of Defense domestic dependent elementary and secondary school established pursuant to section 2164 of title 10, United States Code, shall have in effect policies and procedures that—

(1) require that a criminal background check be conducted for each school employee of the agency or school, respectively, that includes—

(A) a search of the State criminal registry or repository of the State in which the school employee resides;

(B) a search of State-based child abuse and neglect registries and databases of the State in which the school employee resides;

(C) a Federal Bureau of Investigation fingerprint check using the Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System; and

(D) a search of the National Sex Offender Registry established under section 119 of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (42 U.S.C. 16919);

(2) prohibit the employment of a school employee as a school employee at the agency or school, respectively, if such employee—

(A) refuses to consent to a criminal background check under paragraph (1);

(B) makes a false statement in connection with such criminal background check;

(C) has been convicted of a felony consisting of—

(i) murder;

(ii) child abuse or neglect;

(iii) a crime against children, including child pornography;

(iv) spousal abuse;

(v) a crime involving rape or sexual assault;

(vi) kidnapping;

(vii) arson; or

(viii) physical assault, battery, or a drug-related offense, committed on or after the date that is five years before the date of such employee's criminal background check under paragraph (1); or

(D) has been convicted of any other crime that is a violent or sexual crime against a minor;

(3) require that each criminal background check conducted under paragraph (1) be periodically repeated or updated in accordance with policies established by the covered local educational agency or the Department of Defense (in the case of a Department of Defense domestic dependent elementary and secondary school established pursuant to section 2164 of title 10, United States Code);

(4) upon request, provide each school employee who has had a criminal background check under paragraph (1) with a copy of the results of the criminal background check;

(5) provide for a timely process, by which a school employee of the school or agency may appeal, but which does not permit the employee to be employed as a school employee during such appeal, the results of a criminal background check conducted under paragraph (1) which prohibit the employee from being employed as a school employee under paragraph (2) to—

(A) challenge the accuracy or completeness of the information produced by such criminal background check; and

(B) establish or reestablish eligibility to be hired or reinstated as a school employee by demonstrating that the information is materially inaccurate or incomplete, and has been corrected; and

(6) allow the covered local educational agency or school, as the case may be, to share the results of a school employee's criminal background check recently conducted under paragraph (1) with another local educational agency that is considering such school employee for employment as a school employee.

(b) **FEES FOR BACKGROUND CHECKS.**—The Attorney General, attorney general of a State, or other State law enforcement official may charge reasonable fees for conducting a criminal background check under subsection (a)(1), but such fees shall not exceed the actual costs for the processing and administration of the criminal background check.

(c) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **COVERED LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.**—The term “covered local educational agency” means a local educational agency that receives funds—

(A) under subsection (b) or (d) of section 8003, or section 8007, of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7703, 7707), as such sections are in effect before the effective date for title VII of the Every Student Succeeds Act (Public Law 114-95); or

(B) under subsection (b) or (d) of section 7003, or section 7007, of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7703, 7707), beginning on the effective date of such title VII.

(2) **SCHOOL EMPLOYEE.**—The term “school employee” means—

(A) a person who—

(i) is an employee of, or is seeking employment with—

(I) a covered local educational agency; or

(II) a Department of Defense domestic dependent elementary and secondary school established pursuant to section 2164 of title 10, United States Code, such elementary and secondary school; and

(ii) as a result of such employment, has (or will have) a job duty that results in unsupervised access to elementary school or secondary school students; or

(B)(i) any person, or an employee of any person, who has a contract or agreement to provide services to a covered local educational agency or a Department of Defense domestic dependent elementary and secondary school established pursuant to section 2164 of title 10, United States Code; and

(ii) such person or employee, as a result of such contract or agreement, has a job duty that results in unsupervised access to elementary school or secondary school students.

SA 4675. Mr. BENNET submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2943, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title XVI, add the following:

SEC. 1667. INCREASED FUNDING FOR CERTAIN MISSILE DEFENSE ACTIVITIES.

(a) **PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE.**—The amount authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2017 for the Department of Defense by section 101 is hereby increased by \$290,000,000, with the amount of increase to be available for procurement, Defense-wide, as specified in the funding table in section 4101 and available for procurement for the following:

(1) Iron Dome, \$20,000,000.

(2) David's Sling Weapon System, \$150,000,000.

(3) Arrow 3 Upper Tier, \$120,000,000.

(b) **RDT&E, DEFENSE-WIDE.**—The amount authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2017 for the Department of Defense by section 201 is hereby increased by \$29,900,000, with the amount of increase to be available for research, development, test, and evaluation, Defense-wide, as specified in the funding table in section 4201 and available for research, development, test, and evaluation for the following:

(1) David's Sling Weapon System, \$19,300,000.

(2) Arrow 3 Upper Tier, \$4,100,000.

(3) Base Arrow, \$6,500,000.

(c) **CONSTRUCTION OF INCREASE.**—Amounts available under subsection (a) for procurement for items specified in subsection (a), and amounts available under subsection (b) for research, development, test, and evaluation for items specified in subsection (b), are in addition to any other amounts available for such purposes for such items in this Act.

(d) **OFFSET.**—

(1) **O&M, NAVY.**—The amount authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2017 for the Department of Defense by section 301 is hereby decreased by \$24,900,000, with the amount of decrease to be applied against amounts available for Operation and Maintenance, Navy, for Enterprise Information as specified in the funding table in section 4301.

(2) **O&M, DEFENSE-WIDE.**—The amount authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2017 for the Department of Defense by section 301 is hereby decreased by \$295,000,000, with the amount of decrease to be applied against savings otherwise available for Operation and Maintenance, Defense-wide, as specified in the funding table in section 4301 for purposes, and in amounts, as follows:

(A) Foreign currency savings, \$200,000,000.

(B) Bulk fuel overestimation, \$95,000,000.

SA 4676. Mr. VITTER (for himself and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted an

amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4253 submitted by Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. VITTER) and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 2943, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

**DIVISION F—SBIR AND STTR
REAUTHORIZATION AND IMPROVEMENTS
SEC. 6001. SHORT TITLE.**

This division may be cited as the “SBIR and STTR Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 2016”.

**TITLE LXI—REAUTHORIZATION OF
PROGRAMS**

**SEC. 6101. PERMANENCY OF SBIR PROGRAM AND
STTR PROGRAM.**

(a) SBIR.—Section 9(m) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(m)) is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by striking “TERMINATION” and inserting “SBIR PROGRAM AUTHORIZATION”; and

(2) by striking “terminate on September 30, 2017” and inserting “be in effect for each fiscal year”.

