members of the National Guard serving on active service in response to the coronavirus (COVID–19) the transitional health benefits provided to members of the reserve components separating from active duty.

S. 3714

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3714, a bill to extend the covered period for loan forgiveness and the rehiring period under the CARES Act, and for other purposes.

S. 3727

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3727, a bill to provide for cash refunds for canceled airline flights and tickets during the COVID–19 emergency.

S. 3732

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. GORTNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3732, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to further protect officers and employees of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 3749

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Indiana (Ms. BINKLEY), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BOWMAN), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. Klobuchar) were added as cosponsors of S. 3749, a bill to protect the privacy of health information during a national health emergency.

S. 3752

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3752, a bill to amend title VI of the Social Security Act to establish a Coronavirus Local Community Stabilization Fund.

S. RES. 579

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 579, a resolution encouraging the international community to remain committed to collaboration and coordination to mitigate and prevent the further spread of COVID–19 and urging the United States to lead in the development and delivery to address COVID–19 and prevent further deaths, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 589

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 589, a resolution recognizing the significance of Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month as an important time to celebrate the significant contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to the history of the United States.

Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 3811. A bill to provide financial assistance for projects to address certain subsidence impacts in the State of California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise to speak in support of the Restoration of Essential Conveyance Act, which I introduced today. Representatives of California, both Democratic and Republican, have introduced companion legislation in the House. This legislation would help California water users and California’s nation-leading agricultural industry comply with a recent State requirement to end the overpumping of groundwater. The stakes are huge: Bringing groundwater into balance will reduce the water supply of the San Joaquin Valley by about 2 million acre-feet per year.

Unless local water agencies and the State and Federal governments take action, a recent U.C. Berkeley study has projected severe impacts from these water supply losses: 798,000 acres of high value crops, more than 100,000 jobs in agriculture production, nearly one-sixth of the working farmland in an area that produces half the fruit and vegetables grown in the Nation; and $5 billion would be lost in annual farm income.

How the bill would help: One of the most cost-effective and efficient ways to restore groundwater balance is to convey floodwaters to farmlands where they can recharge the aquifer. California has the most variable precipitation of any State. When we get massive storms from atmospheric rivers, there is plenty of runoff to recharge aquifers—but only if we can effectively convey the floodwaters throughout the San Joaquin Valley to recharge areas. Here is where the challenge arises. For a variety of reasons, the ground beneath the major canals has dropped by as much as 10 to 20 feet which has caused canals designed to convey floodwaters to buckle and drop in many places. Other parts of the canals have not subsided, so the water gets stuck in the low points.

As a result, these essential canals for conveying floodwaters have lost as much as 60 percent of their conveyance capacity. The bill I am introducing today would provide Federal assistance to help fix these Federal canals.

Specifically, the bill would authorize $600 million in Federal funding—cost share for three major Federal canals damaged by subsidence to achieve their lost capacity: $200 million for the Friant-Kern Canal, which would move an additional 100,000 acre-feet per year on average; $200 million for the Delta Mendota Canal, which would move an additional 70,000 acre-feet per year on average; and $200 million for California Aqueduct repairs, which would move an additional 205,000 acre-feet per year on average. While parts of the California Aqueduct are State-owned, the majority of the repairs are on its federally owned portion.

The bill would also authorize $200 million in additional funding for the Federal Central Valley Project and the Friant-Kern Canal. This bill is an important step in restoring the San Joaquin River. This provision will ensure that the bill helps to restore not only the San Joaquin Valley’s water supply, but also its native salmon runs. I think it is appropriate that we consider legislation that would benefit both our water supply and the environment.

Benefits of the bill: If the Federal Government covers a portion of the cost of restoring these three essential Federal canals for conveying floodwaters, it will give local farmers a fighting chance to bring their groundwater basins into balance without being forced to retire massive amounts of land.

Critically, the ability to deliver floodwaters through restored Federal canals will allow the water districts to invest in their own turnouts, pumps, detention basins and other ground-water recharge projects. The South Valley Water Association, which covers just a small part of the Valley, provided my office with a list of 36 such projects for its area alone.

The Public Policy Institute of California, or PPIC, has determined that groundwater recharge projects are the best option to help the San Joaquin Valley comply with the new state groundwater pumping law. PPIC projects that the Valley can make up 300,000 to 500,000 acre feet of its groundwater deficit through recharge projects.

Job Losses If We Take No Action: A forthcoming study commissioned by the coalition group the Water Blueprint for the San Joaquin Valley’’ estimates that required reductions in groundwater could cause a loss of up to 42,000 farm and agricultural jobs in the San Joaquin Valley. Another 40,000 jobs more could be lost statewide each year due to reductions in valley agricultural production, putting the total at approximately 85,000 jobs statewide. Most of these impacts will fall disproportionately on economically disadvantaged communities. These impacts will be felt not unless we address them through collaborative planning, policies, infrastructure, recharge, and necessary financial support.

Friant-Kern Canal: Let me now turn to the three critical canals that the bill would authorize assistance to restore. The Friant-Kern Canal is a key feature of the Friant Division of the Federal Central Valley Project on the Eastside of the San Joaquin Valley. For nearly 70 years, the Friant Divi- sion has provided a sustainable source of water for farms and for thousands of Californians
and more than 50 small, rural, or disadvantaged communities who rely entirely on groundwater for their household water supplies.

But unsustainable groundwater pumping in the valley has reduced the Friant-Kern Aqueduct’s ability to deliver water to all who need it. Land elevation subsidence caused by over-pumping means that not all of the supplies stored at Friant Dam can be conveyed through the canal. In some areas, canal conveyance capacity has dropped to only 80 percent of what it is designed to deliver.

In 2017, a very wet year in which we should have been banking as much flood water as possible, the Friant-Kern Aqueduct only delivered an additional 300,000 acre-feet of water that it would have been able to convey had its capacity not been limited by subsidence. This significant amount of water would have been destined for groundwater recharging areas in the San Joaquin Valley, where the impacts of reduced water deliveries, water quality issues and groundwater regulation are expected to be most severe.

California Aqueduct and Delta-Mendota Canal: The California Aqueduct serves more than 27 million people in Southern California and the Silicon Valley and more than 750,000 acres of the Nation’s most productive farmland. But despite its name, much of the California Aqueduct is owned by the Federal Government and serves portions of Silicon Valley, small towns and communities in the northern San Joaquin Valley, and farms from Firebaugh to Kettleman City. The aqueduct represents a successful 70-year partnership between the Federal Government and the State of California.

In recent years, particularly recent drought years, the California Aqueduct has seen its water delivery reduced as much as 20 percent of its capacity to move water to California’s families, farms, and businesses. California is leading efforts to repair the aqueduct and is working to provide its share of funding, but the Federal Government will also need to pay its fair share. The bill I am introducing today would authorize $200 million toward restoring the California Aqueduct.

The Delta-Mendota Canal stretches southward 117 miles from the C.W. Bill Jones Pumping Plant along the western edge of the San Joaquin Valley, parallel to the California Aqueduct. The Delta-Mendota Canal has lost 15 percent of its conveyance capacity due to subsidence. The bill I am introducing today would authorize $200 million toward restoring its full ability to convey floodwaters to farms needing to recharge their groundwater, and to wildlife refuges for migratory waterfowl.

In conclusion, this bill responds to a potential crisis that very possibly could cause the forced retirement of nearly one-sixth of the working farmland in an area that produces half of America’s fruits and vegetables.

These are Federal canals, and the Federal Government must help give these farmers and communities reliant of the agricultural economy a fighting chance to keep their lands in production.

I hope my colleagues will join me in support of this bill. I yield the floor.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 3833. A bill to extend the loan forgiveness provisions of the Paycheck Protection Program, and for other purposes; read the first time.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce, with my colleagues Senator RUBIO, CARDIN, and SHAHEEN, legislation to strengthen the Paycheck Protection Program, which has proven to be such an important lifeline to America’s small businesses and their employees during this pandemic.

Senators RUBIO, CARDIN, SHAHEEN, and I worked together as part of the Small Business Task Force to create this program during the development of the CARES Act 2 months ago.

Since its launch in early April, this program has provided forgivable loans totaling more than $510 billion to approximately 12 million small employers across the country. The overwhelming majority of borrowers are very small employers.

In phase 1 of the program, the average PPP loan size nationally was $266,000. That translates to an average employer size of just 18 employees. As more loans have been approved in phase 2, the average loan size nationally has dropped to $118,000, suggesting an average business size of about 10 employees.

In Maine, the average loan size is even smaller, with borrowers having an estimated 12 employees in phase 1 and just three employees in phase 2. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, nearly two-thirds of the small businesses in Maine have benefited from PPP loans, and that is, I am pleased to say, among the highest rates in the Nation.

In many ways, it is not a surprise. Maine is the State of small businesses. Ninety percent of all the Maine businesses are considered to be small businesses, and they employ approximately 60 percent of all the workers in our State. Overall, in Maine, the funds are sufficient to support approximately 200,000 small businesses.

Let’s think about this. That means that a business that is seeing receipts go down, is in a cash flow problem, liquidity has dried up can still retain employees who otherwise would have been laid off. In many cases, it has allowed a business to call back furloughed employees. And even in cases where the business has been forced to close its doors because of government orders, it has kept alive the connection between the employer and his or her employees. That is an important business reason, as the economy does open back up, we want to make sure that link between the employer and the employees remains intact so that the workforce can come back to work as soon as possible.

It is important, as we discuss the economic data behind the PPP, to remember that these are real businesses, real people—Larry Geaghan, who owns and runs a craft brewery and pub in Bangor, ME. Larry calls the PPP a “lifeline bill” that has made all the difference in helping him to bring back 25 of his employees and reopen for takeout business.

Another Maine business, the owner of a small marina—told me that the PPP was exactly what he needed at exactly the right time. With the PPP, this marina has been able to keep all of its employees on payroll, and because they weren’t worried about whether they would have a paycheck, these employees continued spending as they normally would—exactly what our Maine economy needs.

