The Senate met at 10:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable Ben Ray Luján, a Senator from the State of New Mexico.

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, in these challenging days, our hearts are steadfast toward You. Empower our lawmakers to grasp Your firm hand, depending on You to lead them through the darkness to the light.

Lord, lead them safely to the fortress of Your choosing, for You desire to give them a future and a hope. Provide our Senators with the power to do Your will as they more fully realize that they are servants of Heaven and stewards of Your gifts. May they make integrity the litmus test by which they evaluate each action as You keep them from deviating from Your chosen path.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

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

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. Leahy).

The senior legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,

To the Senate:
Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable Ben Ray Luján, a Senator from the State of New Mexico, to perform the duties of the Chair.

Patrick J. Leahy, President pro tempore.

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME
The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS
The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

INVESTING IN A NEW VISION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND SURFACE TRANSPORTATION IN AMERICA ACT
The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 3684, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3684) to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

Pending:
Schumer (for Sinema) amendment No. 2137, in the nature of a substitute.
Carper-Capito amendment No. 2131 (to amendment No. 2137), to strike a definition.
Carper (for Johnson) amendment No. 2245 (to amendment No. 2137), to prohibit the cancellation of contracts for physical barriers and other border security measures for which funds already have been obligated and for which penalties will be incurred in the case of such cancellation and prohibiting the use of funds for payment of such penalties.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER
The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Democratic leader is recognized.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following Senator KELLY’s maiden speech, that Senators JOHNSON, PETERS, and CARPER be permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes each prior to the start of the vote.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

H.R. 3684
Mr. President, for information of the Senators, the vote scheduled at 12:15 will likely begin closer to 12:30 p.m.

As you have seen, as America has seen, the Senate is moving full steam ahead on the bipartisan infrastructure bill. Since the legislative text of the bill was finalized, the Senate has considered eight amendments. Five amendments were led by Senators from the Republican minority, and seven amendments have received rollcall votes. One amendment offered by the
uncommon pairing of Senators WARNOCK and Cruz was adopted yesterday by voice vote. Miracles happen even here in the Senate.

So the Senate is making great progress on amendments, and we are going to make other progress very soon. While the specific number of additional amendments has yet to be agreed to, I believe we can consider another substantial tranche on the floor today. Senators should expect multiple rolloffs on this afternoon.

Mr. President, yesterday afternoon, millions of American families were able to breathe a sigh of relief as the Biden administration announced an extension of the eviction moratorium that expired last month.

According to the CDC, the new ban on evictions will apply for 60 days across regions of the country that are experiencing high levels of COVID infections, with roughly 90 percent of American families—90 percent—will be protected by this order. That is what the head of the CDC told me yesterday. There are so many individuals who helped make this happen. First, I applaud the President—President Biden—and the CDC for taking action to protect American families. I want to commend Speaker PELOSI. She and I worked closely together to get this done from our first conversations with the President at the White House on Monday, on through the weekend and the breadth of this week. But I also want to recognize the amazing courage of my colleagues, including Representatives OCAILO-CORTEZ, JONES, and GOMES and, above all, Representative CORI BUSY.

Congresswoman BUSY knows what it is like to be evicted. She knows the pain and fear and indignity of being told to get your things and get out. When you lose your home, you lose everything. It is hard to get to a job if you lose your home. It is like to be evicted. She knows the pain of eviction. She has seen the injustices that are inflicted upon innocent people. She knows the pain of eviction. She has seen the injustices that are inflicted upon innocent people.

What do the kids do about school? What if there is a public clinic taking care of somebody with a healthcare problem? You lose your home and that is it. Your roof, literally and figuratively, falls in.

Well, Congresswoman BUSY has known this through her own experience, and she took her passion and converted it into action to protect American families. She wants to commend Speaker PELOSI. She and I worked closely together to get this done from our first conversations with the President at the White House on Monday, on through the weekend and the breadth of this week. But I also want to recognize the amazing courage of my colleagues, including Representatives OCAILO-CORTEZ, JONES, and GOMES and, above all, Representative CORI BUSY.

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An eviction ban is a good thing. It prevents people from being kicked out of their homes. Once the eviction ban ends, if there is not rental assistance, we are back in the same boat. We need the State to get that money out fast.

A eviction ban is a good thing. It prevents people from being kicked out of their homes. Once the eviction ban ends, if there is not rental assistance, we are back in the same boat. We need the State to get that money out fast.

State governments—my State of New York—must do a better job of getting that support out the door and into the hands of Americans who need help. One other thing that is not Treasury bureaucracy in the way. States like Texas, like Monroe County, have been able to get out a lot of the money. The fault lies in the State governments that are not doing this, and they have to move.

STATEMENT

Ms. Lee is not only an excellent lawyer, with sound judgment and a jurist's temperament, but she brings the kind of legal experience that is all too rare on the Federal bench. Ms. Lee spent her entire career in public service, representing criminal defendants who could not afford counseling. Once confirmed, she will be the only former Federal defender among the active judges on the Second Circuit.

Perhaps the highest compliment paid to Ms. Lee came from a group of over 70 former Federal prosecutors from New York. These are the folks who most often found themselves on the opposite side of Ms. Lee in a courtroom. They called her a "brilliant, accomplished advocate, who is supremely well qualified to serve on the bench." She is a model. She brings so much diversity. You know, we don't have very many people of color on our Second Circuit Court of Appeals. I am trying to increase that with the nomination of Ms. Lee—Ms. Perez as well. Not only is she from a diverse background and demographically, but she is diverse professionally. To have someone who has been a Federal defender up there on the Second Circuit will really expand the breadth and width and depth of knowledge that bench has.

So I am proud to have recommended her, and I am looking forward to confirming this nominee later this week.
With that, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Republican leader is recognized.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, this morning, the Appropriations Committee considered a first partial batch of government funding bills for next year.

I want the Senate to secure bipartisan appropriations through the regular process. I want us to fund the government in an orderly fashion just like the successful Appropriations Committee did throughout the publicans’ recent years in the majority.

We accomplished that because we built a truly bipartisan process. Importantly, it began at the beginning. Early in the calendar year, we convened bipartisan conference committees so the appropriators would have actual targets. That let good-faith bipartisan conversations happen at the subcommittee and committee levels throughout the spring and summer, and we got results on a bipartisan basis.

Unfortunately, this year, our Democratic colleagues haven’t done anything like that. Either our colleagues don’t have any big-picture plan or they are privately working off the President’s partisan budget request. There has been no big-picture, bipartisan conversation. The Democrats didn’t even let the committee vote on top-line allocations, which normally happens at the start of a markup.

Our colleagues’ fixation on far-left shiny objects is distracting them from basic governance. They are more focused on ramming through another reckless, inflationary tax-and-spending spree than ensuring we avoid a stalemate over government funding.

Now, look, I understand and I appreciate that Senators on both sides have worked hard to develop appropriations titles with a lot of good content. The problem is bigger picture. When it comes to floor consideration, we cannot and will not start planting individual trees before we have bipartisan consensus on the shape of the forest.

Here is what it will take to get a Senate appropriations process back on track. Two—two—simple things.

No. 1, Democrats will need to honor the longstanding bipartisan truce that provides parity for defense and nondefense spending growth—parity for defense and nondefense spending growth—and a responsible overall number that we can all accept. Our men and women in uniform and the Nation they defend deserve better than a budget that cuts our national defense after inflation and allows adversaries to get an edge.

No. 2, we must have agreement that we are going to keep longstanding bipartisan policy riders in and new policy riders—like the Hyde amendment, right where they are, and neither side should throw new wrenches into the process.

Parity for national and border security and a bipartisan deal on policy riders—this is not rocket science; it is a roadmap. We all know it very, very well. That is what it will take to move bipartisan appropriations bills across this floor, but the majority is behind on the homework.

AFGHANISTAN

Now, Mr. President, on a totally different matter, in April, when President Biden announced his intention to pull U.S. forces out of Afghanistan, he said it was “time to end the forever wars.” “Time to end the forever wars,” said President Biden, but at every stage of the rushed and rudderless retreat that has followed, the Biden administration’s wishful thinking hasn’t come within a country mile of reality. By any account, the situation in Afghanistan has become worse as we have headed to the exits, and we will live with the security, humanitarian, and moral consequences for years to come.

This whole debacle was not only foreseeable; it was, in fact, foreseen. Remember what top national security experts were saying around the time the President announced his decisions:

“The Taliban is likely to make gains on the battlefield, and the Afghan Government will struggle to hold the Taliban at bay if the coalition withdraws support.

Administration officials shrugged it off. They downplayed the chances that Afghanistan’s pro-American government would fall to the pro-terrorist Taliban, but now that outcome appears all but inevitable.

The administration literally glossed over the risks of an al-Qaida resurgence, but now Secretary Austin is acknowledging al-Qaida could reestablish a safe haven and threaten the homeland in less than 2 years—that is the Secretary of Defense—and even that could be optimistic.

They insisted that over-the-horizon operations would be enough to keep terrorists in check, but now, just as the CIA Director warned from the start, intelligence gathering is already suffering.

The administration claimed that resources tied up in the fight against terrorists were more urgently needed to counter Chinese aggression, but now the mistakes of this over-the-horizon approach have required redeployment of forces to the Middle East and pulled an entire carrier group away—away—from China’s backyard so it can conduct costlier, less-efficient, long-range missions over Afghanistan from the Gulf.

Much of the rhetoric from the President’s team has sounded almost laughingly—laughingly—naive. The Secretary of State publically suggested he thinks he can bribe the Taliban into being a responsible, peaceful regime with diplomatic carrots. So that is where we are.

The Taliban have already begun paving their way to Kabul with innocent blood. Al-Qaida is already rebuilding capabilities to strike at our homeland. So what on Earth are we doing here?

What are we doing? Surely, the administration would not consider the fall of Kabul a success. Surely, it will not look at the fate of Americans left behind to say Mission accomplished. Surely, a terrorist resurgence or the assassination of our Afghan partners cannot lead to President Biden’s team like a “deliberate” or “responsible” exit from Afghanistan.

But these are the predictable results of these terrible decisions: the consequences of making enormous changes with no real plan to mitigate the risk; the failure to learn from similar mistakes, like the disastrous withdrawal from Iraq back in 2011.

Here in the Senate, it is curious to see that some of our colleagues who are the most exercised—the most exercised—are about trying to undo authorizations for the use of military force are somehow also among the quietest—the quietest—when it comes to the unfolding disaster in Afghanistan and oversight of ongoing conflicts.

Make no mistake, whether America is on the ground or over the horizon, the war in Afghanistan will continue, and Americans will not be safer with the Taliban ruling from Kabul.

We will not be safer when al-Qaida regains a safe haven and inspires a new generation of global jihadists. And we won’t be safer when coalition partners doubt they can trust our word.

A strategic disaster is what we are witnessing from top to bottom, and a growing risk that this war will end in a victory—a victory—for the Taliban and al-Qaida and become a greater threat to the United States.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO NICK ROSSI

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO NICK ROSSI

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, around here, it is Members of Congress who typically get the spotlight. When we talk about a bill getting passed, for example, you usually hear about the
Members who introduced and pushed for the bill. You don’t usually hear about the staffers.

But none of us in Congress works alone. We are supported by dedicated staffers who spend long days and often-times nights and weekends working to serve our constituents and our country.

Today, I want to talk about one of those staffers, my whip office chief of staff who is leaving the Hill after 26 years of government service.

Nick Rossi has been with me since 2013, when I became the ranking member of the Commerce Committee. He came on as deputy staff director and took over as staff director 2 years later.

There isn’t one thing that we did in my years as Commerce ranking member and chair that wasn’t at least partially owing to Nick Rossi: the 2018 FAA reauthorization; the FAST Act; Coast Guard legislation; FCC bills; broadband legislation; spectrum legislation; reform legislation, known as SESTA-FOSTA; legislation to reduce the number of annoying robocalls; other consumer protection legislation like the FTC Consumer Fairness Review Act; legislation to advance 5G; and the list goes on.

Nick has been chief of staff in my whip office for 2 years—2 very eventful years. Through it all, Nick has been a steady presence in the whip office and in the Senate. No matter the crisis, Nick is calm and collected, and he inspires that calm in others, although I do hear that it is a different story inside my office but outside of it as well—who will tell you that when they are facing a challenge, the first person that they go to provide a sounding board is Nick.

And Nick always makes himself available. He is uniformly generous with his time and knowledge, and he treats everyone the same, whether the individual in question is a staff assistant or a chief of staff.

He has brought out the best in everyone I have seen him work with, whether at the Commerce Committee or in the whip office. Nick has been chief of staff in my whip office for 2 years—2 very eventful years. Through it all, Nick has been a steady presence in the whip office and in the Senate. No matter the crisis, Nick is calm and collected, and he inspires that calm in others, although I do hear that it is a different story when he is watching Notre Dame football. The word is that there is a lot of ranting, pacing, and yelling at the TV, but I have not seen that.

Above all, Nick is a character guy, which matters a lot to me. He is a man of honor, integrity, and principle. I never have to worry that Nick is going to cut corners or bend the rules. He is always going to do things the right way, and there is nothing more important than that.

I can’t talk about Nick without also mentioning his commitment to his family. His pride in his kids always shines through, and just as he is never too busy to talk to a staffer who is having a problem, he is always ready to take a break from his work to help his daughter Elena with her math homework—another subject Nick didn’t major in but is, of course, really good at—or to build swords and helmets and bows and arrows with his son Johnny.

I am very grateful to his wife Katherine and to Elena and Johnny for sharing him with us for all these years. And there are fewer late nights in his future so that he can get in some more time with his family.

I realize that Nick may be starting to sound like a superhuman here, so let me just say that while he is a man of many talents who has not only successfully repaired the family’s microwave and dishwasher but is also known for building a balloon arch in the shape of a mermaid, I have reliably informed that he is not a good cook.

And I am pretty sure that “not” was bold and underlined.

Unfortunately, this particular bill, in its process, content, pricetag, and long-term effects, simply will not serve the country, Americans, and particularly Utahns well. It will ultimately be detrimental to our economy, to the daily lives of the American people, and even in some cases the infrastructure itself.

Now, I am not saying I don’t appreciate the hard work, goodwill, and excellent intentions of my colleagues who put many long hours, weeks, and months into crafting it: nor am I suggesting that there aren’t good things in the bill, good things that would benefit deserving people in this country.

As I have said before, the question is not whether or not infrastructure is a good and a necessary thing; nor is the question whether the bill contains some good things.

The question is, rather, how much should the Federal Government be involved in infrastructure? And if it should be, where should it be? How much should it be spending on it?

The truth is the particulars of this bill take the scope far beyond what should be under the realm of the Federal Government, under the domain of the Federal Government, specifically at a price far beyond what we can afford and at a time when we are already far into feeling the sting of inflation.
There is a reason that our Founding Fathers reserved “numerous and in-definite” powers to the States while providing “few and defined” powers to the Federal Government. Article I, section 8 of the Constitution literally lists the powers that were specifically given to the Federal Government. It tells us what they are. And you will notice that infrastructure generally is not one of them.

Now, in some cases it does make sense that the Federal Government is involved in infrastructure. The Interstate Highway System is a good example of that. Postal roads, also specifically accounted for in article I, section 8, are another example of that.

This bill, however, includes things like bike paths and beautification projects, mass transit systems, surface roads, roads that start and stop in one State and are not part of the Interstate Highway System—things that, while good and lovely and useful, are a far cry from anything the Federal Government can and should reasonably and successfully oversee. What is more, it does so at an enormous pricetag, one that will dig us even deeper and deeper into debt at the expense of the American people, both now and further down the road.

Now, proponents of the bill insist, and will continue to insist as we debate this, that the bill is paid for. But, in fact, despite the staggeringly large amount of money that it spends—estimated to be $1.2 trillion in total, the largest amount for a package of this kind in history by far—it still does not have a score from the Congressional Budget Office.

Normally we don’t vote on, much less pass, something like this without a CBO score. We don’t have one. And I regret to say that many of the so-called pay-fors amount to fimmery budget gimmicks that, in reality, do no such thing as pay for the bill.

So what are these so-called pay-fors? Well, let’s take the new reporting requirements on cryptocurrency, for example, which would allegedly bring in $28 billion. Everything about this pay-for is half-baked and unclear.

How exactly will additional revenue reporting generate new tax revenue? And how can you possibly apply stock exchange-style reporting requirements to something so different and decentralized as Bitcoin, Dogecoin, and other cryptocurrencies?

At best, this revenue gimmick will fail. At worst, it will hamper financial innovation and the development of technology.

Take the mandated sales of oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, which the bill sponsors claim will produce $6 billion in revenue starting 7 years from now. But do we realistically know what dollar or oil might be at that time or what can happen in the meantime when we might need to use oil in this Strategic Petroleum Reserve?

What happens when we get 5 years down the road and Congress determines that we should hold onto the oil a bit longer until we might be able to generate more revenue from the sale?

What if even more of these sales are congressionally mandated in these years, essentially flooding the market and causing the price of that same oil to crash?

Take the pension smoothing component of the bill, which would only cause us to lose more money in the long-term and simultaneously threaten the solvency of retirement benefits—the retirement benefits of millions and millions of American workers.

Take the rebate rule delay, which so far has never, and may never, go into effect. Delaying something that has no set time for implementation cannot realistically be predicted to produce $49 billion in savings.

Take the $20 billion in future spectrum auctions. While spectrum auctions can certainly produce a great deal of revenue, this possible future auction may end up never happening. It could have significant restrictions on it due to the dynamics of adjacent bands, and simply produce far less than we are being asked to assume today.

Finally, take the claim of $205 billion in unused COVID funds. Upon further investigation, it includes only roughly $50 billion in unused COVID funds as a real pay-for.

The other $150 billion is simply spending that didn’t happen because the country began to emerge from the pandemic. Many States ended the enhanced unemployment benefits that were keeping more people out of work, and other States, local communities, businesses, and families didn’t require as much Federal spending, thanks to their own successes and their own resilience.

In other words, this other $150 billion is not a pay-for. It is fake. It is simply spending or lost revenue that was never realized. And whether this bill passes or not, this $150 billion will never be realized.

No, the numbers for these pay-fors do not add up. The math for this bill is faulty, to say the least. What is more, much of the massive amount that it will be spending will not even be efficient or effective spending on infrastructure. Even if this were the role of the Federal Government, then we ought to make sure that it spends those funds efficiently and effectively.

But, unfortunately, the fact of the matter is, the Federal dollars come a whole host of Byzantine laws and regulations that prevent precisely that, including restrictions imposed by everything from NEPA to the Davis-Bacon Act.

The Davis-Bacon Act artificially inflates labor prices by requiring that all federally funded construction projects worth more than $2,000 pay workers at least the prevailing wage rate on non-Federal projects in the same locality. And it has substantially driven up the cost of Federal projects, hindered economic growth, wasted taxpayer dollars, and hurt unskilled laborers each year. In fact, it is estimated that repealing it would save taxpayers $10.7 billion over 10 years.

NEPA has imposed similar burdens and costs. Signed into law in 1970, it was intended to account for the environmental consequences of proposed projects. But over the last 50 years, it has substantially deviated from its original purpose, morphing into a complex, bureaucratic labyrinth; stalling projects from frivolous lawsuits and bureaucratic delays; and dramatically increasing the cost and timeline of Federal projects. Sometimes this law stretches projects that should take a couple of years to complete into decades.