(b) STTR.—Section 9(n)(1)(A) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(n)(1)(A)) is amended by striking “through fiscal year 2017”.

**TITLE LXII—ENHANCED SMALL BUSINESS
ACCESS TO FEDERAL INNOVATION
INVESTMENTS**

**SEC. 6201. ALLOCATION INCREASES AND TRANS-
PARENCY IN BASE CALCULATION.**

(a) SBIR.—Section 9(f) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(f)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “expend” and inserting “obligate for expenditure”; and

(B) in subparagraph (H), by striking “and” at the end;

(C) in subparagraph (I), by striking “in fiscal year 2017 and each fiscal year thereafter,” and inserting “in each of fiscal years 2017 through 2021”; and

(D) by inserting after subparagraph (I) the following:

“(J) for a Federal agency other than the Department of Defense, the National Science Foundation, or the Department of Health and Human Services—

“(i) not less than 3.4 percent of the extramural budget for research or research and development of the Federal agency in fiscal year 2022;

“(ii) not less than 3.6 percent of such extramural budget in fiscal year 2023;

“(iii) not less than 3.8 percent of such extramural budget in fiscal year 2024;

“(iv) not less than 4 percent of such extramural budget in fiscal year 2025;

“(v) not less than 4.2 percent of such extramural budget in fiscal year 2026;

“(vi) not less than 4.4 percent of such extramural budget in fiscal year 2027; and

“(vii) not less than 4.54 percent of such extramural budget in fiscal year 2028 and each fiscal year thereafter;

“(K) for the Department of Defense—

“(i) not less than 2.6 percent of the budget for research, development, test, and evaluation of the Department of Defense in fiscal year 2022;

“(ii) not less than 2.7 percent of such budget in fiscal year 2023;

“(iii) not less than 2.8 percent of such budget in fiscal year 2024;

“(iv) not less than 2.9 percent of such budget in fiscal year 2025;

“(v) not less than 3 percent of such budget in fiscal year 2026;

“(vi) not less than 3.1 percent of such budget in fiscal year 2027;

“(vii) not less than 3.2 percent of such budget in fiscal year 2028;

“(viii) not less than 3.3 percent of such budget in fiscal year 2029;

“(ix) not less than 3.4 percent of such budget in fiscal year 2030; and

“(x) not less than 3.5 percent of such budget in fiscal year 2031 and each fiscal year thereafter; and

“(L) for the National Science Foundation and the Department of Health and Human Services, for fiscal year 2022 and each fiscal year thereafter, the lesser of—

“(i) the percentage of the extramural budget for research or research and development of the National Science Foundation or the Department of Health and Human Services, respectively, equal to the sum of—

“(I) the percentage in effect under this paragraph for the National Science Foundation or the Department of Health and Human Services, respectively, for the previous fiscal year; and

“(II)(aa) 0.04 percent; or

“(bb) if the extramural budget for research or research and development of the National Science Foundation or the Department of Health and Human Services, respectively, for the fiscal year is not less than 103 percent of such extramural budget for the previous fiscal year, 0.2 percent; or

“(ii) 4.5 percent of the extramural budget for research or research and development of the National Science Foundation or the Department of Health and Human Services, respectively.”;

(2) in paragraph (2)(B), by inserting “(or for the Department of Defense, an amount of the budget for basic research of the Department of Defense)” after “research”; and

(3) in paragraph (4), by inserting “(or for the Department of Defense an amount of the budget for research, development, test, and evaluation of the Department of Defense)” after “of the agency”.

(b) STTR.—Section 9(n)(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(n)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) by striking “expend” and inserting “obligate for expenditure”; and

(B) by striking “not less than the percentage of that extramural budget specified in subparagraph (B)” and inserting “for a Federal agency other than the Department of Defense, the National Science Foundation, or the Department of Health and Human Services, not less than the percentage of that extramural budget specified in subparagraph (B), for the Department of Defense, not less than the percentage of the budget for research, development, test, and evaluation of the Department of Defense specified in subparagraph (B), and for the National Science Foundation and the Department of Health and Human Services, not less than the percentage of that extramural budget specified in subparagraph (C)”;

(2) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) in the subparagraph heading, by inserting “OTHER THAN FOR NSF AND HHS” after “AMOUNTS”; and

(B) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “the extramural budget required to be expended by an agency” and inserting “the extramural budget, for a Federal agency other than the Department of Defense, the National Science Foundation, or the Department of Health and Human Services, and of the budget for research, development,

test, and evaluation, for the Department of Defense, required to be obligated for expenditure with small business concerns”;

(C) in clause (iv), by striking “and” at the end;

(D) in clause (v), by striking “fiscal year 2016 and each fiscal year thereafter.” and inserting “each of fiscal years 2016 through 2021.”; and

(E) by adding at the end the following:

“(vi) 0.5 percent for fiscal year 2022;

“(vii) 0.55 percent for fiscal year 2023;

“(viii) 0.6 percent for fiscal year 2024;

“(ix) 0.65 percent for fiscal year 2025;

“(x) 0.7 percent for fiscal year 2026;

“(xi) 0.75 percent for fiscal year 2027;

“(xii) 0.8 percent for fiscal year 2028;

“(xiii) 0.85 percent for fiscal year 2029;

“(xiv) 0.9 percent for fiscal year 2030; and

“(xv) 0.95 percent for fiscal year 2031 and each fiscal year thereafter.”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) EXPENDITURE AMOUNTS FOR NSF AND HHS.—The percentage of the extramural budget required to be expended by the National Science Foundation and the Department of Health and Human Services in accordance with subparagraph (A) shall be—

“(i) for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2021, 0.45 percent; and

“(ii) for fiscal year 2022 and each fiscal year thereafter, the lesser of—

“(I) the percentage of the extramural budget for research or research and development of the National Science Foundation or the Department of Health and Human Services, respectively, equal to the sum of—

“(aa) the percentage in effect under this paragraph for the National Science Foundation or the Department of Health and Human Services, respectively, for the previous fiscal year; and

“(bb)(AA) 0 percent; or

“(BB) if the extramural budget for research or research and development of the National Science Foundation or the Department of Health and Human Services, respectively, for the fiscal year is not less than 103 percent of such extramural budget for the previous fiscal year, 0.05 percent; or

“(II) 0.95 percent of the extramural budget for research or research and development of the National Science Foundation or the Department of Health and Human Services, respectively.”.