Another example: a small business helped by the PPP is the Frog & Turtle Gastro Pub in Westbrook, ME. This pub just completed an extensive renovation and is hoping to reopen June 1, the first day that sit-down dining service will be allowed again in the State of Maine.

The owner of this pub wrote to me to say that the “PPP program allowed us to bring back our 15 employees and sustain our business during these trying conditions,” and that taking a PPP loan was the “right decision” for his employees and for his small restaurant.

When we were initially developing the Paycheck Protection Program, we had no idea how long the pandemic would last. We did not know that there would be virtually universal economic shutdowns, nor did we know how each State would respond to outbreaks in their communities. The bipartisan bill that we are introducing today builds on the success of the PPP by providing small businesses with additional flexibility so that they can more effectively use these funds in conjunction with State reopening plans.

And, again, I would remind my colleagues that when we were drafting the first version of this, it was before there were widespread orders shutting down restaurants and bars and retail establishments.

Specifically, the Paycheck Protection Program Extension Act that we are introducing today would do the following: It would allow borrowers the flexibility to use their 8 weeks of funding at a point of their choosing within a 16-week period. Small businesses could choose the period that they believe works best to coincide with the re-opening of their location.

So some small businesses took the loans very early, thinking that the shutdowns would not last or that the pandemic would be on the way down by now, which it is in some States, thank goodness, but not in all.

Well, this builds in more flexibility. You would have 16 weeks to use the loan funds instead of 8.
Second, it extends the deadline to apply for a PPP loan from June 30 to December 31 of this year.

Again, this reflects the fact that shutdowns lasted far longer in virtually every State than we anticipated when we were drafting the bill in March.

Third, the bill would allow borrowers to use loan funds to purchase personal protective equipment for employees and other adaptive investments needed to reopen safely.

Adaptive investments could include modifications to a commercial property to comply with the social distancing regulations or guidelines from the CDC. It could mean creating or expanding a drive-through window service, erected physical barriers such as we see at the grocery stores now, those plexiglass barriers or sneeze guards. It could mean installing ventilation systems or, as many restaurants have mentioned to me, they would like to add an outside patio for outdoor eating, which would allow them to maintain the same number of customers, which they can’t do now, and abide by the social distancing guidelines.

The bill would also clarify that the current lender hold-harmless provision relates to all Small Business Administration (SBA) PPP loans. A lender that in good faith followed Federal guidance related to PPP would not be later held liable if the guidance subsequently changed.

I would like to give a shout-out to our small community banks and credit unions in the State of Maine. They have really stepped up to the plate for this program to serve the small businesses, small employers in our State, for the small nonprofits, and that has made a real difference to the employees of these establishments.

And finally, the bill would clarify that borrowers who have maintained payroll for 8 weeks will not lose loan forgiveness due to the extension of the program.

Now, I would hope that that would be obvious, but we wanted to make sure that we were explicit.

The Paycheck Protection Program is the single most critical stimulus program protecting Main Street America from the economic devastation of the measures taken to control the spread of COVID–19. The bill we are introducing today strengthens the PPP to reflect the evolving nature of this pandemic, the necessity of regulatory actions that have caused a great deal of economic harm but were necessary to prevent the spread of the virus, and I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill.

By Mr. CRUZ:

S. 3835. A bill to prohibit the use of funds for the production of films by the Chinese Government for screening in the People’s Republic of China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss the single most dangerous geopolitical threat that America faces now and through the next century—China.

We are in the midst of a pandemic that has infected 5 million people and has claimed the lives of over 300,000 people worldwide. In the United States alone, the pandemic has infected over 1.5 million people and has claimed over 93,000 lives.

The coronavirus pandemic has shattered the lives of husbands and wives, daughters, sons, granddaughters, grandsons, brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews who have lost loved ones to COVID–19.

It has also shattered the lives of those who have lost their jobs, their livelihoods, because of this disease.

Thirty-eight million Americans are now out of work. The unemployment rate is at the highest it has ever been since the Great Depression, and entire industries are on the verge of collapse.

Just 4 months ago, when the economy was booming, that was unthinkable.

Where did this pandemic start? In China. Whether it began at the Huanan wet market, a barbaric breeding ground for snakes and turtles and puppies and kittens and bats and other wildlife and farm animals are killed and sold, or whether it began due to substandard safety protocols at the Wuhan Institute of Virology, where coronavirus was being conducted and specifically coronavirus from bats, we don’t yet know.

Here is what we do know: Not only did the coronavirus outbreak start in China, the Chinese Communist Government did everything it could to cover up the severity of the outbreak, from lying about the origin of the virus to how it is transmitted, to destroying evidence, to silencing the brave whistleblowers, doctors and scientists and journalists and activists who tried to warn the world and prevent a global pandemic.

It has been reported recently that between January 1 and April 4, the Chinese Government charged 484 people with crimes because of comments they made about the coronavirus pandemic.

In Wuhan, eight doctors who sounded the alarm about coronavirus in December were accused of spreading lies, arrested, and documents claiming that they had made false statements that “disturbed the public order.”

In reality, they were telling the truth. They were warning us.

One of those doctors, Dr. Ai Fen, has been missing since late March. Another, Dr. Li Wenliang, has since died from the coronavirus. Dr. Li Wenliang’s wife was pregnant with the couple’s second child when he died.

And it is not just Chinese doctors who are paying the price for telling the truth; journalists and activists who courageously spoke up are disappearing too.

Xu Zhangrun, a Chinese law professor who spoke out about the Chinese Government’s handling of the coronavirus outbreak and criticized Chinese President Xi, has been missing since February.

Chen Quoshi, a Chinese lawyer and journalist who went to Wuhan to report on what was happening there, has been missing since February 6. Fang Bin, a Wuhan businessman and journalist who reported on who was dying in Wuhan, went missing for 28 days and then was allowed to appear in public only after he praised the government’s policy.

Ren Zhiqiang, a real estate tycoon, who had been publicly critical of President Xi’s handling of the coronavirus crisis, has been missing since March 12. And Xu Zhiyong, a civil rights lawyer and a legal scholar who criticized President Xi on social media for his handling of the coronavirus crisis, has been on house arrest since February 13.

If the Chinese Government had acted responsibly and sought the advice of public health professionals instead of silencing them, there is every real possibility the coronavirus could have been contained as a regional outbreak.

Instead, we are now dealing with a deadly global pandemic.

These brave men and women are just the latest targets of the Chinese Communist Government’s relentless attacks on truth-tellers, on freedom fighters, and on religious and ethnic minorities. The Chinese Government is a 1984-style dystopian state, and it has targeted and imprisoned millions of Uyghurs and other religious minorities. The Chinese Government is constantly tracking the movements of millions of people using cutting-edge biotechnology and artificial intelligence, and it has put more than a million Uyghurs, right now, into concentration camps.

In 2017, I led a bipartisan resolution in this body condemning the Chinese Communist Party’s persecution of religious minorities, particularly Buddhist Tibetans. Last year, I introduced legislation and urged the Trump administration to blacklist Chinese companies that are aiding the Chinese Government in targeting its persecuted minorities.

The administration implemented the recommendations in my legislation, and as a result those companies are now banned from acquiring American goods. That is a step in the right direction.

We have known that China’s surveillance state and censorship practices are a great threat to human rights, but what the pandemic has shown us is that China’s surveillance state and censorship is also a great threat to our national security and to public health.

Had those doctors, journalists, and activists who were trying to tell the
truth—desperately trying to warn the world—had they been allowed to speak, the coronavirus outbreak might have been stopped in its tracks. We may not have had to deal with this devastating pandemic that has claimed the lives and livelihoods of men and women all over the world.

That is why, today, I am introducing legislation to sanction Chinese officials who helped censor political speech or suppress the dissemination of medical information about China. This legislation would impose visa bans and asset blocks on those who punish or censor Chinese citizens for reporting accurate information about a disease or a pathogen and hopefully will help prevent something like this from ever happening again in China.

We need to be vigilant and to act where we can to thwart the Chinese Government’s attempts to twist the truth, to censor, and to silence within China, but we also need to be vigilant about the Chinese Government’s attempts to censor and silence elsewhere, including in our own Nation.

In the United States, the Chinese Government attempts to spread propaganda by two ways: by leveraging their enormous market access to coerce Americans into self-censorship, especially to Hollywood and sports teams that stand to make billions of dollars in China, and by simply purchasing access to our cultural and educational centers. Chinese officials have one objective: to shape what Americans see, hear, and ultimately think.

China has the world’s second largest film market, second only to the United States, and it does around $8 billion in box office revenues per year. The Chinese film market is comprised of Chinese films, but they also make sure to allow a few dozen American films into their market every year. The number is down, the market access is too small, and the money they pay from China. Chinese Government attempts to spread propaganda is by purchasing access to our cultural and educational centers. The Chinese Government spends billions of dollars to shape what the next generation of Americans know and think about China. They have a pervasive presence in our K-12 education and in our colleges and universities, especially through Confucius Institutes and by directly financing departments and centers.

In the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019, I authored bipartisan legislation prohibiting the Department of Defense from funding universities when the money could go to Confucius Institutes. As a result, over a dozen Confucius Institutes have closed.

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We need to stand up and deal directly with the threat China poses. China bears direct responsibility and direct culpability for the over 300,000 people who have died worldwide and for the trillions in economic livelihoods that have been destroyed.

Today, I introduce three pieces of legislation to directly address Chinese censorship and their responsibility for this pandemic, and we, as a body, as a bipartisan body, need to stand and stand strong protecting U.S. national security, protecting the lives of Americans, and ensuring accountability; that the Chinese Communist Party has accountability for their censorship, their hiding of the facts of this pandemic, and the lives that have been lost as a result of their coverup.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 3794. A bill to expedite transportation project delivery, facilitate infrastructure improvement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3794

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing Program”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

1. Short title; table of contents.
2. Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing Program.
3. Conforming amendments.
4. Transitional and savings provisions.

SEC. 2. RAILROAD REHABILITATION AND IMPROVEMENT FINANCING PROGRAM.