At the very least, we ought to reform these costly, ineffective regulations—and do so drastically—so that Federal infrastructure can be completed better and faster, which is exactly what I proposed in the amendment that I put before this body yesterday.

But this bill, in its current form, is unworkable and unaffordable for Utahns, and it is not good for the American people. Driving more Federal money into infrastructure, unfortunately, means we will pay more to build less. We will be paying more to build less. It means less money going to states and communities in the ground, and a whole lot more going to lawyers, accountants, lobbyists, compliance specialists, and bureaucratic delays. It means longer and more expensive projects.

Another provision in this bill would impose new fees on dozens of chemicals used in countless products and consumer goods in our day-to-day lives—chemicals found in concrete, wood, paint, rubber, pets, medicines, drugs, and pesticides for food, just to name a few. So every time you buy one of those products—or almost any product, for that matter—you will be paying a little bit for this. Only it is not a tax; it is a fee, and it is hidden from your view. So the consumer—the poor and middle-class taxpayer—doesn’t see a tax increase. They just see that they are paying even more for everything that they buy.

Another provision would extend Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac’s “g-fees” for an entire decade. These fees could add thousands of dollars to the mortgage costs of home buyers at a time when that first home is increasingly out of reach for many. Utahns can’t afford this. Congress is supposed to be addressing problems like these, not making them worse with sneaky new fees. This comes at a time when Americans are already feeling the sharp sting of snowballing inflation.

Now, this graph highlights some of the problem. It highlights what the American people have felt over the last 12 to 18 months. You will notice a
Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following amendments be called up to the subtitute and be reported by number: Wicker No. 2146 and Kennedy No. 2210; further, that upon disposition of the Johnson amendment, the Senate vote in relation to the amendments in the order listed, with no amendments in order to the amendments prior to a vote in relation to the amendments, with 60 affirmative votes required for adoption of the Kennedy amendment, 5 minutes for debate for the Wicker and 2 minutes for debate for opponents before the Wicker vote, and 4 minutes for debate equally divided before the Kennedy vote.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), for Mr. WICKER, proposes an amendment numbered 2146 to amendment No. 2137.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To provide that the Administration Procedures Act shall apply to actions taken by the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information in carrying out the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program)

On page 2681, strike line 3 and all that follows through "(3)" on line 7 and insert the following:

Act"); and

(2) AMENDMENT NO. 2210 TO AMENDMENT NO. 2137

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), for Mr. KENNEDY, proposes an amendment numbered 2146 to amendment No. 2137.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To provide emergency assistance for victims of the hurricanes Laura, Delta, and Zeta) At the end of division I, add the following:

SEC. 90009. EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE THROUGH THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK Grant Program.

(a) In general.—In addition to amounts otherwise appropriated under the Community Development Fund, for necessary expenses related to disaster relief, long-term recovery, and restoration of infrastructure, housing, and economic revitalization in areas in States for which the President declared a major disaster under title IV of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5170 et seq.) related to Hurricanes Laura, Delta, and Zeta, the Administrator shall make available until expended, for activities authorized under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.

(b) Deposit of C-band Spectrum Auction Proceeds in Treasury.—Section 309(j)(6) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 309(j)(6)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking "and (G)" and inserting "(G) and (H)");

(2) in subparagraph (B) of section 309(j)(2), by striking "(B)" and inserting "(B) and (C)"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(H) C-band Auction Proceeds. Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), and except as provided in subsection (H), there is deposited in the general fund of the Treasury and used for emergency assistance under section 90009(a) of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I come to the floor today because I note the Democrats being so eager to move to a reckless tax-and-spend spree, and it is something I absolutely oppose. If we pass a bill of that magnitude, the American people will be paying more in taxes, will be paying more in the cost of living, and it will continue to impact the American people in a very negative way.

Right now, the Senate is debating a separate bill, an infrastructure bill, and, in fact, the bills are not combined. And I want to remind the American people, and I want to see the light of day in the House of Representatives unless and until, as she has said, the Senate also sends her a multitrillion-dollar reckless tax-and-spending bill. According to one non-partisan group, they say that the Democrats, the $2 trillion, would cost us up to $5.5 trillion over the next 10 years. Now, NANCY PELOSI has said time and time again that there will not be one penny for roads, not one penny for bridges, not one penny for airports or railroad. And yet, what did we get? We got a separate bill, an infrastructure bill that is part of the Democrats being so eager to move to the reckless tax-and-spending bill that she is demanding. It wasn't a negotiation; it was a hijacking. And NANCY PELOSI isn't just a hijacker; she is also an arsonist. What she is proposing is going to pour jet fuel on the fire of inflation that is currently ravaging the country.

The flame was lit months ago when Democrats borrowed $2 trillion under the name of COVID relief. But just look at the economic projections before the bill became law. Some people failed to predict the inflation. The Federal Reserve failed to predict it. The White House budget office said: Oh, no, we won't get inflation. The Congressional Budget Office said: No. There was no one who warned that it would happen, and Republicans pointed out clearly that it was going to happen and, that is what has happened now. Democrats refused to listen. They borrowed and spent an additional $2 trillion, and inflation has gone to the moon. That bill could cost us $5.5 trillion over the next 10 years. Core inflation is now the fastest and highest it has been in 40 years. Who are the victims of this? Well, they are people who are on fixed incomes; they are seniors; they are working families trying to get by. Now, it costs $25 more every time you fill up your vehicle with gasoline. If you fill up a truck in Wyoming, it could be even more than
Congressional Record — Senate

August 4, 2021

that compared to the fill-ups of Inauguration Day. If you go to the grocery store now, it is about $25 more for the weekly trip to the grocery store. So you are talking $25 extra a week in gas, $25 extra a week in groceries; $50 extra a week in food. All of which means that Joe Biden, the Democrats, and the Republicans are not only raising taxes, they also are making us pay for all of this. There are not enough rich people on Earth to pay for all of this. There isn't another, every working American will have to pay. According to the accounting firm Ernst and Young, this bill, this spending bill that Nancy Pelosi is demanding go from the Senate to the House before any infrastructure bill is passed, would eliminate 80,000 jobs over 10 years. They would raise taxes on small businesses, which are already struggling to stay open because of Democratic policies. Anyone who sells their home will pay thousands and thousands more in taxes. Now, this is also going to include a carbon import tax, which will drive up prices even higher.

The bill would be a socialist takeover of our economy—more taxes, more spending, more debt, more government ending your paycheck and eating into their savings. There is not a single Republican in the House or in the Senate who is going to support this reckless tax-and-spending spree. We need to stop this freight train to socialism. We don't have a taxing problem in this country; we have a spending problem. Inflation is already high enough. We know what the cause is. We know it is the cause of the excessive Democratic spending, and this is going to make it worse. Families across this country are struggling right now to make ends meet. Family businesses are struggling to stay open. It is time to stop this reckless tax-and-spending spree.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HICKENLOOPER). The Senator from Arizona.

MAIDEN SPEECH

Mr. KELLY. Mr. President, it is an honor to rise today to deliver my maiden speech. Nine months ago, the people of Arizona trusted me with a great responsibility: to represent them in the U.S. Senate; to do so during a pandemic that has challenged every one of us, taken loved ones too soon, and battered our economy; and to fill the remaining years of Senator John McCain's sixth term.

Each day since then, I have gone to work for the people of Arizona, striving to fulfill that responsibility, undeterred by the challenges we have in front of us because that is what Arizona has done over the last year and a half—protecting their families from this virus, keeping themselves and their businesses afloat, and looking out for their neighbors.

Arizona has faced down this virus and the economic fallout that came with it with determination. And I came here to have their backs and to work towards a brighter future for our growing State because we can't just rebuild our economy the way it was before. We have to reinvent it and create the jobs of the future, good-paying jobs that you can actually raise a family on. It is a long to-do list. But, hey, I am used to those.

The checklist for flying the Space Shuttle stands about 6 feet tall. The Shuttle itself, about 100 feet long, and it doesn't move as fast. And it is not the U.S. Navy, either, where everyone works together toward a common goal.

But my wife, Gabby, taught me a thing or two about how to listen and how to find common ground. Now, neither of us expected that it would be me serving here in the U.S. Senate. I might have been the astronaut, but it turned out that she is the one who would nearly lose her life serving our country.

I am so proud of her and of her relentless positivity that she brings to public life, and I want to take a second to tell you about Susana Andrade.

Prior to the pandemic, Susana worked in a school cafeteria in South Phoenix. Her husband worked as a landscaper. When the pandemic spiked in Arizona, her husband had to lay off and the school closed. But Susana and her coworkers kept going to work. The school was continuing to offer meals for pickup for students and families who needed them, and a lot of them needed these meals. She told me that they initially were just offering breakfast and lunch, but then they added dinner and a snack because the demand was just so high.

Susana and her coworkers knew how hard the pandemic had hit the community, how many folks were out of work. There were students who wouldn't eat if they weren't there to make the meals. So she kept going to work, making and packing meals for students and their families.

And, then, in February, she and her entire family got sick with COVID. She couldn't go to work for weeks, and she and her family struggled to pay their bills for that month while they tried to recover.

Now, Susana's story has stuck with me over the last year. Here is a hard-
working Arizona family doing everything right, who just got knocked off their feet. At the same time, Susana embodies the best of what we saw during this awful pandemic: neighbors and parents making tremendous sacrifices to help one another get through this.

I spoke to Susana recently. She told me that days after we spoke in March, she and her family received their stimulus checks, and it made such a big difference in their lives. But she is still now living paycheck to paycheck, working two jobs trying to provide for her family to just get ahead.

I understand that. Growing up, my mother worked both as a secretary and a waitress at the same time. When my brother and I were in middle school, she decided to become a police officer, like my dad. But she had to pass this physical fitness test, which was designed for men. But my mother was not discouraged. She wasn’t discouraged by that or by the fact that, if she would pass, she would become one of the first female police officers in our home town. In fact, I think she liked that. That was my mom for you.

But I knew that she believed that the increased and steady salary would help our family and give us the opportunity to succeed. She showed us what we could achieve by having a goal and a plan and working hard at it.

I am here because of a good public education and because of the opportunity that my parents created for me to serve our country and pursue my dreams. But for so many families, it is becoming harder to get ahead, and the pandemic only made this more difficult. Businesses shuttedown, savings drained, and debt and bills piled up.

What every parent wants—what my mom wanted—is to be able to work hard and give their children a future filled with opportunity.

That is the most important responsibility we have here is not just to rebuild our economy but to reinvent it for the future. And doing that starts with infrastructure: roads, bridges, water, the power grid, high-speed internet. And it is not just in big cities but in rural and small towns, in smalltown Arizona and Tribal communities. That is the item on our checklist now.

Arizona is facing a severe drought that requires us to improve our water infrastructure and increase or resiliency.

Schoolbuses on the Navajo Nation cost three times as much to maintain because so many of the roads are unpaved.

I-8, which runs through the center of our State, between Tucson and Phoenix, has not been expanded in years. A signal accident can cause delays for hours. That happens almost every day.

It is clear that Arizona will benefit from upgrading and modernizing our infrastructure. That is why, for the past few months, I have been working with a group of Republicans and Democrats to come to an agreement on a historic investment in our infrastructure. I advocated for Arizona’s priorities, and we worked together to find common ground and work out our differences. And now we are on the verge of passing it.

This is going to fix roads and bridges, improve Tribal water and transportation infrastructure, expand affordable high-speed internet access, and make Arizona more resilient to drought and wildfires.

I am determined to deliver these infrastructure investments that Arizona needs to continue to grow. We want to grow, and we want to attract new and innovative companies to our State because Arizona’s prosperity depends on continuing to create new, high-paying jobs, including growing our tech sector.

Now, one of the biggest success stories of our growing tech sector is an industry that actually produces something traditional: microchips.

Microchips go in everything, from our phones and appliances and cars to computers, but also the most sophisticated fighter jets and missile systems. There is currently a global shortage of microchips because today, just 12 percent of them are manufactured here in the United States. It used to be 40 percent. Many foreign competitors, including China, are investing heavily to try to dominate this industry.

Now, Arizona does manufacture a lot of microchips. It already employs about 30,000 people in good-paying jobs in this industry, and it is poised to grow. We recently announced investment plans from Intel and the Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company. Arizona can lead the way as we restore more microchip manufacturing and development to American soil.

That is the goal of this $2 billion investment that the College is working on with Senators CORNYN and WARNER, to create new advanced manufacturing facilities, or fabs, in places like Arizona. I made it my mission to get this passed through the Senate because it is important. It is important to our economy, and it is important to our national security, ensuring that our supply chain for something so critical does not depend on adversaries like China.

Transformational investments such as this, like the future of our military, can make a difference. For some, that will mean getting a college degree in science or engineering.

Arizona is home to three world-class universities that are leaders in research and innovation. We must continue to educate the best scientists and engineers in the world. That is the only way we are going to stay ahead.

At the same time, we know that about a third of students who graduate from high school will not pursue a 4-year degree. Now, that doesn’t mean that they can’t be set up for success in the 21st century economy, and we need to make sure that they are.

Advanced manufacturing facilities, like those microchip fabs that I mentioned earlier, require that we need well-trained semiconductor processors, and we need HVAC technicians. These are good-paying careers for those who get the skills and training that they need.

Now, it is right now that young Arizonans are getting those skills through our community college system.

At Pima Community College’s downtown campus in Tucson, they have a new Automotive Technology and Innovation Center that I visited last month. Their students are learning how to operate the software that automatically controls drills and lathes and milling machines and 3D printers and other tools. They can be trained not just in traditional automotive technology but in electric vehicles as well.

Arizona is becoming a center for innovative electric vehicle manufacturers. So why shouldn’t we be getting these students the skills they need for this technology right here?

Pima Community College’s chancellor, Chancellor Lambert, calls this much needed approach “moving at the speed of business.” What he means is we must make our education system meet the demands of today’s workforce, and that has to be the case not just in major metro areas but in rural Arizona, as well, and in rural America.

At Yavapai College in Northern Arizona, they just opened a new Skilled Trades Center in Clarkdale, where they will train a new generation of construction workers and plumbers and electricians and HVAC technicians.

I could not be more impressed with Arizona’s community college system. I am taking advantage of partnerships with companies to set students up with opportunities that prepare them to immediately enter the workforce in industries like mining.

Moving at the speed of business, that is how we are going to prepare hardworking young students to get these good-paying jobs. It is also how we are going to outcompete and outinnovate other countries like China, having a talented workforce that can fill the jobs of the future and fill those edge technologies that are critical not just to our economy but to our national security as well.

Now, these are issues that I know Republicans and Democrats agree on.

And even on tough issues, I believe that we can also work together. We have had crisis after crisis at our border, each a result of decades of failure in Washington to adequately address our nation’s security problems.

At the same time, we know that about a third of students who graduate from high school will not pursue a 4-year degree. Now, that doesn’t mean that they can’t be set up for success in the 21st century economy, and we need to make sure that they are.
handle increases at the border, to take the politics out of this, no matter which party controls Congress or the White House, and to provide dedicated funding to carry out that plan and ensure a secure, humane process at the border. Finding common ground on issues like this is hard, but it is important.

Like many of you, like many of my colleagues, I spent years admiring the way the late Senator John McCain represented the U.S. Senate. But my first impressions of John were not of him as a Senator but of his service in the Navy. He was a hero of young naval aviators like me—an example of how to serve your country honorably and bravely, including in the impossible circumstance of being shot down and captured.

His legacy means so much to the State of Arizona, and it lives on through his children and his wife, Cindy, whom I am so grateful to have here today in the Gallery.

Thank you.

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise to speak to my amendment that is connected to the discussion of infrastructure. I can't think of more important infrastructure that would actually secure our homeland from a variety of threats.

But as I have always said, coming from a manufacturing background, the first step in solving a problem is admitting you have one, and right now this administration is in a complete state of denial regarding the crisis that is on the border.

This crisis has been growing. It is not a seasonal surge; this is a growing problem. This has been a growing problem, and I have my chart here that demonstrates that.

Here is January. This is when President Biden came into office. You can see the enormous surge of the crisis he created. Vice President HARRIS went down to Central America looking for the root cause of this crisis. She only would have had to walk into the Oval Office and look at President Biden because President Biden is the root cause of this crisis.

It is his policies, the dismantling of successful policies from the previous administration that had stemmed the flow, that had largely secured our border until this President took office and reversed all that progress. It is a real shame.

Let me just give you the numbers because you have to describe the problem. This has been growing. For the last 4 or 5 months, in particular, we have been averaging, first, almost 6,000 apprehensions per day—6,000. In June it was 6,249. In July it will probably be over 6,500. There have been weeks we believe it is over 7,000 people per day coming in and being apprehended at the border.

Now, that doesn’t even count the 750 to 1,000 known got-aways. DHS is now—or CPP, at least, is now estimating that is going to result in about 260,000 people coming into this country that we know they came in; we just couldn’t catch them. This also doesn’t even describe or enumerate how many unknown got-aways.

So, again, the fact of the matter is, from January through July, approximately 1.3 million people have been apprehended coming into this country without documentation. About 173,000 of those individuals have been released in the interior, either with a notice to appear or, even worse, a notice to report. If you multiply that times 2, that is 346,000 people dispersed to all points of America.

DHS, this administration, is not notifying the States, not notifying the cities that these individuals, apparently claiming asylum, are coming into communities near you. You add that to the 260,000 estimated known got-aways, that is over 600,000 people just this year. That is larger than the population in the State of Wyoming. It is approaching the population of the State of Vermont.

And, again, this is while we have the title 42 restrictions in place. Probably about 900,000 people in the first 7 months had been returned under title 42. If this administration ends that program, imagine the surge.

Now, there once was a time when securing the border was a nonpartisan issue. Senator McCain led the charge. In 2006, this body passed, on a vote of 80 to 19, the Secure Fence Act, which was going to build about 700 miles of fence.

In the end, only 36 miles was double-layer fencing; the rest was pretty ineffective, as we have seen.

But voting for that bill was President Bush, President Obama, Senator CARPER, Secretary of State Clinton, Senator FEINSTEIN, Senator SCHUMER, Senator WYDEN, Senator STABENOW. This was a bipartisan effort to secure our border. But somewhere between 2006 and 2021, this has become a partisan issue.

Now, what is absurd is, in the last administration, again, we pretty well solved the problem, had allocated about $10 billion to build the fence. It had all been contracted. It has all been paid for. We have built about 453 miles of the 738 miles that was contracted for; 285 miles remain unbuilt.

An exit report by Senator LANKFORD shows that we have spent about $2 billion getting out of those contracts, $2 billion to not build the wall. It is costing us $3 million a day just to guard the steel fencing that is lying there not being used.

So my amendment is very simple. It is very common sense; it says, please, let’s recognize fences work. Certainly, Congress recognized it when we put a double layer around the people’s House for a number of months, spent hundreds of millions of dollars on that security effort.

So let’s not waste the taxpayers’ money. Let’s recognize walls work. We need to complete the 285 miles of wall that will help secure our border, that will help secure our homeland, and that will help keep Americans safe.

It is a very simple amendment. Let’s hope it is not a partisan result.

With that, I yield the floor.

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I rise to oppose the Johnson amendment. This measure would force continued payment of government contractors to build an ill-conceived border wall.

