

Mr. BLUNT, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. KING, Mr. WICKER, and Mrs. FISCHER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 330

*Resolved,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This resolution may be cited as the “Senate Anti-Harassment Training Resolution of 2017”.

**SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

In this resolution—

(1) the term “covered office” means an office, including a joint commission or joint committee, employing Senate employees;

(2) the term “covered position” means a position as—

(A) a Senate employee that is not a position as a Senate manager;

(B) an intern or fellow in a covered office—

(i) without regard to whether the intern or fellow receives compensation; and

(ii) if the intern or fellow does receive compensation, without regard to the source of compensation; or

(C) a detailee in a covered office, without regard to whether the service is on a reimbursable basis;

(3) the term “head of a covered office” means—

(A) the Senator, officer, or Senate manager having final authority to appoint, hire, discharge, and set the terms, conditions, or privileges of the employment of the Senate employees employed by a covered office; or

(B) in the case of a covered office that is a joint committee or joint commission, the Senator from the majority party of the Senate who—

(i) is a member of, or has authority over, the committee or commission; and

(ii) (I) serves in the highest leadership role in the committee or commission; or

(II) if there is no such leadership role for a Senator on the committee or commission, is the most senior Senator on the committee or commission;

(4) the term “officer” means an elected or appointed officer of the Senate;

(5) the term “Senate employee” means an employee whose pay is disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate, without regard to the term of the appointment; and

(6) the term “Senate manager” means a Senate employee empowered to effect a significant change in the employment status of another Senate employee, such as hiring, firing, failing to promote, reassignment with significantly different responsibilities, or a decision causing a change in benefits.

**SEC. 3. ANTI-HARASSMENT TRAINING.**

(a) **SENATORS, OFFICERS, AND SENATE MANAGERS.**—Each head of a covered office and Senate manager shall complete training that addresses the various forms of workplace harassment, including sexual harassment, and related intimidation and reprisal that are prohibited under the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1301 et seq.) and their role in recognizing and responding to harassment and harassment complaints.

(b) **OTHER SENATE STAFF.**—Any individual serving in a covered position shall complete training that addresses the various forms of workplace harassment, including sexual harassment, and related intimidation and reprisal that are prohibited under the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1301 et seq.).

(c) **ENSURING ACCESS.**—The head of a covered office shall ensure that each individual serving in a covered position or as a Senate manager in the covered office has access to the training required under this section.

**SEC. 4. TIMING.**

(a) **INITIAL TRAINING.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The training required under section 3 shall be completed—

(A) for an individual elected, appointed, or assigned to a position as a Senator, officer, or Senate manager or to a covered position after the date of adoption of this resolution who was not serving in the same covered office as a Senator, officer, or Senate manager or in a covered position immediately before being so elected, appointed, or assigned, not later than 60 days after the date on which the individual assumes the position; and

(B) except as provided in paragraph (2), for an individual serving in a position as a Senator, officer, or Senate manager or in a covered position on the date of adoption of this resolution, not later than 60 days after such date of adoption.

(2) **INDIVIDUALS RECEIVING RECENT TRAINING.**—An individual serving as a Senator, officer, or Senate manager or in a covered position on the date of adoption of this resolution who completed training that addresses the various forms of workplace harassment, including sexual harassment, and related intimidation and reprisal that are prohibited under the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1301 et seq.) during the period beginning on the first day of the 115th Congress and ending on such date of adoption shall be deemed to have completed training under paragraph (1)(B).

(b) **PERIODIC TRAINING.**—An individual serving in a position as a Senator, officer, or Senate manager or in a covered position shall complete the training required under section 3 at least once during each Congress beginning after the Congress during which the individual completes the initial training in accordance with subsection (a).

**SEC. 5. CERTIFICATION.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than the last day of each Congress, each covered office shall submit to the Secretary of the Senate a certification indicating whether each Senator, officer, and Senate manager serving in a position in the covered office and each individual serving in a covered position in the covered office has completed the training requirements under this resolution during that Congress.

