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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
May 23, 2018.

I hereby appoint the Honorable EVAN H. JENKINS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 8, 2018, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

FOSTER YOUTH SHADOW DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, May is Foster Care Month and a time to recognize the almost 800,000 foster youth in America. During this month, we renew our commitment to ensuring that every child has a safe, loving family. I am a member of the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth, and also had a foster brother growing up. He is still my brother today.

I know firsthand how a loving, supportive home can make all the difference in a young person's life. Every child deserves to grow up healthy and safe. We know that when children grow up in stable households, they are much more likely to succeed as adults.

This month, we both recommit ourselves to ensuring that every child has access to the promise of the American Dream while honoring the countless professionals and individuals who make selfless sacrifices to make this promise a reality.

Mr. Speaker, today is Congressional Foster Youth Shadow Day. More than 100 foster youth from across the country will be here in Congress spending the day with Members of Congress. Shadow Day allows foster youth to share their experiences in foster care directly with Congress to help inform and improve child welfare policy. The child welfare system directly impacts their lives, so it is important foster youth voices are heard here in Congress.

Today, I am proud to have Lawrence White with me as a part of Shadow Day. Lawrence is a 22-year-old from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He was in the foster care system from the time he was 10 years old until the time he turned 20. That is when he aged out of the system.

During those 10 years, Lawrence shuffled between 19 different homes and placements. Despite moving so often, Lawrence was able to stay in programs that he enjoyed, such as theater and church activities. He said such activities kept him grounded, or, as he puts it, ''I was fortunate enough to remain humble and beat the odds.''

Mr. Speaker, the experiences of youth who transition out of the foster care system without a permanent home place them at a higher risk of unemployment, poor educational outcomes, health issues, early parenthood, long-term dependency on public assistance, increased rates of incarceration, and homelessness. But, as Lawrence said: He beat the odds.

Lawrence graduated from high school and earned a scholarship to attend Point Park University in Pittsburgh. He now works as a youth support partner with young people in the foster care system.

He currently attends Daytona State College, where his future goal is to become a business owner and an author. I have no doubt that the future is bright for Lawrence.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful that I can spend time today with Lawrence and hear about how we can improve the foster care system, because every child deserves a safe, supportive, and permanent family.

THANKING THE USO FOR ITS COMMITMENT TO AMERICAN SERVICEMEMBERS

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, the USO was on Capitol Hill yesterday for a service project where volunteers can assemble snack packs for servicemembers who are currently deployed. More than 2,000 snack packs were assembled as a part of the Force Behind the Forces campaign.

The USO strengthens America's military servicemembers by keeping them connected to family, home, and country throughout their service to the Nation. USO has more than 200 locations around the globe. It serves 4.9 million Active Duty, Guard, and Reserve members and their families.

For more than 75 years, the USO has been by the side of America's military servicemembers. From the moment they join, through their assignments and deployments, and as they transition back to their communities, the USO has been there.

There are USO centers at or near military installations across the United States and throughout the world, including in combat zones, and even un-staffed USO service sites in places too dangerous for anyone but combat troops to occupy.

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Mr. Speaker, I thank the USO for its dedication to our servicemembers and their families.

JANUS V. AFSCME

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI) for 5 minutes.

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, too many working families still struggle to pay their bills, to take care of their families, and to save for their kids to go to college or to take care of aging parents.

The middle class—households with an income between 67 and 200 percent of median income—is shrinking and income inequality is growing. Wage stagnation means more families will need safety net services like SNAP—food stamps—and housing assistance at a time when the majority in Congress is trying to cut those programs.

What should we be doing?

Consider this. Unions helped build the middle class. Unionized teachers, nurses, and firefighters have better access to paid holidays, paid sick leave, and retirement benefits, and less need for safety net services.

When workers have the right to join together and have a voice in the workplace, it is also good for nonunion workers who benefit from those higher standards.

Unfortunately, here in Congress and across the street at the Supreme Court, with the Janus v. AFSCME case, working families and organized labor are under attack.

To grow our economy and reduce the need for safety net programs, we should make it easier, not harder, for workers to form unions and collectively bargain. Until we do, we will continue to see a shrinking middle class.

RECOGNIZING 93RD BIRTHDAY OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL ALBERT ''BUZ'' STEBBINS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor today to recognize the 93rd birthday of a true American hero, Lieutenant Colonel ''Buz'' Stebbins.

Just after Lieutenant Colonel Stebbins turned 20 years old, he graduated from West Point in 1945. He served as a pilot in the Army Air Corps and the United States Air Force for 28 years.

During that time, Buz piloted scores of military aircraft, including the honor of taking delivery from Lockheed of one of the first C5A Galaxy cargo aircraft, the largest cargo aircraft in the world. He flew 70 missions to Vietnam in support of our troops engaged in that war. While stationed in Germany, he became a member of the Caterpillar Club, whose membership is restricted to those who have had to bail out of a disabled aircraft.

During his military career, Colonel Stebbins also served as a professor of physics at both West Point and the United States Air Force Academy.

Retiring in 1973, Colonel Stebbins chose to reside in the great city of Tega Cay, South Carolina, which is in my Fifth Congressional District. He became very active in the community, and was instrumental in Tega Cay being incorporated as a city in 1982. He has been honored by a number of organizations in the community, including Citizen of the Year, grand marshal of the Independence Day parade, and many more.

Colonel Stebbins exemplifies the motto of the great school of West Point: Duty, Honor, Country.

Buz, happy 93rd birthday on May 31. We look forward to many more years of you doing what you continue to do.

NATIONAL MARITIME DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of an extraordinary group of people.

Yesterday was National Maritime Day, and I rise to bring attention to the House legislation that I recently introduced, H.R. 5879, the World War II Merchant Marine Congressional Gold Medal. I hear the cheers from all of my colleagues here on the floor as they line up to support this piece of legislation.

Last year, my colleague, SUSAN BROOKS, my good Republican friend, introduced this legislation. I am grateful to her and to Congressman DON YOUNG of Alaska for their support of this legislation this year. This bill has obvious bipartisan support and bicameral support. Senator MURKOWSKI of Alaska is leading this bill in what some call the upper Chamber; we simply call it the Senate.

During World War II, our Armed Forces relied upon the Merchant Marine to ferry supplies, cargo, manpower and womanpower into both theaters of operation: the Pacific and the Atlantic. They paid a heavy price for their service.

The Merchant Marine casualty rate was the highest among all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces. An estimated 8,300 merchant mariners lost their life during the war, and around 12,000 were wounded. But these brave men and women, who put their lives on the line to sustain our Armed Forces, were not even given veteran status until 1988, much less public recognition for their invaluable service.

Today, I am going to meet with a group of World War II Merchant Marine veterans: Charles Mills from Texas, age 97; Eugene Barner from Kansas, age 92; and Robert Weagant from Illinois, age 92. I will also be meeting with families of other veterans who are no longer with us. I am meeting them to hear firsthand their stories of bravery and peril in the service of our Armed Forces. They deserve the recognition of a Congressional Gold Medal, and that is precisely what this legislation will do.

I urge all of the Members of this House and the Senate to give our Merchant Marine veterans and their families the honor they deserve.

I will also be discussing with these gentlemen and their families a piece of legislation that we introduced the day before yesterday, we call it the Energizing the American Shipbuilding Industry—taking a small percentage of the oil and natural gas that we are now exporting and requiring that that be on American-built ships with American mariners, so that we can maintain the extraordinary tradition of bravery and service that the World War II mariners showed this Nation.

If we are successful in passing this legislation, we will be building some 50 ships, or more, in our shipyards all across America, providing jobs in the upper Midwest, where they build the great engines for these ships: the pumps, the pipes, and the electronic systems. We would also be providing some 1,800 jobs for the next generation of mariners.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues not only to support the Congressional Gold Medal for the World War II mariners, but support our effort to create mariners for the next generation, which, hopefully, will not be a war but, if it is, we know that we can rely on them, just as we did in World War II.

RECOGNIZING 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF MONROE, LOUISIANA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. ABRAHAM) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Rotary Club of Monroe, Louisiana.

The Monroe Rotary Club started on June 1, 1918, and its centennial birthday marks 100 years of service, charity, and dedication from the members over the years. Today, the club has grown to over 140 members, and it is involved in service projects throughout the Monroe area.

The Monroe Rotary Club promotes education, local economic growth, and clean water availability locally, nationally, and around the world just to promote the innate ability to drink clean water.

Members of this club are the problem solvers that collaborate with the community leaders, many of whom are members themselves, to lead and continue to lead on issues that are facing the Monroe area.

In this year alone, the Monroe Rotary Club has donated over 1,000 books to inmates at the Swanson Correctional Center, awarded 11 $250 scholarships to high school seniors, and donated 95 bicycles to children in need

during the Christmas season. Their crowning annual event is a gumbo fundraiser, where they raise thousands of dollars for their service projects. In this year alone, they have raised over $8,000 that will be used to buy new playground equipment, send children to camp, and sponsor softball teams. I am always very proud to see people and organizations like these in the Monroe area, and in my entire district in Louisiana.

Over the past 100 years, the Monroe Rotary Club has worked tirelessly to improve the city and the quality of life for those who live there.

□ 1015

They inspire me and others by the changes that they direct, that they make, and the positive impact that they bring to the Monroe area.

Today, not only do I congratulate them on their 100th anniversary, but I stand in recognition and certainly thanks for their century of service to the city of Monroe and the State of Louisiana.

LOUIS ZAMPERINI POST OFFICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MAXINE WATERS) for 5 minutes.

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the life and legacy of an American hero, Louis Zamperini.

Louis Zamperini was an Olympic runner who, while serving as an airman during World War II, was captured and held as a prisoner of war. Many remember Louis Zamperini as an inspirational symbol of resilience, athleticism, and service.

The city of Torrance and the residents of our community in the 43rd Congressional District of California are especially proud and inspired by Louis Zamperini.

Louis Zamperini was the son of Italian immigrants. He moved to Torrance, California, at the age of 3 and was a graduate of Torrance High School. It was during his tenure at Torrance High School that Zamperini's abilities in track and cross country first gained notoriety.

Nicknamed the ''Torrance Tornado,'' Louis Zamperini set the national high school record in the mile at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum in 1934. His record time of 4 minutes 21.2 seconds was unbroken for 20 years.

As a teenager, Zamperini qualified and competed in the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin, Germany, where he finished eighth in the 5,000-meter run. After the Olympics, Zamperini earned a scholarship to the University of Southern California, where he became one of the university's most celebrated student athletes.

Louis Zamperini enlisted in the United States Army Air Corps and served in World War II as a B–24 Liberator bombardier in the 372nd Bomb Squadron.

During a rescue mission on May 27, 1943, Zamperini's plane crashed into the sea. Zamperini spent 47 days adrift in a life raft fending off starvation and fighting to survive. The United States military believed he had perished in the crash and informed his parents of his death in June 1943.

In actuality, Zamperini was captured by a Japanese patrol boat and held as a prisoner of war. Over the next 2 years, he was regularly beaten and starved. Louis Zamperini was finally liberated following the Japanese surrender in September of 1945.

Zamperini became an evangelical Christian and gave inspirational speeches across the country. He also founded the Victory Boys Camp, a wilderness camp, to assist at-risk youth.

Louis Zamperini passed away on July 2, 2014, in Los Angeles at the age of 97 years old. Zamperini was married for 54 years to his wife, Cynthia, who preceded him in death. He was survived by his son, Luke, his daughter, Cynthia Garris, and his grandson, Clay.

People across the country are familiar with Louis Zamperini's story, which was told in the 2010 book, ''Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption,'' by Laura Hillenbrand, which rose to number one on The New York Times Best Seller list. In 2014, director Angelina Jolie released a movie about Zamperini adapted from Hillenbrand's book.

Because of his remarkable athletic abilities and heroic service to our country, Louis Zamperini will forever be remembered as a hero and favorite son of Torrance. That is why I am so very proud to announce that today, in collaboration with California's senior United States Senator, DIANNE FEINSTEIN, I have just introduced a resolution to rename the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1433 Marcelina Avenue in Torrance, California, as the Louis Zamperini Post Office Building. My legislation has the bipartisan support of the entire California delegation in the House of Representatives.

Over the Memorial Day holiday weekend, as we honor the memory of the brave military servicemembers who have given their lives for our country, let us all reflect on the legacy of Louis Zamperini and countless other American heroes who have sacrificed to protect our ideals, our democracy, and our country.

CONGRESSIONAL FOSTER YOUTH SHADOW DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BACON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Foster Youth Shadow Day.

Today, I have Wini visiting us from Omaha, Nebraska. She is a junior at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, studying criminal justice, with a minor in communications. Wini is in Washington, D.C., along with more than 100 young adults participating in the seventh annual Congressional Foster Youth Shadow Day.

Currently, there are more than 400,000 youth in the foster care system, and we need to make sure the system is working well for all of our children. I look forward to learning from Wini so I can better advocate for these children in Congress as the newest co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth. As a foster parent myself, I know how important it is for every child to have a safe, supportive, and loving family.

Wini is an inspiration for all of us, as she wants to attend law school and continue using her voice as an advocate for young people.

Thank you for being here today, Wini. I know you have a bright future ahead of you, because you have an indomitable spirit, you have heart, and you have character.

PROFESSOR SLOCUM AND THE SOCIAL SAFETY NET

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the life and legacy of Rutgers Law School Professor Alfred Slocum.

Professor Slocum was a titan in the legal and civil rights communities. While still a student at Rutgers Law, he spoke out on behalf of minorities and people of color. He worked with professors and other students to help create the Rutgers Law Minority Student Program, which is the most extensive and renowned program to train minority lawyers in this country.

During his career, Professor Slocum served many roles in the legal profession and in the public service sector. He was an executive director of the Council on Legal Education Opportunity. He served as public advocate of the State of New Jersey in 1986 and, later that year, was appointed public defender.

For 5 years, Professor Slocum championed the causes of the voiceless and the indigent. Then in 1990, he returned to law school, where he taught until retiring from the faculty in 2001.

I speak for myself, for the city of Newark, and for the State of New Jersey when I say that Professor Slocum's life was well lived. I ask my colleagues to join me in honor of this great man's legacy.

Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned, Professor Alfred Slocum was a champion for the voiceless and for people in need. Mr. Speaker, the people who are in the greatest need in this country rely on our social safety net for food, for shelter, for healthcare, and for many necessities that help them scrape by. We cannot leave them to despair.

These people are not just a statistic. They are not just an idea. They are human beings. They are Americans.

They are people who just need a helping hand.

I have said this before, but let me say it again. I have never met a person who wakes up in the morning and says, ''I want to be poor today.'' That is just not a reality.

Let me add this. I have never met a person who wakes up at 5 a.m. to go to her first job, comes home at 1 p.m. to take a nap, and heads out to her second job at 4 p.m., yet still lives paycheck to paycheck, still relies on SNAP and Medicaid to make ends meet, but thinks to herself, ''I like to struggle.'' She does not exist, because that is just not how the world works.

Programs like SNAP, Medicaid, housing assistance, our entire social safety net is a supplement that helps people struggle just a little bit less.

Yet my colleagues across the aisle and their friends in the White House keep pushing the false narrative that people who rely on government assistance to make ends meet are just freeloaders who take advantage of the government handouts and buy drugs. The majority party and the 45th President keep pushing their callous, immoral narrative in order to tear apart the social safety net.

Mr. Speaker, the United States Government should be making it easier for Americans to maintain a decent standard of living. We have to protect our most vulnerable and those who are in need. Let us end this administration's war on the working poor and help make lives better for our constituents.

The American people deserve A Better Deal.

LET'S PUT OUR KIDS BEFORE CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, today, once again, we are going to debate what we need to do to stop these senseless attacks on our schools.

Our schools are a place of memories. Think about it. We can all, every one of us, recite stories of when we were in elementary school. We all know stories about friends or things that happened in junior high school and in high school. Our life's memories are filled back in those schooldays, those memories.

The children today, the kids today, have different memories of school. No child in America should go to school afraid, and no parent in America should worry about their children, if they are going to come home safely, when they send them to school.

As I stand here right now, outside these doors there are armed guards with machine guns, guard dogs, metal detectors to keep us safe. But today, once again, children will go to school across America and sit like sitting ducks in a classroom.

When a crazed madman attacked my colleagues and friends at baseball practice, our response was instant. It was immediate. Democrats and Republicans, we all agreed we need more security for Congress, we need more money to secure our offices, to secure our staff to make sure they are safe. We even found money to provide security for us at home. People move pretty fast here when it is about themselves and their families.

Why do we think that our lives are more important than the lives of any parent's child in America?

Why do we think we are more important that we can find security for ourselves so quickly?

We should take every metal detector in this building and send it to some school tomorrow until we find the money to secure our schools like we did for ourselves.

I read an article where root canals and colonoscopies have a higher approval rating than Congress. Maybe the American people will think differently if we put our kids before Congress.

□ 1030

HONORING SPECIAL FORCES SOLDIER AARON BUTLER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CURTIS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CURTIS. Mr. Speaker, this week, I had the privilege to speak to the parents of Special Forces Soldier Aaron Butler from Monticello, Utah.

From the time Aaron was in the first grade, he wanted to join the military and serve our country. After a legendary career as a four-time State wrestling champion at Monticello High School, Aaron joined the Utah National Guard.

Within a few years, he was one of just four soldiers who graduated with honors from the Army Green Beret Special Qualification Course.

Throughout his service, Aaron's teammates and superior officers regarded him as a natural leader with an unmatched work ethic.

He was tough and dedicated. He loved our country, and he took his responsibility to protect it seriously.

On August 16, 2017, Aaron was serving as a staff sergeant in Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group of the Utah National Guard on his first combat deployment that should have ended in October.

Tragically, an explosion occurred while he was clearing a booby-trapped building in Afghanistan, killing Aaron and injuring 11 teammates.

His family, seven siblings, parents, and fiancee, as well as his teammates, were devastated. His hometown and the rest of our State mourned this tragic loss.

His sister said that if Aaron had given his own eulogy, he would have said: I came. I lived. I killed bad guys. I died.

Aaron and his courageous sacrifice will never be forgotten. Our country is forever indebted to the service of Aaron and countless others who make daily sacrifices to protect our country and keep us safe.

And our country is, likewise, forever indebted to the families that have supported them.

Like many others, I have been blessed by the dedicated military service of a family member. My father served in the Navy during World War II. I was reminded of his great service during a recent visit to the U.S. Naval Academy, where I had the honor to meet with a group of Utah cadets, and again during a visit with U.S. troops stationed in Poland and Abu Dhabi.

This weekend, we will celebrate Memorial Day and take the opportunity to express our deepest and most profound gratitude to those who have fallen in the service of our country. I thank them, their families, and all those who are willing to serve. Our way of life and every ideal we hold dear has been built on the sacrifice of these heroes.

This week, I am proud to speak in support of the proposals in the National Defense Authorization Act that will provide our troops with support to increase capability and capacity in a force that has been asked to do too much with too little for too long.

In this, I am pleased to support a well-deserved pay raise for our troops and extend special pay and bonuses to servicemembers in high-demand fields, something our servicemembers and their families have more than earned.

After heroically serving this country, our veterans deserve the very best that we can give them back home.

This week, I was honored to support more than a dozen veterans bills that passed the House. These proposals will help improve the lives and honor the men and women who have served so selflessly.

This legislation will help provide for disabled veterans who have been wounded in service. It will ensure our veterans have access to the care and resources they have earned. It will keep our homeless veterans off the street. It will ease educational burdens placed on our veterans by the Federal Government. It will protect our veterans from the dangers of opioid abuse. It will increase accountability at the Department of Veterans Affairs to guarantee those brave individuals and their families receive the quality of service they deserve.

This Memorial Day, we honor the dedicated generations of men and women who have fought for our country and ensured our freedom. May we all strive every day to live worthy of their sacrifice, and may God bless the United States of America.

THE MEDAL OF HONOR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TAYLOR) for 5 minutes.

Mr. TAYLOR. Mr. Speaker, ''For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at

the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty.'' These are the words that begin every Medal of Honor citation, our Nation's highest and most prestigious military decoration.

They are uncommon but not as uncommon as the actions and sacrifice detailed in the narrative summaries of those awards.

Of the estimated 50 million Americans who have worn a military uniform, 3,440 have received the Medal of Honor.

The criteria for the award are profound, clear, and always deadly; indeed, almost all recipients sacrificing their lives to earn them.

Their service is memorialized at military installations throughout the world. You can read of their bravery on walls, monuments, and headstones. Buildings, streets, ships, and forward-operating bases bear their names in an attempt to honor, to inspire, and to remember.

If you wear a uniform, you walk in the dark shadows of heroes every day.

Today, Mr. Speaker, there are 71 living recipients. Tomorrow, there will be 72.

Mr. Speaker, in the early morning hours of March 4, 2002, a helicopter attempted a landing on a mountain peak high in the Arma Mountain range of southeastern Afghanistan.

The mission was reconnaissance. But, Mr. Speaker, war has no regard for the plans of men. War is violent. War is chaotic. War is unforgiving. And as the helicopter touched down, it was engulfed in a hail of lead and rocket-propelled grenades.

The helicopter escaped, but one man remained: Chief Petty Officer SEAL Neil Roberts. He was alone. He was isolated, and he was surrounded.

In a letter to his family, Roberts would write, ''All the times spent in the company of my teammates were when I felt closest to the men I had the privilege to work with. I loved being a SEAL. If I die doing something for the teams, then I died doing what made me happy. Very few people have the luxury of that.''

Mr. Speaker, men and women join the military for many reasons, but they do not join with a desire to die. There will always be moments of uncertainty and fear and hesitation, moments when fear turns the thoughts to your own safety, well-being, and survival.

Every service issues a uniform. None of them issue courage. In those moments, where beliefs and resolve are tested, leadership illuminates the path.

On March 4, 2002, Master Chief Special Warfare Operator SEAL Retired Britt Slabinski chose to lead. He led his men back into the fight, into overwhelming odds and superior enemy fire. There would be no element of surprise. There would be no tactical advantage, and despite the odds and despite the risk, he chose to lead.

They assaulted trenches and bunkers and hardened machine gun nests. They took the fight to the enemy until it reached the brink of their own destruction. They did not run. They did not hide. They fought.

Mr. Speaker, bravery is not motivated by fear, rage, hate, or the desire for awards or recognition. Bravery is motivated by love: love for an ideal, love for a country, and love for a teammate.

Bravery is not a certainty; it is a choice.

Master Chief Slabinski and his men chose to be brave. His actions, his personal courage, and his leadership are an example, not just to every sailor, soldier, marine, and airman, but to every American.

His citation has earned its place among the other heroes who have received the Medal of Honor. Its ownership, its meaning, and its promise belong not just on the walls of every military installation but on the walls of every home in America.

Master Chief Slabinski's actions serve as a beacon, as a reminder of who we can become, of what we can accomplish when we, instead of running away, rise up and challenge our darkest fears, our worst enemies, or overwhelming odds.

Mr. Speaker, long live the brotherhood.

RECOGNIZING PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOLS THAT RANK IN THE TOP 100 IN THE STATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, we recently concluded Teacher Appreciation Week, and I am proud to stand with the teachers throughout our community in Bucks and Montgomery Counties. It is of utmost importance that we recognize their service and sacrifice for all of our young people.

Recently, this has culminated in our district having several schools that ranked in the top 100 in the State of Pennsylvania for both standardized test scores and graduation rates.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the following schools now on the floor of the House: The New Hope-Solebury High School, Council Rock High School North, Central Bucks High School East, Abington Senior High School, Council Rock High School South, Central Bucks High School South, and the Quakertown Community High School.

I am proud to represent a community that produces such high-achieving young adults, and I would like to thank our educators for the work they do in molding our future generation.

RECOGNIZING MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, May is Military Appreciation Month, and I am proud to stand here today to recognize the brave men and women in uniform who have served our Nation valiantly.

As a member of the House Homeland Security Committee, I am in awe of the sacrifices made and risks taken by our Armed Forces every single day to keep our country safe.

And I speak for all of my constituents in Bucks and Montgomery Counties when we truly say that we value the troops' service and sacrifice, and we owe them a tremendous debt of gratitude.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the 75 graduating high school seniors who were honored this month at Spring Mill Manor in Northampton by Our Community Salutes to recognize their enlistment in our Armed Forces.

These exemplary young men and women received a certificate from Montgomery County State Representative Tom Murt, a veteran of the Iraq war, and received their first military coin.

Mr. Speaker, as elected officials, we must continue to enact policies that ensure the well-being of all of our men and women in the military. There is no more important responsibility than serving those who have so bravely stepped up in times of crisis.

Mr. Speaker, I will continue to stand up for our military this month and every month. And to all those who serve, we say: Thank you.

NEW HOPE HOSTS A PRIDE PARADE

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, last weekend in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, was the 15th Annual New Hope Pride Parade.

This parade served as the culmination of a week-long celebration of LGBT culture and achievements, and I am proud to recognize this event and our LGBT community in Bucks County and throughout our district.

Currently, the New Hope Pride Parade stands as the only recognized event of its kind that crosses State lines between New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

I would like to recognize board member Jennifer Wohl, under whose guidance the attendance at this event grew from 1,000 in 2003 to 15,000 last year.

I would also like thank the president of New Hope Celebrates, Matthew Hanson, for his work in advancing equality in Pennsylvania and across our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, as Members of Congress, it is critical that we advocate for measures that will support equality for all American citizens. I will continue to do so as a Member of this House, and I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to do the same with every single action we bring to this floor. We value them, Mr. Speaker.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 42 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ISSA) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

We give You thanks, O God, for giving us another day.

During this week, the National Defense Authorization Act is being debated on the floor of the House. May all Members be imbued with Your wisdom, that the results of their deliberations might redound to the benefit of our Nation.

Bless all those whose lives are dedicated to the defense and service of the United States, most especially those who serve in uniform in the Armed Forces. May they be safe in the execution of their duties, and their families blessed with Your comforting presence in their lives.

Thank You, O God, for the privilege of being able to serve, and may all that is done be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Utah (Mr. STEWART) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. STEWART 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

STANDING IN SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE OF NICARAGUA

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, Saturday marked one month since the massive protests in Nicaragua began against Ortega's dictatorial regime: 76 people have been killed, 868 have been injured, and 438 have been detained. Torture and degrading treatment have been reported, as well as media censorship and other forms of persecution, to prevent citizens from participating and exercising their God-given human rights.

The message is clear: The Nicaraguan people want Ortega out of power. They are calling for free, fair, and transparent elections, with credible international observers, and they want them now.

The U.S. can, and should, use all of our tools to aid the people of Nicaragua in their fight to end the repression and reinstitute democratic order.

I urge the administration to sanction those responsible for these abuses, and I will be submitting names of individuals who should be subject to immediate sanctions.

Mr. Speaker, I continue to urge my colleagues in the Senate to pass my NICA Act now to help the people of Nicaragua.

RECOGNIZING EMS WEEK

(Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor all the dedicated EMS workers, especially in Houston County and Harris County, Texas, who served our community with distinction during Hurricane Harvey last August. This week is EMS Recognition Week across our country.

Nobody becomes an emergency medical responder, emergency medical technician, or paramedic to get rich. It is hard work, physically strenuous and stressful, and can involve life-or-death situations in certain circumstances.

This was the case during Hurricane Harvey, a historic storm that dropped over 50 inches of rain over Houston and southeast Texas.

While we honor the hard work and dedication of our EMS workers during EMS Week, we must make sure our emergency medical service workers are paid a fair, middle class wage and benefits, and are protected from worker fatigue so that they can deliver high-quality emergency care when it is most needed.

I also wish to recognize the hundreds of EMS workers who traveled from all over the country to help the people of Houston and southeast Texas during our time of need.

MODERNIZATION OF F–22 FIGHTER WING

(Mr. DUNN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act, which will accelerate the modernization of the F–22 fighter wing at Tyndall Air Force Base. This is one of only three F–22 training wings in the Air Force.

We have the most highly trained and dedicated military in the world. But if we are not giving them the resources to maintain their planes and training them in the most realistic environments possible, we are doing them a disservice. Over the last year, we have begun to correct that problem and rebuild our military and invest in our servicemembers.

Modernizing the training wing of F–22s at Tyndall Air Force Base is another step in that process and is essential to the safety and security of the airmen we ask to achieve air superiority over battlefields all around the globe.

We are giving certainty to our warfighters with this NDAA, and I urge all of my colleagues to support this important legislation.

INVEST IN NATION BUILDING IN AMERICA

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, there are 54,000 structurally deficient bridges in America. Every second of every day, seven cars drive on a bridge that is structurally deficient.

Earlier this month, New York State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli issued a report finding that our broken sewer systems are dumping billions of gallons of sewage into our lakes and rivers.

The American Society of Civil Engineers gives the Nation a D rating when it comes to infrastructure and estimates that it will cost $2 trillion just to bring our infrastructure to a state of good repair.

Mr. Speaker, a $1.5 trillion infrastructure plan over 5 years would create 34.5 million jobs, and infrastructure pays for itself with $1.60 of new economic growth for every dollar invested: this, according to the Congressional Budget Office. That is 6.9 million jobs each of the next 5 years and 575,000 jobs each month for the next 60 months.

Mr. Speaker, it is time that we get out of Iraq and Afghanistan and invest in nation building in America, with American workers and for the American people.

THE NDAA: REBUILD AND REFORM

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the National Defense Authorization Act passed the House Armed Services Committee with an overwhelmingly bipartisan vote of 60 yes to 1 no. I am grateful for the leadership of Chairman MAC THORNBERRY, with Speaker PAUL RYAN, promoted by Defense Secretary James Mattis.

The NDAA being considered today provides a critical increase in topline funding to support troops and readiness

recovery, consistent with President Donald Trump's commitment to rebuild the military as he keeps his promises.

This legislation makes major reforms to the Pentagon bureaucracy, while adding more military personnel to all services. The NDAA also includes the largest pay increase for the military in 9 years.

As chairman of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Readiness, I am grateful that this legislation promotes rebuilding the military and supports readiness recovery by rehabilitating and replacing worn-out equipment, overcoming the crisis in military aviation, restoring America's strength at sea, and rebuilding crumbling military buildings and other infrastructure.

I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan bill that supports the men and women in uniform, along with military families, to promote peace through strength.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

ENDANGERED SALMON PREDATION PREVENTION

(Mr. SCHRADER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SCHRADER. Mr. Speaker, the Pacific Northwest is facing an unprecedented and growing problem of sea lions who are decimating our endangered salmon and steelhead runs in the Columbia and Willamette Rivers.

Right now, in front of my district office in Oregon City, there are 24 sea lions sitting at the base of Willamette Falls gorging themselves on the spring salmon run. This is 127 miles from the Pacific Ocean, their natural habitat.

This salmon buffet of endangered fish costs Northwest ratepayers nearly $1 billion a year: a third of our electric bill.

We need to pass H.R. 2083, the Endangered Salmon and Fisheries Predation Prevention Act, now. I introduced this bill, along with my Northwest colleague, JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER.

It will provide Oregon and Washington wildlife managers with the tools they need, that they requested, to quickly act to remove problem sea lions to protect these endangered fish.

If we don't act now, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife says that there is a 90 percent chance the Willamette winter steelhead run will go extinct in the next few years.

Mr. Speaker, it would be unconscionable to let this happen. We know the problem, and it is identified. Let's take action.

RECOGNIZING COLONEL JAMES BROWN

(Mr. STEWART asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STEWART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Colonel James Brown, a friend of mine, who has faithfully served the Tooele Army Depot and the United States Army. It is my honor to recognize the years of service Colonel Brown has given to our Nation prior to the upcoming change of command. Colonel Brown has been instrumental in expanding Tooele Army Depot's mission of readiness, as well as ensuring a safe and secure worksite for its employees.

I offer my sincere thanks to all those who served at the Tooele Army Depot, as well as those who have had the privilege to serve with Colonel Brown. I understand the sacrifices of our military men and women on behalf of our Nation. I am humbled by the work these men and women do every day to protect our freedom and our Nation's freedom as well. And we have to remember their families because their families—their spouses and children—also sacrifice.

Defending honor, duty, and country is the greatest service one can achieve in the United States military. Colonel Brown's courage and dedication is enduring, and his work will continue to support generations to come.

HONORING LISA LA RUSSO

(Mr. TAKANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our Nation's emergency medical service workers.

When crisis strikes, we turn to EMS workers. They are first on the scene to provide vital medical care when we need it most. Their lifesaving work requires skill, is often dangerous, and takes a great deal of courage.

We rely on people like Lisa La Russo, a paramedic with American Medical Response in Riverside County and proud member of AFSCME Local 4911. Lisa has been saving lives for nearly three decades and, like many in her field, goes above and beyond in service to her community. Her work responding to emergencies compelled her to start Splash Medics, a nonprofit dedicated to the prevention of drowning injuries and deaths through education about water safety.

I salute Lisa La Russo, her fellow union members, and all of the EMS workers across the Nation. They are the reason Americans rest assured that help is just a phone call away.

ALL AMERICAN WEEK

(Mr. HUDSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of All American Week, the annual celebration of the 82nd Airborne Division's mission and the paratroopers who serve to uphold it.

Based in my district at Fort Bragg—the epicenter of the universe—the 82nd Airborne Division is our Nation's Global Response Force. These rapid reaction forces can mobilize, load, and deploy at a moment's notice. It is truly incredible.

There is ready, and then there is Airborne ready. As the old saying goes: When the President dials 911, the phone rings at Fort Bragg.

Since its inception, the 82nd Airborne has, time and again, answered the call of duty when our Nation needs it most.

As we celebrate the 100th anniversary of Fort Bragg, I am so proud of the 82nd Airborne's legacy, of our paratroopers, and especially their families.

As the Airborne spirit takes flight this week, I ask my fellow Americans to join me in praying for our servicemembers who are currently deployed and for their families. These heroes put country before self, and we are so grateful. God bless you. Airborne, all the way.

NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH

(Mr. MCNERNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, May is National Foster Care Month, a time to renew our commitment to the thousands of children in our Nation's foster care system. That is why I am proud to be a member of the Congressional Youth Foster Caucus, which is dedicated to strengthening our Nation's child welfare system.

Today, we are celebrating the Congressional Foster Youth Shadow Day, a special day when more than 100 foster youth from across the country come to D.C. to spend a day with Members of Congress as we conduct our Nation's business.

I have the privilege today of hosting Esmeralda Masco, who is from my district in Stockton, California. Esmeralda is currently a student at Grand Canyon University, where she is studying public policy and aspires one day to become a civil rights lawyer. She is passionate about helping current and former foster youth and wants, one day, to open a resource center to help others in the foster care system to graduate and achieve their full potential.

It gives me great pleasure to welcome Esmeralda and all of the participants in the Congressional Youth Shadow Day to our Nation's Capital.

□ 1215

ONLINE PLATFORMS THREATEN FREE SPEECH

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, one of the greatest threats to free speech is the ongoing politicization of online platforms.

Some, which have millions of users, have allowed liberal interest groups to determine what content is available to the public. A recent example is the Southern Poverty Law Center being allowed to censor content that they deem hate speech.

The SPLC has a ''hate map'' that lists over 900 organizations. These include pro-life, religious freedom, and border security groups, all popular with the American people and all unfairly targeted by the SPLC.

Why do online platforms empower the SPLC to suppress conservative views? There is only one answer: They want to promote their liberal agenda even if it means stifling free speech.

This is a clear and present danger to democracy, and it represents another effort to control what the American people hear and see.

NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH

(Ms. BASS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, May marks National Foster Care Month, a time for our country to come together to acknowledge the half million people in our child welfare system.

No one knows the child welfare system like the foster youth who have grown up in the system, and no one can raise their voices like foster youth voices.

Today, the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth and the National Foster Youth Institute have brought together more than 100 young people from every corner of the country here, to Washington, D.C., to shadow their Members of Congress.

The young people here today have traveled thousands of miles to share their stories, their challenges with abuse, trafficking, overmedication, or homelessness, but in addition, to share their successes with education accomplishments, mentorship, adoption, family unification, and community activism.

With me here today, from Los Angeles, is Megan Simon. She is 24 years old, and she was placed in foster care when she was only 1 year old. She was raised by her grandparents, and she has two other siblings who were involved in the system. She is actively involved in the National Foster Youth Institute Leadership Corps, where she attends meetings every Thursday night. She is an advocate and someone who wants to use her pain and her experience to make changes in the child welfare system.

She is a student at Los Angeles Trade Tech College, and she says that she is a leader, she is a survivor, and she is a winner, not because she wins every battle, but because she never stops fighting.

Mr. Speaker, too often the government—us—forgets our children. I hope that today's Shadow Day continues our fight to reverse that course.

HONORING THE FAYETTE HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

(Mrs. HARTZLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor the Fayette High School marching band from my district for being selected to march in Washington's upcoming Memorial Day Parade.

The Marching Falcons found out in the fall that they had been selected to march in the parade, and their small community quickly rallied around them to raise the money they needed to go. Tomorrow they will board a bus, bright and early, to make the 14-hour drive here.

The band's director, Alex Kirby, told me the group has put in many hours of practice. School has already let out for summer vacation, but the dedicated band members still show up for practice 5 days a week, even the seniors who have already graduated.

I am so proud of this marching band and the dedication the students have shown in perfecting their music. I know that they will do a great job.

Congratulations.

DEMOCRACY REFORM

(Ms. SCHAKOWSKY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, too many Americans feel that Washington is out of touch with their priorities. They feel that too few people have too much influence. Americans want the culture of corruption cultivated by rich lobbyists and massive corporations to end.

Look no further than Big Pharma, the pharmaceutical companies. Since 1998, they have spent $4 billion in lobbying and campaign contributions. They employ 1,400 lobbyists, three lobbyists for every Member. No wonder the system seems rigged against commonsense solutions to lower drug prices.

Americans are getting a raw deal when big money controls politics. Democrats offer A Better Deal for our democracy: a bold, comprehensive program to bolster our Nation's ethics laws, overhaul our campaign finance system, and create more transparency and accessibility.

Americans deserve a government that works for them. They deserve A Better Deal.

I want to acknowledge Mimi Quin, with me today as part of Foster Youth Shadow Day.

FOSTER YOUTH SHADOW DAY

(Mr. HILL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the hardships that many foster youth have had to endure and highlight the persistence and determination that they embody as they develop and transition to adulthood.

In Arkansas, we have over 5,000 children currently in the State's foster care system. As a member of the Foster Care Caucus here in the House, I am proud to cosponsor our resolution and have had the pleasure for the last 3 years to sponsor a former foster youth for Shadow Day here on the Hill.

This year I am honored to host Stefan Specht, a former foster youth from my district. Stefan is currently enrolled with Job Corps to obtain a certification in office administration and plans on working towards a degree in business.

Stefan is also a part of Immerse Arkansas, a vital program dedicated to helping foster youth with the difficult transition to adulthood. This program was a critical part of the changing point in Stefan's life and giving him a place to belong.

Many foster youth are not provided with programs like Immerse or a community to help support them in finding a career and home after they exit the foster care system. I am proud to be in this caucus and so proud to support our Shadow Day here on Capitol Hill.

LET'S PUT STUDENTS OVER SPECIAL INTERESTS

(Mr. POLIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, last year, the Republicans passed a corporate tax giveaway that adds $1.9 trillion to the deficit. I was proud to join all of my fellow Democrats in voting against that.

Today I am here to talk about a new bill I introduced, the Students Over Special Interests Act. It shows what we could have done with some of that $1.9 trillion.

I hear from constituents every day overwhelmed by student debt. For instance, Sam in Morrison, Colorado, a law enforcement officer, has been making student loan payments for years. Even at the age of 51, he has tens of thousands of dollars left.

What my Students Over Special Interests Act does is it forgives all student debt. That costs less than the Republican tax giveaway. In addition, it increases Pell funding and reduces the deficit.

Studies have shown that repealing student loan debt stimulates the economy, supports job growth, and takes something that is weighing down too many families.

After forgiving student debt and making college more affordable, my bill still costs less than the Republican tax giveaway that they passed into

law. I encourage the House to take up the Students Over Special Interests bill.

JOYCE CLINE, PENN BRAD OIL MUSEUM YELLOW DOG WINNER

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor this year's Penn Brad Oil Museum's annual Yellow Dog Winner, Joyce Cline.

Joyce has provided exceptional service to the cause of preserving the oil and gas heritage of the Bradford, Pennsylvania, region. She has been a dedicated member of the community who has given her time and leadership to many organizations.

Joyce graduated from Lawrence Park High School in 1959 and was a teacher with the Bradford Area School District for 19 years.

In 1974, she married Bill Cline. He owned a small oil-producing company, and Joyce began her journey in the oil industry. In 1982, she joined the Derrick Club of Bradford, where she served in various roles, including president in 1983 and 1984.

Joyce and Bill became members of the Pennsylvania Independent Petroleum Producers Association in 1986, 1 year after the organization was formed. This turned into a lifelong commitment for the Clines. In 2012, Joyce and Bill were honored with the Gary Hovis Memorial Award for their service.

Mr. Speaker, throughout her life, Joyce has shown her dedication to the industry. I wholeheartedly congratulate her on this outstanding achievement.

CONGRATULATING THE 2018 GRADUATES FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

(Ms. PLASKETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the recent graduates of the University of the Virgin Islands. Unfortunately, I could not attend the graduations last week due to the bad weather up here and the debate on the farm bill.

Despite two hurricanes, no power, damaged classrooms, personal tragedies galore, revised class schedules, et cetera, UVI graduates lived up to their names. On St. Thomas, they were known as the Ambitious, Resilient and Hardworking Class of 2018; and on St. Croix, they were known as the Enriched, Elite and Educated Class of 2018.

During the ceremony, honorary degrees were also awarded to former local elected officials and radio personalities, Holland Redfield II and Addie Ottley.

The class of 2018 is made up of a diverse group of students. Whatever their individual plans, as a class, these UVI graduates have proven that they can take on anything life and nature have to offer. I commend the 2018 UVI graduates for their hard work.

Additionally, I would like to commend Briana Winslow and Jermaine Ferguson, who are shadowing me today as young adults in the national foster youth care program. Their lives, their stories are an inspiration to us all, and I commend them for what they are going to be doing in the future.

U.S. WITHDRAWAL FROM THE IRAN NUCLEAR DEAL WAS THE RIGHT CHOICE

(Mr. LAHOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, President Trump and his foreign policy team made the right choice to withdraw from the nuclear agreement with the dishonest Iranian regime. This Iran deal was flawed from its inception, freeing up billions of U.S. dollars and relaxing sanctions in exchange for weak restrictions and little enforcement.

Iran has taken advantage of this deal. In 2016, German intelligence found that Iran was secretly pursuing nuclear technology and equipment from German companies, violating the agreement less than a year after it was finalized.

That same year, Reuters reported that secret exemptions had been created for Iran after the talks were over, allowing them to evade some restrictions and get relief from our sanctions even faster.

Months after, another loophole in the agreement was exploited when Iran planned to buy 950 tons of uranium to make nuclear fuel since the agreement never placed a limit on how much uranium they could have.

All of this more than demonstrates the ineffectiveness of this deal and the potentially catastrophic effects of trusting Iran, which has a long and detailed history of blatantly being dishonest.

This is a bad deal for this country.

THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD GET A WARRANT TO ACCESS PRIVATE EMAIL ACCOUNTS

(Mr. YODER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act, which would add the full text of my bill, H.R. 387, the Email Privacy Act.

I want to remind my colleagues that this bill has been passed twice by the House, once on April 27, 2016, by a roll call of 419–0, and again by voice vote, unanimously, in the House on February 6, 2017.

My legislation has a simple concept behind it: if the government wants access to content stored in our private email accounts, they should get a warrant.

Currently, agencies can receive the stored email content of a user's cloud email account by sending an administrative subpoena directly to the service provider. This creates a double standard, where paper communication has greater Fourth Amendment protections than electronic copies.

This standard is outdated, as the law governing this issue has not been updated since 1986. Now our whole lives are in the cloud and stored online.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the chairman and ranking member for accepting my amendment and Chairman GOODLATTE of the Judiciary Committee, and I urge all those in this process, House and Senate, to maintain the House-passed language in the final version of the NDAA that we send to the President's desk.

□ 1230

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5515, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019, AND PROVIDING FOR PROCEEDINGS DURING THE PERIOD FROM MAY 25, 2018, THROUGH JUNE 4, 2018

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 908 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 908

Resolved, That at any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for further consideration of the bill (H.R. 5515) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

SEC. 2. (a) No further amendment to the bill, as amended, shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution and amendments en bloc described in section 3 of this resolution. (b) Each further amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. (c) All points of order against the further amendments printed in the report of the Committee on Rules or amendments en bloc described in section 3 of this resolution are waived.

SEC. 3. It shall be in order at any time for the chair of the Committee on Armed Services or his designee to offer amendments en bloc consisting of amendments printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution not earlier disposed

of. Amendments en bloc offered pursuant to this section shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Armed Services or their designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole.

SEC. 4. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment pursuant to this resolution the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such further amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 5. On any legislative day during the period from May 25, 2018, through June 4, 2018 -- (a) the Journal of the proceedings of the previous day shall be considered as approved; and (b) the Chair may at any time declare the House adjourned to meet at a date and time, within the limits of clause 4, section 5, article I of the Constitution, to be announced by the Chair in declaring the adjournment.

SEC. 6. The Speaker may appoint Members to perform the duties of the Chair for the duration of the period addressed by section 5 of this resolution as though under clause 8(a) of rule I.

SEC. 7. Each day during the period addressed by section 5 of this resolution shall not constitute a calendar day of continuous session for purposes of section 1017(b) of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 688(b)).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Alabama is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alabama?

There was no objection.

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 908 provides for complete consideration of H.R. 5515, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019.

The rule makes in order 168 amendments to go along with the previous 103 amendments made in order by yesterday's rule.

That means the full House will consider 271 amendments to this year's NDAA. When you add in the 317 amendments considered in the Armed Services Committee, that means a total of 588 amendments to the NDAA will be considered this year.

Mr. Speaker, for this year's NDAA, a record number of amendments were submitted to the Rules Committee.

I want to thank both the majority and the minority Rules Committee staff, our Rules associates, and the staff of the Armed Services Committee for the many hours they put into this open and deliberative process.

As a member of both the Rules Committee and the Armed Services Committee, I have spent my fair share of time working on this piece of legislation.

Like years past, I want to again highlight the bipartisan nature of our work. This year's NDAA passed out of the Armed Services Committee on a bipartisan 60–1 vote.

That bipartisanship will continue here on the floor, where 176 of the amendments made in order are minority or bipartisan amendments.

The theme of this year's NDAA is to reform and rebuild our Nation's military. The bill supports an increase in top-line funding for the military, as we continue working to reverse the readiness crisis we faced for at least the last decade.

Any organization, including the military, is only as good as its people, and this NDAA authorizes a 2.6 percent pay raise for our troops, the largest increase in 9 years. This will help us retain and recruit the best and the brightest.

The bill also calls for increases in the size of the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, the Marine Corps, the Naval and Air Reserves, as well as the Air Guard.

As vice chairman of the Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee, I am pleased the bill authorizes construction of 13 new Navy ships. This is a much-needed step, as we continue building towards a 355-ship Navy.

I am especially proud that this year's NDAA includes many provisions important to my home State of Alabama. From Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville to the Anniston Army Depot to Fort Rucker in the Wiregrass to Maxwell-Gunter in Montgomery to the Austal Shipyard in Mobile, this bill ensures that Alabama will continue playing a leading role in supplying, training, and supporting our Nation's military.

Sadly, we have lost far too many servicemembers to training accidents over the last year. The bill ensures improvements to military training and safety programs to help protect our servicemen and -women.

These efforts include repairing outdated equipment and ensuring the procurement of new first-class capabilities. This includes additional Stryker A1 combat vehicles, Army armored brigade combat team vehicles, F/A–18E/F Super Hornets, C–130 Super Hercules aircraft, E–2D Advanced Hawkeye aircraft, F–35 Joint Strike Fighters, UH–60M Black Hawk helicopters, and advanced missiles.

The bill continues to build on Chairman THORNBERRY's priority of reforming the Pentagon bureaucracy to make it more efficient and effective. This includes streamlining buying practices.

From Russia to Iran to China to North Korea, the bill makes investments to ensure we are keeping up with our adversaries. The United States must stand ready to confront aggression around the globe, whether it is from major state actors or rogue terrorist organizations.

Importantly, this year's NDAA includes much-needed investment in our nuclear deterrent and authorizations for the Missile Defense Agency.

It authorizes funding for codevelopment and coproduction of missile defense and weapons systems with our key ally, Israel.

All told, I am confident that this bill includes the reforms and funding levels necessary to rebuild and empower the greatest fighting force in the world.

With this NDAA, we can hopefully continue to embody the strategy of peace through strength and support our servicemembers.

Mr. Speaker, if you ever need a pick-me-up or a shot in the arm, I encourage you to spend some time visiting with our servicemen and -women. These individuals come from all different walks of life and backgrounds. They all play different roles and have different jobs, but they are united by the common goal of defending and protecting the United States of America.

I distinctly remember a conversation I had with a group of sailors from my home State of Alabama aboard the USS *John C. Stennis* a few years ago.

After hearing about their various paths that led them to the Navy, I asked what I could do for them. One response was straightforward, but very poignant. She asked me to make sure the American people knew what they did and that we supported them.

That is exactly what we do with this bill. We bring together Members of Congress from both sides of the aisle, from different parts of the country, and we unite behind the common goal of supporting the men and women in uniform who protect the United States of America.

With this bill, we can send a clear message to our sailors, soldiers, airmen and marines that the United States Congress has their back, that we are committed to the mission, and we will ensure that they have the right policies and the right resources to get the job done.

This bill also sends a message to our friends and our adversaries that America is back, and that while we prefer peace, we will not hesitate to do what is necessary to defend our country and protect our interests.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting House Resolution 908, and for the 58th year in a row, let's pass a bipartisan NDAA.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. (Mr. McGOVERN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BYRNE) for yielding me the customary 30 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, the National Defense Authorization Act is one of the most

important items Congress considers. It is among the few authorizing bills we take up, and the only authorizing bill considered by the House every year.

It is legislation designed to meet some of our most important obligations: increasing our military's readiness, supporting our troops, and safeguarding our national security.

But as critical as this measure is, the base bill is rarely perfect. That is why hundreds of amendments are submitted to the Rules Committee every year by Members on both sides of the aisle. Our meetings on this bill are usually the longest the committee holds all year because so many Members bring forward so many ideas.

That is how the committee is supposed to function. And debating those ideas on this floor, even amendments we disagree with, is how the House of Representatives is supposed to work. That kind of process should not be the exception. It should be the norm.

I know this may seem like a radical idea to the majority, but the world's greatest deliberative body should regularly debate.

Instead, this majority has developed a pattern: Every now and then they make a bunch of amendments in order on larger bills like this. But most of the time, they don't allow any amendments on most bills.

Roughly 55 percent of all the rules that the majority has implemented this Congress have been closed. So Members cannot do their job offering amendments here on the House floor to address the biggest issues we face.

Under a closed rule, I will remind my colleagues, you can't even fix a typo in a bill.

Now, I know my Republican friends want to be congratulated for not considering this bill under yet another closed rule. After all, they broke their own record for closed rules this week, a sad milestone that makes this Congress the most closed Congress in history.

This is the most closed Congress ever in the history of the United States of America.

In fact, Speaker RYAN is the only Speaker in the history of our country to never have a truly open rule.

But I think the American people hold the majority of this House to a higher standard. Just consider what Republicans have blocked from even getting a debate under this rule.

The majority on the Rules Committee decided to block the bipartisan McGovern-Jones-Lee-Garamendi-Kildee-Welch amendment. Now, this is a straightforward measure. It says that if the President and the Pentagon want to escalate the number of U.S. troops deployed in Afghanistan in the next fiscal year, they need to send a report to Congress. We would then have 30 days to either disapprove of this escalation or allow it to move forward.

It is simple, because all it asks is for this Congress to do its job, to stop abdicating its responsibility. It has been 17 years since Congress last passed an AUMF. We have been told year after year, Congress after Congress, that this is not the time to debate our role abroad.

Well, Mr. Speaker, when is the time?

We submitted this amendment to the Rules Committee last year during the FY 2018 defense authorization. But rather than making it in order, the majority moved forward with an alternative amendment that called for a report from the administration on our Afghanistan policy.

The President signed that NDAA into law with that amendment. And guess what? Congress never got the report. It is more than 70 days past due.

Clearly, asking for a study isn't working. In fact, the President is ignoring it altogether. And over the last year, the administration decided to increase the number of U.S. troops in Afghanistan by more than 4,000 additional servicemembers. That is on top of the more than 8,400 troops that are already there. The response from this majority has either been silence or to ask for a study.

Mr. Speaker, I don't need some study to tell me that this Congress needs to do its job. Issues of war and peace are among the toughest we consider, but we must take them up all the same. It is why we were sent here and it is what our men and women in uniform expect.

Why is the majority afraid of a fair fight? Let's debate whether President Trump should increase our engagement in Afghanistan even further.

□ 1245

I am tired of being told that this is not the time for that vote because I believe it is past time. I have stood here year after year, Congress after Congress, as Speaker after Speaker told us to hurry up and wait.

I remember when Speaker Boehner said it wasn't right for the 113th Congress to be voting on an AUMF. We are now in the 115th Congress and another Speaker has told us the same thing. But again this year, a vote on an AUMF has been blocked.

The majority also blocked debating amendments under this rule on other important issues, like striking the provision in this bill allowing for the transfer of machine guns between contractors and a separate measure to strike the provision here giving the President leeway to avoid implementing Russian sanctions.

That is disappointing, and it is a disservice to this institution and to the people we represent. For all of the talk from the majority about how many amendments are included here, let's not forget what is being blocked.

This bill is incredibly important. It authorizes money for more than half of the Nation's discretionary budget. That is about 54 cents of every tax dollar that pays for government programs other than entitlements. We should be having a robust debate on these issues here and now.

Yes, we appreciate quantity; that is important. We want a lot of amendments made in order, but we would like quantity and quality. So substantive amendments like the issues that I just mentioned ought to be made in order.

When it comes to our national defense, when it comes to debating the issues that are important to the American people, I want to let my colleagues know we Democrats aren't cheap dates. We want to have our ideas presented and debated. And the American people aren't cheap dates either. They can't understand for the life of themselves why on issues of war and peace, on issues like our involvement in Afghanistan, which is now the longest war in history, why we don't think it is important enough to debate that issue. We have men and women deployed in harm's way, but we can't be bothered on the House floor.

We have roadblocks thrown in front of us so we can't bring these amendments to the floor. We have a thousand excuses about why we can't deal with some of these issues, why this is not the time. Enough. I mean, this is what we are here for. If you don't want to talk about these issues, if you don't want to debate these issues, leave, go into another business, but don't take up space here in Congress spending all of your time trying to block these amendments from being brought to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I know a more open process is a foreign concept to the majority, but they should try it once in a while. This is the most closed Congress ever. Let's let the sunlight in. Let's have a process that is more accommodating.

And on this defense bill, yes, there are a lot of amendments that have been made in order, but there were a lot of important, vital amendments that have been blocked, and I find that very disappointing.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Let's compare the records of the Republicans and the Democrats and who has the most open Congress.

As of May 23 of this year, Republicans in this Congress have provided for consideration of over 1,130 amendments on the House floor. Over 520 of those, or 46 percent, were Democratic amendments; 430, or 38 percent, were Republican; and 170, or 16 percent, were bipartisan. In the 114th Congress, the GOP majority allowed over 1,700 amendments. In the 113th Congress, the GOP majority allowed over 1,500 amendments.

In the entire 111th Congress, when the Democrats were in control, Speaker PELOSI, the Democrats, allowed less than 1,000 amendments to be considered on the floor.

Who is more open? Democrats have highlighted the number of amendments not made in order in this Congress. However, in the 111th Congress when

they controlled, their majority blocked nearly 3,000 amendments, with roughly 2,400 of those occurring in the very first sessions.

Unlike our Democratic colleagues who shut the doors and refused to accept the late amendments from Members, Chairman SESSIONS of the Rules Committee has made it a point to ensure that every single Member has the opportunity to submit their amendments and come to the committee to share their thoughts and concerns, oftentimes late at night.

Under this model of transparency and openness, the committee has spent countless hours listening and considering Member testimony. In fact, we have welcomed over 225 Members to testify at this Congress roughly 493 times and made in order over 1,130 amendments, including 521 from the Democrats, as I said. So I am glad to compare our record of openness with theirs.

Let's talk about the escalation in Afghanistan. There is a clear AUMF that authorizes what we are doing in Afghanistan. Under that AUMF, the military doesn't have to come back to the Congress to say: Pretty please, can we put more soldiers into that country?

I trust General Mattis. He knows what he is doing. He has a clear, legal authorization to do it, and I don't think it makes any sense for him to have to come back to us.

On the issue of the AUMF, which I know we will have more debate on during this rule debate, let me say one thing and say it clearly: I have cosponsored at least two AUMF bills, and those are in the Foreign Affairs Committee, not in the Armed Services Committee. We don't have jurisdiction over that. I wish we did. In fact, I have cosponsored a bill with a Democratic colleague to put jurisdiction in the Armed Services Committee so we can get something done. So I would dearly love for the Foreign Affairs Committee to come forward with a bill, and I am happy to work with the gentleman to see that that takes place.

At this time, Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MITCHELL), the newest member of the Armed Services Committee.

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I am pleased to have the opportunity to join the House Armed Services Committee in time to participate in the review and markup of the fiscal year 2019 national defense authorization bill. I am pleased to participate in the investments this bill makes in our national defense.

I would agree with my colleagues on the other side of the aisle: They are not a cheap date. In fact, some of the amendments that my colleague mentioned were debated in committee and were defeated in committee. Apparently, we want to go through them multiple times; and unless they get everything they want, somehow they are going to protest. At some point in time, the process is what it is. The amendment is lost.

I am pleased to participate in investments in defense, and in particular, the Stryker combat vehicle, a program that has a tremendous impact on combat readiness and capability of our Army.

The Stryker brigade combat teams are some of the most frequently deployed units in the Army, and it exponentially increases the protection and lethality of our Nation's soldiers.

The most modern version of the vehicle, the Stryker A1, includes a double-v hull that has already proven to protect soldiers from the most violent IED and mine blasts, as well as other upgrades to improve their mobility and communication capabilities.

I am pleased with the House Armed Services Committee for seeing the wisdom of authorizing a total $360 million for the Stryker upgrades this fiscal year. That effort supports Army Chief of Staff General Milley's plan to provide Stryker A1s to all brigade combat teams by 2025.

I look forward to working with the chairman and over 250 Members of my House colleagues—across the aisle, by the way—who join me in a letter supporting the Stryker program and its continued efforts of development.

Our soldiers who so often are deployed in harm's way deserve every protection they can get, and we should provide that for them.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a letter to the Secretary of the Army, Mark Esper.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, April 12, 2018.

DEAR SECRETARY ESPER: Thank you for your service to our nation and your robust efforts to increase the readiness and modernization budget of the U.S. Army. While you may have just begun, you are making remarkable progress on behalf of the American soldier and our national security.

However, we would like to bring to your attention the continued budgetary challenges of the Stryker combat vehicle program. The Stryker vehicle is the Army's most deployed and versatile combat vehicle and represents what may be the most successful Army acquisition program in recent memory from initial acquisition to the most recent upgrades. Yet there appears to be a disconnect between these facts and the Army's FY19 budget request which once again neglects much needed Stryker procurement and modernization.

In recent years, Congress has stepped in and ensured that the Army's lack of budgetary commitment to Stryker did not prevent our soldiers in the field from receiving the safety and lethality upgrades necessary against the threats of today's global environment. Congress has strongly supported both the conversion of flat bottomed Strykers to the more survivable Double-V Hull (DVH) Stryker A1 version and the Stryker lethality (ICV) upgrade which adds a powerful 30mm cannon to the Stryker infantry variant.

While we are pleased that the Army's FY 19 modernization budget was increased by more than 14% from FY 18, we are perplexed why the Stryker program did not seem to benefit from this growth in investment funding, especially since it is our understanding that the Army has an operational requirement for additional brigades of improved Stryker (DVH) A1s. How can the Stryker fleet represent 30% of Army combat vehicles yet receive just 6% of the Army's combat vehicle budget in FY 19?

Congress has continually demonstrated our long-standing support for Stryker production and we request that you do the same by working with us in the FY19 defense budget process to develop a plan to sustain the Stryker program.

Sincerely,

Mike Rogers, David P. Joyce, Marcy Kaptur, Sander M. Levin, Richard Hudson, Paul Mitchell, Debbie Dingell, Lou Barletta, Tom Graves, Vern Buchanan, Andre Carson, Collin C. Peterson, Pete Sessions, Harry C. ''Hank'' Johnson, Jr., Peter Roskam, Patrick Meehan, Walter Jones, Stephen Palazzo, Bill Shuster, Tom Marino, Joyce Beatty, Alan Lowenthal, Bradley Byrne, Mimi Walters, Robert Pittenger, Robert B. Aderholt, Eric Swalwell, Will Hurd, James B. Renacci, Gary Palmer.

Michael T. McCaul, Jim Jordan, Charles W. Dent, David E. Price, Brian Mast, Henry Cuellar, Vicki Hartzler, Adam Kinzinger, Scott DesJarlais, Don Young, Emanuel Cleaver, II, Rob Wittman, Gerald E. Connolly, Patrick McHenry, Bruce Westerman, Glenn ''GT'' Thompson, Ted Budd, Josh Gottheimer, Barbara Comstock, Ted W. Lieu, Elise M. Stefanik, A. Donald McEachin, Peter T. King, Martha Roby.

Robert A. Brady, Paul Gosar, Mike Simpson, John Carter, Terri Sewell, Bill Huizenga, David B. McKinley, PE, Betty McCollum, Peter Welch, Sean P. Duffy, Marcia Fudge, Leonard Lance, Thomas J. Rooney, Ann McLane Kuster, Tom O'Halloran, Francis Rooney, John R. Moolenaar, Alma S. Adams, John H. Rutherford, Michael Doyle, Jody Hice, Ryan A. Costello, Charlie Crist, Denny Heck.

Mark E. Amodei, Ann Wagner, Rick W. Allen, Ralph Abraham, MD, Ted S. Yoho, DVM, Tom MacArthur, (duplicate signature), Mike Gallagher, Steve Stivers, Sean Patrick Maloney, Kevin Brady, George Holding, Scott Peters, Sam Graves, Keith J. Rothfus, Paul Cook, Nanette Diaz Barragán, Darin LaHood, Doug Collins, Don Bacon, Carol Shea-Porter, Bonnie Watson Coleman, Juan Vargas, Norma J. Torres, Kyrsten Sinema, David G. Valadao, Rodney Davis, Dwight Evans, Jim Langevin, Ken Calvert, Chellie Pingree.

Earl L. ''Buddy'' Carter, Michael D. Bishop, Colleen Hanabusa, Tom Garrett, Brian Fitzpatrick, Martha McSally, Warren Davidson, Devin Nunes, Steve Knight, Matthew Cartwright, Cheri Bustos, Chris Collins, Tim Ryan, Scott Perry, Karen C. Handel, French Hill, Carlos Curbelo, Joe Wilson, Anthony G. Brown, Derek Kilmer, Grace F. Napolitano, John Faso, Andy Biggs, Trent Kelly, Mark Walker, Marc Veasey, Jim Himes, James P. McGovern, G.K. Butterfield, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Virginia Foxx.

David Rouzer, Cedric L. Richmond, Jackie Walorski, Jim Banks, Lloyd Smucker, Matt Gaetz, Larry Bucshon, MD, Julia Brownley, Mark Meadows, A. Drew Ferguson, IV, DMD, Jamie Herrera Beutler, Donald Beyer, Brendan F. Boyle, Brenda L. Lawrence, Ruben Gallego, Grace Meng, Seth Moulton, Mike Bost, Kathleen M. Rice, Dave Loebsack, Evan H. Jenkins, John M. Katko, Bill Johnson, Dave Trott, Donald Norcross, Michael Capuano, Pete Aguilar, Barry Loudermilk, John Culbertson, Fred Upton, H. Morgan Griffith.

Mario Diaz-Balart, Jack Bergman, Pramila Jayapal, Richard E. Neal, David Scott, Chris Stewart, John K. Delaney, Darren Soto, Al Lawson, Bruce Poliquin, Debbie Wasserman Schultz, Gregory W. Meeks, Alcee L. Hastings, Steve Chabot, Kenny Marchant, Sanford Bishop, Austin Scott, Frank LoBiondo,

Duncan Hunter, John Garamendi, Suzan K. DelBene, Bob Gibbs, Bill Long, Tom Cole, Chuck Fleischmann, Rick Crawford, Pete Olson, Susan W. Brooks.

Dennis Ross, Scott Taylor, Mike Johnson, Salud Carbajal, Dan Kildee, Rob Woodall, Mark Pocon, Tulsi Gabbard, Roger Williams, Stephanie Murphy, Dave Reichert, Jeff Duncan, Christopher H. Smith, Bill Pascrell, Jr., Sam Johnson, Steve Womack, C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger, Kurt Schrader, Tim Walberg, Todd Rokita, Robert E. Latta, Mike Coffman, Mike Quigley, Mo Brooks, Kevin Yoder, Tom Rice, Rick Larsen.

Neal Dunn, MD, Tom Emmer, Stacey Plaskett, Tom Suozzi, Erik Paulsen, Mike Kelly, Andy Barr, Zoe Lofgren, Dan Newhouse, Bobby Scott, Jeff Fortenberry, Daniel Lipinski, Adam B. Schiff, Bob Goodlatte, Ed Royce, Hal Rogers, Brad Wenstrup, K. Michael Conaway, Tom Reed, Bill Flores, Ted Deutch, Ron Estes, Paul Tonko, Doug Lamborn, Randy Hultgren, Albio Sires, David Schweikert.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to say to my colleague from Alabama, I appreciate the fact that he wants to defend what I think is indefensible, this process that the Republicans have implemented to run this House. I would be embarrassed to, but I know he has a job to do, and that is what he is doing.

He talks about all of these amendments that were made in order. What he doesn't tell you about is the over 2,000 amendments that they have blocked this session already, including a lot of Republican amendments that have been blocked, as well.

It is always puzzling to me that the Republicans just kind of go along to get along, and they get shut out of the amendment process and they still vote for a rule. Maybe the day that they stop voting for these rules is a day that maybe we will see some changes.

I also want to point out, and I don't think he really appreciates this point and this is why this has become the most closed Congress in the history of the United States of America, that the majority of bills that have been brought to the floor are unamendable. They are totally closed. I can't even offer an amendment to put a punctuation mark in a bill. I can't change a comma. I can't change the spelling of a word.

The majority of bills have been totally closed, shut out to everybody. If that is the process that this majority wants to embrace, fine. I think that is the kind of process that we want to move away from because that is the kind of process that we see in authoritarian regimes, not in deliberative bodies like the United States Congress, not in the United States of America.

The gentleman talks about that he trusts the administration on Afghanistan. Well, I don't trust this President on anything, to be honest with you. I don't know if he has ever been to Afghanistan, but I have, and the troops that I talked to in Afghanistan and those who are returning ask me the same thing over and over, and that is: What the hell are we doing? What is our mission?

Now, if you think the mission is on target and everything is great, fine. Then vote to increase the number of troops there. But we ought to have a debate here on the floor on whether that is the right thing to do.

On AUMFs, I am happy that the gentleman is cosponsoring a number of AUMFs. He says it is not appropriate to talk about it here in a defense authorization bill or a Defense Appropriations bill; that is a Foreign Affairs Committee bill, and we ought to deal with it there.

When is the last time we have had a Foreign Affairs Committee bill that has been brought before us that we could amend to do an AUMF on? I don't know.

Maybe the gentleman may know when this AUMF is coming out of the Foreign Affairs Committee. I haven't seen it. I have been waiting for years. They are in charge. They run this place. They control everything.

So that is just another excuse, and it really is insulting to the men and women who put their lives on the line for this country. I mean, there is always an excuse why we can't debate something.

This has to stop, and I hope it stops soon. If not, maybe the elections will result in a change of leadership here. I hope that, if we have the privilege to take over, you see a much more accommodating process and, certainly, a process where important issues like this get to be debated.

Mr. Speaker, the protests by thousands of teachers across the Nation have exposed not just low wages, but also severely dilapidated facilities. The 2016 State of Our Schools report determined that there is an annual State and local spending gap of $46 billion on school facilities. These facilities pose significant health and safety threats to more than 50 million students.

In the richest country in the world, it is absolutely shameful that we allow our children to attend schools without heat and with dangerous mold, not to mention the thousands of schools lacking access to the connectivity necessary for digital learning.

For this reason, if we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to bring up Education and the Workforce Committee member BOBBY SCOTT's bill, H.R. 2475, the Rebuild America's Schools Act. This legislation would provide the necessary funding to address critical physical and digital infrastructure needs in our schools, creating over 1.9 million jobs in the process.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of my amendment in the RECORD, along with extraneous material, immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, to discuss our proposal, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT).

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

As the Representative of Hampton Roads, Virginia, I support the significant increase in Navy shipbuilding in the NDAA. But while we consider national defense, we must also consider school construction.

Yesterday, U.S. banks reported $56 billion in first quarter profits. At the same time, our teachers are being forced to go on strike for a living wage and adequate funding for our public schools. But when the majority pushed its tax bill through Congress, it was the banks, not teachers and not the schools, that received the biggest benefit.

H.R. 2475, the Rebuild America's Schools Act, would be a step forward in correcting our priorities by investing desperately needed funding into our public school infrastructure. This $100 billion proposal, which is barely 5 percent of what was spent on the tax cut for corporations and the wealthiest Americans, would go towards repairing crumbling public school buildings to ensure that every student has access to safe, healthy, and high-quality learning facilities.

Not only would this proposal improve school conditions and student academic outcomes, it would create jobs. Research from the Economic Policy Institute shows that for every $1 billion invested in school construction, 18,000 jobs are created. Therefore, a $100 billion Federal investment translates into about 1.8 million new jobs over the next decade. That is many times more than are projected from the $1.5 trillion tax cut.

Last week, we honored the 64th anniversary of the Supreme Court landmark ruling in Brown v. Board of Education that found separate is inherently unequal and ordered public education to integrate to provide equitable learning opportunities for all.

Now, how can we now say that we followed the order in Brown when, just this winter, public schools in Baltimore were forced to close because they didn't have heat? And how could we justify handing a massive tax cut to the wealthy and corporations while abandoning students and educators in public schools across the country? The answer is we can't.

The Rebuild America's Schools Act would put us on a path to give students the safe and high-quality education they deserve, and I strongly urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

□ 1300

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman from Virginia's comments. He is the ranking member of the Education and the Workforce Committee in the House. I have the privilege of serving with him on that committee.

I spent 8 years on the Alabama State Board of Education, 5 years in the Alabama State senate serving on both of

our education committees, and 2 years as chancellor of postsecondary education for the State of Alabama. I care deeply about education. I know what it can do to better the lives of everybody in America.

I find many of the comments the gentleman made with regard to this bill very interesting, and I hope there will be a time when we can take those up and consider them, but this is not that time. We are here today to talk about the defense of the United States of America.

So, with all respect to the gentleman's comments, I hope that he and I can sit down with others later and talk about that, particularly what is the role of the Federal Government versus what is the role of State and local governments. But today let's talk about the defense of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN).

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Alabama for yielding me this time. He is one of the great leaders in this Congress, and it is an honor to serve with him.

Mr. Speaker, I have always heard that many government agencies spend roughly 60 percent of their budgets within the first 11 months and then scramble around during the last month trying to spend the rest of their budget so they won't be cut for the next year.

I think we should do what we can to incentivize more government employees to come up with cost-saving ideas. That is why I introduced, along with Mr. POLIS from Colorado and Mr. JONES from North Carolina, an amendment to the NDAA which will do just that. It will give all military personnel even more reasons to be creative in how to save costs.

I am pleased that my amendment, which has been made in order en bloc, directs the Secretary of Defense to report to Congress on the military's existing incentive programs for cost-saving ideas. This amendment will also include a report on how the Secretary plans to expand and streamline those existing programs to better reward military personnel who help the Department of Defense to be more efficient.

We need to be good stewards of the taxpayers' money and should do everything we can to ensure that our military's funding is used wisely and used where it is needed most.

I introduced a bill several times many years ago to give Federal employees bonuses for half of any money that their agency or their department can save. This amendment hopefully will move us in that direction.

On a side note, I do want to say that I believe the American people are really sick and tired of our spending hundreds of billions on a very unnecessary, no-win war in Afghanistan now 17 years old. I am disappointed that this bill continues that funding instead of bringing our troops back home.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman will suspend.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 23, 2018.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
The Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on May 23, 2018, at 9:54 a.m.:

That the Senate agrees to return the papers to the House of Representatives at their request. H.R. 4743.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank our ranking member for yielding and for his tremendous leadership on defense issues and so many other issues that are critical to our national and domestic security.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this rule and to H.R. 5515, which is the 2019 National Defense Authorization Act. This bill authorizes $717 billion in defense spending. Yet we know that there is at least $150 billion in waste, fraud, and abuse currently over at the Pentagon. Now we are giving them more money. Shame on us. This is an already out-of-control, bloated Pentagon budget.

It would also increase funding to $69 billion for wars that Congress has never debated or voted on. Once again, my Republican colleagues have used off-the-books spending gimmicks to further expand the bloated Pentagon budget.

Enough is enough, Mr. Speaker. Instead of writing blank checks to the Pentagon, Congress needs to live up to its constitutional obligation to debate matters of war and peace. Yesterday I offered an amendment to sunset the 2001 and 2002 Authorization for Use of Military Force after 8 months of enactment. Congress would have 8 months to debate and vote on a new AUMF before the repeal. Eight months is plenty of time. Mr. Speaker, we passed the 2001 AUMF within 3 days, mind you.

Last week, of course, Speaker Ryan—and I say at the orders of Donald Trump—undemocratically stripped our bipartisan 2001 sunset amendment when the Defense Appropriations bill came before us.

When in the world will this body have the backbone to debate the costs and consequences of these wars? Our brave troops deserve better. We need to do our job.

I am pleased, though, that some of my amendments and others passed last night—which are very important amendments. They include clarifying that nothing in this bill can be construed as authorizing force against North Korea—that is the use of military force.

Also we included reporting requirements for auditing the Pentagon. We need the Pentagon audited so that taxpayers will really begin to know where their hard-earned tax dollars are going and what weapons systems they are contributing to in terms of the building of weapons systems which probably will never be used, a report and update on the United States-Kabul compact, and also overseas contingency operations reporting requirements.

Can you believe we are spending all this money on a slush fund through OCO, and we don't know what is going on with that account?

The underlying bill is still a disgrace.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield the gentlewoman from California an additional 30 seconds.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

In conclusion, I just want to reiterate that authorizing wars with no end, no debate, and no vote is unconstitutional, and it is wrong.

I call on Speaker RYAN to bring forth an authorization because every step of the way, we are trying in a bipartisan fashion to do this, and it is the Speaker's call. He should do that so that we can debate and vote up or down on these wars.

So this rule and this bill should not be passed just based on the amount of money that we are giving to the Pentagon to do more than ensure our national security and fight terrorism.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a ''no'' on the rule and the underlying bill and reject this shameful bill.

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I have listened to the gentlewoman's comments, and she probably is unaware of the fact that we are presently undergoing for the first time in the history of the Department of Defense a full Department-wide audit. We are already getting some of the things that they have determined from that audit back. That audit is going to give us information we need to make some further changes in the management performance of the Pentagon. She probably didn't know we are already underway with that, but that is going to be completed in early fall of this year.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. CHENEY), who is my colleague from both the Rules Committee and the Armed Services Committee.

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my colleague, Mr. BYRNE, for his tremendous work on this issue on the Rules Committee as well as on the Armed Services Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of this rule and the bipartisan

work of the House Armed Services Committee that has gone into crafting the underlying bill. This year's NDAA authorizes programs that are absolutely crucial, Mr. Speaker, to the defense of this Nation.

The bill authorizes funding at levels that will begin to restore our readiness, replacing aging equipment and weapons, and developing the next generation of military technology.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle would clearly like to divert attention from these issues. They would like to try to discuss everything under the sun, it seems, except funding for our men and women in uniform who are on the front lines defending the freedom that allows us to have the debate that we are having today in this very Chamber.

The bottom line, Mr. Speaker, is that, without the funding authorized in this bill, our adversaries will continue to close capability gaps and further erode our military superiority.

Mr. Speaker, while passage of this rule and the underlying NDAA are vital, our work will not be done. We must appropriate the funds authorized here, and we must finally, Mr. Speaker, repeal the Budget Control Act.

For the last decade, this body has routinely forced the Department of Defense to operate under continuing resolutions. In plain English, this means we are asking our men and women in uniform to stay on their posts and put their lives on the line to defend all of us while at the same time depriving them of the resources they need to do that job.

The situation, Mr. Speaker, was exacerbated in 2011 with the arbitrary budget caps and sequestration of the Budget Control Act. This has devastated military readiness and enabled our adversaries to make significant gains that threaten our security and our military superiority.

In testimony earlier this year, Secretary of Defense Mattis described the severity of the situation and congressional responsibility for the situation this way: ''As hard as the last 16 years of war have been, no enemy in the field has done as much to harm the readiness of the U.S. military than the combined impact of the Budget Control Act's defense spending caps, worsened by operating for 10 of the last 11 years under continuing resolutions of varied and unpredictable duration.''

In a world in which we face the most complex and severe threat environment we have faced since the end of World War II, this situation is simply shameful. The men and women who put their lives on the line for all of us are sick and tired—as my colleague said, that is absolutely true—but they are sick and tired, Mr. Speaker, of being held hostage to a range of Democratic pet programs and politics that are often played by those on the other side of the aisle in this Chamber.

Year after year, Mr. Speaker, we have completed our work in this body on the Defense Appropriations bill, and we have done it on time. Unfortunately, the same is not true of our colleagues in the Senate. Rules over in the Senate have allowed Democrats in that body to hold critical funding for our military hostage in an effort to advance unrelated issues.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues on the other side of the aisle join me in the belief that no member of our military—no mother or father or wife or husband or child of any servicemember—should have to continue to pay the price for the dysfunction of the United States Congress' budget process.

I fully expect that this House will complete our work, once again, Mr. Speaker, to fund our military in a timely manner this year. I call on my colleagues, the Democrats in this body and in the Senate, to join us in fulfilling our most important constitutional obligation. We must avoid another continuing resolution for the Department of Defense, and we must pass the funding authorized under this bill required to provide for the common defense.

The first step in that overall process is the work we are doing here this week. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of this rule so we can complete our work on the underlying bill. I urge passage of the NDAA, and I urge my colleagues to join us in putting the resources in place our troops need, to stop holding our troops hostage, and to work with us to break the cycle of continuing resolutions that have only served to undermine military readiness.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I just want to say to my Rules Committee colleague that I agree with her that this place is pretty dysfunctional. But I just want to point out, in case she has forgotten, that the White House is controlled by Republicans, the House is controlled by Republicans, and the Senate is controlled by Republicans. So the gentlewoman can blame everybody she wants, but the Republicans are in charge of everything.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) to respond to Mr. BYRNE.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I would just like to respond to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BYRNE) and say that I know exactly what is going on over at the Pentagon in terms of their auditing requirements and what they are doing. But I have to say the Pentagon—and the gentleman should know this—has never been audited, I know, for the last 50 years.

The public understands it needs to be audited because they see each and every day the wasteful spending of the Pentagon when you just look at, for example, CEO compensation of millions and millions and millions of dollars that are being paid to defense contractor executives on the taxpayers' dime.

So, yes, I know what is going on; and, yes, it has not been audited in 50 years.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a May 22 letter signed by 32 former Republican and Democratic defense and foreign policy officials rejecting the building and use of low-yield nuclear warheads and opposing their authorization and their funding.

MAY 22, 2018.

Hon. JIM MCGOVERN,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE MCGOVERN: We write to respectfully request that Congress reject the Trump administration's request for new, more usable, ''low-yield'' nuclear warheads for Trident missiles. There is no need for such weapons and building them would make the United States less safe. These so-called ''low-yield'' weapons are a gateway to nuclear catastrophe and should not be pursued.

To justify this dangerous proposal, the Trump administration is promoting a false narrative that the United States has a ''gap'' in its ability to deter the use of nuclear weapons by Russia. Officials allege that Moscow believes that an American president would not respond to Russian use of ''tactical,'' or lower yield, nuclear weapons if his only options include ''strategic,'' or high-yield, ones. The president, they argue, would be ''self-deterred.''

To plug this supposed ''deterrence gap,'' the Trump administration wants to develop and deploy new low-yield nuclear warheads on Trident II D5 missiles on Ohio-class submarines. The administration is asking Congress for $88 million in FY2019 for this new warhead, in a program that would be completed in that fiscal year under the aegis of the W76 Life Extension Program. Yet this justification for new Trident warheads fails on many levels:

1. There is no ''deterrence gap.'' The United States has a massive nuclear arsenal of some 4,000 warheads, half of which are deployed on land-based missiles, submarines, and bombers. The administration is in the process of rebuilding this arsenal at an estimated cost of $1.7 trillion, with inflation, over the next 30 years. While this immense program is excessive, adds to a new arms race with Russia, and should be scaled back, Russia cannot doubt that the United States is serious about maintaining an unambiguously strong nuclear deterrent.

2. The United States already has many low-yield nuclear weapons. As part of that massive arsenal, the United States already has about 1,000 nuclear weapons with low-yield options, which are being modernized at great expense. If the president ever needed to use a low-yield nuclear weapon, he has many options.

3. Nuclear war cannot be controlled. Perhaps the biggest fallacy in the whole argument is the mistaken and dangerous belief that a ''small'' nuclear war would remain small. There is no basis for the dubious theory that, if Russia used a ''low-yield'' nuclear weapon and the United States responded in kind, the conflict could stay at that level.