(a) AMENDMENT TO TITLE 49, UNITED STATES CODE.—Part B of subtitle V of title 49, United States Code, is amended by inserting after chapter 223 the following:

“CHAPTER 224—RAILROAD REHABILITATION AND IMPROVEMENT FINANCING PROGRAM

“§ 22401. Definitions.

“§ 22402. Direct loans and loan guarantees.

“§ 22403. Administration of direct loans and loan guarantees.

“§ 22404. Employee protection.

“§ 22405. Substantive criteria and standards.

“§ 22406. Funding.

“§ 22401. Definitions.

“In this chapter:

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘cost’ means the estimated long-term cost to the Government of a direct loan or loan guarantee, or modification of the direct loan or loan guarantee, calculated on a net present value basis, excluding administrative costs and any incidental effects on governmental receipts or outlays.

(B) COST OF DIRECT LOANS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The cost of a direct loan shall be the net present value, at the time when the direct loan is disbursed, of the following estimated cash flows:

(1) Loan disbursements.

(2) Repayments of principal.

(3) Payments of interest and other payments by or to the Government over the life of the loan.

(ii) CALCULATION.—Calculation of the cost of a direct loan shall include the effects of changes in loan terms resulting from the exercise by the borrower of an option included in the loan contract.

(C) COST OF LOAN GUARANTEE.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The cost of a loan guarantee shall be the net present value, at the time when the guaranteed loan is disbursed, of the following estimated cash flows:

(1) Payments by the Government to cover defaults and delinquencies, interest subsidies, or other payments.

(2) Payments to the Government, including origination and other fees, penalties, and recoveries.

(ii) CALCULATION.—Calculation of the cost of a loan guarantee shall include the effects of changes in loan terms resulting from the exercise by the guaranteed lender of an option included in the loan guarantee, or by the borrower of an option included in the guaranteed loan contract.

(D) COST OF MODIFICATION.—The cost of a modification is the difference between the current estimate of the net present value of the remaining cash flows of a direct loan or loan guarantee contract, and the current estimate of the net present value
of the remaining cash flows under the terms of the contract, as modified. 

“(E) ESTIMATION OF NET PRESENT VALUES; DISCOUNT RATE.—In estimating net present values, the discount rate shall be the interest rate on marketable Treasury securities of similar maturity to the cash flows of the direct loan or loan guarantee for which the estimated cost is being made.

“(F) ESTIMATED COST; BASIS.—When funds are obligated for a direct loan or loan guarantee, the estimated cost shall be based on the costs incurred or the expected cash flows. The amount of the estimated cost shall be the higher of the amount of the current estimate of the estimated cost of an outstanding direct loan or (direct loan obligation) or loan guarantee (or loan guarantee commitment), such as a change in collection procedures.

“(11) OPERATING INCOME.—Direct loans and loan guarantees under this section shall not be used for railroad operating expenses.

“(12) RAILROAD.—The Secretary may provide a direct loan or loan guarantee under this section for a project described in paragraph (1)(B) only during the 4-year period beginning December 4, 2015.

“(c) PRIORITY PROJECTS.—In granting applications for direct loans or guaranteed loans under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to projects that—

“(1) enhance public safety, including projects for the installation of a positive train control system (as defined in section 20157(i));

“(2) promote economic development;

“(3) enhance the environment;

“(4) enable United States companies to be more competitive in international markets;

“(5) are endorsed by the plans prepared under section 222 of this title or section 125 of title 23 of the United States Code in which the projects are located;

“(6) improve railroad stations and passenger facilities and increase transit-oriented development;

“(7) preserve or enhance rail or intermodal service to small communities or rural areas;

“(8) enhance service and capacity in the national rail system; or

“(9) would materially alleviate rail capacity problems that degrade the provision of service to shippers; and

“(B) A(l) would fulfill a need in the national transportation system.

“(D) EXTENT OF AUTHORITY.—(1) I NTERSTATE COMPACT ON BEHALF OF UNITED STATES GOVERNMENTS.—The aggregate unpaid principal amounts of obligations under direct loans and loan guarantees made under this section may not exceed $35,000,000,000 at any time.

“(2) MINIMUM AMOUNT FOR FREIGHT RAILROADS.—Of the amount under paragraph (1), not less than $7,000,000,000 shall be available solely for projects primarily benefitting freight railroads other than Class I carriers.

“(3) PROPORTION OF UNUSED AMOUNT.—The Secretary shall not exceed on the proportion of the unused amount authorized under this subsection that may be used for 1 loan or loan guarantee.

“(4) RATES OF INTEREST.—(1) DIRECT LOANS.—The rate on a direct loan under this section shall be not less than the yield on United States Treasury securities of a similar maturity to the maturity of the secured loan on the date of execution of the loan agreement.

“(2) LOAN GUARANTEES.—The Secretary shall not make a loan guarantee under this section if the interest rate for the loan exceeds that which the Secretary determines to be reasonable, taking into account the prevailing interest rates and customary fees incurred under similar obligations in the private capital market.

“(E) INFRASTRUCTURE PARTNERS.—

“(1) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In lieu of or in combination with appropriations of budget authority to cover the costs of direct loans and loan guarantees as required under section 506(b)(1) of the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 (2 U.S.C. 661(c)(1)), including the cost of a modification of a direct loan or loan guarantee, the Secretary may accept on behalf of an applicant for assistance under this section a commitment from the applicant for a non-Federal entity, including a State government or agency, or public benefit corporation or public authority of a State or local
government, to fund, in whole or in part, credit risk premiums and modification costs with respect to the loan that is the subject of the application or modification.

(2) Credit Risk Premium Amount.—The Secretary shall determine the amount required to pay the credit risk premium described in subsection (a) on the basis of—

(A) the circumstances of the applicant, including the amount of collateral offered, if any;

(B) the proposed schedule of loan disbursements;

(C) historical data on the repayment history of similar borrowers;

(D) consultation with the Congressional Budget Office; and

(E) any other factors the Secretary considers relevant.

(3) Creditworthiness.—Upon receipt of a proposal from an applicant for assistance under this section, the Secretary shall, unless the total amount of the direct loan or loan guarantee is greater than $150,000,000, in consultation with the Office of Management and Budget, determine whether the Secretary has approved or disapproved the application.

(4) Investment-grade Rating.—The Secretary shall not make a direct loan or loan guarantee under this section unless the Secretary has made a written finding that—

(i) a projection of freight or passenger services that the facilities or equipment to be acquired, rehabilitated, improved, or established with the proceeds of the direct loan or loan guarantee is consistent with the purposes stated in subsection (b).

(ii) the estimated useful life of the rail facilities with estimated useful lives that exceed the term described in subparagraph (A).

(B) the approximate completion of the project; or

(C) in the case of a blanket pledge or assumption of liabilities, the average useful lives of the facilities or equipment to be acquired, rehabilitated, improved, or established with the proceeds of the direct loan or loan guarantee, including intangible assets as collateral, except as a basis for determining the amount of the credit risk premium under paragraph (2), in addition to the value of any collateral described in paragraph (5), any of the following:

(A) The net present value of a future stream of earnings from the State or local subsidy income or other dedicated revenues to secure the direct loan or loan guarantee.

(B) Adequate coverage requirements to ensure repayment, on a nonrecourse basis, from cash flows generated by the project or any other dedicated revenue source, including:

(i) tolls; and

(ii) user fees, including operating or tenant charges, facility rents, or other fees paid by transportation service providers or operators for access to, or the use of, infrastructure, including rail lines, bridges, tunnels, yards, or stations; and

(iii) payments owing to the obligor under a public-private partnership.

(C) An investment-grade rating on the direct loan or loan guarantee, as applicable, unless the total amount of the direct loan or loan guarantee is greater than $50,000,000, in which case the applicant shall have an investment-grade rating from not fewer than 2 rating agencies regarding the direct loan or loan guarantee.

(D) A projection of freight or passenger demand for the project based on regionally developed dynamic economic forecasts, including projections of any modal diversion resulting from the project.

(E) Payment of Premiums.—Credit risk premiums under this subsection shall be paid to the Secretary before the disbursement of loan amounts (and in the case of a modification, before the modification is executed), to the extent they are not already paid to the Secretary to meet the costs of direct loans and loan guarantees, including costs of modifications of direct loans and loan guarantees.

(5) Collateral.—

(A) Types of Collateral.—An applicant or infrastructure partner may propose tangible and intangible assets as collateral, exclusive of goodwill. The Secretary, after evaluating each such asset—

(i) shall accept a net liquidation value of collateral; and

(ii) shall consider and may accept—

(I) the market value of collateral; or

(ii) in the case of a blanket pledge or assumption of liabilities, the average useful lives of the collateral asset or assets, of the net liquidation value, the market value of assets, or, the market value of the going concern, concerning—

(aa) inclusion in the pledge of all the assets necessary for independent operational viability of the applicant, including tangible assets such as real property, track and structure, equipment and rolling stock, stations, systems and maintenance facilities and intangible assets such as rights to enter into long-term shipping agreements, easements, leases and access rights such as for trackage and haulage;

(bb) interchange commitments; and

(cc) the value of the asset as determined through the cost or market approaches, or the market value of the going concern, with the latter considering discounted cash flows for a period of not less than the term of the direct loan or loan guarantee.

(B) Appraisal Standards.—In evaluating appraisals of collateral under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall consider—

(i) adherence to the substance and principles of the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice, as developed by the Appraisal Standards Board of the Appraisal Foundation;

(ii) performance of the appraisal by licensed or certified appraisers as may be required by the kind of asset being appraised; and

(iii) the qualifications of the appraisers to value the type of collateral offered.

(C) Required Appraisals.—The Secretary shall not make a direct loan or loan guarantee under this section unless the Secretary has made a written finding that—

(i) a written appraisal is required to be made within a term of the lesser of—

(A) 5 years after the date of substantial completion of the project; or

(B) with regard to rail equipment or facilities with estimated useful lives that exceed the term described in subparagraph (A) —

(i) 50 years after the date of substantial completion of the project; or

(ii) the estimated useful life of the rail equipment or facilities to be acquired, rehabilitated, improved, developed, or established, subject to an adequate determination of long-term risk.