**SEC. 6202. REGULAR OVERSIGHT OF AWARD
AMOUNTS.**

(a) ELIMINATION OF AUTOMATIC INFLATION ADJUSTMENTS.—Section 9(j) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(j)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)(D), by inserting “through fiscal year 2016” after “every year”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) 2016 MODIFICATIONS FOR DOLLAR VALUE OF AWARDS.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of the SBIR and STTR Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 2016, the Administrator shall modify the policy directives issued under this subsection to—

“(A) eliminate the annual adjustments for inflation of the dollar value of awards described in paragraph (2)(D); and

“(B) clarify that Congress intends to review the dollar value of awards every 3 fiscal years.”.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING REGULAR REVIEW OF THE AWARD SIZES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—It is the sense of Congress that for fiscal year 2019, and every third fiscal year thereafter, Congress should evaluate whether the maximum award sizes under the Small Business Innovation Research Program and the Small Business Technology Transfer Program under section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638) should be adjusted and, if so, take appropriate action

to direct that such adjustments be made under the policy directives issued under subsection (j) of such section.

(2) **POLICY CONSIDERATIONS.**—In reviewing adjustments to the maximum award sizes, Congress should take into consideration the balance of number of awards to size of awards, the missions of Federal agencies, and the technology needed to support national goals.

(c) **CLARIFICATION OF SEQUENTIAL PHASE II AWARDS.**—Section 9(ff) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(ff)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(3) **CLARIFICATION OF SEQUENTIAL PHASE II AWARDS.**—The head of a Federal agency shall ensure that any sequential Phase II award is made in accordance with the limitations on award sizes under subsection (aa).

“(4) **CROSS-AGENCY SEQUENTIAL PHASE II AWARDS.**—A small business concern that receives a sequential Phase II SBIR or Phase II STTR award for a project from a Federal agency is eligible to receive an additional sequential Phase II award that continues work on that project from another Federal agency.”.

TITLE LXIII—COMMERCIALIZATION IMPROVEMENTS

SEC. 6301. PERMANENCY OF THE COMMERCIALIZATION PILOT PROGRAM FOR CIVILIAN AGENCIES.

Section 9(gg) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(gg)) is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by striking “PILOT PROGRAM” and inserting “COMMERCIALIZATION DEVELOPMENT AWARDS”;

(2) by striking paragraphs (2), (7), and (8);

(3) by redesignating paragraphs (3), (4), (5), and (6) as paragraphs (2), (3), (4), and (5), respectively;

(4) by adding at the end the following:

“(6) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this subsection—

“(A) the term ‘commercialization development program’ means a program established by a covered Federal agency under paragraph (1); and

“(B) the term ‘covered Federal agency’—

“(i) means a Federal agency participating in the SBIR program or the STTR program; and

“(ii) does not include the Department of Defense.”; and

(5) by striking “pilot program” each place it appears and inserting “commercialization development program”.

SEC. 6302. ENFORCEMENT OF NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS GOAL FOR FEDERAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

Section 9(h) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(h)) is amended to read as follows:

“(h) **NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS GOAL FOR FEDERAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Administrator, in consultation with Federal agencies, shall establish a Governmentwide goal for each fiscal year, which shall be not less than 10 percent, for the percentage of the amounts made available for research or research and development that shall be obligated for funding agreements—

“(A) with small business concerns; or

“(B) that will facilitate the development of research and development small business concerns.

“(2) **AGENCY GOALS.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The head of each Federal agency which has a budget for research or research and development in excess of \$20,000,000, in consultation with the Administrator, shall establish a goal for the Federal agency for each fiscal year that is appropriate to the mission of the Federal agency for the percentage of such budget that shall be obligated for funding agreements—

“(i) with small business concerns; or

“(ii) that will facilitate the development of research and development small business concerns.

“(B) **LIMITATION.**—The head of a Federal agency may not establish a percentage goal under subparagraph (A) for a fiscal year that is less than the percentage goal that was established under subparagraph (A) for the Federal agency for the previous fiscal year.”.

SEC. 6303. PROTECTING INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES.

Section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(tt) **PROTECTING INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES.**—

“(1) **COST-REIMBURSEMENT CONTRACTS.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to subparagraph (B)(ii), the cost of seeking protection for intellectual property, including a trademark, copyright, or patent, that was created through work performed under an STTR award that uses a cost-reimbursement contract or an SBIR award that uses a cost-reimbursement contract is allowable as an indirect cost under that award.

“(B) **CLARIFICATION OF PATENT COSTS.**—

“(i) **IN GENERAL.**—A Federal agency shall not directly or indirectly inhibit, through the policies, directives, or practices of the Federal agency, an otherwise eligible small business concern performing under an award described in subparagraph (A) from recovering patent costs incurred as requirements under that award, including—

“(I) the costs of preparing—

“(aa) invention disclosures;

“(bb) reports; and

“(cc) other documents;

“(II) the costs for searching the art to the extent necessary to make the invention disclosures;

“(III) other costs in connection with the filing and prosecution of a United States patent application where title or royalty-free license is to be conveyed to the Federal Government; and

“(IV) general counseling services relating to patent matters, including advice on patent laws, regulations, clauses, and employee agreements.

“(ii) **RECOVERY LIMITATIONS.**—The patent costs described in clause (i) shall be allowable for technology developed under a—

“(I) Phase I award, as indirect costs in an amount not greater than \$5,000;

“(II) Phase II award, as indirect costs in an amount not greater than \$15,000; and

“(III) Phase III award in which the Federal Government has government purpose rights (as defined in section 227.7103-5 of title 48, Code of Federal Regulations).

“(2) **FIRM FIXED-PRICE CONTRACTS.**—An otherwise eligible small business concern performing under an STTR award that uses a firm fixed-price contract or an SBIR award that uses a firm fixed-price contract may recover fair and reasonable costs arising from seeking protection for intellectual property, including a trademark, copyright, or patent, that was created through work performed under that award.”.

SEC. 6304. ANNUAL GAO AUDIT OF COMPLIANCE WITH COMMERCIALIZATION GOALS.