Indeed, it is unlikely that there is such a thing as a limited nuclear war; preparing for one is folly. As George Shultz, Secretary of State for President Ronald Reagan, recently noted, ''A nuclear weapon is a nuclear weapon. You use a small one, then you go to a bigger one. I think nuclear weapons are nuclear weapons and we need to draw the line there.'' Secretary of Defense James Mattis similarly declared, ''I don't think there's any such thing as a tactical nuclear weapon. Any

nuclear weapon used at any time is a strategic game changer.''

Ultimately, the greatest concern about the proposed low-yield Trident warhead is that the president might feel less restrained about using it in a crisis. When it comes to using a nuclear weapon, restraint is a good thing. The proposed ''low-yield'' Trident warhead is dangerous, unjustified, and redundant. Congress has the power to stop the administration from starting down this slippery slope to nuclear war. We call on Congress to exercise that authority without delay.

Sincerely,

The Hon. George P. Shultz, Former U.S. Secretary of State; The Hon. William J. Perry, Former U.S. Secretary of Defense; The Hon. Richard G. Lugar, United States Senator (Ret.), Former Chairman, Senate Foreign Relations Committee; The Hon. Byron Dorgan, United States Senator (Ret.), Former Chairman, Energy & Water Development Appropriations Subcommittee, Senate Appropriations Committee; The Hon. Gary Hart, United States Senator (Ret.), Former member, Senate Armed Services Committee; The Hon. Mark Udall, United States Senator (Ret.), Former member, Senate Armed Services Committee.

The Hon. Jerry Brown, Former Governor of California; The Hon. Barney Frank, U.S. House of Representatives (Ret.); The Hon. John Tierney, U.S. House of Representatives (Ret.), Former Chairman, House Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs, Government Oversight and Reform Committee; General James Cartwright (USMC, Ret.), Former Vice Chair, Joint Chiefs of Staff; Lt. General Robert G. Gard (USA, Ret.), Former President, National Defense University; The Hon. John Holdren, Former Chief Science Advisor to the President; The Hon. Thomas Countryman, Former Assistant Secretary of State for International Security and Nonproliferation.

The Hon. Andrew Weber, Former Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear, Chemical, and Biological Defense Programs; The Hon. Thomas Graham Jr., Former Special Representative of the President for Arms Control, Non-proliferation and Disarmament; The Hon. Susan F. Burk, Former Special Representative of the President, Nuclear Nonproliferation; The Hon. Laura Kennedy, Former US Permanent Representative to the Conference on Disarmament; The Hon. Steven Pifer, Former Deputy Assistant Secretary of State and Ambassador to Ukraine; The Hon. Anne M. Harrington, Former Deputy Administrator for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation, U.S. Department of Energy National Nuclear Security Administration.

Ben Chang, Former Director for Press & Communications and Deputy Spokesman at the National Security Council; Philip E. Coyle, Former Associate Director for National Security and International Affairs, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy; Steve Fetter, Former Principal Assistant Director for National Security and International Affairs, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy; Colin Kahl, Former Deputy Assistant to the President and National Security Advisor to the Vice President; Richard Nephew, Former Director for Iran for the National Security Council; Ned Price, Former Special Assistant to President Obama and Spokesperson for the National Security Council.

Ben Rhodes, Former Deputy National Security Advisor for Strategic Communications, The White House; Frank von Hippel, Former Assistant Director for National Security, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy; Jon Wolfsthal, Former Special Assistant to the President for National Security and Senior Director for Nonproliferation and Arms Control at the National Security Council; Alexandra Bell, Former Director of Strategic Outreach in the Office of the Undersecretary of State for Arms Control and International Security; Bishop Garrison, Former adviser and Executive Director, Homeland Security Science & Technology Advisory Committee; Morton Halperin, Former Director of the Policy Planning Staff, Department of State; Newell Highsmith, Former Deputy Legal Adviser, Department of State.

□ 1315

Mr. MCGOVERN. This letter is co-led by former Reagan Secretary of State George Shultz and former Clinton Secretary of Defense William Perry.

Mr. Speaker, as the letter states, ''there is no such thing as a limited nuclear war and preparing for one is folly.''

George Shultz, Secretary of State for President Ronald Reagan, recently noted: ''A nuclear weapon is a nuclear weapon. You use a small one, then you go to a bigger one.''

Secretary of Defense James Mattis also recently declared: ''I don't think there's any such thing as a tactical nuclear weapon. Any nuclear weapon used at any time is a strategic game changer.''

Mr. Speaker, the underlying bill, for all of its many positive developments, is seriously deficient in this particular area. It authorizes funding for new low-yield nuclear weapons.

The U.S. already possesses low-yield nuclear weapons. If these weapons are not effective deterrents, we should examine why before building and deploying a new generation of weapons.

We should listen to our seasoned elder statesmen and -women and stop walking down a road that begins a nuclear war that can rapidly escalate. Any use of a nuclear weapon is a catastrophe. We should be destroying nuclear weapons, not building new ones.

I urge all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to work together and make sure this funding is not included in the final version of the FY19 NDAA.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the underlying bill authorizes what it authorizes with regard to these smaller nuclear weapons because we find our adversaries developing such nuclear weapons.

We are not developing them because we want to use them. We want to develop them because the mere fact that we have got them, we believe, is a deterrent to our adversaries using the very same weapons they have in their arsenal themselves.

So we are simply making sure that we don't have one hand tied behind our back if we get into one of these types of conflicts.

I understand what the gentleman is saying. No one ever wants to use a nuclear weapon. But to see your adversary have such a weapon and do nothing is not what we should do to defend the people of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would say to the gentleman that we already have low-yield nuclear weapons. I don't know why we need more.

We heard the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT), talk about the amendment he would like to see made in order to help reinforce our schools. I think most people watching also appreciate the fact that our national defense includes things like the quality of life for people here in this country, including the quality of our schools, whether people have jobs, whether people have good healthcare.

We are shortchanging all these domestic investments, and I think the concern we have is when you start investing in more nuclear weapons, not only is it not a good use of our taxpayer dollars, but it also increases insecurity for the people of this country.

Mr. Speaker, this is the most closed Congress in the history of the United States of America. Let me repeat that. This is the most closed Congress in the history of the United States of America.

The majority is very proud of this rule. They have made a bunch of amendments in order on a handful of bills to run up their numbers, but let's remember one thing: On most bills, the majority of the legislation that comes to this floor, they do not allow a single amendment. Not one. On most bills that come to the floor, no Member of this House, Democratic or Republican, can offer an amendment.

This rule before us today is not closed, but let me highlight a few germane amendments from the 281 amendments that this rule blocks.

Several bipartisan amendments were blocked, such as an amendment by Representatives DENHAM, FOSTER, CURBELO, and PANETTA which allows Dreamers who grew up in the United States to gain legal status, provided that they serve out the terms of their enlistment honorably.

So we are talking about rewarding people who served in our military. That was the amendment. That was brought before the Rules Committee. That was blocked.

There was another bipartisan amendment from 25 Members, including myself, that expresses the sense of Congress that the lessons of past genocides should be applied to help prevent future war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide.

I say to my colleagues: When did a sense of Congress on the atrocities of genocide become such a controversial topic? But that was blocked.

This rule blocks an amendment by Representative KEATING to test ticks for an increased number of tick-borne diseases. When did fighting tick-borne diseases become too sensitive for the House to debate?

This rule, once again, blocks us from having one of the most important debates we could have. It prevents us

from debating whether or not to send our sons and daughters into harm's way.

The bipartisan amendment by Representatives LEE, JONES, and ELLISON would repeal the 2001 AUMF after 240 days of enactment of the act, giving Congress ample time to debate a new AUMF.

The Constitution of the United States says the Congress has the power to declare war. This is our job, Mr. Speaker. And I appreciate the gentleman from Alabama saying: Well, the Foreign Affairs Committee deals with that, not us. We hear that every year. Every year that goes by, we don't see any bill from the Foreign Affairs Committee dealing with these topics.

The bottom line, let's be honest, is we don't deal with it because Members in the majority don't want to deal with this difficult issue. I have always said that our failure to act on an AUMF, our failure to debate these issues, represents moral cowardice.

What about our workers? Representatives ELLISON, POCAN, and GRIJALVA had an amendment blocked that would have prohibited Federal contracts with companies that have repeated and willful wage theft violations. Why would we knowingly reward companies that hurt our workers?

The list goes on:

An amendment by Representative LIEU to require a public report on all DOD expenditures to support Presidential visits to entities owned or significantly controlled by the President or a member of his immediate family.

The American people deserve to know if the President and his family are directly profiting off of this Presidency. Blocked. Blocked.

An amendment by Representative VEASEY that would prohibit the deportation of family members of servicemembers on Active Duty. How can we, with a good conscience, deport the family members of brave young men and women putting their lives on the line for all of us and fighting for our safety everyday? Blocked.

An amendment by Representative TORRES, a distinguished member of the Rules Committee, that would have prevented DOD in helping the Department of Homeland Security from deporting spouses, parents, and sons and daughters of certain military personnel, veterans, and enlistees.

Mr. Speaker, I could spend the rest of the week describing the thousands of amendments that this Republican leadership has blocked, but I would much prefer to be debating the ideas that Members from both parties have put forward in good faith.

This is the most closed Congress in history. Dana Milbank recently described it as the most authoritarian Congress in history.

You know, 180 Democratic Members have had an amendment blocked in this Congress alone. That is 180 elected Members.

I would like my Republican friends to listen closely to my next point. This Congress, 180 Republican Members have also had their amendments blocked this Congress. You are all voting to block your own ideas. Stop it. Read the rules that you are voting on.

The vast majority of Republican Members have had their proposals blocked from even getting a vote. I don't understand why you keep voting to block proposals that you supposedly believe in. Hundreds of Republican amendments have been blocked by the Rules Committee. Most Republicans voted to block them. They are your amendments. I don't understand why it is such a radical idea to debate any of the amendments I just spoke about. We can do so much better.

Mr. Speaker, there are a lot of amendments that have been made in order. There is a lot of quantity. But a lot of the amendments that really shine in quality and that are important in terms of substance have been blocked. This is nothing new.

Again, the majority of bills that come to this floor are under closed rules. You can't amend them. Nobody can. Take it or leave it. The majority of bills that come to this floor are closed.

I know it is uncomfortable for my Republican friends to hear that they have presided over this closed process, but my hope is they will be so embarrassed and so ashamed that they will want to change things. They can still redeem themselves. We are only in May. They have a long way to go. Whether it is on the defense bill, on an education bill, or whatever bill it is, there are good ideas that are being brought forward.

I will close with this. I met with a group of young students who were engaged in the nationwide protest asking Congress to do something on gun violence. And the most frustrating thing they said to them is the fact that when they were lobbying Members of Congress, it's not even about telling them how to vote on an issue; they are frustrated because you can't get a vote on any of the issues that are related to gun violence. We won't let anything come to the floor. It is wrong.

I just say to my friends, in closing, if this place becomes more accommodating, if the Speaker decides to live up to the words that he enunciated when he became Speaker of the House, to have a more open process, to respect all ideas, let me tell you something; you are going to see a decrease in polarization. You are going to see more bills passed a bipartisan way. You are going to see more good bills going forward. Legislation will be better. If you have a lousy process, you end up with a lousy bill.

Again, I respect all the time and energy that went into crafting this NDAA. I respect the chairman and the ranking member, Democrats and Republicans alike, but there are a lot of important amendments here that are being blocked that are really important and that most of our constituents would believe deserve a debate and a vote on this floor.

I urge my colleagues to vote ''no'' on the previous question. Vote ''no'' on the rule. And I plead with them, let's bring some accomodation and some respect to differing ideas and just regular order to this House, because this is certainly not what I think any of us could possibly believe is the way our government should be run.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I know that some of our Democratic colleagues—not all of them—would like for us today to be talking about a Federal takeover of local education. Some of my Democratic colleagues—not all of them—would like to talk about doing away with the Second Amendment. But that is not what we are about today. We are talking about the defense of the United States of America.

Remember where we were 2 years ago, at the end of the Obama administration. ISIS still controlled vast swaths of western Iraq and eastern Syria. Iran had just gotten its hands on tens of billions of dollars that had been frozen—money that they were able to get because of the deal that President Obama cut with them. We now know that they have taken that money and increased defense spending, military spending, in Iran by 40 percent.

Two years ago, we had cut troop levels down to levels we haven't seen in decades. In fact, we cut the Air Force to the point it had never been since the founding of the Air Force. Our fleet had been cut down to less than 280 ships after it had been to at least 400 under the Clinton administration. Fifty percent of the Navy's jets couldn't fly. Our adversaries didn't fear us and our friends and allies didn't know if they could count on us.

We have begun to turn that around. ISIS is largely gone from Iraq. It is largely gone from Syria. It is obliterated as a conventional force after becoming a conventional terrorist army that controlled a big chunk of the Middle East. Gone. Slipped over into North Africa. We understand that. So we have to continue what we are doing to fight against them in those places. And, yes, we need an AUMF to do that.

We have also done something that is very important in rebuilding our military. We have told our men and women that we value them by giving them pay increases. This bill calls for another pay increase on top of the one we gave them last year. They have gone too long without real pay increases.

We are beginning to give them the equipment they need to do the missions that we have them to do. More ships, more jets, more ammunition, more missiles, more missile defense. We are going to make sure that our jets can fly.

Most importantly, we want to make sure that our men and women in uniform have the training, preparation,

and support they need so we don't have another year that goes by where we have more of our men and women in uniform who lose their lives in training exercises than they do in combat.

□ 1330

We are turning that around. We are leaving the sorry legacy of the Obama administration so that we can put in place a defense strategy for this country that will defend our country and, at the same time, protect the safety of our men and women in uniform. So that is what we are here today to talk about.

I believe that we will vote on this bill, the underlying bill, in a bipartisan fashion because, going back to the Kennedy administration, that is what we have done year after year after year. That is the message that we send to our foes, to our friends abroad, and, yes, to those men and women in uniform: that we come together, this Congress comes together, to make sure that we do what we are supposed to do in our job to defend this country.

Mr. Speaker, I again urge my colleagues to support House Resolution 908 and the underlying bill.

The material previously referred to by Mr. MCGOVERN is as follows:

AN AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 908 OFFERED BY MR. MCGOVERN OF MASSACHUSETTS

At the end of the resolution, add the following new sections:

SEC. 8. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution the Speaker shall, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2475) to provide for the long-term improvement of public school facilities, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions. If the Committee of the Whole rises and reports that it has come to no resolution on the bill, then on the next legislative day the House shall, immediately after the third daily order of business under clause 1 of rule XIV, resolve into the Committee of the Whole for further consideration of the bill.

SEC. 9. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H.R. 2475.

THE VOTE ON THE PREVIOUS QUESTION: WHAT IT REALLY MEANS

This vote, the vote on whether to order the previous question on a special rule, is not merely a procedural vote. A vote against ordering the previous question is a vote against the Republican majority agenda and a vote to allow the Democratic minority to offer an alternative plan. It is a vote about what the House should be debating.

Mr. Clarence Cannon's Precedents of the House of Representatives (VI, 308–311), describes the vote on the previous question on the rule as ''a motion to direct or control the consideration of the subject before the House being made by the Member in charge.'' To defeat the previous question is to give the opposition a chance to decide the subject before the House. Cannon cites the Speaker's ruling of January 13, 1920, to the effect that ''the refusal of the House to sustain the demand for the previous question passes the control of the resolution to the opposition'' in order to offer an amendment. On March 15, 1909, a member of the majority party offered a rule resolution. The House defeated the previous question and a member of the opposition rose to a parliamentary inquiry, asking who was entitled to recognition. Speaker Joseph G. Cannon (R–Illinois) said: ''The previous question having been refused, the gentleman from New York, Mr. Fitzgerald, who had asked the gentleman to yield to him for an amendment, is entitled to the first recognition.''

The Republican majority may say ''the vote on the previous question is simply a vote on whether to proceed to an immediate vote on adopting the resolution . . . [and] has no substantive legislative or policy implications whatsoever.'' But that is not what they have always said. Listen to the Republican Leadership Manual on the Legislative Process in the United States House of Representatives, (6th edition, page 135). Here's how the Republicans describe the previous question vote in their own manual: ''Although it is generally not possible to amend the rule because the majority Member controlling the time will not yield for the purpose of offering an amendment, the same result may be achieved by voting down the previous question on the rule. . . . When the motion for the previous question is defeated, control of the time passes to the Member who led the opposition to ordering the previous question. That Member, because he then controls the time, may offer an amendment to the rule, or yield for the purpose of amendment.''

In Deschler's Procedure in the U.S. House of Representatives, the subchapter titled ''Amending Special Rules'' states: ''a refusal to order the previous question on such a rule [a special rule reported from the Committee on Rules] opens the resolution to amendment and further debate.'' (Chapter 21, section 21.2) Section 21.3 continues: ''Upon rejection of the motion for the previous question on a resolution reported from the Committee on Rules, control shifts to the Member leading the opposition to the previous question, who may offer a proper amendment or motion and who controls the time for debate thereon.''

Clearly, the vote on the previous question on a rule does have substantive policy implications. It is one of the only available tools for those who oppose the Republican majority's agenda and allows those with alternative views the opportunity to offer an alternative plan.

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for any electronic vote on the question of adoption.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 222, nays 189, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 217]

YEAS—222

Abraham
Aderholt
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blum
Bost
Brady (TX)
Brat
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Cook
Costello (PA)
Cramer
Crawford
Culberson
Curbelo (FL)
Curtis
Davidson
Davis, Rodney
Denham
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Emmer
Estes (KS)
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foxx
Frelinghuysen
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garrett
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Griffith
Grothman
Guthrie
Handel
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Hill
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Katko
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
Kinzinger
Knight
Kustoff (TN)
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Latta
Lesko
Lewis (MN)
LoBiondo
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
MacArthur
Marchant
Marino
Marshall
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McSally
Meadows
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Mullin
Newhouse
Noem
Norman
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Paulsen
Perry
Pittenger
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Posey
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (SC)
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Royce (CA)
Russell
Rutherford
Sanford
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smucker
Stefanik
Stewart
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)

NAYS—189

Adams
Aguilar
Barragán
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen

Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Crist
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Esty (CT)
Evans
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Gomez
Gonzalez (TX)
Gottheimer
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Hastings
Heck
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Matsui
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Moore
Moulton
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nolan
Norcross
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Pallone
Panetta
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Rosen
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Smith (WA)
Soto
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Tsongas
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—16

Bass
Black
Donovan
Gosar
Higgins (LA)
King (NY)
Labrador
Lewis (GA)
Pearce
Rogers (KY)
Rooney, Francis
Speier
Stivers
Trott
Walz
Zeldin

□ 1355

Mr. CICILLINE, Mses. SÁNCHEZ and JACKSON LEE changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Messrs. RUTHERFORD, COFFMAN, and CULBERSON changed their vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 229, noes 183, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 218]

AYES—229

Abraham
Aderholt
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blum
Bost
Brady (TX)
Brat
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Cook
Costello (PA)
Cramer
Crawford
Culberson
Curbelo (FL)
Curtis
Davidson
Davis, Rodney
Denham
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Emmer
Estes (KS)
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foxx
Frelinghuysen
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garrett
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Griffith
Grothman
Guthrie
Handel
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Hill
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Katko
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
Kinzinger
Knight
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Lamborn
Lance
Latta
Lesko
Lewis (MN)
LoBiondo
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
MacArthur
Marchant
Marino
Marshall
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McSally
Meadows
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Newhouse
Noem
Norman
Nunes
O'Halleran
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Paulsen
Perry
Pittenger
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Posey
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (SC)
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Royce (CA)
Russell
Rutherford
Sanford
Scalise
Schneider
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smucker
Stefanik
Stewart
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)

NOES—183

Adams
Aguilar
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Courtney
Crist
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Esty (CT)
Evans
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Gomez
Gonzalez (TX)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Hanabusa
Hastings
Heck
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Massie
Matsui
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Moore
Moulton
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nolan
Norcross
O'Rourke
Pallone
Panetta
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Rosen
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sires
Smith (WA)
Soto
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Tsongas
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—15

Black
Costa
Donovan
Gutiérrez
Higgins (LA)
King (NY)
Lewis (GA)
Pearce
Rogers (KY)
Rooney, Francis
Speier
Stivers
Trott
Walz
Zeldin

□ 1403

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FLEISCHMANN). Pursuant to House Resolution 905 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further reconsideration of the bill, (H.R. 5515).

Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) kindly take the chair.

□ 1405

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 5515) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, with Mr. POE of Texas (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Tuesday, May 22, 2018, amendments en bloc printed in House Report 115–698 offered

by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. THORNBERRY) had been disposed of.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, proceedings will now resume on those amendments printed in House Report 115–698 on which further proceedings were postponed, in the following order:

Amendment No. 2 by Mr. NOLAN of Minnesota.

Amendment No. 3 by Ms. GABBARD of Hawaii.

Amendment No. 4 by Mr. AGUILAR of California.

Amendment No. 5 by Mr. GARAMENDI of California.

The Chair will reduce to 2 minutes the time for any electronic vote in this series.

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MR. NOLAN

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. NOLAN) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 62, noes 351, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 219]

AYES—62

Amash
Barragán
Bass
Bonamici
Buck
Capuano
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Crowley
DeFazio
DeGette
DeSaulnier
Doyle, Michael F.
Duncan (TN)
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Evans
Gabbard
Gomez
Gosar
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Huffman
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Jones
Khanna
Kind
Lee
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Massie
Matsui
McGovern
Moore
Nadler
Napolitano
Nolan
Pallone
Pascrell
Pingree
Pocan
Polis
Raskin
Richmond
Schakowsky
Schrader
Serrano
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Vargas
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wilson (FL)

NOES—351

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blum
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bost
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brat
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Connolly
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Costello (PA)
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crist
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Curbelo (FL)
Curtis
Davidson
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
Davis, Rodney
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
Denham
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Dunn
Emmer
Estes (KS)
Esty (CT)
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garrett
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gonzalez (TX)
Goodlatte
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Griffith
Grothman
Guthrie
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Handel
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hoyer
Hudson
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
King (IA)
Kinzinger
Knight
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lesko
Levin
Lewis (MN)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
MacArthur
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marino
Marshall
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meadows
Meeks
Meng
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moulton
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Neal
Newhouse
Noem
Norcross
Norman
Nunes
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Panetta
Paulsen
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Pittenger
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Posey
Price (NC)
Quigley
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Rosen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Royce (CA)
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Russell
Rutherford
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sanford
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schiff
Schneider
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Stefanik
Stewart
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Wasserman Schultz
Weber (TX)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)

NOT VOTING—14

Black
Costa
Donovan
Higgins (LA)
King (NY)
Lewis (GA)
Pearce
Rogers (KY)
Rooney, Francis
Speier
Stivers
Trott
Walz
Zeldin

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1410

Mr. TAKANO changed his vote from ''no'' to ''aye.''

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MS. GABBARD

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. GABBARD) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 60, noes 355, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 220]

AYES—60

Amash
Burgess
Capuano
Cárdenas
Castor (FL)
Chu, Judy
Clark (MA)
Clay
Cleaver
Crowley
Davis, Danny
DeGette
DeSaulnier
Dingell
Doggett
Duncan (TN)
Ellison
Eshoo
Espaillat
Evans
Fudge
Gabbard
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Huffman
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Jones
Khanna
Labrador
Larsen (WA)
Lee
Lofgren
Massie
Matsui
McGovern
McNerney
Moore
Napolitano
Nolan
O'Rourke
Pingree
Pocan
Polis
Raskin
Richmond
Sánchez
Sanford
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Serrano
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Tonko
Waters, Maxine
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yoho

NOES—355

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barragán
Barton
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blum
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brat
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Carbajal
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Cicilline
Clarke (NY)
Clyburn
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Connolly
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Costello (PA)

Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crist
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Curbelo (FL)
Curtis
Davidson
Davis (CA)
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
Denham
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Doyle, Michael F.
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Dunn
Emmer
Engel
Estes (KS)
Esty (CT)
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Frelinghuysen
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garrett
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gomez
Gonzalez (TX)
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grothman
Guthrie
Hanabusa
Handel
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hoyer
Hudson
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
Kinzinger
Knight
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lesko
Levin
Lewis (MN)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
MacArthur
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marino
Marshall
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McSally
Meadows
Meeks
Meng
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moulton
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Neal
Newhouse
Noem
Norcross
Norman
Nunes
O'Halleran
Olson
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pascrell
Paulsen
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Pittenger
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Posey
Price (NC)
Quigley
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Rosen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Royce (CA)
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Russell
Rutherford
Ryan (OH)
Scalise
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Stefanik
Stewart
Suozzi
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tipton
Titus
Torres
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Wasserman Schultz
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (IA)

NOT VOTING—12

Black
Donovan
Higgins (LA)
King (NY)
Lewis (GA)
Pearce
Rogers (KY)
Speier
Stivers
Trott
Walz
Zeldin

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1414

Mr. CARSON of Indiana changed his vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Chair, during rollcall vote No. 220 on the Gabbard of Hawaii Amendment No. 3 to H.R. 5515, I mistakenly recorded my vote as ''yea'' when I should have voted ''nay.''

AMENDMENT NO. 4 OFFERED BY MR. AGUILAR

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. AGUILAR) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 198, noes 217, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 221]

AYES—198

Adams
Aguilar
Amash
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman
Cohen
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Crist
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Esty (CT)
Evans
Fortenberry
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Gomez
Gonzalez (TX)
Gottheimer
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Hastings
Heck
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Massie
Matsui
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Moulton
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nolan
Norcross
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Pallone
Panetta
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Rohrabacher
Rosen
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sanford
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Smith (WA)
Soto
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Tsongas
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOES—217

Abraham
Aderholt
Allen
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blum
Bost
Brady (TX)
Brat
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Cook
Cooper
Costello (PA)
Cramer
Crawford
Culberson
Curbelo (FL)
Curtis
Davidson
Denham
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Emmer
Estes (KS)
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Foxx
Frelinghuysen
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garrett
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Griffith
Grothman
Guthrie
Handel
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Hill
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Katko
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
Kinzinger
Knight
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Latta
Lesko
Lewis (MN)
LoBiondo
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
MacArthur
Marchant
Marino
Marshall
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McSally
Meadows
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mullin
Newhouse
Noem
Norman
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Paulsen
Perry
Pittenger
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Posey
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (SC)
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Royce (CA)
Russell
Rutherford
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smucker
Stefanik
Stewart
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman

Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)

NOT VOTING—12

Black
Donovan
Higgins (LA)
King (NY)
Lewis (GA)
Pearce
Rogers (KY)
Speier
Stivers
Trott
Walz
Zeldin

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1419

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 5 OFFERED BY MR. GARAMENDI

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 188, noes 226, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 222]

AYES—188

Adams
Aguilar
Amash
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Crist
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Esty (CT)
Evans
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Gomez
Gonzalez (TX)
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Hastings
Heck
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Hoyer
Huffman
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Massie
Matsui
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Moore
Moulton
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nolan
Norcross
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Pallone
Panetta
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Rohrabacher
Rosen
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sanford
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Smith (WA)
Soto
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Tsongas
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Welch
Yarmuth

NOES—226

Abraham
Aderholt
Allen
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blum
Bost
Brady (TX)
Brat
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Connolly
Cook
Costello (PA)
Cramer
Crawford
Culberson
Curbelo (FL)
Curtis
Davidson
Davis, Rodney
Denham
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Emmer
Estes (KS)
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foxx
Frelinghuysen
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garrett
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grothman
Guthrie
Handel
Harris
Hartzler
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Hill
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Katko
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
Kinzinger
Knight
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Latta
Lesko
Lewis (MN)
LoBiondo
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
MacArthur
Marchant
Marino
Marshall
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McSally
Meadows
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Mullin
Newhouse
Noem
Norman
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Paulsen
Perlmutter
Perry
Pittenger
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Posey
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (SC)
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Royce (CA)
Russell
Rutherford
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smucker
Stefanik
Stewart
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)

NOT VOTING—13

Black
Donovan
Harper
Higgins (LA)
King (NY)
Lewis (GA)
Pearce
Rogers (KY)
Speier
Stivers
Trott
Walz
Zeldin

□ 1425

Messrs. VISCLOSKY and RUSH changed their vote from ''no'' to ''aye.''

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. NEWHOUSE). There being no further amendments pursuant to House Resolution 905, under the rule, the Committee rises.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas) having assumed the chair, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5515) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, the House is currently in the Committee of the Whole. Correct?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. We are currently in the House.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I have been confused by the mace coming and going here.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on H.R. 5515.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. AMODEI). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 908 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 5515.

Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) kindly resume the chair.

□ 1431

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 5515) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe

military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, with Mr. POE of Texas (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today pursuant to House Resolution 905, amendment No. 5 printed in House Report 115–698 offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI) had been disposed of.

Pursuant to House Resolution 908, no further amendment to the bill, as amended, shall be in order except those printed in House Report 115–702 and amendments en bloc described in section 3 of House Resolution 908.

Each further amendment printed in the report shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

It shall be in order at any time for the chair of the Committee on Armed Services or his designee to offer amendments en bloc consisting of amendments printed in the report not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Armed Services or their respective designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

AMENDMENTS EN BLOC NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. THORNBERRY OF TEXAS

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, pursuant to House Resolution 908, I offer amendments en bloc.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendments en bloc.

Amendments en bloc No. 1 consisting of amendment Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, and 60 printed in House Report 115–702, offered by Mr. THORNBERRY of Texas:

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MS. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM OF NEW MEXICO

At the end subtitle B of title II, add the following new section:

SEC. 2___. COLLABORATION BETWEEN DEFENSE LABORATORIES, INDUSTRY, AND ACADEMIA; OPEN CAMPUS PROGRAM.

(a) COLLABORATION.—The Secretary of Defense may carry out activities to prioritize innovative collaboration between Department of Defense laboratories, industry, and academia.

(b) OPEN CAMPUS PROGRAM.—In carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense, acting through the Commander of the Air Force Research Laboratory, may develop and implement an open campus program for the Laboratory which shall be modeled after the open campus program of the Army Research Laboratory.

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MS. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM OF NEW MEXICO

At the end of subtitle B of title II, add the following new section:

SEC. 2___. ENTREPRENEURIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR PERSONNEL OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE LABORATORIES.

In order to promote a strong, lasting foundation for the national innovation ecosystem and increase the positive economic and social impact of federally funded research, the Secretary of Defense may—

(1) carry out a program (commonly known as an ''I-Corps program'') under which entrepreneurship and commercialization education, training, and mentoring is provided to personnel of Department of Defense laboratories; and

(2) determine eligibility requirements for the program.

AMENDMENT NO. 4 OFFERED BY MR. SUOZZI OF NEW YORK

At the end of subtitle B of title III, insert the following:

SEC. 3___. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAMS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The Department of Defense has identified nearly 39,500 sites that fall under the installation restoration program sites and munitions response sites.

(2) The installation response program addresses contamination from hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants and active military installations, formerly used defense site properties, and base realignment and closure locations in the United States.

(3) Munitions response sites are known or suspected to contain unexploded ordnance, discarded military munitions, or munitions constitutes are addressed through the military munitions response program.

(4) The installation restoration program sites and munitions response sites have had significant impacts on state and local governments that have had to bear the increased costs of environmental degradation, notably groundwater contamination, and local populations that have had to live with the consequences of contaminated drinking, including increased health concerns and decreasing property values.

(5) Through the end of fiscal year 2017, the Department of Defense had achieved response complete at 86 percent of installation restoration program sites and munitions response sites, but projects that it will fall short of meeting its goal of 90 percent by the end of fiscal year 2018.

(6) The fiscal year 2019 budget request for environmental restoration and base realignment and closure amounted to nearly $1,318,320,000, a decrease of $53,429,000 from the amount authorized in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (Public Law 115-91).

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the environmental restoration and base realignment and closure programs are important for the protection of the environment, the health of the military and civilian personnel and their families who live and work on military installations, to ensure that current and legacy military operations do not adversely affect the health or environments of surrounding communities;

(2) the Department of Defense and the Armed Forces should seek to reduce the financial burden on state and local government who are bearing significant costs of cleanup stemming from defense related activities;

(3) the Department of Defense and the Armed Forces should expedite and streamline cleanup at locations where contamination is having a direct impact on civilian access to clean drinking water;

(4) the Department of Defense and the Armed Forces should continue to engage with and help allay local community concerns about the safety of the drinking water due to environmental degradation caused by defense related activities; and

(5) the Department of Defense should seek opportunities to accelerate environmental restoration efforts where feasible, to include programming additional resources for response actions, investing in technology solutions that may expedite response actions, improving contracting procedures, increasing contracting capacity, and seeking opportunities for partnerships and other cooperative approaches.

(c) BRIEFING REQUIRED.—Not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations, and Environment shall provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives on initiatives being pursued to accelerate environmental restoration efforts.

AMENDMENT NO. 5 OFFERED BY MRS. CICILLINE OF RHODE ISLAND

At the end of subtitle E of title III, insert the following:

SEC. 3___. NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO CHANGES TO MILITARY UNIFORM COMPONENTS.

(a) DLA NOTIFICATION.—The Secretary of a military department shall notify the Commander of the Defense Logistics Agency of plans to make changes to a service member uniform or service member uniform component. Such notification shall be made not less than three years prior to the uniform change.

(b) CONTRACTOR NOTIFICATION.—The Commander of the Defense Logistics Agency shall notify a contractor when one of the military services plans to make a change to a military uniform component that is provided by that contractor. Such a notification shall be made not less than 12 months prior to any announcement of a public solicitation for the manufacture of the new uniform components.

(c) WAIVER.—If the Secretary of a military department or the Commander of the Defense Logistics Agency determines that the notification requirement under subsection (a) would adversely impact operational safety, force protection, or national security interests of the United States, the secretary or the Commander may waive such requirement.

AMENDMENT NO. 6 OFFERED BY MR. CONNOLLY OF VIRGINIA

At the end of subtitle E of title III, insert the following:

SEC. 3___. ASSESSMENT, MONITORING, AND EVALUATION OF SECURITY COOPERATION.

(a) ASSESSMENT, MONITORING, AND EVALUATION OF SECURITY COOPERATION ACTIVITIES.—Of the amount for Operations and Maintenance, Defense-wide made available to the Defense Security Cooperation Agency for fiscal year 2019, not less than $12,000,000 shall be allocated for the assessment, monitoring, and evaluation of security cooperation activities in accordance with section 383 of title 10, United States Code.

(b) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—Of the amount for Operation and Maintenance, Defense-wide made available to the Department of Defense for fiscal year 2019 for activities under section 333 of title 10, United States Code, not more than 50 percent may be expended until the Secretary presents to Congress a written plan for the expenditure of

the amount allocated under subsection (a), including—

(1) a description of the activities planned for fiscal year 2019 for the evaluation of security cooperation programs across the security cooperation enterprise, including through chapter 16 of title 10, United States Code, the Afghanistan Security Forces Fund, the Counter-ISIL Fund, the cooperative threat reduction program, and other security cooperation authorities as appropriate; and

(2) a description of the activities planned for fiscal year 2019 for the training, support, and organization of the Department to effectively carry out responsibilities under section 383 of title 10, United States Code.

(c) OFFSET.—In section 4301 of division D, relating to operation and maintenance, Navy, reduce the amount for administration, Line 510, by $6,000,000.

AMENDMENT NO. 7 OFFERED BY MR. CRAWFORD OF ARKANSAS

At the end of subtitle E of title III, insert the following:

SEC. 3___. JOINT TASK FORCE FOR EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL AND COUNTERING IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICES IN UNITED STATES NORTHERN COMMAND.

(a) PLAN REQUIRED.—Not later than March 1, 2019, the Secretary of Defense shall provide to the congressional defense committees an unclassified plan on how the United States Northern Command will organize a Joint Task Force for Explosive Ordnance Disposal and Countering Improvised Explosive Devices, over the full range of military operations, including—

(1) combatant commander's daily operational requirements on joint mission command of explosive ordnance disposal force planning;

(2) protection of the Commander in Chief and critical infrastructures; and

(3) immediate response assistance to civil authorities on improvised explosive devices, military munitions, and explosives technical advice provided at the incident scene.

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

(1) An identification of the person to whom the commander of the joint task force reports.

(2) A description of how the Joint Task Force on Explosive Ordnance Disposal and Countering Improvised Explosive Devices would implement its responsibilities under sections 377, 380, 381, 382 and 383 of title 10 United States Code, and Department of Defense Directives 5111.13 and 5111.18.

(3) An example of the standing execution order of the Joint Chiefs that would identify the rotation of tactical units as forces for the Joint Task Force for Explosive Ordnance Disposal and Countering Improvised Explosive Devices during each of fiscal years 2020 through 2025.

(4) A description of whether, in leveraging, integrating, and aligning United States Government efforts, the joint task force plans to detail the explosive ordnance disposal qualified liaison personnel of the joint task force to, or host liaison personnel from, or a combination thereof at any of the following:

(A) The National Joint Terrorism Task Force.

(B) The National Explosives Task Force.

(C) The Critical Incident Response Group.

(D) The Terrorist Explosive Device Analytical Center.

(E) The Bomb Data Center.

(F) The National Center for Explosives Training and Research.

(G) The Hazardous Devices School.

(H) The Office of Bombing Prevention.

AMENDMENT NO. 7 OFFERED BY MS. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM OF NEW MEXICO

At the end of subtitle C of title V, insert the following new section:

SEC. 528. ENTREPRENEURIAL SABBATICAL FOR SCIENTISTS EMPLOYED AT DEFENSE LABORATORIES.

The Secretary of Defense may prescribe regulations that permit scientists employed at defense laboratories to take unpaid sabbaticals from such employment to work in the private sector. Such regulations may address issues including conflict of interest and the risk and impact to mission if critical positions are unfilled due to a sabbatical.

AMENDMENT NO. 11 OFFERED BY MS. KUSTER OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

At the end of subtitle B of title VII, add the following new section:

SEC. 7___. REPORT ON MHS GENESIS ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD SYSTEM.

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report outlining the corrective actions that were taken based on the results of the Initial Operational Test and Evaluation Report prior to fielding the electronic health record system known as MHS Genesis to additional military medical treatment facilities beyond such facilities participating in the initial operational testing and evaluation of MHS Genesis.

AMENDMENT NO. 12 OFFERED BY MR. SCHNEIDER OF ILLINOIS

Page 368, after line 24, insert the following:

(c) 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 year'';

(C) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) by striking ''$5,000 per year'' each place it appears and inserting ''$50,000 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 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), by striking ''the vendor'' and inserting ''1 or more vendors''; 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 a small business concern that has received multiple Phase II SBIR or STTR awards for a fiscal year.''.

AMENDMENT NO. 14 OFFERED BY MR. LAWSON OF FLORIDA

Page 381, after line 9, insert the following:

SEC. 861. COMMERCIALIZATION ASSISTANCE PILOT PROGRAM.

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

''(tt) COMMERCIALIZATION ASSISTANCE PILOT PROGRAMS.—

''(1) PILOT PROGRAMS IMPLEMENTED.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this subsection, a covered agency shall implement a commercialization assistance pilot program, under which an eligible entity may receive a subsequent Phase II SBIR award.

''(B) EXCEPTION.—If the Administrator determines that a covered agency has a program that is sufficiently similar to the commercialization assistance pilot program established under this subsection, such covered agency shall not be required to implement a commercialization assistance pilot program under this subsection.

''(2) PERCENT OF AGENCY FUNDS.—The head of each covered agency may allocate not more than 5 percent of the funds allocated to the SBIR program of the covered agency for the purpose of making a subsequent Phase II SBIR award under the commercialization assistance pilot program.

''(3) TERMINATION.—A commercialization assistance pilot program established under this subsection shall terminate on September 30, 2022.

''(4) APPLICATION.—To be selected to receive a subsequent Phase II SBIR award under a commercialization assistance pilot program, an eligible entity shall submit to the covered agency implementing such pilot program an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the covered agency may require, including—

''(A) an updated Phase II commercialization plan; and

''(B) the source and amount of the matching funding required under paragraph (5).

''(5) MATCHING FUNDING.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall require, as a condition of any subsequent Phase II SBIR award made to an eligible entity under this subsection, that a matching amount (excluding any fees collected by the

eligible entity receiving such award) equal to the amount of such award be provided from an eligible third-party investor.

''(B) INELIGIBLE SOURCES.—An eligible entity may not use funding from ineligible sources to meet the matching requirement of subparagraph (A).

''(6) AWARD.—A subsequent Phase II SBIR award made to an eligible entity under this subsection—

''(A) may not exceed the limitation described under subsection (aa)(1); and

''(B) shall be disbursed during Phase II.

''(7) USE OF FUNDS.—The funds awarded to an eligible entity under this subsection may only be used for research and development activities that build on eligible entity's Phase II program and ensure the research funded under such Phase II is rapidly progressing towards commercialization.

''(8) SELECTION.—In selecting eligible entities to participate in a commercialization assistance pilot program under this subsection, the head of a covered agency shall consider—

''(A) the extent to which such award could aid the eligible entity in commercializing the research funded under the eligible entity's Phase II program;

''(B) whether the updated Phase II commercialization plan submitted under paragraph (4) provides a sound approach for establishing technical feasibility that could lead to commercialization of such research;

''(C) whether the proposed activities to be conducted under such updated Phase II commercialization plan further improve the likelihood that such research will provide societal benefits;

''(D) whether the small business concern has progressed satisfactorily in Phase II to justify receipt of a subsequent Phase II SBIR award;

''(E) the expectations of the eligible third-party investor that provides matching funding under paragraph (5); and

''(F) the likelihood that the proposed activities to be conducted under such updated Phase II commercialization plan using matching funding provided by such eligible third-party investor will lead to commercial and societal benefit.

''(9) EVALUATION REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this subsection, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate, a report including—

''(A) a summary of the activities of commercialization assistance pilot programs carried out under this subsection;

''(B) a detailed compilation of results achieved by such commercialization assistance pilot programs, including the number of eligible entities that received awards under such programs;

''(C) the rate at which each eligible entity that received a subsequent Phase II SBIR award under this subsection commercialized research of the recipient;

''(D) the growth in employment and revenue of eligible entities that is attributable to participation in a commercialization assistance pilot program;

''(E) a comparison of commercialization success of eligible entities participating in a commercialization assistance pilot program with recipients of an additional Phase II SBIR award under subsection (ff);

''(F) demographic information, such as ethnicity and geographic location, of eligible entities participating in a commercialization assistance pilot program;

''(G) an accounting of the funds used at each covered agency that implements a commercialization assistance pilot program under this subsection;

''(H) the amount of matching funding provided by eligible third-party investors, set forth separately by source of funding;

''(I) an analysis of the effectiveness of the commercialization assistance pilot program implemented by each covered agency; and

''(J) recommendations for improvements to the commercialization assistance pilot program.

''(10) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection:

''(A) COVERED AGENCY.—The term 'covered agency' means a Federal agency required to have an SBIR program.

''(B) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term 'eligible entity' means a small business concern that has received a Phase II award under an SBIR program and an additional Phase II SBIR award under subsection (ff) from the covered agency to which such small business concern is applying for a subsequent Phase II SBIR award.

''(C) ELIGIBLE THIRD-PARTY INVESTOR.—The term 'eligible third-party investor' means a small business concern other than an eligible entity, a venture capital firm, an individual investor, a non-SBIR Federal, State or local government, or any combination thereof.

''(D) INELIGIBLE SOURCES.—The term 'ineligible sources' means the following:

''(i) The eligible entity's internal research and development funds.

''(ii) Funding in forms other than cash, such as in-kind or other intangible assets.

''(iii) Funding from the owners of the eligible entity, or the family members or affiliates of such owners.

''(iv) Funding attained through loans or other forms of debt obligations.

''(E) SUBSEQUENT PHASE II SBIR AWARD.—The term 'subsequent Phase II SBIR award' means an award granted to an eligible entity under this subsection to carry out further commercialization activities for research conducted pursuant to an SBIR program.''.

AMENDMENT NO. 15 OFFERED BY MS. VELÁZQUEZ OF NEW YORK

Page 381, after line 9, insert the following:

SEC. 861. PUERTO RICO BUSINESSES.

(a) DEFINITION OF PUERTO RICO BUSINESS.—Section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(ee) PUERTO RICO BUSINESS.—In this Act, the term 'Puerto Rico business' means a small business concern that has its principal office located in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.''.

(b) SMALL BUSINESS CREDIT FOR PUERTO RICO BUSINESSES.—Section 15 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 644) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(w) SMALL BUSINESS CREDIT FOR PUERTO RICO BUSINESSES.—

''(1) CREDIT FOR MEETING CONTRACTING GOALS.—If an agency awards a prime contract to Puerto Rico business during the period beginning on the date of enactment of this subsection and ending on the date that is 4 years after such date of enactment, the value of the contract shall be doubled for purposes of determining compliance with the goals for procurement contracts under subsection (g)(1)(A)(i) during such period.

''(2) REPORT.—Along with the report required under subsection (h)(1), the head of each Federal agency shall submit to the Administrator, and make publicly available on the scorecard described in section 868(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (15 U.S.C. 644 note), an analysis of the number and dollar amount of prime contracts awarded pursuant to paragraph (1) for each fiscal year of the period described in such paragraph.''.

(c) PRIORITY FOR SURPLUS PROPERTY TRANSFERS.—Section 7(j)(13)(F) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(j)(13)(F)) is amended by adding at the end the following new clause:

''(iii)(I) In this clause, the term 'covered period' means the period beginning on the date of enactment of this clause and ending on the date on which the Oversight Board established under section 101 of the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act (48 U.S.C. 2121) terminates.

''(II) The Administrator may transfer technology or surplus property under clause (i) to a Puerto Rico business if the Puerto Rico business meets the requirements for such a transfer, without regard to whether the Puerto Rico business is a Program Participant.''.

(d) CONTRACTING INCENTIVES FOR PROTEGE FIRMS THAT ARE PUERTO RICO BUSINESSES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 45(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657r(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) PUERTO RICO BUSINESSES.—During the period beginning on the date of enactment of this paragraph and ending on the date on which the Oversight Board established under section 101 of the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act (48 U.S.C. 2121) terminates, the Administrator shall identify potential incentives to a covered mentor that awards a subcontract to its covered protege, including—

''(A) positive consideration in any past performance evaluation of the covered mentor;

''(B) the application of costs incurred for providing training to such covered protege to the subcontracting plan (as required under paragraph (4) or (5) of section 8(d)) of the covered mentor; and

''(C) such other incentives as the Administrator determines appropriate.''.

(2) DEFINITIONS.—Section 45(d) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657r(d)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

''(4) COVERED MENTOR.—The term 'covered mentor' means a mentor that enters into an agreement under this Act, or under any mentor-protege program approved under subsection (b)(1), with a covered protege.

''(5) COVERED PROTEGE.—The term 'covered protege' means a protege of a covered mentor that is a Puerto Rico business.''.

(e) ADDITIONAL MENTOR-PROTEGE RELATIONSHIPS FOR PROTEGE FIRMS THAT ARE PUERTO RICO BUSINESSES.—Section 45(b)(3)(A) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657r(b)(3)(A)) is amended by inserting '', except that such restrictions shall not apply to up to 2 mentor-protege relationships if such relationships are between a covered protege and covered mentor'' after ''each participant''.

AMENDMENT NO. 16 OFFERED BY MS. CLARKE OF NEW YORK

Page 381, after line 9, insert the following:

SEC. 861. UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS SMALL BUSINESS CONTRACTING ASSISTANCE.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the ''United States Virgin Islands Small Business Contracting Assistance Act of 2018''.

(b) DEFINITION OF UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS BUSINESS.—Section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(ee) UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS BUSINESS.—In this Act, the term 'United States Virgin Islands business' means a small business concern that has its principal office located in the United States Virgin Islands.''.

(c) SMALL BUSINESS CREDIT FOR UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS BUSINESSES.—Section 15 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.

644) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(w) SMALL BUSINESS CREDIT FOR UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS BUSINESSES.—

''(1) CREDIT FOR MEETING CONTRACTING GOALS.—If an agency awards a prime contract to United States Virgin Islands business during the period beginning on the date of enactment of this subsection and ending on the date that is 4 years after such date of enactment, the value of the contract shall be doubled for purposes of determining compliance with the goals for procurement contracts under subsection (g)(1)(A)(i) during such period.

''(2) REPORT.—Along with the report required under subsection (h)(1), the head of each Federal agency shall submit to the Administrator, and make publicly available on the scorecard described in section 868(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (15 U.S.C. 644 note), an analysis of the number and dollar amount of prime contracts awarded pursuant to paragraph (1) for each fiscal year of the period described in such paragraph.''.

(d) PRIORITY FOR SURPLUS PROPERTY TRANSFERS.—Section 7(j)(13)(F) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(j)(13)(F)) is amended by adding at the end the following new clause:

''(iii)(I) In this clause, the term 'covered period' means the period beginning on the date of enactment of this clause and ending on the date that is 3 years after such date of enactment.

''(II) The Administrator may transfer technology or surplus property under clause (i) to a United States Virgin Islands business during the covered period if the such business meets the requirements for such a transfer, without regard to whether such business is a Program Participant.''.

(e) CONTRACTING INCENTIVES FOR PROTEGE FIRMS THAT ARE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS BUSINESSES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 45(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657r(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS BUSINESSES.—During the period beginning on the date of enactment of this paragraph and ending on the date that is 3 years after such date of enactment, the Administrator shall identify potential incentives to a covered mentor that awards a subcontract to its covered protege, including—

''(A) positive consideration in any past performance evaluation of the covered mentor;

''(B) the application of costs incurred for providing training to such covered protege to the subcontracting plan (as required under paragraph (4) or (5) of section 8(d)) of the covered mentor; and

''(C) such other incentives as the Administrator determines appropriate.''.

(2) DEFINITIONS.—Section 45(d) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657r(d)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

''(4) COVERED MENTOR.—The term 'covered mentor' means a mentor that enters into an agreement under this Act, or under any mentor-protege program approved under subsection (b)(1), with a covered protege.

''(5) COVERED PROTEGE.—The term 'covered protege' means a protege of a covered mentor that is a United States Virgin Islands business.''.

(f) ADDITIONAL MENTOR-PROTEGE RELATIONSHIPS FOR PROTEGE FIRMS THAT ARE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS BUSINESSES.—Section 45(b)(3)(A) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657r(b)(3)(A)) is amended by inserting '', except that, during the 3-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of the United States Virgin Islands Small Business Contracting Assistance Act of 2018, such restrictions shall not apply to up to 2 mentor-protege relationships if such relationships are between a covered protege and covered mentor'' after ''each participant''.

AMENDMENT NO. 17 OFFERED BY MRS. HARTZLER OF MISSOURI

Page 399, line 9, insert ''OR VIDEO SURVEILLANCE'' after ''TELECOMMUNICATIONS''.

Page 399, line 19, insert ''or video surveillance'' before ''equipment''.

Page 400, line 23, insert ''or video surveillance'' before ''equipment''.

Page 401, line 2, insert ''or video surveillance'' before ''equipment''.

Page 401, line 8, insert ''or video surveillance'' before ''equipment''.

Page 401, line 21, insert '', Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, Dahua Technology Company,'' before ''or ZTE''.

Page 402, line 15, insert ''or video surveillance'' before ''equipment''.

Page 402, line 17, insert ''or video surveillance'' before ''equipment''.

Page 402, line 19, insert '', Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, Dahua Technology Company,'' before ''or ZTE''.

Page 402, line 22, insert ''or video surveillance'' before ''services''.

Page 403, line 1, insert ''or video surveillance'' before ''equipment''.

Page 403, line 12, insert ''or video surveillance'' before ''equipment''.

Page 403, line 14, insert '', Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, Dahua Technology Company,'' after ''Company''.

Page 404, line 2, insert '', Hytera, Hikvision, Dahua,'' after ''Huawei''.

Page 404, line 14, insert ''State and local governments'' after ''companies''.

AMENDMENT NO. 18 OFFERED BY MR. MCCAUL OF TEXAS

Page 399, beginning line 21, insert after the period the following new sentence: ''The prohibitions described in this paragraph include the obligation or expenditure of loans or grant funds to procure or obtain, extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain, or enter into a contract (or extend or renew a contract) to procure or obtain covered telecommunications equipment or services.''.

AMENDMENT NO. 20 OFFERED BY MS. VELÁZQUEZ OF NEW YORK

Add at the end of subtitle E of title VIII the following new section:

SEC. 8___. OPPORTUNITIES FOR EMPLOYEE-OWNED BUSINESS CONCERNS THROUGH SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION LOAN PROGRAMS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act—

(1) the terms ''Administration'' and ''Administrator'' means the Small Business Administration and the Administrator thereof, respectively;

(2) the term ''cooperative'' means an entity that is determined to be a cooperative by the Administrator, in accordance with applicable Federal and State laws and regulations;

(3) the term ''employee-owned business concern'' means—

(A) a cooperative; and

(B) a qualified employee trust;

(4) the terms ''qualified employee trust'' and ''small business concern'' have the meanings given those terms in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632); and

(5) the term ''small business development center'' means a small business development center described in section 21 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648).

(b) EXPANSION OF 7(A) LOANS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 7(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (15)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) by striking ''this subsection to qualified employee trusts'' and inserting ''this subsection—

''(i) to qualified employee trusts'';

(II) in clause (i), as so designated—

(aa) by inserting '', and for any transaction costs associated with purchasing,'' after ''purchasing'';

(bb) by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(III) by adding at the end the following:

''(ii) to a small business concern under a plan approved by the Administrator, if the proceeds from the loan are only used to make a loan to a qualified employee trust, and for any transaction costs associated with making that loan, that results in the qualified employee trust owning at least 51 percent of the small business concern.'';

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) in the matter preceding clause (i), by inserting ''or by the small business concern'' after ''the trustee of such trust'';

(II) in clause (ii), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(III) in clause (iii), by striking the period at the end and inserting '', and''; and

(IV) by adding at the end the following:

''(iv) with respect to a loan made to a trust, or to a cooperative in accordance with paragraph (35)—

''(I) a seller of the small business concern may remain involved as an officer, director, or key employee of the small business concern when a qualified employee trust or cooperative has acquired 100 percent of ownership of the small business concern; and

''(II) any seller of the small business concern who remains as an owner of the small business concern, regardless of the percentage of ownership interest, shall be required to provide a personal guarantee by the Administration.''; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(F) A small business concern that makes a loan to a qualified employee trust under subparagraph (A)(ii) is not required to contain the same terms and conditions as the loan made to the small business concern that is guaranteed by the Administration under such subparagraph.

''(G) With respect to a loan made to a qualified employee trust under this paragraph, or to a cooperative in accordance with paragraph (35), the Administrator may, as deemed appropriate, elect to not require any mandatory equity to be provided by the qualified employee trust or cooperative to make the loan.''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(35) LOANS TO COOPERATIVES.—

''(A) DEFINITION.—In this paragraph, the term 'cooperative' means an entity that is determined to be a cooperative by the Administrator, in accordance with applicable Federal and State laws and regulation.

''(B) AUTHORITY.—The Administration shall guarantee loans made to a cooperative for the purpose described in paragraph (15).''.

(2) DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO PREFERRED LENDERS.—Section 5(b)(7) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 634(b)(7)) is amended by inserting '', including loans guaranteed under paragraph (15) or (35) of section 7(a)'' after ''deferred participation loans''.

(c) SMALL BUSINESS INVESTMENT COMPANY PROGRAM OUTREACH.—The Administrator shall provide outreach and educational materials to companies licensed under section 301(c) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 681(c)) to increase the use of funds to make investments in company transitions to employee-owned business concerns.

(d) SMALL BUSINESS MICROLOAN PROGRAM OUTREACH.—The Administrator shall provide outreach and educational materials to intermediaries under section 7(m) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)) to increase the use of funds to make loans to employee-owned business concerns, including transitions to employee-owned business concerns.

(e) SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER OUTREACH AND ASSISTANCE.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator shall establish a Small Business Employee Ownership and Cooperatives Promotion Program to offer technical assistance and training on the transition to employee ownership through cooperatives and qualified employee trusts.

(2) SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the program established under subsection (a), the Administrator shall enter into agreements with small business development centers under which the centers shall—

(i) provide access to information and resources on employee ownership through cooperatives or qualified employee trusts as a business succession strategy;

(ii) conduct training and educational activities; and

(iii) carry out the activities described in subparagraph (U) of section 21(c)(3) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(c)(3)).

(B) ADDITIONAL SERVICES.—Section 21(c)(3) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(c)(3)) is amended—

(i) in subparagraph (S), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(ii) in subparagraph (T), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(U) encouraging and assisting the provision of succession planning to small business concerns with a focus on transitioning to cooperatives, as defined in section 7(a)(35), and qualified employee trusts (collectively referred to in this subparagraph as 'employee-owned business concerns'), including by—

''(i) providing training to individuals to promote the successful management, governance, or operation of a business purchased by those individuals in the formation of an employee-owned business concern;

''(ii) assisting employee-owned business concerns that meet applicable size standards established under section 3(a) with education and technical assistance with respect to financing and contracting programs administered by the Administration;

''(iii) coordinating with lenders on conducting outreach on financing through programs administered by the Administration that may be used to support the transition of ownership to employees;

''(iv) supporting small business concerns in exploring or assessing the possibility of transitioning to an employee-owned business concern; and

''(v) coordinating with the cooperative development centers of the Department of Agriculture, the land grant extension network, the Manufacturing Extension Partnership, community development financial institutions, employee ownership associations and service providers, and local, regional and national cooperative associations.''.

(f) INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator (or a designee of the Administrator) shall coordinate and chair an interagency working group, which shall—

(A) develop recommendations on how Federal programs can promote, support, and increase the number of employee-owned business concerns;

(B) ensure coordination with Federal agencies and national and local employee ownership, cooperative, and small business organizations; and

(C) publish a report on the activities of the interagency working group that is indexed and maintained for public review.

(2) MEETINGS.—The interagency working group shall meet at such times as determined necessary by the, but not less than biannually. Such meetings may occur in person or via electronic resources.

(g) AMENDMENT TO REPORT TO CONGRESS ON STATUS OF EMPLOYEE-OWNED FIRMS.—Section 7(a)(15)(E) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)(15)(E)) is amended by striking ''Administration.'' and inserting ''Administration, which shall include—

''(i) the total number of loans made to employee-owned business concerns that were guaranteed by the Administrator under section 7(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)) or section 502 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 696), including the number of loans made—

''(I) to small business concerns owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals; and

''(II) to cooperatives;

''(ii) the total number of financings made to employee-owned business concerns by companies licensed under section 301(c) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 696(c)), including the number of financings made—

''(I) to small business concerns owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals; and

''(II) to cooperatives; and

''(iii) any outreach and educational activities conducted by the Administration with respect to employee-owned business concerns.''.

(h) REPORT ON COOPERATIVE LENDING.—

(1) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that cooperatives have a unique business structure and are unable to access the lending programs of the Administration effectively due to loan guarantee requirements that are incompatible with the business structure of cooperatives.

(2) STUDY AND REPORT.—

(A) STUDY.—The Administrator, in coordination with lenders, stakeholders, and Federal agencies, shall study and recommend practical alternatives for cooperatives that will satisfy the loan guarantee requirements of the Administration.

(B) REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to Congress the recommendations developed under paragraph (1) and a plan to implement such recommendations.

(i) AMENDMENT TO DEFINITION OF QUALIFIED EMPLOYEE TRUST.—Section 3(c)(2)(A)(ii) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632(c)(2)(A)(ii)) is amended to read as follows:

''(ii) which provides that each participant is entitled to direct the plan trustee as to the manner of how to vote the qualified employer securities (as defined in section 4975(e)(8) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986), which are allocated to the account of such participant with respect to a corporate matter which (by law or charter) must be decided by a vote conducted in accordance with section 409(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and''.

AMENDMENT NO. 21 OFFERED BY MR. NORMAN OF SOUTH CAROLINA

At the end of subtitle F of title VIII, add the following new section:

SEC. 8___. REPORT ON FUNDING OF PRODUCT SUPPORT STRATEGIES.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—For each of the fiscal years 2020, 2021, and 2022, the Secretary of Defense shall include with the budget for the Department of Defense, as submitted to Congress pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, a report regarding the funding for product support strategies for major weapon systems. The Secretary may submit this report separately, or as part of the annex required by section 347 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (Public Law 115–91).

(b) CONTENTS.—The report shall include for each major weapon system—

(1) a current estimate of the total funding required for the product support strategy for the lifecycle of the weapon system;

(2) a current estimate of the funding required for the product support strategy per year, by appropriation and budget activity, over the future years defense program for the weapon system;

(3) a summary of the funding requested for the product support strategy in the future years defense program per year, by appropriation and budget activity, for the weapon system;

(4) should the amounts required pursuant to paragraph (2) differ from the amounts requested pursuant to paragraph (3) by more than 5 percent, an explanation for the variance and a description of the actions that will be taken to mitigate the risk to the sustainment of the weapon system;

(5) a summary of the amounts expended, by appropriation and budget activity, for the product support strategy of the weapon system during the prior fiscal year; and

(6) should the amounts expended in the prior fiscal year pursuant to paragraph (5) differ from the amounts required for that fiscal year, pursuant to paragraph (2) by more than 5 percent, an explanation for the variance and a description of the actions that will be taken to mitigate the risk to the sustainment of the weapon system.

AMENDMENT NO. 23 OFFERED BY MR. POLIQUIN OF MAINE

Page 430, after line 20, insert the following:

(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to encourage or require the termination of any personnel or positions within the Defense Finance and Accounting Services.

AMENDMENT NO. 24 OFFERED BY MR. WILSON OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Page 467, line 19, strike ''shall'' and insert ''should''.

AMENDMENT NO. 25 OFFERED BY MR. RUSSELL OF OKLAHOMA

At the end of subtitle E of title X, add the following new section:

SEC. 10___. EVALUATION OF PILOT SAFETY BY MILITARY AVIATION AND INSTALLATION ASSURANCE SITING CLEARINGHOUSE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 183a of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''unacceptable risk to the national security of the United States'' each place it appears and inserting ''unacceptable risk to military operations and readiness''; and

(2) in subsection (h)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''pilot safety,'' after ''flight operations,''; and

(B) by amending paragraph (7) to read as follows:

''(7) The term 'unacceptable risk to military operations and readiness' means the construction, alteration, establishment, or expansion, or the proposed construction, alteration, establishment, or expansion, of a structure or sanitary landfill, that the Secretary of Defense can demonstrate would—

''(A) endanger safety in air commerce directly related to the activities of the Department of Defense;

''(B) interfere with the efficient use of the navigable airspace directly related to the activities of the Department of Defense; or

''(C) significantly impair or degrade the capability of the Department of Defense to—

''(i) ensure pilot safety;

''(ii) conduct training, research, development, testing, and evaluation, and operations; or

''(iii) maintain military readiness.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 44718 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking ''unacceptable risk to the national security of the United States'' each place it appears and inserting ''unacceptable risk to military operations and readiness''.

AMENDMENT NO. 26 OFFERED BY MR. HASTINGS OF FLORIDA

At the end of subtitle G of title X, add the following new section:

SEC. 10___ REPORT ON USE AND AVAILABILITY OF MILITARY INSTALLATIONS FOR DISASTER RESPONSE.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report that identifies—

(1) each military installation that has been made available to the Department of Homeland Security for disaster response for the past 10 fiscal years; and

(2) military installations assessed to be available in support of fast response to disasters.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report required under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) For each military installation identified under subsection (a)(1)—

(A) the name of the installation;

(B) the location of the installation, including the State and Congressional District;

(C) a description of the infrastructure and equipment made available at the installation; and

(D) a description of personnel made available for disaster response.

(2) For each military installation identified under subsection (a)(2)—

(A) the name of the installation;

(B) the location of the installation, including the State and Congressional District;

(C) a description of the infrastructure and equipment to be available at the installation; and

(D) a description of personnel to be available for disaster response.

AMENDMENT NO. 27 OFFERED BY MR. ADAMS OF NORTH CAROLINA

At the end of subtitle G of title X of the bill, add the following new section:

SEC. 10___. PROMOTING FEDERAL PROCUREMENT WITH HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES AND MINORITY INSTITUTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The head of an executive agency, or a contracting officer where applicable, shall—

(1) assist historically Black colleges and universities and minority institutions to develop viable, self-sustaining businesses capable of competing on an equal basis in the mainstream of the United States economy; and

(2) promote Federal procurement with historically Black colleges and universities and minority institutions by establishing—

(A) participation goals of not less than 10 percent for historically Black colleges and universities and minority institutions;

(B) requirements that prime contractors and other recipients of Federal funds attain similar participation goals in their procurement; and

(C) other mechanisms that ensure historically Black colleges and universities and minority institutions have a fair opportunity to participate in Federal procurement.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term ''executive agency'' has the meaning given the term in section 133 of title 41, United States Code.

(2) The term ''historically Black college and university'' has the meaning given that term in section 631 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1132).

(3) The term ''minority institution'' has the meaning given that term in section 365 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1067k).

AMENDMENT NO. 28 OFFERED BY MR. SESSIONS OF TEXAS

Page 512, beginning line 20, insert the following:

(b) DISTRIBUTION OF CORPORATION ASSISTANCE ABROAD THROUGH DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.—

(1) ACCEPTANCE AND COORDINATION OF ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary of Defense may, subject to the availability of appropriations for such purpose, and in accordance with guidance reviewed or issued under section 1088 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (Public Law 115–91) and guidance issued by the Secretary developed with the concurrence of the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development—

(A) accept from Spirit of America, a federally-charted corporation under chapter 2005 of title 36, United States Code (as added by subsection (a) of this section), humanitarian, economic, and other nonlethal assistance funded by private funds in the carrying out of the purposes of the corporation; and

(B) respond to requests from the corporation for the identification of the needs of local populations abroad for assistance, and coordinate with the corporation in the provision and distribution of such assistance, in the carrying out of such purposes.

(2) DISTRIBUTION OF ASSISTANCE TO LOCAL POPULATIONS.—In accordance with guidance issued by the Secretary of Defense developed with the concurrence of the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, members of the Armed Forces abroad may provide to local populations abroad humanitarian, economic, and other nonlethal assistance provided to the Department by the corporation pursuant to this subsection.

(3) SCOPE OF GUIDANCE.—The guidance issued pursuant to this subsection shall ensure that any assistance distributed pursuant to this subsection shall be for purposes of supporting the mission or missions of the Department of Defense and the Armed Forces for which such assistance is provided by the corporation.

(4) DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SUPPORT FOR CORPORATION ACTIVITIES.—In accordance with guidance issued by the Secretary of Defense, the Department of Defense and the Armed Forces may, subject to the availability of appropriations for such purpose—

(A) provide transportation, lodging, storage, and other logistical support—

(i) to personnel of the corporation (whether in the United States or abroad) who are carrying out the purposes of the corporation; and

(ii) in connection with the acceptance and distribution of assistance provided by the corporation; and

(B) use assets of the Department and the Armed Forces in the provision of support described in subparagraph (A).

AMENDMENT NO. 29 OFFERED BY MR. SMITH OF WASHINGTON

Add at the end of title X the following:

SEC. ___. CLARIFICATION OF REIMBURSABLE ALLOWED COSTS OF FAA MEMORANDA OF AGREEMENT.

Section 47504(c)(2) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (D) by striking ''and'' at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (E) by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(F) to an airport operator of a congested airport (as defined in section 47175) and a unit of local government referred to in paragraph (1)(B) to carry out a project to mitigate noise, if the project—

''(i) consists of—

''(I) replacement windows, doors, and the installation of through-the-wall air conditioning units; or

''(II) acquisition and installation of the windows, doors, and other noise mitigation elements to be used in a school reconstruction if reconstruction is the preferred local solution;

''(ii) is located at a school near the airport; and

''(iii) is included in a memorandum of agreement entered into before September 30, 2002, even if the airport has not met the requirements of part 150 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations, and only if the financial limitations of the memorandum are applied.''.

AMENDMENT NO. 30 OFFERED BY MR. JODY B. HICE OF GEORGIA

Page 564, after line 11, insert the following:

SEC. 11___. PRESIDENTIAL ALLOWANCE MODERNIZATION.

(a) FORMER PRESIDENTS.—The first section of the Act entitled ''An Act to provide retirement, clerical assistants, and free mailing privileges to former Presidents of the United States, and for other purposes'', approved August 25, 1958 (commonly known as the ''Former Presidents Act of 1958'') (3 U.S.C. 102 note), is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (f) and (g) as subsections (h) and (i), respectively;

(2) by striking the matter preceding subsection (e) and inserting the following:

''(a) ANNUITIES AND ALLOWANCES.—

''(1) ANNUITY.—Each former President shall be entitled to receive from the United States an annuity, subject to subsections (b) and (c)—

''(A) at the rate of $200,000 per year; and

''(B) which shall commence on the day after the date on which an individual becomes a former President.

''(2) ALLOWANCE.—The General Services Administration is authorized to provide each former President a monetary allowance, subject to appropriations and subsections (b), (c), and (d), at the rate of—

''(A) $500,000 per year for 5 years beginning on the day after the last day of the period described in the first sentence of section 5 of the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 (3 U.S.C. 102 note);

''(B) $350,000 per year for the 5 years following the 5-year period under subparagraph (A); and

''(C) $250,000 per year thereafter.

''(b) DURATION; FREQUENCY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The annuity and monetary allowance under subsection (a) shall—

''(A) terminate on the date that is 30 days after the date on which the former President dies; and

''(B) be payable by the Secretary of the Treasury on a monthly basis.

''(2) APPOINTIVE OR ELECTIVE POSITIONS.—The annuity and monetary allowance under subsection (a) shall not be payable for any period during which a former President holds an appointive or elective position in or under

the Federal Government to which is attached a rate of pay other than a nominal rate.

''(c) COST-OF-LIVING INCREASES.—Effective December 1 of each year, each annuity and monetary allowance under subsection (a) that commenced before that date shall be increased by the same percentage by which benefit amounts under title II of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.) are increased, effective as of that date, as a result of a determination under section 215(i) of that Act (42 U.S.C. 415(i)).

''(d) LIMITATION ON MONETARY ALLOWANCE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the monetary allowance payable under subsection (a)(2) to a former President for any 12-month period—

''(A) except as provided in subparagraph (B), may not exceed the amount by which—

''(i) the monetary allowance that (but for this subsection) would otherwise be so payable for the 12-month period, exceeds (if at all)

''(ii) the applicable reduction amount for the 12-month period; and

''(B) shall not be less than the amount determined under paragraph (4).

''(2) DEFINITION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the term 'applicable reduction amount' means, with respect to any former President and in connection with any 12-month period, the amount by which—

''(i) the earned income (as defined in section 32(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) of the former President for the most recent taxable year for which a tax return is available, exceeds (if at all)

''(ii) $400,000, subject to subparagraph (C).

''(B) JOINT RETURNS.—In the case of a joint return, subparagraph (A)(i) shall be applied by taking into account both the amounts properly allocable to the former President and the amounts properly allocable to the spouse of the former President.

''(C) COST-OF-LIVING INCREASES.—The dollar amount specified in subparagraph (A)(ii) shall be adjusted at the same time that, and by the same percentage by which, the monetary allowance of the former President is increased under subsection (c) (disregarding this subsection).

''(3) DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENT.—

''(A) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph—

''(i) the terms 'return' and 'return information' have the meanings given those terms in section 6103(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and

''(ii) the term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of the Treasury or the Secretary of the Treasury's delegate.

''(B) REQUIREMENT.—A former President may not receive a monetary allowance under subsection (a)(2) unless the former President discloses to the Secretary, upon the request of the Secretary, any return or return information of the former President or spouse of the former President that the Secretary determines is necessary for purposes of calculating the applicable reduction amount under paragraph (2) of this subsection.

''(C) CONFIDENTIALITY.—Except as provided in section 6103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may not, with respect to a return or return information disclosed to the Secretary under subparagraph (B)—

''(i) disclose the return or return information to any entity or person; or

''(ii) use the return or return information for any purpose other than to calculate the applicable reduction amount under paragraph (2).

''(4) INCREASED COSTS DUE TO SECURITY NEEDS.—With respect to the monetary allowance that would be payable to a former President under subsection (a)(2) for any 12-month period but for the limitation under paragraph (1) of this subsection, the Administrator of General Services, in coordination with the Director of the United States Secret Service, shall determine the amount of the monetary allowance that is needed to pay the increased cost of doing business that is attributable to the security needs of the former President.'';

(3) by inserting after subsection (e) the following:

''(f) OFFICE STAFF.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of General Services shall, without regard to the civil service and classification laws, provide for each former President an office staff of not more than 13 individuals, at the request of the former President, on a reimbursable basis.

''(2) COMPENSATION.—The annual rate of compensation payable to any individual under paragraph (1) shall not exceed the highest annual rate of basic pay for positions at level II of the Executive Schedule under section 5313 of title 5, United States Code.

''(3) SELECTION; RESPONSIBILITY.—An individual employed under this subsection—

''(A) shall be selected by the former President; and

''(B) shall be responsible only to the former President for the performance of duties.

''(g) OFFICE SPACE AND RELATED FURNISHINGS AND EQUIPMENT.—

''(1) OFFICE SPACE.—The Administrator of General Services (referred to in this subsection as the 'Administrator') shall, at the request of a former President, on a reimbursable basis provide for the former President suitable office space, as determined by the Administrator, at a place within the United States specified by the former President.

''(2) FURNISHINGS AND EQUIPMENT.—

''(A) REIMBURSABLE.—The Administrator may, at the request of a former President, provide the former President with suitable office furnishings and equipment on a reimbursable basis.

''(B) WITHOUT REIMBURSEMENT.—

''(i) GRANDFATHERED FORMER PRESIDENTS.—In the case of any individual who is a former President on the date of enactment of the Presidential Allowance Modernization Act of 2017, the former President may retain without reimbursement any furniture and equipment in the possession of the former President.

''(ii) PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION ACT.—A former President may retain without reimbursement any furniture or equipment acquired under section 5 of the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 (3 U.S.C. 102 note).

''(iii) EXCESS FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT.—The Administrator may provide excess furniture and equipment to the office of a former President at no cost other than necessary transportation costs.''; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

''(j) APPLICABILITY.—Subsections (f), (g) (other than paragraph (2)(B)(i) of that subsection), and (i) shall apply with respect to a former President on and after the day after the last day of the period described in the first sentence of section 5 of the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 (3 U.S.C. 102 note).''.

(b) SURVIVING SPOUSES OF FORMER PRESIDENTS.—

(1) INCREASE IN AMOUNT OF MONETARY ALLOWANCE.—Subsection (e) of the first section of the Former Presidents Act of 1958 is amended—

(A) in the first sentence, by striking ''$20,000 per annum,'' and inserting ''$100,000 per year (subject to paragraph (4)),''; and

(B) in the second sentence—

(i) in paragraph (2), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(ii) in paragraph (3)—

(I) by striking ''or the government of the District of Columbia''; and

(II) by striking the period and inserting ''; and''; and

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

''(4) shall, after its commencement date, be increased at the same time that, and by the same percentage by which, annuities of former Presidents are increased under subsection (c).''.

(2) COVERAGE OF WIDOWER OF A FORMER PRESIDENT.—Subsection (e) of the first section of the Former Presidents Act of 1958, as amended by paragraph (1), is amended—

(A) by striking ''widow'' each place it appears and inserting ''widow or widower''; and

(B) by striking ''she'' and inserting ''she or he''.

(c) SUBSECTION HEADINGS.—The first section of the Former Presidents Act of 1958 is amended—

(1) in subsection (e), by inserting after the subsection enumerator the following: ''WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS.—'';

(2) in subsection (h) (as redesignated by subsection (a)(1)), by inserting after the subsection enumerator the following: ''DEFINITION.—''; and

(3) in subsection (i) (as redesignated by subsection (a)(1)), by inserting after the subsection enumerator the following: ''AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—''.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) TITLE 5.—Subpart G of part III of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in section 8101(1)(E), by striking ''1(b)'' and inserting ''1(f)'';

(B) in section 8331(1)(I), by striking ''1(b)'' and inserting ''1(f)'';

(C) in section 8701(a)(9), by striking ''1(b)'' and inserting ''1(f)''; and

(D) in section 8901(1)(H) by striking ''1(b)'' and inserting ''1(f)''.

(2) PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION ACT OF 1963.—Section 5 of the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 (3 U.S.C. 102 note) is amended by striking the last sentence.

(e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section or an amendment made by this section shall be construed to affect—

(1) any provision of law relating to the security or protection of a former President or a member of the family of a former President;

(2) funding, under the Former Presidents Act of 1958 or any other law, to carry out any provision of law described in paragraph (1); or

(3) funding for any office space lease in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act under subsection (c) of the first section of the Former Presidents Act of 1958 (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act) until the expiration date contained in the lease, if the lease was submitted to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives on April 12, 2017.

(f) TRANSITION RULES.—

(1) FORMER PRESIDENTS.—In the case of any individual who is a former President on the date of enactment of this Act, the amendments made by subsection (a) shall be applied as if the commencement date referred in subsections (a)(1)(B) and (a)(2)(A) of the first section of the Former Presidents Act of 1958, as amended by subsection (a), coincided with the date that is 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) WIDOWS.—In the case of any individual who is the widow of a former President on the date of enactment of this Act, the amendments made by subsection (b)(1) shall be applied as if the commencement date referred to in subsection (e)(1) of the first section of the Former Presidents Act of 1958, as

amended by subsection (b)(1), coincided with the date that is 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(g) APPLICABILITY.—For a former President receiving a monetary allowance under the Former Presidents Act of 1958 on the day before the date of enactment of this Act, the limitation under subsection (d)(1) of the first section of that Act, as amended by subsection (a), shall apply to the monetary allowance of the former President, except to the extent that the application of the limitation would prevent the former President from being able to pay the cost of a lease or other contract that is in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act and under which the former President makes payments using the monetary allowance, as determined by the Administrator of General Services.

AMENDMENT NO. 33 OFFERED BY MR. MEADOWS OF NORTH CAROLINA

At the end of subtitle C of title XII, add the following new section:

SEC. 12__. LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE TO THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR OF THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ.

(a) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds authorized to be appropriated by this Act for assistance to the Ministry of the Interior of the Government of Iraq may be obligated or expended until the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State jointly certify to the appropriate congressional committees that such funds, including funds for the provision of intelligence sharing, will not be disbursed by the United States to any group that is, or that is known to be affiliated with, the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps–Quds Force or other state sponsor of terrorism.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter until the Iraq Train and Equip Fund is no longer in effect, the Secretary of State should submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the implementation of this section.

(c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(1) the congressional defense committees; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

AMENDMENT NO. 34 OFFERED BY MRS. DEMINGS OF FLORIDA

At the end of subtitle D of title XII, add the following new section:

SEC. 12___. REPORT ON KREMLIN-LINKED CORRUPTION.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the intelligence community should dedicate resources to further expose key networks which the corrupt political class in Russia uses to hide the money it steals; and

(2) the President should pursue efforts to stifle Russian use of hidden financial channels, including anonymous shell companies and real estate investments, in a manner similar to the efforts undertaken to tighten banking regulations after the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury, in coordination with the Secretary of State and in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence, shall submit a report to Congress on assets owned by Vladimir Putin, Russian oligarchs, and senior officials of the Russian Government, including—

(1) with respect to bank accounts, real estate holdings, and other financial assets, including those outside of Russia, that are owned by or accessible to Putin—

(A) the location of such accounts, holdings, or assets; and

(B) the contents of such accounts or the amount held through such holdings or assets;

(2) the location, size, and contents of any assets of any oligarch listed pursuant to section 241 of the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (Public Law 115–44; 131 Stat. 922); and

(3) any ''front'' or shell companies, or other intermediaries, used by senior officials of the Russian Government to hide assets from public disclosure.

(c) FORM.—The report required under subsection (b) shall be submitted in classified form.

(d) REASONABLE ATTEMPT TO ISSUE UNCLASSIFIED REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the submission of the report required under subsection (b), the Secretary of the Treasury shall—

(1) publish an unclassified version of such report on a publicly available website of the Department of the Treasury; or

(2) submit a notification to Congress describing the reasons for which the Secretary has determined that such release is not possible.

AMENDMENT NO. 35 OFFERED BY MR. BRENDAN F. BOYLE OF PENNSYLVANIA

Add at the end of subtitle D of title XII the following:

SEC. 12____. REPORT ON RUSSIA'S SUPPORT FOR THE TALIBAN AND OTHER DESTABILIZING ACTIVITIES IN AFGHANISTAN.

The Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense shall jointly submit to the congressional defense committees and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations a report on Russia's support for the Taliban and other destabilizing activities in Afghanistan.

AMENDMENT NO. 36 OFFERED BY MS. CHENEY OF WYOMING

At the end of subtitle E of title XII, add the following new section:

SEC. 12____. REVIEW OF CONTROLLED ITEMS WITH RESPECT TO CHINA.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to Congress a report listing each technology included on the Commerce Control List maintained under Supplement No. 1 to part 774 of the Export Administration Regulations (subchapter C of chapter VII of title 15, Code of Federal Regulations) and exempted for export to China, and each item removed from such List, designated as ''EAR99'' by the Bureau of Industry and Security, and exported to China, during the 15-year period ending on such date of enactment that the Secretary determines currently poses an unacceptable national security risk.

AMENDMENT NO. 37 OFFERED BY MS. BASS OF CALIFORNIA

At the end of subtitle F of title XII, add the following new section:

SEC. 12____. UNITED STATES SECURITY AND HUMANITARIAN SUPPORT STRATEGY FOR YEMEN.