Most of these funds were never intended for this purpose. More than $10 billion was redirected from the Department of Defense, and these funds were intended for military installations and functions such as schools for military
children and National Guard equipment.

The Biden administration is conducting a comprehensive review of these contracts, led by the Department of Defense and Homeland Security. DHS has recently announced that they will continue certain common-sense projects on the southern border to address life, safety, environmental, and operational considerations. These decisions will be guided by what is best for our national security, not well-connected government contractors profiting off of hard-earned taxpayer dollars.

We need to move forward with smart, bipartisan investments that secure both our southern and our northern borders, and we must not look backward at the former administration’s boondoggle.

I urge my colleagues to vote no on the Johnson amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wisconsin.

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, in quick response, the prior administration—what the good Senator claimed a “boondoggle” worked.

During this comprehensive review by this administration—again, this administration is the root cause of this problem; they caused this—the problem is growing worse. It is not getting better.

Congress, by supporting a double layer of fence around this Capitol for months, spent hundreds of millions of dollars keeping us safe and secure, recognizes that fencing and walls work.

Again, this fencing has been paid for. This wall has been paid for. Two billion dollars a day will be wasted. This is just common sense, and it will improve the security of this Nation.

And, again, in 2006, this was a bipartisan type of effort. Building 706 miles of fence in 8 months; it should be bipartisan today. I am urging my colleagues, let’s finish building this wall. Let’s not waste billions of dollars in taxpayer money.

I yield the floor.

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

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to address the Senate for several minutes on this amendment.

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

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. President, I rise in support of this amendment. I am the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Appropriations for Homeland Security. The President’s budget request included a rescission of $2 billion that we, as Members of this body, put, enacted, as the gentleman from Wisconsin has clearly illuminated.

And, at the same time, we are having a tremendous problem at our southern border. We all know this. We don’t have the July numbers out yet, but we know that apprehensions are going to be in excess of over 200,000 in 1 month.

The July numbers also indicate that the number of unaccompanied children is the largest ever encountered in 1 month.

There are currently now over 150 miles of wall system projects that we as Congress legally funded that are now in jeopardy of being canceled. When you go to the border, you see millions of dollars’ worth of steel slats lying on the ground that were to be constructed until President Biden canceled those projects. Do you know who else is laying on the ground? Human traffickers. Drug smugglers.

I have, as we all have, been to the southern border several times. Customs and Border Patrol agents have told us that a border wall is a necessary part of a system to stop the flow of illegal immigration and illicit drugs.

The border wall is infrastructure. It is infrastructure to keep America safe. It is infrastructure to keep drugs out of this country. It is infrastructure to control illegal immigration.

I urge my colleagues to vote yes on the Johnson amendment to prohib the cancelation of contracts to build the border wall.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, over the years, I have made any number of trips to our Nation’s southern border. I have traveled extensively throughout Central America—and sometimes with the author of this legislation—with many colleagues, Democratic and Republican. One of the people who have been to that part of the world more than me is a guy who used to serve here in the Senate—later, Vice President—and that is our President, Joe Biden.

There is a verse in Scripture in the New Testament, Matthew 25, which speaks to the least of these, and one of the things we ask is, did you feed me? When I was naked, did you clothe me? When I was thirsty, did you get me to drink? When I was a stranger in your land, did you help? Did you welcome me?

To the extent we have looked out for the least of these, then we have a brighter future.

But anyway, the reason I raise that, we have this moral imperative to look out for the least of these, and that includes our borders looking for safe haven. The reason why so many people continue to come to our borders from Central America—especially Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador—is because they live lives in fear; deprived of economic opportunity and hope; corruption, crime. You know, if any of us lived there with our families, we would want to get out of there, too, and find a place to go to with a brighter future.

As a former chairman of the Homeland Security Committee, border security is enormously important. We need secure borders; no question about that. There are a whole bunch of force multipliers which help provide more secure borders, including barriers—including barriers—and I have supported them. So has the Senator, who is also a former chairman of the committee. We have traveled in that part of the world together.

But as we move forward with the things we fully agree on is what I just said. We can spend the next, you know, year, 5 years, 10 years securing our border. That is important. But if we don’t address those root causes of why people are coming here, 10, 20 years from now, they will still be coming. They will still be coming. We have to be smarter than that.

This is a shared responsibility; it is not all on the United States. I said to my colleague from West Virginia, I like to use the example of Home Depot, which RON JOHNSON, Senator JOHNSON, heard me use more than a few times. Home Depot—their ad line is “You can do it. We can help.” In these countries we are getting all this immigration flow from, they can do it, but we can help.

One of the things we set up was something called the Alliance for Prosperity and put in a number of years ago, with Democratic and Republican support—I think with support of certainly then Vice President Biden and Senator McCain, the late John McCain. Among the things that we need to focus on and we are doing under the Alliance for Prosperity are, one, addressing crime and violence; two, addressing corruption; and three, economic hope and opportunity. Those are the three buckets. We put money in those buckets, the expectation is that those three countries put even more money in those buckets, matching us 2, 3, 4, 5 dollars for every dollar that we put up. There are other countries that we have an expectation for them to help. There are private businesses; there is a reason for them to help. Nonprofits. There is an expectation for all. This is a shared responsibility.

As the place where all these illegal drugs are coming from, moving those drugs through these three countries—we have some moral responsibility to do something to help the situation down there, not just at the border.

So with that in mind, I am not going to support this amendment. But I would just note, I always look for common ground. The author of the amendment knows full well—I have heard him talk about it eloquently, about the need to go after root causes. For as long as we have been working on this issue, all those years, we have needed to work on root causes, and we still do today as well.

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I need to respond quickly.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There are now 2 minutes equally divided before a vote on the Johnson amendment.

The Senator from Wisconsin.

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I need to respond quickly.
Senator CARPER was talking about root causes. The root cause of the instability—the primary cause of the violence in Central America is Americans' insatiable demand for drugs. If you solve that problem, you solve the root cause of the problem, and you won't have the violence.

But the root cause of this current crisis—because it was already solved—the root cause of this current crisis is President Biden's policies. President Biden is the root cause. So if you want to fix this, we can fix it. Secure the border. Go back to the policies that worked. We are not going to be able to fix Central America until we end our insatiable demand for drugs.

With that, I yield the floor.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, colleagues, in about 48 hours, about a third of the Senate is going to be on an airplane heading for Gillette, WY, and we are going to go and say goodbye to our friend and colleague Mike Enzi.

I will never forget where I was sitting about 20 years ago as the Presiding Officer, and Mike Enzi was literally standing almost right where you are, talking about the 80–20 rule and why they were so successful in the Health, Education, Labor, and Pension Committees. Senator Kennedy and Mike Enzi—Democrat, Republican—how they were able to find common ground and get stuff done: the 80–20 rule.

I said to Mike Enzi that day: What is the 80–20 rule?

He said: About 80 percent of the stuff, Ted and I agree on, and about 20 percent, we don’t. What we do is we focus on the 80 percent where we agree.

There is common ground here. I think that the Senator from Wisconsin knows what it is. And I would ask that in addition to talking about our differences, let’s talk about where we agree, and let’s do good work there.

**VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 2245**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

Mr. JOHNSON. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSE).

The result was announced—yeas 48, nays 49, as follows:

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**The PRESIDING OFFICER.** On this vote, the yeas are 48, the nays are 49.

Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for the passage of this amendment, the amendment is not agreed to.

The amendment (No. 2245) was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I offer today what should be considered a friendly amendment to the broadband section of this infrastructure bill. Why is it a friendly amendment?

Because by using the Administrative Procedure Act, which my amendment would provide, it would save billions of dollars in broadband build-out funds. It would provide for consumer input, stakeholder input, local and State government input into NTIA—the Agency that will be in charge of this broadband build-out. And also because it will not delay the broadband build-out in any way.

Now, as written today, the broadband section waives the Administrative Procedure Act. The Wicker amendment would simply strike that waive and make the Administrative Procedure Act apply to the broadband section as it applies to so many big programs that are enacted.

If we pass this amendment, here will be the timeline: Let’s assume the President doesn’t get around to signing this bill until October 1. I would expect the President would sign it earlier than that, but let’s assume that he does that. There will be 30 days of notice, 30 days of public comment after the notice is published, a review of those comments, which could take 30 to 40 days. At that point the regulations are published and, after 30 days, they go into effect.

So by my calculations, assuming the President is very, very late in signing the bill, the act and the regulations under the Administrative Procedure Act would be done by February 7.

Now, what we all know—what everyone in this Chamber knows—is that we have to wait on the FCC maps, and they will not be ready until the earliest—until the earliest—by spring of next year, and that is—that is very, very optimistic.

We have time to do it right, to get public input, to have people who have already experienced this come to the Agency and say: You might want to do it this way; or: You might want to avoid doing it that way because here is our experience.

We did this one time before, and it was only $4.7 billion. This is $42 billion. That was the BTOP program, which was enacted in 2009.

We skipped this. We gave it to an Agency which is going to have it this time, the NTIA—a staff of only 157 people—to monitor back then $4.7 billion; this time it is $42 billion.

Here is what we learned about the BTOP program, which is an awful lot like this one: What Congress asked NTIA to administer this, the results were deeply troubling.

Let me quote the inspector general, let me quote the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy, and the Phoenix Center. Their own inspector general found that the Agency faced significant challenges in managing the size and complexity of the program. It is a program a tenth the size of what we are talking about today.

The Stanford Institute said NTIA’s mechanism for selecting projects was incoherent. NTIA, had they adopted more a reasonable framework, many more households could have been connected with the same money, or the same number of connections could have been realized for a fraction of the cost, because they didn’t do what I am advocating today.

The Phoenix Center, an independent think tank, said they found no positive impact on home broadband adoption from the BTOP program.

My fellow colleagues, years from now, when someone realizes we have wasted billions of dollars on this build-out, I would want, and I think my colleagues would want, to say: Well, I voted yes on the Wicker amendment to take the extra 130, 140 days to hear what went right and what went wrong in the past and to make sure we get it right.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD an article dated August 3, just yesterday, from the National Journal.

It says: ‘‘How $65 billion for broadband infrastructure could fall short.’’

I ask unanimous consent that it be printed in the RECORD at this point.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:
The $65 billion set aside for high-speed internet is a bipartisan infrastructure deal is just a small piece of the bill's $550 billion in new spending. But don't call the plan unambitious.

"It’s the biggest broadband bill in the history of the country," said Gigi Sohn, a fellow at the Georgetown Law Institute for Technology Law & Policy and a former Democratic member of the Federal Communications Commission.

"Would I have preferred more money for deployment? Of course I would. I think you could probably raise a trillion dollars. I think it to see $100 billion rather than $65 billion. But this is a bipartisan bill, and I think that is super important to remember and appreciate." 

Sohn added that the heart of the Senate's broadband infrastructure deal is a $22 billion pot of money for state and territorial governments to map broadband coverage and to ensure that their plans to build out high-speed internet to rural and underserved regions will work before receiving federal grants.

There's a catch. While that money will be set aside immediately after the legislation is signed into law, the bill stipulates that those funds cannot be sent to states until after the FCC fixes its much-maligned set of national broadband maps showing where coverage exists and where it doesn't.

The latest FCC estimate suggests that about 14.5 million Americans now live in regions without access to broadband. But other estimates have been much higher, and the presence of inaccurate maps means no one really knows for sure.

Lawmakers and policy experts alike have mulled whether it made sense to move ahead with broadband funding despite not knowing how much money is needed or where to put it. In the end, however, the increasing importance of high-speed-internet access in a pandemic-stricken world—and the unlikely chance that Congress can summon the energy and bipartisanship needed to address the question at a later date—pushed the Senate to act.

"To wait would make the perfect be the enemy of the good," said Sen. Joni Ernst, R- Iowa, and a former FCC economist, said he expects state efforts will be spotty, with some doing a good job of planning buildouts while others fall short. He also worried that state broadband plans will be "much more subjective and subject to influence than a more centralized, transparent system."

And Rep. Himes, D-Conn., said the $100 million minimum that each state is slated to receive for high-speed internet. He said that smaller, denser states might need that much money to provide complete coverage to its citizens.

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Most telecom experts believe the maps won't be ready for prime time until next year at the earliest.

"It’s going to be a couple of years before really substantial amounts of money start being dug into the ground and strung up on telephone poles," said Doug Brake, the director of broadband and spectrum policy at the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation.

But it would reduce the efficiency of the program," said Wallsten.

Gregory Rosston, the director of the public-policy program at Stanford University and a former FCC economist, said he expects state efforts will be spotty, with some doing a good job of planning buildouts while others fall short. He also worried that state broadband plans will be "much more subjective and subject to influence than a more centralized, transparent system."

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A lack of accurate maps could further slow broadband deployment by making it hard for states to formulate their own plans. Even once those plans are completed, it could take time for state governments to digest their findings, determine where and how to spend federal dollars, and submit those plans to Washington for approval.

Some states are taking matters into their own hands. In 2020, Georgia partnered with LightBox, a commercial real-estate-data provider, to publish their own statewide broadband map. And there's a surge of interest from other states—Pennsylvania and Maine are among those on their own maps, and Caroline Stoll, the head of sales and strategic partnership at LightBox, said the company is in talks with several more states looking to replicate Georgia's maps.

"It is a very, very good use of time and resources by the states to develop their own map," said Sohn.

Beyond a lack of maps, there are other potential pitfalls in the Senate's plan to fund broadband infrastructure. Recent efforts by the federal government to finance high-speed-internet builds have been conducted through reverse auctions run by the FCC. The new plan puts individual states in charge of their buildouts, allowing for greater experimentation with funding structures and broadband technologies—states can decide whether to pursue primarily wired or wireless options, for example. But it could also open the door to overbuilding and waste.

Scott Wallsten, president of the Technology Policy Institute, said the decision to put states in "‘going to tremendously reduce the efficiency of the program.’"

"The most efficient way to allocate the money—the way that gets the biggest bang for the buck—is a reverse auction," said Wallsten.

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Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I don’t want this program to fail short; I want it to succeed. This amendment gives us the flexibility to meet the needs of the NTIA to tailor programs to fit individual States. As I said, that is one of the beauties of our whole provision, is that it has the flexibility to meet the needs of States as they define them. It would hamper that State flexibility, and it would make it more difficult for the States to follow through on a timely basis to make this tremendously important.

Where the Senator and I agree—and I know how hard he has worked on this, as have I. This is, I think, one of the most important things that we can do to ensure wide public notice, filling multisources of protections that the Senator is talking about. Everyone in the Chamber knows that.

The other piece, unfortunately, that this amendment would do would be enable and, in fact, invite lawsuits. There would, undoubtedly, be challenges to the regulations, challenges to the—if indeed the APA said you have got to do this by regulation, you are building a whole new bureaucratic process, and the bill already provides for the kinds of protections that the Senator is talking about.

So I think this is an unnecessary amendment. I certainly, as one of those
who worked on the negotiation of the bill, don’t consider it a friendly amendment, and I believe that it is a major change in the agreement that would not have been agreed to in the negotiation; and I hope my colleagues across the aisle who have supported this agreement will oppose this amendment because it is not something that was in the negotiation and it would not have been accepted by those who were negotiating it on this side of the aisle.

So with that, I strongly oppose this amendment. It is a— I don’t think I can say it. It makes this a bureaucratic process that is unnecessary, will only slow and impede the distribution of these desperately needed funds to connect the people of America.

I yield the floor.

**VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 2146**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the Wicker amendment, No. 2146.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment. There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The result was announced—yeas 43, nays 55, as follows:

( Rollcall Vote No. 299 Leg.)

**YEAS—43**

Barrasso Grassley Rounds
Blacksburn Hagerter Rubio
Blunt Hawley Sasse
Boozman Hoeven Scott (FL)
Braun Hyde-Smith Scott (SC)
Burr Johnson Sullivan
Cagitio Kennedy Thune
Coryn Lankford Tillis
Cotton Lee Tullis
Cramer Lummis Toomey
Crapo Marshall Tuberville
Cruz McConnell Wicker
Daines Moran Young
Ernst Paul
Fischer Risch

**NAYS—55**

Baldwin Hickenlooper Reed
Bennet Hirono Romney
Blumenthal Kaine Rounds
Boosher Kelly Sanders
Brown King Schatz
Cantwell Klobuchar Schumer
Cardin Leahy Sinema
Carper Lozan Shaheen
Cassidy Manchin Smith
Collins Murray Stabenow
Collins Menendez Tester
Coons Merkley Tester
Cortez Masto Mookwok Van Hollen
Duckworth Murphy Warnier
Durbin Murray Warnock
Feinstein Ossoff Warren
Gillibrand Padilla Whitehouse
Hassan Peters Wyden
Heinrich Portman Wyden

**NOT VOTING—2**

Graham Inhofe

The amendment (No. 2146) was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. ROSEN). Under the previous order, there will now be 4 minutes of debate, equally divided, prior to a vote relating to the Kennedy amendment No. 2210.

The Senator from the Louisiana.

**AMENDMENT NO. 2210**

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, with respect to my amendment, I offer it on behalf of myself and Senator CASIDY.

The last 18 months have been challenging for Louisiana. First, there was Hurricane Laura. Then there was Hurricane Delta. Then there was Hurricane Zeta. The hurricane alone did about $25 billion of damage. Then we had the historic freezes. Then we had historic flooding. The total amount of damage was $47.1 billion.

My people are tough, but they are tired. This amendment would appropriate $1.1 billion in community development block grants to help my people recover.

I bring you a problem but also a solution. Thanks to the efforts of Senator CANTWELL and Senator SCHATZ and myself, 3 years ago, we convinced the FCC not to give away the spectrum auction, which belongs to the American people, and instead to auction it off. There is now $80 billion sitting in Treasury. The money for these block grants would come from that $80 billion in cash.

Thank you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine, Mr. PETERS. Madam President, we all agree that responding to natural disasters is a core Federal responsibility. But, unfortunately, this unprecedented amendment would take funds from the Federal Communications Commission’s spectrum auction revenues to pay for disaster relief.

The spectrum auction revenues my colleagues seeks to reallocate are intended to help expand high-speed internet to the United States. All Americans, no matter where they live, should have access to the 21st century economy.

We can’t pick winners and losers when it comes to natural disasters. The proposal would be set in law, which is something my colleague from Hawaii, Senator SCHATZ, has been working on for years.

I support disaster relief, but this is not the way to do it.

My heart goes out to all Americans impacted by natural disasters, not just those affected by hurricanes but also devastating wildfires and flooding caused by climate change. I am committed to ensuring they receive the assistance they need, but we need a comprehensive solution.

I would like to yield time to my colleague from Maine.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, first, let me offer to work with both Senators from Louisiana to secure the funding that their State so desperately needs, in my capacity as ranking member of the Transportation, HUD Appropriations Subcommittee.

Louisiana has been particularly hard hit, experiencing three hurricanes almost back to back, and, certainly, the need for disaster assistance is clear. But we also have other States that have been affected: Alabama, California, Florida, Iowa, Michigan, Oregon, Puerto Rico—a Territory, not a State, obviously. But they need help too.

What I would propose is that we work together on an emergency disaster supplemental that will take care of all these needs, including the needs of the people in hard-hit Louisiana.

I pledge my personal help and support to both of my colleagues and friends from Louisiana to bring this about.