Section 9(nn) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(nn)) is amended to read as follows:

“(nn) **ANNUAL GAO REPORT ON GOVERNMENT COMPLIANCE WITH GOALS, INCENTIVES, AND PHASE III PREFERENCE.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the SBIR and STTR Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 2016, and every year thereafter until the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of the SBIR and STTR Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 2016, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Small Business

and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives a report that—

“(1) discusses the status of the compliance of Federal agencies with the requirements or authorities established under—

“(A) subsection (h), relating to the establishment by certain Federal agencies of a goal for funding agreements for research and research and development with small business concerns;

“(B) subsection (y)(5)(A), relating to the requirement for the Department of Defense to establish goals for the transition of Phase III technologies in subcontracting plans;

“(C) subsection (y)(5)(B), relating to the requirement for the Department of Defense to establish procedures for a prime contractor to report the number and dollar amount of contracts with small business concerns for Phase III SBIR projects or STTR projects of the prime contractor; and

“(D) subsection (y)(6), relating to the requirement for the Department of Defense to set a goal to increase the number of Phase II SBIR and STTR contracts that transition into programs of record or fielded systems;

“(2) includes, for a Federal agency that is in compliance with a requirement described under paragraph (1), a description of how the Federal agency achieved compliance; and

“(3) includes a list, organized by Federal agency, of small business concerns that have asserted to an appropriate Federal agency that—

“(A) the Government or prime contractor—

“(i) did not protect the intellectual property of the small business concern in accordance with data rights under the SBIR or STTR award; or

“(ii) issued a Phase III SBIR or STTR award conditional on relinquishing data rights;

“(B) the Federal agency solicited bids for a contract, or provided funding to an entity other than the small business concern receiving the SBIR or STTR award, that was for work that derived from, extended, or completed efforts made under prior funding agreements under the SBIR program or STTR program;

“(C) the Government or prime contractor did not comply with the SBIR and STTR policy directives and the small business concern filed a comment or complaint to the Office of the National Ombudsman or appealed to the Administrator for intervention; or

“(D) the Federal agency did not comply with subsection (g)(12) or (o)(16) requiring timely notice to the Administrator of any case or controversy before any Federal judicial or administrative tribunal concerning the SBIR program or the STTR program of the Federal agency.”.

SEC. 6305. CLARIFYING THE PHASE III PREFERENCE.

Section 9(r) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(r)) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (4);

(2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (4), and transferring such paragraph to after paragraph (3); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

“(2) **PHASE III AWARD DIRECTION FOR AGENCIES AND PRIME CONTRACTORS.**—To the greatest extent practicable, Federal agencies and Federal prime contractors shall issue Phase III awards relating to technology, including sole source awards, to the SBIR and STTR award recipients that developed the technology.”.

SEC. 6306. IMPROVEMENTS TO TECHNICAL AND BUSINESS ASSISTANCE.

Section 9(q) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(q)) is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by inserting “AND BUSINESS” after “TECHNICAL”;

(2) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking “a vendor selected under paragraph (2)” and inserting “1 or more vendors selected under paragraph (2)(A)”;

(ii) by inserting “and business” before “assistance services”; and

(iii) by inserting “assistance with product sales, intellectual property protections, market research, market validation, and development of regulatory plans and manufacturing plans,” after “technologies,”; and

(B) in subparagraph (D), by inserting “, including intellectual property protections” before the period at the end;

(3) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by striking “Each agency may select a vendor to assist small business concerns to meet” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Each agency may select 1 or more vendors from which small business concerns may obtain assistance in meeting”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) SELECTION BY SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN.—A small business concern may, by contract or otherwise, select 1 or more vendors to assist the small business concern in meeting the goals listed in paragraph (1).”; and

(4) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by inserting “(A)” after “paragraph (2)” each place it appears;

(B) in subparagraph (A), by striking “\$5,000 per year” each place it appears and inserting “\$6,500 per project”;

(C) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) by striking “\$5,000 per year” each place it appears and inserting “\$35,000 per project”; and

(ii) in clause (ii), by striking “which shall be in addition to the amount of the recipient’s award” and inserting “which may, as determined appropriate by the head of the Federal agency, be included as part of the recipient’s award or be in addition to the amount of the recipient’s award”;

(D) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) by inserting “or business” after “technical”;

(ii) by striking “the vendor” and inserting “a vendor”; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following: “Business-related services aimed at improving the commercialization success of a small business concern may be obtained from an entity, such as a public or private organization or an agency of or other entity established or funded by a State that facilitates or accelerates the commercialization of technologies or assists in the creation and growth of private enterprises that are commercializing technology.”;

(E) in subparagraph (D)—

(i) by inserting “or business” after “technical” each place it appears; and

(ii) in clause (i)—

(I) by striking “the vendor” and inserting “1 or more vendors”; and

(II) by striking “provides” and inserting “provide”; and

(F) by adding at the end the following:

“(E) MULTIPLE AWARD RECIPIENTS.—The Administrator shall establish a limit on the amount of technical and business assistance services that may be received or purchased under subparagraph (B) by small business concerns with respect to multiple Phase II SBIR or STTR awards for a fiscal year.”.

SEC. 6307. EXTENSION OF PHASE 0 PROOF OF CONCEPT PARTNERSHIP PILOT.

Section 9(jj) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(jj)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (6) by striking “The Director” and inserting “Not later than February 1, 2019, the Director”; and

(2) in paragraph (7), by striking “2017” and inserting “2019”.

TITLE LXIV—PROGRAM DIVERSIFICATION INITIATIVES

SEC. 6401. REGIONAL SBIR STATE COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVE PILOT PROGRAM.

Section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638) is amended—

(1) in subsection (mm)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “2017” and inserting “2021”;

(ii) in subparagraph (I), by striking “and” at the end;

(iii) in subparagraph (J), by striking the period and inserting “; and”; and

(iv) by adding at the end the following:

“(K) funding for improvements that increase commonality across data systems, reduce redundancy, and improve data oversight and accuracy.”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(7) SBIR AND STTR PROGRAMS; FAST PROGRAM.—

“(A) DEFINITION.—In this paragraph, the term ‘covered Federal agency’ means a Federal agency that—

“(i) is required to conduct an SBIR program; and

“(ii) elects to use the funds allocated to the SBIR program of the Federal agency for the purposes described in paragraph (1).

“(B) REQUIREMENT.—Each covered Federal agency shall transfer an amount equal to 15 percent of the funds that are used for the purposes described in paragraph (1) to the Administration—

“(i) for the Regional SBIR State Collaborative Initiative Pilot Program established under subsection (uu);

“(ii) for the Federal and State Technology Partnership Program established under section 34; and

“(iii) to support the Office of the Administration that administers the SBIR program and the STTR program, subject to agreement from other agencies about how the funds will be used, in carrying out those programs and the programs described in clauses (i) and (ii).

“(8) PILOT PROGRAM.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Of amounts provided to the Administration under paragraph (7), not less than \$5,000,000 shall be used to provide awards under the Regional SBIR State Collaborative Initiative Pilot Program established under subsection (uu) for each fiscal year in which the program is in effect.