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, shall jointly submit to Congress a comprehensive report on United States security and humanitarian interests in Yemen, including each of the following:

(1) The strategic objectives of the United States in Yemen, including humanitarian support to civilian populations under threat of famine, and the criteria for determining the success of such objectives.

(2) A description of efforts to coordinate civilian and military efforts with respect to Yemen.

(3) A description of the diplomatic strategy with respect to regional partners seeking to end the civil war in Yemen.

AMENDMENT NO. 38 OFFERED BY MR. CROWLEY OF NEW YORK

At the end of subtitle F of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 12___. REPORT ON BANGLADESH.

The Secretary of State, in coordination with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Secretary of Defense, shall submit to Congress a report—

(1) assessing Bangladesh's ability to respond to humanitarian crises and natural disasters; and

(2) recommending areas for enhancing humanitarian assistance and disaster relief cooperation between the United States and Bangladesh relating to improving Bangladesh's ability to respond to humanitarian crises and natural disasters, including through humanitarian consultations, training, and exercises.

AMENDMENT NO. 39 OFFERED BY MR. BRENDAN F. BOYLE OF PENNSYLVANIA

At the end of subtitle F of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 12____. UNITED STATES CYBERSECURITY COOPERATION WITH UKRAINE.

(a) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States to—

(1) reaffirm the United States-Ukraine Charter on Strategic Partnership, which highlights the importance of the bilateral relationship and outlines enhanced cooperation in the areas of defense, security, economics and trade, energy security, democracy, and cultural exchanges;

(2) support continued cooperation between NATO and Ukraine;

(3) support Ukraine's political and economic reforms;

(4) reaffirm the commitment of the United States to the Budapest Memorandum on Security Assurances;

(5) assist Ukraine's efforts to enhance its cybersecurity capabilities; and

(6) improve Ukraine's ability to respond to Russian-supported disinformation and propaganda efforts in cyberspace, including through social media and other outlets.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of State should take the following actions, commensurate with United States interests, to assist Ukraine to improve its cybersecurity:

(1) Provide Ukraine such support as may be necessary to secure government computer networks from malicious cyber intrusions, particularly such networks that defend the critical infrastructure of Ukraine.

(2) Provide Ukraine support in reducing reliance on Russian information and communications technology.

(3) Assist Ukraine to build its capacity, expand cybersecurity information sharing, and cooperate on international cyberspace efforts.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the congressional defense committees and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report on United States cybersecurity cooperation with Ukraine. Such report shall also include information relating to the following:

(1) United States efforts to strengthen Ukraine's ability to prevent, mitigate, and

respond to cyber incidents, including through training, education, technical assistance, capacity building, and cybersecurity risk management strategies.

(2) The potential for new areas of collaboration and mutual assistance between the United States and Ukraine in addressing shared cyber challenges, including cybercrime, critical infrastructure protection, and resilience against botnets and other automated, distributed threats.

(3) NATO's efforts to help Ukraine develop technical capabilities to counter cyber threats.

AMENDMENT NO. 40 OFFERED BY MR. HUNTER OF CALIFORNIA

At the end of subtitle F of title XII, add the following new section:

SEC. 12__. BRIEFING ON CHINA'S MILITARY INSTALLATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI.

(a) BRIEFING REQUIRED.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, shall brief the appropriate congressional committees on the following:

(1) An assessment of the impact of the People's Republic of China's first overseas military installation in the Republic of Djibouti on the ability of the United States forces to operate in the region.

(2) An assessment of China's ability to obtain sensitive information and impact operations conducted from Camp Lemmonier in Djibouti, the largest United States military installation on the African continent.

(3) An assessment of the ability of the President of Djibouti to terminate by all methods, including by simple decree, the Department of Defense's lease agreement governing operation of Camp Lemmonier.

(4) An assessment of the impact of the Chinese base in Djibouti on security and safety of United States personnel in Djibouti.

(5) An assessment of the status of China's compliance with the ''Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons'' that forbids employment of laser weapons.

(6) An assessment of the laser attack in Djibouti that injured United States airmen.

(7) An assessment of Djibouti's compliance with its treaty obligations under the Ottawa Convention to end the use of landmines.

(b) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(1) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

AMENDMENT NO. 41 OFFERED BY MR. MEEKS OF NEW YORK

At the end of subtitle F of title XII, add the following new section:

SEC. 12___. SENSE OF CONGRESS WITH RESPECT TO THE 3 SEAS INITIATIVE.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the 3 Seas Initiative could serve as a valuable counterweight to the efforts of the Russian Government to divide Europe and to the regional expansionism of the Chinese Government, particularly in the context of energy and infrastructure; and

(2) the United States should fully support the efforts of the 3 Seas Initiative, including by—

(A) sending a high level delegation to future summits convened by the Initiative;

(B) encouraging United States business leaders to participate in the Initiative; and

(C) supporting the establishment of a network of Central European chambers of commerce.

AMENDMENT NO. 42 OFFERED BY MR. VELA OF TEXAS

At the end of subtitle F of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 12___. REPORT ON VIOLENCE AND CARTEL ACTIVITY IN MEXICO.

The Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on violence and cartel activity in Mexico and the impact of such on United States national security.

AMENDMENT NO. 44 OFFERED BY MR. NORMAN OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Page 720, after line 2, insert the following:

SEC. 1523. SEPARATE ACCOUNT LINES FOR OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS FUNDS.

For accountability and transparency purposes, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget and the Secretary of Defense shall establish separate accounts to ensure that amounts authorized to be appropriated pursuant to this title are administered separately from amounts otherwise authorized to be appropriated or made available for the Department of Defense.

AMENDMENT NO. 45 OFFERED BY MRS. MCMORRIS RODGERS OF WASHINGTON

Page 874, insert after line 6 the following:

SEC. 2815. STUDY OF FEASIBILITY OF USING 20-YEAR INTERGOVERNMENTAL SUPPORT AGREEMENTS FOR INSTALLATION-SUPPORT SERVICES.

(a) STUDY.—Each Secretary concerned shall conduct a study of the feasibility and desirability of entering into intergovernmental support agreements under section 2679(a) of title 10, United States Code, for a term not to exceed 20 years.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, each Secretary concerned shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the study conducted under subsection (a).

AMENDMENT NO. 46 OFFERED BY MS. MCSALLY OF ARIZONA

Page 874, insert after line 7 the following (and redesignate the succeeding provisions accordingly):

SEC. 2821. LAND EXCHANGE, AIR FORCE PLANT 44, TUCSON, ARIZONA.

(a) LAND CONVEYANCE AND RESTORATION OF REAL PROPERTY IMPROVEMENTS AUTHORIZED.—In connection with a project planned by the Tuscon Airport Authority (in this section referred to as ''TAA'') to relocate and extend a parallel runway and make other airfield safety enhancements at the Tucson International Airport, the Secretary of the Air Force (in this section referred to as the ''Secretary'') may—

(1) convey to TAA all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to all or any part of a parcel of real property, including any improvements thereon, consisting of approximately 58 acres on Air Force Plant 44, Arizona, and located adjacent to Tucson International Airport;

(2) agree to terminate all or a portion of any deed restrictions made for the benefit of the United States that limit construction on Tucson International Airport within 750 feet of the Airport's southwest property boundary with Air Force Plant 44; and

(3) using cash or in-kind consideration as provided in subsection (b)—

(A) construct new explosives storage facilities to replace the explosives storage facilities located on the land described in paragraph (1) and explosives storage facilities located on Air Force Plant 44 within the end-of-runway clear zone associated with the TAA airfield enhancement project; and

(B) construct new fencing as necessary to accommodate the changes in the boundary of Air Force Plant 44.

(b) CONSIDERATION.—As consideration for the land conveyance, deed restriction termination, replacement of real property improvements, and installation of fencing authorized under subsection (a), the following consideration must be received by the United States before the Secretary may make any conveyance or termination of real property interests of the United States as described in subsection (a):

(1) All right, title, and interest of the owner or owners thereof to the parcels of real property consisting of approximately 160 acres directly adjacent to the south boundary of Air Force Plant 44.

(2) The cost to the Secretary, in accordance with current design standards, of—

(A) replacing the real property structures on Air Force Plant 44 made unusable due to the land transfers and termination of deed restrictions, with structures of at least equivalent capacity and functionality; and

(B) installing the necessary boundary fencing due to the changes in the boundary of Air Force Plant 44.

(c) DIRECT PAYMENT OF CONSIDERATION TO GOVERNMENT CONTRACTORS.—The Secretary may require that any cash consideration to be received under this section be paid, directly or through the Air Force design and construction agent, to the contractors performing design or construction of the real property improvements described in subsection (a)(3).

(d) PAYMENT OF COSTS OF CONVEYANCES.—

(1) PAYMENT REQUIRED.—The Secretary may require TAA to cover costs to be incurred by the Secretary to carry out the land exchange and other transactions authorized under this section, or to reimburse the Secretary for such costs, including survey costs, appraisal costs, costs related to environmental documentation, and other administrative costs related to the conveyances. If amounts are collected from TAA in advance of the Secretary incurring the actual costs, and the amount collected exceeds the costs actually incurred by the Secretary to carry out such transactions, the Secretary shall refund the excess amount to TAA.

(2) TREATMENT OF AMOUNTS RECEIVED.—Amounts received as reimbursements under paragraph (1) shall be used in accordance with section 2695(c) of title 10, United States Code.

(e) DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.—The exact acreage and legal description of the real property to be exchanged under this section shall be determined by a survey satisfactory to the Secretary.

(f) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Secretary may require such additional terms and conditions in connection with the land exchange and other transactions under this section as the Secretary considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States. Without limiting the foregoing, the Secretary may establish a deed restriction on any part of the 58 acres described in subsection (a)(1) to accommodate existing Quantity Distance arcs.

AMENDMENT NO. 47 OFFERED BY MS. NORTON OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Page 877, insert after line 9 the following new section (and redesignate the succeeding sections accordingly):

SEC. 2822. LAND EXCHANGE, NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY, WASHINGTON NAVY YARD, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

(a) EXCHANGE OF PROPERTY INTERESTS AUTHORIZED.—

(1) INTERESTS TO BE CONVEYED.—The Secretary of the Navy (Secretary) may convey all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to one or more parcels of real property, including any improvements thereon and, without limitation, any leasehold interests of the United States therein, as the

Secretary considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

(2) INTERESTS TO BE ACQUIRED.—In exchange for the property interests described in paragraph (1), the Secretary may accept parcels at the Southeast Federal Center in the vicinity of the Washington Navy Yard, replacement of facilities being conveyed of equal value and similar utility, as determined by the Secretary, and any additional consideration the Secretary feels is appropriate, including maintenance, repair, or restoration of any real property, facility, or infrastructure under the jurisdiction of the Secretary.

(b) VALUATION.—The value of the property interests to be exchanged by the Secretary described in subsections (a)(1) and (a)(2) shall be determined—

(1) by an independent appraiser selected by the Secretary; and

(2) in accordance with the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions and the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice.

(c) EQUALIZATION PAYMENTS.—

(1) TO THE SECRETARY.—If the value of the property interests described in subsection (a)(1) is greater than the value of the property interests described in subsection (a)(2), the values shall be equalized through a cash equalization payment to the Department of the Navy.

(2) NO EQUALIZATION.—If the value of the property interests described in subsection (a)(2) is greater than the value of the property interests described in subsection (a)(1), the Secretary shall not make a cash equalization payment to equalize the values.

(d) PAYMENT OF COSTS OF CONVEYANCE.—

(1) PAYMENT REQUIRED.—The Secretary shall require the other party in this land exchange to cover costs to be incurred by the Secretary, or to reimburse the Secretary for such costs incurred, to carry out the land exchange under this section, including survey costs, costs for environmental documentation, other administrative costs related to the land exchange, and all costs associated with relocation of activities and facilities to the replacement location. If amounts collected are in advance of the Secretary incurring actual costs, and the amount collected exceeds the costs actually incurred by the Secretary to carry out the land exchange, the Secretary shall refund the excess amount.

(2) TREATMENT OF AMOUNTS RECEIVED.—Amounts received shall be credited to the fund or account that was used to cover those costs incurred by the Secretary in carrying out the land exchange. Amounts so credited shall be merged with amounts in such fund or account, and shall be available for the same purposes, and subject to the same conditions and limitations, as amounts in such fund or account.

(e) DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.—The exact acreage and legal description of the property to be exchanged under this section shall be determined by surveys satisfactory to the Secretary of the Navy.

(f) CONVEYANCE AGREEMENT.—The exchange of real property interests under this section shall be accomplished using an appropriate legal instrument and upon terms and conditions mutually satisfactory to both parties of the exchange, including such additional terms and conditions as the Secretary considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

AMENDMENT NO. 48 OFFERED BY MR. BEYER OF VIRGINIA

Page 889, insert after line 13 the following:

SEC. 2826. COMMEMORATION OF FREEDMAN'S VILLAGE, ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

(a) PERMANENT EASEMENT.—The Secretary of the Army is directed to grant to Arlington County, Virginia, a permanent easement of approximately 0.1 acres of land within the right-of-way of Southgate Road to the south and west of Hobson Drive and west of the planned joint base access road that is also continuous with Foxcroft Heights Park for the purpose of commemorating Freedman's Village.

(b) RELOCATION OF COMMEMORATION IN EVENT LOCATION IS USED FOR BURIAL PURPOSES.—In the event Arlington National Cemetery subsequently acquires the property used for the commemoration described under subsection (a) for burial purposes, the Army shall relocate any commemoration of Freedman's Village to an appropriate location.

(c) REIMBURSEMENT.—The Secretary of Defense may accept reimbursement from Arlington County for any costs associated with commemorating Freedman's Village.

AMENDMENT NO. 49 OFFERED BY MR. LAMALFA OF CALIFORNIA

Page 937, insert after line 12 the following:

SEC. 2845. RESTRICTIONS ON REHABILITATION OF OVER-THE-HORIZON BACKSCATTER RADAR STATION.

(a) RESTRICTIONS.—Except as provided in subsection (b), the Secretary of the Air Force may not use any funds or resources to carry out the rehabilitation of the Over-the-Horizon Backscatter Radar Station on Modoc National Forest land in Modoc County, California.

(b) EXCEPTION FOR REMOVAL OF PERIMETER FENCE.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), the Secretary may use funds and resources to remove the perimeter fence surrounding the Over-the-Horizon Backscatter Radar Station and to carry out the mitigation of soil contamination associated with such fence.

(c) SUNSET.—Subsection (a) shall terminate on the date of the enactment of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020.

AMENDMENT NO. 51 OFFERED BY MR. PANETTA OF CALIFORNIA

At the end of subtitle B of title XXXI, add the following new section:

SEC. 31____. ACCELERATION OF REPLACEMENT OF CESIUM BLOOD IRRADIATION SOURCES.

(a) GOAL.—The Administrator for Nuclear Security shall ensure that the goal of the covered programs is eliminating the use of blood irradiation devices in the United States that rely on cesium chloride by December 31, 2027.

(b) PROGRAMS.—To meet the goal specified by subsection (a), the Administrator shall carry out the covered programs in a manner that—

(1) is voluntary for owners of blood irradiation devices;

(2) allows for the United States, subject to the review of the Administrator, to pay up to 50 percent of the per-device cost of replacing blood irradiation devices covered by the programs;

(3) allows for the United States to pay up to 100 percent of the cost of removing and disposing of cesium sources retired from service by the programs; and

(4) replaces such devices with x-ray irradiation devices or other devices approved by the Food and Drug Administration that provide significant threat reduction as compared to cesium chloride irradiators.

(c) DURATION.—The Administrator shall carry out the covered programs until December 31, 2027.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the covered programs, including—

(1) identification of each cesium chloride blood irradiation device in the United States, including the number, general location, and user type;

(2) a plan for achieving the goal established by subsection (a);

(3) a methodology for prioritizing replacement of such devices which takes into account irradiator age and prior material security initiatives;

(4) in consultation with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Food and Drug Administration, a strategy identifying any legislative, regulatory, or other measures necessary to constrain the introduction of new cesium chloride blood irradiation devices; and

(5) identification of the annual funds required to meet the goal established by subsection (a).

(e) ASSESSMENT.—The Administrator shall submit and assessment to the appropriate congressional committees by September 20, 2023, the results of the actions on the covered programs, including—

(1) the number of replacement irradiators under the covered programs;

(2) the life-cycle costs of the program, including personnel training, maintenance, and replacement costs for new irradiation devices;

(3) the cost-effectiveness of the covered programs;

(4) an analysis of the effectiveness of the new irradiation devices technology; and

(5) a forecast whether the Administrator will meet the goal established in subsection (a).

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Armed Services, and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate.

(2) The term ''covered programs'' means the following programs of the Office of Radiological Security of the National Nuclear Security Administration:

(A) The Cesium Irradiator Replacement Program.

(B) The Offsite Source Recovery Program.

AMENDMENT NO. 52 OFFERED BY MR. HUNTER OF CALIFORNIA

Add at the end the following:

DIVISION ____—COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2017

SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2017''.

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents for this division is the following:

Sec. 1. Short title.
Sec. 2. Table of contents.

TITLE I—REORGANIZATION OF TITLE 14, UNITED STATES CODE

Sec. 101. Initial matter.
Sec. 102. Subtitle I.
Sec. 103. Chapter 1.
Sec. 104. Chapter 3.
Sec. 105. Chapter 5.
Sec. 106. Chapter 7.
Sec. 107. Chapter 9.
Sec. 108. Chapter 11.

Sec. 109. Subtitle II.
Sec. 110. Chapter 19.
Sec. 111. Part II.
Sec. 112. Chapter 21.
Sec. 113. Chapter 23.
Sec. 114. Chapter 25.
Sec. 115. Part III.
Sec. 116. Chapter 27.
Sec. 117. Chapter 29.
Sec. 118. Subtitle III and chapter 37.
Sec. 119. Chapter 39.
Sec. 120. Chapter 41.
Sec. 121. Subtitle IV and chapter 49.
Sec. 122. Chapter 51.
Sec. 123. References.
Sec. 124. Rule of construction.

TITLE II—AUTHORIZATIONS

Sec. 201. Amendments to title 14, United States Code, as amended by title I of this division.
Sec. 202. Authorizations of appropriations.
Sec. 203. Authorized levels of military strength and training.
Sec. 204. Authorization of amounts for Fast Response Cutters.
Sec. 205. Authorization of amounts for shoreside infrastructure.
Sec. 206. Authorization of amounts for aircraft improvements.

TITLE III—COAST GUARD

Sec. 301. Amendments to title 14, United States Code, as amended by title I of this division.
Sec. 302. Primary duties.
Sec. 303. National Coast Guard Museum.
Sec. 304. Unmanned aircraft.
Sec. 305. Coast Guard health-care professionals; licensure portability.
Sec. 306. Training; emergency response providers.
Sec. 307. Incentive contracts for Coast Guard yard and industrial establishments.
Sec. 308. Confidential investigative expenses.
Sec. 309. Regular captains; retirement.
Sec. 310. Conversion, alteration, and repair projects.
Sec. 311. Contracting for major acquisitions programs.
Sec. 312. Officer promotion zones.
Sec. 313. Cross reference.
Sec. 314. Commissioned service retirement.
Sec. 315. Leave for birth or adoption of child.
Sec. 316. Clothing at time of discharge.
Sec. 317. Unfunded priorities list.
Sec. 318. Safety of vessels of the Armed Forces.
Sec. 319. Protecting against unmanned aircraft.
Sec. 320. Air facilities.

TITLE IV—PORTS AND WATERWAYS SAFETY

Sec. 401. Codification of Ports and Waterways Safety Act.
Sec. 402. Conforming amendments.
Sec. 403. Transitional and savings provisions.
Sec. 404. Rule of construction.
Sec. 405. Advisory committee: repeal.
Sec. 406. Regattas and marine parades.
Sec. 407. Regulation of vessels in territorial waters of United States.
Sec. 408. Port, harbor, and coastal facility security.

TITLE V—MARITIME TRANSPORTATION SAFETY

Sec. 501. Consistency in marine inspections.
Sec. 502. Uninspected passenger vessels in St. Louis County, Minnesota.
Sec. 503. Engine cut-off switch requirements.
Sec. 504. Exception from survival craft requirements.
Sec. 505. Safety standards.
Sec. 506. Fishing safety grants.
Sec. 507. Fishing, fish tender, and fish processing vessel certification.
Sec. 508. Deadline for compliance with alternate safety compliance program.
Sec. 509. Termination of unsafe operations; technical correction.
Sec. 510. Technical corrections: Licenses, certificates of registry, and merchant mariner documents.
Sec. 511. Clarification of logbook entries.
Sec. 512. Certificates of documentation for recreational vessels.
Sec. 513. Numbering for undocumented barges.
Sec. 514. Backup global positioning system.
Sec. 515. Scientific personnel.
Sec. 516. Transparency.

TITLE VI—ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Sec. 601. National maritime transportation advisory committees.
Sec. 602. Maritime Security Advisory Committees.

TITLE VII—FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

Sec. 701. Short title.
Sec. 702. Authorization of appropriations.
Sec. 703. Reporting on impact of alliances on competition.
Sec. 704. Definition of certain covered services.
Sec. 705. Reports filed with the Commission.
Sec. 706. Public participation.
Sec. 707. Ocean transportation intermediaries.
Sec. 708. Common carriers.
Sec. 709. Negotiations.
Sec. 710. Injunctive relief sought by the Commission.
Sec. 711. Discussions.
Sec. 712. Transparency.
Sec. 713. Study of bankruptcy preparation and response.
Sec. 714. Agreements unaffected.

TITLE VIII—MISCELLANEOUS

Sec. 801. Repeal of obsolete reporting requirement.
Sec. 802. Corrections to provisions enacted by Coast Guard Authorization Acts.
Sec. 803. Officer evaluation report.
Sec. 804. Extension of authority.
Sec. 805. Coast Guard ROTC program.
Sec. 806. Currency detection canine team program.
Sec. 807. Center of expertise for Great Lakes oil spill search and response.
Sec. 808. Public safety answering points and maritime search and rescue coordination.
Sec. 809. Ship shoal lighthouse transfer: repeal.
Sec. 810. Land exchange, Ayakulik Island, Alaska.
Sec. 811. Use of Tract 43.
Sec. 812. Coast Guard maritime domain awareness.
Sec. 813. Monitoring.
Sec. 814. Reimbursements for non-Federal construction costs of certain aids to navigation.
Sec. 815. Towing safety management system fees.
Sec. 816. Oil spill disbursements auditing and report.
Sec. 817. Fleet requirements assessment and strategy.
Sec. 818. National Security Cutter.
Sec. 819. Acquisition plan for inland waterway and river tenders and bay-class icebreakers.
Sec. 820. Great Lakes icebreaker acquisition.
Sec. 821. Polar icebreakers.
Sec. 822. Strategic assets in the Arctic.
Sec. 823. Arctic planning criteria.
Sec. 824. Vessel response plan audit.
Sec. 825. Waters deemed not navigable waters of the United States for certain purposes.
Sec. 826. Documentation of recreational vessels.
Sec. 827. Equipment requirements; exemption from throwable personal flotation devices requirement.
Sec. 828. Visual distress signals and alternative use.
Sec. 829. Radar refresher training.
Sec. 830. Commercial fishing vessel safety national communications plan.
Sec. 831. Authorization for marine debris program.
Sec. 832. Atlantic Coast port access route study recommendations.
Sec. 833. Drawbridges.
Sec. 834. Waiver.
Sec. 835. Vessel waiver.
Sec. 836. Temporary limitations.
Sec. 837. Transfer of Coast Guard property in Jupiter Island, Florida, for inclusion in Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge.
Sec. 838. Emergency response.
Sec. 839. Drawbridges consultation.

TITLE I—REORGANIZATION OF TITLE 14, UNITED STATES CODE

SEC. 101. INITIAL MATTER.

Title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking the title designation, the title heading, and the table of parts at the beginning and inserting the following:

"TITLE 14—COAST GUARD

"Subtitle	Sec.
"I. Establishment, Powers, Duties, and Administration	**101**
"II. Personnel	**1901**
"III. Coast Guard Reserve and Auxiliary	**3701**
"IV. Coast Guard Authorizations and Reports to Congress	**4901".**

SEC. 102. SUBTITLE I.

Part I of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking the part designation, the part heading, and the table of chapters at the beginning and inserting the following:

"Subtitle I—Establishment, Powers, Duties, and Administration

"Chap.	Sec.
"1. Establishment and Duties	**101**
"3. Composition and Organization	**301**
"5. Functions and Powers	**501**
"7. Cooperation	**701**
"9. Administration	**901**
"11. Acquisitions	**1101".**

SEC. 103. CHAPTER 1.

(a) INITIAL MATTER.—Chapter 1 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking the chapter designation, the chapter heading, and the table of sections at the beginning and inserting the following:

"CHAPTER 1—ESTABLISHMENT AND DUTIES

"Sec.
"101. Establishment of Coast Guard.
"102. Primary duties.
"103. Department in which the Coast Guard operates.
"104. Removing restrictions.
"105. Secretary defined.".

(b) REDESIGNATIONS AND TRANSFERS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The sections of title 14, United States Code, identified in the table provided in paragraph (2) are amended—

(A) by redesignating the sections as described in the table; and

(B) by transferring the sections, as necessary, so that the sections appear after the table of sections for chapter 1 of such title (as added by subsection (a)), in the order in which the sections are presented in the table.

(2) TABLE.—The table referred to in paragraph (1) is the following:

Title 14 section number before redesignation	Section heading (provided for identification purposes only-not amended)	Title 14 section number after redesignation
1	Establishment of Coast Guard	101
2	Primary duties	102
3	Department in which the Coast Guard operates	103
652	Removing restrictions	104
4	Secretary defined	105

SEC. 104. CHAPTER 3.

(a) INITIAL MATTER.—Chapter 3 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking the chapter designation, the chapter heading, and the table of sections at the beginning and inserting the following:

"CHAPTER 3—COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

''Sec.
''301. Grades and ratings.
''302. Commandant; appointment.
''303. Retirement of Commandant.
''304. Vice Commandant; appointment.
''305. Vice admirals.
''306. Retirement.
''307. Vice admirals and admiral, continuity of grade.
''308. Chief Acquisition Officer.
''309. Office of the Coast Guard Reserve; Director.
''310. Chief of Staff to President: appointment.
''311. Captains of the port.
''312. Prevention and response workforces.
''313. Centers of expertise for Coast Guard prevention and response.
''314. Marine industry training program.
''315. Training course on workings of Congress.
''316. National Coast Guard Museum.
''317. United States Coast Guard Band; composition; director.
''318. Environmental Compliance and Restoration Program.''.

(b) REDESIGNATIONS AND TRANSFERS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The sections of title 14, United States Code, identified in the table provided in paragraph (2) are amended—

(A) by redesignating the sections as described in the table; and

(B) by transferring the sections, as necessary, so that the sections appear after the table of sections for chapter 3 of such title (as added by subsection (a)), in the order in which the sections are presented in the table.

(2) TABLE.—The table referred to in paragraph (1) is the following:

Title 14 section number before redesignation	Section heading (provided for identification purposes only-not amended)	Title 14 section number after redesignation
41	Grades and ratings	301
44	Commandant; appointment	302
46	Retirement of Commandant	303
47	Vice Commandant; appointment	304
50	Vice admirals	305
51	Retirement	306
52	Vice admirals and admiral, continuity of grade	307
56	Chief Acquisition Officer	308
53	Office of the Coast Guard Reserve; Director	309
54	Chief of Staff to President: appointment	310
57	Prevention and response workforces	312
58	Centers of expertise for Coast Guard prevention and response	313
59	Marine industry training program	314
60	Training course on workings of Congress	315
98	National Coast Guard Museum	316
336	United States Coast Guard Band; composition; director	317

(c) ADDITIONAL CHANGES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 3 of title 14, United States Code, is further amended—

(A) by inserting after section 310 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

"§ 311. Captains of the port

''Any officer, including any petty officer, may be designated by the Commandant as captain of the port or ports or adjacent high seas or waters over which the United States has jurisdiction, as the Commandant deems necessary to facilitate execution of Coast Guard duties.''; and

(B) by inserting after section 317 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

"§ 318. Environmental Compliance and Restoration Program

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this section—

''(1) 'environment', 'facility', 'person', 'release', 'removal', 'remedial', and 'response' have the same meaning they have in section 101 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9601);

''(2) 'hazardous substance' has the same meaning it has in section 101 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9601), except that it also includes the meaning given 'oil' in section 311 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1321); and

''(3) 'pollutant' has the same meaning it has in section 502 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1362).

''(b) PROGRAM.—

''(1) The Secretary shall carry out a program of environmental compliance and restoration at current and former Coast Guard facilities.

''(2) Program goals include:

''(A) Identifying, investigating, and cleaning up contamination from hazardous substances and pollutants.

''(B) Correcting other environmental damage that poses an imminent and substantial danger to the public health or welfare or to the environment.

''(C) Demolishing and removing unsafe buildings and structures, including buildings and structures at former Coast Guard facilities.

''(D) Preventing contamination from hazardous substances and pollutants at current Coast Guard facilities.

''(3)(A) The Secretary shall respond to releases of hazardous substances and pollutants—

''(i) at each Coast Guard facility the United States owns, leases, or otherwise possesses;

''(ii) at each Coast Guard facility the United States owned, leased, or otherwise possessed when the actions leading to contamination from hazardous substances or pollutants occurred; and

''(iii) on each vessel the Coast Guard owns or operates.

''(B) Subparagraph (A) of this paragraph does not apply to a removal or remedial action when a potentially responsible person responds under section 122 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9622).

''(C) The Secretary shall pay a fee or charge imposed by a State authority for permit services for disposing of hazardous substances or pollutants from Coast Guard facilities to the same extent that nongovernmental entities are required to pay for permit services. This subparagraph does not apply to a payment that is the responsibility of a lessee, contractor, or other private person.

''(4) The Secretary may agree with another Federal agency for that agency to assist in carrying out the Secretary's responsibilities under this section. The Secretary may enter into contracts, cooperative agreements, and grant agreements with State and local governments to assist in carrying out the Secretary's responsibilities under this section. Services that may be obtained under this paragraph include identifying, investigating, and cleaning up off-site contamination that may have resulted from the release of a hazardous substance or pollutant at a Coast Guard facility.

''(5) Section 119 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9619) applies to response action contractors that carry out response actions under this section. The Coast Guard shall indemnify response action contractors to the extent that adequate insurance is not generally available at a fair price at the time the contractor enters into the contract to cover the contractor's reasonable, potential, long-term liability.

''(c) ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND RESTORATION ACCOUNT.—

''(1) There is established for the Coast Guard an account known as the Coast Guard Environmental Compliance and Restoration Account. All sums appropriated to carry out the Coast Guard's environmental compliance and restoration functions under this section or another law shall be credited or transferred to the account and remain available until expended.

''(2) Funds may be obligated or expended from the account to carry out the Coast Guard's environmental compliance and restoration functions under this section or another law.

''(3) In proposing the budget for any fiscal year under section 1105 of title 31, the President shall set forth separately the amount requested for the Coast Guard's environmental compliance and restoration activities under this section or another law.

''(4) Amounts recovered under section 107 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9607) for the Secretary's response actions at current and former Coast Guard facilities shall be credited to the account.

''(d) ANNUAL LIST OF PROJECTS TO CONGRESS.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a prioritized list of projects eligible for environmental compliance and restoration funding for each fiscal year concurrent with the President's budget submission for that fiscal year.''.

(2) CONFORMING REPEALS.—Sections 634, 690, 691, 692, and 693 of title 14, United States Code, are repealed.

SEC. 105. CHAPTER 5.

(a) INITIAL MATTER.—Chapter 5 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking the chapter designation, the chapter heading, and the table of sections at the beginning and inserting the following:

''CHAPTER 5—FUNCTIONS AND POWERS

''SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL POWERS

''Sec.
''501. Secretary; general powers.
''502. Delegation of powers by the Secretary.
''503. Regulations.
''504. Commandant; general powers.
''505. Functions and powers vested in the Commandant.
''506. Prospective payment of funds necessary to provide medical care.
''507. Appointment of judges.

''SUBCHAPTER II—LIFE SAVING AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES

''521. Saving life and property.
''522. Law enforcement.
''523. Enforcement authority.
''524. Enforcement of coastwise trade laws.
''525. Special agents of the Coast Guard Investigative Service law enforcement authority.
''526. Stopping vessels; indemnity for firing at or into vessel.
''527. Safety of naval vessels.

''SUBCHAPTER III—AIDS TO NAVIGATION

''541. Aids to navigation authorized.
''542. Unauthorized aids to maritime navigation; penalty.
''543. Interference with aids to navigation; penalty.
''544. Aids to maritime navigation; penalty.
''545. Marking of obstructions.
''546. Deposit of damage payments.
''547. Rewards for apprehension of persons interfering with aids to navigation.

''SUBCHAPTER IV—MISCELLANEOUS

''561. Icebreaking in polar regions.
''562. Appeals and waivers.
''563. Notification of certain determinations.''.

(b) REDESIGNATIONS AND TRANSFERS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The sections of title 14, United States Code, identified in the table provided in paragraph (2) are amended—

(A) by redesignating the sections as described in the table; and

(B) by transferring the sections, as necessary, so that the sections appear after the table of sections for chapter 5 of such title (as added by subsection (a)), in the order in which the sections are presented in the table.

(2) TABLE.—The table referred to in paragraph (1) is the following:

Title 14 section number before redesignation	Section heading (provided for identification purposes only-not amended)	Title 14 section number after redesignation
92	Secretary; general powers	501
631	Delegation of powers by the Secretary	502
633	Regulations	503
93	Commandant; general powers	504
632	Functions and powers vested in the Commandant	505
520	Prospective payment of funds necessary to provide medical care	506
153	Appointment of judges	507
88	Saving life and property	521
89	Law enforcement	522
99	Enforcement authority	523
100	Enforcement of coastwise trade laws	524
95	Special agents of the Coast Guard Investigative Service law enforcement authority	525
637	Stopping vessels; indemnity for firing at or into vessel	526
91	Safety of naval vessels	527
81	Aids to navigation authorized	541
83	Unauthorized aids to maritime navigation; penalty	542
84	Interference with aids to navigation; penalty	543
85	Aids to maritime navigation; penalty	544
86	Marking of obstructions	545
642	Deposit of damage payments	546
643	Rewards for apprehension of persons interfering with aids to navigation	547
87	Icebreaking in polar regions	561
101	Appeals and waivers	562
103	Notification of certain determinations	563

(c) ADDITIONAL CHANGES.—Chapter 5 of title 14, United States Code, is further amended—

(1) by inserting before section 501 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

''SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL POWERS'';

(2) by inserting before section 521 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

''SUBCHAPTER II—LIFE SAVING AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES'';

(3) by inserting before section 541 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

''SUBCHAPTER III—AIDS TO NAVIGATION'';

and

(4) by inserting before section 561 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

''SUBCHAPTER IV—MISCELLANEOUS''.

SEC. 106. CHAPTER 7.

(a) INITIAL MATTER.—Chapter 7 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking the chapter designation, the chapter heading, and the table of sections at the beginning and inserting the following:

''CHAPTER 7—COOPERATION

''Sec.
''701. Cooperation with other agencies, States, territories, and political subdivisions.
''702. State Department.
''703. Treasury Department.
''704. Department of the Army and Department of the Air Force.
''705. Navy Department.
''706. United States Postal Service.
''707. Department of Commerce.
''708. Department of Health and Human Services.
''709. Maritime instruction.
''710. Assistance to foreign governments and maritime authorities.
''711. Coast Guard officers as attachés to missions.
''712. Contracts with Government-owned establishments for work and material.
''713. Nonappropriated fund instrumentalities: contracts with other agencies and instrumentalities to provide or obtain goods and services.
''714. Arctic maritime domain awareness.
''715. Oceanographic research.
''716. Arctic maritime transportation.
''717. Agreements.''.

(b) REDESIGNATIONS AND TRANSFERS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The sections of title 14, United States Code, identified in the table provided in paragraph (2) are amended—

(A) by redesignating the sections as described in the table; and

(B) by transferring the sections, as necessary, so that the sections appear after the table of sections for chapter 7 of such title

(as added by subsection (a)), in the order in which the sections are presented in the table.

(2) TABLE.—The table referred to in paragraph (1) is the following:

Title 14 section number before redesignation	Section heading (provided for identification purposes only-not amended)	Title 14 section number after redesignation
141	Cooperation with other agencies, States, territories, and political subdivisions	701
142	State Department	702
143	Treasury Department	703
144	Department of the Army and Department of the Air Force	704
145	Navy Department	705
146	United States Postal Service	706
147	Department of Commerce	707
147a	Department of Health and Human Services	708
148	Maritime instruction	709
149	Assistance to foreign governments and maritime authorities	710
150	Coast Guard officers as attachés to missions	711
151	Contracts with Government-owned establishments for work and material	712
152	Nonappropriated fund instrumentalities: contracts with other agencies and instrumentalities to provide or obtain goods and services	713
154	Arctic maritime domain awareness	714
94	Oceanographic research	715
90	Arctic maritime transportation	716
102	Agreements	717

SEC. 107. CHAPTER 9.

(a) INITIAL MATTER.—Chapter 9 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking the chapter designation, the chapter heading, and the table of sections at the beginning and inserting the following:

"CHAPTER 9—ADMINISTRATION

''SUBCHAPTER I—REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY

''Sec.

''901. Disposal of certain material.
''902. Employment of draftsmen and engineers.
''903. Use of certain appropriated funds.
''904. Local hire.
''905. Procurement authority for family housing.
''906. Air Station Cape Cod Improvements.
''907. Long-term lease of special purpose facilities.
''908. Long-term lease authority for lighthouse property.
''909. Small boat station rescue capability.
''910. Small boat station closures.
''911. Search and rescue center standards.
''912. Air facility closures.
''913. Turnkey selection procedures.
''914. Disposition of infrastructure related to E–LORAN.

''SUBCHAPTER II—MISCELLANEOUS

''931. Oaths required for boards.
''932. Administration of oaths.
''933. Coast Guard ensigns and pennants.
''934. Penalty for unauthorized use of words 'Coast Guard'.
''935. Coast Guard band recordings for commercial sale.
''936. Confidentiality of medical quality assurance records; qualified immunity for participants.
''937. Admiralty claims against the United States.
''938. Claims for damage to property of the United States.
''939. Accounting for industrial work.
''940. Supplies and equipment from stock.
''941. Coast Guard Supply Fund.
''942. Public and commercial vessels and other watercraft; sale of fuel, supplies, and services.
''943. Arms and ammunition; immunity from taxation.
''944. Confidential investigative expenses.
''945. Assistance to film producers.
''946. User fees.
''947. Vessel construction bonding requirements.
''948. Contracts for medical care for retirees, dependents, and survivors: alternative delivery of health care.
''949. Telephone installation and charges.
''950. Designation, powers, and accountability of deputy disbursing officials.
''951. Aircraft accident investigations.''.

(b) REDESIGNATIONS AND TRANSFERS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The sections of title 14, United States Code, identified in the table provided in paragraph (2) are amended—

(A) by redesignating the sections as described in the table; and

(B) by transferring the sections, as necessary, so that the sections appear after the table of sections for chapter 9 of such title (as added by subsection (a)), in the order in which the sections are presented in the table.

(2) TABLE.—The table referred to in paragraph (1) is the following:

Title 14 section number before redesignation	Section heading (provided for identification purposes only-not amended)	Title 14 section number after redesignation
641	Disposal of certain material	901
653	Employment of draftsmen and engineers	902
656	Use of certain appropriated funds	903
666	Local hire	904
670	Procurement authority for family housing	905
671	Air Station Cape Cod Improvements	906
672	Long-term lease of special purpose facilities	907
672a	Long-term lease authority for lighthouse property	908
674	Small boat station rescue capability	909
675	Small boat station closures	910
676	Search and rescue center standards	911
676a	Air facility closures	912
677	Turnkey selection procedures	913
681	Disposition of infrastructure related to E–LORAN	914
635	Oaths required for boards	931
636	Administration of oaths	932
638	Coast Guard ensigns and pennants	933
639	Penalty for unauthorized use of words ''Coast Guard''	934
640	Coast Guard band recordings for commercial sale	935
645	Confidentiality of medical quality assurance records; qualified immunity for participants	936
646	Admiralty claims against the United States	937
647	Claims for damage to property of the United States	938
648	Accounting for industrial work	939
649	Supplies and equipment from stock	940
650	Coast Guard Supply Fund	941

Title 14 section number before redesignation	Section heading (provided for identification purposes only-not amended)	Title 14 section number after redesignation
654	Public and commercial vessels and other watercraft; sale of fuel, supplies, and services	942
655	Arms and ammunition; immunity from taxation	943
658	Confidential investigative expenses	944
659	Assistance to film producers	945
664	User fees	946
667	Vessel construction bonding requirements	947
668	Contracts for medical care for retirees, dependents, and survivors: alternative delivery of health care	948
669	Telephone installation and charges	949
673	Designation, powers, and accountability of deputy disbursing officials	950
678	Aircraft accident investigations	951

(c) ADDITIONAL CHANGES.—Chapter 9 of title 14, United States Code, is further amended—

(1) by inserting before section 901 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

''SUBCHAPTER I—REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY'';

and

(2) by inserting before section 931 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

''SUBCHAPTER II—MISCELLANEOUS''.

SEC. 108. CHAPTER 11.

(a) INITIAL MATTER.—Chapter 11 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking the chapter designation, the chapter heading, and the table of sections at the beginning and inserting the following:

''CHAPTER 11—ACQUISITIONS

''SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL PROVISIONS

''Sec.
''1101. Acquisition directorate.
''1102. Improvements in Coast Guard acquisition management.
''1103. Role of Vice Commandant in major acquisition programs.
''1104. Recognition of Coast Guard personnel for excellence in acquisition.
''1105. Prohibition on use of lead systems integrators.
''1106. Required contract terms.
''1107. Extension of major acquisition program contracts.
''1108. Department of Defense consultation.
''1109. Undefinitized contractual actions.
''1110. Guidance on excessive pass-through charges.
''1111. Mission need statement.

''SUBCHAPTER II—IMPROVED ACQUISITION PROCESS AND PROCEDURES

''1131. Identification of major system acquisitions.
''1132. Acquisition.
''1133. Preliminary development and demonstration.
''1134. Acquisition, production, deployment, and support.
''1135. Acquisition program baseline breach.
''1136. Acquisition approval authority.

''SUBCHAPTER III—PROCUREMENT

''1151. Restriction on construction of vessels in foreign shipyards.
''1152. Advance procurement funding.
''1153. Prohibition on overhaul, repair, and maintenance of Coast Guard vessels in foreign shipyards.
''1154. Procurement of buoy chain.

''SUBCHAPTER IV—DEFINITIONS

''1171. Definitions.''.

(b) REDESIGNATIONS AND TRANSFERS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The sections of title 14, United States Code, identified in the table provided in paragraph (2) are amended—

(A) by redesignating the sections as described in the table; and

(B) by transferring the sections, as necessary, so that the sections appear after the table of sections for chapter 11 of such title (as added by subsection (a)), in the order in which the sections are presented in the table.

(2) TABLE.—The table referred to in paragraph (1) is the following:

Title 14 section number before redesignation	Section heading (provided for identification purposes only-not amended)	Title 14 section number after redesignation
561	Acquisition directorate	1101
562	Improvements in Coast Guard acquisition management	1102
578	Role of Vice Commandant in major acquisition programs	1103
563	Recognition of Coast Guard personnel for excellence in acquisition	1104
564	Prohibition on use of lead systems integrators	1105
565	Required contract terms	1106
579	Extension of major acquisition program contracts	1107
566	Department of Defense consultation	1108
567	Undefinitized contractual actions	1109
568	Guidance on excessive pass-through charges	1110
569	Mission need statement	1111
571	Identification of major system acquisitions	1131
572	Acquisition	1132
573	Preliminary development and demonstration	1133
574	Acquisition, production, deployment, and support	1134
575	Acquisition program baseline breach	1135
576	Acquisition approval authority	1136
665	Restriction on construction of vessels in foreign shipyards	1151
577	Advance procurement funding	1152
96	Prohibition on overhaul, repair, and maintenance of Coast Guard vessels in foreign shipyards	1153
97	Procurement of buoy chain	1154
581	Definitions	1171

(c) ADDITIONAL CHANGES.—Chapter 11 of title 14, United States Code, is further amended—

(1) by striking all subdivision designations and headings in such chapter, except for—

(A) the chapter designation and heading added by subsection (a);

(B) the subchapter designations and headings added by this subsection; and

(C) any designation or heading of a section or a subdivision of a section;

(2) by inserting before section 1101 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

''SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL PROVISIONS'';

(3) by inserting before section 1131 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

''SUBCHAPTER II—IMPROVED ACQUISITION PROCESS AND PROCEDURES'';

(4) by inserting before section 1151 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

''SUBCHAPTER III—PROCUREMENT'';

and

(5) by inserting before section 1171 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

''SUBCHAPTER IV—DEFINITIONS''.

SEC. 109. SUBTITLE II.

(a) INITIAL MATTER.—Title 14, United States Code, is further amended by inserting after chapter 11 (as amended by section 108 of this title) the following:

''Subtitle II—Personnel

''Chap.	Sec.
''19. Coast Guard Academy	**1901**
''21. Personnel; Officers	**2101**
''23. Personnel; Enlisted	**2301**
''25. Personnel; General Provisions	**2501**
''27. Pay, Allowances, Awards, and Other Rights and Benefits	**2701**
''29. Coast Guard Family Support, Child Care, and Housing	**2901''.**

(b) RESERVED CHAPTER NUMBERS.—

(1) CHAPTER 13.—Chapter 13 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking the chapter designation, the chapter heading, and the table of sections at the beginning.

(2) CHAPTER 14.—Chapter 14 of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking the chapter designation, the chapter heading, and the table of sections at the beginning; and

(B) by striking the subchapter designation and the subchapter heading for each of the subchapters of such chapter.

(3) CHAPTER 15.—Chapter 15 of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking the chapter designation, the chapter heading, and the table of sections at the beginning; and

(B) by striking the subchapter designation and the subchapter heading for each of the subchapters of such chapter.

(4) CHAPTER 17.—Chapter 17 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking the chapter designation, the chapter heading, and the table of sections at the beginning.

(5) CHAPTER 18.—Chapter 18 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking the chapter designation, the chapter heading, and the table of sections at the beginning.

SEC. 110. CHAPTER 19.

(a) INITIAL MATTER.—Chapter 19 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking the chapter designation, the chapter heading, and the table of sections at the beginning and inserting the following:

"CHAPTER 19—COAST GUARD ACADEMY

''SUBCHAPTER I—ADMINISTRATION

''Sec.
''1901. Administration of Academy.
''1902. Policy on sexual harassment and sexual violence.
''1903. Annual Board of Visitors.
''1904. Participation in Federal, State, or other educational research grants.

''SUBCHAPTER II—CADETS

''1921. Corps of Cadets authorized strength.
''1922. Appointments.
''1923. Admission of foreign nationals for instruction; restrictions; conditions.
''1924. Conduct.
''1925. Agreement.
''1926. Cadet applicants; preappointment travel to Academy.
''1927. Cadets; initial clothing allowance.
''1928. Cadets; degree of bachelor of science.
''1929. Cadets; appointment as ensign.
''1930. Cadets: charges and fees for attendance; limitation.

''SUBCHAPTER III—FACULTY

''1941. Civilian teaching staff.
''1942. Permanent commissioned teaching staff; composition.
''1943. Appointment of permanent commissioned teaching staff.
''1944. Grade of permanent commissioned teaching staff.
''1945. Retirement of permanent commissioned teaching staff.
''1946. Credit for service as member of civilian teaching staff.
''1947. Assignment of personnel as instructors.
''1948. Marine safety curriculum.''.

(b) REDESIGNATIONS AND TRANSFERS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The sections of title 14, United States Code, identified in the table provided in paragraph (2) are amended—

(A) by redesignating the sections as described in the table; and

(B) by transferring the sections, as necessary, so that the sections appear after the table of sections for chapter 19 of such title (as added by subsection (a)), in the order in which the sections are presented in the table.

(2) TABLE.—The table referred to in paragraph (1) is the following:

Title 14 section number before redesignation	Section heading (provided for identification purposes only-not amended)	Title 14 section number after redesignation
181	Administration of Academy	1901
200	Policy on sexual harassment and sexual violence	1902
194	Annual Board of Visitors	1903
196	Participation in Federal, State, or other educational research grants	1904
195	Admission of foreign nationals for instruction; restrictions; conditions	1923
181a	Cadet applicants; preappointment travel to Academy	1926
183	Cadets; initial clothing allowance	1927
184	Cadets; degree of bachelor of science	1928
185	Cadets; appointment as ensign	1929
197	Cadets: charges and fees for attendance; limitation	1930
186	Civilian teaching staff	1941
187	Permanent commissioned teaching staff; composition	1942
188	Appointment of permanent commissioned teaching staff	1943
189	Grade of permanent commissioned teaching staff	1944
190	Retirement of permanent commissioned teaching staff	1945
191	Credit for service as member of civilian teaching staff	1946
192	Assignment of personnel as instructors	1947
199	Marine safety curriculum	1948

(c) ADDITIONAL CHANGES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 19 of title 14, United States Code, is further amended—

(A) by inserting before section 1901 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

''SUBCHAPTER I—ADMINISTRATION'';

(B) by inserting before section 1923 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

''SUBCHAPTER II—CADETS

"§ 1921. Corps of Cadets authorized strength

''The number of cadets appointed annually to the Academy shall be as determined by the Secretary but the number appointed in any one year shall not exceed six hundred.

"§ 1922. Appointments

''Appointments to cadetships shall be made under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, who shall determine age limits, methods of selection of applicants, term of service as a cadet before graduation, and all other matters affecting such appointments. In the administration of this section, the Secretary shall take such action as may be necessary and appropriate to insure that female individuals shall be eligible for appointment and admission to the Coast Guard Academy, and that the relevant standards required for appointment, admission, training, graduation, and commissioning of female individuals shall be the same as those required for male individuals, except for those minimum essential adjustments in such standards required because of physiological differences between male and female individuals.'';

(C) by inserting before section 1926 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

"§ 1924. Conduct

''The Secretary may summarily dismiss from the Coast Guard any cadet who, during his cadetship, is found unsatisfactory in either studies or conduct, or may be deemed not adapted for a career in the Coast Guard. Cadets shall be subject to rules governing discipline prescribed by the Commandant.

"§ 1925. Agreement

''(a) Each cadet shall sign an agreement with respect to the cadet's length of service in the Coast Guard. The agreement shall provide that the cadet agrees to the following:

''(1) That the cadet will complete the course of instruction at the Coast Guard Academy.

''(2) That upon graduation from the Coast Guard Academy the cadet—

''(A) will accept an appointment, if tendered, as a commissioned officer of the Coast Guard; and

''(B) will serve on active duty for at least five years immediately after such appointment.

''(3) That if an appointment described in paragraph (2) is not tendered or if the cadet is permitted to resign as a regular officer before the completion of the commissioned service obligation of the cadet, the cadet—

''(A) will accept an appointment as a commissioned officer in the Coast Guard Reserve; and

''(B) will remain in that reserve component until completion of the commissioned service obligation of the cadet.

''(b)(1) The Secretary may transfer to the Coast Guard Reserve, and may order to active duty for such period of time as the Secretary prescribes (but not to exceed four years), a cadet who breaches an agreement under subsection (a). The period of time for which a cadet is ordered to active duty under this paragraph may be determined without regard to section 651(a) of title 10.

''(2) A cadet who is transferred to the Coast Guard Reserve under paragraph (1) shall be transferred in an appropriate enlisted grade or rating, as determined by the Secretary.

''(3) For the purposes of paragraph (1), a cadet shall be considered to have breached an agreement under subsection (a) if the

cadet is separated from the Coast Guard Academy under circumstances which the Secretary determines constitute a breach by the cadet of the cadet's agreement to complete the course of instruction at the Coast Guard Academy and accept an appointment as a commissioned officer upon graduation from the Coast Guard Academy.

''(c) The Secretary shall prescribe regulations to carry out this section. Those regulations shall include—

''(1) standards for determining what constitutes, for the purpose of subsection (b), a breach of an agreement under subsection (a);

''(2) procedures for determining whether such a breach has occurred; and

''(3) standards for determining the period of time for which a person may be ordered to serve on active duty under subsection (b).

''(d) In this section, 'commissioned service obligation', with respect to an officer who is a graduate of the Academy, means the period beginning on the date of the officer's appointment as a commissioned officer and ending on the sixth anniversary of such appointment or, at the discretion of the Secretary, any later date up to the eighth anniversary of such appointment.

''(e)(1) This section does not apply to a cadet who is not a citizen or national of the United States.

''(2) In the case of a cadet who is a minor and who has parents or a guardian, the cadet may sign the agreement required by subsection (a) only with the consent of the parent or guardian.

''(f) A cadet or former cadet who does not fulfill the terms of the obligation to serve as specified under section (a), or the alternative obligation imposed under subsection (b), shall be subject to the repayment provisions of section 303a(e) of title 37.''; and

(D) by inserting before section 1941 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

''SUBCHAPTER III—FACULTY''.

(2) CONFORMING REPEAL.—Section 182 of title 14, United States Code, is repealed.

SEC. 111. PART II.

Part II of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking the part designation, the part heading, and the table of chapters at the beginning.

SEC. 112. CHAPTER 21.

(a) INITIAL MATTER.—Chapter 21 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking the chapter designation, the chapter heading, and the table of sections at the beginning and inserting the following:

''CHAPTER 21—PERSONNEL; OFFICERS

''SUBCHAPTER I—APPOINTMENT AND PROMOTION

''Sec.
''2101. Original appointment of permanent commissioned officers.
''2102. Active duty promotion list.
''2103. Number and distribution of commissioned officers on active duty promotion list.
''2104. Appointment of temporary officers.
''2105. Rank of warrant officers.
''2106. Selection boards; convening of boards.
''2107. Selection boards; composition of boards.
''2108. Selection boards; notice of convening; communication with board.
''2109. Selection boards; oath of members.
''2110. Number of officers to be selected for promotion.
''2111. Promotion zones.
''2112. Promotion year; defined.
''2113. Eligibility of officers for consideration for promotion.
''2114. United States Deputy Marshals in Alaska.
''2115. Selection boards; information to be furnished boards.
''2116. Officers to be recommended for promotion.
''2117. Selection boards; reports.
''2118. Selection boards; submission of reports.
''2119. Failure of selection for promotion.
''2120. Special selection boards; correction of errors.
''2121. Promotions; appointments.
''2122. Removal of officer from list of selectees for promotion.
''2123. Promotions; acceptance; oath of office.
''2124. Promotions; pay and allowances.
''2125. Wartime temporary service promotions.
''2126. Promotion of officers not included on active duty promotion list.
''2127. Recall to active duty during war or national emergency.
''2128. Recall to active duty with consent of officer.
''2129. Aviation cadets; appointment as Reserve officers.

''SUBCHAPTER II—DISCHARGES; RETIREMENTS; REVOCATION OF COMMISSIONS; SEPARATION FOR CAUSE

''2141. Revocation of commissions during first five years of commissioned service.
''2142. Regular lieutenants (junior grade); separation for failure of selection for promotion.
''2143. Regular lieutenants; separation for failure of selection for promotion; continuation.
''2144. Regular Coast Guard; officers serving under temporary appointments.
''2145. Regular lieutenant commanders and commanders; retirement for failure of selection for promotion.
''2146. Discharge in lieu of retirement; separation pay.
''2147. Regular warrant officers: separation pay.
''2148. Separation for failure of selection for promotion or continuation; time of.
''2149. Regular captains; retirement.
''2150. Captains; continuation on active duty; involuntary retirement.
''2151. Rear admirals and rear admirals (lower half); continuation on active duty; involuntary retirement.
''2152. Voluntary retirement after twenty years' service.
''2153. Voluntary retirement after thirty years' service.
''2154. Compulsory retirement.
''2155. Retirement for physical disability after selection for promotion; grade in which retired.
''2156. Deferment of retirement or separation for medical reasons.
''2157. Flag officers.
''2158. Review of records of officers.
''2159. Boards of inquiry.
''2160. Boards of review.
''2161. Composition of boards.
''2162. Rights and procedures.
''2163. Removal of officer from active duty; action by Secretary.
''2164. Officers considered for removal; retirement or discharge; separation benefits.
''2165. Relief of retired officer promoted while on active duty.

''SUBCHAPTER III—GENERAL PROVISIONS

''2181. Physical fitness of officers.
''2182. Multirater assessment of certain personnel.''.

(b) REDESIGNATIONS AND TRANSFERS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The sections of title 14, United States Code, identified in the table provided in paragraph (2) are amended—

(A) by redesignating the sections as described in the table; and

(B) by transferring the sections, as necessary, so that the sections appear after the table of sections for chapter 21 of such title (as added by subsection (a)), in the order in which the sections are presented in the table.

(2) TABLE.—The table referred to in paragraph (1) is the following:

Title 14 section number before redesignation	Section heading (provided for identification purposes only-not amended)	Title 14 section number after redesignation
211	Original appointment of permanent commissioned officers	2101
41a	Active duty promotion list	2102
42	Number and distribution of commissioned officers on active duty promotion list	2103
214	Appointment of temporary officers	2104
215	Rank of warrant officers	2105
251	Selection boards; convening of boards	2106
252	Selection boards; composition of boards	2107
253	Selection boards; notice of convening; communication with board	2108
254	Selection boards; oath of members	2109
255	Number of officers to be selected for promotion	2110
256	Promotion zones	2111
256a	Promotion year; defined	2112
257	Eligibility of officers for consideration for promotion	2113
258	Selection boards; information to be furnished boards	2115
259	Officers to be recommended for promotion	2116
260	Selection boards; reports	2117
261	Selection boards; submission of reports	2118
262	Failure of selection for promotion	2119
263	Special selection boards; correction of errors	2120
271	Promotions; appointments	2121

Title 14 section number before redesignation	Section heading (provided for identification purposes only-not amended)	Title 14 section number after redesignation
272	Removal of officer from list of selectees for promotion	2122
273	Promotions; acceptance; oath of office	2123
274	Promotions; pay and allowances	2124
275	Wartime temporary service promotions	2125
276	Promotion of officers not included on active duty promotion list	2126
331	Recall to active duty during war or national emergency	2127
332	Recall to active duty with consent of officer	2128
373	Aviation cadets; appointment as Reserve officers	2129
281	Revocation of commissions during first five years of commissioned service	2141
282	Regular lieutenants (junior grade); separation for failure of selection for promotion	2142
283	Regular lieutenants; separation for failure of selection for promotion; continuation	2143
284	Regular Coast Guard; officers serving under temporary appointments	2144
285	Regular lieutenant commanders and commanders; retirement for failure of selection for promotion	2145
286	Discharge in lieu of retirement; separation pay	2146
286a	Regular warrant officers: separation pay	2147
287	Separation for failure of selection for promotion or continuation; time of	2148
288	Regular captains; retirement	2149
289	Captains; continuation on active duty; involuntary retirement	2150
290	Rear admirals and rear admirals (lower half); continuation on active duty; involuntary retirement	2151
291	Voluntary retirement after twenty years' service	2152
292	Voluntary retirement after thirty years' service	2153
293	Compulsory retirement	2154
294	Retirement for physical disability after selection for promotion; grade in which retired	2155
295	Deferment of retirement or separation for medical reasons	2156
296	Flag officers	2157
321	Review of records of officers	2158
322	Boards of inquiry	2159
323	Boards of review	2160
324	Composition of boards	2161
325	Rights and procedures	2162
326	Removal of officer from active duty; action by Secretary	2163
327	Officers considered for removal; retirement or discharge; separation benefits	2164
333	Relief of retired officer promoted while on active duty	2165
335	Physical fitness of officers	2181
429	Multirater assessment of certain personnel	2182

(c) ADDITIONAL CHANGES.—Chapter 21 of title 14, United States Code, is further amended—

(1) by striking all subchapter designations and headings in such chapter, except for the subchapter designations and headings added by this subsection;

(2) by inserting before section 2101 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

''SUBCHAPTER I—APPOINTMENT AND PROMOTION'';

(3) by inserting before section 2115 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

''§ 2114. United States Deputy Marshals in Alaska

''Commissioned officers may be appointed as United States Deputy Marshals in Alaska.'';

(4) by inserting before section 2141 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

''SUBCHAPTER II—DISCHARGES; RETIREMENTS; REVOCATION OF COMMISSIONS; SEPARATION FOR CAUSE'';

and

(5) by inserting before section 2181 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

''SUBCHAPTER III—GENERAL PROVISIONS''.

SEC. 113. CHAPTER 23.

(a) INITIAL MATTER.—Chapter 23 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking the chapter designation, the chapter heading, and the table of sections at the beginning and inserting the following:

''CHAPTER 23—PERSONNEL; ENLISTED

''Sec.
''2301. Recruiting campaigns.
''2302. Enlistments; term, grade.
''2303. Promotion.
''2304. Compulsory retirement at age of sixty-two.
''2305. Voluntary retirement after thirty years' service.
''2306. Voluntary retirement after twenty years' service.
''2307. Retirement of enlisted members: increase in retired pay.
''2308. Recall to active duty during war or national emergency.
''2309. Recall to active duty with consent of member.
''2310. Relief of retired enlisted member promoted while on active duty.
''2311. Retirement in cases where higher grade or rating has been held.
''2312. Extension of enlistments.
''2313. Retention beyond term of enlistment in case of disability.
''2314. Detention beyond term of enlistment.
''2315. Inclusion of certain conditions in enlistment contract.
''2316. Discharge within three months before expiration of enlistment.
''2317. Aviation cadets; procurement; transfer.
''2318. Aviation cadets; benefits.
''2319. Critical skill training bonus.''.

(b) REDESIGNATIONS AND TRANSFERS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The sections of title 14, United States Code, identified in the table provided in paragraph (2) are amended—

(A) by redesignating the sections as described in the table; and

(B) by transferring the sections, as necessary, so that the sections appear after the table of sections for chapter 23 of such title (as added by subsection (a)), in the order in which the sections are presented in the table.

(2) TABLE.—The table referred to in paragraph (1) is the following:

Title 14 section number before redesignation	Section heading (provided for identification purposes only-not amended)	Title 14 section number after redesignation
350	Recruiting campaigns	2301

Title 14 section number before redesignation	Section heading (provided for identification purposes only-not amended)	Title 14 section number after redesignation
351	Enlistments; term, grade	2302
352	Promotion	2303
353	Compulsory retirement at age of sixty-two	2304
354	Voluntary retirement after thirty years' service	2305
355	Voluntary retirement after twenty years' service	2306
357	Retirement of enlisted members: increase in retired pay	2307
359	Recall to active duty during war or national emergency	2308
360	Recall to active duty with consent of member	2309
361	Relief of retired enlisted member promoted while on active duty	2310
362	Retirement in cases where higher grade or rating has been held	2311
365	Extension of enlistments	2312
366	Retention beyond term of enlistment in case of disability	2313
367	Detention beyond term of enlistment	2314
369	Inclusion of certain conditions in enlistment contract	2315
370	Discharge within three months before expiration of enlistment	2316
371	Aviation cadets; procurement; transfer	2317
372	Aviation cadets; benefits	2318
374	Critical skill training bonus	2319

SEC. 114. CHAPTER 25.

(a) INITIAL MATTER.—Chapter 25 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking the chapter designation, the chapter heading, and the table of sections at the beginning and inserting the following:

"CHAPTER 25—PERSONNEL; GENERAL PROVISIONS

"SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL PROVISIONS

"Sec.
"2501. Grade on retirement.
"2502. Retirement.
"2503. Status of recalled personnel.
"2504. Computation of retired pay.
"2505. Limitations on retirement and retired pay.
"2506. Suspension of payment of retired pay of members who are absent from the United States to avoid prosecution.
"2507. Board for Correction of Military Records deadline.
"2508. Emergency leave retention authority.
"2509. Prohibition of certain involuntary administrative separations.
"2510. Sea service letters.
"2511. Investigations of flag officers and Senior Executive Service employees.
"2512. Leave policies for the Coast Guard.
"2513. Computation of length of service.

"SUBCHAPTER II—LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

"2531. Personnel of former Lighthouse Service.".

(b) REDESIGNATIONS AND TRANSFERS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The sections of title 14, United States Code, identified in the table provided in paragraph (2) are amended—

(A) by redesignating the sections as described in the table; and

(B) by transferring the sections, as necessary, so that the sections appear after the table of sections for chapter 25 of such title (as added by subsection (a)), in the order in which the sections are presented in the table.

(2) TABLE.—The table referred to in paragraph (1) is the following:

Title 14 section number before redesignation	Section heading (provided for identification purposes only-not amended)	Title 14 section number after redesignation
334	Grade on retirement	2501
421	Retirement	2502
422	Status of recalled personnel	2503
423	Computation of retired pay	2504
424	Limitations on retirement and retired pay	2505
424a	Suspension of payment of retired pay of members who are absent from the United States to avoid prosecution	2506
425	Board for Correction of Military Records deadline	2507
426	Emergency leave retention authority	2508
427	Prohibition of certain involuntary administrative separations	2509
428	Sea service letters	2510
430	Investigations of flag officers and Senior Executive Service employees	2511
431	Leave policies for the Coast Guard	2512
467	Computation of length of service	2513
432	Personnel of former Lighthouse Service	2531

(c) ADDITIONAL CHANGES.—Chapter 25 of title 14, United States Code, is further amended—

(1) by inserting before section 2501 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

"SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL PROVISIONS";

and

(2) by inserting before section 2531 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

"SUBCHAPTER II—LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE".

SEC. 115. PART III.

Part III of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking the part designation, the part heading, and the table of chapters at the beginning.

SEC. 116. CHAPTER 27.

(a) INITIAL MATTER.—Chapter 27 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking the chapter designation, the chapter heading, and the table of sections at the beginning and inserting the following:

"CHAPTER 27—PAY, ALLOWANCES, AWARDS, AND OTHER RIGHTS AND BENEFITS

"SUBCHAPTER I—PERSONNEL RIGHTS AND BENEFITS

"Sec.
"2701. Procurement of personnel.
"2702. Training.
"2703. Contingent expenses.
"2704. Equipment to prevent accidents.
"2705. Clothing at time of discharge for good of service.
"2706. Right to wear uniform.
"2707. Protection of uniform.
"2708. Clothing for officers and enlisted personnel.
"2709. Procurement and sale of stores to members and civilian employees.
"2710. Disposition of effects of decedents.
"2711. Deserters; payment of expenses incident to apprehension and delivery; penalties.
"2712. Payment for the apprehension of stragglers.

"SUBCHAPTER II—AWARDS

"2731. Delegation of powers to make awards; rules and regulations.
"2732. Medal of honor.
"2733. Medal of honor: duplicate medal.
"2734. Medal of honor: presentation of Medal of Honor Flag.
"2735. Coast Guard cross.
"2736. Distinguished service medal.
"2737. Silver star medal.
"2738. Distinguished flying cross.
"2739. Coast Guard medal.
"2740. Insignia for additional awards.
"2741. Time limit on award; report concerning deed.
"2742. Honorable subsequent service as condition to award.
"2743. Posthumous awards.
"2744. Life-saving medals.
"2745. Replacement of medals.
"2746. Award of other medals.
"2747. Awards and insignia for excellence in service or conduct.

''2748. Presentation of United States flag upon retirement.

''SUBCHAPTER III—PAYMENTS

''2761. Persons discharged as result of court-martial; allowances to.
''2762. Shore patrol duty; payment of expenses.
''2763. Compensatory absence from duty for military personnel at isolated duty stations.
''2764. Monetary allowance for transportation of household effects.
''2765. Retroactive payment of pay and allowances delayed by administrative error or oversight.
''2766. Travel card management.
''2767. Reimbursement for medical-related travel expenses for certain persons residing on islands in the continental United States.
''2768. Annual audit of pay and allowances of members undergoing permanent change of station.
''2769. Remission of indebtedness.
''2770. Special instruction at universities.
''2771. Attendance at professional meetings.
''2772. Education loan repayment program.
''2773. Rations or commutation therefor in money.
''2774. Sales of ration supplies to messes.
''2775. Flight rations.
''2776. Payments at time of discharge for good of service.
''2777. Clothing for destitute shipwrecked persons.
''2778. Advancement of public funds to personnel.
''2779. Transportation to and from certain places of employment.''.

(b) REDESIGNATIONS AND TRANSFERS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The sections of title 14, United States Code, identified in the table provided in paragraph (2) are amended—

(A) by redesignating the sections as described in the table; and

(B) by transferring the sections, as necessary, so that the sections appear after the table of sections for chapter 27 of such title (as added by subsection (a)), in the order in which the sections are presented in the table.

(2) TABLE.—The table referred to in paragraph (1) is the following:

Title 14 section number before redesignation	Section heading (provided for identification purposes only-not amended)	Title 14 section number after redesignation
468	Procurement of personnel	2701
469	Training	2702
476	Contingent expenses	2703
477	Equipment to prevent accidents	2704
482	Clothing at time of discharge for good of service	2705
483	Right to wear uniform	2706
484	Protection of uniform	2707
485	Clothing for officers and enlisted personnel	2708
487	Procurement and sale of stores to members and civilian employees	2709
507	Disposition of effects of decedents	2710
508	Deserters; payment of expenses incident to apprehension and delivery; penalties	2711
644	Payment for the apprehension of stragglers	2712
499	Delegation of powers to make awards; rules and regulations	2731
491	Medal of honor	2732
504	Medal of honor: duplicate medal	2733
505	Medal of honor: presentation of Medal of Honor Flag	2734
491a	Coast Guard cross	2735
492	Distinguished service medal	2736
492a	Silver star medal	2737
492b	Distinguished flying cross	2738
493	Coast Guard medal	2739
494	Insignia for additional awards	2740
496	Time limit on award; report concerning deed	2741
497	Honorable subsequent service as condition to award	2742
498	Posthumous awards	2743
500	Life-saving medals	2744
501	Replacement of medals	2745
502	Award of other medals	2746
503	Awards and insignia for excellence in service or conduct	2747
516	Presentation of United States flag upon retirement	2748
509	Persons discharged as result of court-martial; allowances to	2761
510	Shore patrol duty; payment of expenses	2762
511	Compensatory absence from duty for military personnel at isolated duty stations	2763
512	Monetary allowance for transportation of household effects	2764
513	Retroactive payment of pay and allowances delayed by administrative error or oversight	2765
517	Travel card management	2766
518	Reimbursement for medical-related travel expenses for certain persons residing on islands in the continental United States	2767
519	Annual audit of pay and allowances of members undergoing permanent change of station	2768
461	Remission of indebtedness	2769
470	Special instruction at universities	2770
471	Attendance at professional meetings	2771
472	Education loan repayment program	2772
478	Rations or commutation therefor in money	2773
479	Sales of ration supplies to messes	2774
480	Flight rations	2775
481	Payments at time of discharge for good of service	2776
486	Clothing for destitute shipwrecked persons	2777
488	Advancement of public funds to personnel	2778
660	Transportation to and from certain places of employment	2779

(c) ADDITIONAL CHANGES.—Chapter 27 of title 14, United States Code, is further amended—

(1) by inserting before section 2701 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

''SUBCHAPTER I—PERSONNEL RIGHTS AND BENEFITS'';

(2) by inserting before section 2731 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

''SUBCHAPTER II—AWARDS'';

and

(3) by inserting before section 2761 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

''SUBCHAPTER III—PAYMENTS''.

SEC. 117. CHAPTER 29.

(a) INITIAL MATTER.—Chapter 29 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking the chapter designation, the chapter heading, and the table of sections at the beginning and inserting the following:

''CHAPTER 29—COAST GUARD FAMILY SUPPORT, CHILD CARE, AND HOUSING

''SUBCHAPTER I—COAST GUARD FAMILIES

''Sec.
''2901. Work-life policies and programs.
''2902. Surveys of Coast Guard families.
''2903. Reimbursement for adoption expenses.
''2904. Education and training opportunities for Coast Guard spouses.
''2905. Youth sponsorship initiatives.
''2906. Dependent school children.

''SUBCHAPTER II—COAST GUARD CHILD CARE

''2921. Definitions.
''2922. Child development services.
''2923. Child development center standards and inspections.
''2924. Child development center employees.
''2925. Parent partnerships with child development centers.

''SUBCHAPTER III—HOUSING

''2941. Definitions.
''2942. General authority.
''2943. Leasing and hiring of quarters; rental of inadequate housing.
''2944. Retired service members and dependents serving on advisory committees.
''2945. Conveyance of real property.
''2946. Coast Guard Housing Fund.
''2947. Reports.''.

(b) REDESIGNATIONS AND TRANSFERS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The sections of title 14, United States Code, identified in the table provided in paragraph (2) are amended—

(A) by redesignating the sections as described in the table; and

(B) by transferring the sections, as necessary, so that the sections appear after the table of sections for chapter 29 of such title (as added by subsection (a)), in the order in which the sections are presented in the table.

(2) TABLE.—The table referred to in paragraph (1) is the following:

Title 14 section number before redesignation	Section heading (provided for identification purposes only-not amended)	Title 14 section number after redesignation
531	Work-life policies and programs	2901
532	Surveys of Coast Guard families	2902
541	Reimbursement for adoption expenses	2903
542	Education and training opportunities for Coast Guard spouses	2904
543	Youth sponsorship initiatives	2905
544	Dependent school children	2906
551	Definitions	2921
552	Child development services	2922
553	Child development center standards and inspections	2923
554	Child development center employees	2924
555	Parent partnerships with child development centers	2925
680	Definitions	2941
681	General authority	2942
475	Leasing and hiring of quarters; rental of inadequate housing	2943
680	Retired service members and dependents serving on advisory committees	2944
685	Conveyance of real property	2945
687	Coast Guard Housing Fund	2946
688	Reports	2947

(c) ADDITIONAL CHANGES.—Chapter 29 of title 14, United States Code, is further amended—

(1) by inserting before section 2901 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

''SUBCHAPTER I—COAST GUARD FAMILIES'';

(2) by inserting before section 2921 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

''SUBCHAPTER II—COAST GUARD CHILD CARE'';

and

(3) by inserting before section 2941 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

''SUBCHAPTER III—HOUSING''.

SEC. 118. SUBTITLE III AND CHAPTER 37.

(a) INITIAL MATTER.—Title 14, United States Code, is further amended by adding after chapter 29 (as amended by section 117 of this title) the following:

''Subtitle III—Coast Guard Reserve and Auxiliary

''Chap. Sec.
''37. Coast Guard Reserve 3701
''39. Coast Guard Auxiliary 3901
''41. General Provisions for Coast Guard Reserve and Auxiliary 4101

''CHAPTER 1—COAST GUARD RESERVE

''SUBCHAPTER I—ADMINISTRATION

''Sec.
''3701. Organization.
''3702. Authorized strength.
''3703. Coast Guard Reserve Boards.
''3704. Grades and ratings; military authority.
''3705. Benefits.
''3706. Temporary members of the Reserve; eligibility and compensation.
''3707. Temporary members of the Reserve; disability or death benefits.
''3708. Temporary members of the Reserve; certificate of honorable service.
''3709. Reserve student aviation pilots; Reserve aviation pilots; appointments in commissioned grade.
''3710. Reserve student pre-commissioning assistance program.
''3711. Appointment or wartime promotion; retention of grade upon release from active duty.
''3712. Exclusiveness of service.
''3713. Active duty for emergency augmentation of regular forces.
''3714. Enlistment of members engaged in schooling.

''SUBCHAPTER II—PERSONNEL

''3731. Definitions.
''3732. Applicability of this subchapter.
''3733. Suspension of this subchapter in time of war or national emergency.
''3734. Effect of this subchapter on retirement and retired pay.
''3735. Authorized number of officers.
''3736. Precedence.
''3737. Running mates.
''3738. Constructive credit upon initial appointment.
''3739. Promotion of Reserve officers on active duty.
''3740. Promotion; recommendations of selection boards.
''3741. Selection boards; appointment.
''3742. Establishment of promotion zones under running mate system.
''3743. Eligibility for promotion.
''3744. Recommendation for promotion of an officer previously removed from an active status.
''3745. Qualifications for promotion.
''3746. Promotion; acceptance; oath of office.
''3747. Date of rank upon promotion; entitlement to pay.
''3748. Type of promotion; temporary.
''3749. Effect of removal by the President or failure of consent of the Senate.
''3750. Failure of selection for promotion.
''3751. Failure of selection and removal from an active status.
''3752. Retention boards; removal from an active status to provide a flow of promotion.
''3753. Maximum ages for retention in an active status.
''3754. Rear admiral and rear admiral (lower half); maximum service in grade.
''3755. Appointment of a former Navy or Coast Guard officer.
''3756. Grade on entry upon active duty.
''3757. Recall of a retired officer; grade upon release.''.

(b) REDESIGNATIONS AND TRANSFERS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The sections of title 14, United States Code, identified in the table provided in paragraph (2) are amended—

(A) by redesignating the sections as described in the table; and

(B) by transferring the sections, as necessary, so that the sections appear after the table of sections for chapter 37 of such title (as added by subsection (a)), in the order in which the sections are presented in the table.

(2) TABLE.—The table referred to in paragraph (1) is the following:

Title 14 section number before redesignation	Section heading (provided for identification purposes only-not amended)	Title 14 section number after redesignation
701	Organization	3701
702	Authorized strength	3702
703	Coast Guard Reserve Boards	3703
704	Grades and ratings; military authority	3704
705	Benefits	3705
706	Temporary members of the Reserve; eligibility and compensation	3706
707	Temporary members of the Reserve; disability or death benefits	3707
708	Temporary members of the Reserve; certificate of honorable service	3708
709	Reserve student aviation pilots; Reserve aviation pilots; appointments in commissioned grade	3709
709a	Reserve student pre-commissioning assistance program	3710
710	Appointment or wartime promotion; retention of grade upon release from active duty	3711
711	Exclusiveness of service	3712
712	Active duty for emergency augmentation of regular forces	3713
713	Enlistment of members engaged in schooling	3714
720	Definitions	3731
721	Applicability of this subchapter	3732
722	Suspension of this subchapter in time of war or national emergency	3733
723	Effect of this subchapter on retirement and retired pay	3734
724	Authorized number of officers	3735
725	Precedence	3736
726	Running mates	3737
727	Constructive credit upon initial appointment	3738
728	Promotion of Reserve officers on active duty	3739
729	Promotion; recommendations of selection boards	3740
730	Selection boards; appointment	3741
731	Establishment of promotion zones under running mate system	3742
732	Eligibility for promotion	3743
733	Recommendation for promotion of an officer previously removed from an active status	3744
734	Qualifications for promotion	3745
735	Promotion; acceptance; oath of office	3746
736	Date of rank upon promotion; entitlement to pay	3747
737	Type of promotion; temporary	3748
738	Effect of removal by the President or failure of consent of the Senate	3749
739	Failure of selection for promotion	3750
740	Failure of selection and removal from an active status	3751
741	Retention boards; removal from an active status to provide a flow of promotion	3752
742	Maximum ages for retention in an active status	3753
743	Rear admiral and rear admiral (lower half); maximum service in grade	3754
744	Appointment of a former Navy or Coast Guard officer	3755
745	Grade on entry upon active duty	3756
746	Recall of a retired officer; grade upon release	3757

(c) ADDITIONAL CHANGES.—Chapter 37 of title 14, United States Code, is further amended—

(1) by inserting before section 3701 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

''SUBCHAPTER I—ADMINISTRATION''; and

(2) by inserting before section 3731 (as so redesignated and transferred under subsection (b)) the following:

''SUBCHAPTER II—PERSONNEL''.

SEC. 119. CHAPTER 39.

(a) INITIAL MATTER.—Title 14, United States Code, is further amended by adding after chapter 37 (as added by section 118 of this title) the following:

''CHAPTER 39—COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

''Sec.
''3901. Administration of the Coast Guard Auxiliary.
''3902. Purpose of the Coast Guard Auxiliary.
''3903. Eligibility; enrollments.
''3904. Members of the Auxiliary; status.
''3905. Disenrollment.
''3906. Membership in other organizations.
''3907. Use of member's facilities.
''3908. Vessel deemed public vessel.
''3909. Aircraft deemed public aircraft.
''3910. Radio station deemed government station.
''3911. Availability of appropriations.
''3912. Assignment and performance of duties.
''3913. Injury or death in line of duty.''.

(b) REDESIGNATIONS AND TRANSFERS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The sections of title 14, United States Code, identified in the table provided in paragraph (2) are amended—

(A) by redesignating the sections as described in the table; and

(B) by transferring the sections, as necessary, so that the sections appear after the table of sections for chapter 39 of such title (as added by subsection (a)), in the order in which the sections are presented in the table.

(2) TABLE.—The table referred to in paragraph (1) is the following:

Title 14 section number before redesignation	Section heading (provided for identification purposes only-not amended)	Title 14 section number after redesignation
821	Administration of the Coast Guard Auxiliary	3901
822	Purpose of the Coast Guard Auxiliary	3902
823	Eligibility; enrollments	3903
823a	Members of the Auxiliary; status	3904
824	Disenrollment	3905
825	Membership in other organizations	3906
826	Use of member's facilities	3907
827	Vessel deemed public vessel	3908
828	Aircraft deemed public aircraft	3909
829	Radio station deemed government station	3910

Title 14 section number before redesignation	Section heading (provided for identification purposes only-not amended)	Title 14 section number after redesignation
830	Availability of appropriations	3911
831	Assignment and performance of duties	3912
832	Injury or death in line of duty	3913

SEC. 120. CHAPTER 41.

(a) INITIAL MATTER.—Title 14, United States Code, is further amended by adding after chapter 39 (as added by section 119 of this title) the following:

"CHAPTER 41—GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR COAST GUARD RESERVE AND AUXILIARY

''Sec.
''4101. Flags; pennants; uniforms and insignia.
''4102. Penalty.
''4103. Limitation on rights of members of the Auxiliary and temporary members of the Reserve.
''4104. Availability of facilities and appropriations.''.