(b) **PUBLICATION.**—Not later than 30 days after the first day of each Congress, the Secretary of the Senate shall publish each certification submitted to the Secretary of the Senate under subsection (a) with respect to the previous Congress on the public website of the Secretary of the Senate.

**SEC. 6. REGULATIONS OR GUIDANCE.**

The Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate is authorized to issue such regulations or guidance as it may determine necessary to carry out this resolution.

**AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED**

SA 1581. Mr. McCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 324, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the provision of adult day health care services for veterans.

SA 1582. Mr. McCONNELL (for Mr. DAINES) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 886, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish an Acquisition Review Board in the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

SA 1583. Mr. McCONNELL (for Mrs. MCCASKILL) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 906, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for congressional notification regarding major acquisition program breaches, and for other purposes.

**TEXT OF AMENDMENTS**

**SA 1581.** Mr. McCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 324, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the provision of adult day health care services for veterans; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “State Veterans Home Adult Day Health Care Improvement Act of 2017”.

**SEC. 2. PROVISION OF CERTAIN ADULT DAY HEALTH CARE SERVICES FOR VETERANS.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1745 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(d)(1) The Secretary shall enter into an agreement with each State home for payment by the Secretary for medical supervision model adult day health care provided to a veteran described in subsection (a)(1) on whose behalf the State home is not in receipt of payment for nursing home care from the Secretary.

“(2)(A) Payment under each agreement between the Secretary and a State home under paragraph (1) for each veteran who receives medical supervision model adult day health care under such agreement shall be made at a rate established through regulations prescribed by the Secretary to adequately reimburse the State home for the care provided by the State home, including necessary transportation expenses.

“(B) The Secretary shall consult with the State homes in prescribing regulations under subparagraph (A).

“(C) The rate established through regulations under subparagraph (A) shall not take effect until the date that is 30 days after the date on which those regulations are published in the Federal Register.

“(3) Payment by the Secretary under paragraph (1) to a State home for medical supervision model adult day health care provided to a veteran described in that paragraph constitutes payment in full to the State home for such care furnished to that veteran.

“(4) In this subsection, the term ‘medical supervision model adult day health care’ means adult day health care that includes the coordination of physician services, dental services, nursing services, the administration of drugs, and such other requirements as determined appropriate by the Secretary.”; and

(2) in the section heading, by inserting “, adult day health care,” after “home care”.

(b) **INITIAL RATE.**—Before the Secretary of Veterans Affairs establishes a payment rate under subsection (d)(2)(A) of section 1745 of such title, as added by subsection (a), the Secretary shall pay to a State home that has entered into an agreement with the Secretary for medical supervision model adult day health care (as defined in subsection (d)(4) of such section) an amount equal to 65 percent of the rate the Secretary would pay under subsection (a)(2) of such section to the State home for nursing home care provided to the veteran.

(c) **CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 17 of such title is amended by striking the item relating to section 1745 and inserting the following new item:

“1745. Nursing home care, adult day health care, and medications for veterans with service-connected disabilities.”.

**SA 1582.** Mr. McCONNELL (for Mr. DAINES) proposed an amendment to the

bill S. 886, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish an Acquisition Review Board in the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “DHS Acquisition Review Board Act of 2017”.

**SEC. 2. ACQUISITION REVIEW BOARD.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle D of title VIII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 391 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

**“SEC. 836. ACQUISITION REVIEW BOARD.**

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) ACQUISITION.—The term ‘acquisition’ has the meaning given the term in section 131 of title 41, United States Code.