Finally, let me just say, I am surprised that the administration has not submitted a request for supplemental disaster assistance. And I look forward to seeing the PRESIDING OFFICER. The time has expired.

Ms. COLLINS. Thank you.

**VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 2210**

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment. Is there a sufficient second? There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The result was announced—yeas 19, nays 79, as follows:

( Rollcall Vote No. 300 Leg.)

**YEAS—19**

Blackburn Ernst Rubio
Burr Hagerty Rawley
Cassidy Hoeven Hylen
Coryn Lankford Sullin
Cramer Tuberville
Crus

**NAYS—79**

Baldwin Hickenlooper Rischie
Bennet Hirono Johnson
Blumenthal Kaine Kelly
Booher King Lin
Brown Klobuchar Lankford
Cantwell Leahy Lear
Capito Lummis
Carter Louis
Carper Manchin
Caysey McCaskill
Collins Menendez
Coons Merkley
Cortez Masto Mookwok
Cotton Markley
Crappo Marshall
Daines Moran
DeMuth Murray
Durbin NASA
Feinstein Padilla
Peters Paul
Fincher Portman
Heinrich Reed

**NOT VOTING—2**

Graham Inhofe

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The yeas are 19, the nays are 79.
Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for the adoption of this amendment, this amendment is rejected.

The amendment (No. 2210) was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip.

EVICTION MORATORIUM

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, after many weeks of uncertainty and distress, millions of Americans can—for now—let go of the fear of losing their homes and the roofs over their head. Last month, the Biden administration announced a new 60-day Federal eviction moratorium. I certainly support that decision.

I want to thank all those who insisted that we do something, especially U.S. Congresswoman Cori Bush, of Missouri, who knows the trauma, personally, of being without a home, having been a victim of eviction in her life. Representative Bush campaigned outside on the Capitol steps for 5 nights to demand the steps of this building so that some of the most vulnerable people in America would be able to sleep with a roof over their heads while we were made sure the law caught up with our intentions.

I also want to thank my fellow Democratic Senators, especially SHERRID BROWN and ELIZABETH WARREN, who pushed for a fair and just solution to avoid what would have been an entirely preventable tragedy for families who already lost so much in this pandemic.

As many as 11 million Americans have fallen behind on their rent during this pandemic because of job losses and other misfortunes.

Let me tell you about one of them, Patricia Vasquez. She lives in Chicago’s Little Village neighborhood. She told her story to the Chicago Sun-Times. By the time Patricia Vasquez received an email on July 23 telling her that a bill had been qualified for help from Chicago’s Emergency Rental Assistance Program, the gas to her apartment had already been cut off because of an overdue $1,400 bill. She had sold some clothes and jewelry to pay the electric bill and keep the lights on, and she was 6 months behind in rent.

The Federal eviction moratorium will enable people like Patricia to avoid homelessness while they wait for emergency assistance to reach them.

Bipartisan CARES Act that Congress passed in December and President Biden’s American Rescue Plan, Congress has provided State and local governments more than $46 billion in emergency rental assistance to help families pay their landlords. Unfortunately, many States and localities have been slower than expected in getting that money to the people who need it. That includes the city of Chicago and the State of Illinois.

The CDC’s new eviction moratorium is only a first step. It is imperative that all State and local governments step up their efforts to get Federal relief to the families who need it and the landlords as well. This pandemic has caused enough pain. Redtape can’t be allowed to deepen that pain for everyone.

IMMIGRATION

Madam President, I would like to address another issue that comes up on the floor quite regularly, usually from speeches on the other side of the aisle.

I heard one of my colleagues in the Senate once talk about a personal friend talk about it today—and he is not the only one—and it is, of course, the issue of immigration. I have been involved in this issue for a long time.

I can recall when I was first elected to the Senate, I got a phone call from Ted Kennedy. He said: I heard you are going to be on the Senate Judiciary Committee.

I said: That is right.

He asked: Can I ask you to be a member of my Immigration Subcommittee?

Well, how do you say no to Ted Kennedy, to start with? I was fascinated by the invitation. I got involved in the immigration debate then and over the years.

At one point, I joined three other Democratic Senators and four Republican Senators—the so-called Gang of 8—and tried to sit down and fix this broken immigration system. We actually went from bill to bill, a good bill. It passed here on the floor of the Senate with 68 votes.

Senator McCain was one of the contributors to it. Senator Flake of Arizona was also one of them—Senator GRAHAM of South Carolina, Senator RUBIO of Florida, Senator SCHUMER, Senator BENNET, Senator MENENDEZ. We put our hearts and souls into that effort and put it together and brought it to the floor of the Senate and it was enacted into law.

Comprehensive immigration reform. I should say, it passed the Senate. It failed to become enacted into law because the House of Representatives, under Republican control, wouldn’t bring it up for debate, let alone a vote. That was an unfortunate missed opportunity.

It just comes down to this. We have not passed a significant immigration bill in the United States of America in 35 years. Everyone but everyone understands that our immigration system is broken. There are parts of it that are just fundamentally unfair. There are parts of it which do not serve our Nation.

There are certain things we ought to all agree on, Democrats and Republicans. Let me give you three that I think are the starting points.

First, we need a safe and secure border. I want to know who is coming into America and what they are bringing. In the age of terrorism, in the age of drugs, I want to know who is coming in and what they are bringing. Yes, we need border security.

Secondly, we should never knowingly allow a dangerous person to come into this country, period. If someone is here without legal protected status and they are dangerous to us, they are gone—no ifs, ands, or buts about it.

The third point is an important one as well. We cannot allow everyone in the world who wants to come into the United States to arrive tomorrow. It just won’t work. We have to have an orderly process, and we ought to show some caring and humanitarian instinct in that process, too, whether it is a refugee or someone who is here on a temporary basis. People who desperately need some safe place to be, and the United States has often opened its doors since World War II to show that kind of kindness. Our generation should do the same.

One of those is those who come to the floor and say: Because so many people want to come into the United States, it is a mistake for us to give anybody legal status in this country because it is a green light. It is an incentive for even more people to come.

That argument, I think, is not strong, and here is why. Each year, the orderly legal process in America makes 1 million new Americans from immigrants. It happens every year. These people are following the law, every letter of it, to become legal permanent residents in America. So to say we are going to cut them off and no longer allow them to become citizens makes no sense.

Immigrants, especially immigrants, are a critical part of America. When my farmers come to me and tell me how desperately they need farmworkers, and they don’t have enough immigrants to fill them, my natural reaction is, why don’t you go to the Americans who live near your farms? And they say: Senator, we do. Nobody wants to do that backbreaking work of picking fruit or vegetables and all the hard labor that goes with it. We need immigrants to do it.

Two million people in our country pick our crops, 2.4 million. Did you know half of them are undocumented? That is a fact. They have come to this country and get paid to do the worst, harshest work you can imagine.

Go to a meat processing plant or a poultry processing plant—you pick it—anyplace in the United States and look at the workforce that comes out of that gate at the end of the day. The majority of them—and, I should say 40 percent of them are immigrants who are working in that field; tough, dangerous, hot, hard work. They do it because others
aren't lining up to do it in their place. That is part of America today. Immigrants are a critical element.

I might add one other element which is timely. Think of all the times we tune into the Olympics and look at the people who are just here with pride, with "USA" written across their chest on uniforms, who are winning these medals and competing on behalf of us, the United States, in the Olympics.

Suni Lee of Minnesota, who is she? Well, it turns out that she is a child of a Hmong family. The Hmong, you remember from the Vietnam era, were a people who were killed because they sided with the United States, and they were caught in the crossfire of war. Many of them settled in the United States, many in the State of Minnesota.

Here is this young woman, this daughter of refugees who is making us so proud as she stands on the podium crying with "USA" written on her uniform, proudly holding that gold medal. We cheer her on.

Yet when it comes to the U.S. Senate, there are no cheers from some quarters. These are immigrants. Many people look at them negatively. I am not one of those people.

There has to be a better way. There has to be a humane way for us, this Nation of immigrants, for us to be able to have a system that is fair, that really is based on the principles mentioned: border security, no dangerous persons, and we have got to have an orderly process to come up with.

We are going to see in the next few days, I am sure, debate on the budget resolution. It is going to be, in some part, a debate on immigration policy. I am certainly ready for it. I hope my colleagues are too. I hope that they will keep an open mind to a process of creating a new immigration policy in America that reflects our values, that is fair to the people who seek to be part of our future, and that recognizes the great heritage which the immigrants have brought to this country. I hope those people who are on the other side who don't feel as I do will take the time to meet some of these immigrant people.

Meet my Dreamers. These young people who I first started championing 20 years ago have lived lives in the shadow of our laws. They were told they were undocumented; they could be deported at any moment; and yet they soldiered on. They worked hard. They went to school. They have done remarkable things, becoming doctors and nurses and teachers and entrepreneurs and even members of our military. They are amazing. They never let me down. They are just terrific young people. I think they deserve a chance to become part of America's future.

I think they have earned it, and I think we ought to have that kind of attitude in our minds when we talk about the role of immigrants in the future of America.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, I didn't come to the floor to speak on this matter, but listening to the comments by my friend from Illinois about the contributions made by immigrants to our country, I wholeheartedly agree with him about that.

Really, when I think about immigration, I think it is really sort of the secret sauce to American success. It is the notion that you can come from anywhere, with virtually nothing, and you can legally immigrate to the United States and you can begin to get one of those very difficult jobs working in the fields, working in a meat packing plant, or somewhere else and begin your climb toward the American dream.

That, to me, is one of the crown jewels of our country. It is what makes us different. You look at other countries around the world who welcome the immigrants. They shun immigrants, and their economies and their countries suffer for it.

Let me just say, I agree with the Senator from Illinois about the contribution of immigrants. I listened very carefully to the Border Senator. My State is 40 percent Hispanic. I am sure the Senator from Nevada has a very careful as a border State Senator.

The Hispanics in my State are patriots. They volunteer in disproportionate numbers to serve in the military. They work at jobs that are very difficult. They are very tight-knit families. They are people of faith. They believe in hard work and, most fundamentally, they believe in the American dream.

But I don't think it does any tribute to their contributions or their sacrifices to say that people can come to this country without complying with our laws.

I also join in the Senator's frustration at our inability to get anything substantially done in this space, but I don't think it is good enough for us to complain about how hard it is. We are all volunteers. What we have to do is do the hard work, and we have not done it since I have been here. We have not done the hard work to try to build that consensus in order to pass meaningful reform that we need to do for that. It is on us. We can't blame somebody else. We are the ones responsible. We haven't done it, and we need to do it.

But I would just point out, and the Senator from Illinois knows this, that my State has a 1,200-mile border with Mexico. This is ground zero for the humanitarian crisis that is currently appearing at the border. The Biden administration reversed a lot of the policies of the previous administration without a substantive plan in place, and it was interpreted as laying out the welcome mat for anybody and everybody who wanted to come to the United States. That is why we are seeing these unprecedented numbers, or at least numbers we haven't seen for 20 years, in people trying to stream across the border into the United States.

I just want to know that there is a lot of debate about, well, should we have physical barriers at the border? The truth is, the experts, the Border Patrol, have told all of us that, yes, you have to have physical barriers in some hard-to-control places, but also technology, and you need boots on the ground because this is not just about people immigrating to the United States; this is about the drugs that killed 93,000 Americans last year alone, most of which come across the southern border—cocaine, meth, fentanyl, heroin, just to name a few. When we see the current crisis at the border because of this reversal of the previous administration's policies without any alternative plan in place, this is an opportunity to try to take advantage of the circumstances.

What it means, as a practical matter, when so many people come across at the same time, which is what is happening now, including tens of thousands of unaccompanied minors. The Border Patrol, which is the law enforcement officials who are given the mission of securing our border—they have to leave the frontline of the border to go change diapers and clean and feed these kids because there is simply not enough personnel there in order to handle this flood of humanity.

I yield the floor.

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, I yield the floor.
laws: Because we have to release people and give them a notice to appear because of the sheer volume, most of them don’t show up for their court hearing. So they have succeeded because of the gaps in our law, not because of a lack of a physical barrier along the border. They are turning themselves in to the Border Patrol and making this claim of asylum because they know that they will more than likely succeed in making their way into the United States.

I don’t think many times the Vice President goes to Central America or talks about root causes of illegal immigration. I don’t care how many times Director Mayorkas tells Cubans: Don’t come to America because of the danger of coming overseas into our country. These organizations are smart. They are whispering in the ear of these migrants. They are saying: If you will pay us enough money, we will get you to America. And these migrants watch TV. They watch cable TV. They take phone calls and get emails from their friends and relatives in the United States. They know that this statement “don’t try to come to America” is just completely inconsistent with what is happening on the ground.

So I don’t think it does us any good to complain about how hard our job is or how many times we have failed to get the job done. What I am really concerned about right now is that the majority whip, who is also chairman of the Judiciary Committee, has basically told us he is going to give up on a bipartisan immigration reform bill, and they are going to try to jam this through on a purely party-line vote in this reconciliation bill, otherwise known as the reckless tax-and-spending spree.

Now, I don’t expect that the Parliamentarian will allow them to do that under the rules of the Senate. This wouldn’t follow precedent of the Senate, which require, on matters of substantive legislation, 60 votes to close off debate, the so-called filibuster rule.

But I couldn’t resist responding to the majority whip’s—the Senator from Illinois—statements about how hard our job is. I don’t think it does us much good to come and say: This is really hard. This is really hard.

Our constituents expect us to fix it, and they expect us to know how to do it if we will just do our job.

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So, Madam President, on the bipartisan infrastructure bill now before the Senate, I am glad to see that the majority leader, Senator SCHUMER, is allowing amendments to be presented from folks on both sides. Senator SCHUMER had given us an artificial deadline to finish the bill, but he has also told us we are not going home until we do so, and we take him at his word. But I hope he will allow the process to play out, no matter how long it takes, until this legislation is ready to be voted on. That is principally because the process that brought this bill to the floor did not involve the regular, normal hearings and markups across multiple Senate committees. That is certainly not a criticism of the bipartisan group who has gotten us to where we are; it is really the fault of the legislative process in the Senate these days. But the fact is, the vast majority of the Senators in this Chamber did not have a hand in crafting this legislation even though it will impact every single community across the country.

I believe the bipartisan group worked in good faith to get us to the starting gate. Now it is time to allow every Senator, representing every State in the country, to weigh in and offer improvements to the bill. I have said from the beginning that an open amendment process will be critical to the success of this legislation, and that is especially true when it comes to paying for this legislation.

We are waiting for the Congressional Budget Office, the official scorer, to tell us what the costs will be and whether we have been successful in offering offsetting pay-fors. One budget expert at the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget has already forecasted a discouraging score. He estimated the bill would only raise about $268 billion—less than half of the new spending in the bill.

But it is not just for all of us to realize we are also reauthorizing the expiring surface transportation bill, which is ordinarily financed by the highway trust fund, and it is going to require another $118 billion to shore that up because the White House has taken off the table any other pay-fors that would include a user fee on electric vehicles or indexing the gas tax or other ideas that would fill in that gap. So another $118 billion of borrowed money in addition to $268 billion. So there is no one who doesn’t think that gap. I don’t think any of us regard that as a good outcome. Maybe it is the best we can do under the circumstances.

But as it stands now, our debt to GDP, our debt to our gross domestic product ratio, is at the highest level it has been since World War II. In other words, we fought a world war to defeat imperial Japan and Nazi Germany, and we didn’t ask how much it cost; we did what we had to do. We got it right. Now there is no escape from the COVID-19 pandemic. There has been a domestic equivalent, I think, of war, of defeating the virus and shoring up our economy.

Our country has invested a huge amount of money in the war against COVID–19, and not only is the time to double down on out-of-control spending for a nonemergency matter. We need to find responsible ways to finance these new expenses, and I hope we will have an opportunity to vote on a range of amendments that would allow them to claw that money back when the appropriation sunsets or to put guardrails on it and say you can only use it for some prescribed uses, which, frankly, they have more money to spend than they know what to do with when it comes to those authorized uses.

As folks hunkered down in their homes to slow the spread of the virus, the change in travel patterns hurt more than airlines and hotels; it put a serious dent in State and local transportation budgets in all of our States. State departments of transportation are facing an estimated $18 billion in shortfalls through 2024. Leaders across the country have had to delay or cancel critical transportation projects because of a lack of funding, and it is unclear when those projects may get back on track.

I might say that one of the things we have seen with the eviction moratorium expiring is that $46 billion of money we appropriated last year still hasn’t gotten to the intended beneficiaries, to the people who are trying to pay their rent but can’t pay their rent. So we have a huge problem, logistical problem, in voting on money and actually getting it to the intended beneficiaries. That is true in COVID–19. That is true in disaster relief. That is true in highway funding. That is true in education. That is true in our amendment that would provide more funding for a variety of infrastructure projects, including roads, bridges, and public transit. What it does is it gives State and local leaders more authority when it comes to identifying and investing in the greatest needs of their States and communities.

And here is the kicker: It does so without increasing the deficit one penny. That is because it gives State and local leaders the ability to spend COVID relief funding that they already have in infrastructure projects that might otherwise be neglected. They are not required to do so, but our amendment would allow them to do so rather than to claw that money back when the appropriation sunsets or to put guardrails on it and say you can only use it for some prescribed uses, which, frankly, they have more money to spend than they know what to do with when it comes to those authorized uses.

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know that many States and localities simply don’t have enough qualifying expenses to use the money that they have been given. They are looking for ways to spend the dollars they already have as given to them in the CARES Act and the American Rescue Plan. That is not to say they don’t want this funding; they just want to be able to use it consistent with the guardrails that Congress has provided, and that is what our amendment will allow.

The purpose for this amendment is a testament to the importance of these changes. Our amendment has been endorsed by two dozen organizations that represent a diverse range of stakeholders, from the National League of Cities, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations—all of which advocate on behalf of cities across the country. We have also received endorsements from the American Road & Transportation Association, which represents all facets of the transportation construction industry, as well as the American Public Transportation Association. It also includes organizations that advocate for safer roads, like the American Traffic Safety Services Association.

I have been pleased to find common ground with Senator Padilla and our colleagues on both sides of the aisle to help build support for this amendment and, I think, actually enhance the work done by the bipartisan negotiating group. This is not something they were able to get done in that negotiating group—they have told me—even though it was a subject of discussion. So now it is a chance for the rest of us, on a bipartisan basis, to weigh in and make this bill better.

Throughout the process, we have made adjustments so States with unique, but no less important, infrastructure needs can put this funding toward those uses. We are in the process of making some final tweaks to ensure that we receive broad bipartisan support, as well as that of the White House, and I hope we will have a vote on this amendment on the Senate floor soon.

Our amendment will empower local officials to make the best decisions for their communities and ensure that taxpayers’ dollars are used as the best bang for their buck with these relief funds that have already been appropriated; and then, if we do not authorize their use in the manner I have described, will likely be spent on annual or recurring expenses rather than on something that will endure for a long time, like infrastructure.

So I hope our amendment will come to a vote in the Senate very soon. There is no reason—there is no reason—to rush the amendment process and to push off good amendments for a vote or consideration that will actually improve this legislation. There are a lot of great ideas out there to strengthen this bill, to maximize the impact of every dollar, and pay for these investments responsibly.