(b) REDESIGNATIONS AND TRANSFERS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The sections of title 14, United States Code, identified in the table provided in paragraph (2) are amended—

(A) by redesignating the sections as described in the table; and

(B) by transferring the sections, as necessary, so that the sections appear after the table of sections for chapter 41 of such title (as added by subsection (a)), in the order in which the sections are presented in the table.

(2) TABLE.—The table referred to in paragraph (1) is the following:

Title 14 section number before redesignation	Section heading (provided for identification purposes only-not amended)	Title 14 section number after redesignation
891	Flags; pennants; uniforms and insignia	4101
892	Penalty	4102
893	Limitation on rights of members of the Auxiliary and temporary members of the Reserve	4103
894	Availability of facilities and appropriations	4104

SEC. 121. SUBTITLE IV AND CHAPTER 49.

(a) INITIAL MATTER.—Title 14, United States Code, is further amended by adding after chapter 41 (as added by section 120 of this title) the following:

"Subtitle IV—Coast Guard Authorizations and Reports to Congress

''Chap. Sec.
"49. Authorizations 4901
"51. Reports 5101

"CHAPTER 49—AUTHORIZATIONS

''Sec.
''4901. Requirement for prior authorization of appropriations.
''4902. Authorization of appropriations.
''4903. Authorization of personnel end strengths.
''4904. Authorized levels of military strength and training.''.

(b) REDESIGNATIONS AND TRANSFERS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The sections of title 14, United States Code, identified in the table provided in paragraph (2) are amended—

(A) by redesignating the sections as described in the table; and

(B) by transferring the sections, as necessary, so that the sections appear after the table of sections for chapter 49 of such title (as added by subsection (a)), in the order in which the sections are presented in the table.

(2) TABLE.—The table referred to in paragraph (1) is the following:

Title 14 section number before redesignation	Section heading (provided for identification purposes only-not amended)	Title 14 section number after redesignation
2701	Requirement for prior authorization of appropriations	4901
2702	Authorization of appropriations	4902
2703	Authorization of personnel end strengths	4903
2704	Authorized levels of military strength and training	4904

SEC. 122. CHAPTER 51.

(a) INITIAL MATTER.—Title 14, United States Code, is further amended by adding after chapter 49 (as added by section 121 of this title) the following:

"CHAPTER 51—REPORTS

''Sec.
''5101. Transmission of annual Coast Guard authorization request.
''5102. Capital investment plan.
''5103. Major acquisitions.
''5104. Manpower requirements plan.
''5105. Inventory of real property.''.

(b) REDESIGNATIONS AND TRANSFERS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The sections of title 14, United States Code, identified in the table provided in paragraph (2) are amended—

(A) by redesignating the sections as described in the table; and

(B) by transferring the sections, as necessary, so that the sections appear after the table of sections for chapter 51 of such title (as added by subsection (a)), in the order in which the sections are presented in the table.

(2) TABLE.—The table referred to in paragraph (1) is the following:

Title 14 section number before redesignation	Section heading (provided for identification purposes only-not amended)	Title 14 section number after redesignation
2901	Transmission of annual Coast Guard authorization request	5101
2902	Capital investment plan	5102
2903	Major acquisitions	5103
2904	Manpower requirements plan	5104
679	Inventory of real property	5105

SEC. 123. REFERENCES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) REDESIGNATED SECTION.—The term ''redesignated section'' means a section of title 14, United States Code, that is redesignated by this title, as that section is so redesignated.

(2) SOURCE SECTION.—The term ''source section'' means a section of title 14, United States Code, that is redesignated by this title, as that section was in effect before the redesignation.

(b) REFERENCE TO SOURCE SECTION.—

(1) TREATMENT OF REFERENCE.—A reference to a source section, including a reference in a regulation, order, or other law, is deemed to refer to the corresponding redesignated section.

(2) TITLE 14.—In title 14, United States Code, each reference in the text of such title to a source section is amended by striking such reference and inserting a reference to the appropriate, as determined using the tables located in this title, redesignated section.

(c) OTHER CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) REFERENCE TO SECTION 182.—Section 1923(c) of title 14, United States Code, as so redesignated by this title, is further amended by striking ''section 182'' and inserting ''section 1922''.

(2) REFERENCES TO CHAPTER 11.—Title 14, United States Code, is further amended—

(A) in section 2146(d), as so redesignated by this title, by striking ''chapter 11 of this title'' and inserting ''this chapter''; and

(B) in section 3739, as so redesignated by this title, by striking ''chapter 11'' each place that it appears and inserting ''chapter 21''.

(3) REFERENCE TO CHAPTER 13.—Section 3705(b) of title 14, United States Code, as so redesignated by this title, is further amended by striking ''chapter 13'' and inserting ''chapter 27''.

(4) REFERENCE TO CHAPTER 15.—Section 308(b)(3) of title 14, United States Code, as so redesignated by this title, is further amended by striking ''chapter 15'' and inserting ''chapter 11''.

(5) REFERENCES TO CHAPTER 19.—Title 14, United States Code, is further amended—

(A) in section 4901(4), as so redesignated by this title, by striking ''chapter 19'' and inserting ''section 318''; and

(B) in section 4902(4), as so redesignated by this title, by striking ''chapter 19'' and inserting ''section 318''.

(6) REFERENCE TO CHAPTER 23.—Section 701(a) of title 14, United States Code, as so redesignated by this title, is further amended by striking ''chapter 23'' and inserting ''chapter 39''.

SEC. 124. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

This title, including the amendments made by this title, is intended only to reorganize title 14, United States Code, and may not be construed to alter—

(1) the effect of a provision of title 14, United States Code, including any authority or requirement therein;

(2) a department or agency interpretation with respect to title 14, United States Code; or

(3) a judicial interpretation with respect to title 14, United States Code.

TITLE II—AUTHORIZATIONS

SEC. 201. AMENDMENTS TO TITLE 14, UNITED STATES CODE, AS AMENDED BY TITLE I OF THIS DIVISION.

Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this title an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or a repeal of, a section or other provision of title 14, United States Code, the reference shall be considered to be made to title 14, United States Code, as amended by title I of this division.

SEC. 202. AUTHORIZATIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4902 of title 14, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"§ 4902. Authorizations of appropriations

''(a) FISCAL YEAR 2018.—Funds are authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2018 for necessary expenses of the Coast Guard as follows:

''(1) For the operation and maintenance of the Coast Guard, not otherwise provided for, $7,210,313,000 for fiscal year 2018.

''(2) For the acquisition, construction, renovation, and improvement of aids to navigation, shore facilities, vessels, and aircraft, including equipment related thereto, and for maintenance, rehabilitation, lease, and operation of facilities and equipment, $2,694,745,000 for fiscal year 2018.

''(3) For the Coast Guard Reserve program, including operations and maintenance of the program, personnel and training costs, equipment, and services, $114,875,000 for fiscal year 2018.

''(4) For the environmental compliance and restoration functions of the Coast Guard under chapter 3 of this title, $13,397,000 for fiscal year 2018.

''(5) To the Commandant of the Coast Guard for research, development, test, and evaluation of technologies, materials, and human factors directly related to improving the performance of the Coast Guard's mission with respect to search and rescue, aids to navigation, marine safety, marine environmental protection, enforcement of laws and treaties, ice operations, oceanographic research, and defense readiness, and for maintenance, rehabilitation, lease, and operation of facilities and equipment, $29,141,000 for fiscal year 2018.

''(b) FISCAL YEAR 2019.—Funds are authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2019 for necessary expenses of the Coast Guard as follows:

''(1)(A) For the operation and maintenance of the Coast Guard, not otherwise provided for, $7,914,195,000 for fiscal year 2019.

''(B) Of the amount authorized under subparagraph (A)—

''(i) $16,701,000 shall be for environmental compliance and restoration; and

''(ii) $199,360,000 shall be for the Coast Guard's Medicare-eligible retiree health care fund contribution to the Department of Defense.

''(2) For the procurement, construction, renovation, and improvement of aids to navigation, shore facilities, vessels, and aircraft, including equipment related thereto, and for maintenance, rehabilitation, lease, and operation of facilities and equipment, $2,694,745,000 for fiscal year 2019.

''(3) To the Commandant of the Coast Guard for research, development, test, and evaluation of technologies, materials, and human factors directly related to improving the performance of the Coast Guard's mission with respect to search and rescue, aids to navigation, marine safety, marine environmental protection, enforcement of laws and treaties, ice operations, oceanographic research, and defense readiness, and for maintenance, rehabilitation, lease, and operation of facilities and equipment, $29,141,000 for fiscal year 2019.''.

(b) REPEAL.—On October 1, 2018—

(1) section 4902(a) of title 14, United States Code, as amended by subsection (a), shall be repealed; and

(2) subsection 4902(b) of title 14, United States Code, as amended by subsection (a), shall be amended by striking ''(b) FISCAL YEAR 2019.—''.

SEC. 203. AUTHORIZED LEVELS OF MILITARY STRENGTH AND TRAINING.

Section 4904 of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''for each of fiscal years 2016 and 2017'' and inserting ''for fiscal year 2018 and 44,500 for fiscal year 2019''; and

(2) in subsection (b), by striking ''fiscal years 2016 and 2017'' and inserting ''fiscal years 2018 and 2019''.

SEC. 204. AUTHORIZATION OF AMOUNTS FOR FAST RESPONSE CUTTERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Of the amounts authorized under section 4902 of title 14, United States Code, as amended by this division, for each of fiscal years 2018 and 2019 up to $167,500,000 is authorized for the acquisition of 3 Fast Response Cutters.

(b) TREATMENT OF ACQUIRED CUTTERS.—Any cutters acquired pursuant to subsection (a) shall be in addition to the 58 cutters approved under the existing acquisition baseline.

SEC. 205. AUTHORIZATION OF AMOUNTS FOR SHORESIDE INFRASTRUCTURE.

Of the amounts authorized under section 4902 of title 14, United States Code, as amended by this division, for each of fiscal years 2018 and 2019 up to $167,500,000 is authorized for the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating to fund the acquisition, construction, rebuilding, or improvement of Coast Guard shoreside infrastructure and facilities necessary to support Coast Guard operations and readiness.

SEC. 206. AUTHORIZATION OF AMOUNTS FOR AIRCRAFT IMPROVEMENTS.

Of the amounts authorized under section 4902 of title 14, United States Code, as amended by this division, for each of fiscal years 2018 and 2019 up to $3,500,000 is authorized for the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating to fund analysis and program development for improvements to or the replacement of rotary-wing aircraft.

TITLE III—COAST GUARD

SEC. 301. AMENDMENTS TO TITLE 14, UNITED STATES CODE, AS AMENDED BY TITLE I OF THIS DIVISION.

Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this title an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or a repeal of, a section or other provision of title 14, United States Code, the reference shall be considered to be made to title 14, United States Code, as amended by title I of this division.

SEC. 302. PRIMARY DUTIES.

Section 102(7) of title 14, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''(7) maintain a state of readiness to assist in the defense of the United States, including when functioning as a specialized service in the Navy pursuant to section 103.''.

SEC. 303. NATIONAL COAST GUARD MUSEUM.

Section 316 of title 14, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"§ 316. National Coast Guard Museum

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Commandant may establish a National Coast Guard Museum, on lands which will be federally owned and administered by the Coast Guard, and are located in New London, Connecticut, at, or in close proximity to, the Coast Guard Academy.

''(b) LIMITATION ON EXPENDITURES.—

''(1) The Secretary shall not expend any funds appropriated to the Coast Guard on the construction of any museum established under this section.

''(2) The Secretary shall fund the National Coast Guard Museum with nonappropriated and non-Federal funds to the maximum extent practicable. The priority use of Federal funds should be to preserve and protect historic Coast Guard artifacts, including the design, fabrication, and installation of exhibits or displays in which such artifacts are included.

''(3) The Secretary may expend funds appropriated to the Coast Guard on the engineering and design of a National Coast Guard Museum.

''(c) FUNDING PLAN.—Before the date on which the Commandant establishes a National Coast Guard Museum under subsection (a), the Commandant shall provide to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a plan for constructing, operating, and maintaining such a museum, including—

''(1) estimated planning, engineering, design, construction, operation, and maintenance costs;

''(2) the extent to which appropriated, nonappropriated, and non-Federal funds will be used for such purposes, including the extent to which there is any shortfall in funding for engineering, design, or construction; and

''(3) a certification by the Inspector General of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating that the estimates provided pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2) are reasonable and realistic.

''(d) AUTHORITY.—The Commandant may not establish a national Coast Guard museum except as set forth in this section.''.

SEC. 304. UNMANNED AIRCRAFT.

(a) LAND-BASED UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM PROGRAM.—Chapter 3 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 319. Land-based unmanned aircraft system program

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Secretary shall establish a land-based unmanned aircraft system program under the control of the Commandant.

''(b) UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM DEFINED.—In this section, the term 'unmanned aircraft system' has the meaning given that term in section 331 of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012 (49 U.S.C. 40101 note).''.

(b) LIMITATION ON UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS.—Chapter 11 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 1154 the following:

"§ 1155. Limitation on unmanned aircraft systems

''(a) IN GENERAL.—During any fiscal year for which funds are appropriated for the design or construction of an Offshore Patrol Cutter, the Commandant—

''(1) may not award a contract for design of an unmanned aircraft system for use by the Coast Guard; and

''(2) may lease, acquire, or acquire the services of an unmanned aircraft system only if such system—

''(A) has been part of a program of record of, procured by, or used by a Federal entity (or funds for research, development, test, and evaluation have been received from a Federal entity with regard to such system) before the date on which the Commandant

leases, acquires, or acquires the services of the system; and

''(B) is leased, acquired, or utilized by the Commandant through an agreement with a Federal entity, unless such an agreement is not practicable or would be less cost-effective than an independent contract action by the Coast Guard.

''(b) SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT EXEMPTION.—Subsection (a)(2) does not apply to small unmanned aircraft.

''(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the terms 'small unmanned aircraft' and 'unmanned aircraft system' have the meanings given those terms in section 331 of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012 (49 U.S.C. 40101 note).''.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(1) CHAPTER 3.—The analysis for chapter 3 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''319. Land-based unmanned aircraft system program.''.

(2) CHAPTER 11.—The analysis for chapter 11 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1154 the following:

''1155. Limitation on unmanned aircraft systems.''.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (c) of section 1105 of title 14, United States Code, is repealed.

SEC. 305. COAST GUARD HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONALS; LICENSURE PORTABILITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 5 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 507 the following:

''§ 508. Coast Guard health-care professionals; licensure portability

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law regarding the licensure of health-care providers, a health-care professional described in subsection (b) may practice the health profession or professions of the health-care professional at any location in any State, the District of Columbia, or a Commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United States, regardless of where such health-care professional or the patient is located, if the practice is within the scope of the authorized Federal duties of such health-care professional.

''(b) DESCRIBED INDIVIDUALS.—A health-care professional described in this subsection is an individual—

''(1) who is—

''(A) a member of the Coast Guard;

''(B) a civilian employee of the Coast Guard;

''(C) a member of the Public Health Service who is assigned to the Coast Guard; or

''(D) any other health-care professional credentialed and privileged at a Federal health-care institution or location specially designated by the Secretary; and

''(2) who—

''(A) has a current license to practice medicine, osteopathic medicine, dentistry, or another health profession; and

''(B) is performing authorized duties for the Coast Guard.

''(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the terms 'license' and 'health-care professional' have the meanings given those terms in section 1094(e) of title 10.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 5 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 507 the following:

''508. Coast Guard health-care professionals; licensure portability.''.

(c) ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORDS.—

(1) SYSTEM.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard is authorized to procure for the Coast Guard an electronic health record system that—

(A) has been competitively awarded by the Department of Defense; and

(B) ensures full integration with the Department of Defense electronic health record systems.

(2) SUPPORT SERVICES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant is authorized to procure support services for the electronic health record system procured under paragraph (1) necessary to ensure full integration with the Department of Defense electronic health record systems.

(B) SCOPE.—Support services procured pursuant to this paragraph may include services for the following:

(i) System integration support.

(ii) Hosting support.

(iii) Training, testing, technical, and data migration support.

(iv) Hardware support.

(v) Any other support the Commandant considers appropriate.

(3) AUTHORIZED PROCUREMENT ACTIONS.—The Commandant is authorized to procure an electronic health record system under this subsection through the following:

(A) A task order under the Department of Defense electronic health record contract.

(B) A sole source contract award.

(C) An agreement made pursuant to sections 1535 and 1536 of title 31, United States Code.

(D) A contract or other procurement vehicle otherwise authorized.

(4) COMPETITION IN CONTRACTING; EXEMPTION.—Procurement of an electronic health record system and support services pursuant to this subsection shall be exempt from the competition requirements of section 2304 of title 10, United States Code.

SEC. 306. TRAINING; EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROVIDERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 7 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 718. Training; emergency response providers

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant may, on a reimbursable or a non-reimbursable basis, make a training available to emergency response providers whenever the Commandant determines that—

''(1) a member of the Coast Guard, who is scheduled to participate in such training, is unable or unavailable to participate in such training;

''(2) no other member of the Coast Guard, who is assigned to the unit to which the member of the Coast Guard who is unable or unavailable to participate in such training is assigned, is able or available to participate in such training; and

''(3) such training, if made available to such emergency response providers, would further the goal of interoperability among Federal agencies, non-Federal governmental agencies, or both.

''(b) EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROVIDERS DEFINED.—In this section, the term 'emergency response providers' has the meaning given that term in section 2 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101).

''(c) TREATMENT OF REIMBURSEMENT.—Any reimbursements for a training that the Coast Guard receives under this section shall be credited to the appropriation used to pay the costs for such training.

''(d) STATUS; LIMITATION ON LIABILITY.—

''(1) STATUS.—Any individual to whom, as an emergency response provider, training is made available under this section, who is not otherwise a Federal employee, shall not, because of that training, be considered a Federal employee for any purpose (including the purposes of chapter 81 of title 5 (relating to compensation for injury) and sections 2671 through 2680 of title 28 (relating to tort claims)).

''(2) LIMITATION ON LIABILITY.—The United States shall not be liable for actions taken by an individual in the course of training made available under this section.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 7 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''718. Training; emergency response providers.''.

SEC. 307. INCENTIVE CONTRACTS FOR COAST GUARD YARD AND INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

Section 939 of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting before ''The Secretary may'' the following: ''(a) IN GENERAL.—'';

(2) in subsection (a), as so designated by paragraph (1) of this section, by striking the period at the end of the last sentence and inserting ''or in accordance with subsection (b).''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(b) INCENTIVE CONTRACTS.—

''(1) The parties to an order for industrial work to be performed by the Coast Guard Yard or a Coast Guard industrial establishment designated under subsection (a) may enter into an order or a cost-plus-incentive-fee order in accordance with this subsection.

''(2) If such parties enter into such an order or a cost-plus-incentive-fee order, an agreed-upon amount of any adjustment described in subsection (a) may be distributed as an incentive to the wage-grade industrial employees who complete the order.

''(3) Before entering into such an order or cost-plus-incentive-fee order such parties must agree that the wage-grade employees of the Coast Guard Yard or Coast Guard industrial establishment will take action to improve the delivery schedule or technical performance agreed to in the order for industrial work to which such parties initially agreed.

''(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if the industrial workforce of the Coast Guard Yard or Coast Guard industrial establishment satisfies the performance target established in such an order or cost-plus-incentive-fee order—

''(A) the adjustment to be made pursuant to subsection (a) shall be reduced by an agreed-upon amount and distributed to such wage-grade industrial employees; and

''(B) the remainder of the adjustment shall be credited to the appropriation for such order current at that time.''.

SEC. 308. CONFIDENTIAL INVESTIGATIVE EXPENSES.

Section 944 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking ''$45,000'' and inserting ''$250,000''.

SEC. 309. REGULAR CAPTAINS; RETIREMENT.

Section 2149(a) of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''zone is'' and inserting ''zone, or from being placed at the top of the list of selectees promulgated by the Secretary under section 2121(a) of this title, is''; and

(2) by striking the period at the end and inserting ''or placed at the top of the list of selectees, as applicable.''.

SEC. 310. CONVERSION, ALTERATION, AND REPAIR PROJECTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 9 of title 14, United States Code, as amended by this division, is further amended by inserting after section 951 the following:

''§ 952. Construction of Coast Guard vessels and assignment of vessel projects

''The assignment of Coast Guard vessel conversion, alteration, and repair projects shall be based on economic and military considerations and may not be restricted by a

requirement that certain parts of Coast Guard shipwork be assigned to a particular type of shipyard or geographical area or by a similar requirement.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 9 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 951 the following:

''952. Construction of Coast Guard vessels and assignment of vessel projects.''.

SEC. 311. CONTRACTING FOR MAJOR ACQUISITIONS PROGRAMS.

(a) GENERAL ACQUISITION AUTHORITY.—Section 501(d) of title 14, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''aircraft, and systems,'' after ''vessels,''.

(b) CONTRACTING AUTHORITY.—Chapter 11 of title 14, United States Code, as amended by this division, is further amended by inserting after section 1136 the following:

''§ 1137. Contracting for major acquisitions programs

''(a) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out authorities provided to the Secretary to design, construct, accept, or otherwise acquire assets and systems under section 501(d), the Secretary, acting through the Commandant or the head of an integrated program office established for a major acquisition program, may enter into contracts for a major acquisition program.

''(b) AUTHORIZED METHODS.—Contracts entered into under subsection (a)—

''(1) may be block buy contracts;

''(2) may be incrementally funded;

''(3) may include combined purchases, also known as economic order quantity purchases, of—

''(A) materials and components; and

''(B) long lead time materials; and

''(4) as provided in section 2306b of title 10, may be multiyear contracts.

''(c) SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATIONS.—Any contract entered into under subsection (a) shall provide that any obligation of the United States to make a payment under the contract is subject to the availability of amounts specifically provided in advance for that purpose in subsequent appropriations Acts.''.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 11 of title 14, United States Code, as amended by this division, is further amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1136 the following:

''1137. Contracting for major acquisitions programs.''.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The following provisions are repealed:

(1) Section 223 of the Howard Coble Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2014 (14 U.S.C. 1152 note), and the item relating to that section in the table of contents in section 2 of such Act.

(2) Section 221(a) of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2012 (14 U.S.C. 1133 note).

(3) Section 207(a) of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2016 (14 U.S.C. 561 note).

(e) INTERNAL REGULATIONS AND POLICY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall establish the internal regulations and policies necessary to exercise the authorities provided under this section, including the amendments made in this section.

(f) MULTIYEAR CONTRACTS.—The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating is authorized to enter into a multiyear contract for the procurement of a tenth, eleventh, and twelfth National Security Cutter and associated government-furnished equipment.

SEC. 312. OFFICER PROMOTION ZONES.

Section 2111(a) of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking ''six-tenths.'' and inserting ''one-half.''.

SEC. 313. CROSS REFERENCE.

Section 2129(a) of title 14, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''designated under section 2317'' after ''cadet''.

SEC. 314. COMMISSIONED SERVICE RETIREMENT.

For Coast Guard officers who retire in fiscal year 2018 or 2019, the President may reduce the period of active commissioned service required under section 2152 of title 14, United States Code, to a period of not less than 8 years.

SEC. 315. LEAVE FOR BIRTH OR ADOPTION OF CHILD.

(a) POLICY.—Section 2512 of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''Not later than 1 year'' and inserting the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), not later than 1 year''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(b) LEAVE ASSOCIATED WITH BIRTH OR ADOPTION OF CHILD.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), sections 701 and 704 of title 10, or any other provision of law, all officers and enlisted members of the Coast Guard shall be authorized leave associated with the birth or adoption of a child during the 1-year period immediately following such birth or adoption and, at the discretion of the Commanding Officer, such officer or enlisted member shall be permitted—

''(1) to take such leave in increments; and

''(2) to use flexible work schedules (pursuant to a program established by the Secretary in accordance with chapter 61 of title 5).''.

(b) FLEXIBLE WORK SCHEDULES.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall ensure that a flexible work schedule program under chapter 61 of title 5, United States Code, is in place for officers and enlisted members of the Coast Guard.

SEC. 316. CLOTHING AT TIME OF DISCHARGE.

Section 2705 of title 14, United States Code, and the item relating to that section in the analysis for chapter 27 of that title, are repealed.

SEC. 317. UNFUNDED PRIORITIES LIST.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5102 of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—On the date on which the President submits to Congress a budget pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, the Commandant shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a capital investment plan for the Coast Guard that identifies for each capital asset for which appropriations are proposed in that budget—

''(1) the proposed appropriations included in the budget;

''(2) the total estimated cost of completion based on the proposed appropriations included in the budget;

''(3) projected funding levels for each fiscal year for the next 5 fiscal years or until project completion, whichever is earlier;

''(4) an estimated completion date based on the proposed appropriations included in the budget; and

''(5) an acquisition program baseline, as applicable.''; and

(2) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

''(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the term 'new capital asset' means—

''(1) an acquisition program that does not have an approved acquisition program baseline; or

''(2) the acquisition of a capital asset in excess of the number included in the approved acquisition program baseline.''.

(b) UNFUNDED PRIORITIES.—Chapter 51 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 5106. Unfunded priorities list

''(a) IN GENERAL.—On the date on which the President submits to Congress a budget pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, the Commandant shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a list of each unfunded priority for the Coast Guard.

''(b) PRIORITIZATION.—The list required under subsection (a) shall present the unfunded priorities in order from the highest priority to the lowest, as determined by the Commandant.

''(c) UNFUNDED PRIORITY DEFINED.—In this section, the term 'unfunded priority' means a program or mission requirement that—

''(1) has not been selected for funding in the applicable proposed budget;

''(2) is necessary to fulfill a requirement associated with an operational need; and

''(3) the Commandant would have recommended for inclusion in the applicable proposed budget had additional resources been available or had the requirement emerged before the budget was submitted.''.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 51 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''5106. Unfunded priorities list.''.

SEC. 318. SAFETY OF VESSELS OF THE ARMED FORCES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 527 of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the heading, by striking ''**naval vessels**'' and inserting ''**vessels of the Armed Forces**'';

(2) in subsection (a), by striking ''United States naval vessel'' and inserting ''vessel of the Armed Forces'';

(3) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking ''senior naval officer present in command'' and inserting ''senior officer present in command''; and

(B) by striking ''United States naval vessel'' and inserting ''vessel of the Armed Forces''; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

''(e) For purposes of this title, the term 'vessel of the Armed Forces' means—

''(1) any vessel owned or operated by the Department of Defense or the Coast Guard, other than a time- or voyage-chartered vessel; and

''(2) any vessel owned and operated by the Department of Transportation that is designated by the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating as a vessel equivalent to a vessel described in paragraph (1).''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 5 of title 14, United States Code, is further amended by striking the item relating to section 527 and inserting the following:

''527. Safety of vessels of the Armed Forces.''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 2510(a)(1) of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''armed forces'' and inserting ''Armed Forces''; and

(2) by striking ''section 101(a) of title 10'' and inserting ''section 527(e)''.

SEC. 319. PROTECTING AGAINST UNMANNED AIRCRAFT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 5 of title 14, United States Code, as amended by this division, is further amended by inserting after section 527 the following:

"§ 528. Protecting against unmanned aircraft

''(a) AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding title 18 (including section 32, section 1030, sections 2510–2522, and sections 3121–3127), and section 46502 of title 49, the Secretary, or the Secretary's designee, may take such actions described in subsection (c)(1) as are necessary to mitigate the threat, as defined by the Secretary in consultation with the Secretary of Transportation, that an unmanned aircraft system or unmanned aircraft poses to the safety or security of a covered vessel or aircraft.

''(b) COORDINATION WITH THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION.—The Secretary, or the Secretary's designee, shall coordinate with the Secretary of Transportation, including the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, before issuing any guidance or implementing any program or procedures to carry out this section that might affect aviation safety, civilian aviation and aerospace operations, aircraft airworthiness, or the use of the airspace.

''(c) ACTIONS DESCRIBED.—

''(1) The actions described in this paragraph are the following:

''(A) Detect, identify, monitor, and track the unmanned aircraft system or unmanned aircraft, without prior consent, including by means of intercept or other access of a wire, oral, or electronic communication used to control the unmanned aircraft system or unmanned aircraft.

''(B) Warn the operator of the unmanned aircraft system or unmanned aircraft, including by passive or active, and direct or indirect physical, electronic, radio, and electromagnetic means.

''(C) Disrupt control of the unmanned aircraft system or unmanned aircraft, without prior consent, including by disabling the unmanned aircraft system or unmanned aircraft by intercepting, interfering, or causing interference with wire, oral, electronic, or radio communications used to control the unmanned aircraft system or unmanned aircraft.

''(D) Seize or exercise control of the unmanned aircraft system or unmanned aircraft.

''(E) Seize or otherwise confiscate the unmanned aircraft system or unmanned aircraft.

''(F) Use reasonable force to disable, damage, or destroy the unmanned aircraft system or unmanned aircraft.

''(2) The Secretary shall develop the actions described in paragraph (1) in coordination with the Secretary of Transportation.

''(d) FORFEITURE.—Any unmanned aircraft system or unmanned aircraft described in subsection (a) that is seized by the Secretary is subject to forfeiture to the United States.

''(e) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary and the Secretary of Transportation may prescribe regulations and shall issue guidance in the respective areas of each Secretary to carry out this section. The Secretary and the Secretary of Transportation shall coordinate in the development of such guidance.

''(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) The term 'covered vessel or aircraft' means a vessel or aircraft that—

''(A)(i) is a vessel or aircraft operated by the Coast Guard; or

''(ii) is a vessel the Coast Guard is assisting or escorting;

''(B) is located in the United States (including the territories and possessions of the United States); and

''(C) is directly involved in a mission of the Coast Guard pertaining to—

''(i) assisting or escorting a vessel of the Department of Defense;

''(ii) assisting or escorting a vessel of national security significance, a high interest vessel, a high capacity passenger vessel, or a high value unit, as those terms are defined by the Secretary;

''(iii) section 91(a) of this title;

''(iv) assistance in protecting the President or the Vice President (or other officer next in order of succession to the Office of the President) pursuant to the Presidential Protection Assistance Act of 1976 (18 U.S.C. 3056 note);

''(v) protection of a National Special Security Event, as designated by the Secretary;

''(vi) air defense of the United States, including air sovereignty, ground-based air defense, and the National Capital Region integrated air defense system; or

''(vii) a search and rescue operation.

''(2) The terms 'electronic communication', 'intercept', 'oral communication', and 'wire communication' have the meaning given those terms in section 2510 of title 18.

''(3) The term 'National Special Security Event' has the meaning given the term in section 2001 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 601).

''(4) The terms 'unmanned aircraft' and 'unmanned aircraft system' have the meanings given those terms in section 331 of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012 (Public Law 112–95; 49 U.S.C. 40101 note).

''(g) PRESERVATION OF APPROPRIATE AUTHORITY.—

''(1) Nothing in this section may be construed to vest in the Secretary any authority of the Secretary of Transportation or the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration under title 49.

''(2) Nothing in this section may be construed to vest in the Secretary of Transportation or the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration any authority of the Secretary under title 14.

''(h) PRIVACY PROTECTION.—Regulations or guidance issued under subsection (e) shall ensure that—

''(1) the interception or acquisition of or access to communications to or from an unmanned aircraft system under this section is conducted in a manner consistent with the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution and applicable Federal law;

''(2) communications to or from an unmanned aircraft system are intercepted, acquired, or accessed only to the extent necessary to support a function of the Department;

''(3) records of such communications are not maintained for more than 180 days unless the Secretary determines that maintenance of such records—

''(A) is necessary to support one or more functions of the Department; or

''(B) is required for a longer period to support a civilian law enforcement agency or by any other applicable law or regulation; and

''(4) such communications are not disclosed outside the Department unless the disclosure—

''(A) would fulfill a function of the Department;

''(B) would support a civilian law enforcement agency or enforcement activities of a regulatory agency in connection with a criminal or civil investigation of, or any regulatory action with regard to, any activity described under subsection (c); or

''(C) is otherwise required by law or regulation.

''(i) SEMI-ANNUAL BRIEFINGS REQUIRED.—

''(1) Not less than 180 days after the date of the enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2017, and every 6 months thereafter until the authority terminates pursuit to subsection (j), the Secretary and the Secretary of Transportation shall jointly provide a briefing to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives on the activities carried out pursuant to this section. Such briefings shall include—

''(A) policies, programs, and procedures to mitigate or eliminate impacts of such activities to the National Airspace System;

''(B) a description of each instance where an action described in subsection (c)(1) has been taken;

''(C) how the Secretaries have informed the public as to the possible use of authorities under this section; and

''(D) how the Secretaries have engaged with Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies to implement and use such authorities.

''(2) Each briefing under paragraph (1) shall be in unclassified form, but may be accompanied by an additional classified briefing.

''(j) TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.—The authority pursuant to this section shall expire on December 31, 2020, for Department missions unless the President of the United States certifies to Congress, not less than 45 days prior to the expiration date that retaining authority pursuant to this section is in the national security interests of the United States, thereby extending the authority for those mission areas an additional 180 days.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 5 of title 14, United States Code, as amended by this division, is further amended by inserting after the item relating to section 527 the following:

''528. Protecting against unmanned aircraft.''.

SEC. 320. AIR FACILITIES.

Section 912 of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (a);

(2) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as subsections (a) and (b), respectively;

(3) in subsection (a) as redesignated—

(A) by amending paragraph (3) to read as follows:

''(3) PUBLIC NOTICE AND COMMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Prior to closing an air facility, the Secretary shall provide opportunities for public comment, including the convening of public meetings in communities in the area of responsibility of the air facility with regard to the proposed closure or cessation of operations at the air facility.

''(B) PUBLIC MEETINGS.—Prior to convening a public meeting under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall notify each congressional office representing any portion of the area of responsibility of the air station that is the subject to such public meeting of the schedule and location of such public meeting.'';

(B) in paragraph (4)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A) by striking ''2015'' and inserting ''2017''; and

(ii) by amending subparagraph (A) to read as follows:

''(A) submit to the Congress a proposal for such closure, cessation, or reduction in operations along with the budget of the President submitted to Congress under section 1105(a) of title 31 that includes—

''(i) a discussion of the determination made by the Secretary pursuant to paragraph (2); and

''(ii) a report summarizing the public comments received by the Secretary under paragraph (3)''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(5) CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW.—The Secretary may not close, cease operations, or significantly reduce personnel and use of a Coast Guard air facility for which a written notice is provided under paragraph (4)(A) until a period of 18 months beginning on the date on which such notice is provided has elapsed.''.

TITLE IV—PORTS AND WATERWAYS SAFETY

SEC. 401. CODIFICATION OF PORTS AND WATERWAYS SAFETY ACT.

(a) CODIFICATION.—Subtitle VII of title 46, United States Code, is amended by inserting before chapter 701 the following:

"CHAPTER 700—PORTS AND WATERWAYS SAFETY

''SUBCHAPTER A—VESSEL OPERATIONS

''70001. Vessel traffic services.
''70002. Special powers.
''70003. Port access routes.
''70004. Considerations by Secretary.
''70005. International agreements.

''SUBCHAPTER B—PORTS AND WATERWAYS SAFETY

''70011. Waterfront safety.
''70012. Navigational hazards.
''70013. Requirement to notify Coast Guard of release of objects into the navigable waters of the United States.

''SUBCHAPTER C—CONDITION FOR ENTRY INTO PORTS IN THE UNITED STATES

''70021. Conditions for entry to ports in the united states.

''SUBCHAPTER D—DEFINITIONS, REGULATIONS, ENFORCEMENT, INVESTIGATORY POWERS, APPLICABILITY

''70031. Definitions.
''70032. Saint Lawrence Seaway.
''70033. Limitation on application to foreign vessels.
''70034. Regulations.
''70035. Investigatory powers.
''70036. Enforcement.

''SUBCHAPTER I—VESSEL OPERATIONS

"§ 70001. Vessel traffic services

''(a) Subject to the requirements of section 70004, the Secretary—

''(1) in any port or place under the jurisdiction of the United States, in the navigable waters of the United States, or in any area covered by an international agreement negotiated pursuant to section 70005, may construct, operate, maintain, improve, or expand vessel traffic services, that consist of measures for controlling or supervising vessel traffic or for protecting navigation and the marine environment and that may include one or more of reporting and operating requirements, surveillance and communications systems, routing systems, and fairways;

''(2) shall require appropriate vessels that operate in an area of a vessel traffic service to utilize or comply with that service;

''(3)(A) may require vessels to install and use specified navigation equipment, communications equipment, electronic relative motion analyzer equipment, or any electronic or other device necessary to comply with a vessel traffic service or that is necessary in the interests of vessel safety.

''(B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall not require fishing vessels under 300 gross tons as measured under section 14502, or an alternate tonnage measured under section 14302 as prescribed by the Secretary under section 14104, or recreational vessels 65 feet or less to possess or use the equipment or devices required by this subsection solely under the authority of this chapter;

''(4) may control vessel traffic in areas subject to the jurisdiction of the United States that the Secretary determines to be hazardous, or under conditions of reduced visibility, adverse weather, vessel congestion, or other hazardous circumstances, by—

''(A) specifying times of entry, movement, or departure;

''(B) establishing vessel traffic routing schemes;

''(C) establishing vessel size, speed, or draft limitations and vessel operating conditions; and

''(D) restricting operation, in any hazardous area or under hazardous conditions, to vessels that have particular operating characteristics or capabilities that the Secretary considers necessary for safe operation under the circumstances;

''(5) may require the receipt of prearrival messages from any vessel, destined for a port or place subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, in sufficient time to permit advance vessel traffic planning before port entry, which shall include any information that is not already a matter of record and that the Secretary determines necessary for the control of the vessel and the safety of the port or the marine environment; and

''(6) may prohibit the use on vessels of electronic or other devices that interfere with communication and navigation equipment, except that such authority shall not apply to electronic or other devices certified to transmit in the maritime services by the Federal Communications Commission and used within the frequency bands 157.1875–157.4375 MHz and 161.7875–162.0375 MHz.

''(b) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may enter into cooperative agreements with public or private agencies, authorities, associations, institutions, corporations, organizations, or other persons to carry out the functions under subsection (a)(1).

''(2) LIMITATION.—

''(A) A nongovernmental entity may not under this subsection carry out an inherently governmental function.

''(B) As used in this paragraph, the term 'inherently governmental function' means any activity that is so intimately related to the public interest as to mandate performance by an officer or employee of the Federal Government, including an activity that requires either the exercise of discretion in applying the authority of the Government or the use of judgment in making a decision for the Government.

''(c) LIMITATION OF LIABILITY FOR COAST GUARD VESSEL TRAFFIC SERVICE PILOTS AND NON-FEDERAL VESSEL TRAFFIC SERVICE OPERATORS.—

''(1) COAST GUARD VESSEL TRAFFIC SERVICE PILOTS.—Any pilot, acting in the course and scope of his or her duties while at a Coast Guard Vessel Traffic Service, who provides information, advice, or communication assistance while under the supervision of a Coast Guard officer, member, or employee shall not be liable for damages caused by or related to such assistance unless the acts or omissions of such pilot constitute gross negligence or willful misconduct.

''(2) NON-FEDERAL VESSEL TRAFFIC SERVICE OPERATORS.—An entity operating a non-Federal vessel traffic information service or advisory service pursuant to a duly executed written agreement with the Coast Guard, and any pilot acting on behalf of such entity, is not liable for damages caused by or related to information, advice, or communication assistance provided by such entity or pilot while so operating or acting unless the acts or omissions of such entity or pilot constitute gross negligence or willful misconduct.

"§ 70002. Special powers

''The Secretary may order any vessel, in a port or place subject to the jurisdiction of the United States or in the navigable waters of the United States, to operate or anchor in a manner the Secretary directs if—

''(1) the Secretary has reasonable cause to believe such vessel does not comply with any regulation issued under section 70034 or any other applicable law or treaty;

''(2) the Secretary determines such vessel does not satisfy the conditions for port entry set forth in section 70021 of this title; or

''(3) by reason of weather, visibility, sea conditions, port congestion, other hazardous circumstances, or the condition of such vessel, the Secretary is satisfied such direction is justified in the interest of safety.

"§ 70003. Port access routes

''(a) AUTHORITY TO DESIGNATE.—Except as provided in subsection (b) and subject to the requirements of subsection (c), in order to provide safe access routes for the movement of vessel traffic proceeding to or from ports or places subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, the Secretary shall designate necessary fairways and traffic separation schemes for vessels operating in the territorial sea of the United States and in high seas approaches, outside the territorial sea, to such ports or places. Such a designation shall recognize, within the designated area, the paramount right of navigation over all other uses.

''(b) LIMITATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—No designation may be made by the Secretary under this section if—

''(A) the Secretary determines such a designation, as implemented, would deprive any person of the effective exercise of a right granted by a lease or permit executed or issued under other applicable provisions of law; and

''(B) such right has become vested before the time of publication of the notice required by paragraph (1) of subsection (c).

''(2) CONSULTATION REQUIRED.—The Secretary shall make the determination under paragraph (1)(A) after consultation with the head of the agency responsible for executing the lease or issuing the permit.

''(c) CONSIDERATION OF OTHER USES.—Before making a designation under subsection (a), and in accordance with the requirements of section 70004, the Secretary shall—

''(1) undertake a study of the potential traffic density and the need for safe access routes for vessels in any area for which fairways or traffic separation schemes are proposed or that may otherwise be considered and publish notice of such undertaking in the Federal Register;

''(2) in consultation with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of the Army, and the Governors of affected States, as their responsibilities may require, take into account all other uses of the area under consideration, including, as appropriate, the exploration for, or exploitation of, oil, gas, or other mineral resources, the construction or operation of deepwater ports or other structures on or above the seabed or subsoil of the submerged lands or the Outer Continental Shelf of the United States, the establishment or operation of marine or estuarine sanctuaries, and activities involving recreational or commercial fishing; and

''(3) to the extent practicable, reconcile the need for safe access routes with the needs of all other reasonable uses of the area involved.

''(d) STUDY.—In carrying out the Secretary's responsibilities under subsection (c), the Secretary shall—

''(1) proceed expeditiously to complete any study undertaken; and

''(2) after completion of such a study, promptly—

''(A) issue a notice of proposed rulemaking for the designation contemplated; or

''(B) publish in the Federal Register a notice that no designation is contemplated as a result of the study and the reason for such determination.

''(e) IMPLEMENTATION OF DESIGNATION.—In connection with a designation made under this section, the Secretary—

''(1) shall issue reasonable rules and regulations governing the use of such designated areas, including rules and regulations regarding the applicability of rules 9 and 10 of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972, relating to narrow channels and traffic separation schemes, respectively, in waters where such regulations apply;

''(2) to the extent that the Secretary finds reasonable and necessary to effectuate the purposes of the designation, make the use of designated fairways and traffic separation schemes mandatory for specific types and sizes of vessels, foreign and domestic, operating in the territorial sea of the United States and for specific types and sizes of vessels of the United States operating on the high seas beyond the territorial sea of the United States;

''(3) may, from time to time, as necessary, adjust the location or limits of designated fairways or traffic separation schemes in order to accommodate the needs of other uses that cannot be reasonably accommodated otherwise, except that such an adjustment may not, in the judgment of the Secretary, unacceptably adversely affect the purpose for which the existing designation was made and the need for which continues; and

''(4) shall, through appropriate channels—

''(A) notify cognizant international organizations of any designation, or adjustment thereof; and

''(B) take action to seek the cooperation of foreign States in making it mandatory for vessels under their control to use, to the same extent as required by the Secretary for vessels of the United States, any fairway or traffic separation scheme designated under this section in any area of the high seas.

''§ 70004. Considerations by Secretary

''In carrying out the duties of the Secretary under sections 70001, 70002, and 70003, the Secretary shall—

''(1) take into account all relevant factors concerning navigation and vessel safety, protection of the marine environment, and the safety and security of United States ports and waterways, including—

''(A) the scope and degree of the risk or hazard involved;

''(B) vessel traffic characteristics and trends, including traffic volume, the sizes and types of vessels involved, potential interference with the flow of commercial traffic, the presence of any unusual cargoes, and other similar factors;

''(C) port and waterway configurations and variations in local conditions of geography, climate, and other similar factors;

''(D) the need for granting exemptions for the installation and use of equipment or devices for use with vessel traffic services for certain classes of small vessels, such as self-propelled fishing vessels and recreational vessels;

''(E) the proximity of fishing grounds, oil and gas drilling and production operations, or any other potential or actual conflicting activity;

''(F) environmental factors;

''(G) economic impact and effects;

''(H) existing vessel traffic services; and

''(I) local practices and customs, including voluntary arrangements and agreements within the maritime community; and

''(2) at the earliest possible time, consult with and receive and consider the views of representatives of the maritime community, ports and harbor authorities or associations, environmental groups, and other persons who may be affected by the proposed actions.

''§ 70005. International agreements

''(a) TRANSMITTAL OF REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall transmit, via the Secretary of State, to appropriate international bodies or forums, any regulations issued under this subchapter, for consideration as international standards.

''(b) AGREEMENTS.—The President is authorized and encouraged to—

''(1) enter into negotiations and conclude and execute agreements with neighboring nations, to establish compatible vessel standards and vessel traffic services, and to establish, operate, and maintain international vessel traffic services, in areas and under circumstances of mutual concern; and

''(2) enter into negotiations, through appropriate international bodies, and conclude and execute agreements to establish vessel traffic services in appropriate areas of the high seas.

''(c) OPERATIONS.—The Secretary, pursuant to any agreement negotiated under subsection (b) that is binding upon the United States in accordance with constitutional requirements, may—

''(1) require vessels operating in an area of a vessel traffic service to utilize or to comply with the vessel traffic service, including the carrying or installation of equipment and devices as necessary for the use of the service; and

''(2) waive, by order or regulation, the application of any United States law or regulation concerning the design, construction, operation, equipment, personnel qualifications, and manning standards for vessels operating in waters over which the United States exercises jurisdiction if such vessel is not en route to or from a United States port or place, and if vessels en route to or from a United States port or place are accorded equivalent waivers of laws and regulations of the neighboring nation, when operating in waters over which that nation exercises jurisdiction.

''(d) SHIP REPORTING SYSTEMS.—The Secretary, in cooperation with the International Maritime Organization, may implement and enforce two mandatory ship reporting systems, consistent with international law, with respect to vessels subject to such reporting systems entering the following areas of the Atlantic Ocean:

''(1) Cape Cod Bay, Massachusetts Bay, and Great South Channel (in the area generally bounded by a line starting from a point on Cape Ann, Massachusetts at 42 deg. 39′ N., 70 deg. 37′ W; then northeast to 42 deg. 45′ N., 70 deg. 13′ W; then southeast to 42 deg. 10′ N., 68 deg. 31′ W, then south to 41 deg. 00′ N., 68 deg. 31′ W; then west to 41 deg. 00′ N., 69 deg. 17′ W; then northeast to 42 deg. 05′ N., 70 deg. 02′ W, then west to 42 deg. 04′ N., 70 deg. 10′ W; and then along the Massachusetts shoreline of Cape Cod Bay and Massachusetts Bay back to the point on Cape Ann at 42 deg. 39′ N., 70 deg. 37′ W).

''(2) In the coastal waters of the Southeastern United States within about 25 nm along a 90 nm stretch of the Atlantic seaboard (in an area generally extending from the shoreline east to longitude 80 deg. 51.6′ W with the southern and northern boundary at latitudes 30 deg. 00′ N., 31 deg. 27′ N., respectively).

''SUBCHAPTER II—PORTS AND WATERWAYS SAFETY

''§ 70011. Waterfront safety

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may take such action as is necessary to—

''(1) prevent damage to, or the destruction of, any bridge or other structure on or in the navigable waters of the United States, or any land structure or shore area immediately adjacent to such waters; and

''(2) protect the navigable waters and the resources therein from harm resulting from vessel or structure damage, destruction, or loss.

''(b) ACTIONS AUTHORIZED.—Actions authorized by subsection (a) include—

''(1) establishing procedures, measures, and standards for the handling, loading, unloading, storage, stowage, and movement on a structure (including the emergency removal, control, and disposition) of explosives or other dangerous articles and substances, including oil or hazardous material as those terms are defined in section 2101;

''(2) prescribing minimum safety equipment requirements for a structure to assure adequate protection from fire, explosion, natural disaster, and other serious accidents or casualties;

''(3) establishing water or waterfront safety zones, or other measures, for limited, controlled, or conditional access and activity when necessary for the protection of any vessel, structure, waters, or shore area; and

''(4) establishing procedures for examination to assure compliance with the requirements prescribed under this section.

''(c) STATE LAW.—Nothing in this section, with respect to structures, prohibits a State or political subdivision thereof from prescribing higher safety equipment requirements or safety standards than those that may be prescribed by regulations under this section.

''§ 70012. Navigational hazards

''(a) REPORTING PROCEDURE.—The Secretary shall establish a program to encourage fishermen and other vessel operators to report potential or existing navigational hazards involving pipelines to the Secretary through Coast Guard field offices.

''(b) SECRETARY'S RESPONSE.—

''(1) NOTIFICATION BY THE OPERATOR OF A PIPELINE.—Upon notification by the operator of a pipeline of a hazard to navigation with respect to that pipeline, the Secretary shall immediately notify Coast Guard headquarters, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, other affected Federal and State agencies, and vessel owners and operators in the pipeline's vicinity.

''(2) NOTIFICATION BY OTHER PERSONS.—Upon notification by any other person of a hazard or potential hazard to navigation with respect to a pipeline, the Secretary shall promptly determine whether a hazard exists, and if so shall immediately notify Coast Guard headquarters, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, other affected Federal and State agencies, vessel owners and operators in the pipeline's vicinity, and the owner and operator of the pipeline.

''(c) PIPELINE DEFINED.—For purposes of this section, the term 'pipeline' has the meaning given the term 'pipeline facility' in section 60101(a)(18) of title 49.

''§ 70013. Requirement to notify Coast Guard of release of objects into the navigable waters of the United States

''(a) REQUIREMENT.—As soon as a person has knowledge of any release from a vessel or facility into the navigable waters of the United States of any object that creates an obstruction prohibited under section 10 of the Act of March 3, 1899, popularly known as the Rivers and Harbors Appropriations Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), such person shall notify the Secretary and the Secretary of the Army of such release.

''(b) RESTRICTION ON USE OF NOTIFICATION.—Any notification provided by an individual in accordance with subsection (a) may not be used against such individual in any criminal case, except a prosecution for perjury or for giving a false statement.

''SUBCHAPTER III—CONDITION FOR ENTRY INTO PORTS IN THE UNITED STATES

''§ 70021. Conditions for entry to ports in the United States

''(a) IN GENERAL.—No vessel that is subject to chapter 37 shall operate in the navigable waters of the United States or transfer cargo or residue in any port or place under the jurisdiction of the United States, if such vessel—

''(1) has a history of accidents, pollution incidents, or serious repair problems that, as determined by the Secretary, creates reason to believe that such vessel may be unsafe or may create a threat to the marine environment;

''(2) fails to comply with any applicable regulation issued under section 70034, chapter 37, or any other applicable law or treaty;

''(3) discharges oil or hazardous material in violation of any law of the United States or in a manner or quantities inconsistent with any treaty to which the United States is a party;

''(4) does not comply with any applicable vessel traffic service requirements;

''(5) is manned by one or more officers who are licensed by a certificating State that the Secretary has determined, pursuant to section 9101 of title 46, does not have standards for licensing and certification of seafarers that are comparable to or more stringent than United States standards or international standards that are accepted by the United States;

''(6) is not manned in compliance with manning levels as determined by the Secretary to be necessary to insure the safe navigation of the vessel; or

''(7) while underway, does not have at least one licensed deck officer on the navigation bridge who is capable of clearly understanding English.

''(b) EXCEPTIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may allow provisional entry of a vessel that is not in compliance with subsection (a), if the owner or operator of such vessel proves, to the satisfaction of the Secretary, that such vessel is not unsafe or a threat to the marine environment, and if such entry is necessary for the safety of the vessel or persons aboard.

''(2) PROVISIONS NOT APPLICABLE.—Paragraphs (1), (2), (3), and (4) of subsection (a) of this section shall not apply to a vessel allowed provisional entry under paragraph (1) if the owner or operator of such vessel proves, to the satisfaction of the Secretary, that such vessel is no longer unsafe or a threat to the marine environment, and is no longer in violation of any applicable law, treaty, regulation, or condition, as appropriate.

''SUBCHAPTER IV—DEFINITIONS, REGULATIONS, ENFORCEMENT, INVESTIGATORY POWERS, APPLICABILITY

''§ 70031. Definitions

''As used in subchapters A through C and this subchapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

''(1) The term 'marine environment' means—

''(A) the navigable waters of the United States and the land and resources therein and thereunder;

''(B) the waters and fishery resources of any area over which the United States asserts exclusive fishery management authority;

''(C) the seabed and subsoil of the Outer Continental Shelf of the United States, the resources thereof, and the waters superjacent thereto; and

''(D) the recreational, economic, and scenic values of such waters and resources.

''(2) The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, except that such term means the Secretary of Transportation with respect to the application of this chapter to the Saint Lawrence Seaway.

''(3) The term 'navigable waters of the United States' includes all waters of the territorial sea of the United States as described in Presidential Proclamation No. 5928 of December 27, 1988.

''§ 70032. Saint Lawrence Seaway

''The authority granted to the Secretary under sections 70001, 70002, 70003, 7004, and 70011 may not be delegated with respect to the Saint Lawrence Seaway to any agency other than the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation. Any other authority granted the Secretary under subchapters A through C and this subchapter shall be delegated by the Secretary to the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation to the extent the Secretary determines such delegation is necessary for the proper operation of the Saint Lawrence Seaway.

''§ 70033. Limitation on application to foreign vessels

''Except pursuant to international treaty, convention, or agreement, to which the United States is a party, subchapters A through C and this subchapter shall not apply to any foreign vessel that is not destined for, or departing from, a port or place subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and that is in—

''(1) innocent passage through the territorial sea of the United States; or

''(2) transit through the navigable waters of the United States that form a part of an international strait.

''§ 70034. Regulations

''(a) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with section 553 of title 5, the Secretary shall issue, and may from time to time amend or repeal, regulations necessary to implement subchapters A through C and this subchapter.

''(b) CONSULTATION.—In the exercise of the regulatory authority under subchapters A through C and this subchapter, the Secretary shall consult with, and receive and consider the views of all interested persons, including—

''(1) interested Federal departments and agencies;

''(2) officials of State and local governments;

''(3) representatives of the maritime community;

''(4) representatives of port and harbor authorities or associations;

''(5) representatives of environmental groups;

''(6) any other interested persons who are knowledgeable or experienced in dealing with problems involving vessel safety, port and waterways safety, and protection of the marine environment; and

''(7) advisory committees consisting of all interested segments of the public when the establishment of such committees is considered necessary because the issues involved are highly complex or controversial.

''§ 70035. Investigatory powers

''(a) SECRETARY.—The Secretary may investigate any incident, accident, or act involving the loss or destruction of, or damage to, any structure subject to subchapters A through C and this subchapter, or that affects or may affect the safety or environmental quality of the ports, harbors, or navigable waters of the United States.

''(b) POWERS.—In an investigation under this section, the Secretary may issue subpoenas to require the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents or other evidence relating to such incident, accident, or act. If any person refuses to obey a subpoena, the Secretary may request the Attorney General to invoke the aid of the appropriate district court of the United States to compel compliance with the subpoena. Any district court of the United States may, in the case of refusal to obey a subpoena, issue an order requiring compliance with the subpoena, and failure to obey the order may be punished by the court as contempt. Witnesses may be paid fees for travel and attendance at rates not exceeding those allowed in a district court of the United States.

''§ 70036. Enforcement

''(a) CIVIL PENALTY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Any person who is found by the Secretary, after notice and an opportunity for a hearing, to have violated subchapters A through C or this subchapter or a regulation issued under subchapters A through C or this subchapter shall be liable to the United States for a civil penalty, not to exceed $25,000 for each violation. Each day of a continuing violation shall constitute a separate violation. The amount of such civil penalty shall be assessed by the Secretary, or the Secretary's designee, by written notice. In determining the amount of such penalty, the Secretary shall take into account the nature, circumstances, extent, and gravity of the prohibited acts committed and, with respect to the violator, the degree of culpability, any history of prior offenses, ability to pay, and such other matters as justice may require.

''(2) COMPROMISE, MODIFICATION, OR REMISSION.—The Secretary may compromise, modify, or remit, with or without conditions, any civil penalty that is subject to imposition or that has been imposed under this section.

''(3) FAILURE TO PAY PENALTY.—If any person fails to pay an assessment of a civil penalty after it has become final, the Secretary may refer the matter to the Attorney General of the United States, for collection in any appropriate district court of the United States.

''(b) CRIMINAL PENALTY.—

''(1) CLASS D FELONY.—Any person who willfully and knowingly violates subchapters A through C or this subchapter or any regulation issued thereunder commits a class D felony.

''(2) CLASS C FELONY.—Any person who, in the willful and knowing violation of subchapters A through C or this subchapter or of any regulation issued thereunder, uses a dangerous weapon, or engages in conduct that causes bodily injury or fear of imminent bodily injury to any officer authorized to enforce the provisions of such a subchapter or the regulations issued under such subchapter, commits a class C felony.

''(c) IN REM LIABILITY.—Any vessel that is used in violation of subchapters A, B, or C or this subchapter, or any regulations issued under such subchapter, shall be liable in rem for any civil penalty assessed pursuant to subsection (a) and may be proceeded against in the United States district court for any district in which such vessel may be found.

''(d) INJUNCTION.—The United States district courts shall have jurisdiction to restrain violations of subchapter A, B, or C or this subchapter or of regulations issued under such subchapter, for cause shown.

''(e) DENIAL OF ENTRY.—Except as provided in section 70021, the Secretary may, subject to recognized principles of international law, deny entry by any vessel that is not in compliance with subchapter A, B, or C or this subchapter or the regulations issued under such subchapter—

''(1) into the navigable waters of the United States; or

''(2) to any port or place under the jurisdiction of the United States.

''(f) WITHHOLDING OF CLEARANCE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If any owner, operator, or individual in charge of a vessel is liable for a penalty or fine under this section, or if reasonable cause exists to believe that the owner, operator, or individual in charge may be subject to a penalty or fine under this section, the Secretary of the Treasury, upon the request of the Secretary, shall with respect to such vessel refuse or revoke any clearance required by section 60105 of title 46.

''(2) GRANTING CLEARANCE REFUSED OR REVOKED.—Clearance refused or revoked under this subsection may be granted upon filing of a bond or other surety satisfactory to the Secretary.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis at the beginning of such subtitle is amended by inserting before the item relating to chapter 701 the following:

''700. Ports and Waterways Safety .....70001.''.

SEC. 402. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) ELECTRONIC CHARTS.—

(1) TRANSFER OF PROVISION.—Section 4A of the Ports and Waterways Safety Act (33 U.S.C. 1223a)—

(A) is redesignated as section 3105 of title 46, United States Code, and transferred to appear after section 3104 of that title; and

(B) is amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) LIMITATION ON APPLICATION.—Except pursuant to an international treaty, convention, or agreement, to which the United States is a party, this section shall not apply to any foreign vessel that is not destined for, or departing from, a port or place subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and that is in—

''(1) innocent passage through the territorial sea of the United States; or

''(2) transit through the navigable waters of the United States that form a part of an international strait.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis at the beginning of chapter 31 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following:

''3105. Electronic charts.''.

(b) PORT, HARBOR, AND COASTAL FACILITY SECURITY.—

(1) TRANSFER OF PROVISIONS.—So much of section 7 of the Ports and Waterways Safety Act (33 U.S.C. 1226) as precedes subsection (c) of that section is redesignated as section 70116 of title 46, United States Code, and transferred so as to replace section 70116 of that title, as in effect before the enactment of this Act.

(2) DEFINITIONS, ADMINISTRATION, AND ENFORCEMENT.—Section 70116 of title 46, United States Code, as amended by paragraph (1) of this subsection, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(c) DEFINITIONS, ADMINISTRATION, AND ENFORCEMENT.—This section shall be treated as part of chapter 700 for purposes of sections 70031, 70032, 70034, 70035, and 70036.''.

(3) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis at the beginning of chapter 701 of such title is amended by striking the item relating to section 70116 and inserting the following:

''70116. Port, harbor, and coastal facility security.''.

(c) NONDISCLOSURE OF PORT SECURITY PLANS.—Subsection (c) of section 7 of the Ports and Waterways Safety Act (33 U.S.C. 1226), as so designated before the application of subsection (b)(1) of this section—

(1) is redesignated as subsection (f) of section 70103 of title 46, United States Code, and transferred so as to appear after subsection (e) of such section; and

(2) is amended by striking ''this Act'' and inserting ''this chapter''.

(d) REPEAL.—Section 2307 of title 46, United States Code, and the item relating to that section in the analysis at the beginning of chapter 23 of that title, are repealed.

(e) REPEAL.—The Ports and Waterways Safety Act (33 U.S.C. 1221–1231, 1232–1232b), as amended by this division, is repealed.

SEC. 403. TRANSITIONAL AND SAVINGS PROVISIONS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) SOURCE PROVISION.—The term ''source provision'' means a provision of law that is replaced by a title 46 provision under this title.

(2) TITLE 46 PROVISION.—The term ''title 46 provision'' means a provision of title 46, United States Code, that is enacted by section 402 of this title.

(b) CUTOFF DATE.—The title 46 provisions replace certain provisions of law enacted before the date of the enactment of this Act. If a law enacted after that date amends or repeals a source provision, that law is deemed to amend or repeal, as the case may be, the corresponding title 46 provision. If a law enacted after that date is otherwise inconsistent with a title 46 provision or a provision of this title, that law supersedes the title 46 provision or provision of this title to the extent of the inconsistency.

(c) ORIGINAL DATE OF ENACTMENT UNCHANGED.—For purposes of determining whether one provision of law supersedes another based on enactment later in time, a title 46 provision is deemed to have been enacted on the date of enactment of the source provision that the title 46 provision replaces.

(d) REFERENCES TO TITLE 46 PROVISIONS.—A reference to a title 46 provision, including a reference in a regulation, order, or other law, is deemed to refer to the corresponding source provision.

(e) REFERENCES TO SOURCE PROVISIONS.—A reference to a source provision, including a reference in a regulation, order, or other law, is deemed to refer to the corresponding title 46 provision.

(f) REGULATIONS, ORDERS, AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS.—A regulation, order, or other administrative action in effect under a source provision continues in effect under the corresponding title 46 provision.

(g) ACTIONS TAKEN AND OFFENSES COMMITTED.—An action taken or an offense committed under a source provision is deemed to have been taken or committed under the corresponding title 46 provision.

SEC. 404. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

This title, including the amendments made by this title, is intended only to transfer provisions of the Ports and Waterways Safety Act to title 46, United States Code, and may not be construed to alter—

(1) the effect of a provision of the Ports and Waterways Safety Act, including any authority or requirement therein;

(2) a department or agency interpretation with respect to the Ports and Waterways Safety Act; or

(3) a judicial interpretation with respect to the Ports and Waterways Safety Act.

SEC. 405. ADVISORY COMMITTEE: REPEAL.

Section 18 of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 1991 (Public Law 102–241; 105 Stat. 2213) is repealed.

SEC. 406. REGATTAS AND MARINE PARADES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 700 of title 46, United States Code, as established by section 401 of this title, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SUBCHAPTER V—REGATTAS AND MARINE PARADES

''§ 70041. Regattas and marine parades

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard may issue regulations to promote the safety of life on navigable waters during regattas or marine parades.

''(b) DETAIL AND USE OF VESSELS.—To enforce regulations issued under this section—

''(1) the Commandant may detail any public vessel in the service of the Coast Guard and make use of any private vessel tendered gratuitously for that purpose; and

''(2) upon the request of the Commandant, the head of any other Federal department or agency may enforce the regulations by means of any public vessel of such department and any private vessel tendered gratuitously for that purpose.

''(c) TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY.—The authority of the Commandant under this section may be transferred by the President for any special occasion to the head of another Federal department or agency whenever in the President's judgment such transfer is desirable.

''(d) PENALTIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For any violation of regulations issued pursuant to this section the following penalties shall be incurred:

''(A) A licensed officer shall be liable to suspension or revocation of license in the manner prescribed by law for incompetency or misconduct.

''(B) Any person in charge of the navigation of a vessel other than a licensed officer shall be liable to a penalty of $5,000.

''(C) The owner of a vessel (including any corporate officer of a corporation owning the vessel) actually on board shall be liable to a penalty of $5,000, unless the violation of regulations occurred without the owner's knowledge.

''(D) Any other person shall be liable to a penalty of $2,500.

''(2) MITIGATION OR REMISSION.—The Commandant may mitigate or remit any penalty provided for in this subsection in the manner prescribed by law for the mitigation or remission of penalties for violation of the navigation laws.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 700 of title 46, United States Code, as established by section 401 of this title, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SUBCHAPTER E—REGATTAS AND MARINE PARADES

''70041. Regattas and marine parades.''.

(c) REPEAL.—The Act of April 28, 1908 (35 Stat. 69, chapter 151; 33 U.S.C. 1233 et seq.), is repealed.

SEC. 407. REGULATION OF VESSELS IN TERRITORIAL WATERS OF UNITED STATES.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF SUBCHAPTER F.—Chapter 700 of title 46, United States Code, as established by section 401 of this title, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SUBCHAPTER VI—REGULATION OF VESSELS IN TERRITORIAL WATERS OF UNITED STATES

''§ 70054. Definitions

''In this subchapter:

''(1) UNITED STATES.—The term 'United States' includes all territory and waters, continental or insular, subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

''(2) TERRITORIAL WATERS.—The term 'territorial waters of the United States' includes all waters of the territorial sea of the United States as described in Presidential Proclamation 5928 of December 27, 1988.''.

(b) REGULATION OF ANCHORAGE AND MOVEMENT OF VESSELS DURING NATIONAL EMERGENCY.—Section 1 of title II of the Act of June 15, 1917 (40 Stat. 220, chapter 30; 50 U.S.C. 191), is amended—

(1) by striking the section designation and all that follows before ''by proclamation'' and inserting the following:

''§ 70051. Regulation of anchorage and movement of vessels during national emergency

''Whenever the President'';

(2) by striking ''of the Treasury'';

(3) by striking ''of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating'';

(4) by striking ''this title'' and inserting ''this subchapter''; and

(5) by transferring the section so that the section appears before section 70054 of title 46, United States Code (as added by subsection (a) of this section).

(c) SEIZURE AND FORFEITURE OF VESSEL; FINE AND IMPRISONMENT.—Section 2 of title II of the Act of June 15, 1917 (40 Stat. 220, chapter 30; 50 U.S.C. 192), is amended—

(1) by striking the section designation and all that follows before ''agent,'' and inserting the following:

''§ 70052. Seizure and forfeiture of vessel; fine and imprisonment

''(a) IN GENERAL.—If any owner,'';

(2) by striking ''this title'' each place it appears and inserting ''this subchapter''; and

(3) by transferring the section so that the section appears after section 70051 of title 46, United States Code (as transferred by subsection (b) of this section).

(d) ENFORCEMENT PROVISIONS.—Section 4 of title II of the Act of June 15, 1917 (40 Stat. 220, chapter 30; 50 U.S.C. 194), is amended—

(1) by striking all before ''may employ'' and inserting the following:

''§ 70053. Enforcement provisions

''The President'';

(2) by striking ''the purpose of this title'' and inserting ''this subchapter''; and

(3) by transferring the section so that the section appears after section 70052 of title 46, United States Code (as transferred by subsection (c) of this section).

(e) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 700 of title 46, United States Code, as established by section 401 of this title, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SUBCHAPTER F—REGULATION OF VESSELS IN TERRITORIAL WATERS OF UNITED STATES

''70051. Regulation of anchorage and movement of vessels during national emergency.

''70052. Seizure and forfeiture of vessel; fine and imprisonment.

''70053. Enforcement provisions.

''70054. Definitions.''.

SEC. 408. PORT, HARBOR, AND COASTAL FACILITY SECURITY.

(a) TRANSFER OF PROVISIONS.—So much of section 7 of the Ports and Waterways Safety Act (33 U.S.C. 1226) as precedes subsection (c) of that section is redesignated as section 70102a of title 46, United States Code, and transferred so as to appear after section 70102 of that title.

(b) DEFINITIONS, ADMINISTRATION, AND ENFORCEMENT.—Section 70102a of title 46, United States Code, as amended by paragraph (1) of this subsection, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(c) DEFINITIONS, ADMINISTRATION, AND ENFORCEMENT.—This section shall be treated as part of chapter 700 for purposes of sections 70031, 70032, 70034, 70035, and 70036.''.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis at the beginning of chapter 701 of such title is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 70102 the following:

''70102a. Port, harbor, and coastal facility security.''.

(d) NONDISCLOSURE OF PORT SECURITY PLANS.—Subsection (c) of section 7 of the Ports and Waterways Safety Act (33 U.S.C. 1226), as so designated before the application of subsection (b)(1) of this section—

(1) is redesignated as subsection (f) of section 70103 of title 46, United States Code, and transferred so as to appear after subsection (e) of such section; and

(2) is amended by striking ''this Act'' and inserting ''this chapter''.

TITLE V—MARITIME TRANSPORTATION SAFETY

SEC. 501. CONSISTENCY IN MARINE INSPECTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3305 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(d)(1) The Commandant of the Coast Guard shall ensure that Officers in Charge, Marine Inspections consistently interpret regulations and standards under this subtitle and chapter 700 to avoid disruption and undue expense to industry.

''(2)(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), in the event of a disagreement regarding the condition of a vessel or the interpretation of a regulation or standard referred to in subsection (a) between a local Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection conducting an inspection of the vessel and the Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection that issued the most recent certificate of inspection for the vessel, such Officers shall seek to resolve such disagreement.

''(B) If a disagreement described in subparagraph (A) involves vessel design or plan review, the Coast Guard marine safety center shall be included in all efforts to resolve such disagreement.

''(C) If a disagreement described in subparagraph (A) or (B) cannot be resolved, the local Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection shall submit to the Commandant of the Coast Guard, through the cognizant Coast Guard district commander, a request for a final agency determination of the matter in disagreement.

''(3) The Commandant of the Coast Guard shall—

''(A) provide to each person affected by a decision or action by an Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection or by the Coast Guard marine safety center all information necessary for such person to exercise any right to appeal such decision or action; and

''(B) if such an appeal is filed, process such appeal under parts 1 through 4 of title 46, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on the date of enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2017.

''(4) In this section, the term 'Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection' means any person from the civilian or military branch of the Coast Guard who—

''(A) is designated as such by the Commandant; and

''(B) under the superintendence and direction of the cognizant Coast Guard district commander, is in charge of an inspection zone for the performance of duties with respect to the inspections under, and enforcement and administration of, subtitle II, chapter 700, and regulations under such laws.''.

(b) REPORT ON MARINE INSPECTOR TRAINING.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report on the training, experience, and qualifications required for assignment as a marine inspector under section 312 of title 14, United States Code, including—

(1) a description of any continuing education requirement, including a specific list of the required courses;

(2) a description of the training, including a specific list of the included courses, offered to a journeyman or an advanced journeyman marine inspector to advance inspection expertise;

(3) a description of any training that was offered in the 15-year period before the date of the enactment of this Act, but is no longer required or offered, including a specific list of the included courses, including the senior marine inspector course and any plan review courses;

(4) a justification for why a course described in paragraph (3) is no longer required or offered; and

(5) a list of the course content the Commandant considers necessary to promote consistency among marine inspectors in an environment of increasingly complex vessels and vessel systems.

SEC. 502. UNINSPECTED PASSENGER VESSELS IN ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MINNESOTA.

Section 4105 of title 46, United States Code, amended—

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

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

''(c) In applying this title with respect to an uninspected vessel of less than 25 feet overall in length that carries passengers on Crane Lake or waters contiguous to such lake in St. Louis County, Minnesota, the Secretary shall substitute '12 passengers' for '6 passengers' each place it appears in section 2101(42).''.

SEC. 503. ENGINE CUT-OFF SWITCH REQUIREMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 43 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 4312. Engine cut-off switches

''(a) INSTALLATION REQUIREMENT.—A manufacturer, distributor, or dealer that installs propulsion machinery and associated starting controls on a covered recreational vessel shall equip such vessel with an engine cut-off switch and engine cut-off switch link that meet American Boat and Yacht Council Standard A-33, as in effect on the date of the enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2017.

''(b) EDUCATION ON CUT-OFF SWITCHES.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard, through the National Boating Safety Advisory Committee established under section 15105, may initiate a boating safety program on the use and benefits of cut-off switches for recreational vessels.

''(c) AVAILABILITY OF STANDARD FOR INSPECTION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this section, the Commandant shall transmit American Boat and Yacht Council Standard A–33, as in effect on the date of enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2017, to—

''(A) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives;

''(B) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate; and

''(C) the Coast Guard Office of Design and Engineering Standards; and

''(D) the National Archives and Records Administration.

''(2) AVAILABILITY.—The standard submitted under paragraph (1) shall be kept on file and available for public inspection at such Coast Guard office and the National Archives and Records Administration.

''(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) COVERED RECREATIONAL VESSEL.—The term 'covered recreational vessel' means a recreational vessel that is—

''(A) less than 26 feet overall in length; and

''(B) capable of developing 115 pounds or more of static thrust.

''(2) DEALER.—The term 'dealer' means any person who is engaged in the sale and distribution of recreational vessels or associated equipment to purchasers whom the seller in good faith believes to be purchasing any such vessel or associated equipment for purposes other than resale.

''(3) DISTRIBUTOR.—The term 'distributor' means any person engaged in the sale and distribution of recreational vessels and associated equipment for the purposes of resale.

''(4) MANUFACTURER.—The term 'equipment manufacturer' means any person engaged in the manufacture, construction, or assembly of recreational vessels or associated equipment, or the importation of recreational vessels into the United States for subsequent sale.

''(5) PROPULSION MACHINERY.—The term 'propulsion machinery' means a self-contained propulsion system, and includes, but is not limited to, inboard engines, outboard motors, and sterndrive engines.

''(6) STATIC THRUST.—The term 'static thrust' means the forward or backwards thrust developed by propulsion machinery while stationary.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following:

''4312. Engine cut-off switches.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 4312 of title 46, United States Code, as amended by this section, shall take effect one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 504. EXCEPTION FROM SURVIVAL CRAFT REQUIREMENTS.

Section 4502(b) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking ''a survival craft'' and inserting ''subject to paragraph (3), a survival craft'';

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) Except for a nonapplicable vessel, an auxiliary craft shall satisfy the equipment requirement under paragraph (2)(B) if such craft is—

''(A) necessary for normal fishing operations;

''(B) readily accessible during an emergency; and

''(C) capable, in accordance with the Coast Guard capacity rating, when applicable, of safely holding all individuals on board the vessel to which the craft functions as an auxiliary.''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(k) For the purposes of this section, the term 'auxiliary craft' means a vessel that is carried onboard a fishing vessel and is normally used to support fishing operations.''.

SEC. 505. SAFETY STANDARDS.

Section 4502(f) of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking paragraphs (2) and (3) and inserting the following:

''(2) shall examine at dockside a vessel described in subsection (b) at least once every 5 years, but may require an exam at dockside every 2 years for certain vessels described in subsection (b) if requested by the owner or operator; and

''(3) shall issue a certificate of compliance to a vessel meeting the requirements of this chapter and satisfying the requirements in paragraph (2).''.

SEC. 506. FISHING SAFETY GRANTS.

Section 4502 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsections (i) and (j), by striking ''Secretary'' each place it appears and inserting ''Secretary of Health and Human Services'';

(2) in subsection (i)(2), as amended by paragraph (1), by inserting '', in consultation with and based on criteria established by the Commandant of the Coast Guard'' after ''Health and Human Services'';

(3) in subsection (i)(3), by striking ''75'' and inserting ''50'';

(4) in subsection (i)(4), by striking ''$3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2015 through 2017'' and inserting ''$3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2018 through 2019'';

(5) in subsection (j)(2), as amended by paragraph (1), by inserting '', in consultation with and based on criteria established by the Commandant of the Coast Guard,'' after ''Health and Human Services'';

(6) in subsection (j)(3), by striking ''75'' and inserting ''50''; and

(7) in subsection (j)(4), by striking ''$3,000,000 for each fiscal years 2015 through 2017'' and inserting ''$3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2018 through 2019''.

SEC. 507. FISHING, FISH TENDER, AND FISH PROCESSING VESSEL CERTIFICATION.

Section 4503(f) of title 46, United States Code, as redesignated by section 508 of this title, is further amended to read as follows:

''(f)(1) For purposes of this section and section 4503a, the term 'built' means, with respect to a vessel, that the vessel's construction has reached any of the following stages:

''(A) The vessel's keel is laid.

''(B) Construction identifiable with the vessel has begun and assembly of that vessel has commenced comprising of at least 50 metric tons or one percent of the estimated mass of all structural material, whichever is less.

''(2) In the case of a vessel greater than 79 feet overall in length, for purposes of paragraph (1)(A) a keel is deemed to be laid when a marine surveyor affirms that a structure adequate for serving as a keel for such vessel is in place and identified for use in the construction of such vessel.''.

SEC. 508. DEADLINE FOR COMPLIANCE WITH ALTERNATE SAFETY COMPLIANCE PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4503(d) of title 46, United States Code, is redesignated as section 4503a and transferred to appear after section 4503 of such title.

(b) FISHING, FISH TENDER, AND FISH PROCESSING VESSEL CERTIFICATION.—Section 4503 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (e), (f), and (g) as subsections (d), (e), and (f), respectively;

(2) in subsection (b), by striking ''subsection (d)'' and inserting ''section 4503a'';

(3) in subsection (c)(2)(B)(ii)(I), by striking ''subsection (e)'' and inserting ''subsection (d)'';

(4) in subsection (c)(2)(B)(ii)(II), by striking ''subsection (f)'' and inserting ''subsection (e)'';

(5) in subsection (e)(1), as amended by paragraph (1) of this subsection, by striking ''subsection (e)'' each place it appears and inserting ''subsection (d)''; and

(6) in subsection (e)(2), as amended by paragraph (1) of this subsection, by striking ''subsection (e)'' each place it appears and inserting ''subsection (d)'';

(c) ALTERNATE SAFETY COMPLIANCE PROGRAM.—Section 4503a of title 46, United States Code, as redesignated and transferred by subsection (a) of this section, is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1), (2), (3), (4), and (5) as subsections (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e), respectively;

(2) by inserting before subsection (a), as so redesignated, the following:

''§ 4503a. Alternate safety compliance program'';

(3) in subsection (a), as redesignated by paragraph (1) of this subsection, by striking ''After January 1, 2020,'' and all that follows through ''the Secretary, if'' and inserting ''Subject to subsection (c), beginning on the date that is 3 years after the date that the Secretary prescribes an alternate safety compliance program, a fishing vessel, fish processing vessel, or fish tender vessel to which section 4502(b) of this title applies shall comply with such an alternate safety compliance program, if'';

(4) in subsection (a), as so redesignated, by redesignating subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) as paragraphs (1), (2), and (3), respectively;

(5) in subsection (b), as so redesignated, by striking ''establishes standards for an alternate safety compliance program, shall comply with such an alternative safety compliance program that is developed in cooperation with the commercial fishing industry and prescribed by the Secretary'' and inserting ''prescribes an alternate safety compliance program under subsection (a), shall comply with such an alternate safety compliance program'';

(6) by amending subsection (c), as so redesignated, to read as follows:

''(c) For purposes of subsection (a), a separate alternate safety compliance program may be developed for a specific region or specific fishery.'';

(7) in subsection (d), as so redesignated—

(A) by striking ''paragraph (1)'' and inserting ''subsection (a)''; and

(B) by striking ''that paragraph'' each place it appears and inserting ''that subsection'';

(8) in subsection (e), as so redesignated, by—

(A) inserting ''is not eligible to participate in an alternative safety compliance program prescribed under subsection (a) and'' after ''July 1, 2012''; and

(B) redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively;

(9) by adding at the end the following:

''(f) For the purposes of this section, the term 'built' has the meaning given that term in section 4503(f).''.

(d) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis at the beginning of chapter 45 of such title is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 4503 the following

''4503a. Alternate safety compliance program.''.

(e) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 3104 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking ''section 4503(e)'' and inserting ''section 4503(d)''.

(f) FINAL RULE.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall issue a final rule implementing the requirements enumerated in section 4503(d) of title 46, as amended by subsection (b)(1) of this section.

(g) ALTERNATE SAFETY COMPLIANCE PROGRAM STATUS REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than January 1, 2019, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report on the status of the development of the alternate safety compliance program directed by section 4503a of title 46, United States Code, as redesignated by subsection (c).

(2) CONTENTS.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall include discussion of—

(A) steps taken in the rulemaking process to establish the alternate safety compliance program;

(B) communication and collaboration between the Coast Guard, the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, and the commercial fishing vessel industry regarding the development of the alternate safety compliance program;

(C) consideration given to developing alternate safety compliance programs for specific regions and fisheries, as authorized in section 4503a(c) of such title, as redesignated by subsection (c);

(D) any identified legislative changes necessary to implement an effective alternate safety compliance program; and

(E) the timeline and planned actions that will be taken to implement regulations necessary to fully establish an alternate safety compliance program before January 1, 2020.

SEC. 509. TERMINATION OF UNSAFE OPERATIONS; TECHNICAL CORRECTION.