“(B) DISBURSEMENT FLEXIBILITY.—The Administration may use any unused funds made available under subparagraph (A) as of April 1 of each fiscal year for awards to carry out clauses (ii) and (iii) of paragraph (7)(B) after providing written notice to—

“(i) the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

“(ii) the Committee on Small Business and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.”; and

(2) by adding after subsection (tt), as added by section 6303 of this Act, the following:

“(uu) REGIONAL SBIR STATE COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVE PILOT PROGRAM.—

“(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection—

“(A) the term ‘eligible entity’ means—

“(i) a research institution; and

“(ii) a small business concern;

“(B) the term ‘eligible State’ means—

“(i) a State that the Administrator determines is in the bottom half of States, based on the average number of annual SBIR program awards made to companies in the State

for the preceding 3 years for which the Administration has applicable data; and

“(ii) an EPSCoR State that—

“(I) is a State described in clause (i); or

“(II) is—

“(aa) not a State described in clause (i); and

“(bb) invited to participate in a regional collaborative;”

“(C) the term ‘EPSCoR State’ means a State that participates in the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research of the National Science Foundation, as established under section 113 of the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 1862g);

“(D) the term ‘FAST program’ means the Federal and State Technology Partnership Program established under section 34;

“(E) the term ‘pilot program’ means the Regional SBIR State Collaborative Initiative Pilot Program established under paragraph (2);

“(F) the term ‘regional collaborative’ means a collaborative consisting of eligible entities that are located in not less than 3 eligible States; and

“(G) the term ‘State’ means any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and any territory or possession of the United States.

“(2) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator shall establish a pilot program, to be known as the Regional SBIR State Collaborative Initiative Pilot Program, under which the Administrator shall provide awards to regional collaboratives to address the needs of small business concerns in order to be more competitive in the proposal and selection process for awards under the SBIR program and the STTR program and to increase technology transfer and commercialization.

“(3) GOALS.—The goals of the pilot program are—

“(A) to create regional collaboratives that allow eligible entities to work cooperatively to leverage resources to address the needs of small business concerns;

“(B) to grow SBIR program and STTR program cooperative research and development and commercialization through increased awards under those programs;

“(C) to increase the participation of States that have historically received a lower level of awards under the SBIR program and the STTR program;

“(D) to utilize the strengths and advantages of regional collaboratives to better leverage resources, best practices, and economies of scale in a region for the purpose of increasing awards and increasing the commercialization of the SBIR program and STTR projects;

“(E) to increase the competitiveness of the SBIR program and the STTR program;

“(F) to identify sources of outside funding for applicants for an award under the SBIR program or the STTR program, including venture capitalists, angel investor groups, private industry, crowd funding, and special loan programs; and

“(G) to offer increased one-on-one engagements with companies and entrepreneurs for SBIR program and STTR program education, assistance, and successful outcomes.

“(4) APPLICATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—A regional collaborative that desires to participate in the pilot program shall submit to the Administrator an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Administrator may require.

“(B) INCLUSION OF LEAD ELIGIBLE ENTITIES AND COORDINATOR.—A regional collaborative shall include in an application submitted under subparagraph (A)—

“(i) the name of each lead eligible entity from each eligible State in the regional collaborative, as designated under paragraph (5)(A); and

“(ii) the name of the coordinator for the regional collaborative, as designated under paragraph (6).

“(C) AVOIDANCE OF DUPLICATION.—A regional collaborative shall include in an application submitted under subparagraph (A) an explanation as to how the activities of the regional collaborative under the pilot program would differ from other State and Federal outreach activities in each eligible State in the regional collaborative.

“(5) LEAD ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible State in a regional collaborative shall designate 1 eligible entity located in the eligible State to serve as the lead eligible entity for the eligible State.

“(B) AUTHORIZATION BY GOVERNOR.—Each lead eligible entity designated under subparagraph (A) shall be authorized to act as the lead eligible entity by the Governor of the applicable eligible State.

“(C) RESPONSIBILITIES.—Each lead eligible entity designated under subparagraph (A) shall be responsible for administering the activities and program initiatives described in paragraph (7) in the applicable eligible State.

“(6) REGIONAL COLLABORATIVE COORDINATOR.—Each regional collaborative shall designate a coordinator from amongst the eligible entities located in the eligible States in the regional collaborative, who shall serve as the interface between the regional collaborative and the Administration with respect to measuring cross-State collaboration and program effectiveness and documenting best practices.

“(7) USE OF FUNDS.—Each regional collaborative that is provided an award under the pilot program may, in each eligible State in which an eligible entity of the regional collaborative is located—

“(A) establish an initiative under which first-time applicants for an award under the SBIR program or the STTR program are reviewed by experienced, national experts in the United States, as determined by the lead eligible entity designated under paragraph (5)(A);

“(B) engage national mentors on a frequent basis to work directly with applicants for an award under the SBIR program or the STTR program, particularly during Phase II, to assist with the process of preparing and submitting a proposal;

“(C) create and make available an online mechanism to serve as a resource for applicants for an award under the SBIR program or the STTR program to identify and connect with Federal labs, prime government contractor companies, other industry partners, and regional industry cluster organizations;

“(D) conduct focused and concentrated outreach efforts to increase participation in the SBIR program and the STTR program by small business concerns owned and controlled by women, small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans, small business concerns owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals (as defined in section 8(d)(3)(C)), and historically black colleges and universities;

“(E) administer a structured program of training and technical assistance—

“(i) to prepare applicants for an award under the SBIR program or the STTR program—

“(I) to compete more effectively for Phase I and Phase II awards; and

“(II) to develop and implement a successful commercialization plan;

“(ii) to assist eligible States focusing on transition and commercialization to win Phase III awards from public and private partners;

“(iii) to create more competitive proposals to increase awards from all Federal sources, with a focus on awards under the SBIR program and the STTR program; and

“(iv) to assist first-time applicants by providing small grants for proof of concept research; and

“(F) assist applicants for an award under the SBIR program or the STTR program to identify sources of outside funding, including venture capitalists, angel investor groups, private industry, crowd funding, and special loan programs.

“(8) AWARD AMOUNT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall provide an award to each eligible State in which an eligible entity of a regional collaborative is located in an amount that is not more than \$300,000 to carry out the activities described in paragraph (7).

“(B) LIMITATION.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—An eligible State may not receive an award under both the FAST program and the pilot program for the same year.