(ii) performance of the appraisal by listed appraisers having skills and experience appropriate to the kind of asset being appraised, including railroad appraisers with knowledge of railroad operations, regulatory and economic analyses, how market conditions affect the value of the assets, and the value of the going concern, and

(ii) the ability of the applicant, railroad, or railroad partner to provide rail or intermodal services in an efficient and economic manner; or

(ii) would adversely affect the ability of the applicant, railroad, or railroad partner to perform any obligation entered into by the applicant under this section; and

(C) User Fees.—In determining the amount of capital resources, maintain its capital program, equipment, facilities, and operations on a continuing basis; and

(ii) will not make any discretionary dividend payments that unreasonably conflict with the purposes stated in subsection (b).

(2) Collateral and Request for Assistance from Another Source Not Required.—

(A) Collateral.—

(i) in general.—The Secretary shall not require an applicant for a direct loan or loan guarantee under this section to provide collateral.

(ii) Valuation.—Any collateral provided on behalf of another source shall have an in

valuation-grade rating from not fewer than 2 rating agencies.

(B) Request for Assistance from Another Source.—The Secretary shall not require an applicant for a direct loan or loan guarantee under this section to provide collateral.

(3) Required Compliance.—The Secretary shall require recipients of direct loans or loan guarantees under this section to comply with—

(A) the standards of section 24312, as in effect on September 1, 2002, with respect to the project in the same manner that Amtrak is required to comply with the standards for construction work financed under an agreement made under section 24308(a); and

(B) the protective arrangements established under section 22404, with respect to employees affected by actions taken in connection with the project to be financed by the direct loan or loan guarantee.

(4) Matching Funds.—The Secretary shall require each recipient of a direct loan or loan guarantee under this section, for a project described in subsection (b)(1)(E), to provide a non-Federal match of not less than 25 percent of the total amount expended by the recipient for the project.

(i) Application Processing Procedures.—

(A) Application Status Notices.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Secretary receives an application under this section, or additional information and material under paragraph (2)(B), the Secretary shall provide the applicant written notice as to whether the application is complete or incomplete.

(B) Incomplete Applications.—If the Secretary determines that an application is incomplete, the Secretary shall—

(i) provide the applicant with a description of all of the specific information or material that is needed to complete the application, including any information required by any independent financing source; and

(ii) allow the applicant to resubmit the application with the information and material described under paragraph (A) to complete the application.

(2) Application Approvals and Disapprovals.—

(A) in general.—Not later than 45 days after the date on which the Secretary notifies an applicant that an application is complete under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall provide the applicant written notice as to whether the Secretary has approved or disapproved the application.

(B) Actions by the Office of Management and Budget.—In order to enable completion of the project in the same manner that Amtrak is required to complete the project, if applicable.
respect to the application within that 60-day period.

(4) STREAMLINED APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS.

(A) IN GENERAL.—Consistent with section 116, and not later than 180 days after date of the enactment of the Railroad Rehabilitation and Financing Innovation Act, the Secretary shall make available an expedited application process or processes at the request of applicants seeking loans or loan guarantees.

(B) CRITERIA.—Applicants seeking loans and loan guarantees issued under this subsection shall—

(i) provide a total loan or loan guarantee value not exceeding $100,000,000;

(ii) meet eligible project purposes included in subparagraphs (A)(i), (A)(ii), and (B) of subsection (b)(1); and

(iii) meet other criteria considered appropriate by the Secretary, in consultation with the Department of Transportation on Credit and Finance.

(C) EXPEDITED CREDIT REVIEW.—The total time between the submission of a draft application and the approval or disapproval of a loan guarantee for an applicant under this subsection shall not exceed 90 days. If an application review conducted under this paragraph exceeds 90 days, the Secretary shall—

(i) provide written notice to the applicant, including a justification for the delay and updated estimate of the time needed for approval; and

(ii) publish the notice on the dashboard described in paragraph (5).

(D) DASHBOARD.—The Secretary shall post, on the Department of Transportation’s internet website, a monthly report that includes, for each application—

(A) the application type;

(B) the location of the project;

(C) a brief description of the project, including its purpose; and

(D) the requested direct loan or loan guarantee amount.

(E) the date on which the Secretary provided application status notice under paragraph (1);

(F) the date on which the Secretary provided notice of approval or disapproval under paragraph (3)(B)(i).

(G) whether the project utilized the expedited application process under paragraph (4).

(6) REGULAR CREDITWORTHINESS REVIEW STATUS REPORTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide to the applicant a regular report containing information related to the application for a loan or loan guarantee, including—

(i) a summary of the proposed transaction, including—

(I) the total value of the proposed loan or loan guarantee;

(II) the name of the applicant or applicants submitting an application;

(III) a description of the capital structure of the project to which the loan or loan guarantee would be applied, including the proposed Federal and non-Federal shares of the total project cost;

(IV) the type of activity to receive credit assistance, including whether the project—

(aa) is new construction or rehabilitation of existing rail equipment or facilities;

(bb) is refinancing an existing loan or loan guarantee; and

(V) if a deferred payment is proposed, the length of such deferment;

(VI) the credit rating or ratings provided for the applicant;

(VII) if other credit instruments are involved, the terms and conditions of credit agreement and a description of such other credit instruments;

(VIII) a schedule for the readiness of proposed investments for financing;

(IX) a description of any Federal permits required, including under the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and any waivers under section 323(c) of title 49, United States Code (commonly referred to as the ‘‘Buy America Act’’); and

(X) whether the proposed activity is intended to be financed, borrower, key agreements, or the nature of the credit that the Secretary considers to be fundamental to the creditworthiness review.

(B) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit the report described in subparagraph (A) not less frequently than every 45 days after the date on which the Secretary presents the first request to the applicant for funding to pay fees for advisors described in subparagraph (A)(iii).

(C) EXCEPTION.—The report required under this paragraph shall not be applied to applications processed using the expedited credit review process under paragraph (5)(B).

(2) ACCRUAL.—Interest shall accrue as of the date of disbursement, and shall be amortized over the remaining term of the loan, beginning at the time the payments begin.

(3) DEFERRED PAYMENTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If, at any time the date of substantial completion, the obligor is unable to pay the scheduled loan repayments of principal and interest on a direct loan provided under this section, the Secretary, subject to subparagraph (B), may, for a maximum aggregate term of 1 year over the duration of the loan, delay the obligation to add unpaid principal and interest to the outstanding balance of the direct loan.

(B) INTEREST.—A payment deferred under subparagraph (A) shall—

(i) continue to accrue interest under paragraph (2) until the loan is fully repaid; and

(ii) be scheduled to be amortized over the remaining term of the loan.

(4) PREPAYMENTS.—

(A) USE OF EXCESS REVENUES.—With respect to a direct loan provided by the Secretary under this section, any excess revenues that remain after satisfying scheduled debt service requirements on the project obligations and direct loan and all deposit requirements under the terms of any trust agreement, bond resolution, or similar agreement securing project obligations may be applied annually to prepay the direct loan without penalty.

(B) USE OF PROCEEDS OF REFINANCING.—The direct loan may be prepaid at any time without penalty from the proceeds of refinancing from non-Federal funding sources.

(5) SALE OF DIRECT LOANS.

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2) and the general terms and conditions of any Federal and non-Federal share as required by paragraph (3), the Secretary may sell the obligation, or a portion thereof, to another entity as collateral in the capital markets or to the Federal Government.

(B) USE OF PROCEEDS OF REFINANCING.—The proceeds of refinancing from non-Federal funding sources shall be applied annually to prepay the direct loan without penalty.

(6) REGULAR CREDITWORTHINESS REVIEW.

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, after notifying the obligor, may sell to another entity or reoffer into the capital markets a direct loan for the project if the Secretary determines that the sale or reoffering has a high probability of being made on favorable terms.

(B) USE OF PROCEEDS OF REFINANCING.—The proceeds of refinancing from non-Federal funding sources shall be applied annually to prepay the direct loan without penalty.

(C) USE OF PROCEEDS OF REFINANCING.—The proceeds of refinancing from non-Federal funding sources shall be applied annually to prepay the direct loan without penalty.

(D) USE OF PROCEEDS OF REFINANCING.—The proceeds of refinancing from non-Federal funding sources shall be applied annually to prepay the direct loan without penalty.

(E) USE OF PROCEEDS OF REFINANCING.—The proceeds of refinancing from non-Federal funding sources shall be applied annually to prepay the direct loan without penalty.

(F) USE OF PROCEEDS OF REFINANCING.—The proceeds of refinancing from non-Federal funding sources shall be applied annually to prepay the direct loan without penalty.

(G) USE OF PROCEEDS OF REFINANCING.—The proceeds of refinancing from non-Federal funding sources shall be applied annually to prepay the direct loan without penalty.

(7) WITHHOLDING OF LOAN PROCEEDS.

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2) and the general terms and conditions of any Federal and non-Federal share as required by paragraph (3), the Secretary may withhold the payment of any principal or interest payment from the proceeds of refinancing from non-Federal funding sources.

(B) USE OF PROCEEDS OF REFINANCING.—The proceeds of refinancing from non-Federal funding sources shall be applied annually to prepay the direct loan without penalty.

(C) USE OF PROCEEDS OF REFINANCING.—The proceeds of refinancing from non-Federal funding sources shall be applied annually to prepay the direct loan without penalty.

(D) USE OF PROCEEDS OF REFINANCING.—The proceeds of refinancing from non-Federal funding sources shall be applied annually to prepay the direct loan without penalty.

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(G) USE OF PROCEEDS OF REFINANCING.—The proceeds of refinancing from non-Federal funding sources shall be applied annually to prepay the direct loan without penalty.

(8) WITHHOLDING OF LOAN PROCEEDS.

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2) and the general terms and conditions of any Federal and non-Federal share as required by paragraph (3), the Secretary may withhold the payment of any principal or interest payment from the proceeds of refinancing from non-Federal funding sources.

(B) USE OF PROCEEDS OF REFINANCING.—The proceeds of refinancing from non-Federal funding sources shall be applied annually to prepay the direct loan without penalty.