Section 4505(2) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''4503(1)'' and inserting ''4503(a)(2)''; and

(2) by inserting before the period the following: '', except that this paragraph shall not apply with respect to a vessel to which section 4503a applies''.

SEC. 510. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS: LICENSES, CERTIFICATES OF REGISTRY, AND MERCHANT MARINER DOCUMENTS.

Title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 7106(b), by striking ''merchant mariner's document,'' and inserting ''license,'';

(2) in section 7107(b), by striking ''merchant mariner's document,'' and inserting ''certificate of registry,'';

(3) in section 7507(b)(1), by striking ''licenses or certificates of registry'' and inserting ''merchant mariner documents''; and

(4) in section 7507(b)(2) by striking ''merchant mariner's document.'' and inserting ''license or certificate of registry.''.

SEC. 511. CLARIFICATION OF LOGBOOK ENTRIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 11304 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''an official logbook, which'' and inserting ''a logbook, which may be in any form, including electronic, and''; and

(2) in subsection (b), by amending paragraph (3) to read as follows:

''(3) Each illness of, and injury to, a seaman of the vessel, the nature of the illness or injury, and the medical treatment provided for the injury or illness.''.

(b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Section 11304(b) is amended by striking ''log book'' and inserting ''logbook''.

SEC. 512. CERTIFICATES OF DOCUMENTATION FOR RECREATIONAL VESSELS.

Section 12105 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) EFFECTIVE PERIOD.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), a certificate of documentation issued under this part is valid for a 1-year period and may be renewed for additional 1-year periods.

''(2) RECREATIONAL VESSELS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A certificate of documentation for a recreational vessel and the renewal of such a certificate shall be effective for a 5-year period.

''(B) PHASE-IN PERIOD.—During the period beginning January 1, 2019, and ending December 31, 2021, the owner or operator of a recreational vessel may choose a period of effectiveness of between 1 and 5 years for such a certificate of documentation for such vessel or the renewal thereof.

''(C) FEES.—

''(i) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary shall assess and collect a fee—

''(I) for the issuance of a certificate of documentation for a recreational vessel that is equivalent to the fee established for the issuance of a certificate of documentation under section 2110; and

''(II) for the renewal of a certificate of documentation for a recreational vessel that is equivalent to the number of years of effectiveness of the certificate of documentation multiplied by the fee established for the renewal of a certificate of documentation under section 2110.

''(ii) TREATMENT.—Fees collected under this subsection—

''(I) shall be credited to the account from which the costs of such issuance or renewal were paid; and

''(II) may remain available until expended.

''(3) NOTICE OF CHANGE IN INFORMATION.—

''(A) REQUIREMENT.—The owner of a vessel shall notify the Coast Guard of each change in the information on which the issuance of the certificate of documentation for the vessel is based that occurs before the expiration of the certificate under this subsection, by not later than 30 days after such change.

''(B) TERMINATION OF CERTIFICATE.—The certificate of documentation for a vessel shall terminate upon the expiration of such 30-day period if the owner has not notified the Coast Guard of such change before the end of such period.

''(4) STATE AND LOCAL AUTHORITY TO REMOVE ABANDONED AND DERELICT VESSELS.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the authority of a State or local authority from taking action to remove an abandoned or derelict vessel.''.

SEC. 513. NUMBERING FOR UNDOCUMENTED BARGES.

Section 12301(b) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''shall'' and inserting ''may''; and

(2) by inserting ''of'' after ''barge''.

SEC. 514. BACKUP GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the ''National Timing Resilience and Security Act of 2018''.

(b) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 3 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 312. Alternative timing system

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of appropriations and not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of the National Timing Resilience and Security Act of 2018, the Secretary shall establish a land-based, resilient, and reliable alternative timing system—

''(1) to reduce critical dependencies on, and provide a complement to and backup for, the timing component of the Global Positioning System; and

''(2) to ensure the availability of uncorrupted and non-degraded timing signals for military and civilian users in the event that GPS timing signals are corrupted, degraded, unreliable, or otherwise unavailable.

''(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the National Timing Resilience and Security Act of 2018, the Secretary shall establish requirements for the procurement of a land-based complement to and backup for the timing component of GPS.

''(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall consider the following requirements for the system, to the degree practicable:

''(A) Be wireless.

''(B) Be terrestrial.

''(C) Provide wide-area coverage.

''(D) Be synchronized with coordinated universal time.

''(E) Be resilient and extremely difficult to disrupt or degrade.

''(F) Be able to penetrate underground and inside buildings.

''(G) Be capable of deployment to remote locations.

''(H) Incorporate the expertise of the private sector with respect to development, building, and installation.

''(I) Be interoperable with and complement other similar positioning, navigation, and timing systems, including enhanced long-range navigation systems and Nationwide Differential GPS systems.

''(J) Be available for use by Federal and non-Federal government agencies for public purposes at no cost.

''(K) Be capable of adaptation and expansion to provide position and navigation capabilities.

''(L) Incorporate the recommendations and next actions from any GPS back-up capability demonstration program initiated and completed by the Secretary, in coordination with other Federal agencies.

''(M) Incorporate such other requirements determined necessary by the Secretary.

''(c) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the National Timing Resilience and Security Act of 2018, the Secretary shall provide to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a plan to implement the establishment of the system authorized by subsection (a). Such plan shall describe the work necessary to provide a follow-on complementary and backup positioning and navigation capability.

''(d) FUNDING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall transfer, without reimbursement, to the Secretary to carry out this section the following:

''(A) Notwithstanding section 914 of title 14, or any other provision of law, such infrastructure comprising the Long-Range Navigation (LORAN) system, including any real and personal property under the administrative control of the Coast Guard and used for the LORAN system, as the Secretary determines necessary for the purposes described in subsection (a).

''(B) Any funds specifically appropriated or made available for the purposes described in subsection (a), and such funds shall remain available until expended, without fiscal year limitation.

''(2) LIABILITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—

''(A) Nothing in this subsection may be construed to limit the application of or otherwise affect section 120(h) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9620(h)).

''(B) The Secretary shall assume all environmental compliance and restoration responsibilities and liabilities associated with real property transferred under paragraph (1)(A).

''(e) AGREEMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Federal agencies may not make commitments under this section (including cooperative agreements (as that term is defined under section 6305 of title 31), leases, service contracts, or any other type of commitment) unless funds are specifically provided for such purposes in advance in subsequent appropriations Acts, and only to the extent that the full extent of anticipated costs stemming from such commitments is recorded as an obligation up front and in full at the time it is made.

''(2) COMPETITION REQUIRED.—The Secretary shall use competitive procedures similar to those authorized under section 2667 of title 10 in selecting an entity to enter into an agreement to fulfill the purpose or this section.

''(3) DETERMINATION.—Prior to entering into any agreement under this subsection, the Secretary must determine that the use of such agreement is in the best financial interest of the Federal Government.

''(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) ENTITY.—The term 'entity' means a non-Federal entity with the demonstrated technical expertise and requisite administrative and financial resources to meet any such terms and conditions as may be established by the Secretary.

''(2) GPS.—The term 'GPS' means the Global Positioning System.

''(3) SECRETARY.—The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Transportation.''.

(c) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for chapter 3 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''312. Alternative timing system.''.

SEC. 515. SCIENTIFIC PERSONNEL.

Section 2101(31) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting ''(A) Subject to subparagraph (B),'' before the text; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(B)(i) Such term includes an individual who is on board an oceanographic research vessel only to—

''(I) engage in scientific research;

''(II) instruct in oceanography or limnology; or

''(III) receive instruction in oceanography or limnology.

''(ii) For purposes of clause (i), the age of an individual may not be considered in determining whether the individual is described in such clause.''.

SEC. 516. TRANSPARENCY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard shall publish any letter of determination issued by the Coast Guard National Vessel Documentation Center after the date of the enactment of this Act on the National Vessel Documentation Center website not later than 30 days after the date of issuance of such letter of determination.

(b) AUDIT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct an audit, the results of which shall be made publicly available, of—

(A) the method or process by which the Coast Guard National Vessel Documentation Center develops policy for and documents compliance with the requirements of section 67.97 of title 46, Code of Federal Regulations, for the purpose of issuing endorsements under section 12112 and 12113 of title 46, United States Code;

(B) the coordination between the Coast Guard and U.S. Customs and Border Protection with respect to the enforcement of such requirements; and

(C) the extent to which the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating and the Secretary of Transportation, through the Maritime Administration, have published and disseminated information to promote compliance with applicable vessel construction requirements.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the audit under paragraph (1) is complete, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report regarding the results of and recommendations made pursuant to such audit.

(c) OUTLINE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the submission of the Comptroller General of the United States report required under subsection (b), the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives an outline of plans—

(1) to enhance the transparency of the documentation process, and communications with the maritime industry regarding such process over the next 5 years; and

(2) to implement the recommendations made by the Comptroller General of the United States in the report required under subsection (b)(2).

TITLE VI—ADVISORY COMMITTEES

SEC. 601. NATIONAL MARITIME TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle II of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''PART K—NATIONAL MARITIME TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEES

''CHAPTER 151—NATIONAL MARITIME TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEES

''Sec.

''15101. National Chemical Transportation Safety Advisory Committee.

''15102. National Commercial Fishing Safety Advisory Committee.

''15103. National Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee.

''15104. National Merchant Mariner Medical Advisory Committee.

''15105. National Boating Safety Advisory Committee.

''15106. National Offshore Safety Advisory Committee.

''15107. National Navigation Safety Advisory Committee.

''15108. National Towing Safety Advisory Committee.

''15109. Administration.

''§ 15101. National Chemical Transportation Safety Advisory Committee

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a National Chemical Transportation Safety Advisory Committee (in this section referred to as the 'Committee').

''(b) FUNCTION.—The Committee shall advise the Secretary on matters relating to the safe and secure marine transportation of hazardous materials.

''(c) MEMBERSHIP.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall consist of not more than 25 members appointed by the Secretary in accordance with this section and section 15109 of this chapter.

''(2) EXPERTISE.—Each member of the Committee shall have particular expertise, knowledge, and experience in matters relating to the function of the Committee.

''(3) REPRESENTATION.—Each member of the Committee shall represent 1 of the following:

''(A) Chemical manufacturing entities.

''(B) Entities related to marine handling or transportation of chemicals.

''(C) Vessel design and construction entities.

''(D) Marine safety or security entities.

''(E) Marine environmental protection entities.

''(4) DISTRIBUTION.—The Secretary shall, based on the needs of the Coast Guard, determine the number of members of the Committee who represent each entity specified in paragraph (3). Neither this paragraph nor any other provision of law shall be construed to require an equal distribution of members representing each entity specified in paragraph (3).

''§ 15102. National Commercial Fishing Safety Advisory Committee

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a National Commercial Fishing Safety Advisory Committee (in this section referred to as the 'Committee').

''(b) FUNCTION.—The Committee shall—

''(1) advise the Secretary on matters relating to the safe operation of vessels to which chapter 45 of this title applies, including the matters of—

''(A) navigation safety;

''(B) safety equipment and procedures;

''(C) marine insurance;

''(D) vessel design, construction, maintenance, and operation; and

''(E) personnel qualifications and training; and

''(2) review regulations proposed under chapter 45 of this title (during preparation of the regulations).

''(c) MEMBERSHIP.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall consist of 18 members appointed by the Secretary in accordance with this section and section 15109 of this chapter.

''(2) EXPERTISE.—Each member of the Committee shall have particular expertise, knowledge, and experience in matters relating to the function of the Committee.

''(3) REPRESENTATION.—Members of the Committee shall be appointed as follows:

''(A) 10 members shall represent the commercial fishing industry and—

''(i) as a group, shall together reflect a regional and representational balance; and

''(ii) as individuals, shall each have experience—

''(I) in the operation of vessels to which chapter 45 of this title applies; or

''(II) as a crew member or processing line worker on a fish processing vessel.

''(B) 1 member shall represent naval architects and marine engineers.

''(C) 1 member shall represent manufacturers of equipment for vessels to which chapter 45 of this title applies.

''(D) 1 member shall represent education and training professionals related to fishing vessel, fish processing vessel, and fish tender vessel safety and personnel qualifications.

''(E) 1 member shall represent underwriters that insure vessels to which chapter 45 of this title applies.

''(F) 1 member shall represent owners of vessels to which chapter 45 of this title applies.

''(G) 3 members shall represent the general public and, to the extent possible, shall include—

''(i) an independent expert or consultant in maritime safety;

''(ii) a marine surveyor who provides services to vessels to which chapter 45 of this title applies; and

''(iii) a person familiar with issues affecting fishing communities and the families of fishermen.

''§ 15103. National Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a National Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee (in this section referred to as the 'Committee').

''(b) FUNCTION.—The Committee shall advise the Secretary on matters relating to personnel in the United States merchant marine, including the training, qualifications, certification, documentation, and fitness of mariners.

''(c) MEMBERSHIP.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall consist of 19 members appointed by the Secretary in accordance with this section and section 15109 of this chapter.

''(2) EXPERTISE.—Each member of the Committee shall have particular expertise, knowledge, and experience in matters relating to the function of the Committee.

''(3) REPRESENTATION.—Members of the Committee shall be appointed as follows:

''(A) 9 members shall represent mariners and, of the 9—

''(i) each shall—

''(I) be a citizen of the United States; and

''(II) hold an active license or certificate issued under chapter 71 of this title or a merchant mariner document issued under chapter 73 of this title;

''(ii) 3 shall be deck officers who represent merchant marine deck officers and, of the 3—

''(I) 2 shall be licensed for oceans any gross tons;

''(II) 1 shall be licensed for inland river route with a limited or unlimited tonnage;

''(III) 2 shall have a master's license or a master of towing vessels license;

''(IV) 1 shall have significant tanker experience; and

''(V) to the extent practicable—

''(aa) 1 shall represent labor; and

''(bb) 1 shall represent management;

''(iii) 3 shall be engineering officers who represent merchant marine engineering officers and, of the 3—

''(I) 2 shall be licensed as chief engineer any horsepower;

''(II) 1 shall be licensed as either a limited chief engineer or a designated duty engineer; and

''(III) to the extent practicable—

''(aa) 1 shall represent labor; and

''(bb) 1 shall represent management;

''(iv) 2 shall be unlicensed seamen who represent merchant marine unlicensed seaman and, of the 2—

''(I) 1 shall represent able-bodied seamen; and

''(II) 1 shall represent qualified members of the engine department; and

''(v) 1 shall be a pilot who represents merchant marine pilots.

''(B) 6 members shall represent marine educators and, of the 6—

''(i) 3 shall be marine educators who represent maritime academies and, of the 3—

''(I) 2 shall represent State maritime academies (and are jointly recommended by such academies); and

''(II) 1 shall represent either State maritime academies or the United States Merchant Marine Academy; and

''(ii) 3 shall be marine educators who represent other maritime training institutions and, of the 3, 1 shall represent the small vessel industry.

''(C) 2 members shall represent shipping companies employed in ship operation management.

''(D) 2 members shall represent the general public.

''§ 15104. National Merchant Mariner Medical Advisory Committee

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a National Merchant Mariner Medical Advisory Committee (in this section referred to as the 'Committee').

''(b) FUNCTION.—The Committee shall advise the Secretary on matters relating to—

''(1) medical certification determinations for the issuance of licenses, certification of registry, and merchant mariners' documents with respect to merchant mariners;

''(2) medical standards and guidelines for the physical qualifications of operators of commercial vessels;

''(3) medical examiner education; and

''(4) medical research.

''(c) MEMBERSHIP.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall consist of 14 members appointed by the Secretary in accordance with this section and section 15109 of this chapter.

''(2) EXPERTISE.—Each member of the Committee shall have particular expertise, knowledge, and experience in matters relating to the function of the Committee.

''(3) REPRESENTATION.—Members of the Committee shall be appointed as follows:

''(A) 9 shall represent health-care professionals and have particular expertise, knowledge, and experience regarding the medical examinations of merchant mariners or occupational medicine.

''(B) 5 shall represent professional mariners and have particular expertise, knowledge, and experience in occupational requirements for mariners.

''§ 15105. National Boating Safety Advisory Committee

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a National Boating Safety Advisory Committee (in this section referred to as the 'Committee').

''(b) FUNCTION.—The Committee shall advise the Secretary on matters relating to national boating safety.

''(c) MEMBERSHIP.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall consist of 21 members appointed by the Secretary in accordance with this section and section 15109 of this chapter.

''(2) EXPERTISE.—Each member of the Committee shall have particular expertise, knowledge, and experience in matters relating to the function of the Committee.

''(3) REPRESENTATION.—Members of the Committee shall be appointed as follows:

''(A) 7 members shall represent State officials responsible for State boating safety programs.

''(B) 7 members shall represent recreational vessel and associated equipment manufacturers.

''(C) 7 members shall represent the general public or national recreational boating organizations and, of the 7, at least 5 shall represent national recreational boating organizations.

''§ 15106. National Offshore Safety Advisory Committee

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a National Offshore Safety Advisory Committee (in this section referred to as the 'Committee').

''(b) FUNCTION.—The Committee shall advise the Secretary on matters relating to activities directly involved with, or in support of, the exploration of offshore mineral and energy resources, to the extent that such matters are within the jurisdiction of the Coast Guard.

''(c) MEMBERSHIP.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall consist of 15 members appointed by the Secretary in accordance with this section and section 15109 of this chapter.

''(2) EXPERTISE.—Each member of the Committee shall have particular expertise, knowledge, and experience in matters relating to the function of the Committee.

''(3) REPRESENTATION.—Members of the Committee shall be appointed as follows:

''(A) 2 members shall represent entities engaged in the production of petroleum.

''(B) 2 members shall represent entities engaged in offshore drilling.

''(C) 2 members shall represent entities engaged in the support, by offshore supply vessels or other vessels, of offshore mineral and oil operations, including geophysical services.

''(D) 1 member shall represent entities engaged in the construction of offshore exploration and recovery facilities.

''(E) 1 member shall represent entities engaged in diving services related to offshore construction, inspection, and maintenance.

''(F) 1 member shall represent entities engaged in safety and training services related to offshore exploration and construction.

''(G) 1 member shall represent entities engaged in pipelaying services related to offshore construction.

''(H) 2 members shall represent individuals employed in offshore operations and, of the 2, 1 shall have recent practical experience on a vessel or offshore unit involved in the offshore mineral and energy industry.

''(I) 1 member shall represent national environmental entities.

''(J) 1 member shall represent deepwater ports.

''(K) 1 member shall represent the general public (but not a specific environmental group).

''§ 15107. National Navigation Safety Advisory Committee

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a National Navigation Safety Advisory Committee (in this section referred to as the 'Committee').

''(b) FUNCTION.—The Committee shall advise the Secretary on matters relating to maritime collisions, rammings, and groundings, Inland Rules of the Road, International Rules of the Road, navigation regulations and equipment, routing measures, marine information, and aids to navigation systems.

''(c) MEMBERSHIP.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall consist of not more than 21 members appointed by the Secretary in accordance with this section and section 15109 of this chapter.

''(2) EXPERTISE.—Each member of the Committee shall have particular expertise, knowledge, and experience in matters relating to the function of the Committee.

''(3) REPRESENTATION.—Each member of the Committee shall represent 1 of the following:

''(A) Commercial vessel owners or operators.

''(B) Professional mariners.

''(C) Recreational boaters.

''(D) The recreational boating industry.

''(E) State agencies responsible for vessel or port safety.

''(F) The Maritime Law Association.

''(4) DISTRIBUTION.—The Secretary shall, based on the needs of the Coast Guard, determine the number of members of the Committee who represent each entity specified in paragraph (3). Neither this paragraph nor any other provision of law shall be construed to require an equal distribution of members representing each entity specified in paragraph (3).

''§ 15108. National Towing Safety Advisory Committee

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a National Towing Safety Advisory Committee (in this section referred to as the 'Committee').

''(b) FUNCTION.—The Committee shall advise the Secretary on matters relating to shallow-draft inland navigation, coastal waterway navigation, and towing safety.

''(c) MEMBERSHIP.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall consist of 18 members appointed by the Secretary in accordance with this section and section 15109 of this chapter.

''(2) EXPERTISE.—Each member of the Committee shall have particular expertise, knowledge, and experience in matters relating to the function of the Committee.

''(3) REPRESENTATION.—Members of the Committee shall be appointed as follows:

''(A) 7 members shall represent the barge and towing industry, reflecting a regional geographic balance.

''(B) 1 member shall represent the offshore mineral and oil supply vessel industry.

''(C) 1 member shall represent masters and pilots of towing vessels who hold active licenses and have experience on the Western Rivers and the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway.

''(D) 1 member shall represent masters of towing vessels in offshore service who hold active licenses.

''(E) 1 member shall represent masters of active ship-docking or harbor towing vessels.

''(F) 1 member shall represent licensed and unlicensed towing vessel engineers with formal training and experience.

''(G) 2 members shall represent port districts, authorities, or terminal operators.

''(H) 2 members shall represent shippers and, of the 2, 1 shall be engaged in the shipment of oil or hazardous materials by barge.

''(I) 2 members shall represent the general public.

''§ 15109. Administration

''(a) MEETINGS.—Each committee established under this chapter shall, at least once

each year, meet at the call of the Secretary or a majority of the members of the committee.

''(b) EMPLOYEE STATUS.—A member of a committee established under this chapter shall not be considered an employee of the Federal Government by reason of service on such committee, except for the purposes of the following:

''(1) Chapter 81 of title 5.

''(2) Chapter 171 of title 28 and any other Federal law relating to tort liability.

''(c) COMPENSATION.—Notwithstanding subsection (b), a member of a committee established under this chapter, when actually engaged in the performance of the duties of such committee, may—

''(1) receive compensation at a rate established by the Secretary, not to exceed the maximum daily rate payable under section 5376 of title 5; or

''(2) if not compensated in accordance with paragraph (1)—

''(A) be reimbursed for actual and reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of such duties; or

''(B) be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by section 5703 of title 5.

''(d) ACCEPTANCE OF VOLUNTEER SERVICES.—A member of a committee established under this chapter may serve on such committee on a voluntary basis without pay without regard to section 1342 of title 31 or any other law.

''(e) STATUS OF MEMBERS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), with respect to a member of a committee established under this chapter whom the Secretary appoints to represent an entity or group—

''(A) the member is authorized to represent the interests of the applicable entity or group; and

''(B) requirements under Federal law that would interfere with such representation and that apply to a special Government employee (as defined in section 202(a) of title 18), including requirements relating to employee conduct, political activities, ethics, conflicts of interest, and corruption, do not apply to the member.

''(2) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding subsection (b), a member of a committee established under this chapter shall be treated as a special Government employee for purposes of the committee service of the member if—

''(A) the Secretary appointed the member to represent the general public; or

''(B) the member, without regard to service on the committee, is a special Government employee.

''(f) SERVICE ON COMMITTEE.—

''(1) SOLICITATION OF NOMINATIONS.—Before appointing an individual as a member of a committee established under this chapter, the Secretary shall publish, in the Federal Register, a timely notice soliciting nominations for membership on such committee.

''(2) APPOINTMENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—After considering nominations received pursuant to a notice published under paragraph (1), the Secretary may, as necessary, appoint a member to the applicable committee established under this chapter.

''(B) PROHIBITION.—The Secretary shall not seek, consider, or otherwise use information concerning the political affiliation of a nominee in making an appointment to any committee established under this chapter.

''(3) SERVICE AT PLEASURE OF THE SECRETARY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Each member of a committee established under this chapter shall serve at the pleasure of the Secretary.

''(B) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), a member of the committee established under section 15102 may only be removed prior to the end of the term of that member for just cause.

''(4) SECURITY BACKGROUND EXAMINATIONS.—The Secretary may require an individual to have passed an appropriate security background examination before appointment to a committee established under this chapter.

''(5) PROHIBITION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), a Federal employee may not be appointed as a member of a committee established under this chapter.

''(B) SPECIAL RULE FOR NATIONAL MERCHANT MARINE PERSONNEL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—The Secretary may appoint a Federal employee to serve as a member of the National Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee to represent the interests of the United States Merchant Marine Academy and, notwithstanding paragraphs (1) and (2), may do so without soliciting, receiving, or considering nominations for such appointment.

''(6) TERMS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term of each member of a committee established under this chapter shall expire on December 31 of the third full year after the effective date of the appointment.

''(B) CONTINUED SERVICE AFTER TERM.—When the term of a member of a committee established under this chapter ends, the member, for a period not to exceed 1 year, may continue to serve as a member until a successor is appointed.

''(7) VACANCIES.—A vacancy on a committee established under this chapter shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

''(8) SPECIAL RULE FOR REAPPOINTMENTS.—Notwithstanding paragraphs (1) and (2), the Secretary may reappoint a member of a committee established under this chapter for any term, other than the first term of the member, without soliciting, receiving, or considering nominations for such appointment.

''(g) STAFF SERVICES.—The Secretary shall furnish to each committee established under this chapter any staff and services considered by the Secretary to be necessary for the conduct of the committee's functions.

''(h) CHAIRMAN; VICE CHAIRMAN.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Each committee established under this chapter shall elect a Chairman and Vice Chairman from among the committee's members.

''(2) VICE CHAIRMAN ACTING AS CHAIRMAN.—The Vice Chairman shall act as Chairman in the absence or incapacity of, or in the event of a vacancy in the office of, the Chairman.

''(i) SUBCOMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Chairman of a committee established under this chapter may establish and disestablish subcommittees and working groups for any purpose consistent with the function of the committee.

''(2) PARTICIPANTS.—Subject to conditions imposed by the Chairman, members of a committee established under this chapter and additional persons drawn from entities or groups designated by this chapter to be represented on the committee or the general public may be assigned to subcommittees and working groups established under paragraph (1).

''(3) CHAIR.—Only committee members may chair subcommittees and working groups established under paragraph (1).

''(j) CONSULTATION, ADVICE, REPORTS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS.—

''(1) CONSULTATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Before taking any significant action, the Secretary shall consult with, and consider the information, advice, and recommendations of, a committee established under this chapter if the function of the committee is to advise the Secretary on matters related to the significant action.

''(B) INCLUSION.—For purposes of this paragraph, regulations proposed under chapter 45 of this title are significant actions.

''(2) ADVICE, REPORTS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS.—Each committee established under this chapter shall submit, in writing, to the Secretary its advice, reports, and recommendations, in a form and at a frequency determined appropriate by the committee.

''(3) EXPLANATION OF ACTIONS TAKEN.—Not later than 60 days after the date on which the Secretary receives recommendations from a committee under paragraph (2), the Secretary shall—

''(A) publish the recommendations on a website accessible at no charge to the public;

''(B) if the recommendations are from the committee established under section 15102, establish a mechanism for the submission of public comments on the recommendations; and

''(C) respond, in writing, to the committee regarding the recommendations, including by providing an explanation of actions taken regarding the recommendations.

''(4) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate the advice, reports, and recommendations received from committees under paragraph (2).

''(B) ADDITIONAL SUBMISSION.—With respect to a committee established under section 70112 and to which this section applies, the Secretary shall submit the advice, reports, and recommendations received from the committee under paragraph (2) to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives in addition to the committees specified in subparagraph (A).

''(k) OBSERVERS.—Any Federal agency with matters under such agency's administrative jurisdiction related to the function of a committee established under this chapter may designate a representative to—

''(1) attend any meeting of such committee; and

''(2) participate as an observer at meetings of such committee that relate to such a matter.

''(l) TERMINATION.—Each committee established under this chapter shall terminate on September 30, 2027.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for subtitle II of title 46, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to chapter 147 the following:

''Part K–National Maritime Transportation Advisory Committees

''151. National Maritime Transportation Advisory Committees ..... 15101''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) COMMERCIAL FISHING SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—Section 4508 of title 46, United States Code, and the item relating to that section in the analysis for chapter 45 of that title, are repealed.

(2) MERCHANT MARINER MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—Section 7115 of title 46, United States Code, and the item relating to that section in the analysis for chapter 71 of that title, are repealed.

(3) MERCHANT MARINE PERSONNEL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—

(A) REPEAL.—Section 8108 of title 46, United States Code, and the item relating to that section in the analysis for chapter 81 of that title, are repealed.

(B) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 7510(c)(1)(C) of title 46, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''National'' before ''Merchant Marine''.

(4) NATIONAL BOATING SAFETY ADVISORY COUNCIL.—

(A) REPEAL.—Section 13110 of title 46, United States Code, and the item relating to that section in the analysis for chapter 131 of that title, are repealed.

(B) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(i) REGULATIONS.—Section 4302(c)(4) of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking ''Council established under section 13110 of this title'' and inserting ''Committee established under section 15105 of this title''.

(ii) REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT OF DEFECTS.—Section 4310(f) of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking ''Advisory Council'' and inserting ''Advisory Committee''.

(5) NAVIGATION SAFETY ADVISORY COUNCIL.—Section 5 of the Inland Navigational Rules Act of 1980 (33 U.S.C. 2073) is repealed.

(6) TOWING SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—

(A) REPEAL.—Public Law 96–380 (33 U.S.C. 1231a) is repealed.

(B) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(i) REDUCTION OF OIL SPILLS FROM SINGLE HULL NON-SELF-PROPELLED TANK VESSELS.—Section 3719 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''National'' before ''Towing Safety''.

(ii) SAFETY EQUIPMENT.—Section 4102(f)(1) of title 46, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''National'' before ''Towing Safety''.

(d) TREATMENT OF EXISTING COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law—

(1) an advisory council or committee substantially similar to an advisory committee established under chapter 151 of title 46, United States Code, as added by this division, and that was in force or in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this section, including a council or committee the authority for which was repealed under subsection (c), may remain in force or in effect for a period of 2 years from the date of enactment of this section, including that the charter, membership, and other aspects of the council or committee may remain in force or in effect; and

(2) during the 2-year period referenced in paragraph (1)—

(A) requirements relating to the applicable advisory committee established under chapter 151 of title 46, United States Code, shall be treated as satisfied by the substantially similar advisory council or committee; and

(B) the enactment of this section, including the amendments made in this section, shall not be the basis—

(i) to deem, find, or declare such council or committee, including the charter, membership, and other aspects thereof, void, not in force, or not in effect;

(ii) to suspend the activities of such council or committee; or

(iii) to bar the members of such council or committee from meeting.

SEC. 602. MARITIME SECURITY ADVISORY COMMITTEES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 70112 of title 46, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''§ 70112. Maritime Security Advisory Committees

''(a) NATIONAL MARITIME SECURITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a National Maritime Security Advisory Committee (in this subsection referred to as the 'Committee').

''(2) FUNCTION.—The Committee shall advise the Secretary on matters relating to national maritime security.

''(3) MEMBERSHIP.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall consist of at least 8 members, but not more than 21 members, appointed by the Secretary in accordance with this subsection and section 15109 of this title.

''(B) EXPERTISE.—Each member of the Committee shall have particular expertise, knowledge, and experience in matters relating to the function of the Committee.

''(C) REPRESENTATION.—Each of the following shall be represented by at least 1 member of the Committee:

''(i) Port authorities.

''(ii) Facilities owners and operators.

''(iii) Terminal owners and operators.

''(iv) Vessel owners and operators.

''(v) Maritime labor organizations.

''(vi) The academic community.

''(vii) State and local governments.

''(viii) The maritime industry.

''(D) DISTRIBUTION.—If the Committee consists of at least 8 members who, together, satisfy the minimum representation requirements of subparagraph (C), the Secretary shall, based on the needs of the Coast Guard, determine the number of additional members of the Committee who represent each entity specified in that subparagraph. Neither this subparagraph nor any other provision of law shall be construed to require an equal distribution of members representing each entity specified in subparagraph (C).

''(4) ADMINISTRATION.—For purposes of section 15109 of this title, the Committee shall be treated as a committee established under chapter 151 of such title.

''(b) AREA MARITIME SECURITY ADVISORY COMMITTEES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—

''(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary may—

''(i) establish an Area Maritime Security Advisory Committee for any port area of the United States; and

''(ii) request such a committee to review the proposed Area Maritime Transportation Security Plan developed under section 70103(b) and make recommendations to the Secretary that the committee considers appropriate.

''(B) ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS AND MEETINGS.—A committee established under this subsection for an area—

''(i) may advise, consult with, report to, and make recommendations to the Secretary on matters relating to maritime security in that area;

''(ii) may make available to the Congress recommendations that the committee makes to the Secretary; and

''(iii) shall meet at the call of—

''(I) the Secretary, who shall call such a meeting at least once during each calendar year; or

''(II) a majority of the committee.

''(2) MEMBERSHIP.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Each committee established under this subsection shall consist of at least 7 members appointed by the Secretary, each of whom has at least 5 years practical experience in maritime security operations.

''(B) TERMS.—The term of each member of a committee established under this subsection shall be for a period of not more than 5 years, specified by the Secretary.

''(C) NOTICE.—Before appointing an individual to a position on a committee established under this subsection, the Secretary shall publish a notice in the Federal Register soliciting nominations for membership on the committee.

''(D) BACKGROUND EXAMINATIONS.—The Secretary may require an individual to have passed an appropriate security background examination before appointment to a committee established under this subsection.

''(E) REPRESENTATION.—Each committee established under this subsection shall be composed of individuals who represent the interests of the port industry, terminal operators, port labor organizations, and other users of the port areas.

''(3) CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Each committee established under this subsection shall elect 1 of the committee's members as the Chairperson and 1 of the committee's members as the Vice Chairperson.

''(B) VICE CHAIRPERSON ACTING AS CHAIRPERSON.—The Vice Chairperson shall act as Chairperson in the absence or incapacity of the Chairperson, or in the event of a vacancy in the office of the Chairperson.

''(4) OBSERVERS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, and the head of any other interested Federal agency may, designate a representative to participate as an observer with a committee established under this subsection.

''(B) ROLE.—The Secretary's designated representative to a committee established under this subsection shall act as the executive secretary of the committee and shall perform the duties set forth in section 10(c) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.).

''(5) CONSIDERATION OF VIEWS.—The Secretary shall consider the information, advice, and recommendations of each committee established under this subsection in formulating policy regarding matters affecting maritime security.

''(6) COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A member of a committee established under this subsection, when attending meetings of the committee or when otherwise engaged in the business of the committee, is entitled to receive—

''(i) compensation at a rate fixed by the Secretary, not exceeding the daily equivalent of the current rate of basic pay in effect for GS–15 of the General Schedule under section 5332 of title 5 including travel time; and

''(ii) travel or transportation expenses under section 5703 of title 5.

''(B) STATUS.—A member of a committee established under this subsection shall not be considered to be an officer or employee of the United States for any purpose based on the receipt of any payment under this paragraph.

''(7) FACA.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) does not apply to a committee established under this subsection.''.

(b) TREATMENT OF EXISTING COMMITTEE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law—

(1) an advisory committee substantially similar to the National Maritime Security Advisory Committee established under section 70112(a) of title 46, United States Code, as amended by this section, and that was in force or in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this section, may remain in force or in effect for a period of 2 years from the date of enactment of this section, including that the charter, membership, and other aspects of the committee may remain in force or in effect; and

(2) during the 2-year period referenced in paragraph (1)—

(A) requirements relating to the National Maritime Security Advisory Committee established under section 70112(a) of title 46, United States Code, as amended by this section, shall be treated as satisfied by the substantially similar advisory committee; and

(B) the enactment of this section, including the amendments made in this section, shall not be the basis—

(i) to deem, find, or declare such committee, including the charter, membership, and other aspects thereof, void, not in force, or not in effect;

(ii) to suspend the activities of such committee; or

(iii) to bar the members of such committee from meeting.

TITLE VII—FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

SEC. 701. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''Federal Maritime Commission Authorization Act of 2017''.

SEC. 702. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 308 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking ''$24,700,000 for each of fiscal years 2016 and 2017'' and inserting ''$28,012,310 for fiscal year 2018 and $28,544,543 for fiscal year 2019''.

SEC. 703. REPORTING ON IMPACT OF ALLIANCES ON COMPETITION.

Section 306 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (4), by striking ''; and'' and inserting a semicolon;

(B) in paragraph (5), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(6) an analysis of the impacts on competition for the purchase of certain covered services by alliances of ocean common carriers acting pursuant to an agreement under this part between or among ocean common carriers, including a summary of actions, including corrective actions, taken by the Commission to promote such competition.''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(c) DEFINITION OF CERTAIN COVERED SERVICES.—In this section, the term 'certain covered services' has the meaning given the term in section 40102.''.

SEC. 704. DEFINITION OF CERTAIN COVERED SERVICES.

Section 40102 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (5) through (25) as paragraphs (6) through (26), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (4), the following:

''(5) CERTAIN COVERED SERVICES.—For purposes of sections 41105 and 41307, the term 'certain covered services' means, with respect to a vessel—

''(A) the berthing or bunkering of the vessel;

''(B) the loading or unloading of cargo to or from the vessel to or from a point on a wharf or terminal;

''(C) the positioning, removal, or replacement of buoys related to the movement of the vessel; and

''(D) with respect to injunctive relief under section 41307, towing vessel services provided to such a vessel.''.

SEC. 705. REPORTS FILED WITH THE COMMISSION.

Section 40104(a) of title 46, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''(a) REPORTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Federal Maritime Commission may require a common carrier or marine terminal operator, or an officer, receiver, trustee, lessee, agent, or employee of the common carrier or marine terminal operator to file with the Commission a periodical or special report, an account, record, rate, or charge, or a memorandum of facts and transactions related to the business of the common carrier or marine terminal operator, as applicable.

''(2) REQUIREMENTS.—Any report, account, record, rate, charge, or memorandum required to be filed under paragraph (1) shall—

''(A) be made under oath if the Commission requires; and

''(B) be filed in the form and within the time prescribed by the Commission.

''(3) LIMITATION.—The Commission shall—

''(A) limit the scope of any filing ordered under this section to fulfill the objective of the order; and

''(B) provide a reasonable period of time for respondents to respond based upon their capabilities and the scope of the order.''.

SEC. 706. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

(a) NOTICE OF FILING.—Section 40304(a) of title 46, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''(a) NOTICE OF FILING.—Not later than 7 days after the date an agreement is filed, the Federal Maritime Commission shall—

''(1) transmit a notice of the filing to the Federal Register for publication; and

''(2) request interested persons to submit relevant information and documents.''.

(b) REQUEST FOR INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS.—Section 40304(d) of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking ''section'' and inserting ''part''.

(c) SAVING CLAUSE.—Nothing in this section, or the amendments made by this section, may be construed—

(1) to prevent the Federal Maritime Commission from requesting from a person, at any time, any additional information or documents the Commission considers necessary to carry out chapter 403 of title 46, United States Code;

(2) to prescribe a specific deadline for the submission of relevant information and documents in response to a request under section 40304(a)(2) of title 46, United States Code; or

(3) to limit the authority of the Commission to request information under section 40304(d) of title 46, United States Code.

SEC. 707. OCEAN TRANSPORTATION INTERMEDIARIES.

(a) LICENSE REQUIREMENT.—Section 40901(a) of title 46, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''advertise, hold oneself out, or'' after ''may not''.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—Section 40901 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(c) APPLICABILITY.—Subsection (a) and section 40902 do not apply to a person that performs ocean transportation intermediary services on behalf of an ocean transportation intermediary for which it is a disclosed agent.''.

(c) FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.—Section 40902(a) of title 46, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''advertise, hold oneself out, or'' after ''may not''.

SEC. 708. COMMON CARRIERS.

(a) Section 41104 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting ''(a) IN GENERAL.—'' before ''A common carrier'';

(2) in subsection (a), as designated—

(A) by amending paragraph (11) to read as follows:

''(11) knowingly and willfully accept cargo from or transport cargo for the account of a non-vessel-operating common carrier that does not have a tariff as required by section 40501 of this title, or an ocean transportation intermediary that does not have a bond, insurance, or other surety as required by section 40902 of this title;'';

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

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(13) continue to participate simultaneously in a rate discussion agreement and an agreement to share vessels, in the same trade, if the interplay of the authorities exercised by the specified agreements is likely, by a reduction in competition, to produce an unreasonable reduction in transportation service or an unreasonable increase in transportation cost.''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, there is no private right of action to enforce the prohibition under subsection (a)(13).

''(c) AGREEMENT VIOLATION.—Participants in an agreement found by the Commission to violate subsection (a)(13) shall have 90 days from the date of such Commission finding to withdraw from the agreement as necessary to comply with that subsection.''.

(b) APPLICATION.—Section 41104(a)(13) of title 46, United States Code, as amended, shall apply to any agreement filed or with an effective date before, on, or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 709. NEGOTIATIONS.

(a) CONCERTED ACTION.—Section 41105 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (5) through (8) as paragraphs (7) through (10), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following:

''(5) negotiate with a tug or towing vessel service provider on any matter relating to rates or services provided within the United States by those tugs or towing vessels;

''(6) with respect to a vessel operated by an ocean common carrier within the United States, negotiate for the purchase of certain covered services, unless the negotiations and any resulting agreements are not in violation of the antitrust laws and are consistent with the purposes of this part, except that this paragraph does not prohibit the setting and publishing of a joint through rate by a conference, joint venture, or association of ocean common carriers;''.

(b) AUTHORITY.—Chapter 411 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting after section 41105 the following:

''§ 41105A. Authority

''Nothing in section 41105, as amended by the Federal Maritime Commission Authorization Act of 2017, shall be construed to limit the authority of the Department of Justice regarding antitrust matters.''; and

(2) in the analysis at the beginning of chapter 411, by inserting after the item relating to section 41105 the following:

''41105A. Authority.''.

(c) EXEMPTION.—Section 40307(b)(1) of title 46, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''tug operators,'' after ''motor carriers,''.

SEC. 710. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF SOUGHT BY THE COMMISSION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 41307(b) of title 46, United States Code is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1) by inserting ''or to substantially lessen competition in the purchasing of certain covered services'' after ''transportation cost''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(4) COMPETITION FACTORS.—In making a determination under this subsection regarding whether an agreement is likely to substantially lessen competition in the purchasing of certain covered services, the Commission may consider any relevant competition factors in affected markets, including, without limitation, the competitive effect of agreements other than the agreement under review.''.

(b) APPLICATION.—Section 41307(b) of title 46, United States Code, as amended, shall apply to any agreement filed or with an effective date before, on, or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 711. DISCUSSIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 303 of title 46, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''§ 303. Meetings

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Federal Maritime Commission shall be deemed to be an agency for purposes of section 552b of title 5.

''(b) RECORD.—The Commission, through its secretary, shall keep a record of its meetings and the votes taken on any action,

order, contract, or financial transaction of the Commission.

''(c) NONPUBLIC COLLABORATIVE DISCUSSIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 552b of title 5, a majority of the Commissioners may hold a meeting that is not open to public observation to discuss official agency business if—

''(A) no formal or informal vote or other official agency action is taken at the meeting;

''(B) each individual present at the meeting is a Commissioner or an employee of the Commission;

''(C) at least 1 Commissioner from each political party is present at the meeting, if applicable; and

''(D) the General Counsel of the Commission is present at the meeting.

''(2) DISCLOSURE OF NONPUBLIC COLLABORATIVE DISCUSSIONS.—Except as provided under paragraph (3), not later than 2 business days after the conclusion of a meeting under paragraph (1), the Commission shall make available to the public, in a place easily accessible to the public—

''(A) a list of the individuals present at the meeting; and

''(B) a summary of the matters discussed at the meeting, except for any matters the Commission properly determines may be withheld from the public under section 552b(c) of title 5.

''(3) EXCEPTION.—If the Commission properly determines matters may be withheld from the public under section 555b(c) of title 5, the Commission shall provide a summary with as much general information as possible on those matters withheld from the public.

''(4) ONGOING PROCEEDINGS.—If a meeting under paragraph (1) directly relates to an ongoing proceeding before the Commission, the Commission shall make the disclosure under paragraph (2) on the date of the final Commission decision.

''(5) PRESERVATION OF OPEN MEETINGS REQUIREMENTS FOR AGENCY ACTION.—Nothing in this subsection may be construed to limit the applicability of section 552b of title 5 with respect to a meeting of the Commissioners other than that described in this subsection.

''(6) STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection may be construed—

''(A) to limit the applicability of section 552b of title 5 with respect to any information which is proposed to be withheld from the public under paragraph (2)(B) of this subsection; or

''(B) to authorize the Commission to withhold from any individual any record that is accessible to that individual under section 552a of title 5.''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The analysis at the beginning of chapter 3 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by amending the item relating to section 303 to read as follows:

''303. Meetings.''.

SEC. 712. TRANSPARENCY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Federal Maritime Commission shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives biannual reports that describe the Commission's progress toward addressing the issues raised in each unfinished regulatory proceeding, regardless of whether the proceeding is subject to a statutory or regulatory deadline.

(b) FORMAT OF REPORTS.—Each report under subsection (a) shall, among other things, clearly identify for each unfinished regulatory proceeding—

(1) the popular title;

(2) the current stage of the proceeding;

(3) an abstract of the proceeding;

(4) what prompted the action in question;

(5) any applicable statutory, regulatory, or judicial deadline;

(6) the associated docket number;

(7) the date the rulemaking was initiated;

(8) a date for the next action; and

(9) if a date for next action identified in the previous report is not met, the reason for the delay.

SEC. 713. STUDY OF BANKRUPTCY PREPARATION AND RESPONSE.

(a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study that examines the immediate aftermath of a major ocean carrier bankruptcy and its impact through the supply chain. The study shall consider any financial mechanisms that could be used to mitigate the impact of any future bankruptcy events on the supply chain.

(b) REPORT.—No later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report containing the findings, conclusions, and recommendations, if any, from the study required under subsection (a).

SEC. 714. AGREEMENTS UNAFFECTED.

Nothing in this division may be construed—

(1) to limit or amend the definition of ''agreement'' in section 40102(1) of title 46, United States Code, with respect to the exclusion of maritime labor agreements; or

(2) to apply to a maritime labor agreement (as defined in section 40102(15) of that title).

TITLE VIII—MISCELLANEOUS

SEC. 801. REPEAL OF OBSOLETE REPORTING REQUIREMENT.

Subsection (h) of section 888 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 468) is repealed.

SEC. 802. CORRECTIONS TO PROVISIONS ENACTED BY COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION ACTS.

Section 604(b) of the Howard Coble Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–281; 128 Stat. 3061) is amended by inserting ''and fishery endorsement'' after ''endorsement''.

SEC. 803. OFFICER EVALUATION REPORT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall reduce lieutenant junior grade evaluation reports to the same length as an ensign or place lieutenant junior grade evaluations on an annual schedule.

(b) SURVEYS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall conduct surveys of—

(1) outgoing promotion board members and assignment officers to determine, at a minimum—

(A) which sections of the officer evaluation report were most useful;

(B) which sections of the officer evaluation report were least useful;

(C) how to better reflect high performers; and

(D) any recommendations for improving the officer evaluation report; and

(2) at least 10 percent of the officers from each grade of officers from O1 to O6 to determine how much time each member of the rating chain spends on that member's portion of the officer evaluation report.

(c) REVISIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 4 years after the date of the completion of the surveys required by subsection (b), the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall revise the officer evaluation report, and provide corresponding directions, taking into account the requirements under paragraph (2).

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—In revising the officer evaluation report under paragraph (1), the Commandant shall—

(A) consider the findings of the surveys under subsection (b);

(B) improve administrative efficiency;

(C) reduce and streamline performance dimensions and narrative text;

(D) eliminate redundancy with the officer specialty management system and any other record information systems that are used during the officer assignment or promotion process;

(E) provide for fairness and equity for Coast Guard officers with regard to promotion boards, selection panels, and the assignment process; and

(F) ensure officer evaluation responsibilities can be accomplished within normal working hours—

(i) to minimize any impact to officer duties; and

(ii) to eliminate any need for an officer to take liberty or leave for administrative purposes.

(d) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 545 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report on the findings of the surveys under subsection (b).

(2) FORMAT.—The report under paragraph (1) shall be formatted by each rank, type of board, and position, as applicable.

SEC. 804. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY.

Section 404 of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–281; 124 Stat. 2950) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), in the text preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''sections 3304, 5333, and 5753'' and inserting ''section 3304''; and

(2) by striking subsection (b), and redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (b).

SEC. 805. COAST GUARD ROTC PROGRAM.

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report on the costs and benefits of creating a Coast Guard Reserve Officers' Training Corps Program based on the other Armed Forces programs.

SEC. 806. CURRENCY DETECTION CANINE TEAM PROGRAM.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) CANINE CURRENCY DETECTION TEAM.—The term ''canine currency detection team'' means a canine and a canine handler that are trained to detect currency.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating.

(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall establish a program to allow the use of canine currency detection teams for purposes of Coast Guard maritime law enforcement, including underway vessel boardings.

(c) OPERATION.—The Secretary may cooperate with, or enter into an agreement with, the head of another Federal agency to meet the requirements under subsection (b).

SEC. 807. CENTER OF EXPERTISE FOR GREAT LAKES OIL SPILL SEARCH AND RESPONSE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall establish a Center of Expertise for Great Lakes Oil Spill Preparedness and Response (referred to in this section as the ''Center of Expertise'') in accordance with section 313 of title 14, United States Code, as amended by this division.

(b) LOCATION.—The Center of Expertise shall be located in close proximity to—

(1) critical crude oil transportation infrastructure on and connecting the Great Lakes, such as submerged pipelines and high-traffic navigation locks; and

(2) an institution of higher education with adequate aquatic research laboratory facilities and capabilities and expertise in Great Lakes aquatic ecology, environmental chemistry, fish and wildlife, and water resources.

(c) FUNCTIONS.—The Center of Expertise shall—

(1) monitor and assess, on an ongoing basis, the current state of knowledge regarding freshwater oil spill response technologies and the behavior and effects of oil spills in the Great Lakes;

(2) identify any significant gaps in Great Lakes oil spill research, including an assessment of major scientific or technological deficiencies in responses to past spills in the Great Lakes and other freshwater bodies, and seek to fill those gaps;

(3) conduct research, development, testing, and evaluation for freshwater oil spill response equipment, technologies, and techniques to mitigate and respond to oil spills in the Great Lakes;

(4) educate and train Federal, State, and local first responders located in Coast Guard District 9 in—

(A) the incident command system structure;

(B) Great Lakes oil spill response techniques and strategies; and

(C) public affairs; and

(5) work with academic and private sector response training centers to develop and standardize maritime oil spill response training and techniques for use on the Great Lakes.

(d) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ''Great Lakes'' means Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, Lake Huron, Lake Erie, and Lake Ontario.

SEC. 808. PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINTS AND MARITIME SEARCH AND RESCUE COORDINATION.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act—

(1) the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating acting through the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall review Coast Guard policies and procedures for public safety answering points and search-and-rescue coordination with State and local law enforcement entities in order to—

(A) further minimize the possibility of maritime 911 calls being improperly routed; and

(B) assure the Coast Guard is able to effectively carry out the Coast Guard's maritime search and rescue mission; and

(2) the Commandant shall—

(A) formulate a national maritime public safety answering points policy; and

(B) submit a report to the Congress on such assessment and policy, which shall include an update to the report submitted in accordance with section 233 of the Howard Coble Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2014.

SEC. 809. SHIP SHOAL LIGHTHOUSE TRANSFER: REPEAL.

Effective January 1, 2021, section 27 of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 1991 (Public Law 102–241; 105 Stat. 2218) is repealed.

SEC. 810. LAND EXCHANGE, AYAKULIK ISLAND, ALASKA.

(a) LAND EXCHANGE; AYAKULIK ISLAND, ALASKA.—If the owner of Ayakulik Island, Alaska, offers to exchange the Island for the Tract—

(1) within 10 days after receiving such offer, the Secretary shall provide notice of the offer to the Commandant;

(2) within 90 days after receiving the notice under paragraph (1), the Commandant shall develop and transmit to the Secretary proposed operational restrictions on commercial activity conducted on the Tract, including the right of the Commandant to—

(A) order the immediate termination, for a period of up to 72 hours, of any activity occurring on or from the Tract that violates or threatens to violate one or more of such restrictions; or

(B) commence a civil action for appropriate relief, including a permanent or temporary injunction enjoining the activity that violates or threatens to violate such restrictions;

(3) within 90 days after receiving the proposed operational restrictions from the Commandant, the Secretary shall transmit such restrictions to the owner of Ayakulik Island; and

(4) within 30 days after transmitting the proposed operational restrictions to the owner of Ayakulik Island, and if the owner agrees to such restrictions, the Secretary shall convey all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the Tract to the owner, subject to an easement granted to the Commandant to enforce such restrictions, in exchange for all right, title, and interest of such owner in and to Ayakulik Island.

(b) BOUNDARY REVISIONS.—The Secretary may make technical and conforming revisions to the boundaries of the Tract before the date of the exchange.

(c) PUBLIC LAND ORDER.—Effective on the date of an exchange under subsection (a), Public Land Order 5550 shall have no force or effect with respect to submerged lands that are part of the Tract.

(d) FAILURE TO TIMELY RESPOND TO NOTICE.—If the Commandant does not transmit proposed operational restrictions to the Secretary within 30 days after receiving the notice under subsection (a)(1), the Secretary shall, by not later than 60 days after transmitting such notice, convey all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the Tract to the owner of Ayakulik Island in exchange for all right, title, and interest of such owner in and to Ayakulik Island.

(e) CERCLA NOT AFFECTED.—This section and an exchange under this section shall not be construed to limit the application of or otherwise affect section 120(h) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9620(h)).

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COMMANDANT.—The term ''Commandant'' means the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, acting through the Commandant of the Coast Guard.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior.

(3) TRACT.—The term ''Tract'' means the land (including submerged land) depicted as ''PROPOSED PROPERTY EXCHANGE AREA'' on the survey titled ''PROPOSED PROPERTY EXCHANGE PARCEL'' and dated 3/22/17.

SEC. 811. USE OF TRACT 43.

Section 524(e)(2) of the Pribilof Island Transition Completion Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–120), as amended by section 3533 of the Pribilof Island Transition Completion Amendments Act of 2016 (subtitle B of title XXXV of Public Law 114-328), is amended by—

(1) striking ''each month'' and inserting ''each April and October''; and

(2) striking ''previous month'' and inserting ''previous six months''.

SEC. 812. COAST GUARD MARITIME DOMAIN AWARENESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall seek to enter into an arrangement with the National Academy of Sciences not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act under which the Academy shall prepare an assessment of available unmanned, autonomous, or remotely controlled maritime domain awareness technologies for use by the Coast Guard.

(b) ASSESSMENT.—The assessment shall—

(1) describe the potential limitations of current and emerging unmanned technologies used in the maritime domain for—

(A) ocean observation;

(B) vessel monitoring and identification;

(C) weather observation;

(D) to the extent practicable for consideration by the Academy, intelligence gathering, surveillance, and reconnaissance; and

(E) communications;

(2) examine how technologies described in paragraph (1) can help prioritize Federal investment by examining;

(A) affordability, including acquisition, operations, and maintenance;

(B) reliability;

(C) versatility;

(D) efficiency; and

(E) estimated service life and persistence of effort; and

(3) analyze whether the use of new and emerging maritime domain awareness technologies can be used to—

(A) carry out Coast Guard missions at lower costs;

(B) expand the scope and range of Coast Guard maritime domain awareness;

(C) allow the Coast Guard to more efficiently and effectively allocate Coast Guard vessels, aircraft, and personnel; and

(D) identify adjustments that would be necessary in Coast Guard policies, procedures, and protocols to incorporate unmanned technologies to enhance efficiency.

(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year after entering into an arrangement with the Secretary under subsection (a), the National Academy of Sciences shall submit the assessment prepared under this section to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

(d) USE OF INFORMATION.—In formulating costs pursuant to subsection (b), the National Academy of Sciences may utilize information from other Coast Guard reports, assessments, or analyses regarding existing Coast Guard manpower requirements or other reports, assessments, or analyses for the acquisition of unmanned, autonomous, or remotely controlled technologies by the Federal Government.

SEC. 813. MONITORING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall conduct a 1-year pilot program to determine the impact of persistent use of different types of surveillance systems on illegal maritime activities, including illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, in the Western Pacific region.

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—The pilot program shall—

(1) consider the use of light aircraft-based detection systems that can identify potential illegal activity from high altitudes and produce enforcement-quality evidence at low altitudes; and

(2) be directed at detecting and deterring illegal maritime activities, including illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, and enhancing maritime domain awareness.

SEC. 814. REIMBURSEMENTS FOR NON-FEDERAL CONSTRUCTION COSTS OF CERTAIN AIDS TO NAVIGATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of amounts specifically provided in advance in subsequent appropriations Acts and in accordance with this section, the Commandant of the Coast Guard may reimburse a non-Federal entity for costs incurred by the entity for a covered project.

(b) CONDITIONS.—The Commandant may not provide reimbursement under subsection (a) with respect to a covered project unless—

(1) the need for the project is a result of the completion of construction with respect to a federally authorized navigation channel;

(2) the Commandant determines, through an appropriate navigation safety analysis, that the project is necessary to ensure safe marine transportation;

(3) the Commandant approves the design of the project to ensure that it meets all applicable Coast Guard aids-to-navigation standards and requirements;

(4) the non-Federal entity agrees to transfer the project upon completion to the Coast Guard for operation and maintenance by the Coast Guard as a Federal aid to navigation;

(5) the non-Federal entity carries out the project in accordance with the same laws and regulations that would apply to the Coast Guard if the Coast Guard carried out the project, including obtaining all permits required for the project under Federal and State law; and

(6) the Commandant determines that the project satisfies such additional requirements as may be established by the Commandant.

(c) LIMITATIONS.—Reimbursements under subsection (a) may not exceed the following:

(1) For a single covered project, $5,000,000.

(2) For all covered projects in a single fiscal year, $5,000,000.

(d) EXPIRATION.—The authority granted under this section shall expire on the date that is 4 years after the date of enactment of this section.

(e) COVERED PROJECT DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''covered project'' means a project carried out—

(1) by a non-Federal entity to construct and establish an aid to navigation that facilitates safe and efficient marine transportation on a Federal navigation project authorized by title I of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–114); and

(2) in an area that was affected by Hurricane Harvey.

SEC. 815. TOWING SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FEES.

(a) REVIEW.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard shall—

(1) review and compare the costs to the Government of—

(A) towing vessel inspections performed by the Coast Guard; and

(B) such inspections performed by a third party; and

(2) based on such review and comparison, determine whether the costs to the Government of such inspections performed by a third party are different than the costs to the Government of such inspections performed by the Coast Guard.

(b) REVISION OF FEES.—If the Commandant determines under subsection (a) that the costs to the Government of such inspections performed by a third party are different than the costs to the Government of such inspections performed by the Coast Guard, then the Commandant shall revise the fee assessed by the Coast Guard for such inspections as necessary to conform to the requirements under section 9701 of title 31, United States Code, that such fee be based on the cost to the Government of such inspections and accurately reflect such costs.

SEC. 816. OIL SPILL DISBURSEMENTS AUDITING AND REPORT.

Section 1012 of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712) is amended—

(1) by repealing subsection (g);

(2) in subsection (l)(1), by striking ''Within one year after the date of enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2010, and annually thereafter,'' and inserting ''Each year, on the date on which the President submits to Congress a budget under section 1105 of title 31, United States Code,''; and

(3) by amending subsection (l)(2) to read as follows:

''(2) CONTENTS.—The report shall include—

''(A) a list of each incident that—

''(i) occurred in the preceding fiscal year; and

''(ii) resulted in disbursements from the Fund, for removal costs and damages, totaling $500,000 or more;

''(B) a list of each incident that—

''(i) occurred in the fiscal year preceding the preceding fiscal year; and

''(ii) resulted in disbursements from the Fund, for removal costs and damages, totaling $500,000 or more; and

''(C) an accounting of any amounts reimbursed to the Fund in the preceding fiscal year that were recovered from a responsible party for an incident that resulted in disbursements from the Fund, for removal costs and damages, totaling $500,000 or more.''.

SEC. 817. FLEET REQUIREMENTS ASSESSMENT AND STRATEGY.

(a) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, in consultation with interested Federal and non-Federal stakeholders, shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report including—

(1) an assessment of Coast Guard at-sea operational fleet requirements to support its statutory missions established in the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 et seq.); and

(2) a strategic plan for meeting the requirements identified under paragraph (1).

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

(1) an assessment of—

(A) the extent to which the Coast Guard at-sea operational fleet requirements referred to in subsection (a)(1) are currently being met;

(B) the Coast Guard's current fleet, its operational lifespan, and how the anticipated changes in the age and distribution of vessels in the fleet will impact the ability to meet at-sea operational requirements;

(C) fleet operations and recommended improvements to minimize costs and extend operational vessel life spans; and

(D) the number of Fast Response Cutters, Offshore Patrol Cutters, and National Security Cutters needed to meet at-sea operational requirements as compared to planned acquisitions under the current programs of record;

(2) an analysis of—

(A) how the Coast Guard at-sea operational fleet requirements are currently met, including the use of the Coast Guard's current cutter fleet, agreements with partners, chartered vessels, and unmanned vehicle technology; and

(B) whether existing and planned cutter programs of record (including the Fast Response Cutter, Offshore Patrol Cutter, and National Security Cutter) will enable the Coast Guard to meet at-sea operational requirements; and

(3) a description of—

(A) planned manned and unmanned vessel acquisition; and

(B) how such acquisitions will change the extent to which the Coast Guard at-sea operational requirements are met.

(c) CONSULTATION AND TRANSPARENCY.—

(1) CONSULTATION.—In consulting with the Federal and non-Federal stakeholders under subsection (a), the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall—

(A) provide the stakeholders with opportunities for input—

(i) prior to initially drafting the report, including the assessment and strategic plan; and

(ii) not later than 3 months prior to finalizing the report, including the assessment and strategic plan, for submission; and

(B) document the input and its disposition in the report.

(2) TRANSPARENCY.—All input provided under paragraph (1) shall be made available to the public.

(d) ENSURING MARITIME COVERAGE.—In order to meet Coast Guard mission requirements for search and rescue, ports, waterways, and coastal security, and maritime environmental response during recapitalization of Coast Guard vessels, the Coast Guard shall ensure continuity of the coverage, to the maximum extent practicable, in the locations that may lose assets.

SEC. 818. NATIONAL SECURITY CUTTER.

(a) STANDARD METHOD FOR TRACKING.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard may not certify an eighth National Security Cutter as Ready for Operations before the date on which the Commandant provides to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate—

(1) a notification of a new standard method for tracking operational employment of Coast Guard major cutters that does not include time during which such a cutter is away from its homeport for maintenance or repair; and

(2) a report analyzing cost and performance for different approaches to achieving varied levels of operational employment using the standard method required by paragraph (1) that, at a minimum—

(A) compares over a 30-year period the average annualized baseline cost and performances for a certified National Security Cutter that operated for 185 days away from homeport or an equivalent alternative measure of operational tempo—

(i) against the cost of a 15 percent increase in days away from homeport or an equivalent alternative measure of operational tempo for a National Security Cutter; and

(ii) against the cost of the acquisition and operation of an additional National Security Cutter; and

(B) examines the optimal level of operational employment of National Security Cutters to balance National Security Cutter cost and mission performance.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 221(b) of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2012 (126 Stat. 1560) is repealed.

(2) Section 204(c)(1) of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2016 (130 Stat. 35) is repealed.

SEC. 819. ACQUISITION PLAN FOR INLAND WATERWAY AND RIVER TENDERS AND BAY-CLASS ICEBREAKERS.

(a) ACQUISITION PLAN.—Not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a plan to replace or extend the life of the Coast Guard fleet of inland waterway and river tenders, and the Bay-class icebreakers.

(b) CONTENTS.—The plan under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) an analysis of the work required to extend the life of vessels described in subsection (a);

(2) recommendations for which, if any, such vessels it is cost effective to undertake a ship-life extension or enhanced maintenance program;

(3) an analysis of the aids to navigation program to determine if advances in navigation technology may reduce the needs for physical aids to navigation;

(4) recommendations for changes to physical aids to navigation and the distribution of such aids that reduce the need for the acquisition of vessels to replace the vessels described in subsection (a);

(5) a schedule for the acquisition of vessels to replace the vessels described in subsection (a), including the date on which the first vessel will be delivered;

(6) the date such acquisition will be complete;

(7) a description of the order and location of replacement vessels;

(8) an estimate of the cost per vessel and of the total cost of the acquisition program of record; and

(9) an analysis of whether existing vessels can be used.

SEC. 820. GREAT LAKES ICEBREAKER ACQUISITION.

(a) ICEBREAKING ON THE GREAT LAKES.—For fiscal years 2018 and 2019, the Commandant of the Coast Guard may use funds made available pursuant to section 4902 of title 14, United States Code, as amended by this division, for the construction of an icebreaker that is at least as capable as the Coast Guard Cutter *Mackinaw* to enhance icebreaking capacity on the Great Lakes.

(b) ACQUISITION PLAN.—Not later than 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant shall submit a plan to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives for acquiring an icebreaker described in subsections (a) and (b). Such plan shall include—

(1) the details and schedule of the acquisition activities to be completed; and

(2) a description of how the funding for Coast Guard acquisition, construction, and improvements that was appropriated under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 115–31) will be allocated to support the acquisition activities referred to in paragraph (1).

SEC. 821. POLAR ICEBREAKERS.

(a) ENHANCED MAINTENANCE PROGRAM FOR THE POLAR STAR.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall conduct an enhanced maintenance program on Coast Guard Cutter *Polar Star* (WAGB–10) to extend the service life of such vessel until at least December 31, 2025.

(2) REQUIREMENT FOR REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2017, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, in consultation with Naval Sea Systems Command, shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a detailed report describing a plan to extend the service life of the Coast Guard Cutter *Polar Star* (WAGB–10) until at least December 31, 2025, through an enhanced maintenance program.

(3) CONTENT.—The report required by paragraph (2) shall include the following:

(A) An assessment and discussion of the enhanced maintenance program recommended by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Committee on Polar Icebreaker Cost Assessment in the letter report ''Acquisition and Operation of Polar Icebreakers: Fulfilling the Nation's Needs''.

(B) An assessment and discussion of the Government Accountability Office's concerns and recommendations regarding service life extension work on Coast Guard Cutter *Polar Star* (WAGB–10) in the report ''Status of the Coast Guard's Polar Icebreaking Fleet Capability and Recapitalization Plan''.

(C) Based upon a materiel condition assessment of the Coast Guard Cutter *Polar Star* (WAGB–10)—

(i) a description of the service life extension needs of the vessel;

(ii) detailed information regarding planned shipyard work for each fiscal year to meet such needs; and

(iii) an estimate of the amount needed to be appropriated to complete the enhanced maintenance program.

(D) A plan to ensure the vessel will maintain seasonally operational status during the enhanced maintenance program.

(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard may use funds made available pursuant to section 4902 of title 14, United States Code, as amended by section 202 of this division, for the enhanced maintenance program described in the report required by subsection (a).

(b) OVERDUE REPORT.—Upon the date of enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2017, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives the polar icebreaker recapitalization plan required under section 3523 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–328).

(c) COAST GUARD AND MARITIME TRANSPORTATION ACT OF 2012; AMENDMENT.—Section 222 of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2012 (Public Law 112–213), as amended, is further amended as follows:

(1) by striking subsections (a) through (d);

(2) by redesignating subsections (e) through (g) as subsections (a) through (c), respectively;

(3) in subsection (a), as redesignated—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''Except as provided in subsection (c), the Commandant'' and inserting ''The Commandant'';

(B) in paragraph (1) by striking ''Polar Sea or'';

(C) in paragraph (2) by striking ''either of the vessels'' and inserting ''the Polar Star or the Polar Sea''; and

(D) in paragraph (3) by striking ''either of the vessels'' each place it appears and inserting ''the Polar Star''.

SEC. 822. STRATEGIC ASSETS IN THE ARCTIC.

(a) DEFINITION OF ARCTIC.—In this section, the term ''Arctic'' has the meaning given the term in section 112 of the Arctic Research and Policy Act of 1984 (15 U.S.C. 4111).

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the Arctic continues to grow in significance to both the national security interests and the economic prosperity of the United States; and

(2) the Coast Guard must ensure it is positioned to respond to any accident, incident, or threat with appropriate assets.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and taking into consideration the Department of Defense 2016 Arctic Strategy, shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report on the progress toward implementing the strategic objectives described in the United States Coast Guard Arctic Strategy dated May 2013.

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

(1) a description of the Coast Guard's progress toward each strategic objective identified in the United States Coast Guard Arctic Strategy dated May 2013;

(2) an assessment of the assets and infrastructure necessary to meet the strategic objectives identified in the United States Coast Guard Arctic Strategy dated May 2013 based on factors such as—

(A) response time;

(B) coverage area;

(C) endurance on scene;

(D) presence; and

(E) deterrence;

(3) an analysis of the sufficiency of the distribution of National Security Cutters, Offshore Patrol Cutters, and Fast Response Cutters both stationed in various Alaskan ports and in other locations to meet the strategic objectives identified in the United States Coast Guard Arctic Strategy, dated May 2013;

(4) plans to provide communications throughout the entire Coastal Western Alaska Captain of the Port zone to improve waterway safety and mitigate close calls, collisions, and other dangerous interactions between the shipping industry and subsistence hunters;

(5) plans to prevent marine casualties, when possible, by ensuring vessels avoid environmentally sensitive areas and permanent security zones;

(6) an explanation of—

(A) whether it is feasible to establish a vessel traffic service, using existing resources or otherwise; and

(B) whether an Arctic Response Center of Expertise is necessary to address the gaps in experience, skills, equipment, resources, training, and doctrine to prepare, respond to, and recover spilled oil in the Arctic; and

(7) an assessment of whether sufficient agreements are in place to ensure the Coast Guard is receiving the information it needs to carry out its responsibilities.

SEC. 823. ARCTIC PLANNING CRITERIA.

(a) ALTERNATIVE PLANNING CRITERIA.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.), the Commandant of the Coast Guard may approve a vessel response plan under section 311 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1321) for a vessel operating in any area covered by the Captain of the Port Zone (as established by the Commandant) that includes the Arctic, if the Commandant verifies that—

(A) equipment required to be available for response under the plan has been tested and

proven capable of operating in the environmental conditions expected in the area in which it is intended to be operated; and

(B) the operators of such equipment have conducted training on the equipment within the area covered by such Captain of the Port Zone.

(2) POST-APPROVAL REQUIREMENTS.—In approving a vessel response plan under paragraph (1), the Commandant shall—

(A) require that the oil spill removal organization identified in the vessel response plan conduct regular exercises and drills of the plan in the area covered by the Captain of the Port Zone that includes the Arctic; and

(B) allow such oil spill removal organization to take credit for a response to an actual spill or release in the area covered by such Captain of the Port Zone, instead of conducting an exercise or drill required under subparagraph (A), if the oil spill removal organization—

(i) documents which exercise or drill requirements were met during the response; and

(ii) submits a request for credit to, and receives approval from, the Commandant.

(b) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report on the oil spill prevention and response capabilities for the area covered by the Captain of the Port Zone (as established by the Commandant) that includes the Arctic.

(2) CONTENTS.—The report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) A description of equipment and assets available for response under the vessel response plans approved for vessels operating in the area covered by the Captain of the Port Zone, including details on any providers of such equipment and assets.

(B) A description of the location of such equipment and assets, including an estimate of the time to deploy the equipment and assets.

(C) A determination of how effectively such equipment and assets are distributed throughout the area covered by the Captain of the Port Zone.

(D) A statement regarding whether the ability to maintain and deploy such equipment and assets is taken into account when measuring the equipment and assets available throughout the area covered by the Captain of the Port Zone.

(E) A validation of the port assessment visit process and response resource inventory for response under the vessel response plans approved for vessels operating in the area covered by the Captain of the Port Zone.

(F) A determination of the compliance rate with Federal vessel response plan regulations in the area covered by the Captain of the Port Zone during the previous 3 years.

(G) A description of the resources needed throughout the area covered by the Captain of the Port Zone to conduct port assessments, exercises, response plan reviews, and spill responses.

(c) DEFINITION OF ARCTIC.—In this section, the term ''Arctic'' has the meaning given the term under section 112 of the Arctic Research and Policy Act of 1984 (15 U.S.C. 4111).

SEC. 824. VESSEL RESPONSE PLAN AUDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall complete and submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a comprehensive review of the processes and resources used by the Coast Guard to implement vessel response plan requirements under section 311 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1321).

(b) REQUIRED ELEMENTS OF REVIEW.—The review required under subsection (a) shall, at a minimum, include—

(1) a study, or an audit if appropriate, of the processes the Coast Guard uses—

(A) to approve the vessel response plans referred to in subsection (a);

(B) to approve alternate planning criteria used in lieu of National Planning Criteria in approving such plans;

(C) to verify compliance with such plans; and

(D) to act in the event of a failure to comply with the requirements of such plans;

(2) an examination of all Federal and State agency resources used by the Coast Guard in carrying out the processes identified under paragraph (1), including—

(A) the current staffing model and organization;

(B) data, software, simulators, systems, or other technology, including those pertaining to weather, oil spill trajectory modeling, and risk management;

(C) the total amount of time per fiscal year expended by Coast Guard personnel to approve and verify compliance with vessel response plans; and

(D) the average amount of time expended by the Coast Guard for approval of, and verification of compliance with, a single vessel response plan;

(3) an analysis of how, including by what means or methods, the processes identified under paragraph (1)—

(A) ensure compliance with applicable law;

(B) are implemented by the Coast Guard, including at the district and sector levels;

(C) are informed by public comment and engagement with States, Indian Tribes, and other regional stakeholders;

(D) ensure availability and adequate operational capability and capacity of required assets and equipment, including in cases in which contractual obligations may limit the availability of such assets and equipment for response;

(E) provide for adequate asset and equipment mobilization time requirements, particularly with respect to—

(i) calculation and establishment of such requirements;

(ii) verifying compliance with such requirements; and

(iii) factoring in weather, including specific regional adverse weather as defined in section 155.1020 of title 33, Code of Federal Regulations, in calculating, establishing, and verifying compliance with such requirements;

(F) ensure response plan updates and vessel compliance when changes occur in response planning criteria, asset and equipment mobilization times, or regional response needs, such as trends in transportation of high gravity oils or changes in vessel traffic volume; and

(G) enable effective action by the Coast Guard in the event of a failure to comply with response plan requirements;

(4) a determination regarding whether asset and equipment mobilization time requirements under approved vessel response plans can be met by the vessels to which they apply; and

(5) recommendations for improving the processes identified under paragraph (1), including recommendations regarding the sufficiency of Coast Guard resources dedicated to those processes.

SEC. 825. WATERS DEEMED NOT NAVIGABLE WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES.

For purposes of the application of subtitle II of title 46, United States Code, to the *Volunteer* (Hull Number CCA4108), the Illinois and Michigan Canal is deemed to not be navigable waters of the United States.

SEC. 826. DOCUMENTATION OF RECREATIONAL VESSELS.

Coast Guard personnel performing nonrecreational vessel documentation functions under subchapter II of chapter 121 of title 46, United States Code, may perform recreational vessel documentation under section 12114 of such title in any fiscal year in which—

(1) funds available for Coast Guard operating expenses may not be used for expenses incurred for recreational vessel documentation;

(2) fees collected from owners of yachts and credited to such use are insufficient to pay expenses of recreational vessel documentation; and

(3) there is a backlog of applications for recreational vessel documentation.

SEC. 827. EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS; EXEMPTION FROM THROWABLE PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES REQUIREMENT.

Not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall—

(1) prescribe regulations in part 160 of title 46, Code of Federal Regulations, that treat a marine throw bag, as that term is commonly used in the commercial whitewater rafting industry, as a type of lifesaving equipment; and

(2) revise section 175.17 of title 33, Code of Federal Regulations, to exempt rafts that are 16 feet or more overall in length from the requirement to carry an additional throwable personal flotation device when such a marine throw bag is onboard and accessible.

SEC. 828. VISUAL DISTRESS SIGNALS AND ALTERNATIVE USE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall develop a performance standard for the alternative use and possession of visual distress alerting and locating signals as mandated by carriage requirements for recreational boats in subpart C of part 175 of title 33, Code of Federal Regulations.

(b) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the performance standard for alternative use and possession of visual distress alerting and locating signals is finalized, the Secretary shall revise part 175 of title 33, Code of Federal Regulations, to allow for carriage of such alternative signal devices.

SEC. 829. RADAR REFRESHER TRAINING.

Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall prescribe a final rule eliminating the requirement that a mariner actively using the mariner's credential complete an approved refresher or recertification course to maintain a radar observer endorsement. This rulemaking shall be exempt from chapters 5 and 6 of title 5, United States Code, and Executive Orders 12866 and 13563.

SEC. 830. COMMERCIAL FISHING VESSEL SAFETY NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS PLAN.

(a) REQUIREMENT FOR PLAN.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall develop and submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of

Representatives a national communications plan for the purposes of—

(1) disseminating information to the commercial fishing vessel industry;

(2) conducting outreach with the commercial fishing vessel industry;

(3) facilitating interaction with the commercial fishing vessel industry; and

(4) releasing information collected under section 15102 of title 46, United States Code, as added by this division, to the commercial fishing vessel industry.

(b) CONTENT.—The plan required by subsection (a), and each annual update, shall—

(1) identify staff, resources, and systems available to the Secretary to ensure the widest dissemination of information to the commercial fishing vessel industry;

(2) include a means to document all communication and outreach conducted with the commercial fishing vessel industry; and

(3) include a mechanism to measure effectiveness of such plan.

(c) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than one year after submission of the initial plan, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall implement the plan and shall at a minimum—

(1) leverage Coast Guard staff, resources, and systems available;

(2) monitor implementation nationwide to ensure adherence to plan contents;

(3) allow each Captain of the Port to adopt the most effective strategy and means to communicate with commercial fishing vessel industry in that Captain of the Port Zone;

(4) document communication and outreach; and

(5) solicit feedback from the commercial fishing vessel industry.

(d) REPORT AND UPDATES.—The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall—

(1) submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report on the effectiveness of the plan to date and any updates to ensure maximum impact of the plan one year after the date of enactment of this Act, and every 4 years thereafter; and

(2) include in such report input from individual Captains of the Port and any feedback received from the commercial fishing vessel industry.

SEC. 831. AUTHORIZATION FOR MARINE DEBRIS PROGRAM.

The Marine Debris Research, Prevention, and Reduction Act is amended—

(1) in section 9 (33 U.S.C. 1958)—

(A) by striking the em-dash and all that follows through ''(1)''; and

(B) by striking ''; and'' and all that follows through the end of the section and inserting a period; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 10. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

''Of the amounts authorized for each fiscal year under section 4902 of title 14, United States Code, up to $2,000,000 are authorized for the Commandant to carry out section 4 of this Act, of which not more than 10 percent may be used for administrative costs.''.

SEC. 832. ATLANTIC COAST PORT ACCESS ROUTE STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS.

Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of the Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall notify the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate of action taken to carry out the recommendations contained in the final report issued by the Atlantic Coast Port Access Route Study (ACPARS) workgroup for which notice of availability was published March 14, 2016 (81 Fed. Reg. 13307).

SEC. 833. DRAWBRIDGES.

Section 5 of the Act entitled ''An Act making appropriations for the construction, repair, and preservation of certain public works on rivers and harbors, and for other purposes'', approved August 18, 1894 (33 U.S.C. 499), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(d) TEMPORARY CHANGES TO DRAWBRIDGE OPERATING SCHEDULES.—Notwithstanding section 553 of title 5, United States Code, whenever a temporary change to the operating schedule of a drawbridge, lasting 180 days or less—

''(1) is approved—

''(A) the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall—

''(i) issue a deviation approval letter to the bridge owner; and

''(ii) announce the temporary change in—

''(I) the Local Notice to Mariners;

''(II) a broadcast notice to mariners and through radio stations; or

''(III) such other local media as the Secretary considers appropriate; and

''(B) the bridge owner, except a railroad bridge owner, shall notify—

''(i) the public by publishing notice of the temporary change in a newspaper of general circulation published in the place where the bridge is located;

''(ii) the department, agency, or office of transportation with jurisdiction over the roadway that abuts the approaches to the bridge; and

''(iii) the law enforcement organization with jurisdiction over the roadway that abuts the approaches to the bridge; or

''(2) is denied, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall—

''(A) not later than 10 days after the date of receipt of the request, provide the bridge owner in writing the reasons for the denial, including any supporting data and evidence used to make the determination; and

''(B) provide the bridge owner a reasonable opportunity to address each reason for the denial and resubmit the request.

''(e) DRAWBRIDGE MOVEMENTS.—The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating—

''(1) shall require a drawbridge operator to record each movement of the drawbridge in a logbook;

''(2) may inspect the logbook to ensure drawbridge movement is in accordance with the posted operating schedule;

''(3) shall review whether deviations from the posted operating schedule are impairing vehicular and pedestrian traffic; and

''(4) may determine if the operating schedule should be adjusted for efficiency of maritime or vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

''(f) REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) LOGBOOKS.—An operator of a drawbridge built across a navigable river or other water of the United States—

''(A) that opens the draw of such bridge for the passage of a vessel, shall record in a logbook—

''(i) the bridge identification and date of each opening;

''(ii) the bridge tender or operator for each opening;

''(iii) each time it is opened for navigation;

''(iv) each time it is closed for navigation;

''(v) the number and direction of vessels passing through during each opening;

''(vi) the types of vessels passing through during each opening;

''(vii) an estimated or known size (height, length, and beam) of the largest vessel passing through during each opening;

''(viii) for each vessel, the vessel name and registration number if easily observable; and

''(ix) all maintenance openings, malfunctions, or other comments; and

''(B) that remains open to navigation but closes to allow for trains to cross, shall record in a logbook—

''(i) the bridge identification and date of each opening and closing;

''(ii) the bridge tender or operator;

''(iii) each time it is opened to navigation;

''(iv) each time it is closed to navigation; and

''(v) all maintenance openings, closings, malfunctions, or other comments.