“(ii) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in clause (i) shall be construed to prevent an eligible State from applying for an award under the FAST program and the pilot program for the same year.

“(9) DURATION OF AWARD.—An award provided under the pilot program shall be for a period of not more than 1 year, and may be renewed by the Administrator for 1 additional year.

“(10) TERMINATION.—The pilot program shall terminate on September 30, 2021.

“(11) REPORT.—Not later than February 1, 2021, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives a report on the pilot program, which shall include—

“(A) an assessment of the pilot program and the effectiveness of the pilot program in meeting the goals described in paragraph (3);

“(B) an assessment of the best practices, including an analysis of how the pilot program compares to the FAST program and a single-State approach; and

“(C) recommendations as to whether any aspect of the pilot program should be extended or made permanent.”.

SEC. 6402. FEDERAL AND STATE TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.

Section 34 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657d) is amended—

(1) in subsection (h)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “2001 through 2005” and inserting “2017 through 2021”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “fiscal years 2001 through 2005” and inserting “each of fiscal years 2017 through 2021”; and

(2) in subsection (i), by striking “September 30, 2005” and inserting “September 30, 2021”.

TITLE LXV—OVERSIGHT AND SIMPLIFICATION INITIATIVES

SEC. 6501. DATA REALIGNMENT AND MODERNIZATION.

Section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638) is amended by adding after subsection (uu), as added by section 6401 of this Act, the following:

“(vv) SBIR AND STTR INTERAGENCY POLICY COMMITTEE.—

“(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection—

“(A) the term ‘Committee’ means the SBIR and STTR Interagency Policy Committee established under paragraph (2);

“(B) the term ‘participating Federal agency’ means a Federal agency with an SBIR program or an STTR program; and

“(C) the term ‘phase’ means Phase I, Phase II, and Phase III.

“(2) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established an interagency committee to be known as the ‘SBIR and STTR Interagency Policy Committee’.

“(3) MEMBERSHIP.—The Committee shall include—

“(A) 4 representatives from each participating Federal agency, of which—

“(i) 1 shall have expertise with respect to the SBIR program and STTR program of the Federal agency;

“(ii) 1 shall have expertise with respect to the broader research and development missions and programs of the Federal agency;

“(iii) 1 shall have expertise with respect to marketplace commercialization or to the transition of technologies to support the missions of the Federal agency; and

“(iv) 1 shall have expertise with respect to the information technology systems of the Federal agency; and

“(B) 2 representatives from the Administration, of which—

“(i) 1 shall serve as chairperson of the Committee; and

“(ii) 1 shall be from the Information Technology Development Team of the Office of Investment and Innovation of the Administration.

“(4) WORKING GROUPS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall establish working groups as necessary to ensure consistency and clarity between the participating Federal agencies.

“(B) DATA REALIGNMENT AND MODERNIZATION WORKING GROUP.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall establish a data alignment and modernization working group, which shall review the recommendations made in the report to Congress by the Office of Science and Technology of the Administration entitled ‘SBIR/STTR TechNet Public & Government Databases’, dated September 15, 2014, and the practices of participating Federal agencies to—

“(I) determine how to collect data on achievements by small business concerns in each phase of the SBIR program and the STTR program and ensure collection and dissemination of such data in a timely, efficient, and uniform manner;

“(II) establish a uniform baseline for metrics that support improving the solicitation, contracting, funding, and execution of program management in the SBIR program and the STTR program;

“(III) normalize formatting and database usage across participating Federal agencies; and

“(IV) determine the feasibility of developing a common system across all participating Federal agencies and the paperwork requirements under such a common system.

“(ii) MEMBERSHIP.—Each member of the Committee shall serve as a member of the data alignment and modernization working group.

“(5) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than September 31, 2018, the Committee shall brief the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives on the solutions identified by the working group under paragraph (4) and resources needed to execute the solutions.”.

SEC. 6502. IMPLEMENTATION OF OUTSTANDING REAUTHORIZATION PROVISIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 9(mm) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(mm)), as amended by section 6401(1) of this Act, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “paragraph (3)” and inserting “paragraphs (3) and (9)”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(9) SUSPENSION OF FUNDING.—

“(A) FOR FEDERAL AGENCIES.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—For fiscal years 2018 and 2019, any Federal agency that has not implemented each provision of law described in clause (ii)—

“(I) shall continue to provide amounts to the Administration in accordance with paragraph (7)(B); and

“(II) may not use any additional amounts as described in paragraph (1) until 30 days after the date on which the Federal agency submits to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives documentation demonstrating that the Federal agency has implemented and is in compliance with each provision of law described in clause (ii).

“(ii) PROVISIONS.—The provisions of law described in this subparagraph are the following:

“(I) Subsection (r)(4), relating to Phase III preferences.

“(II) Paragraphs (5) and (6) of subsection (y), relating to insertion goals.

“(III) Subsection (g)(4)(B), relating to shortening the decision time for SBIR awards.

“(IV) Subsection (o)(4)(B), relating to shortening the decision time for STTR awards.

“(V) Subsection (v), relating to reducing paperwork and compliance burdens.

“(B) FOR ADMINISTRATION.—For fiscal years 2018 and 2019, if the Administration is not in compliance with subsection (b)(7), relating to annual reports to Congress, the Administration may not use amounts received under paragraph (7)(B) of this subsection for a purpose described in clause (iii) of such paragraph (7)(B).”.

(b) CLARIFICATION OF REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Section 9(b)(7) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(b)(7)) is amended in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “not less than annually” and inserting “not later than December 31 of each year”.

SEC. 6503. STRENGTHENING OF THE REQUIREMENT TO SHORTEN THE APPLICATION REVIEW AND DECISION TIME.

Section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638) is amended—

(1) in subsection (g)(4), by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

“(B) make a final decision on each proposal submitted under the SBIR program—

“(i) for the Department of Health and Human Services, not later than 1 year after the date on which the applicable solicitation closes, with a goal to reduce the review and decision time to less than 10 months by September 30, 2019;

“(ii) for the Department of Agriculture and the National Science Foundation, not later than 6 months after the date on which the applicable solicitation closes; or

“(iii) for any other Federal agency—

“(I) not later than 90 days after the date on which the applicable solicitation closes; or

“(II) if the Administrator authorizes an extension with respect to a solicitation, not later than 90 days after the date that would otherwise be applicable to the Federal agency under subclause (I);”;

(2) in subsection (o)(4), by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

“(B) make a final decision on each proposal submitted under the STTR program—

“(i) for the Department of Health and Human Services, not later than 1 year after the date on which the applicable solicitation closes, with a goal to reduce the review and

decision time to less than 10 months by September 30, 2019;

“(ii) for the Department of Agriculture and the National Science Foundation, not later than 6 months after the date on which the applicable solicitation closes; or

“(iii) for any other Federal agency—

“(I) not later than 90 days after the date on which the applicable solicitation closes; or

“(II) if the Administrator authorizes an extension with respect to a solicitation, not later than 90 days after the date that would otherwise be applicable to the Federal agency under subclause (I);”.