“(2) ACQUISITION DECISION AUTHORITY.—The term ‘acquisition decision authority’ means the authority, held by the Secretary acting through the Deputy Secretary or Under Secretary for Management to—

“(A) ensure compliance with Federal law, the Federal Acquisition Regulation, and Department acquisition management directives;

“(B) review (including approving, pausing, modifying, or cancelling) an acquisition program through the life cycle of the program;

“(C) advocate for acquisition program managers to have the resources necessary to successfully execute an approved acquisition program;

“(D) ensure good acquisition program management of cost, schedule, risk, and system performance of the acquisition program at issue, including assessing acquisition program baseline breaches and directing any corrective action for such breaches; and

“(E) monitor, on an ongoing basis, cost, schedule, and performance of acquisition programs in order to manage risk at all phases of the life cycle of such program and direct corrective action for any variances that would lead to baseline breaches.

“(3) ACQUISITION DECISION EVENT.—The term ‘acquisition decision event’, with respect to an acquisition program, means a predetermined point within each of the acquisition phases at which the acquisition decision authority determines whether the acquisition program shall proceed to the next acquisition phase.

“(4) ACQUISITION DECISION MEMORANDUM.—The term ‘acquisition decision memorandum’, with respect to an acquisition program, means the official acquisition decision event record that includes a documented record of decisions, exit criteria, and assigned actions for the acquisition program, as determined by the person exercising acquisition decision authority for the acquisition.

“(5) ACQUISITION PROGRAM.—The term ‘acquisition program’ means the process by which the Department acquires, with any appropriated amounts, by contract for purchase or lease, property or services (including construction) that support the missions and goals of the Department.

“(6) ACQUISITION PROGRAM BASELINE.—The term ‘acquisition program baseline’, with respect to an acquisition program, means a summary of the cost, schedule, and performance parameters, expressed in standard, measurable, quantitative terms, which must be met in order to accomplish the goals of such program.

“(7) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term ‘appropriate committees of Congress’ means—

“(A) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

“(B) in the case of notice or a report relating to the Coast Guard, the committees described in subparagraph (A) and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate; and

“(C) in the case of notice or a report relating to the Transportation Security Administration, the committees described in subparagraph (A) and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

“(8) BEST PRACTICES.—The term ‘best practices’, with respect to acquisition, means a knowledge-based approach to capability development that includes—

“(A) identifying and validating needs;

“(B) assessing alternatives to select the most appropriate solution;

“(C) clearly establishing well-defined requirements;

“(D) developing realistic cost estimates and schedules;

“(E) securing stable funding that matches resources to requirements;

“(F) demonstrating technology, design, and manufacturing maturity;

“(G) using milestones and exit criteria or specific accomplishments that demonstrate progress;

“(H) adopting and executing standardized processes with known success across programs;

“(I) establishing an adequate workforce that is qualified and sufficient to perform necessary functions;

“(J) integrating the capabilities described in subparagraphs (A) through (I) into the mission and business operations of the Department; and

“(K) any other criteria as determined by the Under Secretary for Management.

“(9) BOARD.—The term ‘Board’ means the Acquisition Review Board required to be established under subsection (b).

“(10) MAJOR ACQUISITION PROGRAM.—The term ‘major acquisition program’ means a Department acquisition program that is estimated by the Secretary to require an eventual total expenditure of not less than \$300,000,000 (based on fiscal year 2017 constant dollars) over the life cycle cost of the acquisition program.

“(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF BOARD.—The Secretary shall establish an Acquisition Review Board to—

“(1) strengthen accountability and uniformity within the Department acquisition review process;

“(2) review major acquisition programs; and

“(3) review the use of best practices.

“(c) COMPOSITION.—

“(1) CHAIRPERSON.—The Under Secretary for Management shall serve as chairperson of the Board.

“(2) OTHER MEMBERS.—The Secretary shall ensure participation by other relevant Department officials, including not fewer than 2 component heads or their designees, as permanent members of the Board.

“(d) MEETINGS.—

“(1) REGULAR MEETINGS.—The Board shall meet regularly for purposes of ensuring all acquisitions programs proceed in a timely fashion to achieve mission readiness.