(C) USE OF PROCEEDS OF REFINANCING.—The proceeds of refinancing from non-Federal funding sources shall be applied annually to prepay the direct loan without penalty.

(D) USE OF PROCEEDS OF REFINANCING.—The proceeds of refinancing from non-Federal funding sources shall be applied annually to prepay the direct loan without penalty.

(E) USE OF PROCEEDS OF REFINANCING.—The proceeds of refinancing from non-Federal funding sources shall be applied annually to prepay the direct loan without penalty.

(F) USE OF PROCEEDS OF REFINANCING.—The proceeds of refinancing from non-Federal funding sources shall be applied annually to prepay the direct loan without penalty.

(G) USE OF PROCEEDS OF REFINANCING.—The proceeds of refinancing from non-Federal funding sources shall be applied annually to prepay the direct loan without penalty.
"(a) Payment to obligor.—If the Secretary receives a sale or other disposition of the property described in paragraph (3), an excess amount described in subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall pay to the obligor the excess amount.

(2) Inclusions.—Such arrangements shall include such provisions as may be necessary to—

(A) if a payment of principal or interest under the loan is in default for more than 30 days, pay to the holder of the obligation, or the holder’s agent, the amount of unpaid guaranteed interest;

(B) if the default has continued for more than 90 days, the Secretary shall pay to the holder of the obligation, or the holder’s agent, 90 percent of the unpaid guaranteed principal amount of the loan guarantee.

(2) DEFAULT.—The Secretary shall prescribe regulations setting forth procedures in the event of default on a loan made or guaranteed under section 22402.

(3) PROPERTY AS SATISFACTION OF SUMS OWE.—The holder of a guarantee shall have the right to substitute, in whole or in part, subject to such requirements as the Secretary may prescribe, any property or other interests obtained pursuant to this section, the Secretary shall be valid and incontestable in the hands of the holder of the obligation; and

(m) FEES AND CHARGES.—Except as provided in this chapter, the Secretary may prescribe fees and charges in connection with a direct loan or loan guarantee provided under this section.

(n) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall prescribe regulations setting forth procedures in the event of default on a loan made or guaranteed under section 22402.

(o) INCLUSIONS.—Such arrangements shall include such provisions as may be necessary to—

(1) COMMERCIAL VALIDITY.—For purposes of claims by any party other than the Secretary, a loan guarantee or loan guarantee commitment shall be conclusive evidence that the underlying obligation is in compliance with the provisions of this chapter, and that the obligation has been approved and is legal as to principal, interest, and other terms.

(2) CONSENT.—No attachment or execution shall be issued against the property of an obligor or any other person to the payment of a charge or fee.

(3) FEES.—A service fee paid to the Secretary under subsection (A) shall be the full fee for the services provided.

(4) PLACEMENT.—The Secretary shall prescribe, to the extent necessary, regulations and findings;

(5) AMOUNT.—An excess amount under subparagraph (A) shall be determined by the execution of an agreement by the Secretary under section 22402.

(6) PROPERTY.—In the absence of an executed agreement under paragraph (2), the Secretary may prescribe such arrangements not later than July 4, 1976.

(7) RECORDS AND EVIDENCE.—The holder of a guarantee shall make available to the Secretary all records and evidence necessary to prove the amount paid to the holder under this section.

(8) COSTS.—The Secretary may pay for the costs described in this subsection based on the different costs incurred under paragraph (1).

(9) SUBROGATION.—If the Secretary makes a loan or loan guarantee under this chapter, the Secretary shall be subrogated to all of the rights of the holder with respect to the obligor under the loan.

(10) SUBROGATION.—If the Secretary makes a loan or loan guarantee under this chapter, the Secretary shall be subrogated to all of the rights of the holder with respect to the obligor under the loan.

(11) ACTION AGAINST OBLIGOR.—The Secretary may bring a civil action in an appropriate Federal court in the name of the United States or in the name of the holder of the obligation in the event of a default on a direct loan made under section 22402 or in the name of the United States or of the holder of the obligation in the event of a default on a loan guaranteed under section 22402.

(12) RECORDS AND EVIDENCE.—The holder of a guarantee shall have the right to substitute, in whole or in part, subject to such requirements as the Secretary may prescribe, any property or other interests obtained pursuant to this section, in the event of a default on a direct loan or loan guarantee under this chapter.

(13) CHARGES AND LOAN SERVICING.—The Secretary shall prescribe the applicable protective arrangements not later than July 4, 1976.

(14) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may prescribe the applicable protective arrangements not later than July 4, 1976.

(15) FEES.—A service fee paid to the Secretary under paragraph (A) shall be the full fee for the services provided.
for the negotiation and execution of agreements as to the manner in which the protective arrangements shall be applied, including notice requirements.


Schedule of Laws Repealed—Continued

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By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mr. Young):

S. 3832. A bill to establish a new Directorate for Technology in the redesignated National Science and Technology Foundation, to establish a regional technology hub program, to require a strategy and report on economic security, science, research, and innovation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.

S. 3832

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Endless Frontier Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) For over 70 years, the United States has been the unequivocal leader in scientific and technological innovation, and as a result the people of the United States have benefitted through good-paying jobs, economic prosperity, and a higher quality of life. Today, however, this leadership position is being eroded and challenged by foreign competitors, some of whom are stealing intellectual property and trade secrets of the United States, some of whom are stealing intellectual property and trade secrets of the United States, and aggressively investing in research, education, technology transfer, and the core strengths of the United States innovation ecosystem, it is the United States leads the industries of the future. While the United States once led the world in the share of our economy invested in research, our Nation now ranks 9th globally in total research and development and 12th in publicly financed research and development.

(1) Without a significant increase in investment in research, education, technology transfer, and the core strengths of the United States innovation ecosystem, it is only a matter of time before the global competitors of the United States overtake the United States in terms of technological primacy. The country that wins the race in key technologies—such as artificial intelligence, quantum computing, advanced communications, and advanced manufacturing—will be the superpower of the future.

(3) The Federal Government must catalyze United States innovation by investing in fundamental research and commercialization to dominate the key technology fields of the future. While the United States once led the world in the share of our economy invested in research, our Nation now ranks 9th globally in total research and development and 12th in publicly financed research and development.

(4) The distribution of innovation jobs and investment in the United States has become largely concentrated in just a few locations, while much of the Nation has been left out of growth in the innovation sector. More than 90 percent of the Nation’s innovation sector employment growth in the last 15 years was generated in just 5 major cities. The Federal Government must address this imbalance in opportunity by partnering with the private sector to build new technology hubs across the country, spreading innovation sector jobs more broadly, and tapping the talent and potential of the entire Nation to ensure the United States leads the industries of the future.

(5) Since its inception, the National Science Foundation has carried out vital work supporting basic research and people to create knowledge that is a primary driver of the economy of the United States and enhances the Nation’s security.

SEC. 3. NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOUNDATION.

(a) REDESIGNATION OF NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION AS NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOUNDATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 2 of the Act of May 10, 1950 (64 Stat. 149, chapter 171; 42 U.S.C. 1861) is amended—

(A) by striking “and in accordance with the expedited procedures established under S. Res. 116 (112th Congress) after “the Senate”’; and

(B) by striking “2 Deputy Directors” and inserting “2 Deputy Directors”;

(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR TECHNOLOGY.—Section 6 of the Act of May 10, 1950 (64 Stat. 149, chapter 171; 42 U.S.C. 1864a) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking “and Technology” after “Science” and inserting “and Technology” after “the National Science and Technology Foundation”;

(2) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any law, rule, regulation, certificate, directive, instruction, or other official paper in force on the date of enactment of this Act to the National Science Foundation shall be considered to refer and apply to the National Science and Technology Foundation.

(c) ESTABLISHMENT OF DIRECTORATE FOR TECHNOLOGY.—The Act of May 10, 1950 (64 Stat. 149, chapter 171; 42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 8 (42 U.S.C. 1866), by inserting at the end the following: “Such divisions shall include the Directorate for Technology established under section 8A.”; and

(2) by inserting after section 8 the following:

“SEC. 8A. DIRECTORATE FOR TECHNOLOGY.

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:
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(v) administer prize challenges under section 24 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3719) in the key technology focus areas, in order to expand high-potential partnerships beyond direct research funding; and

(vi) enter into and perform such contracts, including cooperative research and development agreements and grants and cooperative agreements or other transactions, as may be necessary in the conduct of the work of the Directorate and on such terms as the Deputy Director considers appropriate, in furtherance of the purposes of this Act.

(B) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the establishment of the Endless Frontier Act, the Director shall prepare and submit to the relevant congressional committees a spending plan for the next 5 years for each of the activities described in subparagraph (A), including—

(i) a plan to seek out additional investments from—

(1) certain designated countries; and

(2) if appropriate, private sector entities; and

(ii) the planned activities of the Directorate to secure federally funded science and technology programs from—

(I) certain designated countries; and

(II) if appropriate, private sector entities;

(iii) a plan to seek out additional investment under—

(aa) for the costs of equipment, including mid-tier infrastructure, and the purchase of cyberinfrastructure resources, including computer time; or

(bb) for other activities or costs necessary to accomplish the purposes of this section.

(C) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—The Director shall—

(i) in general.—From amounts made available to the Directorate, the Director shall, through a competitive application and selection process, award grants or cooperative agreements with institutions of higher education or consortia described in paragraph (3)(A)(i)(III) to establish university technology centers.

(ii) USE OF FUNDS.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—A center established under a grant or cooperative agreement under subparagraph (A) shall use support provided under such subparagraph—

(aa) to carry out fundamental research to advance innovation in the key technology focus areas;

(bb) to further the development of innovations in the key technology focus areas, including—

(1) innovations derived from research carried out under item (aa), through such activities as proof-of-concept development and prototyping, in order to reduce the cost, time, and risk of commercializing new technologies; and

(2) through the use of public-private partnerships; and

(ii) may use support provided under such subparagraph—

(aa) for the costs of equipment, including mid-tier infrastructure, and the purchase of cyberinfrastructure resources, including computer time; or

(bb) for other activities or costs necessary to accomplish the purposes of this section.