''(2) MAINTENANCE OF LOGBOOKS.—A drawbridge operator shall maintain logbooks required under paragraph (1) for not less than 5 years.

''(3) SUBMISSION OF LOGBOOKS.—At the request of the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, a drawbridge operator shall submit to the Secretary the logbook required under paragraph (1) as the Secretary considers necessary to carry out this section.

''(4) EXEMPTION.—The requirements under paragraph (1) shall be exempt from sections 3501 to 3521 of title 44, United States Code.''.

SEC. 834. WAIVER.

Section 8902 of title 46, United States Code, shall not apply to the chain ferry DIANE (United States official number CG002692) when such vessel is operating on the Kalamazoo River in Saugatuck, Michigan.

SEC. 835. VESSEL WAIVER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Upon enactment of this Act and notwithstanding sections (a)(2)(A) and 12113(a)(2) of title 46, United States Code, the Secretary shall issue a certificate of documentation with coastwise and fishery endorsements to the certificated vessel.

(b) REPLACEMENT VESSEL.—The certificated vessel shall qualify and not be precluded from operating as an Amendment 80 replacement vessel under the provisions of part 679 of title 50, Code of Federal Regulations.

(c) COAST GUARD REVIEW AND DETERMINATION.—

(1) REVIEW.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall conduct and complete a review of the use of certain foreign fabricated steel components in the hull or superstructure of the certificated vessel.

(2) DETERMINATION.—Based on the review conducted under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall determine whether the shipyard that constructed the certificated vessel or the purchaser of the certificated vessel knew before such components were procured or installed that the use of such components would violate requirements under sections 12112(a)(2)(A) and 12113(a)(2) of title 46, United States Code.

(3) REVOCATION.—If the Secretary determines under paragraph (2) that the shipyard that constructed the certificated vessel or the purchaser of the certificated vessel knew before such components were procured or installed that the use of such components would violate requirements under sections 12112(a)(2)(A) and 12113(a)(2) of title 46, United States Code, the Secretary shall immediately revoke the certificate of documentation issued under subsection (a).

(4) USE OF DOCUMENTS.—In conducting the review required under paragraph (1), the Secretary may request and review any information, correspondence, or documents related to the construction of the certificated vessel, including from the shipyard that constructed the certificated vessel and the purchaser of the certificated vessel.

(d) TERMINATION.—If the contract for purchase of the certificated vessel that is in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act is terminated, the purchasing party to that contract shall be prohibited from entering into a subsequent contract or agreement for purchase of such vessel.

(e) DEFINITION.—In this section—

(1) the term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, acting through the Commandant of the Coast Guard; and

(2) the term ''certificated vessel'' means the vessel *America's Finest* (United States official number 1276760).

SEC. 836. TEMPORARY LIMITATIONS.

(a) LIMITATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Upon the Coast Guard issuing a certificate of documentation with coastwise and fishery endorsements for the vessel ''AMERICA'S FINEST'' (United States official number 1276760), and subject to subsection (b), the vessels described in paragraph (2) shall not collectively exceed—

(A) the percentage of the harvest available in any Gulf of Alaska groundfish fisheries (other than fisheries subject to a limited access privilege program created by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council) that is equivalent to the total harvest by the vessels described in paragraph (2) in those fisheries in the calendar years that a vessel described in paragraph (2) had harvest from 2012 through 2017 relative to the total allowable catch available to such vessels in the calendar years 2012 through 2017; or

(B) the percentage of processing of deliveries from other vessels in any Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands, and Gulf of Alaska groundfish fisheries (including fisheries subject to a limited access privilege program created by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, or community development quotas as described in section 305(i) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1855(i))) that is equivalent to the total processing of such deliveries by the vessels described in paragraph (2) in those fisheries in the calendar years 2012 through 2017 relative to the total allowable catch available in the calendar years 2012 through 2017.

(2) APPLICABLE VESSELS.—The limitations described in paragraph (1) shall apply, in the aggregate, to—

(A) the vessel AMERICA'S FINEST (United States official number 1276760);

(B) the vessel US INTREPID (United States official number 604439);

(C) the vessel AMERICAN NO. 1 (United States official number 610654);

(D) any replacement of a vessel described in subparagraph (A), (B), or (C); and

(E) any vessel assigned license number LLG3217 under the license limitation program under part 679 of title 50, Code of Federal Regulations.

(b) EXPIRATION.—The limitations described in subsection (a) shall apply to a groundfish species in Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands, and Gulf of Alaska only until the earlier of—

(1) the end of the 6-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act; or

(2) the date on which the Secretary of Commerce issues a final rule, based on recommendations developed by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council consistent with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.), that limits processing deliveries of that groundfish species from other vessels in any Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands, and Gulf of Alaska groundfish fisheries that are not subject to conservation and management measures under section 206 of the American Fisheries Act (16 U.S.C. 1851 note).

(c) EXISTING AUTHORITY.—Except for the measures required by this section, nothing in this title shall be construed to limit the authority of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council or the Secretary of Commerce under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.).

SEC. 837. TRANSFER OF COAST GUARD PROPERTY IN JUPITER ISLAND, FLORIDA, FOR INCLUSION IN HOBE SOUND NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE.

(a) TRANSFER.—Administrative jurisdiction over the property described in subsection (b) is transferred to the Secretary of the Interior.

(b) PROPERTY DESCRIBED.—The property described in this subsection is real property administered by the Coast Guard in the Town of Jupiter Island, Florida, comprising Parcel #35-38-42-004-000-02590-6 (Bon Air Beach lots 259 and 260 located at 83 North Beach Road) and Parcel #35-38-42-004-000-02610-2 (Bon Air Beach lots 261 to 267), including any improvements thereon that are not authorized or required by another provision of law to be conveyed to another person.

(c) ADMINISTRATION.—The property described in subsection (b) is included in Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge, and shall be administered by the Secretary of the Interior acting through the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

SEC. 838. EMERGENCY RESPONSE.

Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall request the Comptroller General of the United States to examine whether there are unnecessary regulatory barriers to the use of small passenger vessels, crewboats, and offshore supply vessels in disaster response and provide recommendations, as appropriate, to reduce such barriers.

SEC. 839. DRAWBRIDGES CONSULTATION.

(a) CONSULTATION.—In addition and subsequent to any rulemaking conducted under section 117.8 of title 33, Code of Federal Regulations, related to permanent changes to drawbridge openings that result from Amtrak service between New Orleans, Louisiana and Orlando, Florida, the Commandant shall consult with owners or operators of rail lines used for Amtrak passenger service between New Orleans, Louisiana and Orlando, Florida and affected waterway users on changes to drawbridge operating schedules necessary to facilitate the On Time Performance of passenger trains. These changes to schedules shall not impact Coast Guard response times to operational missions.

(b) TIMING.—Consultation in subsection (a) shall occur after commencement of Amtrak passenger service on the rail lines between New Orleans, Louisiana and Orlando, Florida at the following intervals:

(1) Not less than 3 months following the commencement of Amtrak passenger service.

(2) Not less than 6 months following the commencement of Amtrak passenger service.

(c) REPORT.—If after conducting the consultations required by subsection (b)(2), the Commandant finds that permanent changes to drawbridge operations are necessary to mitigate delays in the movement of trains described in subsection (a) and that those changes do not unreasonably obstruct the navigability of the affected waterways, then the Commandant shall submit those findings to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.

AMENDMENT NO. 53 OFFERED BY MR. CURBELO OF FLORIDA

Page 877, insert after line 9 the following new section (and redesignate the succeeding sections accordingly):

SEC. 2822. AUTHORITY FOR LEASING REAL PROPERTY AT THE NAVAL AIR STATION KEY WEST, FLORIDA.

(a) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of the Navy (hereafter in this Act referred to as the ''Secretary'') may lease approximately 19 acres at the Naval Air Station Key West, Florida, for the purpose of constructing, operating, improving, and maintaining housing units (including altering or demolishing existing housing units) under such terms and conditions as the Secretary considers will promote the national defense or to be in the public interest.

(b) DURATION OF LEASE.—The lease entered into under this section shall be for such period as may be agreed to by the Secretary and the lessee, except that such period may not exceed 50 years unless the Secretary determines that a lease for a longer period is necessary to meet the purpose of the lease.

(c) PAYMENTS UNDER LEASE.—The Secretary shall require the lessee to make payments under the lease entered into under this section in cash for fair market value.

(d) DEPOSIT AND USE OF PROCEEDS.—The Secretary shall deposit and use any cash proceeds from the lease under this section as prescribed in section 2667 of title 10, United States Code.

(e) LEASEBACK PROHIBITED.—During the period in which the lease entered into under this section is in effect, the Secretary may not lease any of the space constructed by the lessees on the property leased under this section.

(f) RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL FOR PURCHASE OF PROPERTY.—The lease entered into under this section may provide the lessee of the property with the first right to purchase the property if the Secretary revokes the lease in order to permit the United States to sell or transfer the property as authorized under any other provision of law. Nothing in this subsection may be construed to provide a lessee with the first right to purchase the property if the Secretary revokes the lease for any other cause, including the failure of the lessee to meet the terms and conditions of the lease.

(g) DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.—The exact acreage and legal description of the property to be leased under this section shall be determined by a survey satisfactory to the Secretary.

(h) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Secretary may require such additional terms and conditions in connection with the lease under this section as the Secretary considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

(i) INAPPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS.—The following provisions of law do not apply to this section, the lease entered into under this section, or the property which is subject to the lease under this section:

(1) Section 2662 of title 10, United States Code.

(2) Section 2696 of title 10, United States Code.

(3) The Randolph-Sheppard Act (20 U.S.C. 107 et seq.).

(4) Title V of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11411 et seq.)

(j) CERTAIN CUBANS ENTRANTS INELIGIBLE FOR REFUGEE ASSISTANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Title V of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980 (8 U.S.C. 1522 note) is amended—

(A) in the heading by striking ''**CUBAN AND**''; and

(B) in section 501—

(i) by striking ''Cuban and'' each place it appears;

(ii) in subsection (d), by striking ''Cuban or''; and

(iii) in subsection (e)—

(I) in paragraph (1)—

(aa) by striking ''Cuban/''; and

(bb) by striking ''Cuba or''; and

(II) in paragraph (2), by striking ''Cuba or''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND WORK OPPORTUNITY RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1996.—Title

IV of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) is amended by striking ''Cuban and Haitian entrant'' each place it appears and inserting ''Haitian entrant''.

(B) IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT.—Section 245A(h)(2)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1255a(h)(2)(A)) is amended by striking ''Cuban and Haitian entrant'' each place it appears and inserting ''Haitian entrant''.

(3) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply only in the case of a national of Cuba who enters the United States on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

AMENDMENT NO. 54 OFFERED BY MRS. STEFANIK OF NEW YORK

At the appropriate place in title X, insert the following:

SEC. ____. DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR UNITED STATES-BASED FOREIGN MEDIA OUTLETS.

Title VII of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 722. DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR UNITED STATES-BASED FOREIGN MEDIA OUTLETS.

''(a) REPORTS BY OUTLETS TO COMMISSION.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this section, and not less frequently than every 6 months thereafter, a United States-based foreign media outlet shall submit to the Commission a report that contains the following information:

''(1) The name of such outlet.

''(2) A description of the relationship of such outlet to the foreign principal of such outlet, including a description of the legal structure of such relationship and any funding that such outlet receives from such principal.

''(b) REPORTS BY COMMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this section, and not less frequently than every 6 months thereafter, the Commission shall transmit to Congress a report that summarizes the contents of the reports submitted by United States-based foreign media outlets under subsection (a) during the preceding 6-month period.

''(c) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Commission shall make publicly available on the internet website of the Commission each report submitted by a United States-based foreign media outlet under subsection (a) not later than the earlier of—

''(1) the date that is 30 days after the outlet submits the report to the Commission; or

''(2) the date on which the Commission transmits to Congress under subsection (b) the report covering the 6-month period during which the report of the outlet was submitted to the Commission under subsection (a).

''(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) FOREIGN PRINCIPAL.—The term 'foreign principal' has the meaning given such term in section 1(b)(1) of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 (22 U.S.C. 611(b)(1)).

''(2) UNITED STATES-BASED FOREIGN MEDIA OUTLET.—The term 'United States-based foreign media outlet' means an entity that—

''(A) produces or distributes video programming that is transmitted, or intended for transmission, by a multichannel video programming distributor to consumers in the United States; and

''(B) would be an agent of a foreign principal (as defined in paragraph (1)) for purposes of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 (22 U.S.C. 611 et seq.) but for section 1(d) of such Act (22 U.S.C. 611(d)).''.

AMENDMENT NO. 55 OFFERED BY MR. GALLAGHER OF WISCONSIN

Subparagraph (A) of section 1252(c)(2) is amended by adding at the end the following:

(vii) The abuse of employment and student visa programs to enter the United States in order to conduct political, academic, or social influence efforts, or for the purposes of establishing Chinese Communist Party cells or other entities under the control or coordination of the Chinese Communist Party.

(viii) The Chinese Communist Party's coercion or intimidation of Chinese nationals studying or working in the United States or outside China.

AMENDMENT NO. 56 OFFERED BY MR. GRAVES OF LOUISIANA

At the end of subtitle B of title V, insert the following new sections:

SEC. 515. USE OF NATIONAL GUARD IN CASE OF A MAJOR DISASTER OR REQUEST FROM A STATE GOVERNOR.

The President shall order members of the National Guard in a State to full-time National Guard duty or active Guard and Reserve duty under section 502(f) of title 32, United States Code, if—

(1) the Governor of the State requests such an order; and

(2) the President declares that a major disaster exists—

(A) in that State and one or more other States is participating in the response to the disaster; or

(B) in two States described in subparagraph (A) because of the same event.

SEC. 516. FUNDING OF NATIONAL GUARD IN CASE OF A MAJOR DISASTER OR EMERGENCY DECLARED UNDER THE STAFFORD ACT.

Section 403(c) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170b(c)) is amended—

(a) by redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (7); and

(b) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following new paragraph (6):

''(6) NATIONAL GUARD.—The President may make contributions to a State or local government for the purpose of reimbursing the Department of Defense for expenditures that arise from use of members of the National Guard and Reserve under section 502(f) of title 32, United States Code, to respond to a major disaster declared by the President under section 401 of this Act.''.

AMENDMENT NO. 57 OFFERED BY MR. TAKANO OF CALIFORNIA

Page 109, after line 21, insert the following new section:

SEC. 507. DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM ON ACCESSION OF CANDIDATES WITH AUDITORY IMPAIRMENTS AS AIR FORCE OFFICERS.

(a) DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM REQUIRED.—Beginning not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Air Force shall carry out a demonstration program to assess the feasibility and advisability of permitting individuals with auditory impairments (including deafness) to access as officers of the Air Force.

(b) CANDIDATES.—

(1) NUMBER OF CANDIDATES.—The total number of individuals with auditory impairments who may participate in the demonstration program shall be not fewer than 15 individuals or more than 20 individuals.

(2) MIX AND RANGE OF AUDITORY IMPAIRMENTS.—The individuals who participate in the demonstration program shall include individuals who are deaf and individuals who have a range of other auditory impairments.

(3) QUALIFICATION FOR ACCESSION.—Any individual who is chosen to participate in the demonstration program shall meet all essential qualifications for accession as an officer in the Air Force, other than those related to having an auditory impairment.

(c) SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Air Force shall—

(A) publicize the demonstration program nationally, including to individuals who have auditory impairments and would be otherwise qualified for officer training;

(B) create a process whereby interested individuals can apply for the demonstration program; and

(C) select the participants for the demonstration program, from among the pool of applicants, based on the criteria in subsection (b).

(2) NO PRIOR SERVICE AS AIR FORCE OFFICERS.—Participants selected for the demonstration program shall be individuals who have not previously served as officers in the Air Force.

(d) BASIC OFFICER TRAINING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The participants in the demonstration program shall undergo, at the election of the Secretary of the Air Force, the Basic Officer Training course or the Commissioned Officer Training course at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama.

(2) NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS.—Once individuals begin participating in the demonstration program, each Basic Officer Training course or Commissioned Officer Training course at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, shall include not fewer than 4, or more than 6, participants in the demonstration program until all participants have completed such training.

(3) AUXILIARY AIDS AND SERVICES.—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that participants in the demonstration program have the necessary auxiliary aids and services (as that term is defined in section 4 of the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12103)) in order to fully participate in the demonstration program.

(e) COORDINATION.—

(1) SPECIAL ADVISOR.—The Secretary of the Air Force shall designate a special advisor to the demonstration program to act as a resource for participants in the demonstration program, as well as a liaison between participants in the demonstration program and those providing the officer training.

(2) QUALIFICATIONS.—The special advisor shall be a member of the Armed Forces on active duty—

(A) who—

(i) if a commissioned officer, shall be in grade O–3 or higher; or

(ii) if an enlisted member, shall be in grade E–5 or higher; and

(B) who is knowledgeable about issues involving, and accommodations for, individuals with auditory impairments (including deafness).

(3) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The special advisor shall be responsible for facilitating the officer training for participants in the demonstration program, intervening and resolving issues and accommodations during the training, and such other duties as the Secretary of the Air Force may assign to facilitate the success of the demonstration program and participants.

(f) REPORT.—Not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Air Force shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the demonstration program. The report shall include the following:

(1) A description of the demonstration program and the participants in the demonstration program.

(2) The outcome of the demonstration program, including—

(A) the number of participants in the demonstration program that successfully completed the Basic Officer Training course or the Commissioned Officer Training course;

(B) the number of participants in the demonstration program that were recommended for continued military service;

(C) the issues that were encountered during the program; and

(D) such recommendation for modifications to the demonstration program as the Secretary considers appropriate to increase further inclusion of individuals with auditory disabilities serving as officers in the Air Force or other Armed Forces.

(3) Such recommendations for legislative or administrative action as the Secretary considers appropriate in light of the demonstration program.

(g) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(1) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

AMENDMENT NO. 58 OFFERED BY MRS. TENNEY OF NEW YORK

Page 201, after line 11, insert the following new section:

SEC. 626. ACCESS FOR VETERANS TO CERTAIN FITNESS CENTERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 152 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 2569. FITNESS CENTERS: ACCESS FOR VETERANS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), the Secretary of a military department may grant veterans access to a fitness center that—

''(1) is under the jurisdiction of such Secretary; and

''(2) is operated by a geographically separated unit that is located not less than 100 miles from the supporting base of such unit.

''(b) FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION.—In determining whether to grant veterans access to a fitness center under subsection (a), the Secretary concerned shall consider—

''(1) whether the commander who oversees the fitness center has determined—

''(A) that such fitness center has the capacity and infrastructure required to support veterans; and

''(B) that granting veterans such access would not impede the readiness of members of the armed forces on active duty who use the fitness center;

''(2) the effect that granting veterans such access would have on the operating and maintenance expenses of the fitness center; and

''(3) any additional criteria determined by the Secretary concerned.

''(c) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term 'veteran' has the meaning given such term in section 101 of title 38.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following:

''2569. Fitness centers: access for veterans.''.

AMENDMENT NO. 59 OFFERED BY MR. LIPINSKI OF ILLINOIS

At the end of subtitle C of title XII, add the following new section:

SEC. 12__. REPORT ON IRANIAN EXPENDITURES SUPPORTING FOREIGN MILITARY AND TERRORIST ACTIVITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter until the date described in subsection (c), the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence, shall submit to Congress a report describing Iranian expenditures in the previous calendar year on military and terrorist activities outside the country, including each of the following:

(1) The amount spent in such calendar year on activities by the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, including activities providing support for—

(A) Hezbollah;

(B) Houthi rebels in Yemen;

(C) Hamas;

(D) proxy forces in Iraq and Syria; or

(E) any other entity or country the Secretary determines to be relevant.

(2) The amount spent in such calendar year for ballistic missile research and testing or other activities that the Secretary of State determines are destabilizing to the Middle East region.

(b) FORM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The report required under subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

(2) INCLUSION IN ANNUAL COUNTRY REPORTS ON TERRORISM.—The Secretary of State may issue the reports required under subsection (a) by including such reports in the annual reports required by section 140 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1988 and 1989 (22 U.S.C. 2656f).

(c) EXPIRATION DATE.—The date described in this subsection is the date on which the Secretary of State determines that the Government of Iran no longer provides support for international terrorism pursuant to the following:

(1) Section 6(j) of the Export Administration Act of 1979 (as continued in effect under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.)).

(2) Section 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2371).

(3) Section 40 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2780).

AMENDMENT NO. 60 OFFERED BY MR. JONES OF NORTH CAROLINA

At the end of title IX, add the following new subtitle:

Subtitle D—DESIGNATION OF THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

SEC. 931. REDESIGNATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY AS THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS.

(a) REDESIGNATION OF MILITARY DEPARTMENT.—The military department designated as the Department of the Navy is redesignated as the Department of the Navy and Marine Corps.

(b) REDESIGNATION OF SECRETARY AND OTHER STATUTORY OFFICES.—

(1) SECRETARY.—The position of the Secretary of the Navy is redesignated as the Secretary of the Navy and Marine Corps.

(2) OTHER STATUTORY OFFICES.—The positions of the Under Secretary of the Navy, the four Assistant Secretaries of the Navy, and the General Counsel of the Department of the Navy are redesignated as the Under Secretary of the Navy and Marine Corps, the Assistant Secretaries of the Navy and Marine Corps, and the General Counsel of the Department of the Navy and Marine Corps, respectively.

SEC. 932. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE.

(a) DEFINITION OF ''MILITARY DEPARTMENT''.—Paragraph (8) of section 101(a) of title 10, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''(8) The term 'military department' means the Department of the Army, the Department of the Navy and Marine Corps, and the Department of the Air Force.''.

(b) ORGANIZATION OF DEPARTMENT.—The text of section 5011 of such title is amended to read as follows: ''The Department of the Navy and Marine Corps is separately organized under the Secretary of the Navy and Marine Corps.''.

(c) POSITION OF SECRETARY.—Section 5013(a)(1) of such title is amended by striking ''There is a Secretary of the Navy'' and inserting ''There is a Secretary of the Navy and Marine Corps''.

(d) CHAPTER HEADINGS.—

(1) The heading of chapter 503 of such title is amended to read as follows:

''CHAPTER 503—DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS''.

(2) The heading of chapter 507 of such title is amended to read as follows:

''CHAPTER 507—COMPOSITION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS''.

(e) OTHER AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking ''Department of the Navy'' and ''Secretary of the Navy'' each place they appear other than as specified in subsections (a), (b), (c), and (d) (including in section headings, subsection captions, tables of chapters, and tables of sections) and inserting ''Department of the Navy and Marine Corps'' and ''Secretary of the Navy and Marine Corps'', respectively, in each case with the matter inserted to be in the same typeface and typestyle as the matter stricken.

(2)(A) Sections 5013(f), 5014(b)(2), 5016(a), 5017(2), 5032(a), and 5042(a) of such title are amended by striking ''Assistant Secretaries of the Navy'' and inserting ''Assistant Secretaries of the Navy and Marine Corps''.

(B) The heading of section 5016 of such title, and the item relating to such section in the table of sections at the beginning of chapter 503 of such title, are each amended by inserting ''and Marine Corps'' after ''of the Navy'', with the matter inserted in each case to be in the same typeface and typestyle as the matter amended.

SEC. 933. OTHER PROVISIONS OF LAW AND OTHER REFERENCES.

(a) TITLE 37, UNITED STATES CODE.—Title 37, United States Code, is amended by striking ''Department of the Navy'' and ''Secretary of the Navy'' each place they appear and inserting ''Department of the Navy and Marine Corps'' and ''Secretary of the Navy and Marine Corps'', respectively.

(b) OTHER REFERENCES.—Any reference in any law other than in title 10 or title 37, United States Code, or in any regulation, document, record, or other paper of the United States, to the Department of the Navy shall be considered to be a reference to the Department of the Navy and Marine Corps. Any such reference to an office specified in section 931(b) shall be considered to be a reference to that officer as redesignated by that section.

SEC. 934. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This subtitle and the amendments made by this subtitle shall take effect on the first day of the first month beginning more than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 908, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. THORNBERRY) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI) each will control 10 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

MODIFICATION TO AMENDMENT NO. 53 OFFERED BY MR. THORNBERRY OF TEXAS

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that amendment No. 53 printed in House Report 115–702 be modified in the form I have placed at the desk.

The ACTING Chair. The Clerk will report the modification.

The Clerk read as follows:

Modification to amendment No. 53 offered by Mr. CURBELO of Florida:

The amendment as modified is as follows:

Page 877, insert after line 9 the following new section (and redesignate the succeeding sections accordingly):

SEC. 2822. AUTHORITY FOR LEASING REAL PROPERTY AT THE NAVAL AIR STATION KEY WEST, FLORIDA.

(a) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of the Navy (hereafter in this Act referred to as the ''Secretary'') may lease approximately 19 acres at the Naval Air Station Key West, Florida, for the purpose of constructing, operating, improving, and maintaining housing units (including altering or demolishing existing housing units) under such terms and conditions as the Secretary considers will promote the national defense or to be in the public interest.

(b) DURATION OF LEASE.—The lease entered into under this section shall be for such period as may be agreed to by the Secretary and the lessee, except that such period may not exceed 50 years unless the Secretary determines that a lease for a longer period is necessary to meet the purpose of the lease.

(c) PAYMENTS UNDER LEASE.—The Secretary shall require the lessee to make payments under the lease entered into under this section in cash for fair market value.

(d) DEPOSIT AND USE OF PROCEEDS.—The Secretary shall deposit and use any cash proceeds from the lease under this section as prescribed in section 2667 of title 10, United States Code.

(e) LEASEBACK PROHIBITED.—During the period in which the lease entered into under this section is in effect, the Secretary may not lease any of the space constructed by the lessees on the property leased under this section.

(f) RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL FOR PURCHASE OF PROPERTY.—The lease entered into under this section may provide the lessee of the property with the first right to purchase the property if the Secretary revokes the lease in order to permit the United States to sell or transfer the property as authorized under any other provision of law. Nothing in this subsection may be construed to provide a lessee with the first right to purchase the property if the Secretary revokes the lease for any other cause, including the failure of the lessee to meet the terms and conditions of the lease.

(g) DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.—The exact acreage and legal description of the property to be leased under this section shall be determined by a survey satisfactory to the Secretary.

(h) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Secretary may require such additional terms and conditions in connection with the lease under this section as the Secretary considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

(i) INAPPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS.—The following provisions of law do not apply to this section, the lease entered into under this section, or the property which is subject to the lease under this section:

(1) Section 2662 of title 10, United States Code.

(2) Section 2696 of title 10, United States Code.

(3) The Randolph-Sheppard Act (20 U.S.C. 107 et seq.).

(4) Title V of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11411 et seq.)

Mr. THORNBERRY (during the reading). Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent the modification be considered as read.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the original request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIR. The amendment is modified.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL), the chairman of the Homeland Security Committee.

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Chairman, I thank Chairman THORNBERRY for yielding me time.

Mr. Chairman, protecting U.S. Government communication networks from foreign adversaries such as China is vital to our national security. I share the concerns of FBI Director Wray, who testified before the Senate. He was deeply concerned about the risk of allowing any company or entity that is beholden to foreign governments that don't share our values to gain positions of power inside our telecommunications networks.

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to see that section 880 of the NDAA of FY19 addresses this concern by prohibiting Federal departments and agencies from procuring equipment and services from foreign firms such as ZTE and Huawei. Specifically, ZTE violated U.S. sanctions and then got caught lying about it. After agreeing to discipline their employees, they lied again and, instead, gave those employees a bonus.

Now it appears that we are offering them the same kind of deal. They clearly do not have a record built on trust with the United States Government. This poses significant risks to our Nation's security.

However, this prohibition does not apply to State and local governments, who often rely on Federal grant dollars and play a major role in the protection of our Nations' security, and that is why I have offered this amendment.

My amendment simply extends the prohibition on purchasing ZTE and Huawei products and services to Federal grant money and loans to better safeguard State and local communications networks.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to protect our Nation's communications networks from foreign adversaries and support this amendment.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM).

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Chairman, New Mexico is home to the Kirtland Air Force Research Laboratory that develops groundbreaking technologies that support our men and women in the Armed Forces.

These technologies often have a range of commercial applications that can re-energize domestic manufacturing, create high-paying jobs, and increase economic development in our State, which has the second highest unemployment rate in the Nation.

High-speed internet servers, GPS, electric vehicles, and even microwave ovens are just a few of the examples of transformational technologies that were originally developed by the Federal Government.

My amendments would help facilitate the commercialization of innovative DOD-developed technologies by investing in the scientists, engineers, and mathematicians serving in our military laboratories.

By providing laboratory personnel with business education, entrepreneurial sabbaticals, and new opportunities to partner with universities and businesses, we can make cutting-edge technologies more widely available to American businesses and consumers, grow our economy, and ensure that the United States leads the world in innovation.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support my amendments.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Maine (Mr. POLIQUIN).

Mr. POLIQUIN. Mr. Chairman, I greatly appreciate everybody recognizing the importance of the hardworking folks at the Defense Financing Accounting Services.

Lots of our fellow Americans might not realize that DFAS has an incredibly important function to cut the payroll checks for our men and women in uniform, and also they pay the vendors, suppliers, and contractors that keep our military operating; 122 million transactions last year.

Mr. Chairman, during the past 20 years, the Pentagon has consolidated 300 DFAS offices into 10 today, and the civilian workforce has been reduced from 27,000 to 13,000.

Mr. Chairman, I am so pleased and grateful that the Armed Services Committee and the Rules Committee are advancing my amendment to clarify that there is no intention by the House of Representatives to further consolidate any DFAS location or jobs.

Mr. Chairman, I am so proud of the 600 hardworking Mainers who cut checks for our brave military personnel at the DFAS facility in Limestone, Maine, way up north in Aroostook County. These 600 Maine jobs are so important to our families and also to our military personnel.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. SUOZZI).

Mr. SUOZZI. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding this time to me.

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased that my bipartisan amendment has been included in this en bloc package.

There is a major problem in our country that Americans want us to address. It is a bipartisan issue related to contamination related from defense-related activities, and I want to thank

the chairman of the committee for his assistance in working on this, as well as my colleagues, Congressman COOK and Congresswoman HANABUSA, for their work in helping to get this done.

Military bases and munitions storage depots and armament manufacturing facilities have left behind a multibillion-dollar legacy of required environmental cleanup.

Under my amendment, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations, and the Environment will be required to brief the Committee on Armed Services on initiatives being pursued to accelerate environmental restoration efforts.

In my district alone, there is a site that was contaminated by a Grumman in conjunction with the United States Navy. It was discovered over 40 years ago. It has contaminated groundwater, which is the sole source of drinking water on Long Island.

There are people that are trying to get these things cleaned up, but there is so much bureaucracy, so much red tape, so much finger-pointing, that we need to send a clear message from Congress that we need the executive branch to work together with us to accelerate this cleanup.

Mr. Chairman, this amendment will help get that done.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. HARTZLER), the distinguished chair of our Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this en bloc package.

Mr. Chairman, this package includes a bipartisan amendment to ensure that video surveillance equipment is included in the scope of the NDAA's prohibition on using certain Chinese technology in government agencies.

China is actively expanding the role of its companies in the U.S. domestic communications and public safety sectors. Video surveillance and security equipment sold by Chinese companies exposes the U.S. Government to significant vulnerabilities due to built-in backdoors baked right into their products.

These backdoors can be used to covertly funnel data, including live video and audio surveillance of America's sensitive military installations and embassies, back to Chinese operatives.

Given what we know about China's intentions and the security risks posed by these firms, we have absolutely no business helping China extend its networks further and further into our agencies.

Mr. Chairman, I want to thank Chairman THORNBERRY and Ranking Member SMITH for including this amendment in the package.

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER).

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank the ranking member for yielding me the time.

Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of my amendment to increase flexibility within the Small Business Innovative Research and Technology Transfer Programs.

Mr. Chairman, I want to thank Chairman THORNBERRY and Ranking Member SMITH for including it in this en bloc package.

Federal research programs invest in the future and ensure we stay at the global forefront of innovation and advancement.

But this investment is only the first step of the process. We must ensure that innovators and entrepreneurs have the tools necessary to bring their ideas to market.

Currently, SBIR and STTR recipients are restricted in how much funding they can use towards commercialization.

My amendment would increase the amount of funding recipients in phase 1 and phase 2 can use to pay for assistance protecting intellectual property, conducting market research, mapping out manufacturing plans, and other steps that would help them successfully commercialize their ideas.

My amendment would help empower successful innovators with more resources to turn federally funded research into viable commercial products, creating quality jobs and securing our Nation's creative leadership.

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MODIFICATION TO AMENDMENTS EN BLOC NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. THORNBERRY OF TEXAS

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that amendment No. 55 be removed from the en bloc package.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the modification.

The Clerk read the modification as follows:

Strike amendment #55

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIR. Amendments en bloc No. 1 is modified.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO).

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of my amendment, which would create a demonstration program in the Air Force for 15 to 20 deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals to serve their country.

This amendment is inspired by a young deaf man I met a few years ago named Keith Nolan. He excelled at the first two levels of Army ROTC and was prepared to take the next step when he was told that he could not continue because he is deaf. Including this amendment is an incredible tribute to Keith's advocacy, and I urge my colleagues in the Senate to maintain this provision.

I want to thank the chairman and ranking member for including this amendment. I am excited that we are taking this step forward to give the deaf community a chance to defend the country that they love and that we love.

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI).

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Chairman, Iran is the world's foremost state sponsor of terrorism. In spite of their weak economy and U.S.-imposed sanctions in response to Iran's support for terrorism, abuse of human rights, and acquisition of prohibited weapons, they continue to support violent groups abroad.

As our diplomatic and military leaders determine how best to respond to Iran, they and the world, including Iranians, should have a detailed accounting of the amount spent by Iran to support specific terrorist groups. This is especially important in light of the escalating conflict between Israel and Iran-backed forces in Syria.

My amendment requires an annual report from the Secretary of State and the Director of National Intelligence describing Iranian expenditures on military and terrorist activities outside their country. This will send a clear message to Iran and our allies that we do not tolerate support of terrorism.

Mr. Chair, I thank the chairman and ranking member for including my amendment in this en bloc, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Chairman, we have no further speakers. I urge adoption of the amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendments en bloc, as modified, offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. THORNBERRY).

The en bloc amendments, as modified, were agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MR. GUTHRIE

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 3 printed in House Report 115–702.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of my amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title III, insert the following:

SEC. 3___. PRODUCTION AND USE OF NATURAL GAS AT FORT KNOX.

(a) PRODUCTION AND USE OF NATURAL GAS AT FORT KNOX.—Chapter 449 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"§ 4782. Natural gas: production, treatment, management, and use at Fort Knox, Kentucky

''(a) AUTHORITY.—(1) The Secretary of the Army may provide for the production, treatment, management, and use of natural gas located under Fort Knox, Kentucky, without regard to section 3 of the Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands (30 U.S.C. 352).

''(2) The Secretary is authorized to enter into a contract with an appropriate entity to carry out paragraph (1).

''(b) LIMITATION ON USES.—Any natural gas produced under subsection (a) may be used only to support activities and operations at Fort Knox and may not be sold for use elsewhere.

''(c) OWNERSHIP OF FACILITIES.—The Secretary of the Army may take ownership of any gas production and treatment equipment and facilities and associated infrastructure from an entity with which the Secretary has entered into a contract under subsection (a) in accordance with the terms of the contract.

''(d) APPLICABILITY.—The authority of the Secretary of the Army under this section is effective as of August 2, 2007.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''4782. Natural gas: production, treatment, management, and use at Fort Knox, Kentucky.''.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 908, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chair, I really appreciate the chairman of the Armed Services Committee and the chairman of the Natural Resources Committee for working with me on this amendment.

I rise in support of the amendment to clarify Congress' intent with regard to energy security and conservation programs at Fort Knox.

In January 2009, a major ice storm hit my district, crippling local infrastructure for days. This outage across the region also affected Fort Knox, due to the post's reliance on the local energy grid.

This weather event highlighted a vulnerability that local leaders at Fort Knox took very seriously and had already been working for years to mitigate. With the full support of the Pentagon, the leaders on post and in the community around Fort Knox have made great strides to make Fort Knox the Army's first energy-secure installation. This really is a great story and one that we in Congress should support.

My amendment is about how natural gas fits into the complex, highly sophisticated energy security program at Fort Knox, Kentucky being blessed with natural gas. The award-winning combination of features and the Fort Knox energy program ranges from new power generation facilities to a geothermal pond, infrared heating system, extensive energy efficiency upgrades, and even a solar array. The dashboard in the control room is incredible to see as energy officials can remotely observe and analyze current energy consumption and efficiency, isolated to the level of individual rooms in the buildings on post.

While the energy conservation program started in the 1970s, the natural gas story really came into focus a little over 10 years ago when the Army established service contracts with local companies to drill and pump methane gas on post. This is everything we want for our national security: energy independence and security that saves Federal money, off-the-grid capability during moments of a national crisis, and utilizing energy resources efficiency as close to the source as possible.

Natural gas has been produced and used on post since 2009 and makes up about 28 percent of annual needs. The amount of gas produces enough for an entire summer load. However, the catch is, and why we are here with this amendment, that the Interior Department has raised concerns because the Army did not go through the typical Bureau of Land Management lease process.

The Bureau of Land Management lease process will not work for this kind of operation because it is not in our national security interest to give mineral rights for DOD property to a third party. The Army should be able to access the resources on post for consumption and use on post without having to go through a third party or remit royalties.

This amendment simply allows Fort Knox to continue their great energy security success story and gives them the ability to remain the number one energy-secure Army installation.

Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I am a little surprised that someone from Kentucky is sponsoring this amendment, because if this amendment were to become law, who would be the biggest loser? It would be the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

When the Army started developing natural gas under Fort Knox, it did so without notifying the Department of the Interior, which is the agency that is responsible for these resources. Now the Defense Department has admitted that it was a mistake and says that it has taken steps to prevent this from ever happening again. But we still know that they are producing gas, and I am glad that they have taken steps to prevent this in the future.

To my knowledge, that is not the critical issue. The critical issue is that we have a real problem here. That is, the natural gas that is under Fort Knox belongs to the American people, not the military, and royalties are owed to the American people when that gas is sold. As we know, half of those royalties would go to Kentucky.

For example, in 2014, the Army estimated that it effectively cheated Kentucky out of $250,000, and now there are 4 more years of cheating Kentucky and the American people out of their royalties. That number is probably much larger now than the $250,000 a year.

We have no indication that the Army has paid any of these royalties, and until we deal with that issue that they are not paying royalties for the gas that the American people and the people of Kentucky own, we should not be letting them off the hook.

I would ask the sponsor of the amendment to look closely at this issue and what his home State stands to lose because of it and then to reconsider again whether or not he wants this amendment to be adopted.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Chairman, I just want to close by saying that it is owned by the American people, the military, which is why we are here today at the national level. It is owned by the American people. There are things that we can work through so that we can move forward.

Fort Knox is an economic driver in the community. The Federal tax dollars that come to Fort Knox to support our men and women contribute greatly to that community. Being energy secure is a vital component when we look at the overall needs of the Army and the importance of every Army post, and Fort Knox can certainly make a great claim, being off the grid and being able to operate in times of national emergencies.

So I do think this has been thought through. I think instead of going through the other process, we need to move forward and let the Department of Defense do what the Pentagon had sent Fort Knox forward to do.

Mr. Chair, I appreciate the comments of my friend from California, but I do think this is the right policy to move forward, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 8 OFFERED BY MR. AMODEI

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 8 printed in House Report 115–702.

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Add at the end the following:

DIVISION E—NATIONAL STRATEGIC AND CRITICAL MINERALS PRODUCTION

SEC. 4801. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) in agreement with Executive Order 13806, a healthy manufacturing and defense industrial base and resilient supply chains are essential to the economic strength and national security of the United States. Modern supply chains, however are often long and the ability of the United States to manufacture or obtain goods critical to national security could be hampered by an inability to obtain various essential components, which themselves may not be directly related to national security;

(2) in agreement with Executive Order 13817, the United States is heavily reliant on imports of certain mineral commodities that are vital to the Nation's security and economic prosperity;

(3) this dependency of the United States on foreign sources creates a strategic vulnerability for both its economy and military to adverse foreign government actons, natural disaster, and other events that can disrupt supply of these key minerals. Increased private-sector domestic exploration, production, recycling, and reprocessing of critical minerals, and support for efforts to identify more commonly available technological alternatives to these minerals, will reduce our dependence on imports, preserve our leadership in technological innovation, support job creation, improve national security and balance of trade, and enhance the technological superiority and readiness of our Armed Forces, which are among the Nation's most significant consumers of critical minerals;

(4) the industrialization of developing nations has driven demand for nonfuel minerals necessary for telecommunications, military technologies, healthcare technologies, and conventional and renewable energy technologies;

(5) the availability of minerals and mineral materials are essential for economic growth, national security, technological innovation, and the manufacturing and agricultural supply chain;

(6) minerals and mineral materials are critical components of every transportation, water, telecommunications, and energy infrastructure project necessary to modernize the crumbling infrastructure of the United States;

(7) the exploration, production, processing, use, and recycling of minerals contribute significantly to the economic well-being, security, and general welfare of the United States; and

(8) the United States has vast mineral resources but is becoming increasingly dependent on foreign sources of mineral resources, as demonstrated by the fact that—

(A) 25 years ago, the United States was dependent on foreign sources for 45 nonfuel mineral materials, of which—

(i) 8 were imported by the United States to fulfill 100 percent of the requirements of the United States for those nonfuel mineral materials; and

(ii) 19 were imported by the United States to fulfill greater than 50 percent of the requirements of the United States for those nonfuel mineral materials;

(B) by 2015 the import dependence of the United States for nonfuel mineral materials increased from dependence on the import of 45 nonfuel mineral materials to dependence on the import of 47 nonfuel mineral materials, of which—

(i) 19 were imported by the United States to fulfill 100 percent of the requirements of the United States for those nonfuel mineral materials; and

(ii) 22 were imported by the United States to fulfill greater than 50 percent of the requirements of the United States for those nonfuel mineral materials;

(C) according to the Department of Energy, the United States imports greater than 50 percent of the 41 metals and minerals key to clean energy applications;

(D) the United States share of worldwide mineral exploration dollars was 7 percent in 2015, down from 19 percent in the early 1990s;

(E) the 2014 Ranking of Countries for Mining Investment, which ranks 25 major mining countries, found that 7- to 10-year permitting delays are the most significant risk to mining projects in the United States; and

(F) in late 2016, the Government Accountability Office found that—

(i) ''the Federal government's approach to addressing critical materials supply issues has not been consistent with selected key practices for interagency collaboration, such as ensuring that agencies' roles and responsibilities are clearly defined''; and

(ii) ''the Federal critical materials approach faces other limitations, including data limitations and a focus on only a subset of critical materials, a limited focus on domestic production of critical materials, and limited engagement with industry''.

SEC. 4802. DEFINITIONS.

In this division:

(1) AGENCY.—The term ''agency'' means—

(A) any agency, department, or other unit of Federal, State, local, or tribal government; or

(B) an Alaska Native Corporation.

(2) ALASKA NATIVE CORPORATION.—The term ''Alaska Native Corporation'' has the meaning given the term ''Native Corporation'' in section 3 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1602).

(3) LEAD AGENCY.—The term ''lead agency'' means the agency with primary responsibility for issuing a mineral exploration or mine permit for a project.

(4) MINERAL EXPLORATION OR MINE PERMIT.—The term ''mineral exploration or mine permit'' includes—

(A) an authorization of the Bureau of Land Management or the Forest Service, as applicable, for premining activities that requires an environmental impact statement or similar analysis under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.);

(B) a plan of operations issued by—

(i) the Bureau of Land Management under subpart 3809 of part 3800 of title 43, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations); or

(ii) the Forest Service under subpart A of part 228 of title 36, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations); and

(C) a permit issued under an authority described in section 3503.13 of title 43, Code of Federal regulations (or successor regulations).

(5) PROJECT.—The term ''project'' means a project for which the issuance of a permit is required to conduct activities for, relating to, or incidental to mineral exploration, mining, beneficiation, processing, or reclamation activities—

(A) on a mining claim, millsite claim, or tunnel site claim for any locatable mineral; or

(B) in conjunction with any Federal mineral (other than coal and oil shale) that is leased under—

(i) the Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands (30 U.S.C. 351 et seq.); or

(ii) section 402 of Reorganization Plan Numbered 3 of 1946 (5 U.S.C. App.).

SEC. 4803. IMPROVING DEVELOPMENT OF STRATEGIC AND CRITICAL MINERALS.

(a) DEFINITION OF STRATEGIC AND CRITICAL MINERALS.—In this section, the term ''strategic and critical minerals'' means minerals that are necessary—

(1) for the national defense and national security requirements, including supply chain resiliency;

(2) for the energy infrastructure of the United States, including—

(A) pipelines;

(B) refining capacity;

(C) electrical power generation and transmission; and

(D) renewable energy production;

(3) for community resiliency, coastal restoration, and ecological sustainability for the coastal United States;

(4) to support domestic manufacturing, agriculture, housing, telecommunications, healthcare, and transportation infrastructure; or

(5) for the economic security of, and balance of trade in, the United States.

(b) CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN DOMESTIC MINES AS INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS.—A domestic mine that, as determined by the lead agency, will provide strategic and critical minerals shall be considered to be an infrastructure project, as described in Executive Order 13807.

SEC. 4804. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LEAD AGENCY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The lead agency shall appoint a project lead within the lead agency, who shall coordinate and consult with cooperating agencies and any other agencies involved in the permitting process, project proponents, and contractors to ensure that cooperating agencies and other agencies involved in the permitting process, project proponents, and contractors—

(1) minimize delays;

(2) set and adhere to timelines and schedules for completion of the permitting process;

(3) set clear permitting goals; and

(4) track progress against those goals.

(b) DETERMINATION UNDER NEPA.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—To the extent that the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) applies to the issuance of any mineral exploration or mine permit, the requirements of that Act shall be considered to have been procedurally and substantively satisfied if the lead agency determines that any State or Federal agency acting under State or Federal law has addressed or will address the following factors:

(A) The environmental impact of the action to be conducted under the permit.

(B) Possible adverse environmental effects of actions under the permit.

(C) Possible alternatives to issuance of the permit.

(D) The relationship between long- and short-term uses of the local environment and the maintenance and enhancement of long-term productivity.

(E) Any irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources that would be involved in the proposed action.

(F) That public participation will occur during the decisionmaking process for authorizing actions under the permit.

(2) WRITTEN REQUIREMENT.—In making a determination under paragraph (1), not later than 90 days after receipt of an application for the permit, the lead agency, in a written record of decision, shall—

(A) explain the rationale used in reaching the determination;

(B) state the facts in the record that are the basis for the determination; and

(C) show that the facts in the record could allow a reasonable person to reach the same determination as the lead agency did.

(c) COORDINATION ON PERMITTING PROCESS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The lead agency shall enhance government coordination for the permitting process by—

(A) avoiding duplicative reviews;

(B) minimizing paperwork; and

(C) engaging other agencies and stakeholders early in the process.

(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the lead agency shall consider—

(A) deferring to, and relying on, baseline data, analyses, and reviews performed by State agencies with jurisdiction over the proposed project; and

(B) to the maximum extent practicable, conducting any consultations or reviews concurrently rather than sequentially if the concurrent consultation or review would expedite the process.

(3) MEMORANDUM OF AGENCY AGREEMENT.—If requested at any time by a State or local planning agency, the lead agency, in consultation with other Federal agencies with relevant jurisdiction in the environmental review process, may establish memoranda of agreement with the project sponsor, State and local governments, and other appropriate entities to accomplish the coordination activities described in this subsection.

(d) SCHEDULE FOR PERMITTING PROCESS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For any project for which the lead agency cannot make the determination described subsection (b), at the request of a project proponent, the lead agency, cooperating agencies, and any other agencies involved with the mineral exploration or mine permitting process shall enter into an agreement with the project proponent that sets time limits for each part of the permitting process, including—

(A) the decision on whether to prepare an environmental impact statement or similar analysis required under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.);

(B) a determination of the scope of any environmental impact statement or similar analysis required under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.);

(C) the scope of, and schedule for, the baseline studies required to prepare an environmental impact statement or similar analysis required under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.);

(D) preparation of any draft environmental impact statement or similar analysis required under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.);

(E) preparation of a final environmental impact statement or similar analysis required under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.);

(F) any consultations required under applicable law;

(G) submission and review of any comments required under applicable law;

(H) publication of any public notices required under applicable law; and

(I) any final or interim decisions.

(2) TIME LIMIT FOR PERMITTING PROCESS.—Except if extended by mutual agreement of the project proponent and the lead agency, the time period for the total review process described in paragraph (1) shall not exceed 30 months.

(e) LIMITATION ON ADDRESSING PUBLIC COMMENTS.—The lead agency shall not be required to address any agency or public comments that were not submitted—

(1) during a public comment period or consultation period provided during the permitting process; or

(2) as otherwise required by law.

(f) FINANCIAL ASSURANCE.—The lead agency shall determine the amount of financial assurance required for reclamation of a mineral exploration or mining site, on the condition that the financial assurance shall cover the estimated cost if the lead agency were to contract with a third party to reclaim the operations according to the reclamation plan, including construction and maintenance costs for any treatment facilities necessary to meet Federal, State, or tribal environmental standards.

(g) PROJECTS WITHIN NATIONAL FORESTS.—With respect to projects on National Forest System land, the lead agency shall—

(1) exempt from the requirements of part 294 of title 36, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations)—

(A) all areas of identified mineral resources in land use designations, other than nondevelopment land use designations, in existence on the date of enactment of this division; and

(B) all additional routes and areas that the lead agency determines necessary to facilitate the construction, operation, maintenance, and restoration of an area described in paragraph (1); and

(2) continue to apply the exemptions described in paragraph (1) after the date on which approval of the minerals plan of operations described in section 3(4)(B)(ii) for the National Forest System land.

(h) APPLICATION TO EXISTING PERMIT APPLICATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—This section applies to a mineral exploration or mine permit for which an application was submitted before the date of enactment of this division if the applicant for the permit submits a written request to the lead agency for the permit.

(2) IMPLEMENTATION.—The lead agency shall begin implementing this section with respect to an application described in paragraph (1) not later than 30 days after the date on which the lead agency receives the written request for the permit.

SEC. 4805. FEDERAL REGISTER PROCESS FOR MINERAL EXPLORATION AND MINING PROJECTS.

(a) DEPARTMENTAL REVIEW.—Absent any extraordinary circumstances, as determined by the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture, as applicable, and except as otherwise required by law, the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture, as applicable, shall ensure that each Federal Register notice associated with the issuance of a mineral exploration or mine permit and required by law shall be—

(1) subject to any required reviews within the Department of the Interior or the Department of Agriculture, as applicable; and

(2) published in final form in the Federal Register not later than 45 days after the date of initial preparation of the notice.

(b) PREPARATION.—The preparation of any Federal Register notice described in subsection (a) shall be delegated to the organizational level within the lead agency.

(c) TRANSMISSION.—All Federal Register notices described in subsection (a) regarding official document availability, announcements of meetings, or notices of intent to undertake an action shall originate in, and be transmitted to the Federal Register from, the office in which, as applicable—

(1) the documents or meetings are held; or

(2) the activity is initiated.

SEC. 4806. SECRETARIAL ORDER NOT AFFECTED.

This division shall not apply to any mineral described in Secretarial Order 3324, issued by the Secretary of the Interior on December 3, 2012, in any area to which the order applies.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 908, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. AMODEI) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nevada.

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 1 minute.

My amendment would streamline the permitting process for production of minerals deemed critical and strategic for national security and other infrastructure needs.

What does the word ''streamline'' mean? If you read the amendment, it means 30 months. Now, I am a little embarrassed to tell you that streamline is 30 months, but unless the parties agree to something longer, it is 30 months.

When you say ''deemed critical,'' if you read the amendment, you will see multiple pages basically paying respect to the NEPA process and also setting forth due process and asking for a Federal representative of the lead agency to coordinate Federal permitting actions so that we proceed as expeditiously as possible when there is, in fact, a need that affects the Armed Services of our country for supply chain and things like that that are critical.

Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. BARTON). The gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, this amendment is simply an attempt to waive portions of our environmental laws for all—and I use the word ''all''—new mines by pretending that these mines are essential for national security.

Under this amendment, even sand and gravel—yes, sand and gravel—would become a critical and strategic mineral. The proponents of this amendment have argued in the past that sand and gravel are extremely important when you need to build roads. I will agree with that; it is. But this is a deliberate distortion of the meaning of what is a critical mineral.

When it comes to minerals, just because something is important does not mean that it is critical. When someone is in critical condition in the hospital, that doesn't simply mean that their condition is important. It has a specific meaning. The same is true for critical minerals.

All reputable definitions of critical minerals make it clear that there must be a risk of losing access to the mineral for it truly to be called critical. Even the definition from an executive order signed by President Trump just 5 months ago says that a critical mineral has to have a supply chain that is vulnerable to disruption.

□ 1500

In the final list of critical minerals identified by the Secretary of the Interior published just last week, the department states that it recognizes the economic significance and indispensable nature of minerals such as sand and gravel. But it also states: '' . . . these minerals do not currently meet the definition of critical'' because we are not reliant on imports and we have access here in the United States to adequate domestic sources.

Simply put, we are not at risk of losing access to our supplies of sand and gravel, and no foreign government is threatening to close down our quarries.

We should not be waiving environmental laws for every single mineral simply because it is important for something.

Supporters of the amendment say a broad definition is needed because what is and isn't critical changes all the

time, so we shouldn't tie our hands. But I point out, it only took 4 months for the Interior Department of this administration to publish their final list of critical minerals, and that is starting from scratch.

Clearly the existing process is already very quick and very flexible. There is no need to define everything as critical and weaken environmental protections for all mines just so a mining company doesn't have to wait 4 months.

Also, if this amendment looks familiar to many of my colleagues, that is because it is language that has come out of the Natural Resources Committee on a party line vote in each of the past four Congresses. In the past three Congresses it passed the House, again on a party line vote, only to go nowhere in the Senate.

The reason why it goes nowhere in the Senate is because that body understands what the definition of a critical and strategic mineral is. This amendment would have similar luck in the Senate, and it has no business being added to a defense authorization bill.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR).

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of my good friend and colleague, Representative AMODEI's, amendment.

The amendment aims to streamline a bureaucratic process that is hampering the production of defense critical metals and minerals. Strategic and critical minerals are important to national security and help provide our troops with the equipment and weapons they need to keep us safe.

A nonclassified defense study recently found that failure to have a reliable supply chain for at least 16 of the 35 critical minerals has already caused significant weapon system production delays for the Department of Defense.

A recent report published by the Department of the Interior and the U.S. Geological Survey found the U.S. is 100 percent net import reliant on foreign countries, including China, for 20 different critical minerals. Such reliance threatens our national security as well as our ability to make equipment and weapons that our troops need to be successful in their missions.

I applaud Representative AMODEI and his strong leadership and tireless efforts to support the needs of our men and women in uniform, and I urge the adoption of this amendment.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, it is good to hear that my colleagues from the Golden State think that the administration is doing a good job in this area in some respects, and it is good to hear about concerns about the State of Kentucky.

But let's talk about what is actually in the amendment.

So let's talk about what is not in the amendment first. First of all, there is nothing in the amendment that says you must approve a request to be considered a strategic critical mineral. So when we talk in the context of, oh, gee, this could be sand and gravel, some Federal land manager in the executive department, under the provisions in this amendment, has to find that. By the way, there are multiple pages saying how they go about that. So it is 30 months. Guess what? After that 30 months, you don't get a yes.

So when we talk about how the sky is going to fall, let's keep in mind that if you can't satisfy them on whatever it is that is critical, then guess what? You may get a no, as should be done if it doesn't satisfy that.

So to indicate in context that this is something that is going to make everything critical omits the whole application process and omits the consideration process that goes over 30 months.

Now, I just want to point out a couple other things, because, quite frankly, although maybe the other side thinks that the crystal ball that the administration has is an excellent one, I beg to differ. Since we are talking about things that happened in specific States, let's talk about the Loma Prieta earthquake that happened in northern California a while back that, quite frankly, shut down freeways—major arteries—in the bay area.

Now, I don't know if sand and gravel would have been appropriate and critical for that, but guess what? To those people in the bay area who wanted that transportation infrastructure open, they wanted it open as soon as possible. So if we have to wait for 30 months to haul loads of sand and gravel and make concrete to get the 580 or the 680, or whatever it was, in the East Bay open, then perhaps there was an argument for that. I don't know, unless something like that happens again.

But for those minerals that are critical to our healthcare industry, our defense industry, and all of those sorts of things, they ought to have the opportunity to apply and see if they get told yes or no in 30 months.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. AMODEI).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Nevada will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 10 OFFERED BY MR. MCGOVERN

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 10 printed in House Report 115–702.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of subtitle F of title V, add the following new section:

SEC. 5___. ATOMIC VETERANS SERVICE MEDAL.

(a) SERVICE MEDAL REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense shall design and produce a military service medal, to be known as the ''Atomic Veterans Service Medal'', to honor retired and former members of the Armed Forces who are radiation-exposed veterans (as such term is defined in section 1112(c)(3) of title 38, United States Code).

(b) DISTRIBUTION OF MEDAL.—

(1) ISSUANCE TO RETIRED AND FORMER MEMBERS.—At the request of a radiation-exposed veteran, the Secretary of Defense shall issue the Atomic Veterans Service Medal to the veteran.

(2) ISSUANCE TO NEXT-OF-KIN.—In the case of a radiation-exposed veteran who is deceased, the Secretary may provide for issuance of the Atomic Veterans Service Medal to the next-of-kin of the person.

(3) APPLICATION.—The Secretary shall prepare and disseminate as appropriate an application by which radiation-exposed veterans and their next-of-kin may apply to receive the Atomic Veterans Service Medal.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 908, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Chairman, this is an amendment that I am offering along with my colleague from Minnesota (Mr. EMMER). I want to thank him for his leadership on this issue.

Our amendment would very simply create a service medal to be awarded to atomic veterans or their surviving family members in honor of their service and sacrifice to our Nation.

Between 1945 and 1962, about 225,000 members of our Armed Forces participated in hundreds of nuclear weapons tests. Now known as atomic veterans, these GIs were placed in extremely dangerous areas and were constantly exposed to potentially dangerous levels of radiation in performance of their duties. They were sworn to secrecy, unable to even talk to their doctors about their past exposure to radiation.

Thankfully, Presidents Bill Clinton and George H.W. Bush recognized the atomic veterans' valiant service and acted to provide specialized care and compensation for their harrowing duty.

In 2007, our allies Great Britain, New Zealand, and Australia, enacted their versions of this amendment by authorizing a medal to honor their atomic veterans who served with the United States.

Regrettably, the Pentagon remains silent on honoring the service of our atomic veterans, arguing that to do so would diminish the service of other military personnel who are tasked with dangerous missions. Mr. Chairman, this is a pitiful excuse.

Tragically, more than 75 percent of atomic veterans have already passed

away, never having received this recognition. They served honorably and kept a code of silence that most certainly led to many of these veterans passing away prematurely.

Past administrations and Congresses have dealt with thornier issues of legality and compensation. What remains is recognizing these veterans' duty, honor, and faithful service to our Nation.

I want to thank my colleagues in the House for unanimously voting favorably last year by a vote of 424–0. I was shocked when the Service Medal was not included in the conference report. So I am urging my colleagues to join me in voting for this amendment again. Let us send a message to the Senate that this is important and that we are not going to give up. Together we can show them that we are serious about honoring this brave and distinguished group of patriotic Americans.

We owe it to our atomic veterans to recognize them for their selfless service to our Nation.

Mr. Chairman, let me close by saying, our veterans who are now known as atomic veterans served this country with great distinction. When they left the service they raised our families, they worked in our factories, and they contributed to our communities. They are getting older. Let us not wait until there are no surviving atomic veterans before we do the right thing.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring our atomic veterans. This is the right thing to do. It is shameful that we have not been able to do this sooner. I am confident that maybe this is the moment where we will do the right thing.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 13 OFFERED BY MR. MCKINLEY

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 13 printed in House Report 115–702.

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title VIII, add the following:

SEC. 8___. ADDITION OF DOMESTICALLY PRODUCED DINNER WARE TO THE BERRY AMENDMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2533a(b) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(3) Dinner ware.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 2533a(b)(3) of title 10, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), shall apply with respect to contracts entered into after the date that is one year after the date of enactment of this Act.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 908, the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MCKINLEY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from West Virginia.

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of my amendment to H.R. 5515.

Let's put this in historical context: In 1941, Congress passed the Berry amendment, which requires the Department of Defense to purchase certain items only from American companies. That list includes American-made products and already includes textiles, clothing, shoes, food, and certain tools. Our amendment would simply add dinnerware.

America has some of the best and most talented producers of nontoxic, lead-free dinnerware in the globe. Companies like Coors in Tucson, Arizona; Emerson Creek in Bedford, Virginia; and Homer Laughlin in West Virginia.

It makes common sense that when we purchase equipment for our military, whether it is weapons, food or supplies, it is incumbent upon us to consider American jobs as well.

This amendment solidifies that belief. It shows our strong support for American manufacturing and already has been supported and endorsed by the Alliance for American Manufacturing. Importantly, it would ensure access to safe dinnerware for our military, free from lead or other carcinogenic materials.

According to the National Institutes of Health and the Food and Drug Administration, there have been numerous violations involving lead and other contaminants in dinnerware coming from China, Mexico, and other suppliers around the world leading to concerns for their use by American troops.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to stand with American manufacturers, safety and health concerns, and the jobs that are created in our communities by supporting this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate and understand all Members' desire to not only support jobs in their district, but to support American manufacturing. I share, of course, that goal. At the same time, I must oppose this amendment because there is simply no national security justification to mandate where DOD buys its plates and mugs.

Now, there was a view in the past that textiles, food, and certain tools were essential for the health and well-being of our military and related to their combat effectiveness. It is absolutely true that we have had troops die from exposure to tainted food, and that not having the appropriate tools has had an effect on the quality of our weaponry.

□ 1515

I have never heard that argument apply when it comes to plates and bowls and knives or forks and spoons that we are about to discuss with the next amendment.

Mr. Chairman, adding this mandate hurts our troops because if these suppliers of plates are the best price, then that is what DOD buys. But if it costs more to buy these plates, that money has to come from somewhere. And that money will come from bullets or fuel or other things that are essential for our troops to have. I cannot tell you how many fewer bullets the Pentagon will be able to buy because they have to pay more for their bowls and plates and mugs.

I also can't tell you how much more exactly the Pentagon will expend in ensuring compliance with this mandate, to do the studies to check the quality, to have a report if they should fall in one of the exceptions, which are all there within the law. But I know it will be some.

Some money, some added bureaucracy is too much. As a matter of fact, the underlying bill is trying to go the other way and get more resources into the hands of our warfighters to increase what we send to the tooth and reduce the tail.

I would just say one other point at this point, Mr. Chairman.

Where does this stop? Where does this end?

Last year, we had knives and forks and spoons. This year, we have got plates and mugs. Does it next go to the trays that they carry their food on? What about the plastic cups that they may drink from?

Do we just keep rolling with this and go all the way to the hand soap and toilet paper in the bathroom?

I don't know where it stops. If there is not a national security justification to put this added cost and added mandate, we should not do it to our troops. Therefore, I must oppose the gentleman's amendment and other amendments that are not related to national security.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the remarks of the chairman.

As far as it relates to national security, our schools and our hospitals all across America consider it a serious enough situation on their chinaware because of the lead content and other carcinogenic materials that they have mandated for the health of our children across America that they must have lead-free chinaware.

But, unfortunately, what is happening for our military is that we don't

have that requirement. By putting lead-free American products in, we would be able to have control. You say our troops can get sick from tainted food. They can get sick as well from the plates that they eat from if it migrates out of the material into their food when you put hot contents on it or cook it in a microwave. Those things can happen with that.

If the schools and the hospitals think it is enough of a concern that they make this mandate, quite frankly, I think we ought to consider the same thing for our troops so that they are not made sick.

As far as the price and the quality, if that language in the Berry amendment deals with satisfactory quality and fair price is the standard, all we are doing is adding that to it.

So I don't see that issue being valid on this, because if it is not good quality, even if it is American-made, you are going to be able at a very minimum to acquire it from someone else at the same time.

Mr. Chairman, again, I urge my colleagues to stand with us on this issue of American-made products safe for our troops.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself the balance of my time simply to say: Mr. Chairman, before we add this additional burden on our troops and what we provide to them, there ought to be a scintilla of evidence that this is a problem with the military.

Saying, well, somebody might get sick some day is not sufficient to say we are going to take more money away from your needs and put it into plates and mugs. We have got to have a sense of priority and a sense of evidence of where the real problems are.

Mr. Chairman, therefore, I oppose the gentleman's amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MCKINLEY).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from West Virginia will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 19 OFFERED BY MS. TENNEY

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 19 printed in House Report 115–702.

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title VIII, add the following:

SEC. ___. ADDITION OF DOMESTICALLY PRODUCED STAINLESS STEEL FLATWARE TO THE BERRY AMENDMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2533a(b) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(3) Stainless steel flatware.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 2533a(b)(3) of title 10, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), shall apply with respect to contracts entered into after the date that is one year after the date of enactment of this Act.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 908, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. TENNEY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Chairman, once again, I stand on the floor of this great body to urge my colleagues to support American manufacturing and American workers.

The first shovel was struck into the ground in Rome, New York, to build the Erie Canal, which started the Industrial Revolution in America on July 4, 1817. We were booming. Paul Revere started his company there. Remington Arms was founded just down the road in Ilion, New York, which supplied our military with firearms. These two iconic companies remain, but many more have left.

Throughout our Nation and the region that I represent, factories that once boomed with activity and production are now shuttered and empty. Meanwhile, an entire segment of the population has been pushed out of the workforce.

President Trump described the America we know in central New York in his first inaugural speech: Our manufacturing plants are now ''rusted out factories scattered like tombstones across the landscape.''

In the 22nd District, the Rust Belt of New York, and in many other regions across this Nation, economic activity has been on a consistent downturn. Well-paying manufacturing jobs have become increasingly hard to come by, leaving former industrial communities like ours empty as families and businesses flee in droves. In my home State of New York, we have lost 1 million residents since 2010 alone.

Here in Washington and in State capitals across the country, special interests have been placed before the American worker. It is time to put our citizens and our workforce first.

Mr. Chairman, the amendment that I have introduced will level the playing field for American companies, and it will show our American workforce that they have not been forgotten. And importantly, it will reduce our military's dependence on foreign goods.

For 30 years, the Berry amendment included a domestic sourcing for stainless steel flatware. However, in 2006, the provision was removed when Oneida Limited, once in our region, the sole Berry-compliant manufacturer in the U.S., closed its U.S.-based factories and moved its operations to China, where almost all flatware is now manufactured.

In a true American comeback story worthy of a Hollywood Cinderella story, two former Oneida Limited employees opened a new company, Sherrill Manufacturing.

Greg Owens and Matt Roberts purchased Oneida's closed factory and old equipment. They refurbished the old equipment and opened Sherrill Manufacturing. They hired many former Oneida Limited employees and now have a workforce of nearly 80. The product line Sherrill employees create is appropriately known as Liberty Tabletop.

This former factory ''tombstone'' on our landscape is now a symbol of American ingenuity, craftsmanship, hard work, and freedom.

The story of rebirth has given hope to my district. Sherrill Manufacturing has a strong and proven record of selling high-quality products at market prices. Since 2008, Sherrill has been among the top providers of flatware to the Department of Defense and the General Services Administration, fulfilling more than $6.8 million in Federal contracts over the subsequent 8 years.

While I understand that there may be some concerns that this domestic sourcing provision will increase costs, GSA has already found Sherrill's flatware to be offered at ''fair and reasonable'' prices, which is a major reason why the agency already purchases flatware from Sherrill.

Most importantly, my amendment retains all existing waivers under the Berry amendment, unlike some other Berry amendments. In the case of negative changes to price or quality, the Department of Defense can use other sources of flatware, including in other countries. Under this amendment, it doesn't cost the Department of Defense anything to use Sherrill.

Mr. Chairman, at this time, it is true that the only current Berry-compliant flatware manufacturer is located in my district. It is Sherrill. However, that does not mean that others who support domestic manufacturing cannot begin production and comply with this amendment.

Opening a door for American manufacturers can encourage entrepreneurs across the country to start an operation of their own. My amendment encourages the American, free market principles of competition and ingenuity. Again, this amendment does not cost the Department of Defense.

Passing this amendment will prove to American entrepreneurs and visionaries that Congress' stated support for American jobs and American manufacturing is not merely just lip service. It shows Congress is committed to putting our Nation back on the path to prosperity.

I would like to thank my colleagues who had cosponsored this bipartisan amendment: My fellow New Yorker, Representative JOHN KATKO, who has 15

businesses in the neighboring New York district he represents that are a part of the Sherrill Manufacturing supply chain; Representatives POLIQUIN and LIPINSKI, both great supporters of domestic sourcing and Buy America; Representative WALTER B. JONES, a dedicated member of the House Armed Services Committee; and Representative TIM RYAN, an outspoken advocate for American manufacturing.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentlewoman from New York has expired.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. TENNEY).

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Chairman, again, I want to emphasize that this amendment supports American manufacturing, helps a domestic supply chain that spans 40 congressional districts from New York to California, and decreases the Department of Defense's dependence on foreign producers and goods.

Removing the variability and uncertainty that comes with foreign sourcing of necessary materials for our military is the smart thing to do, considering almost all our goods of this type are now made in China.

Mr. Chairman, today we have the opportunity to give American manufacturing the boost it deserves, while adding a measure of certainty to DOD procurement, and I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Chairman, I again want to express my admiration for the gentlewoman from New York and her advocacy for workers and businesses in her district. But I must oppose the amendment.

The fundamental question before the House is: Are we going to inflict higher costs on the Department of Defense with a mandate that requires where the Department buys its forks and spoons and knives and plates and mugs?

That is the question.

If any of these suppliers provide the best price, that is where DOD is going to go buy them. So these amendments, both the last one and this one, only become relevant if the costs are higher and we are making DOD buy the higher-priced items anyway.

Now, as I mentioned, there may be some justification for that when there is a vital national security concern. But when it comes to forks and plates, I don't think that exists.

So the only way these amendments matter is if it forces DOD to pay more. And when it forces DOD to pay more for plates and bowls and forks and knives, then you are taking money away from bullets and fuel and guns and ships and the things that help keep America safe.

Mr. Chairman, creating domestic jobs is not the primary mission of the Department of Defense. Our focus, the Department's focus and our focus in this bill when it comes to this Congress, is to protect the Nation and to support the men and women who risk their lives for us. We have got to give them everything they need to do their job. We should not do anything that would divert from that.

So I, again, with all admiration for the gentlewoman from New York and the gentleman from West Virginia, I just say, if we are going to tell DOD where they have to buy their forks and knives and plates, where does it end?

I have a manufacturer, I am sure, in my district that would love to supply the Department of Defense with something or another.

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We cannot go down this road. We must let the Department buy the best value. That is what I think all Members should support.

Mr. Chair, I oppose the amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. TENNEY).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from New York will be postponed.

The Chair understands that amendment No. 22 will not be offered.

It is now in order to consider amendment No. 31 printed in House Report 115–702.

It is now in order to consider amendment No. 32 printed in House Report 115–702.

AMENDMENT NO. 43 OFFERED BY MR. ENGEL

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 43 printed in House Report 115–702.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the appropriate place in title XII, insert the following new subtitle:

Subtitle ____—Matters Relating to Burma

SEC. 12____1. LIMITATION ON SECURITY ASSISTANCE AND SECURITY COOPERATION.

(a) LIMITATION ON MILITARY AND SECURITY SECTOR COOPERATION.—Except as provided in subsection (b) or subsection (e), for the 8-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the United States may not provide security assistance or engage in security cooperation with the military or security forces of Burma until the date on which the Secretary of State certifies to the appropriate congressional committees with respect to security assistance, as such term is defined in section 502B(d) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2304(d)), or, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, with respect to security cooperation programs and activities of the Department of Defense, as such term is defined in section 301 of title 10, United States Code, as applicable, that the military and security forces of Burma have demonstrated significant progress in abiding by international human rights standards and are undertaking meaningful and significant security sector reform, including reforms that enhance transparency and accountability, to prevent future abuses, such as—

(1) the Burmese military and security forces adhere to international humanitarian law, demonstrate significant progress in abiding by international standards for human rights, and pledge to stop future human rights abuses;

(2) the Burmese military and security forces support efforts to carry out meaningful and comprehensive investigations of alleged abuses and are taking steps to hold accountable those members of such military and security forces responsible for human rights abuses;

(3) the Government of Burma, including the military and security forces, allow immediate and unfettered humanitarian access to communities in areas affected by conflict, including Rohingya communities in the State of Rakhine;

(4) the Government of Burma, including the military and security forces, cooperates with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and organizations affiliated with the United Nations to ensure the protection of displaced persons and the safe, voluntary, and dignified return of refugees and internally displaced persons;

(5) the Burmese military and security forces cease their attacks against ethnic minority groups and constructively participate in the conclusion of a credible, nationwide ceasefire agreement, political accommodation, and constitutional change, including the restoration of the citizenship of the Rohingya;

(6) the Government of Burma, including the military and security forces, defines a transparent plan with a timeline for professionalizing the military and security forces and includes a process by which the military withdraws from private-sector business enterprises and ceases involvement in the illegal trade in natural resources and narcotics; or

(7) the Government of Burma establishes effective civilian control over the finances of its military and security forces, including by ensuring that the military does not have access to off-budget income and that military expenditures are subject to adequate civilian oversight.

(b) EXCEPTIONS.—

(1) CERTAIN EXISTING AUTHORITIES.—The Secretary of Defense shall retain the authority granted by section 1253 of the Carl Levin and Howard P. ''Buck'' McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (22 U.S.C. 2151 note) and is authorized to provide the Government of Burma with assistance necessary to make available the activities described in subsection (a) of such section.

(2) HOSPITALITY.—The Secretary of State and the United States Agency for International Development may provide assistance authorized under part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.) to provide hospitality during research, dialogues, meetings, or other activities by the parties attending the Union Peace Conference 21st Century Panglong or related processes seeking inclusive, sustainable reconciliation.

(c) MILITARY REFORM.—The certification required under subsection (a) shall include a written justification in unclassified form that may contain a classified annex describing the Burmese military's efforts to implement reforms, end impunity for human rights abuses, and increase transparency and accountability.

(d) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report, in unclassified form with a classified annex, on the strategy and plans for military-to-military engagement between the United States Armed Forces and the military and security forces of Burma.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall include the following elements:

(A) A description and assessment of the Government of Burma's strategy for security sector reform, including plans to withdraw the military from owning or controlling private-sector business entities and end involvement in the illicit trade in jade and other natural resources, reforms to end corruption and illicit drug trafficking, and constitutional reforms to ensure civilian control.

(B) A list of ongoing military activities conducted by the United States Government with the Government of Burma, and a description of the United States strategy for future military-military engagements between the United States and Burma's military and security forces, including the military of Burma, the Burma Police Force, and armed ethnic groups.

(C) An assessment of the progress of the military and security forces of Burma towards developing a framework to implement human right reforms, including—

(i) cooperation with civilian authorities to investigate and prosecute cases of serious, credible, or gross human rights abuses;

(ii) steps taken to demonstrate respect for and implementation of the laws of war; and

(iii) a description of the elements of the military-to-military engagement between the United States and Burma that promote such implementation.

(D) An assessment of progress on the peaceful settlement of armed conflicts between the Government of Burma and ethnic minority groups, including actions taken by the military of Burma to adhere to cease-fire agreements, allow for safe and voluntary returns of displaced persons to their homes, and withdraw forces from conflict zones.

(E) An assessment of the Burmese's military recruitment and use of children as soldiers.

(F) An assessment of the Burmese's military's use of violence against women, sexual violence, or other gender-based violence as a tool of terror, war, or ethnic cleansing.

(e) WAIVER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State, with respect to security assistance, and the Secretary of Defense in consultation with the Secretary of State, with respect to security cooperation programs and activities of the Department of Defense, may waive on a case-by-case basis the application of the limitation under subsection (a) if the Secretary submits to the appropriate congressional committees, not later than 30 days before such waiver enters into effect—

(A) a list of the activities and participants to which such waiver would apply;

(B) a certification, including a justification, that the waiver is in the national interest of the United States; and

(C) a certification that none of the participants listed pursuant to subparagraph (A) have committed any of the acts described in section 12__2(a)(1)(A) or 12__2(a)(1)(B) or committed any other gross violation of human rights, as such term is defined for purposes of section 362 of title 10, United States Code.

SEC. 12__2. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN FOREIGN PERSONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—For the 8-year period beginning on the date that is 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall impose the sanctions described in subsection (b) with respect to each foreign person that the President determines—

(1) is a current or former senior official of the military or security forces of Burma who knowingly—

(A) perpetrated or is responsible for ordering or otherwise directing serious human rights abuses in Burma; or

(B) has taken significant steps to impede investigations or prosecutions of serious human rights abuses allegedly committed by one or more subordinates of such official, including against the Rohingya community in the state of Rakhine;

(2) is an entity owned or controlled by any person described in paragraph (1);

(3) has knowingly provided or received significant financial, material, or technological support to or from a foreign person, including the immediate family members of such person, described in paragraph (1) for any of the acts described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of such paragraph.

(b) SANCTIONS.—The sanctions described in this section are the following:

(1) ASSET BLOCKING.—Notwithstanding the requirements of section 202 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701), the exercise of all powers granted to the President by such Act to the extent necessary to block and prohibit all transactions in all property and interests in property of a person the President determines meets one or more of the criteria described in subsection (a) if such property and interests in property are in the United States, come within the United States, or are or come within the possession or control of a United States person.

(2) ALIENS INELIGIBLE FOR VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—

(A) VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—An alien who the Secretary of State or the Secretary of Homeland Security (or a designee of one of such Secretaries) knows, or has reason to believe, meets any of the criteria described in subsection (a) is—

(i) inadmissible to the United States;

(ii) ineligible to receive a visa or other documentation to enter the United States; and

(iii) otherwise ineligible to be admitted or paroled into the United States or to receive any other benefit under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

(B) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The issuing consular officer, the Secretary of State, or the Secretary of Homeland Security (or a designee of one of such Secretaries) shall revoke any visa or other entry documentation issued to an alien who meets any of the criteria described in subsection (a) regardless of when issued.

(ii) EFFECT OF REVOCATION.—A revocation under clause (i)—

(I) shall take effect immediately; and

(II) shall automatically cancel any other valid visa or entry documentation that is in the alien's possession.

(3) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT.—Sanctions under paragraph (2) shall not apply to an alien if admitting the alien into the United States is necessary to permit the United States to comply with the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26, 1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947, between the United Nations and the United States, or other applicable international obligations.

(4) EXCEPTION WITH RESPECT TO THE IMPORTATION OF GOODS.—The authorities and requirements to impose sanctions under this section shall not include any authority or requirement to impose sanctions with respect to the importation of goods, as such term is defined in section 16 of the Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 U.S.C. 4618) (as continued in effect pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.))).

(c) PENALTIES.—Any person that violates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of this section or any regulation, license, or order issued to carry out subsection (b) shall be subject to the penalties set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the same extent as a person that commits an unlawful act described in subsection (a) of that section.

(d) IMPLEMENTATION.—The President may exercise the authorities provided under section 203 and 205 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) to carry out this section.

(e) WAIVER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President may annually waive the application of sanctions required by subsection (a) with respect to a person if the President—

(A) determines that such waiver is in the national interest of the United States; and

(B) not later than the date on which such waiver will take effect, submits to the congressional committees listed in paragraph (2) a notice of and justification for such waiver.

(2) CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES LISTED.—The congressional committees listed in this paragraph are the following:

(A) The Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives.

(B) The Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate.

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADMITTED; ALIEN.—The terms ''admitted'' and ''alien'' have the meanings given those terms in section 101 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1001).

(2) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term ''foreign person'' means a person that is not a United States person.

(3) KNOWINGLY.—The term ''knowingly'' means, with respect to conduct, a circumstance, or a result, means that a person has actual knowledge, or should have known, of the conduct, the circumstance, or the result.

(4) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term ''United States person'' means—

(A) a United States citizen, an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence to the United States, or any other individual subject to the jurisdiction of the United States; or

(B) an entity organized under the laws of the United States or of any jurisdiction within the United States, including a foreign branch of such entity.

SEC. 12__3. RESPONSIBILITY AND TRANSPARENCY IN THE MINING SECTOR.

(a) LIST OF PARTICIPATING ENTITIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and not less than annually thereafter until the date described in subsection (e), the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a list of the

entities described in each of subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (2) that—

(A) participate in Burma's mining sector;

(B) meet the criterion described in subsection (b)(1); and

(C) meet or have made significant progress towards meeting the criteria in subsections (b)(2) through (b)(5).

(2) ENTITIES DESCRIBED.—The entities described in this paragraph are the following:

(A) Entities that produce or process precious and semiprecious gemstones.

(B) Entities that sell or export precious and semiprecious gemstones from Burma or articles of jewelry containing such gemstones.

(b) CRITERIA DESCRIBED.—The criteria described in this subsection are the following with respect to an entity:

(1) The entity publicly discloses beneficial ownership, as such term is defined for purposes of the Myanmar Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (Myanmar EITI), and the entity is not owned or controlled, either directly or indirectly, by the Burmese military or security forces, any current or former senior Burmese military officer, or any person sanctioned by the United States pursuant to any relevant sanctions authority.

(2) The entity publicly discloses any politically exposed persons, as defined by the Myanmar EITI, who are beneficial owners, as defined under the Myanmar EITI.