“(2) OTHER MEETINGS.—The Board shall convene—

“(A) at the discretion of the Secretary; and

“(B) at any time—

“(i) a major acquisition program—

“(I) requires authorization to proceed from one acquisition decision event to another throughout the acquisition life cycle;

“(II) is in breach of the approved requirements of the major acquisition program; or

“(III) requires additional review, as determined by the Under Secretary for Management; or

“(ii) a non-major acquisition program requires review, as determined by the Under Secretary for Management.

“(e) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The responsibilities of the Board are as follows:

“(1) Determine whether a proposed acquisition program has met the requirements of phases of the acquisition life cycle framework and is able to proceed to the next phase and eventual full production and deployment.

“(2) Oversee whether the business strategy, resources, management, and accountability of a proposed acquisition is executable and is aligned to strategic initiatives.

“(3) Support the person with acquisition decision authority for an acquisition program in determining the appropriate direction for the acquisition at key acquisition decision events.

“(4) Conduct reviews of acquisitions to ensure that the acquisitions are progressing in compliance with the approved documents for their current acquisition phases.

“(5) Review the acquisition program documents of each major acquisition program, including the acquisition program baseline and documentation reflecting consideration of tradeoffs among cost, schedule, and performance objectives, to ensure the reliability of underlying data.

“(6) Ensure that practices are adopted and implemented to require consideration of trade-offs among cost, schedule, and performance objectives as part of the process for developing requirements for major acquisition programs prior to the initiation of the second acquisition decision event, including, at a minimum, the following practices:

“(A) Department officials responsible for acquisition, budget, and cost estimating functions are provided with the appropriate opportunity to develop estimates and raise cost and schedule matters before performance objectives are established for capabilities when feasible.

“(B) Full consideration is given to possible trade-offs among cost, schedule, and performance objectives for each alternative.

“(f) ACQUISITION PROGRAM BASELINE REPORT REQUIREMENT.—If the person exercising acquisition decision authority over a major acquisition program approves the major acquisition program to proceed into the planning phase before the major acquisition program has a Department-approved acquisition program baseline, as required by Department policy—

“(1) the Under Secretary for Management shall create and approve an acquisition program baseline report regarding such approval; and

“(2) the Secretary shall—

“(A) not later than 7 days after the date on which the acquisition decision memorandum is signed, provide written notice of the decision to the appropriate committees of Congress; and

“(B) not later than 60 days after the date on which the acquisition decision memorandum is signed, submit a report stating the rationale for such decision and a plan of action to require an acquisition program baseline for such program to the appropriate committees of Congress.

“(g) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section and every year thereafter through fiscal year 2022, the Under Secretary for Management shall provide information to the appropriate committees of Congress on the activities of the Board for the prior fiscal year that includes information relating to the following:

“(1) For each meeting of the Board, any acquisition decision memoranda.

“(2) Results of the systematic reviews conducted under subsection (e)(4).

“(3) Results of acquisition document reviews required under subsection (e)(5).

“(4) Activities to ensure that practices are adopted and implemented throughout the Department under subsection (e)(6).”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 et seq.) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 835 the following:

“Sec. 836. Acquisition Review Board.”.

**SA 1583.** Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mrs. MCCASKILL) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 906, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for congressional notification regarding major acquisition program breaches, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Reducing DHS Acquisition Cost Growth Act”.

**SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION FOR MAJOR ACQUISITION PROGRAMS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle D of title VIII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 391 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

**“SEC. 836. CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS FOR MAJOR ACQUISITION PROGRAM BREACH.**

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) ACQUISITION.—The term ‘acquisition’ has the meaning given the term in section 131 of title 41, United States Code.

“(2) ACQUISITION PROGRAM.—The term ‘acquisition program’ means the process by which the Department acquires, with any appropriated amounts, by contract for purchase or lease, property or services (including construction) that support the missions and goals of the Department.