So let me just close by saying I appreciate the hard work that has gone into this bill so far, and I hope we will continue to have more opportunities to improve it, and that the amendment process goes forward.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BALDWIN). The junior Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. CRAMER. Madam President, I want to take some time to share some of my thoughts on this Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act that we are debating today, and I wasn’t intending to speak specifically to the amendment Senator CORRY just brought up, but I just can’t resist saying: Man, I wish you well.

I think when—a bipartisan solution, like Senator CORNYN and Senator PADILLA have come up with, to provide flexibility to our Governors and our communities just makes all the sense in the world.

So I am looking forward to voting yes, and I hope we can get a resolution that allows at least 59 of my closest friends to do the same.

I want to thank and to express my gratitude to the group of bipartisan Senators that have negotiated and coordinated this incredible effort. And I also want to thank Senator CAPPO, who is managing, of course, this floor process, along with Environment and Public Works Committee Chairman TOM CARPER. The progress that they have made on this issue with the administration earlier this year, paired with the excellent leadership that they provided the committee, really exemplifies what is possible when we work together, and it has allowed us to get to this point.

Revising America’s roads and bridges is a longstanding national priority of Congress, and is one that has taken us too long to address. We need reliable, accessible infrastructure to operate locally and to compete globally; and as it currently stands, the bill before us is well positioned to meet that exact need.

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act isn’t perfect—not bill ever is—but it makes historic investments in the assets that benefit every American for many, many years.

I applaud the group for using the surface transportation bill that we unanimously passed out of the Environment and Public Works Committee as the foundation for this bill. As the lead Republican on the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee, I know how much time and effort both sides of the aisle have put in to surface transportation reauthorization. The end result reflected the good work we accomplished, and it was the perfect building block for the package that is before us.

As you know, I was not an original part of this bipartisan negotiating group. However, when I was approached for my input, I made my top priorities clear:

One, keeping the permitting reforms in our bill—permitting reforms like the one-agency decision that was a rule that President Trump put into place, that President Biden revoked his first day in office. It is codified in this bill for surface transportation;

Prioritizing dedicating funding to States and to their departments of Transportation as part of the traditional formula for distribution;

Limiting the expansion of urban transit programs; and

Including the bipartisan bill that Senator LUJAN and I introduced to clean up orphaned and abandoned oil and gas wells.

I was glad to see these provisions, as well as our committee’s Drinking and Wastewater Infrastructure Act, in the bill.

And I also appreciate the use of unspent COVID–19 relief funds to help pay for these priorities rather than being used for paying people to not work and adding fuel to the fire of inflation. This does just the opposite.

I thank my colleagues for asking for my opinion, and I am even more grateful that they listened and included these provisions in our final product.

Infrastructure has been a priority for Congress because it is a priority for our constituents. America cannot succeed without a robust infrastructure from one coast to the other and all the places, like North Dakota, in between.

We need roads and bridges to go from farm to town and from town to city, from city to city, and State to State.

We use ports and waterways and railroads to move the products that we produce to places they could otherwise never get to. We use rail and air to connect with family and friends and other business associates around the world.

We use broadband connectivity to facilitate transactions, both personal and business.

Infrastructure is foundational to our way of life, and it is the constitutional responsibility of the Federal Government to facilitate interstate commerce, including the movement of goods and services along our highways and byways and waterways and railways.

Rural States, like North Dakota, know this better than most. In fact, Rugby, ND, is literally the geographical center of the North American continent. We are landlocked, and we rely on our transportation infrastructure to get where we need to go and, more importantly, to move the products that we produce to where they need to get.

For example, North Dakota is the top producer of durum wheat, which gets ground into semolina flour, which becomes the main ingredient in pasta. The wheat goes from the field to a grain elevator by a farm road, to a mill by rail, and to a processing plant by both, and then it goes anywhere from a
We have structurally deficient and dangerous bridges, in some cases, that need to be repaired. So I think there is general agreement on both sides of the aisle that we need to improve our infrastructure.

It is known by people in this country, and I think particularly brought home to us, if you travel in other countries and see what they are doing and then you compare where we are—you would think: Boy, we used to lead the world in these things, and now we are not. And having the productivity as a nation because of additional travel time necessary for us to get to and from work as well as other endeavors.

If that is going to happen, we have only two options right now and probably for the indefinite future. Right now, we have a circumstance where my party is in the minority—not by much. We are basically tied here in the Senate, although the tie is broken by the Vice President. So we have the majority in the Senate, in the House, and, of course, with the White House. Given that circumstance, it is possible for the Democrats to write an infrastructure bill all by themselves and simply pass it through a process known as reconciliation. That is one option.

The other option is to work together on a bipartisan basis, where we craft a better bill with the input of Republicans and Democrats and fashion something that is bipartisan.

Now, I note that when you work in a bipartisan basis, there are some things the Democrats will want to include that we Republicans would rather not have there, and it is obvious that that is the case. I am sure that is the case for Democrats as well. They will see things that we have included that they just as soon would not have there. And it is very easy for either side—or both sides, rather—to point out the things in the bipartisan bill that they don’t like and to attack it as not being fully in conformity with their views. But that is the nature of two parties working together.

Now, some would say: We could do better. Let’s have another alternative, a different bipartisan approach.

My answer is: Go at it. Have at it.

No one is keeping people from working together if they want to come up with a better piece of legislation. Boy, I would be anxious to see what it is. But in order to get a bill passed, it must be acceptable to Democrats and Republicans. And that is unless, in my party, we are able to have Republicans...
in the majority in the House and the Senate, and the White House, which we don’t have at this stage.

So, again, the alternative is, if you can come up with a better bipartisan bill, do it. Two, amend it as you feel appropriate—and I think there are good amendments that are coming forward that I have supported and will support going forward. But we must not let the desire for perfection on the part of people like myself overcome the desire to have a good bill ultimately reached.

I think it is actually counter-productive for either side to take attack shots at the items in the bill they don’t like. Instead, bring forward amendments. See if you can improve the bill. If you can’t do that, come up with a bill that has bipartisan support, because that is the only alternative we face, other than a bill drafted exclusively by one party.

If, for one, think this bill is a good bill, on balance. It will be good for my State. I think it will be good for every State. We will get an upgrade—a badly needed upgrade—in the infrastructure of this State.

Again, is it ideal, perfect? Far from it, but it is a big step forward and one heck of a huge step of advantage relative to having one party alone write a bill, but it is a big step forward and one of the major investments we can make in this bill, with $55 billion invested in this area. Now, no parent should have to worry about the safety of their children when they turn on the tap, but, unfortunately, as most of us know, this is not the case for too many Americans, because compromised water supplies, due in part to our rundown water infrastructure, is an issue affecting communities and in some places in New Hampshire.

This was a problem for decades before the pandemic hit, but looking at a crisis like COVID–19 has illustrated just how basic and essential clean and safe drinking water is for our communities.

Righting this wrong starts with investing in our water systems, which have been severely underfunded for too long. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, drinking water utilities will need to invest $472.6 billion over the next 20 years in order to provide safe and sufficient drinking water to the American public. Well, fortunately, we have a big chunk of that as early this year, the Senate passed overwhelmingly, on a bipartisan vote, the Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act. That bill makes a historic investment in our water infrastructure across our country. And in addition to putting significant funding toward that effort, the bipartisan infrastructure package before us includes $15 billion to replace lead service lines, which is a huge public health win in an area that has long plagued communities across this country.

Another real public health concern that is addressed in this bill is the presence of perfluoralkyl substances, or PFAS, in our water supplies. Preventing exposure, cleaning up contaminated sites, and understanding the full scope of the health implications associated with these chemicals is critical for so many affected by PFAS in their water.

As I have heard again and again from New Hampshire families, discovering that you have been drinking contaminated water can produce a range of emotions from anger and fear to guilt. That is what I heard from so many parents who had children at the former Pease Air Force Base, where they were in childcare, and parents thought they were keeping their kids safe in those cemeteries. But they found out that they had been drinking water contaminated with PFAS. That contamination at the former Pease Air Force Base forced the city of Portsmouth to shut off three drinking water wells. The PFAS contamination was created by the use of firefighting foam by the Air Force when Pease was an Air Force base.

One of those wells that was shut down, the Haven well, has just come back online this week, after 7 years. It was inoperable for 7 years.

PFAS contamination surrounding the Saint-Gobain manufacturing plant in Merrimack, NH, and in areas around the Coakley Landfill Superfund site in the coast created worry for Granite State families also because of PFAS contamination. So you can imagine what those parents felt like when they found out that their children had an elevated level of PFAS in their bloodstream. I didn’t really understand what that meant.

I remember talking to one mother who told me she had taken her daughter to Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center for her health exam, and she talked to the doctor about the elevated levels of PFAS in her blood. She said: The doctor didn’t know what I was talking about, because this is an emerging contaminant.

But thanks to the work of so many of those affected—people like Andrea Amico in Portsmouth, who helped found a group called Testing for Pease, and folks involved with the Merrimack Citizens for Clean Water—they have raised awareness and worked to find solutions to clean up contaminated water.

So we owe it to them, to all of those families affected by PFAS and contaminated water supplies, a serious commitment to stop this problem where it starts and to give them the peace of mind that they so deserve. The comprehensive measures to address our water infrastructure that are contained in this historic bill will help do just that.

Now, water infrastructure is serious issue that New Hampshire shares with many other States throughout the country. Like water, another shared issue is access to broadband or high-speed internet service.

The challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic—just as I highlighted the challenge of not having enough access to clean water—highlighted just how important it is for our communities to have fast and reliable access to the internet. Whether we like it or not, we live in a digital world. We all relied on the internet to work and stay connected during the COVID crisis so that our kids could go to school, so our grandparents and families could keep their medical
appointments, and so our businesses could stay afloat. Of course, even before the pandemic started, the digital divide created an equity issue that deepened disparities in education, health, and business. If you live in a community in northern New Hampshire, how can you attract business to your community if you don’t have access to high-speed internet, if the business can’t open a website and tell people what they do? Just last month, I met with representatives from several towns in southwestern New Hampshire, another part of our State where they have been struggling to bring high-speed internet service to their residents. Due to their rural nature, these towns and others like them are unable to attract a provider to work with them. About a quarter of those that live in these towns are considered unserved and far more are underserved.

At that session, I talked to a woman named Molly Miller. She is a telecommunications committee member from Hancock, NH, a town with about 1,600 residents. She talked about the challenges that her family had experienced trying to work and do school from home during the pandemic. She said everyone had to disconnect while her youngest son was participating in college classes, and she shared a story about her son. She said: He was unable to turn in his final exam from one of his courses because the file was too large. He couldn’t print it because they didn’t have enough speed—download speed in their house. By the time he made it to the library to print out the file, it was too late. His exam was not accepted.

That is just the kind of everyday challenges that families, who don’t have access to high-speed internet, face. And broadband access isn’t a partisan priority. Lawmakers on both sides recognize the need for significant investments to ensure that all of our workers, our students, and our families are able to connect to the critical resources that are provided by the internet.

This infrastructure bill commits $65 billion to bring high-speed internet to communities in New Hampshire and all across the country. These bold investments are what we need to create jobs, to enhance the safety of our infrastructure networks, and to improve this Nation’s competitiveness.

Now, had I written the bill before us on my own, I am sure, like everyone in this Chamber, it would have included different priorities than what is before us in some cases. But, as we know, that is not how the give and take of negotiations work. It is not how compromise works. You give and you get. And the fact is that New Hampshire and the United States are going to get a whole lot in this infrastructure package.

We also know that legislation that has broad bipartisan support stands a better chance at lasting longer without threats of being repealed or reversed. President Biden supports this package, and we have received strong support across the aisle through the procedural votes that we have had so far.

I am proud to have worked with my colleagues to help create this bipartisan bill, and for all the giving and taking I know that I will work with even more people in this Chamber as we try and move this legislation through the Senate. Thank you. I look forward to a strong, positive vote by the end of this week. I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

CATTLE RANCHERS

Mr. HAWLEY. I rise today, Mr. President, to talk about the challenges facing the cattle ranchers in my State and across the country, challenges not just to their day-to-day operations but to their very ability to take action today that will make a difference and we should take it now.

The cattle ranchers and other livestock producers, is very, very serious, and the situation is, frankly, untenable. Let me tell you what I am talking about.

Just in the last year, the cost to consumers for beef has increased by double digits. That is year-on-year, from 2019 to 2020, a double-digit increase. What has happened, though, to cattle ranchers, to those who actually raise the beef, who raise the cattle, and then sell it to market? The price for them, has it gone up? No, it has gone down. In fact, over the last decade, cattle ranchers have seen their share of profits decline by double digits.

So what is happening here? Cattle ranchers are getting less, much less, in some instances—and, by the way, so are other producers of livestock—and yet the cost to consumers is going up. Something is seriously wrong. In this transaction, and that “somebody” is the packers, the processing companies.

In America today, our meat processing supply chain, equipment—the entire apparatus—is owned by just a handful of companies. Here is what I am talking about: Four companies—four—together control over 80 percent of this country’s beef processing operations, 80 percent. Even more remarkably, three of the giant meatpacking companies control 63 percent of pork producing, 46 of beef packing, 38 of poultry processing. That is just three of them. And two—two—are based in Brazil and China. So you have got four major packers that control 80 percent of the market, two of them based overseas.

This market concentration is squeezing out the farmers and the ranchers. It is enriching the packers, and it is ultimately hurting consumers. So, say, again, in this system, the only people who seem to win are the monopolists. We have got to do something about it.

It is made even worse—the situation—by the fact that these same monopoly packers have been found guilty or otherwise pled to criminal violations, criminal uses of their monopoly status.

For example, Pilgrim’s Pride, a subsidiary of a Brazilian-owned company called JBS, received $107 million in criminal fines for price-fixing in chicken markets. JBS separately paid out at least three multimillion-dollar settlements over the past year, while Smithfield, which is owned by China, has paid $33 million to settle pork pricing allegations.

So here we have these monopoly companies, two of them foreign owned, that are controlling the meat processing industry, controlling the entire supply chain, squeezing American farmers and ranchers, raising prices on consumers, and committing criminal violations while they do it.

Now, many have called, including me, for antitrust investigations. Some have called, including me, for antitrust legislation. And I stand behind those positions.

But I am here today to say that we must do more. And, specifically, it is time for this administration, the Biden administration, to do more because they have the tools to do so at their disposal.

Under Federal law, the Secretary of Agriculture, Tom Vilsack, has the authority to refuse to provide or to withdraw inspection services from any of these monopoly packers. It is already on the books. It is already under Federal law. I want to be clear. This authority is already existing.

This authority is already existing. The law is already in place. Here is what I mean by that. Under Federal law, the Secretary of Agriculture has the authority to refuse to provide or to withdraw inspection services from any of these monopoly packers or anyone who is reasonably connected to them who has been convicted of a felony or any other act or circumstance that indicates a lack of integrity as it concerns public health.

That is a broad grant of authority. What it means is that USDA could, right now, begin to suspend the inspection services for these monopoly companies, to say to these companies: We are not going to allow inspections to go forward; we are not going to allow your production to go forward until you come to the table and agree to resolve and desist any criminal misconduct and get a better deal to ranchers and farmers across this country.

This authority is already existing; under Federal law, I want to be clear. It is already on the books. It is already provided for by Federal statute. And our ranchers and our farmers need it to be used, and they need it to be used now.

So, today, I am calling on the Secretary of Agriculture, Tom Vilsack, to invoke these authorities, say to the major monopoly companies that USDA...
will suspend inspection services until they come to the table, until they open their books, until our cattle ranchers and our farmers in Missouri and across this country get relief.

I am making that request to the Secretary of Agriculture today, I hope that the Senate will act today because our farmers and our ranchers deserve relief today, and they deserve our help and our support as they work to protect the life that they lead, the life that is the backbone, in many ways, of this country, and they continue their noble work of feeding the world.

Thank you.
I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following amendments be called up to the substitute and be reported by number: Peters-Rounds, 2464; Lankford, 2233; Cardin-Dalton, 2449; on Scott, 2338, CBO inflation verification; further, that at 4:15 p.m. today, the Senate vote in relation to the amendments in the order listed, with no amendments in order in the amendments prior to a vote in relation to the amendments, with 60 affirmative votes required for adoption of the amendments listed, with up to 4 minutes equally divided prior to the first four votes and up to 7 minutes for Senator Scott of Florida and 2 minutes for opponents of the Scott vote.

Mr. President, let me amend that request to 4:25—not 4:15 but 4:25, I ask unanimous consent to make that modification.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 2464 TO AMENDMENT NO. 2137

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendments by number.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:
The Senator from Delaware [Mr. CARPER], for Mr. PETERS, proposes an amendment numbered 2464 to Amendment No. 2137.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To modify certain provisions relating to cybersecurity)

In section 4021(b)(1) of subtitle B of title I of division D, in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), strike “consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security and in consultation with”.

In section 4021(c) of subtitle B of title I of division D, in the matter preceding paragraph (1), strike “consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security and in consultation with”.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To prohibit Federal funding for any entity that has not previously enrolled in or had enrolled but did not maintain compliance with all statutes, regulations, and policies regarding the E-Verify Program and in certifying compliance with such statutes, regulations and policies before being eligible to receive any Federal assistance, grants, subgrants, contracts or subcontracts authorized under this Act.)

At the appropriate place in division I, insert the following:

SEC. 4. E-VERIFY COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENT.

(a) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, Federal assistance, grants, subgrants, contracts, and subcontracts authorized under this Act may only be awarded to entities that have enrolled in, and comply with the E-Verify Program, and insert “$312,000,000”.

(b) REQUIREMENT.—Any entity that has not previously enrolled in, or had enrolled but did not maintain compliance with all statutes, regulations, and policies regarding, the E-Verify Program shall enroll in and certify compliance with such statutes, regulations and policies before being eligible to receive any Federal assistance, grants, subgrants, contracts, or subcontracts authorized under this Act.

The amendment is as follows:

The amendment is printed in today’s RECORD under “Text of Amendments.”

AMENDMENT NO. 2497 TO AMENDMENT NO. 2137

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:
The Senator from Delaware [Mr. CARPER], for Mr. DAIMLER, proposes an amendment numbered 2497 to Amendment No. 2137.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To provide additional funds for post-fire restoration activities and restoration activities carried out using good neighbor agreements)

Beginning on page 1799, strike line 13 and all that follows through page 1800, line 10, and insert the following:

(b) $80,000,000 shall be made available for post-fire restoration activities that are implemented not later than 3 years after the date that a wildland fire is contained, of which—

(A) $125,000,000 shall be made available to the Secretary of the Interior; and

(B) $175,000,000 shall be made available to the Secretary of Agriculture;

On page 1800, line 11, strike “(17)” and insert “(16)”

On page 1800, line 17, strike “(18)” and insert “(17)”

On page 1816, strike lines 1 through 12 and insert the following:

(2) $60,000,000 shall be made available to provide to States and Indian Tribes for implementing restoration projects on Federal land pursuant to good neighbor agreements entered into under section 2606 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (16 U.S.C. 2113a) or agreements entered into under section 2(b) of the Tribal Forest Protection Act of 2004 (25 U.S.C. 311a(b), of which—

(A) $60,000,000 shall be made available to the Secretary of the Interior; and

(B) $250,000,000 shall be made available to the Secretary of Agriculture;

On page 2568, line 12, strike “(15)” and insert “(16)”

On page 2568, line 15, strike “$377,000,000” and insert “$941,000,000”.