(3) The entity publicly discloses valid authorization, license, or permit to produce, process, sell, or export minerals or gemstones, as applicable.

(4) The entity publicly discloses payments to the Government of Burma, including tax and non-tax, license, or royalty payments, and other payments or contract terms as may be required under Myanmar Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative standards.

(5) The entity undertakes robust due diligence, in line with the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas, including public reporting.

(c) PUBLICATION OF LIST.—The Secretary of State shall publish the list under subsection (a) and shall periodically update such list as appropriate.

(d) GUIDANCE.—The Secretary of State shall issue guidance to relevant companies regarding supply-chain due diligence best practices applicable to importation of gemstones or minerals that may be of Burmese origin or articles of jewelry containing such gemstones to mitigate the potential risks associated with the importation of such items.

(e) TERMINATION.—The requirement under subsection (a) shall terminate on the date on which the President certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that the Government of Burma has taken substantial measures to reform the mining sector in Burma, including the following:

(1) Requiring the mandatory disclosure of payments, permit and license allocations, project revenues, relevant contract terms, and beneficial ownership, including identifying any politically exposed persons who are beneficial owners, consistent with the approach agreed under the Myanmar EITI and with due regard for civil society participation.

(2) Separating the commercial, regulatory, and revenue collection responsibilities within the Myanmar Gems Enterprise and other key state-owned enterprises to remove existing conflicts of interest.

(3) Monitoring and undertaking enforcement actions, as warranted, to ensure that entities fully adhere to environmental and social impact assessment and management standards in accordance with international responsible mining practices, the country's environmental conservation law and other applicable laws and regulations, and that they uphold occupational health and safety standards and codes of conduct that are aligned with the core labor standards of the International Labour Organisation and domestic law.

(4) Actively seeking a comprehensive peace agreement that addresses the transparent and fair distribution of benefits from natural resources, including local benefit-sharing, taking into consideration proposals on fiscal federalism for new governance arrangements in resource-rich regions.

(5) Implementing on a timely basis policy reforms aligned with the recommendations of the multi-stakeholder Jade and Gemstone Support Committee and reporting regularly on such reforms.

(6) Reforming the process for valuation of gemstones at the mine-site, including developing an independent valuation system to prevent undervaluation and tax evasion.

(7) Requiring companies bidding for jade and ruby permits to be independently audited upon the request of Myanmar Gems Enterprise or the Minister of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, and making the results of all such audits public.

(8) Establishing a credible and transparent permitting process that closely scrutinizes applicants, including based on past performance, and prevents unscrupulous entities from gaining authorized access to concessions or the right to trade in minerals or gemstones.

(9) Establishing effective oversight of state-owned enterprises operating in such sector, including through parliamentary oversight or requirements for independent financial auditing.

SEC. 12___4. DETERMINATION AND REPORT ON ACCOUNTABILITY FOR ETHNIC CLEANSING, CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY, AND GENOCIDE IN BURMA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that—

(1) describes—

(A) allegations of ethnic cleansing, crimes against humanity, and genocide in Burma; and

(B) potential transitional justice mechanisms in Burma; and

(2) includes a determination whether the events that took place in the state of Rakhine in Burma, starting on August 25, 2017, constitute ethnic cleansing, crimes against humanity, or genocide.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report required under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) a description of—

(A) incidents that may constitute ethnic cleansing, crimes against humanity, or genocide committed by the Burmese military against the Rohingya minority and the identities of any other actors involved in such incidents;

(B) the role of the civilian government in the commission of such incidents;

(C) incidents that may constitute ethnic cleansing, crimes against humanity, or genocide committed by violent extremist groups or anti-government forces;

(D) incidents that may violate the principle of medical neutrality and, to the extent possible, the identities of any individuals who engaged in or organized such incidents; and

(E) to the extent possible, a description of the conventional and unconventional weapons used for such crimes and the sources of such weapons;

(2) a description and assessment by the Department of State, the United States Agency for International Development, the Department of Justice, and other appropriate Federal departments and agencies of programs that the United States has already undertaken or is planning to undertake to ensure accountability for ethnic cleansing, crimes against humanity, and genocide perpetrated against the Rohingya by the military and security forces of Burma, the state government of Rakhine, Buddhist militias, and all other armed groups fighting in Rakhine, including programs to—

(A) train civilian investigators within and outside of Burma and Bangladesh on how to document, investigate, develop findings of, and identify and locate alleged perpetrators of ethnic cleansing, crimes against humanity, or genocide in Burma;

(B) promote and prepare for a transitional justice process or processes for the perpetrators of ethnic cleansing, crimes against humanity, and genocide occurring in the State of Rakhine in 2017; and

(C) document, collect, preserve, and protect evidence of ethnic cleansing, crimes against humanity, and genocide in Burma, including by providing support for Burmese, Bangladeshi, foreign, and international nongovernmental organizations, the United Nations Human Rights Council's investigative team, and other entities engaged in such investigative activities; and

(3) a detailed study of the feasibility and desirability of potential transitional justice mechanisms for Burma, including a hybrid tribunal, to address ethnic cleansing, crimes against humanity, and genocide perpetrated in Burma, including recommendations on which transitional justice mechanisms the United States should support, why such mechanisms should be supported, and what type of support should be offered.

(c) PROTECTION OF WITNESSES AND EVIDENCE.—The Secretary of State shall take due care to ensure that the identification of witnesses and physical evidence are not publicly disclosed in a manner that might place such persons at risk of harm or encourage the destruction of evidence by the Government of Burma.

(d) AUTHORIZATION TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State is authorized to provide assistance to support appropriate entities that are undertaking the efforts described in paragraph (2) with respect to ethnic cleansing, crimes against humanity, and genocide perpetrated by the military and security forces of Burma, the state government of Rakhine, Buddhist militias, and all other armed groups fighting in Rakhine State.

(2) EFFORTS AGAINST HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES.—The efforts described in this paragraph are the following:

(A) Identifying suspected perpetrators of ethnic cleansing, crimes against humanity, and genocide.

(B) Collecting, documenting, and protecting evidence of such crimes and preserve the chain of custody for such evidence.

(C) Conducting criminal investigations.

(D) Supporting investigations conducted by other countries, as appropriate.

(3) ADDITIONAL SUPPORT.—The Secretary of State, taking into account any relevant findings in the report required by subsection (a), is authorized to support the creation and operation of transitional justice mechanisms, including a potential hybrid tribunal, to prosecute individuals suspected of committing ethnic cleansing, crimes against humanity, or genocide in Burma.

SEC. 12___5. APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.

In this subtitle, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(1) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 908, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Chair, let me say that, since August of 2017, the Burmese military has inflicted horrific violence against the Rohingya in Burma's Rakhine State and is, today, using the same tactics against the Kachin. The result: 700,000 refugees. I didn't get that wrong. It is 700,000 refugees pushed into Bangladesh. Eighty percent are women and children, many of whom are now victims of horrific gender-based violence. It is the sort of treatment ethnic minorities have endured there for decades.

This a manmade crisis—ethnic cleansing, perhaps genocide—and to date there has been no accountability. This measure would change that. It would limit U.S. military-to-military assistance with the Burmese military until we see progress on human rights and accountability.

It would authorize tough financial sanctions and visa bans against military and security forces involved in human rights abuses, promote transparency, and push reform in the Burmese gem sector, a target of corrupt military influence; and it requires the Secretary of State to determine what, in addition to ethnic cleansing, might have occurred.

This body has long stood on the side of freedom, democracy, and human rights in Burma. I urge all Members to join me today in doing the same thing by supporting this measure.

Mr. Chair, I urge all Members to support this, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 50 OFFERED BY MR. POLIS

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 50 printed in House Report 115–702.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of subtitle A of title XXXI, add the following new section:

SEC. 31___. BUDGET REDUCTION FOR WEAPONS ACTIVITIES.

Notwithstanding the amounts set forth in the funding tables in division D, the amount authorized to be appropriated by section 3101 for the National Nuclear Security Administration, as specified in the corresponding funding table in section 4701, for weapons activities is hereby reduced by $198,000,000. The amount of such reduction shall not be available for any purpose other than deficit reduction.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 908, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. POLIS) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Chair, my amendment, which I am proud to sponsor with Representative BLUMENAUER, makes a small, sensible reduction to unnecessary nuclear weapons spending.

The National Defense Authorization that we have before us this week authorizes hundreds of millions of dollars for our nuclear weapons program, even $65 million to reduce an additional low-yield warhead. While the threats that we face around the world are different than what they were a few years ago, we cannot afford to sacrifice the fiscal security of our Nation in the name of national security.

Spending more than we have and more than we need to on the military makes us less secure, rather than more secure, by mortgaging our future and that of future generations to those foreign nations which hold our debt.

My amendment would simply make a small start by reducing the funding for the National Security Administration's weapons account by $198 million, the exact amount that the agency itself says that it doesn't need.

Let me be clear: This amendment will maintain all of our nuclear capabilities and research; but for a body that should be making the hard choices to get our budget under control, why should we be giving the National Security Administration more money than they want, need, or are asking for?

We need to start getting our budget under control. This is a small step. I offered other amendments that were blocked. This one is allowed. I hope that my Republican and Democratic colleagues can come together to show that we are serious about cutting unnecessary spending and reducing our deficit.

Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Chair, I claim time in opposition to this amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I strongly oppose this amendment. This amendment is not about stewardship of taxpayers' dollars, good government, or setting priorities. Instead, this amendment is part of a broader, antinuclear agenda that we see year in and year out.

Let's be clear about what this amendment does. It cuts $145 million in desperately needed funding for recapitalizing nuclear weapons production buildings dating back to the 1940s and the 1950s.

Here is a quote from General Klotz, President Obama's NNSA Administrator, before my subcommittee a few years ago:

> Our infrastructure is extensive, complex, and, in many critical areas, several decades old. More than half of the NNSA's approximately 6,000 real property assets are over 40 years old, and nearly 30 percent date back to the Manhattan Project era.
>
> Many of the enterprise's critical utility, safety, and support systems are failing at an increasing and unpredictable rate, which poses both programmatic and safety risk.

That was in 2016. Folks, let me assure you, this problem has not gotten any better since then. I know that it has only gotten worse because I have visited all NNSA sites and have seen these deplorable conditions firsthand.

We are asking the Nation's highly skilled scientists, engineers, and technicians to design and build our nuclear weapons in buildings that are literally falling down around them. We have had large chunks of concrete fall from ceilings into operating workspaces. We have even had tape and plastic sheathing around 40-year-old pots carrying radioactive liquids. I have personally seen tarps hung over sensitive diagnostic equipment to prevent leaking roofs from destroying equipment worth tens of millions of dollars.

NNSA has a $3.7 billion backlog in deferred maintenance and repair needs. The funding that this amendment would strip away is sorely needed to help dig out of this hole. It is unfortunate that the gentleman does not at least recognize that this amendment would do harm to the safety of our workers.

I urge my colleagues to recognize this amendment for what it is and reject this broader agenda to undercut the U.S. nuclear deterrent.

Mr. Chair, I urge a ''no'' vote, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Our nuclear arsenal is capable of ending human life on the planet five to seven times. I don't understand the need for redundancy when it comes to the extinction of humanity. Once should be more than enough to kill every man, woman, and child on the face of the planet. My amendment doesn't address all of that, but it does make a cut of $198 million in unnecessary spending for nuclear weapons.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on my amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DESJARLAIS), my friend and colleague and a member of the Subcommittee on Strategic Forces.

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Mr. Chair, I join the gentleman in expressing my opposition to this amendment. The NNSA's mission is, arguably, one of the most critical national security roles across the U.S. Government.

As my colleague from Alabama pointed out, after years of insufficient funding, our Nuclear Security Enterprise is now facing a myriad of infrastructure problems and potential failures. To quote Los Alamos lab director Dr. Charlie McMillan: ''One of the things that keeps me up at night is the realization that essential capabilities are held at risk by the possibility of such failures.''

The amendment offered by the gentleman from Colorado would only exacerbate these problems. Most of the cuts made by this amendment would come from high-priority deferred maintenance and infrastructure repairs. With a $3.7 billion infrastructure and maintenance backlog, these cuts are unacceptable and pose a serious threat not only to the NNSA mission, but to the occupational well-being of its employees as well.

Under the leadership of Chairman THORNBERRY and Chairman ROGERS, the committee has worked hard over the past 2 years to mitigate these infrastructure issues and prevent the occurrence of a single-point failure within the Nuclear Security Enterprise. It is critical that we continue to push forward with these efforts and resolve these outstanding issues. As such, I strongly urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Chair, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. THORNBERRY), the full committee chairman, for any comments he may have.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chair, the men and women of NNSA are like the military: they are going to get the job done under whatever conditions are required. But this amendment affects their work environment, their health and safety, and whether we can attract and retain top-quality people. It is the people who would suffer under this; it is not the mission. I understand people are antinuclear, but it is the people who would suffer.

As both gentlemen have said, we have a tremendous backlog. This just helps us catch up a little bit.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Chair, I urge a ''no'' vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. POLIS).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Colorado will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 55 OFFERED BY MR. GALLAGHER

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 55 printed in House Report 115–702.

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Subparagraph (A) of section 1252(c)(2) is amended by adding at the end the following:

(vii) The abuse of employment and student visa programs to enter the United States in order to conduct political, academic, or social influence efforts, or for the purposes of establishing Chinese Communist Party cells or other entities under the control or coordination of the Chinese Communist Party.

(viii) The Chinese Communist Party's coercion or intimidation of Chinese nationals studying or working in the United States or outside China.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 908, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GALLAGHER) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, as a free and open society, the United States has always drawn in those from around the world seeking to study here, to live here, individuals seeking to observe and participate in our way of life. Indeed, we benefit from these visitors when they take on our values and go home with them.

However, when an individual comes to study and work in the United States, we must take care both that they are here for their stated purpose and that they are allowed to fulfill their legitimate goal without disruption.

As one FBI study has found, foreign intelligence services have been taking advantage of higher education institutions and personnel for many years. This problem is particularly acute with China. That is why administrations on both sides of the aisle have considered measures to protect academic research from foreign exploitation.

In recent years, we have seen a number of cases damaging the national security:

In 2008, a Tennessee professor was convicted of exporting defense articles without a license after using Chinese students to conduct Air Force research that they exported to China;

In 2009, a researcher at Duke University sent data back to China, which led to the creation of a multibillion-dollar Chinese company;

And in 2015, Chinese professors were among six defendants charged by the Department of Justice with theft of trade secrets on behalf of Chinese companies and academic institutions.

As the United States addresses China's increasingly aggressive rise, it is critical that we consider how to effectively address these issues as a free society. That is why my amendment requires that a whole-of-government strategy on China mandated by the NDAA incorporate two key elements: exploitation of visa programs to enter the United States by the Chinese Communist Party and the party's intimidation and coercion of Chinese nationals in the United States.

This is not a blanket ban or requirement of any sort to limit the number of Chinese students studying in the U.S.; rather, it is merely adding an important element to the existing strategy required under the NDAA to address a whole-of-government challenge comprehensively.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1545

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Chair, I claim time in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition, and I want to commend my friend from Wisconsin for correctly identifying one of the strategic challenges that China poses, but I am concerned this effort to amend section 1252 will make flawed language even worse.

The bill currently requires the President to provide a report to Congress that outlines a strategy to respond to competitive and, at times, malicious actions by China. In fact, my friend from Wisconsin has outlined several instances where we have been successful in ferreting out these actions all without his amendment being law.

So let me be clear, though, on the strategy. The strategy cannot and should not always be only responding to China. The U.S. needs to develop a proactive, assertive agenda to contrast with and to compete with China. Rather than setting up actions that could restrict student visa programs or suggesting that Chinese visitors are in the U.S. to do the bidding of the Chinese Communist Party, Congress should be taking a proactive approach consistent with our national security interests and, importantly, our values.

Now, I don't want to dwell too much on what is called the Confucius Institute in that issue, except to say that part of our response to something like the Confucius Institute ought to be U.S. programs to support Chinese language and culture programs for students in this country, instead of outsourcing it. There is an example where we can go on offense, instead of always responding or reacting to actions by China. Schools that wish to have Chinese language instruction should not have to rely on China for funding, as an example.

So I am deeply concerned the language in the underlying bill takes a reflexive and a narrow-minded view of the real challenge posed by China. Closing off our country is the wrong approach.

To use a football metaphor, closing off our Nation to foreign investment and to students is thinking like a defensive coordinator and not a particularly creative one. Instead, we need to think like a head coach, developing new offensive and defensive strategies, a new playbook revamping the old one.

So let me clarify. Going on offense is not just a reaction to China. It represents a strategy to keep the U.S. engaged in the global community. We should focus on multiple aspects of public policy: education, foreign trade, investment, immigration, military capabilities, innovation, and, of course, our bilateral relationship with China. A smarter strategic plan would demonstrate to the world and to the Chinese people the superiority of the U.S. model: democracy, free and open elections, diversity, open markets, and a free press. We should be exposing Chinese students to these values, making sure they understand that they have a different choice.

This is what Congress should be working on, not adding new provisions to an already flawed report. I urge my colleagues to oppose the Gallagher amendment.

Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. HARTZLER).

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of this amendment. I thank the gentleman from Wisconsin for bringing this important issue into the forefront.

We need to face the reality that China is actively pursuing a whole-of-nation approach to gain global influence. This includes targeting U.S. universities by exploiting our student visa program in order to gain access and steal sensitive, proprietary, and classified information.

According to DOD, in 2014, almost a quarter of foreign efforts to steal sensitive information happened through academic institutions. What is even more alarming is that, under Chinese law, citizens are required to provide data, information, and technological support or assistance to the Chinese Government upon request. This means that China can intimidate and coerce its citizens to provide information.

The amendment offered today will ensure that this form of espionage is thoroughly considered as we develop our whole-of-government China strategy. I do support what the gentleman said that we need to go on the offensive as well, but that doesn't mean we give up the defense, and we need to be smart in that strategy as well. I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes.''

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Chair, may I ask how much time both parties have left.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Washington has 2 minutes remaining. The gentleman from Wisconsin has 2 minutes remaining.

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. JUDY CHU).

Ms. JUDY CHU of California. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to Mr. GALLAGHER's amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act.

This harmful amendment would add language to the NDAA that specifically targets Chinese foreign nationals who receive U.S. employment or student visas for extra scrutiny by our Federal Government. If this amendment were to confine itself to the serious issue of safeguarding American interests against foreign political influence, industrial acquisitions, and regional global capabilities, it might be supportable. But this amendment specifically targets an ethnic population in this country by singling out the Chinese who participate in student visa programs and who are receiving employment visas.

While there is no doubt that we must take national security threats from foreign countries seriously, including Russia, this amendment assumes that there is widespread abuse of our visa program from China alone and attempts to paint all Chinese students, scholars, and employees, en masse, as potential spies for China.

This underlying bill already includes elements to address interstate strategic competition and does so without creating a precedent for singling out individuals because of their country of origin. We have seen how our government's policies and actions towards foreign nationals have the ability to impact Americans of certain ethnic backgrounds.

We need to look no further than the examples of Sherry Chen and Dr. Xioaxing Xi, two Chinese-American scientists who were wrongfully accused of being spies for China, only to have their charges dropped with no explanation. In fact, just this month, Sherry Chen was exonerated by a judge who said that her case was a case of gross miscarriage of justice.

It is reckless to categorize an entire country of people as a threat to our national security, and I reject these overly broad and dangerous attempts to build a case that all Chinese students and employees should be viewed with more suspicion in this country than others.

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON).

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I thank Congressman MIKE GALLAGHER for his military service and now service in Congress.

I am grateful to speak in support of Congressman MIKE GALLAGHER's amendment that would require the executive branch to create a strategy to address the abuse of visa programs used to enter the United States to conduct political activity and establish groups in support of the Chinese Communist Party.

Organizations like the Confucius Institute and the Thousand Talents program are clear examples as to why Congressman GALLAGHER makes perfect sense, and it is critical to our national security. Confucius Institutes are currently active in 103 college campuses, despite Li Changchun, a member of the Chinese Communist Party's Politburo Standing Committee, calling the institutes ''an important part of China's overseas propaganda setup.''

Additionally, FBI Director Christopher Wray described the Confucius Institutes operating in the United States as exploiting the very open research and development environment we have, which we all revere, but they are taking advantage of it.

Unfortunately, my amendment, cosponsored by Congressman GALLAGHER and Congresswoman VICKY HARTZLER, dealing with organizations like the Confucius Institutes was not ruled in order. It is critical that the whole-of-government China strategy include vulnerabilities within our academic community, and for this reason, I urge everyone to support Congressman GALLAGHER's amendment.

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Chairman, with the few seconds that I have left, I would just say, to extend the football metaphor, perhaps to the point of absurdity, our defense doesn't even get on the field. We keep drawing pick six after pick six; therefore, allowing intellectual property theft, which is the greatest transfer of wealth in human history, by the Chinese, which is what the Blair-Huntsman Commission laid out.

So I look forward to working with my colleague on a more comprehensive approach, but in the meantime, I hope he will work with me on this.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GALLAGHER).

The amendment was agreed to.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, proceedings will now resume on those amendments printed in House Report 115–702 on which further proceedings were postponed, in the following order:

Amendment No. 8 by Mr. AMODEI of Nevada.

Amendment No. 10 by Mr. MCGOVERN of Massachusetts.

Amendment No. 13 by Mr. MCKINLEY of West Virginia.

Amendment No. 19 by Ms. TENNEY of New York.

Amendment No. 43 by Mr. ENGEL of New York.

Amendment No. 50 by Mr. POLIS of Colorado.

The Chair will reduce to 2 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first vote in this series.

AMENDMENT NO. 8 OFFERED BY MR. AMODEI

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. AMODEI)

on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 229, noes 183, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 223]

AYES—229

Abraham
Aderholt
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blum
Bost
Brady (TX)
Brat
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Cook
Costa
Costello (PA)
Cramer
Crawford
Culberson
Curbelo (FL)
Curtis
Davidson
Davis, Rodney
Denham
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Emmer
Estes (KS)
Faso
Ferguson
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foxx
Frelinghuysen
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garrett
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Griffith
Grothman
Guthrie
Handel
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Hill
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Katko
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kihuen
King (IA)
Kinzinger
Knight
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Latta
Lesko
Lewis (MN)
LoBiondo
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
MacArthur
Marchant
Marino
Marshall
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McSally
Meadows
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Mullin
Newhouse
Noem
Norman
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Paulsen
Perry
Pittenger
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Posey
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (SC)
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Rosen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Royce (CA)
Russell
Rutherford
Sanford
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smucker
Stefanik
Stewart
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tipton
Titus
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)

NOES—183

Adams
Aguilar
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Courtney
Crist
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Esty (CT)
Evans
Fitzpatrick
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Gomez
Gonzalez (TX)
Gottheimer
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Hastings
Heck
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Matsui
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Moore
Moulton
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nolan
Norcross
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Pallone
Panetta
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Smith (WA)
Soto
Speier
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tonko
Torres
Tsongas
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—15

Beyer
Brown (MD)
Black
Castor (FL)
Delaney
Donovan
Higgins (LA)
King (NY)
Lewis (GA)
Pearce
Rogers (KY)
Stivers
Trott
Walz
Zeldin

□ 1622

Mr. PASCRELL and Ms. LOFGREN changed their vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

Ms. CHENEY, Messrs. ROSKAM, COMER, WESTERMAN, and DUNCAN of South Carolina changed their vote from ''no'' to ''aye.''

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 10 OFFERED BY MR. MCGOVERN

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. HULTGREN). The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 408, noes 1, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 224]

AYES—408

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barragán
Barton
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blum
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brat
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Connolly
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Costello (PA)
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crist
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Curbelo (FL)
Curtis
Davidson
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
Denham
DeSantis
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellison
Emmer
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes (KS)
Esty (CT)
Evans
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garrett
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gomez
Gonzalez (TX)
Gosar
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guthrie
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Handel
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
Kinzinger
Knight
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Lesko
Levin
Lewis (MN)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
MacArthur
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marino
Marshall

Massie
Mast
Matsui
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meadows
Meeks
Meng
Messer
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Moulton
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Newhouse
Noem
Nolan
Norcross
Norman
Nunes
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Olson
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pascrell
Paulsen
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pittenger
Pocan
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Polis
Posey
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Rosen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Royce (CA)
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Russell
Rutherford
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sanford
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Speier
Stefanik
Stewart
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)

NOES—1

Dunn

NOT VOTING—18

Beyer
Black
Brown (MD)
Castor (FL)
Coffman
Delaney
Donovan
Goodlatte
Higgins (LA)
King (NY)
Lewis (GA)
Mitchell
Pearce
Rogers (KY)
Stivers
Trott
Walz
Zeldin

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1627

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Chair, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 224.

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. Chair, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 224.

AMENDMENT NO. 13 OFFERED BY MR. MCKINLEY

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MCKINLEY) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 160, noes 252, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 225]

AYES—160

Adams
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (UT)
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Bustos
Butterfield
Capuano
Carbajal
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Collins (NY)
Correa
Courtney
Cramer
Crist
Crowley
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Deutch
Dingell
Doyle, Michael F.
Duffy
Duncan (TN)
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Esty (CT)
Evans
Faso
Fitzpatrick
Fortenberry
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Garamendi
Gottheimer
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Hastings
Huffman
Hunter
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (GA)
Jones
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Lamb
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Levin
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lynch
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Marshall
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McCollum
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
McSally
Meng
Mooney (WV)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nolan
Norcross
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Pascrell
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peterson
Pingree
Pocan
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Price (NC)
Raskin
Reed
Richmond
Rooney, Thomas J.
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Schakowsky
Schiff
Serrano
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Smith (NJ)
Soto
Stefanik
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Tsongas
Upton
Veasey
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

NOES—252

Abraham
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barragán
Barton
Bass
Biggs
Bishop (MI)
Blackburn
Blum
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bost
Brady (TX)
Brat
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Cárdenas
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Cleaver
Coffman
Collins (GA)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Connolly
Cook
Cooper
Costa
Costello (PA)
Crawford
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Curbelo (FL)
Curtis
Davidson
Davis (CA)
Davis, Rodney
DeGette
Demings
Denham
DeSantis
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Doggett
Duncan (SC)
Dunn
Emmer
Estes (KS)
Ferguson
Fleischmann
Flores
Foster
Foxx
Frelinghuysen
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garrett
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gomez
Gonzalez (TX)
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Grothman
Guthrie
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Handel
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hoyer
Hudson
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hurd
Issa
Jeffries
Jenkins (KS)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Kelly (MS)
Kihuen
Kind
King (IA)
Kinzinger
Knight
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Larsen (WA)
Latta
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Lesko
Lewis (MN)
Lieu, Ted
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
MacArthur
Marchant
Marino
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McEachin
McMorris Rodgers
Meadows
Meeks
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Moore
Moulton
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Newhouse
Noem
Norman
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Paulsen
Payne
Perry
Peters
Pittenger
Polis
Posey
Quigley
Ratcliffe
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Ros-Lehtinen
Rosen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Royce (CA)
Ruppersberger
Russell
Rutherford
Sanford
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schneider
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Speier
Stewart
Suozzi
Taylor
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Turner
Valadao
Vargas
Vela
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (IA)

NOT VOTING—15

Beyer
Black
Brown (MD)
Castor (FL)
Donovan
Goodlatte
Higgins (LA)
King (NY)
Lewis (GA)
Pearce
Rogers (KY)
Stivers
Trott
Walz
Zeldin

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1634

Messrs. LOEBSACK and BUTTERFIELD changed their vote from "no" to "aye."

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Chair, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 224 and "nay" on rollcall No. 225.

AMENDMENT NO. 19 OFFERED BY MS. TENNEY

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. TENNEY) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 174, noes 239, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 226]

AYES—174

Adams
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (UT)
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Capuano
Carbajal
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Collins (NY)
Correa
Courtney
Cramer
Crist
Crowley
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Deutch
Dingell
Doyle, Michael F.
Duffy
Duncan (TN)
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Esty (CT)
Evans
Faso
Fitzpatrick
Fortenberry
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Garamendi
Gottheimer
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Harris
Hastings
Higgins (NY)
Hoyer
Huffman
Hunter
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (GA)
Jones
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
King (IA)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
LaMalfa
Lamb
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Lawson (FL)
Levin
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lynch
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Marshall
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McCollum
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meng
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nolan
Norcross
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Pascrell
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peterson
Pingree
Pocan
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Posey
Price (NC)
Raskin
Reed
Richmond
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Schiff
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuster
Sinema
Sires
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Soto
Stefanik
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Tsongas
Vargas
Veasey
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

NOES—239

Abraham
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barragán
Barton
Bass
Beyer
Biggs
Bishop (MI)
Blackburn
Blum
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bost
Brat
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Byrne
Calvert
Cárdenas
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Cleaver
Coffman
Collins (GA)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Connolly
Cook
Cooper
Costa
Costello (PA)
Crawford
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Curbelo (FL)
Curtis
Davidson
Davis (CA)
Davis, Rodney
DeGette
Demings
Denham
DeSantis
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Doggett
Duncan (SC)
Dunn
Emmer
Espaillat
Estes (KS)
Ferguson
Fleischmann
Flores
Foster
Foxx
Frelinghuysen
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garrett
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gomez
Gonzalez (TX)
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Grijalva
Grothman
Guthrie
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Handel
Harper
Hartzler
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Hill
Himes
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hurd
Jeffries
Jenkins (KS)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Kelly (MS)
Kihuen
Kind
Kinzinger
Knight
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
Lamborn
Lance
Larsen (WA)
Latta
Lawrence
Lee
Lesko
Lewis (MN)
Lieu, Ted
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
MacArthur
Marchant
Marino
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McEachin
Meadows
Meeks
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Moulton
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Newhouse
Noem
Norman
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Paulsen
Payne
Perry
Peters
Pittenger
Polis
Quigley
Ratcliffe
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rosen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Royce (CA)
Ruppersberger
Russell
Rutherford
Sanford
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schneider
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sessions
Shimkus
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Speier
Stewart
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Vela
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (IA)

NOT VOTING—14

Black
Brady (TX)
Brown (MD)
Castor (FL)
Donovan
Higgins (LA)
King (NY)
Lewis (GA)
Pearce
Rogers (KY)
Stivers
Trott
Walz
Zeldin

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1639

Mr. MCCARTHY changed his vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 225 and "yea" on rollcall No. 226.

AMENDMENT NO. 43 OFFERED BY MR. ENGEL

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 382, noes 30, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 227]

AYES—382

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Banks (IN)
Barr
Barragán
Barton
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blum
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brat
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comstock
Conaway
Connolly
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Costello (PA)
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crist
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Curbelo (FL)
Curtis
Davidson
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
Denham
DeSantis
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellison
Emmer
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes (KS)
Esty (CT)
Evans
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garrett
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gomez
Gonzalez (TX)
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guthrie
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Kinzinger
Knight
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (MN)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
MacArthur
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Mast
Matsui
McCarthy
McCaul
McCollum

McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meadows
Meeks
Meng
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Moulton
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Newhouse
Nolan
Norcross
Norman
Nunes
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Olson
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pascrell
Paulsen
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pittenger
Pocan
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Polis
Posey
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rohrabacher
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Rosen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Royce (CA)
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Speier
Stefanik
Stewart
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)

NOES—30

Abraham
Bacon
Barletta
Biggs
Brady (TX)
Byrne
Comer
Duffy
Dunn
Gaetz
Gallagher
Graves (GA)
Handel
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
Lesko
Marino
Marshall
Massie
McClintock
Noem
Roby
Russell
Sanford
Scott, Austin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Thompson (PA)
Wenstrup

NOT VOTING—15

Black
Brown (MD)
Castor (FL)
Donovan
Higgins (LA)
King (NY)
Lewis (GA)
Pearce
Rogers (KY)
Rokita
Stivers
Trott
Walz
Wilson (FL)
Zeldin

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1643

Messrs. FRELINGHUYSEN and FERGUSON changed their vote from ''no'' to ''aye.''

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 50 OFFERED BY MR. POLIS

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. POLIS) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 174, noes 239, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 228]

AYES—174

Adams
Amash
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Comer
Connolly
Correa
Courtney
Crist
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Duncan (TN)
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Esty (CT)
Evans
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Gomez
Gonzalez (TX)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Heck
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (MN)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Lowenthal
Lowey
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Massie
Matsui
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Moore
Moulton
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nolan
O'Rourke
Pallone
Panetta
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peterson
Pingree
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Rohrabacher
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Rush
Sánchez
Sanford
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sires
Smith (WA)
Soto
Speier
Suozzi
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tonko
Torres
Tsongas
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOES—239

Abraham
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Bera
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blum
Blumenauer
Bost
Brady (TX)
Brat
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comstock
Conaway
Cook
Cooper
Costa
Costello (PA)
Cramer
Crawford
Cuellar
Culberson
Curbelo (FL)
Curtis
Davidson
Davis, Rodney
Denham
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Dunn
Emmer
Estes (KS)
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foxx
Frelinghuysen
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garrett
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Griffith
Grothman
Guthrie
Handel
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Hill
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jeffries
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Katko
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
Kinzinger
Knight
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Latta
Lesko
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
MacArthur
Marchant
Marino
Marshall
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McSally
Meadows
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Mullin
Newhouse
Noem
Norcross
Norman
Nunes
O'Halleran
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Paulsen
Perry
Peters
Pittenger
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Posey
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (SC)
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Rosen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Royce (CA)
Ruppersberger
Russell
Rutherford
Ryan (OH)
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smucker
Stefanik
Stewart
Swalwell (CA)
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tipton
Titus
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)

NOT VOTING—14

Black
Brown (MD)
Castor (FL)
Donovan
Higgins (LA)
Joyce (OH)
King (NY)
Lewis (GA)
Pearce
Rogers (KY)
Stivers
Trott
Walz
Zeldin

□ 1649

Ms. TENNEY changed her vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CARTER of Georgia) having assumed the chair, Mr. MARSHALL, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5515) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

PERMISSION TO MODIFY AMENDMENTS EN BLOC NO. 4 OFFERED BY MR. THORNBERRY OF TEXAS PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 905

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that during further consideration of H.R. 5515 in the Committee of the Whole pursuant to House Resolution 908, the fourth set of amendments en bloc offered by myself pursuant to section 3 of House Resolution 905 be considered to have been adopted with the modification I have placed at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the modification.

The Clerk read as follows:

Strike amendment #69 printed in House Report 115–698.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The amendments en bloc are modified.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 908 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 5515.

Will the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) kindly resume the chair.

□ 1653

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 5515) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, with Mr. MARSHALL (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, amendment No. 50 printed in House Report 115–702 offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. POLIS) had been disposed of.

AMENDMENTS EN BLOC NO. 2 OFFERED BY MR. THORNBERRY OF TEXAS

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, pursuant to House Resolution 908, I offer amendments en bloc.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendments en bloc.

Amendments en bloc No. 2 consisting of amendment Nos. 31, 32, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, and 76 printed in House Report 115–702, offered by Mr. THORNBERRY of Texas:

AMENDMENT NO. 31 OFFERED BY MR. ROSS OF FLORIDA

At the end of title XI, add the following:

SEC. 11___. REPORTING REQUIREMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7131 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e)(1)(A) Not later than March 31 of each calendar year, the Office of Personnel Management, in consultation with the Office of Management and Budget, shall submit to each House of Congress a report on the operation of this section during the fiscal year last ending before the start of such calendar year.

''(B) Not later than December 31 of each calendar year, each agency (as defined by section 7103(a)(3)) shall furnish to the Office of Personnel Management the information which such Office requires, with respect to such agency, for purposes of the report which is next due under subparagraph (A).

''(2) Each report by the Office of Personnel Management under this subsection shall include, with respect to the fiscal year described in paragraph (1)(A), at least the following information:

''(A) The total amount of official time granted to employees.

''(B) The average amount of official time expended per bargaining unit employee.

''(C) The specific types of activities or purposes for which official time was granted, and the impact which the granting of such official time for such activities or purposes had on agency operations.

''(D) The total number of employees to whom official time was granted, and, of that total, the number who were not engaged in any activities or purposes except activities or purposes involving the use of official time.

''(E) The total amount of compensation (including fringe benefits) afforded to employees in connection with activities or purposes for which they were granted official time.

''(F) The total amount of official time spent by employees representing Federal employees who are not union members in matters authorized by this chapter.

''(G) A description of any room or space designated at the agency (or its subcomponent) where official time activities will be conducted, including the square footage of any such room or space.

''(3) All information included in a report by the Office of Personnel Management under this subsection with respect to a fiscal year—

''(A) shall be shown both agency-by-agency and for all agencies; and

''(B) shall be accompanied by the corresponding information (submitted by the Office in its report under this subsection) for the fiscal year before the fiscal year to which such report pertains, together with appropriate comparisons and analyses.

''(4) For purposes of this subsection, the term 'official time' means any period of time, regardless of agency nomenclature—

''(A) which may be granted to an employee under this chapter (including a collective bargaining agreement entered into under this chapter) to perform representational or consultative functions; and

''(B) during which the employee would otherwise be in a duty status.''.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall be effective beginning with the report which, under the provisions of such amendment, is first required to be submitted by the Office of Personnel Management to each House of Congress by a date which occurs at least 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act.

AMENDMENT NO. 32 OFFERED BY MR. ZELDIN OF NEW YORK

In section 1225 (relating to strategy to counter destabilizing activities of Iran)—

(1) redesignate subsection (c) as subsection (d); and

(2) insert after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

(c) UNITED STATES POLICY.—It shall be the policy of the United States to provide foreign countries that are willing to materially assist United States efforts to counter Iran in the Middle East with support under the strategy authorized under subsection (a) including, as appropriate, with partner benefits commensurate with such support.

AMENDMENT NO. 61 OFFERED BY MS. BLUNT ROCHESTER OF DELAWARE

At the end of subtitle G of title X of division A, add the following:

SEC. _____. SENSE OF CONGRESS HONORING THE DOVER AIR FORCE BASE, DELAWARE, HOME TO THE 436TH AIRLIFT WING, THE 512TH AIRLIFT WING, AND THE CHARLES C. CARSON CENTER FOR MORTUARY AFFAIRS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress find the following:

(1) The Dover Air Force Base is home more than 4,000 active-duty military and civilian employees tasked with defending the United States of America.

(2) The Dover Air Force Base supports the mission of the 436th Airlift Wing, known as ''Eagle Wing'' and the 512th Airlift Wing, known as Liberty Wing.

(3) The ''Eagle Wing'' serves as a unit of the Eighteenth Air Force headquartered with the Air Mobility Command at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois.

(4) The ''Eagle Wing'' flies hundreds of missions throughout the world and provides a quarter of the United States' strategic airlift capability and boasts a global reach to over 100 countries around the world.

(5) The Dover Air Force Base houses incredible aircrafts utilized by the United States Air Force, including the C-5M Super Galaxy and C-17A Globemaster III aircraft.

(6) The Dover Air Force Base operates the largest and busiest air freight terminal in the Department of Defense, fulfilling an important role in our Nation's military.

(7) The Air Mobility Command Museum is located on the Dover Air Force base and welcomes thousands of visitors each year to learn more about the United States Air Force.

(8) The Charles C. Carson Center for Mortuary Affairs fulfills our Nation's sacred commitment of ensuring dignity, honor and respect to the fallen and care service and support to their families.

(9) The mortuary mission at Dover Air Force Base dates back to 1955 and is the only Department of Defense mortuary in the continental United States.

(10) Service members who serve at the Center for Mortuary Affairs are often so moved by their work that they voluntarily elect to serve multiple tours because they feel called to serve our fallen heroes.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—Congress—

(1) honors and expresses sincerest gratitude to the women and men of the Dover Air Force Base for their distinguished service;

(2) acknowledges the incredible sacrifice and service of the families of active duty members of the United States military;

(3) encourages the people of the United States to keep in their thoughts and their prayers the women and men of the United States Armed Forces; and

(4) recognizes the incredibly unique and important work of the Air Force Mortuary Affairs Operations and the role they play in honoring our fallen heroes.

AMENDMENT NO. 62 OFFERED BY MR. FITZPATRICK OF PENNSYLVANIA

At the end of subtitle B of title II, add the following new section:

SEC. 2___. PROCESS FOR COORDINATION OF STUDIES AND ANALYSIS RESEARCH OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

The Secretary of Defense shall implement a Department of Defense-wide process under

which the heads of the military departments and Defense Agencies responsible for managing requests for studies and analysis research are required to coordinate annual research requests and ongoing research efforts to minimize duplication and reduce costs.

AMENDMENT NO. 63 OFFERED BY MR. FITZPATRICK OF PENNSYLVANIA

Add at the end of subtitle C of title IX the following new section:

SEC. 9___. REVIEW OF FOREIGN CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATES AND ANALYSIS OF FOREIGN CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS APPROPRIATION.

With respect to a contract for goods and services paid for with foreign currency, the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), in coordination with each Secretary of a military department, shall conduct a review of the exchange rate for such foreign currency used when making a disbursement pursuant to such a contract to determine whether cost-savings opportunities exist by more consistently selecting cost-effective rates. Such review shall include an analysis of realized and projected losses to determine the necessary balance of the appropriation ''Foreign Currency Fluctuations, Defense''. The Secretary of Defense may use the results of such analysis to determine the amount of any transfers to the appropriation ''Foreign Currency Fluctuations, Defense''.

AMENDMENT NO. 64 OFFERED BY MR. FITZPATRICK OF PENNSYLVANIA

Page 124, after line 2, insert the following new section:

SEC. 528. COMPLETION OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DIRECTIVE 2310.07E REGARDING MISSING PERSONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall make the completion of Department of Defense Directive 2310.07E a top priority in order to improve the efficiency of locating missing persons.

(b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ''missing person'' has the meaning given such term in section 1513 of title 10, United States Code.

AMENDMENT NO. 65 OFFERED BY MR. POE OF TEXAS

At the end of subtitle C of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 12___. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.

(a) IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the date that is 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall impose the sanctions described in paragraph (2) with respect to As-Saib Ahl al-Haq and Harakat Hizballah al-Nujaba and foreign persons that are officials, agents, affiliates of, or owned or controlled by As-Saib Ahl al-Haq or Harakat Hizballah al-Nujaba, as the case may be.

(2) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions described in this paragraph are sanctions applicable with respect to a foreign person pursuant to Executive Order 13224 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note; relating to blocking property and prohibiting transactions with persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism).

(3) EXCEPTION.—The authorities and requirements to impose sanctions under this section shall not include the authority or requirement to impose sanctions on the importation of goods (as such term is defined in section 16 of the Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 U.S.C. 4618) (as continued in effect pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.))).

(b) ADDITIONAL REPORTING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall transmit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of Senate a report that includes a detailed list of global entities with respect to which there is a reasonable basis to determine that Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps has an ownership interest in such entity of not less than 33 percent.

(2) FORM.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

AMENDMENT NO. 66 OFFERED BY MR. CARBAJAL OF CALIFORNIA

At the end of subtitle I of title V, add the following new section:

SEC. 5___. USE OF MOBILE APPLICATIONS FOR TRAINING MANUALS.

The Secretary of Defense shall encourage the military departments to transition training manuals, emergency guidance, and other publications needed to train members of the Armed Forces to applications on mobile telephones that use innovative technologies and provide for interaction between trainees and information needed to complete training in a manner that is cost efficient.

AMENDMENT NO. 67 OFFERED BY MR. LANCE OF NEW JERSEY

Page 175, after line 17, insert the following new section:

SEC. 573. AWARD OF MEDALS OR OTHER COMMENDATIONS TO HANDLERS OF MILITARY WORKING DOGS AND MILITARY WORKING DOGS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the ''Guardians of America's Freedom Medal Act''.

(b) AWARD OF MEDALS OR OTHER COMMENDATIONS TO HANDLERS OF MILITARY WORKING DOGS AND MILITARY WORKING DOGS.—

(1) PROGRAM OF AWARD REQUIRED.—Each Secretary of a military department shall carry out a program to provide for the award of one or more medals or other commendations to handlers of military working dogs, and to military working dogs, under the jurisdiction of such Secretary to recognize valor or meritorious achievement by such handlers and dogs.

(2) MEDAL AND COMMENDATIONS.—Any medal or commendation awarded pursuant to a program under paragraph (1) shall be of such design, and include such elements, as the Secretary of the military department concerned shall specify.

(3) REGULATIONS.—Medals and commendations shall be awarded under programs under paragraph (1) in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense for purposes of this section.

AMENDMENT NO. 68 OFFERED BY MR. FOSTER OF ILLINOIS

At the end of subtitle B of title XXXI, add the following new section:

SEC. 31___. NUCLEAR FORENSICS ANALYSES.

(a) INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Homeland Security, shall seek to enter into an agreement with the National Academy of Sciences for an independent assessment of nuclear forensic analyses conducted by the Federal Government.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The assessment conducted by the National Academy of Sciences shall, at minimum, include the following:

(1) An assessment of a representative sample of nuclear forensic analyses from across the Federal departments and agencies, with particular emphasis on the validity, quality, value, cost effectiveness, gaps, and timeliness of such analyses.

(2) An assessment of the methodologies used by nuclear forensics analyses from across the Federal departments and agencies, including the scientific rigor of such methodologies.

(3) Recommendations for improving nuclear forensics analyses conducted by the Federal Government, including any best practices or lessons learned that should be shared across the Federal departments and agencies.

(c) SUBMISSION.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Energy shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report containing the assessment of the National Academy of Sciences under subsection (a).

(d) BRIEFING ON SENIOR-LEVEL INVOLVEMENT IN EXERCISES.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees a briefing on the involvement of senior-level executive branch leadership in recent and planned nuclear terrorism preparedness or response exercises, or any other exercise that have nuclear forensic analysis as a component of the exercise.

(e) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(1) the congressional defense committees; and

(2) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs of the Senate.

AMENDMENT NO. 69 OFFERED BY MR. CÁRDENAS OF CALIFORNIA

At the end of subtitle C of title VII, insert the following:

SEC. _____. PILOT PROGRAM ON MINDFULNESS-BASED STRESS REDUCTION IN PRE-DEPLOYMENT TRAINING.

(a) PILOT PROGRAM.—The Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security with respect to the Coast Guard when it is not operating as a service in the Navy, shall carry out a pilot program under which the Secretary provides mindfulness-based stress reduction training to members of the Armed Forces before their deployment to a combat theater of operations.

(b) STUDY AND REPORT.—The Secretary of Defense shall study and submit to Congress a report on the effectiveness of training under the pilot program, including the effect of the training on—

(1) managing stress; and

(2) preventing post-traumatic stress disorder.

AMENDMENT NO. 70 OFFERED BY MS. MENG OF NEW YORK

At the end of subtitle I of title V, insert the following:

SEC. ___. ADDRESSING ATTRITION LEVELS OF WOMEN IN THE MILITARY.

Not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall develop and carry out an exit survey to be completed by members of the Armed Forces to assist the Secretary to assess the reasons that attrition levels for women are higher than for men at various career points.

AMENDMENT NO. 71 OFFERED BY MS. MENG OF NEW YORK

At the end of subtitle B of title II, add the following new section:

SEC. 2___. JET NOISE REDUCTION PROGRAM OF THE NAVY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Navy, acting through the Director of the Office of Naval Research, may carry out a jet noise reduction program to study the physics of, and reduce, jet noise produced by high-performance military aircraft.

(b) ELEMENTS.—In carrying out the program under subsection (a), the Secretary may—

(1) identify material and non-material solutions to reduce jet noise;

(2) develop and transition such solutions to the fleet;

(3) communicate relevant discoveries to the civilian aviation community; and

(4) support the development of theoretical noise models, computational prediction tools, noise control strategies, diagnostic tools, and enhanced source localization.

AMENDMENT NO. 72 OFFERED BY MS. MENG OF NEW YORK

Page 433, line 2, insert ''oversight,'' before ''and sustainment of''.

AMENDMENT NO. 73 OFFERED BY MR. SMITH OF WASHINGTON

At the end of subtitle F of title XII, add the following new section:

SEC. 12___. REPORT ON DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE MISSIONS, OPERATIONS, AND ACTIVITIES IN NIGER AND THE BROADER REGION.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in consultation as appropriate with the Secretary of State, shall submit to the congressional defense committees, the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a report on the missions, operations, and activities of the Department in Niger and the broader region that includes the following:

(A) A description of the objectives and the associated lines of efforts of the Department in Niger and the broader region, and the benchmarks for assessing progress toward such objectives.

(B) A description of the timeline for achieving such objectives in Niger and the broader region.

(C) A justification of the relevance of such objectives in Niger and the broader region to the national security of the United States and to the objectives in the National Defense Strategy.

(D) A description of steps the Department is taking to ensure that security cooperation in Niger and the broader region is effectively coordinated with the diplomatic and development activities of the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development.

(E) A description of the legal, operational, and fiscal authorities relating to the lines of effort of the Department in Niger and the broader region.

(F) An identification of measures to mitigate operational risk to and increase the preparedness of members of the Armed Forces conducting missions, operations, or activities in Niger or the broader region.

(G) An assessment of the command and support relationships of United States Africa Command with subordinate component commands, including Special Operations Command Africa.

(H) An identification and description of each implemented recommendation from the Army Regulation 15-6 investigation report conducted by United States Africa Command regarding the deaths of four soldiers in Niger on October 4, 2017.

(I) Any other matter the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(2) SCOPE OF REPORT.—For purposes of the report required by paragraph (1), the term ''broader region'' includes Algeria, Libya, Chad, Cameroon, Nigeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, and Mali.

(b) FORM.—The report required by subsection (a)(1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

AMENDMENT NO. 74 OFFERED BY MR. BERA OF CALIFORNIA

At the end of subtitle F of title V, add the following new section:

SEC. 5___. REPORT ON AVAILABILITY OF COLLEGE CREDIT FOR SKILLS ACQUIRED DURING MILITARY SERVICE.

Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretaries of Veterans Affairs, Education, and Labor, shall submit to Congress a report on the transfer of skills into equivalent college credits or technical certifications for members of the Armed Forces leaving the military. Such report shall describe each the following:

(1) Each skill that may be acquired during military service that is eligible for transfer into an equivalent college credit or technical certification.

(2) The academic level of the equivalent college credit or technical certification for which each such skill is eligible.

(3) Each academic institution that awards an equivalent college credit or technical certification for such skills, including—

(A) whether each such academic institution is public or private and whether such institution is for profit; and

(B) the number of veterans that applied to such academic institutions who were able to receive equivalent college credits or technical certifications in the last fiscal year, and the academic level of the credits or certifications.

(4) The number of members of the Armed Forces who left the military in the last fiscal year and the number of those individuals who met with an academic or technical training advisor as part of their participation in the Transition Assistance Program.

AMENDMENT NO. 75 OFFERED BY MR. MEADOWS OF NORTH CAROLINA

Page 874, insert after line 6 the following:

SEC. 2815. PROMOTING RESPONSIBLE LEASING OF PROPERTY.

(a) REQUIRING CERTIFICATION BY SECRETARIES OF MILITARY DEPARTMENTS PRIOR TO ENTERING INTO LEASES THAT PROPERTY OWNED BY UNITED STATES IS NOT AVAILABLE TO CARRY OUT PURPOSE OF LEASE.—

(1) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT IN REPORTS ON LEASES OF REAL PROPERTY.—Section 2662(a)(5)(B) of title 10, United States Code, as amended by section 2812 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (Public Law 115–91; 131 Stat. 1849), is amended—

(A) by striking ''or'' at the end of clause (ii);

(B) by striking the period at the end of clause (iii) and inserting ''; or''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new clause:

''(iv) facilities in property under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense may not be reconfigured to support the purpose of the proposed lease in an appropriate and cost-effective manner.''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE; NOTICE OF COMPLIANCE.—

(A) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall apply with respect to leases entered into or renewed on or after the expiration of the 60-day period which begins on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(B) REPORT ON STEPS TAKEN TO ENSURE FUTURE COMPLIANCE.—Upon the completion of any general steps necessary to ensure that the Department of Defense will be able to meet the requirements of subsection (a)(5) of section 2662 of title 10, United States Code (as amended by paragraph (1)) with respect to all leases entered into or renewed after the expiration of the period described in subparagraph (A), including the promulgation of any regulations or the issuance of other guidance, the Secretary of Defense shall submit a one-time report to the Committees on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and Senate and shall post a copy of the report on the public website of the Department of Defense.

(b) IMPROVING ACCURACY OF INFORMATION IN REPORTS BY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE ON REAL PROPERTY LEASES.—

(1) INFORMATION ON COSTS OF LEASES.—In preparing any inventory or report on real property leased by the Department of Defense, including information on property included in a Base Structure Report and information in the Real Property Asset Database of the Department of Defense, the Secretary of Defense shall—

(A) in the case of a lease which covers multiple assets of the Department, provide a separate breakdown of the rent and other costs (including parking) associated with each such asset; and

(B) in the case of real property which is subject to multiple leases entered into by the Department, provide a separate breakdown for each such lease and the costs associated with each such lease.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, or at the time of publishing the next Base Structure Report prepared after the date of the enactment of this Act (whichever occurs earlier), the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and Senate a report detailing the steps the Secretary has taken to ensure compliance with the requirements of paragraph (1).

(c) REVIEW BY GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the Secretary of Defense submits the one-time report required under subparagraph (B) of subsection (a)(2), the Comptroller General of the United States shall prepare and submit to Congress a report on—

(1) the extent to which the Department is in compliance with subsection (a)(5) of section 2662 of title 10, United States Code (as amended by subsection (a)(1)), including the regulations and guidance promulgated and issued by the Secretary to ensure compliance with such subsection, as of the date on which the Secretary submits the report; and

(2) the extent to which the Secretary is including the information required under subsection (b) in inventories and reports on real property leased by the Department, as of the date on which the Secretary submits the report.

AMENDMENT NO. 76 OFFERED BY MR. SCHIFF OF CALIFORNIA

Add at the end of subtitle C of title XII the following:

SEC. 12___. REPORT ON UNITED STATES STRIKES AGAINST SYRIA.

Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate a report providing a detailed explanation of the legal basis under both domestic and international law for the strikes conducted by the United States against Syrian regime targets on April 6, 2017, and April 13, 2018, including a detailed legal analysis of relevant authorities and precedents. Such report shall be unclassified, but may include a classified annex.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 908, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. THORNBERRY) and the gentleman from Washington (Mr. SMITH) each will control 10 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. HARTZLER).

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee as well as the House Judiciary Committee for working with me and the Armed Services Committee to include an important amendment in this bill that will expand DOD's ability to interdict drones that pose a threat to certain military installations.

My amendment adds mobility airlift to the list of mission sets permitted to use counter-drone technology. If a drone were to attack the mobility mission, it could mean a reduction in our ability to provide logistic support globally to joint and coalition warfighters.

Additionally, a drone attack on our mobility forces could prevent our capacity to conduct global operations by severely limiting our ability to conduct aerial refueling. This is a commonsense proposal necessary to protect a critical aspect of our national defense.

I am delighted it is included in an en bloc package, and I want to thank Representatives GARAMENDI, HANABUSA, ROSEN, and AUSTIN SCOTT for cosponsoring this bipartisan amendment.

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Chair, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WILSON).

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of amendment No. 73, requiring a report to relevant committees on the missions, operations, and activities of the Department of Defense in Niger and the broader region.

I believe that key components of the amendment are necessary to obtain critical, tactical, operational, and strategic improvements in U.S. Africa Command's efforts to achieve stability and security in the region, and most importantly, keep our troops safer.

As evidenced by the tragic deaths of the four soldiers who were ambushed by ISIS near Tongo Tongo, Niger, last October, improvements throughout the chain of command and military services are necessary, and DOD must provide greater transparency and communication with Congress regarding legal, operational, and funding authorities for military operations in Africa.

The amendment requires DOD to specify its objectives in Niger and justify their relevance to U.S. national security. For the safety of our troops, the amendment also requires DOD to identify measures to mitigate operational risk and increase the preparedness of members of the Armed Forces in Niger and the broader region.

It will also mandate that DOD assess the command and support relationships of U.S. Africa Command with subordinate commands like Special Operations Command. This will help to ensure improved command and control throughout the chain of command, that the commander's intent is clear, and that operational guidance is consistent and concise.

Indeed, the tragic deaths of the four soldiers killed in action affected me personally in an overwhelming way. One of the four soldiers killed was a dear constituent of mine, Sergeant La David Johnson of Miami Gardens.

Sergeant Johnson, who was killed while bravely defending our country, was 25 years of age. He left behind a lovely extended family, a beautiful wife, and three young children. He was a member of the 5000 Role Models of Excellence, and 50 members are visiting us here today.

Mr. Chair, I am hopeful that with actions currently being taken by the DOD, along with the prescriptive elements of this amendment, our Nation will not have to suffer another tragic loss like we did last October.

□ 1700

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. NEWHOUSE) for the purpose of a colloquy.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank the chairman for this opportunity to discuss a matter of great interest and importance to the Tri-Cities community in my district.

In the 1940s and 1950s, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers acquired land along the shoreline of the Columbia River in Tri-Cities, Washington. The land, 34 miles of the McNary shoreline, is currently underutilized. The local communities continue to be saddled with hundreds of thousands of dollars of M&O costs annually for upkeep of land of these shoreline properties that they don't even own.

I support the community proposal to convey the land back to the cities. I have been working with the chairman on proposed amendment language to do so but respect the fact the chairman has let me know there is still some work to be done.

I continue to encourage further community engagement and believe public meetings are necessary to ensure all voices are heard, including that of the local Tribes.

It is also a requirement that the city governments fully understand the responsibilities and potential costs that could arise from having this land conveyed.

There must be further coordination between conveyance proponents, community stakeholders, city governments, and the Army Corps.

Mr. Chairman, you have raised concerns about the language in its current form and have urged further efforts. I am committed to continuing to work with the local communities to address these concerns.

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I respectfully ask: Will you commit to continuing to work with me as the NDAA process moves forward to try to address concerns with the proposal while the communities continue to assess their needs?

Mr. THORNBERRY. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. NEWHOUSE. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for raising this issue.

As the gentleman and I have discussed, there are significant hurdles to legislating land transfers of the Department of Defense. Among the issues that must be addressed are:

What and where is the property in question?

Who is the intended recipient?

Are there multiple parties who are also interested in acquiring this property?

Are there ongoing legal proceedings related to the property?

Are there cleanup costs and liabilities associated with the property?

Have the interested parties met with the Department of Defense, and if so, with whom?

Does the Department support conveying the property, and do they have a continuing need for it?

If supported, why can't the Department dispose of the property through its surplus/excess process?

What are the proposed reuses of the property?

Are there any earmark issues—no-cost conveyances to private entities or for economic development can be subject to points of order.

Has CBO been consulted for any mandatory scoring implications?

And, if outside committees have equities, have they been consulted for approval or concerns?

I will be happy to continue working with the gentleman moving forward, but I would ask that he and any other Member looking at land transfers take these factors into account and give all relevant committees plenty of time and opportunity to vet their proposal.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank the chairman for that colloquy.

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Delaware (Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER).

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Mr. Chairman, first let me thank Chairman THORNBERRY and Ranking Member SMITH for the time. I also want to thank both of them for including my amendment in the en bloc 2 amendment package.

My amendment expresses this body's strong support of the Dover Air Force Base in Delaware. The Dover Air Force Base is a pillar of our community in the First State and a pillar of the Air Force community at large.

The Dover Air Force Base is home to the 436th and the 512th Air Lift Wings, representing over 4,000 Active-Duty military and civilians. The 436th was recently recognized with the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award. The award served as recognition of the exemplary

work of the entire unit led by Colonel Ethan Griffin who will, unfortunately, soon be leaving Dover.

Along with supporting the missions of the two Air Lift Wings, Dover is also home to the Charles C. Carson Center for Mortuary Affairs and carries out the solemn obligation of caring for our fallen heroes.

Mr. Chair, it is right and fitting that the United States Congress recognize and acknowledge the incredibly important work of the Dover Air Force Base, and I urge my colleagues to support this en bloc amendment package.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. LANCE).

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the en bloc amendments and in support of the underlying bill.

Passing this defense bill is one of the most important constitutional responsibilities of Congress. I commend Chairman THORNBERRY for his leadership, and I thank him for his support of my amendments.

I was pleased to join with my bipartisan colleagues, Congressman MICHAEL BURGESS and Congresswoman BARBARA LEE, in offering an amendment auditing the Pentagon fully. This has been promised for many years, and I am pleased that it is in this bill.

I thank Chairman THORNBERRY for including my bipartisan amendment that would officially create the first-ever Department of Defense commendation for military working dogs and their handlers.

Nine military working dog handlers from the home State I represent, New Jersey, have been killed in action, and one of my constituents from Short Hills, New Jersey, was among these.

Mr. Chairman, I think we should be voting on the en bloc amendments favorably and also voting favorably for the underlying bill.

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. CARBAJAL), who is a member of the Armed Services Committee.

Mr. CARBAJAL. Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank Chairman THORNBERRY and Ranking Member SMITH for their bipartisan leadership, and the Armed Services Committee and the Rules Committee for bringing my amendment to the floor.

My amendment is simple. It not only urges the Department of Defense to pursue more innovative measures to train servicemembers, but also to train them in a more cost-effective manner.

This amendment urges DOD to transition training manuals, emergency guidance, and other training publications to applications on mobile telephones to enable interaction and improve and update the training experience for servicemembers. It provides a cost-efficient mechanism for less printing and less distribution costs while making the materials more readily accessible.

The Air Force has already started utilizing such applications, and my amendment would urge the Secretary to utilize such technology throughout all the services.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentlewoman from New York (Ms. STEFANIK), who is the chair of the Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities.

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Chairman, I rise to express support for my amendment to create an independent national security commission on artificial intelligence.

Mr. Chairman, this bill that I have introduced will direct a comprehensive and national-level review of advances in AI and machine learning and ensure these align with our national security needs. It will provide actionable recommendations to the President and the Congress to more effectively organize the Federal Government when it comes to AI.

Artificial intelligence is a constantly developing technology that will touch every aspect of our lives. The investments we make and policies we establish will provide the foundation of our national security and technological military advantage, but every day we run the risk of that edge being eroded.

In order to preserve this, we must increase our research in public, private, and academic institutions, build and educate a talented workforce, embrace the technological advances that AI will provide, and lead the international community in establishing the laws and norms associated with implementing AI. This amendment makes advances in all of these areas.

Mr. Chairman, I thank my ranking member, JIM LANGEVIN of Rhode Island, for cosponsoring this amendment.

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. CÁRDENAS).

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Chairman, first I would like to thank Chairman MAC THORNBERRY and also Ranking Member ADAM SMITH for their fine work on this and allowing me to bring my amendment to the floor.

My mindfulness amendment would create a pilot program to train members of the Armed Forces in mindfulness stress reduction techniques before deploying to combat zones.

According to the VA, mindfulness practice has the potential to benefit individuals with PTSD. Using mindfulness to strengthen reaction to stress together with existing empirically supported PTSD treatments may allow patients to persevere through trauma processing.

Rather than waiting to apply these treatments after the traumatic event, why not prepare our brave young men and women who are being sent into combat zones ahead of time?

A prior study with the Marines suggested mindfulness training was beneficial for attention, working memory, as well as mood. My amendment would expand this training to all branches of the Armed Forces, including the Coast Guard. It would require a report on the success of this training with stress management and preventing PTSD.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to adopt this amendment.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, I have no further speakers on this en bloc package, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL), who is the ranking member on the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of an amendment I joined with Ranking Member SMITH to offer on Niger.

Last October, four American servicemembers were killed in an ambush in Niger. We still don't fully understand what happened. For some reason, the zeal for oversight seems to have dried up in the last 16 months.

Here is what we do know: American personnel were in Niger for an advise-and-accompany mission, but sometime after these four heroes lost their lives, the administration said: Well, no, they actually fought under the 2001 war authorization.

That is the post-9/11 AUMF.

So four Americans are dead, and it turns out they have been fighting the war on terror one country after another. There are seemingly no limits, and we have a responsibility to do better.

This is a scandal screaming out for congressional oversight—not just in this case, but in so many of the far-flung places where our military is engaged overseas.

We need to stay focused on fighting terrorist organizations. But the law says Congress decides when and where we fight wars, and the administration appears to be losing track of what authorities it has and where it is using them.

Mr. Chairman, I am glad to join Ranking Member SMITH in offering this amendment that hopefully will shed light on our mission in the region.

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER).

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Chairman, I thank my colleague, Mr. SMITH, for yielding.

I rise today in support of my amendment to formally codify the Boots to Business program, and I want to thank my friend from Iowa, Congressman ROD BLUM, for his work on this amendment and on our bill, the Veterans Entrepreneurship Training Act.

As transitioning servicemembers enter civilian life, they bring adaptability and experience to excel as entrepreneurs. However, they often lack business-specific skills or experience that can help bring their ideas to reality.

The Boots to Business program seeks to fill these gaps and helps prepare transitioning servicemembers, their spouses, and also veterans for challenges starting their own small business.

Participants take a 2-day, in-person course on business ownership, followed by an in-depth, 8-week online course that teaches them day-to-day skills they will need to run a successful small business, such as the fundamentals in developing a business plan and how to acquire financing.

I am grateful my amendment is included in the NDAA, and I am hopeful we can continue to expand Boots to Business so that more servicemembers and veterans can start and grow their own small business.

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Chairman, we have no further speakers.

Mr. Chairman, I urge adoption of the amendments en bloc, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, I also yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Chair, I include in the RECORD the following editorial from my local paper, The Ledger, in reference to my amendment to H.R. 5515, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019, to provide taxpayers with greater transparency into ''official time.''

EDITORIAL: PER ROSS, LET'S MAKE OFFICIALS REPORT ALL 'OFFICIAL' TIME

(The Editorial Board)

Think unions and the stereotype that comes to mind is one of burly, thick-necked guys clad in hard hats, scuffed work boots and plenty of denim. Perhaps that image was fit in 1955, when the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations merged to form the AFL-CIO, America's largest organized labor group. At the time an estimated 35 percent of U.S. workers belonged to a union, and most often such workers drove trucks, assembled cars, built and wired buildings, or engaged in similar hands-dirtying work.

Today, only 11 percent of workers are unionized, and frequently they wear a uniform (such as police or firefighter), or work in an office or public school classroom. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that 34 percent of union workers toil for local, state, or federal government agencies—or roughly five times the number of those who drive trucks, assemble cars, build and wire buildings, or engage in similar hands-dirtying work.

Inevitably, these workers must tend to union business at the expense of their official duties in service to the public.

U.S. Rep. Dennis Ross is particularly concerned about how such juggling among federal civil servants taxpayers, and seeks to enlighten the public, and perhaps the rest of the U.S. government, about how taxpayers' dimes are consumed by union time.

Ross is eyeing a federal law that says managers must allot staffers time—known in government jargon as ''official time''—to perform union activities, insofar as it remains ''consistent with the requirements of an effective and efficient government.''

The federal Office of Personnel Management reported last month that most union workers who tap official time spend it lobbying Congress about legislation that affects federal union employees (for instance, bills relate to federal pay and benefits); representing union employees who face discipline or who filed grievances; and participating in labor-management ''workgroups.''

Certain federal employees, under law, are paid to spend 100 percent of their time on union functions. Or some union reps establish ''banks'' of paid time that they draw down in working just for the union. The OPM report found that between 2010 and 2016, the most recent year available, the hours spent on official time jumped nearly 17 percent, from 3.1 million hours to 3.61 million.

In some cases, official time was negligible. The Federal Election Commission, for example, reported just six hours of official time in 2016. In other cases, it was considerable. The Defense Department recorded almost 387,000 hours of official time that year.

The size, scope and mission of a particular agency will drive much of that. Still, in the aggregate, this is no small expense. The OPM notes that in 2016 official time cost taxpayers almost $175 million, up roughly 8 percent from 2014, the last time the survey was done. And the report doesn't catch everything. The OPM said its report was limited to payroll costs because it lacks ''comprehensive data source'' that would allow for ''a complete accounting of the costs of union activities.'' Thus, its analysis does not include taxpayers' costs for facilities, equipment and travel related to collective bargaining.

The OPM knew, for example, that the Social Security Administration in 2016 spent $2.1 million on union reps' travel, office space, telephones and supplies only because the agency was required to report that to its congressional oversight committee.

Congressman Ross seeks to fix that.

In May 2017, the Lakeland Republican, noting inconsistencies and lags in data-gathering on these costs, filed a bill that would require all federal agencies to provide Congress detailed annual reports of official time expenses.

''With greater transparency, employees will be less likely to abuse the system, which will result in less waste of taxpayer dollars,'' Ross said at the time ''It is far past time we require agencies to provide this information to Congress and the public. Taxpayers deserve clear, reliable data on how many employees are performing union work on official time in lieu of their regularly assigned government duties.'' He's right. His bill passed the House, but unfortunately stalled in the Senate. Ross' office told us Monday he will seek to have the measure added to the National Defense Authorization Act, the must-pass defense spending bill that the House will take up later this week.

Ross will soon retire, but we encourage him to pursue this bill until he leaves. Moreover, we urge the rest of Congress to heed his point.

Congress owes taxpayers a full accounting of time spent by staffers promoting the personal career interests of the nearly 1 million unionized federal workers, and how that squares with the commitment, under law, of providing ''effective and efficient'' government.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendments en bloc offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. THORNBERRY).

The en bloc amendments were agreed to.

AMENDMENTS EN BLOC NO. 3 OFFERED BY MR. THORNBERRY OF TEXAS

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, pursuant to House Resolution 908, I offer amendments en bloc.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendments en bloc.

Amendments en bloc No. 3 consisting of amendment Nos. 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, and 92, printed in House Report Number 115–702, offered by Mr. THORNBERRY of Texas:

AMENDMENT NO. 77 OFFERED BY MR. HECK OF WASHINGTON

At the end of subtitle I of title V, add the following new section:

SEC. 5___. PROOF OF PERIOD OF MILITARY SERVICE FOR PURPOSES OF INTEREST RATE LIMITATION UNDER THE SERVICEMEMBERS CIVIL RELIEF ACT.

Section 207(b)(1) of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. 3937(b)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) PROOF OF MILITARY SERVICE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of a servicemember's termination or release from military service, in order for an obligation or liability of the servicemember to be subject to the interest rate limitation in subsection (a), the servicemember shall provide to the creditor written notice and a copy of—

''(i) the military orders calling the servicemember to military service and any orders further extending military service; or

''(ii) any other appropriate indicator of military service, including a certified letter from a commanding officer.

''(B) INDEPENDENT VERIFICATION BY CREDITOR.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Regardless of whether a servicemember has provided to a creditor the written notice and documentation under subparagraph (A), the creditor may use, in lieu of such notice and documentation, information retrieved from the Defense Manpower Database Center through the creditor's normal business reviews of the Database Center for purposes of obtaining information indicating that the servicemember is on active duty.

''(ii) SAFE HARBOR.—A creditor that uses the information retrieved from the Defense Manpower Database Center under clause (i) with respect to a servicemember has not failed to treat the debt of the servicemember in accordance with subsection (a) if—

''(I) such information indicates that, on the date the creditor retrieves such information, the servicemember is not on active duty; and

''(II) the creditor has not, as of such date, received the written notice and documentation required under subparagraph (A) with respect to the servicemember.''.

AMENDMENT NO. 78 OFFERED BY MS. ESTY OF CONNECTICUT

At the end of subtitle I of title V, add the following new section:

SEC. _____. REPORT REGARDING POSSIBLE IMPROVEMENTS TO PROCESSING RETIREMENTS AND MEDICAL DISCHARGES.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, shall issue a report to the congressional defense committees and the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives regarding possible improvements to the transition of members of the Armed Forces to veteran status.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report under subsection (a) shall address the following:

(1) Feasibility of requiring members of the Armed Forces to apply for benefits administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs before such members complete discharge from the Armed Forces.

(2) Feasibility of requiring members of the Armed Forces to undergo compensation and

pension examinations (to be administered by the Secretary of Defense) for purposes of obtaining benefits described in paragraph (1) before such members complete discharge from active duty in the Armed Forces.

(3) Possible improvements to the timeliness of the process for transitioning members who undergo medical discharge to care provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

AMENDMENT NO. 79 OFFERED BY MR. KRISHNAMOORTHI OF ILLINOIS

Page 162, after line 17, insert the following:

(D) The number and percentage of individuals served by the pilot program who are employed in a field that matches their skills and training.

AMENDMENT NO. 80 OFFERED BY MS. GABBARD OF HAWAII

At the end of subtitle D of title III, insert the following:

SEC. 3___. REPORT ON PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR CIVIL RESPONSE TEAMS TO VOLCANIC ACTIVITY.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the Director of the United States Geological Survey, shall submit to Congress a report on personal protective equipment requirements for civil defense response teams to volcanic activity and civilian communities in the vicinity of active volcanic activity, including protection against sulfur dioxide gas.

(b) TRANSFER OF EQUIPMENT AUTHORIZED.—If the Secretary of Defense determines that the Department of Defense is in possession of excess personal protective equipment that is not needed for current and future planned operational requirements, the Secretary may transfer such excess equipment to State and local civil defense agencies upon request from the governor or equivalent official of a State.

(c) DEFINITION OF STATE.—In this section, the term ''State'' means each of the several States of the United States, the District of Columbia, and any territory, commonwealth, or possession of the United States.

AMENDMENT NO. 81 OFFERED BY MR. CRAWFORD OF ARKANSAS

The amendment as modified is as follows:

Page 116, after line 2, insert the following new section:

SEC. 515. PILOT PROGRAM FOR EOD-QUALIFIED MEMBERS OF THE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD TO SUPPORT CIVIL AUTHORITIES.

(a) PILOT PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of the Army may carry out a pilot program under which EOD-qualified members of the Army National Guard may conduct planning and immediate response defense support to civil authorities.

(b) OBJECTIVES.—The Secretary of the Army shall design a pilot program conducted under this section to determine the following:

(1) The feasibility and effectiveness of establishing program described in subsection (a).

(2) The merits of using EOD-qualified members of the Army National Guard on full-time National Guard duty versus such members on active duty for such a pilot program.

(3) The need for legislative authority to conduct such a pilot program.

(4) The costs to make such a pilot program permanent.

(c) CONSULTATION.—In developing a pilot program under this section, the Secretary of the Army shall consult with the Commanders of the United States Northern Command and United States Pacific Command regarding—

(1) defeating sustained bombings in the United States, including the territories and possessions;

(2) plans for EOD defense support of designated national special security events;

(3) plans for EOD defense support of the national response framework activities of the Departments of Justice and Homeland Security;

(4) EOD immediate response for recovery of Department of Defense munitions off-installation; and

(5) EOD immediate response in support of civilian law enforcement agencies.

(d) AUTHORITY FOR PAY AND ALLOWANCES.—The Secretary of Defense may, subject to appropriations, make funds available to fund pay, allowances, travel, training, operations, and maintenance costs for members of the Army National Guard who participate in the pilot program.

(e) COMMENCEMENT; DURATION.—The Secretary of the Army may commence a pilot program under this section on or after January 1, 2019. All activities under such a pilot program shall terminate no later than December 31, 2023.

(f) REPORT.—If the Secretary of the Army carries out a pilot program under this section, the Secretary shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report containing an evaluation of the pilot program, including determinations described in subsection (b), not later than January 1, 2021.

(g) EOD DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''EOD'' means explosive ordnance disposal.

AMENDMENT NO. 82 OFFERED BY MR. CRAWFORD OF ARKANSAS

At the end of subtitle B of title III, add the following:

SEC. _____. EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL DEFENSE PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 136 of title 10, United States Code, as amended by section 851, is further amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 2284. EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL DEFENSE PROGRAM.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall carry out a program to be known as the 'Explosive Ordnance Disposal Defense Program' (in this section referred to as the 'Program') under which the Secretary shall ensure close and continuous coordination between military departments on matters relating to explosive ordnance disposal support for commanders of geographic and functional combatant commands.

''(b) ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND AUTHORITIES.—The plan under subsection (a) shall include provisions under which—

''(1) the Secretary of Defense shall—

''(A) assign the responsibility for the direction, coordination, integration of the explosive ordnance disposal defense program within the Department of Defense;

''(B) designate the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear, Chemical, Biological Defense Programs as the key individual for the explosive ordnance disposal defense program that develops and oversees policy, plans, programs and budgets, and issues guidance and provides direction on Department of Defense explosive ordnance disposal activities;

''(C) designate the Secretary of the Navy, or a designee of the Secretary's choice, as the executive agent for the Department of Defense that provides oversight of the joint program executive officer whom coordinates and integrates joint requirements for explosive ordnance disposal and carries out joint research, development, test and evaluation and procurement activities on behalf of the military departments and combatant commands with respect to explosive ordnance disposal;

''(D) designate the Director of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency as the responsible combat support agency that will exercise fund management responsibility of the Department of Defense-Wide Program Element for explosive ordnance disposal research, development, test and evaluation, transactions other than contracts, cooperative agreements, and grants related to section 2371 of title 10 during research projects including rapid prototyping and limited procurement urgent activities, and acquisition;

''(E) designate an Army explosive ordnance disposal-qualified general officer as the responsible senior leader of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency's Joint Improvised-Threat Defeat Organization that serves as the Chairman of the Department of Defense explosive ordnance disposal defense program board,

''(2) the Secretary of each military department shall assess the needs of the military department concerned with respect to explosive ordnance disposal and may carry out research, development, test and evaluation activities, including other transactions and procurement activities to address military department unique needs such as weapon systems, manned and unmanned vehicles and platforms, cyber and communication equipment and the integration of explosive ordnance disposal sets, kits and outfits and department's developed explosive ordnance disposal tools, equipment, sets, kits and outfits.

''(c) ANNUAL BUDGET JUSTIFICATION DOCUMENTS.—

''(1) For fiscal year 2021 and each fiscal year thereafter, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to Congress with the defense budget materials a consolidated budget justification display, in classified and unclassified form, that includes all of activities of the Department of Defense relating to the Program.

''(2) The budget display under paragraph (1) for a fiscal year shall include a single program element for each of the following:

''(A) Civilian and military pay.

''(B) Research, development, test, and evaluation.

''(C) Procurement.

''(D) Other transaction agreements.

''(E) Military construction.

''(3) The budget display shall include funding data for each of the military department's respective activities related to explosive ordnance disposal, including—

''(A) operations and maintenance; and

''(B) overseas contingency operations.

''(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) The term 'explosive ordnance' means any munitions containing explosives, nuclear fission or fusion materials, or biological or chemical agents, including—

''(A) bombs and warheads;

''(B) guided and ballistic missiles;

''(C) artillery, mortar, rocket, and small arms munitions;

''(D) mines, torpedoes, and depth charges;

''(E) demolition charges;

''(F) pyrotechnics;

''(G) clusters and dispensers;

''(H) cartridge and propellant actuated devices;

''(I) electro-explosives devices;

''(J) clandestine and improvised explosive devices, including improvised nuclear, chemical and biological devices; and

''(K) similar or related items or components explosive in nature.

''(2) The term 'disposal' means, with respect to explosive ordnance, the assessment, sampling, detection, identification,

verification, field evaluation, defeat, disablement, neutralization, or rendering-safe, warhead packaging, recovery, exploitation, and final disposition of ordnance.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter, as amended by section 851, is further amended by adding at end the following new section:

''2284. Explosive Ordnance Disposal Defense Program.''.

AMENDMENT NO. 83 OFFERED BY MR. CASTRO OF TEXAS

At the end of subtitle E of title XII, add the following new section:

SEC. 12__. HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND DISASTER RELIEF EXERCISES CONDUCTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE IN THE INDO-PACIFIC REGION.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The Indo-Pacific region is home to over 60 percent of the world's population and is prone to natural disasters particularly due to its proximity to a geological vulnerable region.

(2) The multilateral Pacific Partnership exercise, first conducted in 2006 in response to the humanitarian and disaster relief operations for the December 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami, involved the participation of 22 partner nations to improve the ability of each country to conduct humanitarian assistance and disaster relief efforts.

(3) The Pacific Partnership is the largest annual multilateral disaster preparedness mission conducted in the Indo-Pacific region.

(4) The United States Agency for International Development, including through its Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance, leads and coordinates United States humanitarian efforts in foreign countries and often partners with the Department of Defense in responding to disasters.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the Pacific Partnership, a civic and humanitarian mission which the United States Navy's Pacific Fleet, in conjunction with partner nations, nongovernmental organizations, and other United States and international governmental agencies conducts to strengthen alliances, improves United States and partner capacity to deliver humanitarian assistance and disaster relief and improves security cooperation among the partner nations in the Indo-Pacific region;

(2) the Department of Defense should continue to play a role in response to requests for support in international humanitarian assistance and disaster response drawing on its unique capabilities, manpower, and forward-deployed resources; and

(3) the Secretary of Defense should assess the United States force posture in the Indo-Pacific region for future Pacific Partnerships and work to expand engagements in the entirety of the Indo-Pacific region if appropriate and if applicable renaming the program as the ''Indo-Pacific Partnership''.

(c) BRIEFING.—Not later than the end of the first full fiscal year beginning after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees a briefing on the following:

(1) A description of humanitarian assistance and disaster relief exercises conducted by the Department of Defense in the Indo-Pacific region in the previous year that also identifies the partner countries and militaries involved in any such operations and exercises.

(2) A description of any planned humanitarian assistance and disaster relief exercises for the following fiscal year in the Indo-Pacific region.

(3) A description of any constraints on the ability of the Department of Defense to conduct humanitarian assistance and disaster relief exercises, including in resources.

(4) A description of any efforts undertaken by the Secretary of Defense to ease operational burdens on the Armed Forces of the United States to participate in humanitarian assistance or disaster relief exercises, such as the pre-positioning of equipment, inclusion of additional partners, and inclusion of exercises that may ordinarily be conducted independently of any humanitarian assistance operation or exercise.