SEC. 6504. CONTINUED GAO OVERSIGHT OF ALLOCATION COMPLIANCE AND ACCURACY IN FUNDING BASE CALCULATIONS.

Section 5136(a) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (15 U.S.C. 638 note) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “until the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act” and insert “until the date on which the Comptroller General of the United States submits the report relating to fiscal year 2019”; and

(2) in paragraph (1), by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting the following:

“(C) assess whether the change in the base funding for the Department of Defense as required by subparagraphs (J) and (K) of section 9(f)(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(f)(1))—

“(i) improves transparency for determining whether the Department is complying with the allocation requirements;

“(ii) reduces the burden of calculating the allocations; and

“(iii) improves the compliance of the Department with the allocation requirements; and”;

(3) in paragraph (2) by striking “under subparagraph (B)” and inserting “under subparagraphs (B) and (C)”.

SEC. 6505. COORDINATION BETWEEN AGENCIES ON COMMERCIALIZATION ASSISTANCE.

Section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638) is amended—

(1) in subsection (j), as amended by section 6202(a) of this Act, by adding at the end the following:

“(5) COORDINATION OF COMMERCIALIZATION ASSISTANCE.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Administrator shall modify the policy directive issued pursuant to this subsection to clarify that a small business concern receiving training through the Innovation Corps program with administrative funds made available under subsection (mm) shall not receive discretionary business assistance funds for the same or similar activities as allowed under subsection (q).”;

(2) in subsection (p), by adding at the end the following:

“(4) COORDINATION OF COMMERCIALIZATION ASSISTANCE.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Administrator shall modify the policy directive issued pursuant to this subsection to clarify that a small business concern receiving training through the Innovation Corps program with administrative funds made available under subsection (mm) shall not receive discretionary business assistance funds for the same or similar activities as allowed under subsection (q).”.

TITLE LXVI—PARTICIPATION BY WOMEN AND MINORITIES

SEC. 6601. SBA COORDINATION ON INCREASING OUTREACH FOR WOMEN AND MINORITY-OWNED BUSINESSES.

Section 9(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (8), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (9), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(10) to coordinate with participating agencies on efforts to increase outreach and awards under each of the SBIR and STTR programs to small business concerns owned and controlled by women and socially and economically disadvantaged small business concerns, as defined in section 8(a)(4).”.

SEC. 6602. FEDERAL AGENCY OUTREACH REQUIREMENTS FOR WOMEN AND MINORITY-OWNED BUSINESSES.

Section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638) is amended—

(1) in subsection (g)—

(A) in paragraph (11), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in paragraph (12), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(13) implement an outreach program to small business concerns for the purpose of enhancing its SBIR program, under which the Federal agency shall—

“(A) provide outreach to small business concerns owned and controlled by women and socially and economically disadvantaged small business concerns, as defined in section 8(a)(4); and

“(B) establish goals for outreach by the Federal agency to the small business concerns described in subparagraph (A).”;

(2) in subsection (o)(14), by striking “SBIR program;” and inserting “SBIR program, under which the Federal agency shall—

“(A) provide outreach to small business concerns owned and controlled by women and socially and economically disadvantaged small business concerns, as defined in section 8(a)(4); and

“(B) establish goals for outreach by the Federal agency to the small business concerns described in subparagraph (A).”.

SEC. 6603. STTR POLICY DIRECTIVE MODIFICATION.

Section 9(p) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(p)), as amended by section 6505 of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(5) ADDITIONAL MODIFICATIONS.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Administrator shall modify the policy directive issued pursuant to this subsection to provide for enhanced outreach efforts to increase the participation of small business concerns owned and controlled by women and socially and economically disadvantaged small business concerns, as defined in section 8(a)(4), in technological innovation and in STTR programs.”.

SEC. 6604. INTERAGENCY SBIR/STTR POLICY COMMITTEE.

Section 5124 of the SBIR/STTR Reauthorization Act of 2011 (Public Law 112-81; 125 Stat. 1837) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (e); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (c) the following:

“(d) MEETINGS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Interagency SBIR/STTR Policy Committee shall meet not less than twice per year to carry out the duties under subsection (c).

“(2) OUTREACH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES.—If the Interagency SBIR/STTR Policy Committee meets to discuss outreach and technical assistance activities to increase the participation of small business concerns that are underrepresented in the SBIR and STTR programs, the Committee shall invite to the meeting—

“(A) a representative of the Minority Business Development Agency; and

“(B) relevant stakeholders that work to advance the interests of—

“(i) small business concerns owned and controlled by women, as defined in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632); and

“(ii) socially and economically disadvantaged small business concerns, as defined in section 8(a)(4) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(a)(4)).”.

SEC. 6605. DIVERSITY AND STEM WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section—

(1) the term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the Small Business Administration;

(2) the term “covered STEM intern” means a student at, or recent graduate from, an institution of higher education serving as an intern—

(A) whose course of study studied is focused on the STEM fields; and

(B) who is a woman or a person from an underrepresented population in the STEM fields;

(3) the term “eligible entity” means a small business concern that—

(A) is receiving amounts under an award under the SBIR program or the STTR program of a Federal agency on the date on which the Federal agency awards a grant to the small business concern under subsection (b); and

(B) provides internships for covered STEM interns;

(4) the terms “Federal agency”, “SBIR”, and “STTR” have the meanings given those terms under section 9(e) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(e));

(5) the term “institution of higher education” has the meaning given the term under section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a));

(6) the term “person from an underrepresented population in the STEM fields” means a person from a group that is underrepresented in the population of STEM students, as determined by the Administrator;

(7) the term “pilot program” means the Diversity and STEM Workforce Development Pilot Program established under subsection (b);

(8) the term “recent graduate”, relating to a woman or a person from an underrepresented population in the STEM fields, means that the woman or person from an underrepresented population in the STEM fields earned an associate degree, baccalaureate degree, or postbaccalaureate from an institution of higher education during the 1-year period beginning on the date of the internship;

(9) the term “small business concern” has the meaning given the term under section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632); and

(10) the term “STEM fields” means the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math.