On page 2568, line 17, strike “$142,000,000” and insert “$146,000,000”.

On page 2568, line 19, strike “$142,000,000” and insert “$146,000,000”.

On page 2568, line 22, strike “$142,000,000” and insert “$146,000,000”.

On page 2570, line 19, strike “$1,055,000,000” and insert “$980,000,000”.

On page 2570, line 23, strike “$327,000,000” and insert “$312,000,000”.

On page 2570, line 25, strike “$132,000,000” and insert “$167,000,000”.

On page 2608, line 17, strike “$2,115,000,000” and insert “$2,955,000,000”.

On page 2608, line 21, strike “$387,000,000” and insert “$583,000,000”.

On page 2608, line 23, strike “$382,000,000” and insert “$373,000,000”.

On page 2613, line 18, strike “$696,200,000” and insert “$771,200,000”.

On page 2613, line 23, strike “$552,000,000” and insert “$567,200,000”.

On page 2613, line 24, strike “$36,000,000” and insert “$51,000,000”.

On page 2614, line 1, strike “$36,000,000” and insert “$51,000,000”.

On page 2614, line 3, strike “$36,000,000” and insert “$51,000,000”.

On page 2614, line 4, strike “$36,000,000” and insert “$51,000,000”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2338 TO AMENDMENT NO. 2137

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:
The Senator from Delaware [Mr. CARPER], for Mr. Scott of Florida, proposes an amendment numbered 2338 to Amendment No. 2137.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To prohibit funding for neighbor agreements)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. 1. INCREASE IN INFLATION.

(a) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, Federal assistance, grants, subgrants, contracts, and subcontracts authorized under this Act and in certifying compliance with such statutes, regulations and policies before being eligible to receive any Federal assistance, grants, subgrants, contracts, or subcontracts authorized under this Act, the Secretary of the Interior; and

the Secretary of Agriculture;
shall be transferred to the general fund of the Treasury to be used only for deficit reduction.

AMENDMENT NO. 2464

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order there will now be 4 minutes of debate equally divided prior to a vote in relation to the Peters-Rounds amendment, No. 2464. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I rise to urge adoption of the Peters-Rounds amendment, No. 2464.

I first want to thank Chairman MANCHIN and Ranking Member RASSO of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee for working with me on this amendment. I would also like to thank Senators ROUNDS, PORTMAN, and WARNER for joining me in offering this amendment.

It is very straightforward. It simply would align several cyber security provisions for the Department of Energy in this infrastructure legislation with existing law. It would require the Department of Energy, the sector risk management Agency for the energy sector, to coordinate with the Department of Homeland Security on cyber security efforts.

DHS is the lead Federal Agency for cyber security, and they have a central role to play in working across the gov- ernment to strengthen our cyber defenses. As we have seen from the damaging SolarWinds and Microsoft Exchange attacks, a whole-of-government approach is necessary to protect critical infrastructure.

This amendment will ensure that there is a comprehensive approach that effectively coordinates our cyber security protections for critical infrastructure across all sectors. It reduces duplication of efforts and helps protect our Nation from the persistent threat of cyber attacks.

Mr. President, I urge my colleagues to support this straightforward, bipartisan amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Dakota.

Mr. Rounds. Mr. President, I rise to support the Senator’s motion and the amendment. This is a case where we are trying to eliminate the silos within the Federal Government. When it comes to cyber security, this is a really good example of one where we have multiple Agencies trying to work together.

This makes it very clear that it is not just a matter of discussing or consulting but, rather, that it will be a coordinated effort. It recognizes once again that the Department of Homeland Security and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency are taking the lead role.

With that, I would offer my full support as well.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. Peters. Mr. President, I yield back all remaining time.

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

The question is on agreeing to amendment No. 2464.

Mr. Peters. I would ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient sec- ond.

The clerk will call the roll.

The amendment (No. 2464) was agreed to.

The result was announced—yeas 96, nays 2.

Mr. LANKFORD. Madam President, I have an amendment that we are calling up. It is a very straightforward amendment.

This deals simply with how we handle E-Verify. The E-Verify system is very simple and straightforward. It has been used all over the country. It is a nonpartisan issue that we have used for decades now.

It verifies whether the people that we are actually hiring, and all this purchasing that we are doing, this massive billions of dollars will actually be—this simple, straightforward piece of it is, we are putting billions of dollars into our economy right now. We are doing a lot of infrastructure with this bill.

The promise should be that we are not just buying American, but we are actually hiring Americans as well. This is a bipartisan issue, quite frankly.

President Biden, just today, released a statement that this is a once-in-a-generation investment in our infra- structure and will create good-paying union jobs, repairing our roads and bridges, replacing lead pipes, building energy transmission lines.

It invests in clean energy, manufac- turing, and zero-emission vehicles, en- suring that the jobs in the clean energy industry are good-paying, quality American jobs. That is a great promise really to be able to make, and it is a great statement to make.

What this amendment does is to make sure it actually is American jobs. We know there is a tremendous pull factor with the American good-paying union jobs that are out there. This E-Verify requirement puts in place, both for the contractors and subcontractors, they will actually be American citizens.

So, with that, I ask support for this bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. Durbin. Madam President, if you like Federal mandates, here is one. Senator LANKFORD wants a Federal mandate to require that anyone who receives a grant from this bill has to sign up for E-Verify.

Well, what does that mean?
It means a school district in my home State that ended up getting a grant under this bill for energy-efficient improvements, renewable energy improvements at public school facilities would now be required by the Lankford amendment, the Federal mandate, to have E-Verify to check out the cafeteria workers in the school district. Is that what we really want to do?

Well, how good is E-Verify? Some States have done it voluntarily. Eight of the nine have done it for all the most employers. You think if you run all these employees through the E-Verify process, how good is it?

Well, can you tell how good it is? Do you know how many illegal aliens you find when you go through E-Verify? One percent. One percent.

So he is creating a Federal mandate and regulations on districts that are just trying to get energy improvements and reduce their costs and putting in an E-Verify requirement to get those illegal aliens.

Well, it turns out that isn’t the situation at all. It is a mandate that is unnecessary. I beg my colleagues to give these school districts and others no more red tape but less red tape.

Please oppose the Lankford amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. LANKFORD. Madam President, are there any of my 2 minutes left?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Nineteen seconds remaining.

Mr. LANKFORD. Madam President, this is not just a mandate; this is just a statement, if we are going to put American tax dollars in place, that we are actually hiring Americans to do it.

If we are going to build America, let’s also hire Americans in the process. That shouldn’t be inconsistent with our basic values.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 2233

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

Hearing none, the question is on agreeing to amendment No. 2233.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. Graham) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 302 Leg.]

YEAS—53

Barrasso
Braun
Burr
Capito
Cassidy
Collins
Cox
Cramer
Daines
Ernst
Fisher
Grassley
Hagerty
Hasan
Hawley
Hoeven
Hyde-Smith
Johnson
Kaehn
Kelly
Kennedy
Lankford
Lee
Lumiss

McConnell
Moran
Mukasey
Ossoff
Paul
Pelosi
Risch
Romney
Rubio
Saenz

Scott (FL)
Scott (SC)
Shelby
Sullivan
Thune
Tillis
Toomey
Tuberville
Warmong
Wicker
Young

NOT VOTING—2

Graham
Inhofe

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 53, the nays are 45.

Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for the passage of this amendment, the amendment is not agreed to.

The amendment (No. 2233) was rejected.

AMENDMENT NO. 2478

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 4 minutes of debate, and then a vote in relation to the Cardin amendment No. 2478.

The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I rise to speak in support of amendment No. 2478, which would make permanent and expand the Minority Business Development Agency, or the MBDA, which is the only Federal Agency to focus exclusively on the needs of minority businesses.

This amendment is based on the Minority Business Resiliency Act, which I introduced in April, and the language the resources and leadership necessary to help underserved entrepreneurs overcome historical barriers to small business ownership, innovate and start and grow successful businesses, and create jobs.

This amendment will give the Agency the resources and leadership necessary to help underserved entrepreneurs overcome historical barriers to small business ownership, innovate and start and grow successful businesses, and create jobs.

This Agency will also partner with Historically Black Colleges and Universities and other minority-serving institutions to reach rural minority business enterprises and create a regional network supporting entrepreneurial education and help to coordinate Federal resources in service of minority business enterprises.

Last year, the MBDA programs and services helped minority businesses secure nearly $8 billion in contracts and capital, and created nearly 12,000 jobs.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the Record a joint letter from 17 States in support of this amendment, which includes the Small Business Majority, U.S. Black Chamber, and U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

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

AUGUST 4, 2021.

Hon. CHUCK SCHUMER, Majority Leader, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL, Minority Leader, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL: We write you in strong support of Amendment #2478, which consists of 30 percent of the cost of the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) at the Department of Commerce. As the leaders in the small business and minority business communities, we believe our unified support is crucial. The signatures below will urge your fellow Senators to include this language in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. We urge you to support this Amendment.

The link between infrastructure, revitalized manufacturing, and technical assistance to the minority entrepreneur community cannot be overstated, and we strongly encourage building a strong national support system through MBDA to ensure minority participation in infrastructure investment.

This amendment, which is based on the bipartisan Minority Business Development Act of 2021, will support the expansion of Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs) and bolster the country’s economy. Moreover, it will ensure that the infrastructure investments made in the legislation can utilize and support America’s minority-owned businesses.

Prior to the Coronavirus pandemic, MBEs consisted of 30 percent of the costs of $8.5 million small businesses, contributed nearly 1.5 trillion in annual gross receipts and employed over 7.2 million Americans. Despite these significant losses, MBEs disproportionately disadvantage as evidenced by challenges with access to capital and collateral, lower credit scores, and less access to technical assistance.

Created under President Nixon by executive order, the MBDA has been a significant resource in reducing market and capital access challenges while growing the number of MBEs. In 2020 alone, the MBDA assisted MBEs in attaining over $7.8 billion in contracts and capital, with 10 percent of contracts made in the manufacturing sector and another 15 percent in the utility and construction sector. Overall, the MBDA assisted MBEs at the height of the pandemic to retain or create over 27,000 jobs.

Despite MBDA’s progress, the pandemic’s economic downturn has amplified the need to strengthen services for underserved and minority small business owners—particularly those within Women, People of Color, and Tribal markets. MBEs overwhelmingly are concentrated in industries that remain susceptible to economic disruption, such as personal and laundry services, and retail. As the nation experiences a resurgence of Coronavirus cases, these fragile markets face near-fatal consequences.

We urge lawmakers to support this amendment. It will strengthen and establish the MBDA into federal statute. This critical bipartisan proposal, introduced by Senators...
Ben Cardin (D-MD), Tim Scott (R-SC), Roger Wicker (R-MS), and Maria Cantwell (D-WA) would increase MBDA’s fiscal year 2021 budget to further safeguard MBEs from the deadly inequities brought on by the health crisis and promote a diverse entrepreneurial pipeline by establishing a process for the Minority Business Development Center Program to expand its regional coverage to reach MBEs in rural areas.

During this time of economic emergency, we believe now is the time for Congress to pass equitable and targeted legislation that will benefit underserved and rural markets and encourage underserved and rural markets enterprise formation. This amendment achieves that while strengthening the infrastructure package more broadly.

We commend your work on ensuring that all small businesses receive the resources necessary to withstand the current economic downturn, as well as grow now and into the future. We urge you to reach out directly to John Stanford (js@prismgroup.global) with any questions or comments.

Thank you for your consideration.


Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I understand that we may be able to do this by a voice vote, so I would ask unanimous consent that after my colleagues have had a chance to speak, we can vitiate the 60-vote requirement.

With that, I yield to my colleague from Mississippi.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. WICKER. Madam President, I do appreciate the Senator from Maryland joining on this. Everything he said about the committee action today in the Commerce Committee is exactly correct. I subscribe to every statement that he made. I couldn’t improve on it. I urge a “yes” vote, and I am indeed hopeful we can vitiate the rolcall vote and save some time by voicing this hope.

I urge a “yes” vote, and I am indeed hopeful we can vitiate the rollcall vote and save some time by voicing this hope.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

Mr. DAINES. Madam President, there is funding in this bill for a complex program that would lead to very few actual forest projects, and I fear it will only function as a shell for programs like the Climate Conservation Corps.

And to be good stewards of our forests, we need to be good stewards of our limited resources. This amendment does that by redirecting these funds to higher priority accounts, like Good Neighbor Authority and post-fire treatment.

Good Neighbor Authority has routinely enjoyed very bipartisan support in this body and has proven to be one of the most effective forestry tools. Given recent past and present wildfires seasons, redirecting funds to post-fire treatment just makes sense.

It is early August, and Montana is on fire. There are nearly 300,000 acres burning across our State. We need to manage our forests more efficiently. We need to be good stewards of our forests.

In order to do so, we need to invest in higher priority accounts, and my amendment would do just that.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. MANCHIN. Madam President, I rise in opposition to the amendment, and I will explain my reasons.

Senator Daines’ amendment seeks to alter the funding levels of provisions in the Energy Infrastructure Act as reported out of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee. Specifically, the amendment cuts funding for hiring veterans and Native youth to do fire prevention projects and directs that funding to postfire rehabilitation projects and to States that carry out projects on Federal land.

We are supportive of both postfire projects and States doing work on Federal land. That is why we funded these programs at unprecedented levels in our bill. However, we also support funding for veterans and Native youth. So I do not believe it is appropriate to cut the funding for this program.

So I urge my colleagues to please vote no on this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Madam President, we have had two votes in this tranche; first vote about 50 minutes from start to close and the second vote about 25 minutes after that.

We are going to propound a unanimous consent request—and I am tempted to do it right now—to try to figure out what would be reasonable. My sense is that maybe 15 minutes would be reasonable, maybe 15 minutes, and we will start with that.

Mr. WICKER. Hear! Hear! Mr. CARPER. Any objection?
families on low and fixed incomes the most. I am hearing it from families across Florida who are worried. I heard from a dad in Jacksonville with three kids who is helping to temporarily take care of two other kids because their father is out of work. As a result of having five kids in his home, he has started working a second job to pay for all of the groceries that are rapidly increasing in price. His second job is driving for Uber that is less and less profitable by the day because of the rising price of gas.

Over the weekend, the suspension on the Federal debt ceiling expired. That leaves Congress with two choices: Continue this reckless, wasteful spending with no accountability to the American people, or start making the tough choices to put our Nation on a successful path.

I propose we make the right choices and start moving America in a better direction. That is exactly what I did when I was Governor of Florida. Our State was on a bad path. I had to make difficult choices, but I paid down one-third of our debt, all while cutting taxes 100 times. It can be done.

Washington’s choice to keep raising or suspending the debt ceiling is like raising the limit on your credit card, month after month, with absolutely no plan to pay it off. It is irresponsible, and it is no way to operate. You would never run your business or family the way Washington runs. It is wasteful and dysfunctional.

I came to Washington to rein in this exact type of dysfunction. We have to get our debt and spending under control. We need to make Washington work for families in Florida and all across the Nation. That is why I am leading my colleagues in a proposed rule change that would require every piece of legislation passed by a Senate committee to include a report on how it will impact inflation.

It is very simple. When legislation, directly or indirectly, raises the cost of living or raises taxes on American families, families deserve to know.

Too many in Washington believe the lie that inflation is impossible, debt doesn’t matter, and spending has no consequences. That is why this rule change is needed.

This rule change is to protect that father in Jacksonville who is struggling to get by. It is to protect those living on fixed incomes, low-income earners, and small businesses that can’t absorb cost increases.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Rules be discharged from further consideration and to a Committee of the Whole to now proceed to S. Res. 237. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, Reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise in opposition to the unanimous consent request from the Senator of Florida.

The amendment before us would change the Standing Rules of the Senate and require additional reporting requirements regarding inflation, a change which would substantially increase the administrative burden on committees and staff and the process on the floor.

We already have significant tools at our disposal to evaluate economic indicators. We have economists at the Department of Labor, Treasury Department, Congressional Budget Office, Federal Reserve, and other Federal offices regularly consulting with Congress on issues about inflation and other economic indicators. This is totally unnecessary.

For these reasons, I oppose this resolution and the request for unanimous consent. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard. The Senator from Florida.

AMENDMENT NO. 2338

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, while I am disappointed that my colleague won’t accept this measure, we do need to start doing something about inflation, and we can do that today with the infrastructure spending bill.

We can all get behind real infrastructure—like roads, bridges, airports, and seaports—but we have to acknowledge that $1.2 trillion is a massive amount of taxpayer dollars, and we have to know exactly how this will impact families.

I have been told by supporters of this infrastructure bill that it will not cause inflation. I will not support anything that increases inflation on American families. I have an amendment to the infrastructure package that will require the Congressional Budget Office to certify that the spending in this bill will not increase inflation on the American people.

If CBO does not certify that the spending authorized and appropriated in the bill would not increase inflation, my amendment would prohibit the funding from being obligated or spent, and the funds would instead be transferred to the Treasury Department for deficit reduction.

I hope that everybody will get behind this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there time in opposition?

Mr. DURBIN. I yield back my time.

Mr. CARPER. Yield back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The time is yielded back.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 2338

The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

Mr. LANKFORD. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS).

The result was announced—yeas 42, nays 55, as follows:

(Rollcall Vote No. 304 Leg.)

YEAS—42

Barrasso
Baucus
Boozman
Braun
Capito
Coryn
Cotton
Cramer
Craig
Crapo
Daines
Fischler
Graham
Inhofe
Round.

NAYS—55

Balduin
Bennet
Elemental
Hunt
Booker
Bonger
Canwell
Cardin
Carper
Cassidy
Collins
Coons
Cortez Masto
Durbin
Feinstein
Gillibrand
Hassan
Lee

NOT VOTING—3

Graham
Inhofe
Round.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. VAN HOLLEN). On this vote, the yeas are 52, the nays are 45.

Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for the adoption of this amendment, the amendment is not agreed to. The amendment (No. 2338) was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, Senator CAPITO and I have a couple of comments we would like to offer before we start on this amendment with Senator LEE, and that is we have consulted with both leaders, with Senator SCHUMER and Senator MCCONNELL. They are in agreement that 15 minutes firm is the vote.

So when we start this vote, folks have 15 minutes to get here after we start the vote to vote, and if they are not here, they are too late.

So that is the idea. We have spent way too much time waiting for people. We have three amendments lined up, and we are going to vote them and be punctual.

Senator CAPITO.

Mr. CAPITO. Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I am in full support of using the 15-minute deadline that we have anyway and actually enforcing this.
There is a lot of interest in this bill, as there should be. There are a lot of amendments pending. We want to get as many Members in—and have their amendments in the queue—as we possibly can.

But if people don’t come down and vote and show courtesy to everybody. I said in my last statement we are going to go to punitive measures. I am not sure voting within the allotted time is really a punitive measure, but that is what we are aiming for, and I am fully supportive of that.

Mr. CARPER. Thank you.

I would just ask any staff and Members who are watching, staff, let your Senators know it is 15 minutes, and that is it.