(iii) the expected schedule for completing the work described in subsection (b)(1).

(ii) SUPPORT OF REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY HUBS.—Each center established under subparagraph (A) may support and participate in, as appropriate, the activities of any regional technology hub designated under section 27(d) of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3722(d)).

(iii) REQUIREMENTS.—The Director shall ensure that any institution of higher education or consortium receiving a grant or cooperative agreement under subparagraph (A) has demonstrated an ability to advance the goals described in subsection (b)(1).

(7) MOVING TECHNOLOGY FROM LABORATORY TO MARKET.—

(A) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Director shall establish a program in the Directorate to award grants, on a competitive basis, to institutions of higher education or consortia described in paragraph (3)(A)(i)(III) to establish test beds and fabrication facilities to advance the operation, integration and, as appropriate, manufacturing and commercialization of innovative technologies in the key technology focus areas, which may include hardware or software. The goal of such test beds and facilities shall be to accelerate the movement of innovative technologies into the commercial market through existing and new companies.

(B) PROPOSALS.—A proposal submitted under this paragraph shall—

(i) carry out this section, the Director and the Counterintelligence and Security Center relevant to the focus area, including—

(1) the steps the applicant will take to reduce the risks for commercialization for new technologies;

(ii) why such steps are likely to be effective; and

(iii) how such steps differ from previous efforts to reduce the risks for commercialization for new technologies.

(C) USE OF FUNDS.—A recipient of a grant under this paragraph is encouraged to use grant funds to reduce the risks for commercialization for new technologies developed on campus, which may include—

(i) creating and funding competitions to allow entrepreneurial ideas from institutions of higher education to illustrate their commercialization potential;

(ii) facilitating linkages between local and national business leaders and potential entrepreneurs to encourage successful commercialization;

(iii) providing funding for-profit or not-for-profit entities that could enable researchers at institutions of higher education to further develop new technology prior to seeking commercial financing, through patient funding, advice, staff support, or other means;

(iv) providing off-campus facilities for start-up companies where technology maturation could occur;

(v) revising institution policies to accomplish the goals of this paragraph.

(D) REQUIREMENTS.—As a condition of receiving a grant under this paragraph—

(i) the 1 or more technologies that will be the focus of the test bed or fabrication facility shall be—

(I) the goals of the work to be done at the test bed or facility; and

(II) the expected schedule for completing that work;

(ii) how the applicant will assemble a workforce with the skills needed to operate the test bed or facility;

(iii) how the applicant will ensure that work in the test bed or facility will contribute to the commercial viability of any technologies, which may include collaboration and funding from industry partners;

(iv) how the applicant will encourage the participation of entrepreneurs and the development of new businesses; and

(v) how the test bed or facility will operate after Federal funding has ended.

(E) AWARDS.—Grants made under this paragraph—

(i) shall be for 5 years, with the possibility of 3-year extension; and

(ii) may be used for the purchase of equipment, the support of graduate students and postdoctoral researchers, and the salaries of staff.

(F) REQUIREMENTS.—As a condition of receiving a grant under this paragraph, an institution of higher education or consortium shall—

(i) publish and share with the public the results of the work conducted under this paragraph.

(G) UNIVERSITY TECHNOLOGY CENTERS.—
“(9) INAPPLICABILITY.—Section 5(e)(1) shall not apply to grants, contracts, or other arrangements made under this section.

“(d) BOARD OF ADVISORS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established in the Foundation a Board of Advisors for the Directorate (referred to in this section as the ‘Board of Advisors’), which shall provide advice to the Deputy Director pursuant to this subsection.

“(2) MEMBERSHIP.—

“(A) COMPOSITION.—The Board of Advisors shall be comprised of 12 members representing scientific leaders and experts from industry and academia, of whom—

“(i) 2 shall be appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

“(ii) 2 shall be appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

“(iii) 2 shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

“(iv) 2 shall be appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives; and

“(v) 4 shall be appointed by the Director.

“(B) OPPORTUNITY FOR INPUT.—Before appointing any member under subparagraph (A), the appointing authority shall provide an opportunity for the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine and other entities to provide advice regarding potential appointees.

“(C) QUALIFICATIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Each member appointed under subparagraph (A) shall—

“(i) have extensive experience in a field related to the work of the Directorate or other expertise relevant to developing technology roadmaps; and

“(ii) have, or be able to obtain within a reasonable period of time, a security clearance appropriate for the work of the Board of Advisors.

“(2) EXPEDITED SECURITY CLEARANCES.—The process of obtaining a security clearance under clause (i)(II) may be expedited by the head of the appropriate Federal agency to enable the Board to receive classified briefings on the current and future technological capacity of other nations, and on the military implications of civilian technologies.

“(D) DATE.—The appointments of the members of the Board of Advisors shall be made not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of the Endless Frontier Act.

“(3) PERIOD OF APPOINTMENT; VACANCIES.—

“(A) COMPOSITION.—The Board of Advisors shall be appointed for a 3-year term, but may hold their appointments for an additional term.

“(B) ADDITIONAL MEETINGS.—After the first meeting of the Board of Advisors, the Board of Advisors shall meet at least once every 180 days for the duration of the Board of Advisors.

“(C) MEETING WITH THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION.—The Board of Advisors shall hold a joint meeting with the National Science Foundation Board on at least an annual basis, on a date mutually selected by the chairperson of the Board of Advisors and the Chair of the National Science Board.

“(D) QUORUM.—A majority of the members of the Board of Advisors shall constitute a quorum, but a lesser number of members may meet or hold a meeting for the purpose of preparing an agenda for a meeting of the Board of Advisors.

“(E) DUTIES OF BOARD OF ADVISORS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Board of Advisors shall provide advice to—

“(i) to the Director on programs that could best be carried out to accomplish the purposes of this section;

“(ii) to the Deputy Director to inform the reviews of key technology focus areas required under subsection (c)(2)(B); and

“(iii) on other issues relating to the purposes and responsibilities of the Directorate, as requested by the Deputy Director.

“(B) NO ROLE IN AWARDING GRANTS, CONTRACTS, OR COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Board of Advisors shall not provide advice on or otherwise help determine what entities shall receive grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements under this Act.

“(C) ADVISORY BOARD.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Each Federal department or agency shall, in accordance with applicable procedures for the handling of classified information, provide reasonable access to documents, statistical data, and other such information that the Deputy Director, in consultation with the chairperson of the Board of Advisors, determines necessary to carry out the functions of the Board of Advisors under paragraph (6).

“(B) INFORMATION FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Each Federal department or agency shall, in accordance with applicable procedures for the handling of classified information, provide reasonable access to documents, statistical data, and other such information described in clause (i), that is under the control of such agency.

“(2) FINANCIAL INFORMATION.—Each member of the Board of Advisors shall be required to file a financial disclosure report under title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, except that such reports shall be held confidential and exempt from any law otherwise requiring their public disclosure.

“(B) BOARD OF ADVISORS PERSONNEL AND OPERATIONS.—

“(A) COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A member of the Board of Advisors shall be compensated at a rate not less than 15 percent of the annual rate of basic pay prescribed for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5131 of title 5, United States Code, while away from home or regular places of business in the performance of services for the Board of Advisors.

“(2) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—A member of the Board of Advisors shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsist-
(C) $20,000,000,000 is authorized for fiscal year 2023; (D) $35,000,000,000 is authorized for fiscal year 2024; and (E) $45,000,000,000 is authorized for fiscal year 2025.

(2) Appropriations limitations.—

(A) Hold harmless.—No funds shall be appropriated to the Director or transferred to any other directorate or office of the Foundation to provide direct financial investment to commercialize technology.’’. 

(2) HOLD HARMLESS.—No funds shall be appropriated to the Director or transferred to any other directorate or office of the Foundation to provide direct financial investment to commercialize technology.’’. 

(3) Definition of and grants in support of regional technology hubs.—

(a) In general.—As part of the program established under subsection (b), the Secretary shall carry out a program—

1. Designation of and grants in support of regional technology hubs.—

(A) In general.—As part of the program established under subsection (b), the Secretary shall carry out a program—

(i) designating eligible consortia as regional technology hubs that create the conditions, within a region, to facilitate activities that—

(ii) create United States leadership in a key technology focus area, complementing the Federal investments under section 8A of the Act of May 10, 1950 (64 Stat. 149, chapter 171; 42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.); and

(iii) support regional economic development that diffuses innovation capacity around the United States, enabling better broad-based growth and competitiveness in key technology focus areas; and

(B) Eligible consortia.—For purposes of this section, an eligible consortium is a consortium that—

1. Includes—

(i) an institution of higher education; (ii) a local government or other political subdivision of a State; (iii) a government of a State or the economic development representative of a State; and (iv) an economic development organization or similar entity that is focused primarily on improving science, technology, innovation, or entrepreneurship; and

2. May include—

(i) nonprofit entities with relevant expertise; (ii) venture development organizations; (iii) financial institutions; (iv) educational institutions, including career and technical education schools; (v) workforce training organizations; (vi) independent laboratories; and (vii) firms in the key technology focus areas; (viii) Federal laboratories; (ix) institutions defined in section 25(a) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278aa); (X) Manufacturing USA institutes (as described in section 34(d) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278d)); and (XI) institutions receiving an award under paragraph (b) of section 8A(c) of the Act of May 10, 1950 (64 Stat. 149, chapter 171; 42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.).

3. The Secretary shall ensure that—

(A) each submission by a consortium for designation as a regional technology hub includes a description of the activities that will be supported by the grant to achieve the goals of the grant.

(B) the grant funds are used to support the activities described in paragraph (3)(A) and are consistent with the terms and conditions of the grant.

(C) Geographic distribution.—In conducting the competitive process under subsection (a), the Secretary shall ensure that grants are awarded to eligible consortia on the basis of geographic distribution in the designation of regional technology hubs—

1. Aiming to designate regional technology hubs in as many regions of the United States as possible; and

2. Focusing on localities that have clear potential and relevant assets for developing a key technology focus area but have not yet become leading technology centers.