“(3) ACQUISITION PROGRAM BASELINE.—The term ‘acquisition program baseline’, with respect to an acquisition program, means a summary of the cost, schedule, and performance parameters, expressed in standard, measurable, quantitative terms, which shall be met in order to accomplish the goals of the program.

“(4) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term ‘appropriate committees of Congress’ means—

“(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

“(B) in the case of notice or a report relating to the Coast Guard or the Transportation Security Administration, the committees described in subparagraph (A) and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

“(5) BEST PRACTICES.—The term ‘best practices’, with respect to acquisition, means a knowledge-based approach to capability development that includes—

“(A) identifying and validating needs;

“(B) assessing alternatives to select the most appropriate solution;

“(C) clearly establishing well-defined requirements;

“(D) developing realistic cost assessments and schedules;

“(E) securing stable funding that matches resources to requirements;

“(F) demonstrating technology, design, and manufacturing maturity;

“(G) using milestones and exit criteria or specific accomplishments that demonstrate progress;

“(H) adopting and executing standardized processes with known success across programs;

“(I) establishing an adequate workforce that is qualified and sufficient to perform necessary functions; and

“(J) integrating the capabilities described in subparagraphs (A) through (I) into the mission and business operations of the Department.

“(6) BREACH.—The term ‘breach’, with respect to a major acquisition program, means a failure to meet any cost, schedule, or performance threshold specified in the most recently approved acquisition program baseline.

“(7) COMPONENT ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE.—The term ‘Component Acquisition Executive’ means the senior acquisition official within a component who is designated in writing by the Under Secretary for Management, in consultation with the component head, with authority and responsibility for leading a process and staff to provide acquisition and program management oversight, policy, and guidance to ensure that statutory, regulatory, and higher level policy requirements are fulfilled, including compliance with Federal law, the Federal Acquisition Regulation, and Department acquisition management directives established by the Under Secretary for Management.

“(8) MAJOR ACQUISITION PROGRAM.—The term ‘major acquisition program’ means an acquisition program of the Department that is estimated by the Secretary to require an eventual total expenditure of at least \$300,000,000 (based on fiscal year 2017 constant dollars) over the life cycle cost of the program.

“(b) REQUIREMENTS WITHIN DEPARTMENT IN EVENT OF BREACH.—

“(1) NOTIFICATIONS.—

“(A) NOTIFICATION OF BREACH.—If a breach occurs in a major acquisition program, the program manager for the program shall notify the Component Acquisition Executive for the program, the head of the component concerned, the Executive Director of the Program Accountability and Risk Management division, the Under Secretary for Management, and the Deputy Secretary not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which the breach is identified.

“(B) NOTIFICATION TO SECRETARY.—If a breach occurs in a major acquisition program and the breach results in a cost overrun greater than 15 percent, a schedule delay greater than 180 days, or a failure to meet any of the performance thresholds from the cost, schedule, or performance parameters specified in the most recently approved acquisition program baseline for the program, the Component Acquisition Executive for the program shall notify the Secretary and the Inspector General of the Department not later than 5 business days after the date on which the Component Acquisition Executive for the program, the head of the component concerned, the Executive Director of the Program Accountability and Risk Management Division, the Under Secretary for Management, and the Deputy Secretary are notified of the breach under subparagraph (A).

“(2) REMEDIATION PLAN AND ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—If a breach occurs in a major acquisition program, the program manager for the program shall submit in writing to the head of the component concerned, the Executive Director of the Program Accountability and Risk Management division, and the Under Secretary for Man-

agement, at a date established by the Under Secretary for Management, a remediation plan and root cause analysis relating to the breach and program.