AMENDMENT NOS. 2279 AND 2358 TO AMENDMENT NO. 2137

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following amendments be called up to the substitute and be reported by number: No. 1 is Lee No. 2279; No. 2 is Rosen No. 2358; further, that the Senate vote in relation to the amendments in the order listed, with no amendments in order to the amendments prior to a vote in relation to the amendments, with 60 affirmative votes required for the adoption of the Lee amendment listed and with up to 4 minutes, equally divided, prior to each vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following amendments be called up to the substitute and be reported by number: No. 1 is Lee No. 2279; No. 2 is Rosen No. 2358; further, that the Senate vote in relation to the amendments in the order listed, with no amendments in order to the amendments prior to a vote in relation to the amendments, with 60 affirmative votes required for the adoption of the Lee amendment listed and with up to 4 minutes, equally divided, prior to each vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 2279 TO AMENDMENT NO. 2137

(Purpose: To establish a project delivery program under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 for water storage infrastructure projects.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Delaware [Mr. CARPER], for Mr. Lee, proposes an amendment numbered 2279 to the amendment No. 2137. (The amendment is printed in the RECORD of August 2, 2021 under “Text of Amendments.”)

AMENDMENT NO. 2358 TO AMENDMENT NO. 2137

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Delaware [Mr. CARPER], for Mr. Rosen, proposes an amendment numbered 2358 to amendment No. 2137.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To modify a provision relating to providing support for activities to increase the resiliency of the National Highway System to mitigate the cost of damages from wildfires)

On page 60, line 22, insert “wildfires,” after “flooding.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, in reference to my amendment No. 2279, this is what we are trying to deal with here, that is in order to help expedite the review of projects that are subject to NEPA, Congress authorized in the FAST Act for States to assume the duties of conducting the NEPA analysis.

For example, the Federal Highway Administration has entered into agreements with seven States—including Alaska, Arizona, California, Florida, Ohio, Texas, and Utah—to assume this responsibility with great success, providing States the ability to leverage their unique understanding of their own States in order to better carry out NEPA’s requirements.

To build on this success, Congress should also consider the ability of States to partner with the Federal Government for these types of reviews in their States’ water storage infrastructure projects.

My amendment would require the Department of the Interior to set up a program similar to the existing Surface Transportation Project Delivery Program so that any State may voluntarily assume the Agency’s NEPA responsibilities for their water storage infrastructure projects.

As I said just a moment ago, States already have a history of successfully conducting this work in the transportation space.

In 2020, for example, California conducted 33 environmental assessments, 32 findings of no significant impact, 2 environmental impact statements, 3 records of decision, and the list goes on and on.

In just the last half of 2020 alone, Arizona conducted over 50 categorical exclusion analyses. These are clearly roles that States are able and excited to handle.

In fulfilling these responsibilities, States would be subject to the same rigorous environmental requirements as their Federal partners, employing the same standards. Just as projects led by Federal Agencies can be halted due to insufficient NEPA analysis, States would also be held to the same standard.

With much of the West experiencing severe drought, with dire consequences, allowing States to aid the Federal Government in NEPA review in order to expedite water storage infrastructure projects is not just common sense, it is a necessity. It is a matter of survival. I urge my colleagues to support amendment No. 2279.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I rise in opposition to the amendment offered by our colleague from Utah.

This amendment would undermine the National Environmental Policy Act, also known as NEPA, by allowing States to assume responsibility for undertaking complex reviews of Federal action. These are reviews that Congress vested explicitly in the Federal Agencies that permit or license projects that could adversely affect our environment.

NEPA is designed to ensure that Federal Agencies consider major actions carefully to ensure those decisions do not unduly impact water quality, endangered species, community well-being, air quality, and other environmental resources.

NEPA is a critical analytical tool that ensures that Federal decision makers are better informed and that the affected community has an opportunity to engage and be heard.

Today, as the world is in the midst of a global pandemic, and climate change is having ever greater impacts on our natural world, we should be making decisions more carefully than ever, not just to improve outcomes but also to avoid wasting money on projects that are not ready for the future.

This amendment would instead turn over responsibility for that critical analysis to the States.

The bill before us includes many environmental deregulatory provisions—more, in fact, than many of us would prefer. However, it has been drafted in the spirit of bipartisan compromise.

This bill, as drafted, includes provisions to set deadlines for project review schedule in order to reduce project review timelines. It provides or expands categorical exclusions from NEPA. It also permanently authorizes the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council.

Unlike these provisions, which were the product of committee deliberation and compromise, the amendment that our friend from Utah has offered would significantly alter the process for Federal environmental review without any committee deliberation on such major changes.

These sweeping changes are inappropriate and unwarranted, and I urge our colleagues to join me in voting no.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that for an additional 30 seconds...

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

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, it is important to remember these are the exact same standards that would apply. We do this all the time in other areas. Federal Regulatory Improvement Steering Council on a continual basis, with the blessing of Congress, are given authority to carry out a Federal program.

In fact, we already do this with NEPA in the context of the Federal Highway Administration.

This works. States are competent. It is a matter of expanding the human resources to which we have access.

These are the exact same standards. There is no environmental threat. This would just allow this stuff to get done faster.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 2279

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to amendment No. 2279.

Mr. LEE. I ask for the yeas and nays. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll. Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) is necessarily absent.
Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The result was announced—yeas 47, nays 50, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 305 Leg.]

**YEAS—47**

Barrasso
Blackburn
Bilint
Boozman
Braun
Burr
Capito
Cassidy
Corry
Cotton
Cramer
Crapo
Crus
Daines
Collins
Casey
Carper
Booker
Baldwin
Bennet
Baucus
Barrasso
Hassan

**NAYS—50**

Baldwin
Benet
Blumenthal
Booker
Brown
Coxwell
Cardin
Carper
Casey
Collins
Coons
Cortez Masto
Duckworth
Durbin
Feinstein
Gillibrand
han

**NOT VOTING—3**

Graham
Inhofe
Sanders

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore.

Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for adoption, the amendment is not agreed to.

The amendment (No. 2279) was rejected.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, parliamentarily inquiry: How long did that last 15-minute vote take?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. While the vote was scheduled for 15 minutes, it took 27.

Mr. CARPER. Would the Senator yield?

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following rollcall votes be 10 minutes in length.

Mr. CARPER. I object.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The objection is heard.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, let me just take a minute from Senator Carper to explain what is going on, OK?

So lined up right now, we are going to do three voice votes. Negotiations are going forward on an amendment from Senator SCHUMER, related to the Commerce Committee’s jurisdiction. And after that, I think the last vote will be that of Senator Fischer, and we will be done.

And the reason why that is delayed is in order to provide time for negotiation to occur on the Schumer amendment with the Commerce Committee, and I think we are just about resolved.

I don’t like it. It is what it is.

I just want to thank all for your patience. We are close to the end.

I would just ask, when we ask for a voice vote on the amendment from Senator JACKY ROSEN, that we get a voice vote. And I would ask that when we ask for a voice vote on the Carper-Inhofe amendment, we get a voice vote. And beyond that, we will be halfway home, halfway home.

So thank you for your patience. We are almost there.

The ACTING PRO tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be 4 minutes of debate, equally divided, prior to—

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, let me have order. Let me have order, please.

The ACTING PRO tempore. Order.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following amendments be called up to the substitute and be reported by number: Carper-Inhofe 2564, Bennett-Hoeven 2548; further, that the Senate vote in relation to the amendments in the order listed, with no amendments in order to the amendments prior to voting in relation to the amendments, with up to 2 minutes equally divided prior to each vote.

The ACTING PRO tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 254 TO AMENDMENT NO. 2137

The ACTING PRO tempore. The clerk will report the amendments by number.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Delaware [Mr. CARPER], for himself and others, proposes an amendment numbered 2541 to amendment No. 2137.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To improve provisions relating to appropriations for the Corps of Engineers)

On page 2486, line 14, strike ‘‘Provided and’’ and all that follows through ‘‘proviso’’ on line 21 and insert the following: ‘‘Provided further, That of the amount provided under this heading, $2,500,000,000 shall be for construction, reimbursement, rehabilitation, and expansion of inland waterways projects: Provided further, That section 102(a) of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (Public Law 99-662; 33 U.S.C. 2212(a)) and section 109 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-260; 134 Stat. 2629) shall not apply to the extent that such projects are carried out with funds provided in the preceding proviso: Provided further, That in using such funds referred to in the preceding proviso, the Secretary shall give priority to projects included in the Capital Investment Strategy of the Corps of Engineers:.’’

On page 2487, lines 9 through 11, strike ‘‘or section 1135 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (Public Law 99-662; 33 U.S.C. 2212(a)) and section 109 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-260; 134 Stat. 2629) shall not apply to the extent that such projects are carried out with funds provided in the preceding proviso: Provided further, That in using such funds referred to in the preceding proviso, the Secretary shall give priority to projects included in the Capital Investment Strategy of the Corps of Engineers:.’’

On page 2488, line 9, insert ‘‘Provided further, That in using such funds referred to in the preceding proviso, the Secretary shall prioritize projects with overriding life safety benefits: Provided further, That of the funds in the proviso preceding the preceding proviso, the Secretary of the Army shall, to the maximum extent practicable, prioritize projects in the work plan that directly benefit economically disadvantaged communities, and may take into consideration prioritizing projects that benefit areas in which the percentage of people that live in poverty or identify as belonging to a minority group is greater than the average such percentage in the United States, based on data from the Bureau of the Census.’’ after ‘‘purpose:’’. On page 2496, between lines 3 and 4, insert the following:

**GENERAL PROVISIONS—CORPS OF ENGINEERS**

SEC. 300. For projects that are carried out with funds under this heading, the Secretary of the Army and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall consider other factors in addition to the benefit-cost ratio when determining the economic benefits of projects that benefit disadvantaged communities.

AMENDMENT NO. 254 TO AMENDMENT NO. 2137

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Delaware [Mr. CARPER], for Mr. BENNET and Mr. HOEVEN, proposes an amendment numbered 2545 to amendment No. 2137.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To require the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration Partnership program)

At the end of title VIII of division D, add the following:

**SEC. 408. JOINT CHIEFS LANDSCAPE RESTORATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.**

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) CHIEFS.—The term ‘‘Chiefs’’ means the Chief of the Forest Service and the Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

(2) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITY.—The term ‘‘eligible activity’’ means an activity—

(A) to reduce the risk of wildfire; or

(B) to protect water quality and supply; or

(C) to improve wildlife habitat for at-risk species.

(3) PROGRAM.—The term ‘‘Program’’ means the Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration Partnership program established under subsection (b)(1).

(4) SECRETARY.—The term ‘‘Secretary’’ means the Secretary of Agriculture.

(b) WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE.—The term ‘‘wildland-urban interface’’ has the meaning given the term in section 101 of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6511).

(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration Partnership program to improve the health and resilience of forest landscapes across National Forest System land and State, Tribal, and private land.

(2) ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary shall administer the Program by coordinating eligible activities conducted on National Forest System land and State, Tribal, and private land across a forest landscape to improve the health and resilience of the forest landscape by—

(A) assisting producers and landowners in implementing eligible activities on eligible private or Tribal land using the applicable programs and authorities administered by the Chief of the Forest Service and the Natural Resources Conservation Service under the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3801 et seq.), but excluding the conservation reserve program established under subchapter D of chapter 1 of title 16 of title 16 of such Act; and

August 4, 2021
(B) conducting eligible activities on National Forest System land or assisting landowners in implementing eligible activities on State, Tribal, or private land using the application of programs and authorities administered by the Chief of the Forest Service.
(c) SELECTION OF ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—The appropriate Regional Forester and State Conservationist shall jointly submit to the Chiefs on an annual basis proposals for eligible activities under the Program.
(d) CRITERIA.—In evaluating and selecting proposals submitted under subsection (c), the Chiefs shall consider—
   (1) criteria including whether the proposal—
      (A) reduces wildfire risk in a municipal watershed or the wildland-urban interface;
      (B) was developed through a collaborative process with participation from diverse stakeholders;
      (C) increases forest workforce capacity or forest business infrastructure and development;
   (2) other criteria relating to the merit of the proposals as the Chiefs determine to be appropriate.
(e) OUTREACH.—The Secretary shall provide—
   (1) public notice on the websites of the Forest Service and the Natural Resources Conservation Service describing—
      (A) the solicitation of proposals under subsection (c); and
      (B) the criteria for selecting proposals in accordance with subsection (d); and
   (2) information relating to the Program and application under the Program to States, Indian Tribes, units of local government, and private landowners.
(f) EXCLUSIONS.—An eligible activity may not be carried out under the Program—
   (1) in a wilderness area or designated wilderness study area;
   (2) in an inventoried roadless area;
   (3) on any Federal land on which, by Act of Congress or Presidential proclamation, the removal of vegetation is restricted or prohibited; or
   (4) in an area in which the eligible activity would be inconsistent with the applicable land and resource management plan.
(g) SUBORDINATION.—
   (1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report providing recommendations to Congress relating to the Program, including a review of—
      (A) funding mechanisms for the Program;
      (B) staff capacity to carry out the Program;
      (C) privacy laws applicable to the Program;
      (D) data collection under the Program;
      (E) monitoring and outcomes under the Program; and
      (F) such other matters as the Secretary considers to be appropriate.
   (2) ADDITIONAL REPORTS.—For each of fiscal years 2022 and 2023, the Chiefs shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Agriculture and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report describing projects for which funding is provided under the Program, including the status and outcomes of those projects.
(h) FUNDING.—
   (1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out the Program

$90,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 and 2023.

(2) ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—In addition to the funds described in paragraph (1), the Secretary may obligate available funds from any accounts used to carry out the existing Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration Partnership prior to the date of enactment of this Act to carry out eligible activities.

(3) DURATION OF AVAILABILITY.—Funds made available under paragraph (1) shall remain available until expended.

(4) DISCLOSURE.—Of the funds made available under paragraph (1)—
      (A) not less than 40 percent shall be allocated to carry out eligible activities through the Natural Resources Conservation Service; and
      (B) not less than 60 percent shall be allocated to carry out eligible activities through the Forest Service; and
      (C) the remaining funds shall be allocated by the Chiefs to the Natural Resources Conservation Service or the Forest Service—
         (i) to carry out eligible activities; or
         (ii) for other purposes, such as technical assistance, project development, or local capacity building.

AMENDMENT NO. 2564

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be 4 minutes of debate, equally divided, prior to a vote in relation to the Rosen amendment No. 2358.

The Senator from Nevada.

Ms. ROSEN. Mr. President, last summer, the United States saw up close the horrific damage that wildfires can do to our communities. In 2020, nearly 300,000 acres in Nevada burned to the ground. Right now, the Tamarack fire is devastating the Nevada-California border and local communities.

These natural disasters have done real, lasting damage to our Nation’s highways, causing cracks, potholes, and, in some cases, literally melting the roads that we drive on.

My colleague, Senator Risch, is aware that inland flooding projects are prioritized for projects on the Capital Investment Strategy Report, the guiding document for the Corps inland waterways projects.

Finally, this amendment makes sure that inland flooding projects are prioritized for economically disadvantaged communities while prioritizing projects with the highest need.

This is a good bill. It is a good amendment, and these small tweaks make it stronger.

I urge my colleagues to support our amendment and hope that we might do so unanimously.

Senator INHOFE would be here. He is in Oklahoma with his family right now. I think some would understand that. He urges us to support this as well.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there further debate?

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 2564

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the amendment No. 2564.

The amendment (No. 2564) was agreed to.

Mr. CARPER. With that, Mr. President, I would suggest the absence of a quorum, waiting for the arrival of Senator BENNET, who will be here momentarily.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior senator legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to a vote in relation to Bennett-Hoeven amendment 2548.

Senators INHOFE, WICKER, and DUCKWORTH.

This amendment makes several changes to the appropriations section of the substitute in the section that funds the Army Corps of Engineers.

The Senator from Delaware.

The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I rise now to discuss my amendment with

history.
Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I rise to speak about Bennet-Hoeven amendment 2548.

Our amendment would formally establish the Joint Chiefs Program at USDA. A lot of people haven’t heard of this initiative, but it is really, really important.

As I have said on this floor before, in Western States like Colorado and North Dakota, our forests and our grasslands important to our economy as the Lincoln Tunnel or the Brooklyn Bridge are to New York, but they haven’t received nearly enough investment over the years. The result is that we have people on the ground across the West who are working with incredibly constrained resources. But, despite their best effort, there is a lot of important work to maintain the health of our forests and grasslands that they are unable to do. The consequences of this have been terrible in the West Development.

In Colorado, we had the three largest wildfires in our history last year. The fires were still burning when the snow fell, for the first time. That has never happened in anyone’s memory.

As this infrastructure bill tonight, one of the major east-west corridors in America is closed because of mudslides that poured down the burn scar from the wildfires last year. Now I-70 may be closed for weeks.

We need to deal with this on the front end, and that is why the Joint Chiefs Program matters. At USDA, the Forest Service works mostly on public lands, while the Natural Resources Conservation Service supports efforts on private lands. Joint Chiefs allows them to work in a collaborative way.

I thank Senator Hoeven for his support, and I hope we will vote for this on voice vote.

The Acting President pro tempore, The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I am pleased to join with the Senator from Colorado on this Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration Partnership Act. I appreciate his leadership.

There are several points I want to make here before we vote, and that is, this program is very popular with landowners, and I think that is important. This is a very popular program with landowners. It is completely voluntary, a voluntary program. We have chatted with CBO. It does not score, so it does not have a score. Again, both the majority and minority on Ag agree and support this legislation. So, again, it is farmer-friendly, rancher-friendly, and popular with landowners.

I thank the Senator from Colorado, and I urge a “yes” vote on this amendment.

Thank you, Mr. President.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 2548

The Acting President pro tempore.

The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The amendment (No. 2548) was agreed to.
CAPITO for the work they have been doing here on the floor. I appreciate the Senator from Nebraska. Mr. TOOMEY.

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, I thank Senator CARPER and Senator CAPITO for the work they have been doing here on the floor. I appreciate their diligence in trying to get amendments up.

I am glad to offer this bipartisan amendment with my colleague from Nevada. It would promote transparency among all Federal funding avenues for broadband infrastructure deployment.

Right now, funding is divided among several Agencies: FCC, NTIA, USDA, HHS, Treasury, and many others. Some of these programs have detailed maps of where funding is going, but some do not. Even when there are maps, it still requires searching through several web pages and sources to find out what you are looking for, if you can find it at all. Without a clear picture of where the funding is going, it will be increasingly difficult to avoid duplication and distribute resources where they are needed the most. So our amendment would create an online mapping tool through an interagency process so we can view the latest progress of all of these deployment projects in one place. I would urge adoption of the amendment.

Thank you.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I join my colleague from Nebraska in support of this bipartisan amendment.

Transparency around broadband is so important for all of our communities, and it fits with what we are all doing to address our broadband needs across the country and trying to ensure we are bringing broadband into the communities most in need. So I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I understand there has been a request—let me ask the Senator.

I understand there has been a request for a recorded vote. Can you confirm that or not?

Mrs. FISCHER. A recorded vote would be fine.

Mr. CARPER. All right. Then it will be a recorded vote.

Let me ask our colleagues: 10 minutes from start to finish, and that is it. And the last amendment will be Schumer. All right? Let’s do this in 10 minutes, OK?

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 2164

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

Mr. THUNE. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there a sufficient second? There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll. The legislative clerk calls the roll. Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

The result was announced—yeas 95, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 306 Leg.]