(D) Grants.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make grants to eligible consortia to support the activities described in paragraph (3)(A) for the purposes of—

1. Creating and funding competitions to support regional economic development that diffuses innovation capacity around the United States, enabling better broad-based growth and competitiveness in key technology focus areas; and

2. Supporting regional economic development that diffuses innovation capacity around the United States, enabling better broad-based growth and competitiveness in key technology focus areas; and

(B) TERM.—Each grant awarded under subparagraph (A) shall be for a period of 5 years, but may be renewed once for an additional period of 5 years.

(C) Matching required.—The total Federal financial assistance awarded in a given year to an eligible consortium in support of the eligible consortium’s operation as a regional technology hub under this subsection shall not exceed amounts as follows:

1. In fiscal year 2021, 90 percent of the total funding of the regional technology hub in that fiscal year.

2. In fiscal year 2022, 85 percent of the total funding of the regional technology hub in that fiscal year.

3. In fiscal year 2023, 80 percent of the total funding of the regional technology hub in that fiscal year.

4. In fiscal year 2024 and in each fiscal year thereafter, 75 percent of the total funding of the regional technology hub in that fiscal year.

(D) Use of grant funds.—The recipient of a grant awarded under subparagraph (A) shall use the grant for multiple activities determined appropriate by the Secretary, including—

1. The permissible activities set forth under subsection (c)(2); and

2. Activities in support of key technology focus areas—

1. To develop the region’s skilled workforce through the training and retraining of workers and alignment of career technical training and educational programs in the region’s elementary and secondary schools and institutions of higher education;

2. To develop regional strategies for infrastructure improvements and site development in support of the regional technology hub’s plans and programs;

3. To support business activity that develops the domestic supply chain and encourages the creation of new businesses; and

4. To attract new private, public, and philanthropic investment in the region for developing innovation capacity, including leveraging regional venture and loan funds for financing technology commercialization, new business formation, and business expansion;

5. To further the development of innovations in the key technology focus areas, including innovations derived from research conducted at institutions of higher education or other research entities, including research conducted by 1 or more university technology centers established under section 8A(c)(6) of the Act of May 10, 1950 (64 Stat. 149, chapter 171; 42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.), through activities that may include—

(aa) Proof-of-concept development and prototyping; (bb) Public-private partnerships in order to reduce the cost, time, and risk of commercializing new technologies; (cc) Creating and funding competitions to allow entrepreneurs to pursue institutions of higher education to illustrate their commercialization potential; and (dd) Facilitating mentorships between local, national, and international leaders and potential entrepreneurs to encourage successful commercialization;
(ee) creating and funding for-profit or not-for-profit entities that could enable researchers at institutions of higher education and other research entities to further develop and develop the use of technologies. Prior to seeking commercial financing, through patient funding, advice, staff support, or other means; and

(ff) providing facilities for start-up companies, where technology maturation could occur; and

(VI) to carry out such other activities as the Secretary considers appropriate to improve the competitiveness and regional economic development to support a key technology focus area and that would further the purposes of the Endless Frontiers Act.

(4) APPLICATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible consortium seeking designation as a regional technology hub under clause (i) of paragraph (1)(A) and support under clause (i) of such paragraph shall submit to the Secretary an application

therefor at such time, in such manner, and shall submit to the Secretary an application

that is consistent with the purposes of section 35(a) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 276a).

(B) COORDINATION REQUIRED.—The Secretary shall coordinate the activities of regional technology hubs designated under this subsection with the Manufacturing Extension Partnership, and the Manufacturing USA Program with each other to the degree that doing so will further the effectiveness of the ongoing activities of a manufacturing extension center or a Manufacturing USA Institute.

(C) CONDITION OF SUPPORT.—In order to coordinate activities under subparagraph (B), the Secretary may condition the award of a grant under paragraph (3)(A) of such section with the conditions that doing so will further the effectiveness of the Regional Technology Hubs designated under this subsection, and

the activities of the Regional Technology Hubs.

(D) ELEMENTS.—Coordination by the Secretary under subparagraph (B) may include the following:

(i) the alignment of activities of the Manufacturing Extension Partnership with the activities of regional technology hubs designated under this subsection; and

(ii) the alignment of activities of the Manufacturing USA Program with the activities of the Regional Technology Hubs designated under this subsection.

(E) INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION.—In assisting regional technology hubs designated under paragraph (3)(A), the Secretary shall collaborate with Federal departments and agencies whose missions contribute to the goals of the regional technology hubs designated under this paragraph.

(F) INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION.—In assisting regional technology hubs designated under paragraph (3)(A), the Secretary shall collaborate with Federal departments and agencies whose missions contribute to the goals of the regional technology hubs designated under this paragraph.

(G) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

Subsection (i) of such section, as redesignated by subsection (c)(2)(A) of this section, is amended—

(1) by striking "From amounts" and inserting the following:

"(1) IN GENERAL.—From amounts;

"(2) REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY HUBS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out subsection (d) $10,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal year 2021 through 2025.

SEC. 5. STRATEGY AND REPORT ON ECONOMIC SECURITY, SCIENCE, RESEARCH, AND INNOVATION TO SUPPORT THE NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY.

(A) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term "appropriate committees of Congress" means—

(A) the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, the Committee on Finance, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, the Committee on Financial Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee on Ways
and Means, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

(2) Key technology focus area.—The term ‘‘key technology focus area’’ means an area included on the most recent list under section 9A(c)(2) of the Act of May 10, 1950 (64 Stat. 141, chapter 171; 42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.).

(3) National security strategy.—The term ‘‘national security strategy’’ means the national security strategy required by section 108 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3043).

(b) Strategy and report.—

(1) In general.—In 2021 and in each year thereafter, the applicable date set forth under paragraph (2), the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, in coordination with the Director of the National Economic Council, the Director of the National Science Foundation, the Secretary of Commerce, the National Security Council, and the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, shall:

(A) review such strategy, programs, and resources as the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy determines pertinent to United States national competitiveness in science, research, and innovation to support the national security strategy;

(B) submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a strategy developed or revised under paragraph (2); and

(C) submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report and strategy under subsection (b)(3)(D) and (E).

(2) Applicable dates.—In each year, the applicable date set forth under this paragraph is as follows:

(A) In 2021, December 31, 2021.

(B) In 2022 and every year thereafter—

(i) in any year in which a new President is inaugurated, October 1 of that year; and

(ii) in any other year, the date that is 90 days after the date of the transmission to Congress in that year of the national security strategy.

(3) Report.—Each report submitted under subsection (b)(1)(C)(i) shall include the following:

(A) A plan to utilize available tools to address or minimize the leading threats and challenges and to take advantage of the leading opportunities following:

(i) Specific objectives, tasks, metrics, and milestones for each relevant Federal agency.

(ii) Specific plans to support public and private sector investment in research, technology development, and domestic manufacturing in key technology focus areas supportive of the national economic competitiveness of the United States and to foster the prudent use of public-private partnerships.

(B) In 2021 and each year thereafter, the applicable date set forth under paragraph (2), the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, in coordination with the Director of the National Economic Council, the Director of the National Science Foundation, the Secretary of Commerce, the National Security Council, and the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, shall:

(A) review such strategy, programs, and resources as the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy determines pertinent to United States national competitiveness in science, research, and innovation to support the national security strategy; and

(B) submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report and strategy under subsection (b)(3)(D) and (E).

(4) Description of—

(I) how the strategy submitted under subsection (b)(3)(B) reports the national security strategy; and

(II) how the strategy submitted under such subsection is integrated and coordinated with the most recent national defense strategy under section 113(g) of title 10, United States Code.

(5) Plan to encourage the governments of countries that are allies or partners of the United States to cooperate with the execution of the strategy submitted under subsection (b)(3)(B), where appropriate.

(6) Plan to encourage certain international and multilateral organizations to support the implementation of such strategy.

(7) Plan for how the United States should develop local and regional capacity for building innovation ecosystems across the nation by providing Federal support.

(8) Plan to support the industrial base of the United States.

(9) Identification of additional resources, administrative action, or legislative action recommended to assist with the implementation of such strategy.

(10) Form of reports and strategies.—Each report and strategy submitted under subsection (b)(1)(C) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 6. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) SCIENTIFIC AND ADVANCED-TECHNOLOGY ACT OF 1992.—The Scientific and Advanced-Technology Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 1862k et seq.) is amended—

(I) in each of paragraphs 1006(c)(1)(K) (42 U.S.C. 1862k(1)(K)), 2001 (33 U.S.C. 5001), and 5003(b)(1), by striking ‘‘National Science Foundation’’ and inserting ‘‘National Science Foundation’’;

(ii) in section 206 (42 U.S.C. 1862k), by striking ‘‘National Science Foundation’’ and inserting ‘‘National Science and Technology Foundation’’; and

(iii) in section 518 (124 Stat. 4015), by striking ‘‘National Science Foundation’’ and inserting ‘‘National Science and Technology Foundation’’.

(b) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1976.—The National Science and Technology Foundation established’’ and inserting ‘‘National Science and Technology Foundation established’’; and

(c) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2002.—The National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 1862n et seq.) is amended—

(i) in section 2 (42 U.S.C. 1862n), by striking ‘‘National Science Foundation’’ each place the term appears and inserting ‘‘National Science and Technology Foundation’’;

(ii) in section 10A (42 U.S.C. 1862n-1), by inserting ‘‘AND TECHNOLOGY’’ after ‘‘NATIONAL SCIENCE’’; and

(iii) in the title heading for title VII, by inserting ‘‘AND TECHNOLOGY’’ after ‘‘NATIONAL SCIENCE’’.

(d) NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY, ORGANIZATION, AND PRIORITIES ACT OF 1976.—The National Science and Technology Policy, Organization, and Priorities Act of 1976 (42 U.S.C. 6611 et seq.) is amended—

(I) in section 205(b)(2) (42 U.S.C. 6614(b)(2)), by striking ‘‘National Science Foundation’’ and inserting ‘‘National Science and Technology Foundation’’; and

(II) in section 206 (42 U.S.C. 6615), by striking ‘‘National Science Foundation’’ and inserting ‘‘National Science and Technology Foundation’’.