(d) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE DEFINED.—In subsection (c), the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(1) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

AMENDMENT NO. 84 OFFERED BY MR. THORNBERRY OF TEXAS

At the end of subtitle B of title III, insert the following:

SEC. 3___. JOINT STUDY ON THE IMPACT OF WIND FARMS ON WEATHER RADARS AND MILITARY OPERATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall enter into an arrangement with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to conduct a study on the impact wind farms have on weather radars and subsequently Department of Defense operations and readiness.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The study required pursuant to subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) The potential impacts of wind farms on NEXRAD radars and other Federal radars used by the Department of Defense, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the National Weather Service for weather forecasts and warnings.

(2) The subsequent impacts of wind farms on Department of Defense aviation readiness, including—

(A) Department of Defense air traffic control radars;

(B) minimum vectoring altitudes, in particular around military flight training bases;

(C) air-to-ground drop zones;

(D) air-to-ground bombing and test ranges;

(E) military operating areas that extend to the surface;

(F) military training routes;

(G) over-the-horizon radars; and

(H) Department of Defense weather radars.

(3) Examples of when interference from the wind farms has affected the ability of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to forecast or warn for dangerous weather.

(4) Recommendations to reduce, mitigate, or eliminate the potential impacts.

(5) An analysis of the distance that wind turbines need to be away from the radars to ensure no impact.

(6) Recommendations for addressing the impacts to NEXRADs and weather radar due to increasing turbine heights.

(7) Recommendations to reduce or eliminate impacts of existing wind turbines, including those projects that are being repowered by developers to increase turbine heights.

(8) Recommendations to ensure wind farms do not impact the ability of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the National Weather Service to warn or forecast hazardous weather.

(9) The cumulative impacts of multiple wind farms near a single radar on the ability of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the National Weather Service to warn or forecast hazardous weather.

(10) Recommendations to reduce or eliminate the cumulative impacts of multiple wind farms.

(11) An analysis of whether certain wind turbine projects, based on project layout, turbine orientation, number of turbines, density of turbines, proximity to radar, or turbine height result in greater impacts to the missions of Department of Defense, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the National Weather Service, and if so, how can those projects be better cited to reduce or eliminate NEXRAD impacts.

(c) SUBMITTAL TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 12 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the study conducted pursuant to subsection (a).

AMENDMENT NO. 85 OFFERED BY MR. BEN RAY LUJÁN OF NEW MEXICO

At the end of subtitle B of title XXXI, add the following new section:

SEC. 31___. INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT OF PLUTONIUM STRATEGY.

(a) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States that—

(1) Los Alamos National Laboratory is the Plutonium Science and Production Center of Excellence for the United States; and

(2) Los Alamos National Laboratory will produce a minimum of 30 pits per year for the national pit production mission and will implement surge efforts to exceed 30 pits per year to meet Nuclear Posture Review and national policy.

(b) INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall seek to enter into a contract with a federally funded research and development center to conduct an assessment of the plutonium strategy of the National Nuclear Security Administration. The assessment shall include—

(A) an analysis of the engineering assessment and an analysis of alternatives;

(B) an assessment of the science and strategy of retrofitting the facility for plutonium production, including the cost, schedule, and feasibility of licensing; and

(C) an assessment of the strategy considered for manufacturing up to 80 pits per year at Los Alamos through the use of multiple labor shifts and additional equipment at PF-4 until modular facilities are completed to provide a long-term, single-labor shift capacity.

(2) SELECTION.—The Secretary may not enter into the contract under paragraph (1) with a federally funded research and development center for which the Department of Energy or the National Nuclear Security Administration is the primary sponsor.

(3) SUBMISSION.—Not later than April 1, 2019, the federally funded research and development center shall submit to the Secretary of Defense, the Administrator for Nuclear Security, and the Nuclear Weapons Council a report containing the assessment conducted under paragraph (1).

(4) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Not later than April 15, 2019, the Administrator shall submit to the congressional defense committees the report under paragraph (3), without change.

(c) REPORT ON PIT PRODUCTION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Energy shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the plan for producing plutonium pits 31–80 at Los Alamos, in case the MOX facility is not operational and producing pits by 2030.

(d) CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT.—The Secretary of Energy shall complete—

(1) by December 2020 a plan, including cost and impact to on-going activities and operations, to reach 30 pits per year at Los Alamos National Laboratory; and

(2) by September 2020 an updated CD-0 (Statement of Mission Need) on the final plan for the national pit production.

(e) BRIEFING.—Not later than March 1, 2019, the Chairman of the Nuclear Weapons Council and the Administrator for Nuclear Security shall jointly provide to the Committees on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and the Senate, and to any other congressional defense committee upon request, a briefing detailing the implementation plan for the plutonium strategy of the National Nuclear Security Administration, including milestones, accountable personnel for such milestones, and mechanisms for ensuring transparency into the progress of such strategy for the Department of Defense and the congressional defense committees.

(f) ANNUAL CERTIFICATION.—Not later than April 1, 2019, and each year thereafter through 2025, the Chairman of the Nuclear Weapons Council shall submit to the Secretary of Defense, the Administrator for Nuclear Security, and the congressional defense committees a written certification that the plutonium pit production plan of the National Nuclear Security Administration is on track to meet—

(1) the military requirement of 80 pits per year by 2030;

(2) the statutory requirements for pit production timelines under section 4219 of the Atomic Energy Defense Act (50 U.S.C. 2538a); and

(3) all milestones and deliverables described in the plan under subsection (e).

(g) FAILURE TO CERTIFY.—

(1) NWC NOTIFICATION.—If in any year the Chairman is unable to submit the certification under subsection (f), the Chairman shall submit to the congressional defense committees, the Secretary of Defense, and the Administrator written notification describing why the Chairman is unable to make such certification.

(2) NNSA RESPONSE.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the Chairman makes a notification under paragraph (1), the Administrator shall submit to the congressional defense committees, the Secretary, and the Chairman a report that—

(A) addresses the reasons identified in the notification with respect to the failure to make the certification under subsection (f); and

(B) includes presentation of either a concurrent backup plan or a recovery plan, and the associated implementation schedules for such plan.

AMENDMENT NO. 86 OFFERED BY MR. BIGGS OF ARIZONA

At the end of subtitle A of title XII, add the following new section:

SEC. 12___. REPORT ON ALLIED CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMON DEFENSE.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) in recognition of the growth in the economic and military strength of United States allies which has occurred since the commencement of applicable treaties or other mutual security arrangements—

(A) the burdens of mutual defense now assumed by some countries allied with the United States are not commensurate with their economic resources or security environments;

(B) many United States allies have failed to consistently meet their commitments and responsibilities;

(C) progress towards developing the necessary self-defense capabilities to fulfill commitments and contribute to the common defense has been disappointing at times; and

(D) the continued unwillingness of certain allied countries to increase their contributions to the common defense to more appropriate levels will endanger the vitality, effectiveness, and cohesion of the alliances and partnerships between those countries and the United States and increase risks to shared peace and prosperity; and

(2) the President should seek from each ally or partner country of the United States acceptance of international security responsibilities and agreements to make contributions to the common defense that are commensurate with the economic resources and security environment of such country, including, when appropriate, an increase in host nation support.

(b) REPORT ON CONTRIBUTIONS BY ALLIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 16 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"§ 387. Report on annual defense spending by ally and partner countries.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than March 1, 2019, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives a report that includes a description of—

''(1) the annual defense spending of each mutual defense treaty ally and major non-NATO ally, including the nominal budget figure and the share of such spending as a percentage of the ally's gross domestic product, for the fiscal year immediately preceding the fiscal year in which the report is submitted;

''(2) the activities of each such ally in contributing to military or stability operations in which the armed forces participate;

''(3) any limitations that each such ally places on the use of the armed forces of such ally for such military or stability operations; and

''(4) any actions undertaken by the United States or other countries to minimize or modify such limitations.

''(b) FORM.—The report required by subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

''(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) MUTUAL DEFENSE TREATY ALLY.—The term 'mutual defense treaty ally' means a country that is a party to a treaty of mutual defense with the United States.

''(2) MAJOR NON-NATO ALLY.—The term 'major non-NATO ally' means a country so designated pursuant to section 2350a or section 517 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 16 of such title is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 386 the following new item:

''387. Report on annual defense spending by ally and partner countries.''.

AMENDMENT NO. 87 OFFERED BY MS. MCSALLY OF ARIZONA

At the end of subtitle H of title V, insert the following:

SEC. 573 AUTHORIZATION FOR AWARD OF DISTINGUISHED-SERVICE CROSS TO JUSTIN T. GALLEGOS FOR ACTS OF VALOR DURING OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM.

(a) WAIVER OF TIME LIMITATIONS.—Notwithstanding the time limitations specified in section 3744 of title 10, United States Code, or any other time limitations with respect to the awarding of certain medals to persons who served in the Armed Forces, the Secretary of the Army may award the Distinguished-Service Cross under section 3742 of such title to Justin T. Gallegos for the acts of valor described in subsection (b).

(b) ACTS OF VALOR DESCRIBED.—The acts of valor referred to in subsection (a) are the actions of Justin T. Gallegos on October 3, 2009, as a member of the Army in the grade of Staff Sergeant, serving in Afghanistan with the 61st Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division.

AMENDMENT NO. 88 OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON LEE OF TEXAS

At the end of subtitle F of title XII, add the following new section:

SEC. 12___. BRIEFING ON DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAM TO PROTECT UNITED STATES STUDENTS AGAINST FOREIGN AGENTS.

Not later than 240 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall provide a briefing to the congressional defense committees on the program described in section 1277 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (Public Law 115–91), including an assessment on whether the program is beneficial to students interning, working part time, or in a program that will result in employment post-graduation with Department of Defense components and contractors.

AMENDMENT NO. 89 OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON LEE OF TEXAS

Page 543, insert after line 5 the following:

SEC. 1086. REPORT ON CAPACITY OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO PROVIDE SURVIVORS OF NATURAL DISASTERS WITH EMERGENCY SHORT-TERM HOUSING.

Not later than 220 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report analyzing the capacity of the Department of Defense to provide survivors of natural disasters with emergency short-term housing.

AMENDMENT NO. 90 OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON LEE OF TEXAS

At the end of subtitle A of title XVI, add the following new section:

SEC. 16___. REPORT ON SPACE DEBRIS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 240 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the risks posed by man-made space debris in low-earth orbit, including—

(1) recommendations with respect to the remediation of such risks; and

(2) outlines of plans to reduce the incident of such space debris.

(b) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(1) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives; and

(2) the Committee on Armed Services and Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

AMENDMENT NO. 91 OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON LEE OF TEXAS

At the end of subtitle A of title V, add the following:

SEC. _____. REPORT ON RATE OF MATERNAL MORTALITY AMONG MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, and with respect to members of the Coast Guard, the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating when it is not operating as a service in the Navy, shall submit to Congress a report on the rate of maternal mortality among members of the Armed Forces and the dependents of such members.

AMENDMENT NO. 92 OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON LEE OF TEXAS

Page 468, line 14, strike ''in'' and insert '', opportunities, and risks related to''.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 908, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. THORNBERRY) and the gentleman from Washington (Mr. SMITH) each will control 10 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, I have no speakers on this set of amendments en bloc.

Mr. Chairman, I urge its adoption, and I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1715

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Chairman, I, too, have no speakers on this amendment. I urge adoption of the en bloc amendments, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendments en bloc offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. THORNBERRY).

The en bloc amendments were agreed to.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LAMALFA) having assumed the chair, Mr. MARSHALL, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5515) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H. RES. 774

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove my name as a cosponsor of H. Res. 774.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MARSHALL). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

PATIENTS' RIGHT TO TRY EXPERIMENTAL DRUGS

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the passage of the Right to Try Act—better late than never.

After months of jumping through parliamentary hoops to pass this legislation out of both the House and the Senate, we are finally able to put the Right to Try Act on the President's desk.

This bill would allow very sick or terminally ill patients to request access to drugs and treatments that have yet to be approved by the FDA. This is a bipartisan issue. So far, 40 States have already adopted Right to Try laws but are unable to actually enforce them. This bill changes that.

While giving terminally ill patients the right to try experimental medicine won't always be successful, it does give patients one final avenue of hope. For those who have exhausted all other possibilities of conventional treatment, they deserve the opportunity to leave no stone unturned. Also, the industry can learn from their experience.

I am disappointed that some in the Senate chose to delay this very time-sensitive bill, but I am pleased the President now can make Right to Try the law of the land.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOSE FRANCISCO PENA GOMEZ

(Mr. ESPAILLAT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and commemorate Dr. Jose Francisco Pena Gomez on the 20th anniversary of his passing.

From his lifetime of service, Dr. Pena Gomez will, without question, be recorded in history as a civil rights icon to the marginalized Afro-Latino community and advocate for the poor.

Dr. Pena Gomez personified his motto, ''Primero la gente,'' or ''The People First,'' serving as Mayor of Santo Domingo, vice president of the International Socialist Party for the Western Hemisphere, president of the Dominican Revolutionary Party, and twice nominated for the Presidency of the Dominican Republic.

Dr. Pena Gomez was a fierce proponent of free speech and denounced unfair election practices in the Dominican Republic and around the world. He was fervent in his condemnation of civil and human rights violations in Latin America. The largest airport in Santo Domingo bears his name and welcomes people from all over the world.

It is my pleasure and great honor to celebrate the life of Dr. Pena Gomez with his family and those who fondly remember his model and standard.

Primero la gente.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind all persons in the gallery that they are here as guests of the House and that any manifestation of approval or disapproval of proceedings is in violation of the rules of the House.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CAMERON ROBINSON

(Mr. KIHUEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KIHUEN. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to remember the life of Cameron Robinson. He attended the Route 91 festival in Las Vegas on October 1.

Cameron found his perfect balance in his boyfriend, Bobby Eardley. They loved each other immensely, and Cameron loved Bobby's children as if they were his own. Bobby describes Cameron as a man who never did anything halfway. Whether it was cooking fancy meals or working in the Las Vegas City Attorney's Office, he put his all in everything he did.

Cameron loved people without judgment and without condition. He is a man who is remembered as being full of spontaneous fun.

I would like to extend my condolences to Cameron Robinson's family and friends. Please note that the city of Las Vegas, the State of Nevada, and the whole country grieve with you.

ECONOMIC INEQUALITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from California (Mr. KHANNA) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the Janus v. AFSCME Council 31 Supreme Court case and economic inequality.

The issue of our time is economic inequality and the challenge of the middle class being left behind. We know that 81 percent of American households between 2005 and 2015 have not had a raise. They have actually either had their wages stagnate or decline. This is an issue that goes to the core principles of our Nation.

As every American knows, in 1968, Dr. King marched with sanitation workers in Memphis, with AFSCME local 1733. The march was not just about racial justice. The march was about economic justice. The march was about the freedom of sanitation workers to earn what Dr. King called a decent living. It was about the dignity of work. It was about the right to join a union.

They fought against so-called right-to-work legislation. They fought for collective bargaining so that people who work hard, who rode on trucks and picked up the trash and did hard labor, earn a decent wage.

Dr. King talked about the importance of economic justice, much as he talked about the importance of racial justice.

Here are the facts that we know. Unionized African American women earn about $21.90 an hour. That is not a bad wage. Nonunion African American women earned almost $4 less, on average. That means $4 per hour is the difference between unionized and nonunionized work for African American women.

Seventy-two percent of African American women in unions have health insurance.

Guess what? Less than 50 percent of nonunion African American women have health insurance.

Some of us have read the horrific studies about how pregnant African American women still face huge issues with infant mortality and problems with child labor. Part of it is because they lack health insurance. If they have health insurance through a union, that is not as much of an issue.

Latinos who join a union see their median weekly income increase by almost 38 percent. They are 41 percent more likely to have employer-provided health insurance. Caucasian working-class families have seen a raise of nearly 20 percent when they are in union jobs compared to nonunion jobs.

Unions are more important now than ever, because the question is: When 81 percent of this country hasn't had a raise for the past 15 years, do we need to have more policies favoring corporations and executives or do we need to figure out how we give Americans a raise? The one institution that gives Americans a raise is unions.

We didn't invent this. We know collective bargaining works in other nations. We know that cooks in Germany make almost $25 an hour.

The Danish Ambassador was visiting me today, and I said: How much would someone make if they worked at Starbucks in Denmark?

He said: Almost $20 to $22 an hour. My jaw dropped.

I said: How is that possible? Is it government prescribed?

He said: No, it is strong union movements across other countries.

It is not that they discourage entrepreneurship or innovation. It is that they believe that working families should have the dignity to earn an honest living; that they can afford rent, that they can afford food, that they can afford healthcare, that they can afford a job.

This is what FDR talked about with the right of a job and healthcare and housing; that the positive rights were necessary to truly have freedom in democracy.

Collective action raises the standard of living for everyone. Guess what? Henry Ford knew it. It led to economic growth. That is why he paid workers more. He said: Someone has got to earn a living to buy the cars.

If we don't have a middle class that can earn, then who is going to buy the iPhones, who is going to buy the new cars and the Teslas? Who is going to buy and have the money to set up new bank accounts?

Our economic growth is dependent on the middle class. That is what America has gotten and China has never understood. China doesn't care about their middle class. They care about the elites.

We have believed in the middle class from FDR to Dwight Eisenhower. We believed that every person in this country is extraordinary; that our success is based on ordinary Americans earning enough to buy things; that every American matters, not just in our democracy but to our economy. It is what makes us different from the Chinese model, and it is why unions matter so much. Unions are what allow ordinary Americans to get the wages they deserve.

Union workers are more likely to have healthcare and retirement benefits. We know that the decline of the middle class is directly correlated to a decline in union membership.

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Let me give you this staggering statistic: It used to be, in our GDP, that 90 percent of GDP went to income, of our GDP. That statistic has fallen to the high 50s or low 60s. Most of the loss now goes to capital, to automation, to machinery.

Here is the irony: Corporations, you would think they would invest in human capital. You would think they would invest more in the workforce. But their incentives are not to do that. The Tax Code incentivizes research and development, if they want to open up plants or have automation; but they don't incentivize the investment in actual human capital so that workers and human beings get more of the GDP and not less.

This decline from 90 percent to 60 percent of income is correlated partly with automation but also with the decline of union membership. Guess what: The unions are one of the only institutions in this country that are investing in worker training, that are investing in improving people's human capital.

I know so many apprenticeship programs in my own district you can go in with just a high school degree, no test, no fees required, and become an apprentice to become an electrician, to become a drywaller, a glazer, a painter. These are tough jobs. They are not easy jobs. Once you do the apprenticeship, it doesn't cost you anything. It comes out of the fees of journeymen and other union members. You go and develop the skills, and the unions invest in you.

When you talk to these apprentices, they are so proud of the work they are doing, proud of the investment that the unions are making in them, and they are extraordinary people with an extraordinary work ethic. That is the investment that the unions are making in our workforce.

Don't think that it is just about them making sure people get the wages they deserve. They are making sure that we have the workers that we need in this country to be productive. They are the ones who are investing in the human capital in our society and the ones who are looking at the investments needed for the future.

Union apprenticeships are what closed the skills gap. They are the ones who are teaching folks about 3D printing. They are the ones who are teaching folks the tech skills that are needed as auto repair mechanics. They are the ones who are teaching folks the basic ways that you now need to operate machines and robots.

High-quality training in our unions is why American workers are the most productive in the world: 6 times more productive than China, 6 times more productive than India, 1½ times more productive than Germany, 1½ times more productive than Japan. That is partly because of our union efforts and training and because of the grit of the American people.

Now, here is what this Janus case is about. The Janus case is about corporate special interests saying unions should no longer have a role in collective bargaining, that the work unions do to represent workers is no longer important, that every person can go fend for themselves.

Really? We tried that before the New Deal, during the Lochner era, where every person had to go fend for themselves. It was the time that F. Scott Fitzgerald wrote about in ''The Great Gatsby,'' the Gilded Age, the largest economic disparities known in American society. It led to the greatest stock market crash. It led to the Great Depression. It led to huge economic instability in the United States and around the world.

And then we said: This system doesn't work. FDR and Harry Truman and Dwight Eisenhower said: Let's build an American middle class with unions, to which ordinary Americans can go to get a higher education, to get a wage where they can afford a house and they can afford food and they can afford to have a decent quality of life.

Unions are what provided that. Collective bargaining is what allowed for that. It balanced the corporate interests. It said: people who do work should be rewarded. That is what unions have done.

I know there are all these complex phrases: fee sharing, right-to-work, and all of that. But cut through all the noise, and here is the basic question: Do you think collective bargaining has a role in American society? If you think it does, if you think people should have the right to organize and bargain and that there should be some counterweight to corporate power, then you should be for AFSCME and the union in this Supreme Court case.

If you think workers are doing fine, working families are doing fine—the painters, the firefighters, the mechanics, the teachers, and the nurses—that they are all doing great and the real people we need to be worried about are

the corporate executives and the investors and the corporate bankers—well, if you have that theory, then I suppose you would be for Janus. You would say: Let's not have collective bargaining.

The question is: What is your theory of the case? Are you for workers having a greater say and greater wages in this country, or are you for corporations having even greater power? That is what this case is about.

I know that our Progressive Caucus stands so firmly in the belief that we need to be on the side of the workers. If the Supreme Court decides against collective bargaining, it will be one of the worst decisions in recent American history, a catastrophe for this court to strike a blow to working families across America, to strike a blow to the heart and soul of the union movement. We need to strengthen working families and unions, not weaken them.

Before I turn it over to one of the strongest champions for working families, I want to thank the leadership of AFSCME—President Saunders, Scott Frey—who have done so much to help not just AFSCME members, not just honor the tradition of Dr. King, but to help the fight for unions.

I want to thank Dr. David Madland and Kevin Fox, on my team, for their research about the role of unions and the leaders of the NEA: Mary Kusler and Marc Egan.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CURTIS). The Chair would like to ask the gentleman to suspend.

The Chair would ask occupants of the gallery to cease audible conversation. The gentleman from California may proceed.

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. JAYAPAL), my good friend.

PRAMILA JAYAPAL, before she was even elected to the State Senate, has been a tireless advocate for unions, for working families. She understands that working families and unions have helped not just minority communities, not just women, but all Americans.

She is our vice chair of the Progressive Caucus. She is one of the strongest progressive voices in our Nation. She is on the front lines, the picket lines, and has traveled across the country standing in solidarity with union members.

It is a real honor now to yield to my friend and colleague, Representative JAYAPAL.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, it has been a great honor to be able to come into Congress with Mr. KHANNA and to see the years of work that he has done before coming to Congress now turning into critical legislation around Yemen, around workers' rights, around progressive issues, around healthcare for all.

How proud I am that I get to serve with the gentleman in this Congress, and how proud I am of our Progressive Caucus, which is the largest values-based caucus in the House. We are 78 members strong, and I believe we are going to hopefully have more members added on.

Mr. Speaker, I think the reality of what we are talking about is that the ideas that we are putting forward are not really progressive ideas; they are ideas that serve the interests of working families. Labor unions are at the core of that.

I am proud to come from Washington State. We are one of the most labor-dense States in the country. We have one of the highest minimum wages in the country. Thanks to the labor movement, we have minimum wage that is tied to inflation. We have had that for many years. It is part of the reason our minimum wage has been able to rise in Washington State. Yes, we are the place of the $15 minimum wage, and I was proud to be on that committee to pass the $15 minimum wage in Seattle.

We are able to show that these policies, like higher minimum wages, like paid safe and sick days—we have some of the best paid family leave policies in the country. All of that has been brought forward by labor unions representing workers.

When we talk about collective bargaining, what is that? For the average person, who may not be as familiar with terminology, really all that means is that you get to take the power that comes from having more than one individual together to bargain for the things that are really going to help your life. That is what collective bargaining is about: bringing the power of many to the policies and putting policies forward that really help us.

Mr. KHANNA spoke so eloquently about—I think he said—the Danish Ambassador visiting. There is a great TEDx talk out there, TEDxOslo. The title of it is something like, ''Where in the World Is It Easiest to Get Rich?'' It is a fantastic talk that really puts bullets in the theory that, in social democracies where you provide healthcare, where you have strong labor movements, where you provide free education, somehow you don't have the opportunity to do well in those countries.

In fact, statistics show that, specifically because of a strong labor movement in Scandinavian countries and because of the investment in education, those two factors combined, everybody does well. It is a really simple theory that we are all better off when we are all better off, and that is what labor unions have provided to us.

I am proud to be from a strong labor family. My husband actually started off his career as an apprentice, as a bricklayer, and he worked his way up working for a number of different unions. He ended up being the head of the King County Labor Council, elected by 140,000 workers across our county, and was instrumental in helping us to win on many of these important issues. That is, I think, what we are talking about today.

So, when we look at the Janus decision, this is a critical issue, an issue of critical importance for all Americans. The Supreme Court's decision on this case is going to help determine whether or not we really have opportunity for all workers, whether or not labor unions are able to do the work that they need to do to collectively bargain and bring the voices of many workers to bear. Because what happens in, particularly, these workplaces, giant corporations: You know that, if there is a wrong done to one, it is difficult to bring it forward just as one. If you have collective bargaining, you have a structure within where those issues can come forward.

So what Janus is looking at is whether or not American workers have the freedom and the right to collectively bargain, which means to fight back against the corporations that are expanding income inequality and decimating the middle class that, frankly, built this country.

Let me be clear that I stand strong with labor unions like AFSCME in opposing corporate efforts to drag working people to the bottom. Unions made our country strong. Unions made our country strong. And Janus has the potential to make it harder for working people to join a union.

Union members are us. They are our teachers, ironworkers, nurses, government workers, bricklayers, firefighters, machinists. They are the backbone of our communities. Our communities only thrive when we help workers to thrive. Janus would do the opposite.

I want to share a statistic with you. My friend RO KHANNA just gave you some incredible statistics. Let me repeat one, which is that workers, on average, in 1973 earned $16.74 per hour, adjusted for inflation. Since then, our economy has doubled, so we can assume that worker salaries have kept up with the pace, right?

Not so fast. Wrong. Workers today make $17.86 per hour, which is nowhere near enough to keep pace with growing income inequality and the rising cost of living.

Here is another statistic that has captured my attention and that I now use in every speech: Across this country, 67 percent of Americans do not even have $1,000 in their bank account to deal with an emergency. Mr. Speaker, 67 percent. It is a remarkable statistic.

That means that, if you have a leak in your roof, your car breaks down, your kid has an emergency or an illness and you have to take off from work for a couple of weeks and you don't have paid family leave like we do in Washington State thanks to the labor movement, all of those things mean that families are no longer thinking about thriving; they are thinking about surviving. That decline is directly tied, if you look at the research, to the decline in the labor movement and the decline in collective bargaining.

So now we are facing an administration that, despite lofty campaign promises, is putting corporations and greed first and workers second.

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Just look at the tax bill that the Republicans just passed. The largest transfer of wealth in the history of the United States going straight to corporations and the 1 percent. That is the reality of all of the research is that the majority of those tax breaks went to the largest corporations, the top 1 percent. It was used for stock buybacks and not for any kinds of increases, permanent increases, for workers.

So unions have been fighting back, and that is why we have to ensure that unions remain in fighting shape because they are fighting for us. Janus is nothing more than a political attack underwritten by corporations, and it will not make our economy stronger. It further rigs the economy against workers, and it is, frankly, a disgrace and a slap in the face to the union legacy that has helped our country grow.

We need to be working to make it easier and not harder for workers to join unions, to collectively bargain for fair wages, safe working conditions, and healthcare. And before I yield back, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my friends in labor, the brothers and sisters who have been fighting for working Americans, winning worker safety protections, sick leave, the 40-hour workweek. Don't forget about the 40-hour workweek brought to you by your labor unions throughout our country's history.

It is not hyperbole to say that we simply would not be where we are without unions. And instead of trying to tear them apart by pushing so-called right-to-work laws—I don't even like to say the phrase, because it isn't right to work. The reality is that we should have the right to have workers collectively bargain and organize.

But by filing these harmful lawsuits like Janus, we are hurting workers across the country. We should be working to educate and to engage a new generation of union workers and leaders, and if history is any indication, our country will be better off when we are all better off. We are all better off when we have unions that represent the voices of working people and can actually build that power, organize together to take on that corporate power, which, frankly, has a lot of money behind it but isn't looking out for the best interest of our workers. With that, I thank Mr. KHANNA for his tremendous leadership.

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative JAYAPAL for infusing the Progressive Caucus with a new vision, new energy, and, really, making it the strongest caucus in Congress and sharing some of those facts. I didn't know that 67 percent of Americans live on just $1,000—can't afford $1,000 emergency expenditure. So I think talking about these facts and what this case means to real Americans is important. I thank her for being here.

It is now my real honor to give the floor to someone who really built the Progressive Caucus. You know, the Progressive Caucus used to be a social club where people chatted, before KEITH ELLISON took over and said: You know, we have got to do more than just talk. We have got to actually act on our values.

If you talk to anyone in this Congress, they will tell you that he took a group of 15, 20 Members that used to get together and has turned that caucus, through his leadership, into the largest caucus on the Democratic side, the most effective caucus, and one that has a bold agenda.

Keith has been an organizer his whole life. He understands the importance of working families and believes in these issues from his heart, and he has been a truly effective leader for the caucus in the House.

It is my honor now to yield to Representative KEITH ELLISON.

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. RO KHANNA for organizing this today and holding this particular Special Order about Janus v. AFSCME. But, actually, the larger question is: What kind of shape will America be in if the Supreme Court makes the wrong decision?

We envision, in the Progressive Caucus, an America in which parents can dream about their kids being able to go to college. We believe that you ought to be able to put food on the table. You ought to be able to get a good job and earn a decent pay and have a voice on your job. You ought to be able to turn on the water faucet and drink the water. You ought to be able to drive down the road without busting the axle on your car. You ought to be able to have safe affordable transit to get to where you have got to go.

We don't think this is too much to ask. This is something that other countries in the world have. We think you ought to be able to go to the doctor if you are sick. Now, the guarantor of all those things for so many years has been people coming together and organizing themselves into a group that argued and negotiated with their employer for a fair wage. They negotiated with their employer, and they said: Look, you know, you want us to supply labor? We will do it. You have got to pay us right. You have got to make sure the benefits package is right. You have got to make sure that this thing is making sense, not just for you, but for us, too.

And, for many years, employers who didn't want to see strikes and didn't want to see labor shutdowns, and wanted to stop the turnover that you would see, and wanted to make sure that there was labor peace, came to an agreement, and said: Okay, we will work with you.

And between World War II and right up until about 1970, even a little beyond, that bargain helped create the world's greatest middle class. It wasn't easy to get a cohesive union movement. In fact, there was a time in American history where being in a union was a criminal offense. They called the Pinkertons in. They beat you down. There is a lot of labor blood that has been spilled in this country in order to have a labor movement, but we have got one.

And by 1957, a year that had racism and segregation, sexism and homophobia, had one thing going, and that was about 35 percent of all Americans were in a union, and about 35 percent more were paid as if they were. So the unions were setting the wage scale, and they helped create an American middle class, which really is what we think of when we think of America at its best economically.

The union movement didn't just stop at labor issues. It went further than that. It was the UAW that helped fund the March on Washington. The march for jobs and justice was funded by organized labor. It was labor that stood with those sanitation workers in Memphis, Tennessee, when they were on strike and Martin Luther King came down to march with them. It was AFSCME—AFSCME, the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees—who had the back of those workers in Memphis. And when we lost the great Martin Luther King just about 50 years ago, AFSCME was by the side of those workers. And those workers literally won that strike, and many of them are still around to talk about it today.

These folks made it so that in 1968 you had a rate of poverty that was much lower than it is today. You had CEOs that made about 20 times more than their average worker. Today, that is 339 to 1, and that is just the median. In fact, you have companies like Mattel that make almost 5,000 times—the CEO makes 5,000 times the average worker. McDonald's, the CEO makes 3,100 times the average worker. Kohl's, the CEO makes 1,200 times the average worker.

But in 1968, with its strong union movement, we had an emerging civil rights movement. We had a minimum wage that was probably in the neighborhood, as has been mentioned, that was livable at the time, if you compare it to inflation. You had a rate of poverty where fewer people were in poverty. You had a ratio between workers and CEO which was much more rational.

And something interesting happened beginning in the 1970s; there came an organized concerted attack on labor. And people will tell you that in 1980, after Ronald Reagan was elected, he went out on the campaign trail saying that he was for working people, but shortly after he got in office, he dismissed the air traffic controllers.

When he broke that strike and he broke those workers, it set working people in this country on a trajectory, which brings us to where we are now, which is stagnating wages for literally three, four decades. The CEOs have done great. And if you ask Donald Trump, he will tell you: Oh, yeah, you know, the stock market is booming out of control. We are doing fine.

But, you know, in this America, our America, this largesse is not shared by most people. My colleague, PRAMILA JAYAPAL, mentioned earlier that about 67 percent of Americans would not know what to do if they were hit with a $1,000 bill. They don't have it. But there are even other statistics that are as jarring, as equally upsetting. Other statistics would show just how difficult it is for Americans to pay their bills.

Now, I know we are talking about Janus today. I am getting there. But there is a recent story that I want to share with you, and we can submit it for the RECORD, and the title of this story, Mr. Speaker, is ''More Than 40 Percent of Americans Can't Pay Their Bills.'' That is the name of the story, and it says: ''Donald Trump thinks the economy is doing great—way, way better than under Obama. Actually, Obama created more jobs on his way out the door than Trump has so far.

''But that's besides the point.''

The story says, based on this research, the conclusion of the research: ''43 percent of us struggle to pay our bills, and 34 percent are suffering 'material hardships,' including 'running out of food, not being able to afford a place to live, or lacking the money to seek medical treatment.' ''

The truth is, Mr. Speaker, is that we live in a Nation that is lurching toward plutocracy. We live in a Nation that is lurching toward oligopoly and oligarchs, because the people who make the hamburgers, they don't benefit in the profits of the company. The CEO does that. The people who make the clothes and work for Kohl's and work their job, they don't benefit. They just get survival wages, and the executives take it all home for themselves.

Part of the reason is a conservative philosophy which says that companies should not have to pay any taxes. They shouldn't have to abide by any regulations. They should be allowed to slam labor cost to the ground, if they can, and then the CEO should be able to walk away with all the money. And then the theory goes that they will use that money to invest in plant and equipment, and then everybody will be better off. But that never happens.

That Republican philosophy, that conservative philosophy, is absolutely and utterly bankrupt. It doesn't work. It is not true. And, yet, we keep on doing it over and over again. But part of this philosophy is the union busting. And they have been on a 40-year trajectory of trying to break the union.

I mentioned PATCO a little while ago, when Reagan broke PATCO. That sent a shockwave that reverberated even until the moment we are in now, and it is culminating in this attack on Janus.

Let me tell you, they have been trolling around for a worker, a public employee, to try to break Janus—break public employees for years. A few years ago, right before the Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia passed, there was a case before the Supreme Court called the Frederick case. And in that case, it is exactly like the Janus case. Why are they similar? Because right-wing law firms are trolling the country looking for any public employee to try to attack the union and attack fair share. That is what they have been doing.

They have been going around: Will you take the case? Can we represent you? Can we represent you? And they finally found somebody, this guy, Janus. And he makes the outrageous claim that he—who benefits from collective bargaining and who the union expends money to make sure he has a decent contract—he is saying: Oh, this is unfair. My free speech rights are going into this union, and I don't want that to happen.

Well, they are not, actually. All they are doing is assessing a reasonable fee that is associated with the cost of negotiating on his behalf to have a better wage. But he says: No, I want to be able to benefit from the work that the union does, but I don't want to pay anything. It is quite ridiculous. But that is the case that is in the Supreme Court right now.

You know, you want to know what is in the First Amendment? The right to freedom of assembly. The right to freedom of assembly is in the Constitution. And if some workers want to assemble together and negotiate for better wages and better benefits with their employer, I believe they have a constitutional right to do so.

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What I don't think you have a constitutional right to do is to be a freeloader, which is what Janus is arguing. He is saying: I want to be able to benefit from what the union negotiates on my behalf, but I don't want to pay anything.

He doesn't have to pay into the fund that goes to political stuff. He doesn't have to pay for that. That issue has been decided. It is not required under the law that he help fund candidates or issues that he doesn't want to support. But it is fair, and it is right, and it is reasonable, and the Supreme Court has found in the past that an assessment on employees for the cost of representation is fair and constitutional. Now, this is a case called the Abood case where this was found to be constitutional. What they want to do is flip Abood and say: No, you can now be a freeloader.

Let me just say to my good friend from California, our law has been favoring the employer over the worker for years now. Here is the law right now. If you are an employer and you fire a worker because they are trying to organize a union, that is not legal to do. But guess what? That worker can file, but they can't file a private lawsuit; they have to file under the National Labor Relations Act. They can't get punitive and treble damages. They can't do discovery. They just have to go through the NLRB process, which takes quite a long time, according to most workers who go through it. And when they do go through it, all they can ever get is back pay, minus whatever they earned after they were fired illegally.

This is a very small price to pay for people who are exercising what I believe is a constitutional right to freedom of assembly and freedom of expression. But why shouldn't you fire them because, hey, it is the worst of the cost of doing business for some employers who don't want a union?

Another example of how unfair the situation is an employer can tell the workers: You better be in the cafeteria tomorrow because there is a union drive, and I want to threaten you and scare you and tell you all the reasons why it is a bad idea.

This is called captive audience.

Can the union go into the same plant and say, ''Well, now we want to give you our side of why you do need a union''?

They cannot do it. It is not fair. It is like having an election, where the rights of the workers will be determined by the election, and yet only one side gets to be able to go and argue in the negative.

By the way, if the employer said, ''Come to the meeting, we are going to tell you why you do need a union,'' that would be an unfair labor practice.

It is crazy, really. But it is the kind of world that a guy like Neil Gorsuch thinks would be a good one. This is the guy who was, in my view, illegally put on the Supreme Court of the United States—illegally.

The Constitution says that the sitting President gets to offer a replacement for a vacancy on the Supreme Court. Barack Obama did that, and the head of the Senate Republicans, who was in the majority, said: We will not hear anybody.

Do you know what? The role of the Senate is to give advice and consent. They can say, ''We think that this guy is not qualified''; they can say that this guy has a judicial temperament that is not proper; they can criticize that nominee any way they want to. But one thing they cannot do is say: We simply will not discharge our constitutional responsibility. But that is what they did do because nobody can make them do otherwise.

They did it because they could do it, but it was wrong. It was actually immoral, and it was an abuse of their responsibility as Members of the United States Senate. But they didn't care. They want power—raw, naked power. That is what they did, and somehow they got away with it because they got Neil Gorsuch on the Supreme Court. This is the guy who was a deciding vote in a case that, I believe, is a foreshadowing of what we are going to see in Janus.

Just the other day, a case called Murphy Oil was decided—Monday. Neil Gorsuch cast a deciding vote in a Supreme Court decision that ruled, for

the first time, that bosses can forbid their workers from joining together in class action lawsuits to challenge violations of the Federal labor laws. This is an outrageous usurpation.

Bringing a complaint against your boss or your company is expensive and risky, especially for workers who have no safety net. Congresswoman JAYAPAL just got through telling you how stressed to the wall American workers are, and yet those workers, who don't have much money, are now told that they cannot come together in a class action suit to challenge violations of Federal labor law. They have to pursue these claims individually. They don't have a chance. The bargaining position power is absolutely unequal, and yet that is what we got.

Decisions like this are why MITCH MCCONNELL and Republicans have engaged in the historic obstruction to block President Obama from filling the Supreme Court vacancy for nearly a year. They wanted an ideologue like Neil Gorsuch to tip antiworker cases like this.

So what is going to happen in Janus? I hate to admit it, but even I, who consider myself quite optimistic, believe that: Look, they put Neil Gorsuch on the Supreme Court to destroy public employee bargaining; that is why he is there. I have no illusions about what is about to happen. But it is just like other unjust Supreme Court decisions that have happened, along the lines of Shelby County, which destroyed the Voting Rights Act, or along the lines of Citizens United, which basically said that corporations can dump massive amounts of money into elections.

Who has a massive amount of money? You know. America's corporate elites.

And then it goes all the way back to unjust decisions like the Lochner case or even Dred Scott.

History will look very dimly on this moment in time. I believe that when you crush decency and fairness to earth, it does rise. And I believe that workers of this country, if they are prohibited by the law and the Supreme Court from being treated fairly, they are just going to start going on strike all over the place, just like the teachers just showed us that they would. They are just going to start going on strike, and we will just settle it out in the street. This is unfortunate.

Wouldn't it be much better to have fair bargaining and come to the table and negotiate decent wages and benefits? Of course it would be.

Those teachers didn't want to go on strike. They wanted to be in the classroom teaching those kids.

But whether it is Arizona, North Carolina, or Oklahoma, these people, who dedicated their lives to young people, had to go out on the trail, go out on the strike line, just so that they could get a decent situation for those kids and themselves. Those teachers said: These kids' learning environment is our work environment. Both are bad. So we have to strike. We have been given no alternative but to do so.

So they did, and they got some justice out of it.

This is what the likes of Neil Gorsuch and Janus v. AFSCME are pushing the American labor picture towards. It is too bad, but I have great faith in the American worker. They will not take this lying down, and we will be on the picket line with them.

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative ELLISON for those words and for explaining so simply and powerfully what is at stake with the Janus case and why the constitutional right is actually with the unions, as he put it, to assemble and not to freeload when someone is getting a benefit. I thank him for his leadership and fight on this.

Mr. Speaker, I want to make one other point before yielding to my friend. One of the contemporary examples of the need for collective bargaining is seen with CWA in their struggle with American Airlines when passenger service agents aren't making a living wage. I don't understand it. I pay so much for these American Airline tickets that I wonder who the money is going to.

Would any American think that the passenger service agents aren't getting a fair wage, given what we are paying in airline tickets?

Yet the truth is many of those workers aren't getting a fair wage, particularly those who are working for Envoy Air and those who are working with Piedmont Airlines.

There are many Members of this House—81 of us—who believe that American Airlines needs to do the right thing and pay a living wage and CWA's ability to bargain, to ask for a fair wage for what all of us pay when we pay for tickets, to ask that the workers benefit from that as well. That is what is at stake in this Janus case: Can CWA organize and get a fair wage so that workers benefit?

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SOTO), a good friend, who is in my freshman class and who is a great leader on so many issues—on issues of technology and the future of work—so that he can speak out on this important Janus decision. He has come out to Silicon Valley. But what I respect about him is he has his values in fighting for working families, for the middle class, for people who have been left out. Those are the issues he is most passionate about.

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. KHANNA for all of the good work that he is doing. I know he is changing the world in California. There are going to be so many labor issues to come from that that I can't even dream of right now. But I rest assured knowing that someone of his savviness of knowing technology will help us make sure that we are protecting working families going into the future.

I also share his concern and believe that American Airlines should be paying living wages to the folks who are working for them and certainly stand with CWA on that issue.

Today, we are talking about Janus v. AFSCME. Mr. Janus is a man who wants to get something for nothing, a man who wants to get the benefit of collective bargaining without having to pay for it, and he is asking the Supreme Court to dismantle unions in the process of that, all because he doesn't agree with some political messaging of the union, in this case, AFSCME.

I would like to take a moment to take this logic to its end. Perhaps every shareholder should be able to object to Fortune 500 companies about political messaging they disagree with. Every single one of them: 1 share; 1 million shares. Perhaps every employee should have the right to object to their Fortune 500 company employers' political messaging if they disagree. But, of course, that is not what is happening because this is a concerted attack on America's unions, leaving corporate dark money to reign unchecked in our political process. Ultimately, it is an attack on the middle class.

Imagine our country without a strong middle class. Imagine a country with just the haves and the have-nots. There are plenty across this globe. There are plenty that aren't making a big difference in this world because when you have the rich control all capital, all political power, that is when they control us, and we don't have the innovation. We don't have the incentive. We don't have the progress that is so critical to capitalism, which I think is being missed on this. If you don't have a fair market, you can't have successful capitalism, and part of a fair market includes having a strong voice for our middle class, for our working folks, through our unions.

It is no surprise that a rise to greatness in this country was tied to the rise of the middle class. Think about it: GIs returning home from World War II, fanning out to the suburbs. Even before that, around World War I and before that, when you had all of these major milestones that we talked about—a 40-day workweek, overtime, child labor laws, OSHA, so many things that happened, antitrust, that created the modern economy—and we surged and prosperity reigned through most corners of the United States.

So I want to just take a moment—and I appreciate Mr. KHANNA for bringing this forward—to urge the Supreme Court to do the right thing: to protect the right to collectively bargain from being dragged down by nonunion free riders just because they disagree with the political message.

Or, in the alternative, allow every employee, every shareholder, to object to corporate political speech they disagree with. Let's keep it fair on all sides then. If I have one share and I am a part-time employee of a major Fortune 500 company and I disagree, I should be able to object, just like this man wants to be able to object. Corporations aren't people; people are people.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. KHANNA) for the opportunity to be able to stand with him on behalf of America's working families.

□ 1815

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative SOTO for his analogy that the rules for our corporate shareholders shouldn't be different than the rules for workers. We need fairness. We certainly shouldn't be privileging shareholders. I appreciate the gentleman's advocacy for working families and speaking out today.

Mr. Speaker, I want to close with some simple points. People often say that workers have a negative view of unions or don't want unions to be representing them, but here are the facts: Gallup Poll research shows that 60 percent of Americans have a favorable view of labor unions, and that number has been going up as more and more Americans see that their wages have been going down. More and more Americans are saying they need the unions to level the playing field.

When we look at AFSCME and what AFSCME stands for, what Janus is saying that he doesn't want representing him, I think about the trip I took with Representative JOHN LEWIS down to Memphis a few months ago. We went to Mason Temple. In Mason Temple, we heard over the loud speaker Dr. King's voice as he spoke about seeing the promised land.

As that booming voice came over the loud speakers in that temple, there on stage was a man in his 80s who was a sanitation worker at the time that Dr. King marched in Memphis, and he talked about how he still was owed money for his fair work. At the age of 80, Memphis still hadn't paid him.

That person, that man, he didn't shirk from work. He was working still in his 80s. He believed in the dignity of work. He talked about young people needing to believe in the dignity of work. He just wanted to have a fair shot at being paid for that work.

That was AFSCME. That is what AFSCME stands for in this country. That is what is at stake in this Supreme Court fight. Do we stand for the values that Dr. King marched for, and do we stand for the labor union in this Nation?

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Speaker, thank you for your graciousness in giving us this hour and moderating this debate.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

THE PROSPER ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) for 30 minutes.

HONORING TROOPER BULLARD

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, only days after we commemorated National Police Week, I rise to honor the life of Trooper Samuel Newton Bullard.

The community of Ronda, North Carolina, tragically lost Trooper Bullard in the line of duty on Monday in my district.

A 3-year State trooper veteran, Trooper Bullard was dedicated to the safety and protection of Surry County. Our country could not be so blessed without selfless law enforcement officers like him who protect our communities and uphold the rule of law that our safety rests upon.

My heartfelt condolences go to the family and friends of Trooper Samuel Newton Bullard.

While Trooper Bullard's ultimate sacrifice cannot be repaid, I remain grateful for his sacrifice and remember him and his loved ones in my prayers.

Mr. Speaker, I am here tonight to talk about a serious situation that exists in our country, a very serious situation. Every Member of this body hears every day from employers in our districts that they have jobs that are going unfilled because Americans do not have the skills they need to fill those unfilled jobs. Specifically, there are over 6 million unfilled jobs in this country due to the skills gap.

We have a solution to that problem, Mr. Speaker, and it has come out of the Education and the Workforce Committee. It is called the PROSPER Act.

Today, in The Hill, there was a terrific article encouraging this body and this Congress to pass the PROSPER Act, and I am going to quote some of the article. The article was entitled ''Congress, Pass the PROSPER Act for Federal Student Aid Reform.'' It is written by Rachelle Peterson.

''It has been 53 years since President Lyndon Johnson signed the Higher Education Act into law, and 10 years since it was reauthorized, under President Obama. Over the years, the law—which touches nearly every aspect of higher education—has turned into a special interest bonanza. It shields traditional colleges from marketplace competition, weaves a labyrinthine web of student aid options, packs on the pork, and in the last administration served as a pretext for the Department of Education to invent politically charged regulations.

''The PROSPER Act . . . would reauthorize the Higher Education Act and clean up the mess it has become. The bill would streamline Federal programs, relax burdensome regulations, forbid the Secretary of Education from acting outside the scope of the law, and protect the key principles of free speech and religious freedom.

''Today, my organization, the National Association of Scholars, released a top-to-bottom review of the PROSPER Act, concluding that it represents the best opportunity to reform higher education in decades. With a few tweaks, the PROSPER Act should be passed at once. Two especially important areas—Federal student aid reform and protections for freedom of speech and association—show why.''

Ms. Peterson goes on: ''Currently, Federal student aid is a complicated system that encourages students to take on unmanageable debt and incentivizes colleges to raise tuition. The system has six loan programs, numerous grants, and some four dozen options for paying off or getting loans forgiven.

''The PROSPER Act simplifies Federal student aid, reining in costs and making it easier for students to see their options. It caps the amount of money parents and students can borrow from the Federal Government. It streamlines Federal student aid into a single loan program, a single grant program, and a single repayment program. It eliminates special interest projects, such as public service loan forgiveness, which privileged government employees by forgiving their loans after 10 years of payments.''

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Peterson really encapsulates at the beginning of this article the reasons why we should be passing the PROSPER Act.

Again, it passed out of the committee in December, and we are working to find floor time to be able to bring this bill to the floor and be able to have the House vote on it, send it to the Senate, have the Senate vote on it, and send it to the President for his signature.

Again, Ms. Peterson says, ''Congress, Pass the PROSPER Act for Federal Student Aid Reform,'' but as she explains in her quotes as I quoted, she says even more about it.

Let me explain some additional reasons why we need to pass the PROSPER Act.

Eighty-one percent of parents say 4-year schools charge too much. Fifty-four percent of parents think 4-year schools are accessible to middle class Americans.

Mr. Speaker, we have a problem in this country, not just with skills but people who are in poverty. The way for people to get out of poverty is to gain a good education that provides skills for people to be able to get a job.

Mr. Speaker, all my life I have promoted the need for people to get a great education. I myself am a living example of what an education can do for a person. I grew up in a house with no electricity, no running water. My parents had a sixth grade and ninth grade education. I come from no privilege whatsoever, and yet, Mr. Speaker, I and many millions of other people in this country who came from similar circumstances were able to get a good education and use their talents and skills to lead successful lives.

What I want, Mr. Speaker, is for every American who has the drive to do the same thing.

Mr. Speaker, while the Federal Government doesn't create jobs, the Federal Government can create situations where jobs can be created by the private sector, and we can help people gain the skills that they need to take those jobs.

Again, as I said, we have over 6 million unfilled jobs in this country, and what we need and what employers are begging us for is to provide the opportunity for people to gain the skills that they need to fill those jobs.

This is the way the American people feel right now. Again, 81 percent of Americans say the schools charge too much.

What we do with PROSPER is give an incentive to the schools to charge less. We don't tell them what to charge—that is not the role of the Federal Government—but we put in place policies that we believe will cause tuition not to continue to rise at such a high rate and that students will get more information so they choose well the programs they go into.

Also, we are closing out the opportunities that I had and millions of other middle class Americans have had in the past by pricing post-secondary education too high and making people feel it is not possible.

Only 13 percent of the people in this country believe that college graduates are well prepared for success in the workplace. Something is wrong, Mr. Speaker, that we have this low a number of people in this country who believe that those who are graduating from college or attending college don't have the skills that they need to take those jobs that are out there available.

□ 1830

And there is even more negativity coming from those who employ those who go to college.

Let me share some other information.

Only two in five managers believe college graduates are well equipped for a job in their field.

Mr. Speaker, even those who go to college are not completing their education. We have a 6-year completion rate of only 54.8 percent.

And what does this mean to students? It means $68,000 per year in lost wages and the cost of attending.

Mr. Speaker, this is occurring not just with those who attend what are known as 4-year colleges, which actually now are 6-year colleges because students are aren't graduating in 4 years—most of the ones graduating are graduating in 6 years—but it is applying to students who are in what we have always called 2-year colleges.

So we have a terrible problem every way you look in this country in terms of providing the opportunities for not only poor people, but middle-income people, for completing a degree or a program or a certificate that will allow them to gain the skills that they need and the credentials they need.

We are a credentialing society, Mr. Speaker. We want people to be able to prove what they have done. Therefore, we need to honor people with all kinds of credentials and make it easier for them to gain those credentials.

Not everybody needs a baccalaureate degree to be a successful person in our country, and we know that because only 30 percent of the people in this country do have a baccalaureate degree. Yet we have millions and millions of people already who are successful.

What we want to do is encourage more people to seek certification and programs that allow them to be certified without necessarily completing a baccalaureate.

Mr. Speaker, people will say: Well, you don't honor liberal arts degrees if you are encouraging people to go on and just get a certificate. I want everybody to get a liberal arts degree. I got a liberal arts degree. I think that is wonderful.

But people don't have to do that immediately out of high school, and they don't have to do it in order to lead successful lives.

But ultimately, we hope everybody will be a lifelong learner, and the best way to be a lifelong learner, I think, is to help people be successful early on so they will be encouraged to continue to want to learn and do the things that will make them successful.

So what does PROSPER do? We make it possible for more students to qualify for Pell grants for short-term programs. This is what we do, Mr. Speaker. Pell grants are the grants that undergird most people going to college who don't come from very affluent families.

The maximum Pell grant in this country now is about $6,000. But students can qualify for that if they are very, very poor.

What we would like to do is allow Pell grants to be used for shorter term programs, again, to get students to get into a program, help them gain certification so they can continue to earn and learn, so they can get a job, continue their education. So we make it possible for 7 million more people to qualify for Pell grants.

Many colleges and universities, unfortunately, have come out against the PROSPER Act.

Why is that, Mr. Speaker, when we make 7 million more students eligible for Pell grants? It is because, Mr. Speaker, we also ask for more accountability on the part of the schools and universities, and I will talk a little bit more about that in a minute.

And what do we do for the schools? We say to them: Help these Pell grant students graduate on time, meaning 4 years. And guess what. We will give you a little bonus for this.

Right now, the schools get no rewards for helping their students graduate on time. In fact, they get rewarded if they extend the amount of time that students are in school. But that costs the students money in lost wages. It also encourages them to borrow more money, which is not a good thing.

We know right now that we have $1.4 trillion in student debt in this country. We see the headlines every day in the newspapers about the problem with student debt. We don't want to encourage students to take out more debt. We want the students to get less debt.

So we simplify what we are doing in financial aid, Mr. Speaker. That is what we hear from schools, parents, students.

We just had a meeting with Members of Congress before I came up here, and Members of Congress who have had children go to college all talked about how complicated the FAFSA is, how invasive of privacy it is, and how we need to do better with the FAFSA, which is the financial aid form that students have to fill out to qualify. But we also have a complicated set of loans, grants, and campus-based programs.

So what do we do with PROSPER? We simplify things, Mr. Speaker.

Right now, we have six different loan programs, nine repayment options, 32 deferment and forbearance options—that means 32 different ways not to pay back your loan—and $1.4 trillion in student debt.

What we do is we turn these six loan programs into one loan program. We make it much less complicated. Students and parents can understand.

We take the various grant programs and turn them into one grant program. It will all be called Pell grants. And we take a couple of the grant programs and put them in workstudy.

Why do we do that, Mr. Speaker? Because we have known for 50 years or more that workstudy is successful.

We have done studies to show that students who work are much more likely to graduate, they do better academically, they become better time managers, and they are much more likely to get a job when they graduate.

What we do with workstudy is we make it an even better program than it is now. We double the amount of money that is in workstudy, and we make it possible for the school to allocate up to 50 percent of the money into the private sector. What that will do, Mr. Speaker, is that will allow the students to work in the private sector, do an internship, a co-op, or an apprenticeship program.

We know that most of the time those programs result in a job, and that will start the student on a successful career, we believe, in the industry or business or area that the student wants to go into. It is better than just working on campus. Working on campus is a positive thing, and it helps the students a lot, but working in the private sector is even better because, again, those often lead directly into employment in the private sector.

So this is what we do. Mr. Speaker, we are responding to the public. We are

responding to the schools saying financial aid is too complicated. Parents and students say financial aid is too complicated. We are listening to both of those folks. The institutions have said it, and the students and parents have said it.

What else are we doing with the financial aid? We are putting $14.5 billion back in the pockets of students.

How are we doing that? We are eliminating the origination fee for loans.

This was a hidden fee that most students didn't know anything about. They had to pay this up front out of the loans that they were getting, and very often it made a big difference to the students in terms of having the funds that they needed to be successful in their programs.

So we eliminate that, Mr. Speaker, and we think this is a very, very positive thing that we are doing.

In general, what we are doing with the PROSPER Act is we are responding to the American people. We are responding to employers who are saying to us: Please, help us with smoothing the way for students to go to colleges and universities to be able to gain the skills that they need to take these 6 million jobs that we have available out here.

Universities are not doing it for us. The colleges are not doing it for us. The colleges and universities are graduating approximately 1.4 million students every year. Yet what is happening is we have got all of these jobs unfilled out here, and we have got graduates being graduated but they don't have the skills that the employers need. Study after study after study, poll after poll after poll is telling us that. We are hearing it from everybody.

This is not a panacea. It is not going to answer every single need that is out there. We never said that it would. But it is a true reform of postsecondary education.

What we want to do is say to the postsecondary institutions: We have heard you. We have heard what you have said. You have said reduce or eliminate a lot of the rules and regulations that we have. That is what is driving up the cost of tuition.

Well, guess what, Mr. Speaker. We have revised or eliminated 59 percent of the 59 rules that were presented to us by the colleges and universities. But when they talk to our colleagues here, we never hear them mention that to them. But we are doing that. So we are responding to them.

They said: Simplify financial aid.

We are doing that. So we are doing what the schools asked us to do. We are doing what employers asked us to do. We are providing funds for short-term programs that will result in certificates that will result in the ability for students to gain the skills they need and go to work after as short a period of time as 10 weeks and 300 hours. This is a huge change in the way financial aid has been offered in the past.

We have listened to parents and students. We have simplified financial aid. We are making it much easier for students to apply for financial aid. We make it simpler for them to understand exactly the aid that they are going to be getting, what their obligations are going to be, and we know that, ultimately, it is going to bring down the cost of postsecondary education because we remove incentives for the colleges and universities to keep raising tuition and fees because we are saying to the colleges and universities: We want you to help these students succeed. We want you to encourage these students to take out less debt, and we are providing you the vehicle for doing that.

So, Mr. Speaker, we are responding to all the segments of the population that have asked us to change the way postsecondary education is delivered in this country.

We are going to help fulfill these 6 million unfilled jobs and we are going to bring down the cost of tuition and fees and make financial aid less complicated.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1845

RECOGNIZING ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SOTO) for 30 minutes.

HONORING ANDREW JENG

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, I would like to recognize Andrew Jeng.

Horng ''Andrew'' Jeng has been extensively involved with different communities and organizations. He is owner of Uptech Computers, the President of Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs of Central Florida, APAPA; president of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Central Florida; principal of Kissimmee Chinese School; and president of Kiwanis Club of Kissimmee, Florida.

In the past, Andrew was involved with the Boys & Girls Club; Seniors First Inc.; the Asian American Heritage Council; Taiwanese Chamber of Commerce; International Association of Chiefs of Police; and American veteran groups.

As the president of Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Central Florida, he supported the business community with facilities and intimate knowledge of the community as well as supporting businesses through advocating for positive business legislation, hosting network events and seminars, and international outreach.

Andrew received the award of Outstanding Asian American from Orange County, Orlando in 2016; and in 2009, the community service of Asian American Heritage Council in Orlando, he earned a bachelor's of law from Central Police University in Taiwan, and a master's degree of computer information from the New York Institute of Technology.

For that, Mr. Andrew Jeng, we recognize you.

HONORING DR. SAJID CHAUDHARY

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, I would like to recognize Dr. Sajid Chaudhary.

Dr. Sajid Chaudhary is an infections disease specialist providing healthcare services in the Kissimmee area since 2004. He completed his internal medicine training from Brown University and his infectious disease fellowship training from the University of Massachusetts.

Dr. Chaudhary is on faculty at the UCF College of Medicine, teaching medical students and resident doctors. Dr. Chaudhary has served, also, on the board of Osceola Regional Medical Center, and he is a founding board member and served as president of the Association of Pakistani Americans of Central Florida.

He has served as president of the Association of Physicians of Pakistani Descent of North America, known as APPNA, and launched projects for four mobile clinics to help uninsured people in four States in the United States, including Florida.

Dr. Chaudhary is very active in the community through volunteering and most recently helped raise funds for the victims of Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria in 2017.

Earlier this year, I joined Dr. Chaudhary in the opening of a free healthcare clinic in Kissimmee, in our district, which he was very actively involved in establishing.

For that, Dr. Sajid Chaudhary, we honor you.

HONORING JOSE FABRICANTE, JR.

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, I would like to recognize Jose Fabricante, Jr.

Jose, ''Joed'' Fabricante, Jr., is currently the president of the Asian American Chamber of Commerce of Central Florida. He has been involved with the chamber since 2010 and has taken multiple leadership roles within the organization.

The Asian American Chamber of Commerce of Central Florida's mission is to provide leadership, support, and encouragement to the Asian American business community of Orlando so that the members of that organization may prosper and grow.

Jose currently works for Universal Orlando Resort in the security division as an entry-screening sergeant. He has also worked in various departments at Universal Orlando Resort and has had an impressive career with the company for close to 15 years.

Jose is also on the board of directors for the Orlando Economic Partnership since 2018, this year.

His family moved to the United States in 1992 from the Philippines and has called Florida home since then.

For that, Jose Fabricante, Jr., we honor you.

HONORING RICKY LY

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, I would like to recognize Ricky Ly.

Ricky Ly is an Orlando engineering professional. The son of Vietnamese boat refugees, he has proudly served central Florida in the community for the past 15 years. In 2018, he was chosen by Orlando Weekly as one of the 10 people making Orlando a better place to be.

As a past co-chair of the Florida Water Environment Association's Water Resources, Reuse, and Resiliency Committee, he worked to educate fellow water professionals, community leaders, and the public about critical water resources and challenges that face our State.

Mr. Ly currently serves on the board of directors of Second Harvest Food Bank. He has been involved with the City of Orlando's Families, Parks and Recreation board; the Orlando Mayor's City Academy; Pi Delta Psi Fraternity; and a board member for local NPR affiliate WMFE.

Mr. Ly also leads voting registration campaigns for the local Asian American community and was awarded the Golden Hands Award from the Asian American Chamber of Commerce of Central Florida.

He recently worked with the local PBS affiliate, WUCF–TV, on the documentary series ''Vietnamese Orlando,'' highlighting the history of the vibrant Vietnamese American community in Orlando.

A graduate of the University of Central Florida, he is the cofounder of the Asian Pacific American Coalition at UCF and served as a student government senator representing the UCF College of Engineering and Computer Science.

He is also the author of the book, ''Food Lovers' Guide to Orlando,'' and founder of tastychomps.com, highlighting our local Orlando restaurants, markets, and growing food scene.

In 2017, he was inducted into the Orlando Sentinel Culinary Hall of Fame. He is also featured in the Orlando Sentinel's ''Central Florida 100,'' a weekly opinion column featuring 100 of the most influential people in local government, politics, and culture.

He is most thankful for his parents; his life partner, May Wong; and their firstborn daughter, Victoria, who brings their family much joy and hope for the future and new dreams for the American Dream.

For that, Ricky Ly, we honor you.

HONORING VALERIE BOEY

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, I would like to recognize Valerie Boey.

Valerie Boey is the president of the Asian American Journalist Association's Florida chapter. She had been in television news for more than 20 years in the Sunshine State and currently works for FOX 35 News in Orlando.

As an award-winning television reporter, Valerie is proud to represent her Chinese American heritage on the evening news. In a world where crime often dominates headlines, she focuses on faith to help those who have been affected.

Valerie not only mentors Asian journalist students, but also journalism students of all backgrounds, as well as young professionals. She teaches them to report all sides of a story.

Valerie encourages her students to be the best they can be, knowing hard work pays off, whatever their heritage is, for being different is an honor, not an entitlement.

Valerie assists the Florida Associated Press Broadcasters, applauding fellow journalists around the State on their achievements and taking part in the college workshop. She also volunteers her time with the Negro Spiritual Scholarship Foundation golf tournament, which benefits young music students.

As a member of the Orange County Asian Committee, Valerie tries to bring people of Asian American heritage together, recognizing their talents and applauding their efforts to make this community better.

Valerie's father, Bob, was born in Singapore and grow up in Hong Kong. Her mother, Doris, was born in New York. She believes they both inspire her to carry on the importance of their Asian culture.

Valerie is happily married to Jeff Ramsey, who has taught her all about his Southern roots and appreciation for barbecue; but she, too, has taught him an appreciation for dim sum and the essence of feng shui.

For that, Valerie Boey, we honor you.

HONORING KHALID MUNEER

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, I would like to recognize Khalid Muneer.

Born in Pakistan, Khalid's family moved to the United Kingdom in 1961, where he graduated from the University of Aston in Birmingham.

After 17 years in investment banking and working in eight countries, he moved to Florida and built a successful real estate commercial business. At the same time, he devoted his time and passion for civic duties to the Asian community.

Khalid Muneer has been a very active leader in our community in central Florida. He was the President of the Asian American Chamber of Commerce CFL in 2016, won the International Leadership Foundation Award in 2017 for his accomplishments, and was on the top 100 most influential people list reported by the Orlando Sentinel. This year, Khalid is president of the American Muslim Chamber of Commerce of Central Florida.

Khalid is also a husband, father, grandfather, and has dedicated his work to strengthening the Asian American community in central Florida.

For that, Mr. Khalid Muneer, we honor you.

HONORING NEAL ABID

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, I would like to recognize Neal Abid.

Neal Abid is the executive director of the largest nonprofit Arab American Community Center in Florida, a trusted resource and advocate for the Florida Arabic community.

Mr. Abid is a passionate, philanthropic outreach provider through the AACCFL. Since Mr. Abid's appointment as executive director of the AACCFL, he has overseen the expansion of resource offices in Orlando, Tampa, and Jacksonville.

Over the past 4 years, the AACCFL charity services have assisted over 15,000 community members through its healthcare services, refugee assistance programs, and employment services, as well as many other services based out of the AACC Orlando headquarters.

Mr. Abid is the founder of the largest annual community Arab festival that attracts over 35,000 attendees, combined, in Orlando, Tampa, and Miami, annually.

Mr. Abid is notably recognized on the national level for his leadership role in the community. He is a passionate advocate for equality, human rights, women's rights, healthcare equality, and political engagement.

Mr. Abid is an American Palestinian who resides in Orlando with his lovely wife and four beautiful children.

For that, Mr. NEAL Abid, we honor you.

HONORING IMAM ABDUL RAHMAN PATEL

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, I would like to recognize Imam Abdul Rahman Patel.

Imam Abdul Rahman Patel is the head of the Imam Council of Central Florida, serving our community for over 20 years. Imam Patel works with community leaders, government officials, educators, and the community to foster peace, unity, and love.

He has traveled to over 60 countries and brings his experience and understanding of different cultures to light by advocating across economic, social, religious, and cultural spheres. His love for the entire community is exemplified had his actions.

He assisted in establishing the first free healthcare clinic in Osceola County, in our district, and provided much-needed medication and resources to the Victim Service Center of Central Florida, ensuring no person in need is turned away due to lack of funds or medication.

Imam Patel has joined forces with local domestic abuse shelters, working to educate the community on domestic violence and providing support to local shelters through co-hosting events,

providing medical services, meals, and support to survivors of domestic violence.

As a Muslim American leader, he started some of the first institutions for Islamic education within the United States. For two decades, he has been devoted to serving the community. He has also hosted and organized community townhall meetings with local government.

To promote unity, shortly after the Pulse nightclub tragedy in 2016, Imam Patel, along with other community leaders, organized an event to honor the victims from Osceola County. Since then, he has actively worked with other leaders to reach out and express support for central Floridians of all backgrounds.

As a community leader and a father of eight children, Imam Patel has championed many causes to inspire togetherness among everyone in central Florida, vowing to spread love without limitation.

For that, Imam Abdul Patel, we honor you.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. DONOVAN (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today on account of a meeting with President Donald J. Trump in New York State regarding combating the deadly MS–13 gang and other violent criminal gang organizations.

Mr. ZELDIN (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today on account of official travel with the President of the United States.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and May 24.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, May 24, 2018, at 9 a.m.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. ROSKAM (for himself, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. NADLER, Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Ms. GRANGER, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. BUCK, and Mr. ENGEL):

H.R. 5924. A bill to provide for the consideration of a definition of anti-Semitism for the enforcement of Federal antidiscrimination laws concerning education programs or activities; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GOWDY (for himself, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. MEADOWS, and Mr. CONNOLLY):

H.R. 5925. A bill to codify provisions relating to the Office of National Drug Control, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Foreign Affairs, the Judiciary, Intelligence (Permanent Select), and Appropriations, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KEATING (for himself and Mr. ROTHFUS):

H.R. 5926. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue guidelines for prescribing naloxone, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SOTO (for himself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 5927. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to expand, intensify, and coordinate research and other activities of the National Institutes of Health with respect to prenatal opioid exposure and neonatal abstinence syndrome; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. POLIS (for himself, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. MOORE, Ms. ADAMS, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mr. PERLMUTTER):

H.R. 5928. A bill to repeal the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, forgive all outstanding Federal student loans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, Natural Resources, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. CLARKE of New York (for herself, Ms. PLASKETT, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ):

H.R. 5929. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to provide for small business concerns located in the United States Virgin Islands, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. BARTON (for himself and Mr. RUSH):

H.R. 5930. A bill to strengthen protections relating to the online collection, use, and disclosure of personal information of children and minors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BIGGS:

H.R. 5931. A bill to repeal the authority to establish certain special volunteer programs under the Domestic Volunteer Service Act; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. JUDY CHU of California (for herself, Mr. DEUTCH, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO):

H.R. 5932. A bill to increase the recruitment and retention of school-based mental health services providers by low-income local educational agencies; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. COLLINS of Georgia (for himself and Mr. DEUTCH):

H.R. 5933. A bill to prevent substance abuse and reduce demand for illicit narcotics; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CRAWFORD:

H.R. 5934. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 105 Highway 297 North in Dyess, Arkansas, as the ''Johnny Cash Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois (for himself, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. BOST, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mrs. BUSTOS, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. RUSH, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, and Mr. GUTIÉRREZ):

H.R. 5935. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1355 North Meridian Road in Harristown, Illinois, as the ''Logan S. Palmer Post Office''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. FOSTER (for himself, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. RASKIN):

H.R. 5936. A bill to amend the National Security Act of 1947 to require the appointment by the President of the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs to be made by and with the advice and consent of the Senate; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, and Intelligence (Permanent Select), for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico:

H.R. 5937. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Calle Alondra in San Juan, Puerto Rico, as the ''65th Infantry Regiment Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico:

H.R. 5938. A bill to amend the VA Choice and Quality Employment Act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a vacancy and recruitment database to facilitate the recruitment of certain members of the Armed Forces to satisfy the occupational needs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to establish and implement a training and certification program for intermediate care technicians in that Department, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. GRIJALVA (for himself and Mr. COLE):

H.R. 5939. A bill to amend the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation Act; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire (for herself, Mrs. LOVE, and Mrs. DINGELL):

H.R. 5940. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to submit to Congress a report on victims in military criminal investigative organization reports, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. LANGEVIN (for himself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. QUIGLEY, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 5941. A bill to prevent child injuries and deaths by firearms; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. LEE (for herself, Mr. AGUILAR, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. BASS, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CORREA, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MENG, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. RICHMOND, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. RUSH, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. TAKANO, Mrs. TORRES, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI):

H.R. 5942. A bill to improve the health of minority individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Agriculture, Education and the Workforce, the Budget, the Judiciary, Veterans' Affairs, Armed Services, and Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 5943. A bill to amend the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 to improve professional development for career and technical educators; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 5944. A bill to improve career and technical education by providing improved educational opportunities and financial assistance for career and technical educators; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. MOORE (for herself, Mr. KIND, Ms. NORTON, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. POCAN, Mr. KILDEE, and Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas):

H.R. 5945. A bill to encourage, enhance, and integrate Green Alert plans throughout the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. MURPHY of Florida (for herself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 5946. A bill to provide that Members of Congress shall not be paid if Congress has not approved a concurrent resolution on the budget and passed the regular appropriations bills on a timely basis, to eliminate automatic pay adjustments for Members of Congress, to prohibit the use of funds provided for the official travel expenses of Members of Congress and other officers and employees of the legislative branch for first-class airline accommodations, to establish a lifetime ban on lobbying by former Members of Congress, to prohibit consideration in the House of Representatives of measures lacking demonstrable bipartisan support, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, the Judiciary, and Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. NORMAN:

H.R. 5947. A bill to repeal the Asia Foundation Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. PETERSON (for himself, Mr. GIANFORTE, and Mr. KING of Iowa):

H.R. 5948. A bill to exempt motor carriers that own or operate 10 or fewer commercial vehicles from the electronic logging device mandates, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. PETERSON (for himself, Mr. GIANFORTE, and Mr. KING of Iowa):

H.R. 5949. A bill to exempt certain motor carriers engaged in agricultural business from the electronic logging device requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD (for herself, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. SOTO, Mr. VELA, Mr. GALLEGO, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO):

H.R. 5950. A bill to protect children affected by immigration enforcement actions; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself, Mr. MOULTON, and Ms. JACKSON LEE):

H.R. 5951. A bill to establish the Veterans Crisis Response Corps, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Foreign Affairs, and Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. ROSKAM:

H.R. 5924.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8 of the Constitution.

By Mr. GOWDY:

H.R. 5925.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Const. Art. I, Sec. 8, cl. 14, relating to the Congress's power ''to make rules for the Government . . .''; U.S. Const. Art. I, Sec. 8, cl. 3, relating to the Congress's power ''to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes''; and U.S. Const. Art. I, Sec. 8, cl. 18 relating to the Congress's power ''to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States or in any Department or Officer thereof.''

By Mr. KEATING:

H.R. 5926.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SOTO

H.R. 5927.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. POLIS

H.R. 5928.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Ms. CLARKE of New York:

H.R. 5929.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and it subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Mr. BARTON:

H.R. 5930.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I; Section 8; Clause 1 of the Constitution states: The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States.

By Mr. BIGGS:

H.R. 5931.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. JUDY CHU of California:

H.R. 5932.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art. 1, Sec. 8 ''The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States.''

By Mr. COLLINS of Georgia:

H.R. 5933.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts, and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts, and Excises shall be uniform throughout the Unites States.

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Office thereof.

By Mr. CRAWFORD:

H.R. 5934.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article One, Section Eight

By Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 5935.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 7: To establish Post Offices and post Roads.

By Mr. FOSTER:

H.R. 5936.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8 Clause 14 of the Constitution.

By Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico:

H.R. 5937.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 1 of the U.S. Constitution

''All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.''

Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the U.S. Constitution

Congress shall have the power . . . ''To establish Post Offices and post Roads.''

By Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico:

H.R. 5938.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section I of the U.S. Constitution

''All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.''

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution

Congress shall have the power . . . ''To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.''

By Mr. GRIJALVA:

H.R. 5939.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Const. art. I, §§1 and 8.

By Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire:

H.R. 5940.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 14 provides Congress with the power to make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces.

By Mr. LANGEVIN:

H.R. 5941.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Ms. LEE:

H.R. 5942.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 5943.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 5944.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. MOORE:

H.R. 5945.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mrs. MURPHY of Florida:

H.R. 5946.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact the Foster Accountability, Integrity, Trust, and Honor (FAITH) in Congress Act pursuant to Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18, the Necessary and Proper Clause. Additionally, Article 1, Section 5, Clause 2 supports the ability of the House to determine the rules of its proceedings and punish its Members for disorderly behavior.

By Mr. NORMAN:

H.R. 5947.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 7

By Mr. PETERSON:

H.R. 5948.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. PETERSON:

H.R. 5949.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

By Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD:

H.R. 5950.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. SCHIFF:

H.R. 5951.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, clause 18 (Necessary and Proper Clause).

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 350: Mr. POE of Texas.
H.R. 377: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.
H.R. 398: Mr. MITCHELL.
H.R. 630: Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 669: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
H.R. 750: Mr. SCHNEIDER.
H.R. 785: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.
H.R. 795: Mr. GALLEGO and Mr. TONKO.
H.R. 930: Mr. CORREA and Mr. GIBBS.
H.R. 1038: Mr. THORNBERRY and Mr. KING of Iowa.
H.R. 1114: Mr. SIRES, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. RYAN of Ohio.
H.R. 1150: Mr. SIMPSON and Mr. NUNES.
H.R. 1187: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 1201: Mr. TURNER and Mr. ROYCE of California.
H.R. 1439: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.
H.R. 1587: Mrs. DEMINGS.
H.R. 1615: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.
H.R. 1683: Mr. GAETZ, Mr. PANETTA, and Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 1759: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.
H.R. 1784: Mr. SIRES.
H.R. 1821: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 1828: Mrs. DEMINGS and Mr. COFFMAN.
H.R. 1896: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 1904: Mr. SCHIFF and Mr. HARRIS.
H.R. 1954: Mr. POLIQUIN.
H.R. 1957: Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 1960: Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 2073: Mr. PANETTA.
H.R. 2092: Ms. KELLY of Illinois and Mr. VELA.
H.R. 2095: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 2309: Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 2315: Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, and Mrs. DEMINGS.
H.R. 2432: Mr. SIRES and Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia.
H.R. 2556: Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 2584: Mr. LONG and Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 2598: Mr. SMITH of Washington and Mr. COOPER.
H.R. 2651: Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 2676: Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 2871: Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina.
H.R. 2876: Ms. JAYAPAL and Mr. CAPUANO.
H.R. 2913: Miss RICE of New York and Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 2942: Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 3331: Mr. WALDEN.
H.R. 3617: Mr. DEFAZIO.
H.R. 3635: Miss RICE of New York.
H.R. 3738: Mr. GALLEGO.
H.R. 3841: Mr. CURTIS.
H.R. 3875: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 3913: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 3944: Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 4006: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. MOULTON, and Mr. KING of New York.
H.R. 4133: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.
H.R. 4143: Ms. SÁNCHEZ.
H.R. 4306: Mr. MOULTON and Mr. TED LIEU of California.
H.R. 4454: Mr. HARPER.
H.R. 4536: Ms. STEFANIK.
H.R. 4732: Mr. LANCE.
H.R. 4918: Mr. PERLMUTTER.
H.R. 4953: Mr. CAPUANO.
H.R. 4957: Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. TONKO, and Mr. COLE.
H.R. 4962: Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 5011: Mr. CLAY, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. FUDGE, and Mr. JEFFRIES.
H.R. 5060: Mrs. DEMINGS.
H.R. 5067: Mr. ALLEN.
H.R. 5090: Miss RICE of New York and Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 5096: Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas.
H.R. 5105: Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 5171: Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 5176: Mr. WALDEN and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.
H.R. 5223: Mr. CARBAJAL and Mr. VISCLOSKY.
H.R. 5261: Mr. WALDEN.
H.R. 5272: Mr. WALDEN.
H.R. 5332: Mr. ALLEN.
H.R. 5337: Mr. FLORES.
H.R. 5353: Mr. WALDEN.
H.R. 5358: Mr. RUSSELL and Ms. GRANGER.
H.R. 5385: Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.
H.R. 5395: Ms. MENG.
H.R. 5429: Mr. CRAMER, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. CLAY, and Ms. STEFANIK.
H.R. 5455: Mr. HIGGINS of New York.
H.R. 5472: Mr. CURBELO of Florida.
H.R. 5473: Mr. WALDEN.
H.R. 5587: Mr. WALDEN.
H.R. 5603: Mr. WALDEN.
H.R. 5609: Mr. JEFFRIES.
H.R. 5665: Mr. ROKITA.
H.R. 5671: Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 5684: Mr. WALDEN.
H.R. 5685: Mr. WALDEN.
H.R. 5686: Mr. WALDEN.
H.R. 5687: Mr. BARR.
H.R. 5711: Ms. SEWELL of Alabama.
H.R. 5713: Ms. BORDALLO and Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 5810: Mr. WALDEN and Mrs. BLACKBURN.
H.R. 5812: Mr. HARRIS.
H.R. 5832: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 5848: Mr. DELANEY.
H.R. 5861: Mr. SMUCKER and Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.
H.R. 5870: Mr. CRAMER and Mr. GIBBS.
H.R. 5876: Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. ROKITA.
H.R. 5891: Mr. BOST.
H.R. 5899: Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 5902: Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts.
H.R. 5921: Mr. LAMBORN and Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.J. Res. 126: Mr. DESAULNIER and Mr. WELCH.
H. Con. Res. 81: Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H. Res. 15: Mr. BACON and Mr. BUCHANAN.
H. Res. 28: Mr. KINZINGER.
H. Res. 31: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois.
H. Res. 199: Mr. SOTO.

H. Res. 367: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
H. Res. 652: Mr. KHANNA.
H. Res. 673: Ms. MENG.
H. Res. 741: Mr. HARRIS.
H. Res. 763: Mr. RUSH.
H. Res. 781: Mr. YARMUTH, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. BARTON, and Mr. CHABOT.
H. Res. 785: Mr. HUNTER, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. CHABOT, and Mr. DAVIDSON.
H. Res. 870: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina and Mr. LAMALFA.
H. Res. 881: Mr. WALBERG and Mr. BANKS of Indiana.
H. Res. 896: Ms. ADAMS, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. SOTO, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. MOORE, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H. Res. 907: Mr. PALAZZO.

DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H. Res. 774: Mr. LAMALFA.