“(B) REMEDIATION PLAN.—The remediation plan required under subparagraph (A) shall—

“(i) explain the circumstances of the breach at issue;

“(ii) provide prior cost estimating information;

“(iii) include a root cause analysis that determines the underlying cause or causes of shortcomings in cost, schedule, or performance of the major acquisition program with respect to which the breach has occurred, including the role, if any, of—

“(I) unrealistic performance expectations;

“(II) unrealistic baseline estimates for cost or schedule or changes in program requirements;

“(III) immature technologies or excessive manufacturing or integration risk;

“(IV) unanticipated design, engineering, manufacturing, or technology integration issues arising during program performance;

“(V) changes to the scope of the program;

“(VI) inadequate program funding or changes in planned out-year funding from one 5-year funding plan to the next 5-year funding plan as outlined in the Future Years Homeland Security Program required under section 874;

“(VII) legislative, legal, or regulatory changes; or

“(VIII) inadequate program management personnel, including lack of sufficient number of staff, training, credentials, certifications, or use of best practices;

“(iv) propose corrective action to address cost growth, schedule delays, or performance issues;

“(v) explain the rationale for why a proposed corrective action is recommended; and

“(vi) in coordination with the Component Acquisition Executive for the program, discuss all options considered, including—

“(I) the estimated impact on cost, schedule, or performance of the program if no changes are made to current requirements;

“(II) the estimated cost of the program if requirements are modified; and

“(III) the extent to which funding from other programs will need to be reduced to cover the cost growth of the program.

“(3) REVIEW OF CORRECTIVE ACTIONS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Under Secretary for Management—

“(i) shall review each remediation plan required under paragraph (2); and

“(ii) not later than 30 days after submission of a remediation plan under paragraph (2), may approve the plan or provide an alternative proposed corrective action.

“(B) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Under Secretary for Management completes a review of a remediation plan under subparagraph (A), the Under Secretary for Management shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress—

“(i) a copy of the remediation plan; and

“(ii) a statement describing the corrective action or actions that have occurred pursuant to paragraph (2)(B)(iv) for the major acquisition program at issue, with a justification for each action.

“(c) REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION IF BREACH OCCURS.—

“(1) NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS.—If a notification to the Secretary is made under subsection (b)(1)(B) relating to a breach in a major acquisition program, the Under Secretary for Management shall notify the appropriate committees of Congress of the breach in the next quarterly Comprehensive Acquisition Status Report, as required in the matter under the heading ‘OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR MANAGEMENT’ in title

I of division F of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–113; 129 Stat. 2493), after receipt by the Under Secretary for Management of notification under that subsection.

“(2) SIGNIFICANT VARIANCES IN COSTS OR SCHEDULE.—If a likely cost overrun is greater than 20 percent or a likely delay is greater than 12 months from the costs and schedule specified in the acquisition program baseline for a major acquisition program, the Under Secretary for Management shall include in the notification required in paragraph (1) a written certification, with supporting explanation, that—

“(A) the program is essential to the accomplishment of the mission of the Department;

“(B) there are no alternatives to the capability or asset provided by the program that will provide equal or greater capability in a more cost-effective and timely manner;

“(C) the new acquisition schedule and estimates for total acquisition cost are reasonable; and

“(D) the management structure for the program is adequate to manage and control cost, schedule, and performance.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–296; 116 Stat. 2135) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 835 the following:

“Sec. 836. Congressional notification and other requirements for major acquisition program breach.”.

### SEC. 3. REPORT ON BID PROTESTS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term “appropriate committees of Congress” has the meaning given the term in section 836(a) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 2(a); and

(2) the term “Department” means the Department of Homeland Security.

(b) STUDY AND REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Inspector General of the Department shall conduct a study, in consultation with the Government Accountability Office when necessary, and submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the prevalence and impact of bid protests on the acquisition process of the Department, in particular bid protests filed with the Government Accountability Office and the United States Court of Federal Claims.