(e) AMERICA COMPETES REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2010.—The AMERICA COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–358; 124 Stat. 3962) is amended—

(I) in the subtitle heading of subtitle A of title III, by inserting ‘‘AND TECHNOLOGY’’ after ‘‘National Science’’; and

(II) in section 502 (42 U.S.C. 1862p note), by striking ‘‘National Science and Technology Foundation’’ and inserting ‘‘National Science and Technology Foundation’’.

(f) in the title heading for title VII, by inserting ‘‘AND TECHNOLOGY’’ after ‘‘NATIONAL SCIENCE’’.

SEC. 7. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.


(I) in section 3(a)(5) (42 U.S.C. 1862h(a)(5)), by striking ‘‘National Science Foundation’’ and inserting ‘‘National Science and Technology Foundation’’; and

(II) in section 3 (42 U.S.C. 1862h), by striking ‘‘National Science Foundation’’ each place the term appears and inserting ‘‘National Science and Technology Foundation’’.

(b) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1998.—The National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 1998 (42 U.S.C. 1862m et seq.) is amended—

(I) in each of sections 1 (122 Stat. 869), by striking ‘‘National Science Foundation established’’ and inserting ‘‘National Science and Technology Foundation established’’; and

(II) in section 101(a)(6) (42 U.S.C. 1862k(a)(6)), by striking ‘‘National Science Foundation’’ each place the term appears and inserting ‘‘National Science and Technology Foundation’’.

(c) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2002.—The National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 1862n et seq.) is amended—

(I) in each of subsections (a)(4), (b), and (c)(2), by striking ‘‘National Science Foundation’’ and inserting ‘‘National Science and Technology Foundation’’; and

(II) in section 517 (42 U.S.C. 1862p–1), by inserting ‘‘AND TECHNOLOGY’’ after ‘‘NATIONAL SCIENCE’’.

(d) in the title heading for title VII, by inserting ‘‘AND TECHNOLOGY’’ after ‘‘NATIONAL SCIENCE’’.

(e) in section 517 (42 U.S.C. 1862p–9)—

(I) in paragraph (1), by striking ‘‘National Science Foundation’’ and inserting ‘‘National Science and Technology Foundation’’; and

(II) in subsection (a), by striking ‘‘National Science Foundation’’ each place the term appears and inserting ‘‘National Science and Technology Foundation’’.

(f) in each of subsections (a)(4), (b), and (c)(2), by striking ‘‘National Science Foundation’’ and inserting ‘‘National Science and Technology Foundation’’; and

(g) in section 518 (124 Stat. 4015), by striking ‘‘Foundation’’ and inserting ‘‘And Technology’’.

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(6) in section 519 (124 Stat. 4015)—
(A) in the section heading, by inserting "AND TECHNOLOGY" after "NATIONAL SCIENCE"; and

(B) by striking "National Science Foundation" each place the term appears and inserting "National Science and Technology Foundation";

(7) in section 520 (42 U.S.C. 1862p–10)—
(A) by striking "National Science Foundation" each place the term appears and inserting "National Science and Technology Foundation";

(B) in the subsection heading of subsection (b), by striking "NSF" and inserting "NSTF";

(8) in section 522 (42 U.S.C. 1862p–11)—
(A) in the section heading, by striking "NSF" and inserting "NSTF"; and

(B) by striking "National Science Foundation" and inserting "National Science and Technology Foundation";

(9) in section 524 (42 U.S.C. 1862p–12), by striking "National Science Foundation" each place the term appears and inserting "National Science and Technology Foundation";

(10) in section 555(2) (20 U.S.C. 9905(2)), by inserting "and Technology" after "National Science";

(g) STEM EDUCATION ACT OF 2015.—Each of sections 103 and 104 of the STEM Education Act of 2015 (42 U.S.C. 6621 note; 1862a) are amended by striking "National Science Foundation" and inserting "National Science and Technology Foundation";

(h) RESEARCH EXCELLENCE AND ADVANCEMENTS FOR DYSLEXIA ACT.—The Research Excellence and Advancements for Dyslexia Act (Public Law 114–124; 130 Stat. 120) is amended by striking "National Science" each place the term appears and inserting "National Science and Technology".

(i) CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

1. Amendment—

(a) The Constitution of the United States durante...
Whereas, on August 18, 1920, the 36th State approved the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, satisfying the constitutional threshold of passage in 3/4 of the States;  
Whereas, on August 26, 1920, Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby certified the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States;  
Whereas section 431(a)(3) of the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 115–31; 131 Stat. 502), enacted into law S. 847, 115th Congress (as introduced on April 5, 2017), which established the Women’s Suffrage Centennial Commission “to ensure a suitable observance of the centennial of the passage and ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States providing for women’s suffrage”;  
Whereas August 18, 2020, marks the centennial of the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States by 3/4 of the States;  
Whereas August 26, 2020, marks the centennial of the 19th Amendment becoming a part of the Constitution of the United States; and  
Whereas the centennial anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States providing for women’s suffrage should be honored and celebrated, Now, therefore, be it;  
Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress—  
(1) requests the Secretary of the Interior to authorize a unique and 1-time arrangement to commemorate the centennial of the passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States entitled “LOOK UP TO HER at Mount Rushmore” with a display of historical artifacts, digital content, film footage, and associated historical audio and imagery in and around the vicinity of the Mount Rushmore National Memorial, including projected onto the surface of the Mount Rushmore National Memorial to the left and right of the sculpture for 14 nights of public display during the period beginning on August 18, 2020, and ending on September 30, 2020; and  
(2) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—  
(A) the Secretary of the Interior; and  
(B) the Lincoln Borglum Museum at the Mount Rushmore National Memorial. 

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 594—CALLING FOR THE PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR THE CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM TO BE SUFFICIENT TO COVER LOSSES EXPERIENCED BY CHILD CARE PROVIDERS DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC  
Mrs. LOEFPLER (for herself and Ms. ERNST) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions;  
S. Res. 594  
Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the child care market and has resulted in decreased demand for child care, closures of child care providers, and unemployment for parents;  
Whereas before the pandemic, many working families faced challenges of increasing costs of child care, and a lack of access to child care, including a lack of access in child care deserts;  
Whereas in the months before the pandemic, the Child Care and Development Block Grant program provided access to affordable child care each month to nearly 850,000 families, and over 1,400,000 children;  
Whereas child care providers have lost significant income from families who cannot pay and from reduced State reimbursements;  
Whereas in March 2020, in a nationwide survey of child care providers, 30 percent of the child care providers said they would not withstand a closure of more than 2 weeks without significant public investment and support, an additional 17 percent of the child care providers said they would not withstand a closure of any amount of time without that investment and support, and only 11 percent of the child care providers were confident they could withstand a closure of an indeterminate length without that investment and support;  
Whereas child care providers that remain open are supporting our Nation’s front line of defense by providing child care for essential workers who are first responders, health care, public safety, and grocery store workers, and workers in essential industries, and who have an estimated 6,000,000 children under the age of 13 in need of emergency care;  
Whereas those providers are facing challenges of increased costs for cleaning their facilities and providing a safe environment for children;  
Whereas the CARES Act provided $3,500,000,000 for the Child Care and Development Block Grant program and much-needed relief for families and businesses;  
Whereas an estimated additional $25,000,000,000 is still needed for the Child Care and Development Block Grant program to provide minimum sufficient funds to States, ensuring that many child care providers remain open and many others are able to reopen their facilities; and  
Whereas the United States is beginning to recover and accessible child care is crucial for working parents to return to work: Now, therefore, be it;  
Resolved, That the Senate calls for—  
(1) significant funds, in addition to the amount provided under the CARES Act (Public Law 116–136), to be made available through payments to States for the Child Care and Development Block Grant program; and  
(2) those funds to be used for the purposes of making maintenance grants for eligible child care providers under the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act (42 U.S.C. 9858 et seq.)—  
(A) to support the providers in paying costs associated with closures, or decreased attendance or enrollment, related to coronavirus; and  
(B) to assure the providers are able to remain open or reopen as appropriate. 

SENATE RESOLUTION 595—RECOGNIZING WIDENING THREATS TO FREEDOMS OF THE PRESS AND EXPRESSION AROUND THE WORLD, REAFFIRMING THE CENTRALITY OF A FREE AND INDEPENDENT PRESS TO THE HEALTH OF FREE SOCIETIES AND DEMOCRACIES, AND REAFFIRMING FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AS A PRIORITY OF THE UNITED STATES IN PROMOTING DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND GOOD GOVERNANCE; TO COMMEMORATE WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY ON MAY 3, 2020  
Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. KAIN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. CASEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations;  
S. Res. 595  
Whereas Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted in Paris December 10, 1948, states, “Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.”;  
Whereas, in 1993, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed May 3rd of each year as “World Press Freedom Day”—  
(1) to celebrate the fundamental principles of freedom of the press;  
(2) to evaluate freedom of the press around the world;  
(3) to defend the media against attacks on its independence; and  
(4) to pay tribute to journalists who have lost their lives while working in their profession;  
Whereas, on December 18, 2013, the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 68/163, regarding the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity for crimes against journalists, which unequivocally condemns all attacks on, and violence against, journalists and media workers, including torture, cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention, and intimidation and harassment in conflict and nonconflict situations;  
Whereas Thomas Jefferson, who recognized the importance of the press in a constitutional republic, wisely declared, “were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter.”;  
Whereas the First Amendment to the United States Constitution guarantees freedom of the press; and  
Whereas State constitutions protect freedom of the press in the United States;  
Whereas the Daniel Pearl Freedom of the Press Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–166; 22 U.S.C. 2251 note), which was passed by unanimous consent in the Senate and signed into law by President Barack Obama in 2010, expanded and strengthened the freedom of the press around the world in the annual Country Reports on Human Rights Practices of the Department of State;  
Whereas a vigilant commitment to freedom of the press is especially necessary in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic—  
(1) as governments around the world are using emergency laws to restrict access to information, impose press restrictions, and suppress free speech; and