(b) **PILOT PROGRAM FOR INTERNSHIPS FOR WOMEN AND PEOPLE FROM UNDERREPRESENTED POPULATIONS.**—The Administrator shall establish a Diversity and STEM Workforce Development Pilot Program to encourage the business community to provide workforce development opportunities for covered STEM interns, under which a Federal agency participating in the SBIR program or STTR program may make a grant to 1 or more eligible entities for the costs of internships for covered STEM interns.

(c) **AMOUNT AND USE OF GRANTS.**—

(1) **AMOUNT.**—A grant under subsection (b)—

(A) may not be in an amount of more than \$15,000 per fiscal year; and

(B) shall be in addition to the amount of the award to the recipient under the SBIR program or the STTR program.

(2) **USE.**—Not less than 90 percent of the amount of a grant under subsection (b) shall

be used by the eligible entity to provide stipends or other similar payments to interns.

(d) **EVALUATION.**—Not later than January 31 of the first calendar year after the third fiscal year during which the Administrator carries out the pilot program, the Administrator shall submit to Congress—

(1) data on the results of the pilot program, such as the number and demographics of the covered STEM interns participating in an internship funded under the pilot program and the amount spent on such internships; and

(2) an assessment of whether the pilot program helped the SBIR program and STTR program achieve the congressional objective of fostering and encouraging the participation of women and persons from underrepresented populations in the STEM fields.

(e) **TERMINATION.**—The pilot program shall terminate after the end of the fourth fiscal year during which the Administrator carries out the pilot program.

(f) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the pilot program.

TITLE LXVII—TECHNICAL CHANGES

SEC. 6701. UNIFORM REFERENCE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

Section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638) is amended—

(1) in subsection (cc), by striking “National Institutes of Health” and inserting “Department of Health and Human Services”; and

(2) in subsection (dd)(1)(A), by striking “Director of the National Institutes of Health” and inserting “Secretary of Health and Human Services”.

SEC. 6702. FLEXIBILITY FOR PHASE II AWARD INVITATIONS.

Section 9(e)(4)(B) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(e)(4)(B)) is amended in the matter preceding clause (i)—

(1) by striking “, which shall not include any invitation, pre-screening, or pre-selection process for eligibility for Phase II.”; and

(2) by inserting “in which eligibility for an award shall not be based only on an invitation, pre-screening, or pre-selection process and” before “in which awards”.

SA 4677. Mr. MCCAIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2943, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 508, strike line 10 and all that follows through “(d) TRAINING.—” on line 15 and insert the following:

Section 2332 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(e) **TRAINING.**—

On page 901, strike lines 8 and 9.

On page 1018, strike line 13 and all that follows through “(e) **REPEAL.**—” on line 24 and insert the following:

(d) **REPEAL.**—

On page 1064, line 23, strike “conducting one or more of the following” and insert “building the capacity of such country or countries to conduct one or more of the following”.

On page 1124, beginning on line 14, strike “**GENERALLY.**—” and all that follows through “**Subject**” on line 15 and insert the following: “**GENERALLY.**—**Subject**”.

On page 1124, strike lines 19 through 21.

On page 1129, line 11, insert “available” before “unobligated”.

On page 1129, line 15, insert “Such funds transferred in to the fund shall retain its original period of availability.” after “subsection (a).”.

On page 1129, line 20, insert “available” before “unobligated”.

Strike section 2812.

SA 4678. Mr. REID (for himself and Mr. HELLER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2943, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle I of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1097. REPORT.

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **CLASS III GAMING.**—The term “class III gaming” has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2703).

(2) **EXCLUSIVITY CLAUSE.**—The term “exclusivity clause” means a provision that requires a Tribe to pay to a State a percentage of gross gaming revenue only if the State does not change the law of the State to permit commercial gaming activity by any other person.

(b) **REPORT.**—Not later than 120 calendar days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit to the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives a report on—

(1) the number of Tribal-State compacts, and amendments to such compacts, that contain exclusivity clauses that may be impacted by a determination of the Secretary of the Interior to approve a compact or compact amendment that could have the effect of advancing commercial gaming activity on non-Indian land where such activity is owned or operated, directly or indirectly, by 1 or more Indian tribe; and

(2) the extent to which gaming regulations and laws in States where class III gaming occurs on Indian land pursuant to a Tribal-State compact, approved under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.), meets or exceeds standards established in that Act or regulations issued by the National Indian Gaming Commission.

(c) **CONSULTATION.**—The Secretary of the Interior shall consult with Indian tribes, State governments, and commercial gaming enterprises before issuing the report required under subsection (b).

FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT SELF-DEFENSE AND PROTECTION ACT OF 2015

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 2137, which was received from the House.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2137) to ensure Federal law enforcement officers remain able to ensure their own safety, and the safety of their families, during a covered furlough.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (H.R. 2137) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

TO TAKE CERTAIN FEDERAL LANDS INTO TRUST FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE SUSANVILLE INDIAN RANCHERIA

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2212 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2212) to take certain Federal lands located in Lassen County, California, into trust for the benefit of the Susanville Indian Rancheria, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (H.R. 2212) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

INDIAN TRUST ASSET REFORM ACT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 812, which was received from the House.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 812) to provide for Indian trust asset management reform, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (H.R. 812) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

LOREN R. KAUFMAN VA CLINIC

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1762 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title. The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1762) to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in The Dalles, Oregon, as the "Loren R. Kaufman VA Clinic."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (H.R. 1762) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions, which were submitted earlier today: S. Res. 489, S. Res. 490, S. Res. 491, S. Res. 492.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolutions by title en bloc.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 489) honoring the life and achievements of Muhammad Ali.

A resolution (S. Res. 490) expressing the sense of the Senate that ambush marketing

adversely affects the United States Olympic and Paralympic teams.

A resolution (S. Res. 491) designating June 12, 2016, as a national day of racial amity and reconciliation.

A resolution (S. Res. 492) designating the week of June 6 through June 12, 2016, as "Hemp History Week."

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

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc.

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

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

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

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2016

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 4 p.m., Monday, June 13; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; further, that following leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of S. 2943; further, that all postcloture time on S. 2943 expire at 11 a.m., Tuesday, June 14; finally, that if cloture is invoked on the motion to proceed to H.R. 2578, it be considered to have been invoked at 10 p.m., Monday, June 13.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2016, AT 4 P.M.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 12:09 p.m., adjourned until Monday, June 13, 2016, at 4 p.m.