(c) CONTENTS.—The report required under subsection (b) shall include—

(1) with respect to contracts with the Department—

(A) trends in the number of bid protests filed with Federal agencies, the Government Accountability Office, and Federal courts and the rate of those bid protests compared to contract obligations and the number of contracts;

(B) an analysis of bid protests filed by incumbent contractors, including the rate at which those contractors are awarded bridge contracts or contract extensions over the period during which the bid protest remains unresolved;

(C) a comparison of the number of bid protests and the outcome of bid protests for—

(i) awards of contracts compared to awards of task or delivery orders;

(ii) contracts or orders primarily for products compared to contracts or orders primarily for services;

(iii) protests filed pre-award to challenge the solicitation compared to those filed post-award;

(iv) contracts or awards with single protestors compared to multiple protestors; and

(v) contracts with single awards compared to multiple award contracts;

(D) a description of trends in the number of bid protests filed as a percentage of con-

tracts and as a percentage of task or delivery orders by the value of the contract or order with respect to—

(i) contracts valued at more than \$300,000,000;

(ii) contracts valued at not less than \$50,000,000 and not more than \$300,000,000;

(iii) contracts valued at not less than \$10,000,000 and not more than \$50,000,000; and

(iv) contracts valued at less than \$10,000,000;

(E) an assessment of the cost and schedule impact of successful and unsuccessful bid protests, as well as delineation of litigation costs, filed on major acquisitions with more than \$100,000,000 in annual expenditures or \$300,000,000 in lifecycle costs;

(F) an analysis of how often bid protestors are awarded the contract that was the subject of the bid protest;

(G) a summary of the results of bid protests in which the Department took unilateral corrective action, including the average time for remedial action to be completed;

(H) the time it takes the Department to implement corrective actions after a ruling or decision with respect to a bid protest, and the percentage of those corrective actions that are subsequently protested, including the outcome of any subsequent bid protest;

(I) an analysis of those contracts with respect to which a company files a bid protest and later files a subsequent bid protest; and

(J) an assessment of the overall time spent on preventing and responding to bid protests as it relates to the procurement process; and

(2) any recommendations by the Inspector General of the Department relating to the study conducted under this section.

### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I have 5 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

#### COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

The Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, November 9, 2017, at 9:30 a.m., in SR–328A to conduct a hearing on S. 2099.

#### COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

The Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, November 9, 2017, at 9:30 a.m., in SR–328A to conduct a hearing on the following nominations: Glen R. Smith, of Iowa, to be a Member of the Farm Credit Administration Board, and Stephen Alexander Vaden, of Tennessee, to be General Counsel of the Department of Agriculture.

#### COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, November 9, 2017 at 10 a.m. to conduct a hearing on the following nominations: Robert H. McMahon, of Georgia, to be an Assistant Secretary, R. D. James, of Mis-

souri, and Bruce D. Jette, of Virginia, both to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army, and Shon J. Manasco, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, all of the Department of Defense.

#### COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, November 9, 2017, at 10:30 a.m. to conduct a hearing on the nomination of Kirstjen Nielsen, of Virginia, to be Secretary of Homeland Security, Ernest W. Dubester, of Virginia, Colleen Kiko, of North Dakota, and James Thomas Abbott, of Virginia, each to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority, and Jonathan H. Pittman, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

#### COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, November 9, 2017, at 10 a.m., in room SD–226 to conduct a hearing on S. 2070 and the following nominations: Gregory G. Katsas, of Virginia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, Jeffrey Uhlman Beaverstock, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama, Emily Coody Marks, and Brett Joseph Talley, both to be a United States District Judge for the Middle District of Alabama, Holly Lou Teeter, to be United States District Judge for the District of Kansas, and Bobby L. Christine, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia, and David J. Freed, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, both of the Department of Justice.

### PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Martin Pipkins, a detailee on the Senate Committee on Finance, be granted floor privileges for the duration of this Congress.

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

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that privileges of the floor be granted to the following member of my staff, Sarah Anderson, for today's session.

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

### STATE VETERANS HOME ADULT DAY HEALTH CARE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2017

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be discharged from further consideration of S. 324 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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