YEAS—95

Baldwin
Barrasso
Bennet
Blackburn
Blumenthal
Booker
Boozman
Braun
Brown
Cassidy
Cantwell
Capito
Carper
Casey
Collins
Connor
Cortez Masto
Ossoff
Padilla
Paul
Portman
Risch
Romney
Rubio
Sanders
Saenz
Schatz
Schumer
Scott (FL)
Scott (SC)
Shelton
Shelby
Sinema
Smith
Stabenow
Sullivan
Tester

The result was announced—yeas 58, nays 39, as follows:

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NOT VOTING—5

Binat
Gillibrand
Menendez
Toomey

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will be 2 minutes of debate, equally divided, prior to the vote in relation to the Schumer amendment, No. 2570.

The Senator from New York.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, I rise in support of this amendment. It is a bipartisan amendment with Senator WICKER. And this is about just giving basic safety regulations to those superlong, stretch limousines.

The reason why Senator SCHUMER and I care about this, there was a horrible, horrible incident in Upstate New York, in Schoharie, where 20 people were killed. In that 1 limousine, 17 passengers: 4 young women from the same family—a mom lost 4 daughters—and 2 recently married couples. They hired the limousine to go safely to a birthday party.

This cannot continue.

And I yield to Senator WICKER.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I, too, rise in support of this amendment. It is in response to a tragic automobile accident that affected a number of families.

I want to thank Senator SCHUMER’s staff for working with me, the ranking member, and the chair of the Commerce Committee to get this language correct. It is in good shape. I entirely agree with the junior Senator from New York.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 2570

Mr. CORNYN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The amendment (No. 2164) was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 2570

Mr. WICKER. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The result was announced—yeas 95, nays 0.
My amendment—and that with Senator GILLIBRAND—would ensure that limousines meet minimum safety standards. It mandates seatbelts and seat safety standards, and it will save lives. So I thank my colleagues for supporting this amendment.

It is a beautiful thing what these families are doing. The hole in their heart will never go away. The hole in the heart of the whole city of Amsterdam, which lost so many of their vital young men and women, will never go away. But instead of cursing the darkness, they are lighting the candle, and, tonight, the candle was lit thanks to the bipartisan cooperation we have here. So I thank my colleagues.

Mr. President, now on the matter of today, the Senate is making really good progress, really good progress. As you know, I had promised, when we opened up our two-track process, that we would be fully bipartisan in the amendment process as we move forward on the bipartisan infrastructure bill. Well, I think no one can deny that we have kept our word here in the Democratic majority.

So far, the Senate has considered 22 amendments on this bipartisan piece of legislation. 15 of them today. That is more amendments than probably happened in many months when we were in the minority. Of those amendments, 12 were agreed to—by voice vote, 7 by rollcall; 10 were not agreed to; 13 of those 22 amendments—more than half—were sponsored by Republicans. So, clearly, we have shown a willingness to allow Members who are not part of the bipartisan group to have input into this important bill.

Tomorrow, we will continue to consider amendments, and then, hopefully, we can bring this bill to a close in the very near future. So the Chamber is working as Members on both sides of the aisle have wanted it to. I am proud of what we have been able to do today and hope we can continue tomorrow in that vein.

MORNING BUSINESS

TRIBUTE TO BILL CAMERON

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, August 20 will be the end of an era in Chicago as WLS 890 AM political reporter Bill Cameron puts his microphone down after a 51-year career on the radio. Bill is the “Dean” of Chicago political reporters, joining the city hall beat in 1970 and covering all the major stories in Chicago’s history. The announcement of his pending retirement brought praise for Bill’s legendary career, with one colleague calling him a “walking encyclopedia of political knowledge.”

When asked by a fellow reporter how he had survived his first 50 years in the industry, Bill said he took inspiration in advice from Chicago Cubs legend Ernie Banks: “Find something you love to do and stick with it.” Stick with it: he certainly did. Bill earned the admiration of his peers for his ability to elicit honest answers from his interview subjects. Bill always finds a way to cut to the heart of an issue and deliver insightful reports for his listeners.

Bill and I are both natives of East St. Louis, IL, though we never met until my Senate election and his Chicago beat brought us together. Bill’s father Fred was a successful high school football coach, winning more than 100 games for the storied East St. Louis Flyers. Instead of following his father’s footsteps into football, Bill chose broadcast journalism, earning a bachelor’s degree at Indiana University. And we are all the better for it.

Bill started as a news writer for NBC 5 in Chicago in 1969 but left TV for good the next year, signing on at the former WMAQ 670 AM. He was there until the station switched to an all-news format in 2000. Bill is the “Dean” of WLS’ political reporting.

Mr. President, now on the matter of today, the Senate is making really good progress, really good progress. As you know, I had promised, when we opened up our two-track process, that we would be fully bipartisan in the amendment process as we move forward on the bipartisan infrastructure bill. Well, I think no one can deny that we have kept our word here in the Democratic majority.

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Tomorrow, we will continue to consider amendments, and then, hopefully, we can bring this bill to a close in the very near future. So the Chamber is working as Members on both sides of the aisle have wanted it to. I am proud of what we have been able to do today and hope we can continue tomorrow in that vein.

The amendment (No. 2570) was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHUMER). Mr. President, before I close, I have some brief remarks.

First, on the Senate that just passed, let me thank my colleagues for passing this very important bill.

It stems from the fact that, in 2018, 20 lives were lost in a tragic limousine accident in Schoharie, NY. The families came from the small city of Amsterdam, the people. They had done just the right thing. It is a group that went out. They knew they might be enjoying themselves, and so they hired a big, long stretch limo. Unfortunately, as the limo came down the hill in Schoharie, it crashed, and 20 people died.

I met the families. These were young people in the prime of life. I met one mom. She lost four daughters—four daughters—in this crash. This community of Amsterdam and these families have endured endless tragedy.

But instead of cursing the darkness, they have lit a candle, and they are pushing for the fact that there is a hole that we need to cover other vehicles.

Now Congress finally has the opportunity to address the gaps and loopholes that have allowed limousines to escape the basic safety standards that cover other vehicles.
has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with that committee’s intent to ensure that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

**DEFENSE SECURITY**

**COOPERATION AGENCY,**

Arlington, VA.

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ,**

Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 21–44, concerning the Army’s proposed Letter(s) of Transmittal to the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO) for defense articles and services estimated to cost $750 million. As the notification is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

**HEIDI H. GRANT,**

Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21–44

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO).

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

- (i) Prospective Purchaser: Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO) — $750 million.
- Other $115 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration:

- Major Defense Equipment (MDE):
  - Forty (40) 155mm M109A6 Medium Self-Propelled Howitzer Systems.
  - Twenty (20) M992A2 Field Artillery Ammunition Support Vehicles (FAAVS).
- Non-MDE: Also included are M109A6/ M992A2 overhaul, conversion and refurbishment services; Special Tools and Test Equipment (STTE); Defense Advanced Global Positioning System (GPS) Receiver; AN/VVS(2) Night Driver’s Viewer (NDV); Dynamic Reference Unit Hybrid Replacement Inertial Navigation System; Basic Issue Items (BI); Program Management Support; Verification Testing; System Technical Support; Transport; Spare and repair parts; communication support equipment; communication equipment integration; tools and test equipment; repair and return program; camouflage nets; Components of End Items (COEI), Additional Authorized List (AAL), Technical Manuals; Quality Assurance Team (QAT); 155mm M221A1 Propelling Charges, M82 Percussion Primer Fuzes, support and test equipment, self-propelled defensive camouflage items, software delivery, publications and technical documentation. U.S. Government and contractor engineering; technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (TW–B–ZDI).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.
(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to Be Paid: None.
(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.
(ix) As defined in Section 47 (6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO)—155mm M109A6 Paladin Medium Self-Propelled Howitzer System.

TECRO has requested to buy forty (40) 155mm M109A6 Medium Self-Propelled Howitzer Systems; twenty (20) M992A2 Field Artillery Ammunition Support Vehicles (FAAVS); one (1) Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System; twenty (20) BAE, York, PA. The purchaser has requested offsets. At this time, agreements are under negotiation between the purchaser and U.S. Government representatives to recipient. Support teams will travel to recipient on a temporary basis. There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

This proposed sale serves U.S. national, economic, and security interests by supporting the recipient’s continuing efforts to modernize its armed forces and to maintain defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale. It will help improve the security of the recipient and assist in maintaining political stability, military balance, economic, and political security in the region.

This proposed sale of M109A6 SPH will contribute to the modernization of the recipient’s armed forces by improving the ability to meet current and future threats. These systems will contribute to the recipient’s goal of updating its military capabilities while further enhancing interoperability with the United States and other allies. The recipient will have no difficulty absorbing these systems into its armed forces. Proposed sale of military equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The primary contractor for the Self-Propelled Howitzer Systems will be BAE Systems, Anniston, AL, and Elgin, OK; M992A2 FAAVS. Anniston Army Depot (ANAD), Byron, AL, and M88A2 recovery vehicles, BAE, York, PA. The purchaser has requested offsets. At this time, agreements are under negotiation between the purchaser and U.S. Government representatives to recipient. Support teams will travel to recipient on a temporary basis. There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21–44


Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The Paladin M109A6 howitzer is the fifth product improvement to the original M109 self-propelled howitzer. It features improvements in the areas of survivability; reliability, availability, and maintainability (RAM); responsiveness; and terminal effects. The M109A6 is an armored, full tracked howitzer carrying 37 complete conventional rounds and two Copperhead projectiles and is capable of firing one of these projectiles with a new turret structure that facilitates integration of the various turret improvements and contributes to reduced weight and size. The M109A6 is capable of firing to a maximum speed of 38 miles per hour and has a maximum cruising range of 186 miles.

The M109A6 can operate independently, on the move, it can receive a fire mission, compute firing data, select and take up its firing position, automatically unloads and points, fires, moves—always with external technical assistance. Firing the first round following a move in under 60 seconds, a crew of four can “shoot and scoot” and protect the crew from counterbattery fire. The M109A6 is capable of firing up to four rounds per minute to ranges of 30 kilometers. The M109A6 has features that increase survivability such as day/night operability, Nuclear, Biological, Chemical (NBC) protection, with climate control and secure voice communications.

2. The Inertial Navigation Unit (INU) component provides the vehicle with its own position location using a sensor that continuously calculates its direction and velocity without the continuous dependency of a GPS; the INU receives GPS data from an external GPS receiver and is available to provide better precision. The INU allows the vehicle to more precisely calculate its velocity without the continuous dependency of a GPS; the INU receives GPS data from an external GPS receiver and is available to provide better precision. The INU allows the vehicle to more precisely calculate its velocity without the continuous dependency of a GPS; the INU receives GPS data from an external GPS receiver and is available to provide better precision.
its position to other components in the vehicle to improve its functions and safety of use; these functions include movement and maneuver of the vehicle, movement of the turret and the gun tube.

3. The Electronic Fire Control System (EFCs) commonly referred to as the Paladin Fire Control System (PFCS) is a major change in the Paladin M109A6. It is taken from the manual fire control system used on the M109A5. This gives the howitzer the ability to operate over a widely dispersed area and to fire and engage using the on board fire control navigation and GPS system. The M109A6 can move and position within an assigned process, aggregate moving data, and fire a mission without relying on aiming circles and wire lines. The M109A6 can change position more frequently, an advantage against enemy fire. Such advancements give new meaning to the artillery’s ability to move, shoot and communicate. In addition, the EFCs with embedded electronic diagnostics improves maintenance and repair functions by assisting in pinpointing faults.

4. The Defense Advanced GPS (Global Positioning System) (DODIC DA13), will be used in M109 series howitzers. The Modular Artillery Charge System (MACS) consists of two propelling charge module types, the M231 and the M232/M232A1, and their associated packaging. The system is with all current and planned 155mm field artillery weapons.

5. The M26 Precision Guided Missile (PGM) is a Global Positioning System (GPS) Guided Weapon developed for the M775 and M594A1 155mm High Explosive (HE) Artillery Projectiles. The PGK corrects the ballistic trajectory of the projectile to reduce delivery errors and improves projectile accuracy. The PGK will effectively reduce the field of conventional artillery munitions and reduce the number of projectiles required to execute a fire mission.

6. The 155mm M323A1 Propelling Charge (DODIC DA13), will be used in M109 series howitzers. The Modular Artillery Charge System (MACS) consists of two propelling charge module types, the M231 and the M232/M232A1 and their associated packaging. The system is with all current and planned 155mm field artillery weapons.

7. The M26 Percussion Primer (DODIC NS2), will be used in M109 series howitzers.

8. The International Field Artillery Tactical Data System is the international export version of the Army’s Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System (AFATDS). It provides networked and fully automated support for the planning, coordination, control, and execution of fires and effects such as mortars, field artillery, rockets, missiles, and close air support. International versions are developed for each customer unique to the weapon and targeting systems in the inventory.

9. Field Artillery Munition Support Vehicle (FAASV) M992A2 this ammunition vehicle has no turret, but has a taller superstructure for firing with a corresponding number of powders and primers. Until recently, much of the remaining inter-

10. Heavy Recovery Combat Utility Lift and Evacuation System (HERCULES) Improved Recovery Vehicle—M88A2 recovers tanks mired to different depths requiring heavy mobile power packs, and uprights overturned heavy combat vehicles. The main winch of the M88A2 is capable of a 70-ton, single-line recovery, allowing the HERCULES to provide recovery of the 70-Ton M1A2 Abrams Tank.

11. The A-frame boom and hoist winch of the M88A2 can lift 35 tons. The spade can be used to tuck in the spade to allow the main winch and can be used for light earth movement to prepare a recovery area. The M88A2 employs an auxiliary power unit to provide auxiliary electrical and hydraulic power when the main engine is not in operation. It can also be used to slave start other vehicles, as well as a means to refuel or defuel vehicles. The M88A2 can refuel Abrams tanks from its own fuel tank.

12. The Browning M2 is an air-cooled, belt-fed machine gun. The M2 fires from a closed bolt, semi-automatic principle. The M2 fires the .50 BMG cartridge, which offers long range, accuracy, and immense stopping power.

13. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

14. In a time of peace, adversaries were to obtain knowledge of the hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures or equivalent systems, which might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

15. A determination has been made that the recipient can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

16. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the recipient.

TRIBUTE TO ARNOLD POSTOVIT

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. President, it is a great honor for me to recognize a North Dakota hero who will celebrate his 100th birthday on August 20. Arnold Postovit of Tioga is one of our State’s most treasured residents who has experienced many great moments in our State’s and Nation’s history.

Raised during the Great Depression on a farm near the town of Plaza, Ar- nold showed through his hard work and ingenuity how thick they blocked the sun. In an oral interview in 1999, this World War II veteran shared details about his military service.

Arnold graduated from Plaza High School and enrolled at the University of North Dakota before deciding he wanted to be a pilot. This led him and a few friends to the Army recruiting center in Bismarck in the summer of 1940. With no openings in Army Air Corps units, he enlisted in the Infantry. After a year, he was released back to the Infantry, 3rd Division.

He trained with a mortar unit in Washington State, going on maneuvers and practicing boat landings on Puget Sound. In January 1941, he was transferred to Fort Lewis and was on leave in Tacoma on December 7, when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. In early 1942, he trained near San Diego for several months before being shipped to the south Pacific and the aid. Traveling by train to Virginia, it was in November 1942 when his battalion boarded the USS Thomas Jefferson and landed in North Africa 3 weeks later. There, he was among those who combined with other units around Casablanca. Following more training, Arnold and his division sailed the Mediterranean Sea toward Tunisia to prepare for the invasion of Sicily in July 1943. His landing craft in- fantry came under heavy German machine gun fire as they came ashore. He also saw action in Palermo and Messina, Italy, where he remembers heavy fighting and the cold weather at Christmas time.

"We were young and tough." Arnold recalls. "There was a lot of rain and we got sick from being wet and from the dysentery that would break out."

His life would change after his unit landed behind German lines in Anzio, Italy, in January 1944. Along with some of his best battle-hardened troops to push back this surprise attack by the Allied Forces. On February 6, German troops captured Arnold and a dozen other soldiers. He was transferred to a nearby POW camp along with many other American and British soldiers.

A few weeks later, trucks took him and other POWs on a 4-day trip to northern Germany to the Stalag 2B camp. Arnold and 16 other soldiers were taken by train to a working farm, where he did general farm work for nearly a year. In the spring of 1945, as Soviet troops invaded Germany from the east, Arnold and a thousand other soldiers were marched west across Germany close to the North Sea and kept warm in nearby barns during the cold nights. After marching 600 miles, Arnold and some other soldiers saw an opportunity to escape to a nearby small town near the Elbe River on April 12. They hid in abandoned buildings and the next morning flagged down a small American plane that was flying over. They were told to stay where they were because American troops would be there in a few hours. When they connected with the Americans, the first thing the soldier did was throw those thin and sick prisoners of war cans of C-rations to eat. Eventually, they were flown to Le Harve, France and went to nearby Camp Lynch Strike, where released prisoners of war were taken to regain their health. Arnold was among other North Dakota soldiers who then sailed with thousands of others to Newport News, VA. On a converted transport ship, Arnold and his Army discharge, Arn- old returned home to farm with his father, who by then lived near White Earth, ND. He planted the crops and

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his father took care of the livestock. Married 6 years later, he and his wife Marjorie raised a family of five children. Although it was difficult to adjust after his wartime and POW experiences, Arnold made the best of his opportunities and perfectly embodied an American. “After you lose your freedom, then you understand what freedom means,” he said. “Americans are free, even if we sometimes think we aren’t.”

In May 2009, Arnold participated with other North Dakota World War II veterans in an Honor Flight that took them to the World War II Memorial and other sites in Washington, DC.

Arnold Postovit is one of 60,000 North Dakotans who served in the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II. Of those, nearly 2,000 gave their lives for our freedom in this largest and deadliest conflict in world history. With only some 500 World War II veterans still alive today in North Dakota, the heroism of every single one of them is appreciated more than ever.

Throughout his life, Arnold has embodied the best of the Greatest Generation—a meaningful life, sharing his story as a World War II soldier so the rest of us can better understand and appreciate the selfless service and sacrifice each and every veteran has made. On behalf of all North Dakotans, I wish Arnold Postovit a very happy 100th birthday on August 20 and many more years of health and vitality. As he celebrates with his family and many friends in Tioga on August 22, I honor him as one of North Dakota’s most exemplary citizens.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO SUSAN ERLICHMAN

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize the extraordinary career of Susan Erlichman, Esquire, the executive director of the Maryland Legal Services Corporation, on the eve of her retirement after 32 years of remarkable public service. Susan is a devoted public servant and tireless advocate for civil legal services for those who need them most in the State of Maryland.

The Maryland Legal Services Corporation—MLSC—is the state’s largest funder of civil legal aid. Its mission, as stated by Maryland General Assembly, is ensuring that low-income Marylanders have access to reliable, productive, and worthwhile civil legal assistance by distributing and overseeing grants to nonprofits statewide. Since its creation in 1982, MLSC has distributed grants totaling over $312 million. In turn, grantees have assisted Marylanders in more than 3.5 million legal matters, ranging from family to housing to employment to healthcare cases, in which they would otherwise have been hard-pressed to access legal aid.

Susan Erlichman’s career with the MLSC spanned an incredible 32 years, including 17 as the organization’s executive director. During her tenure in that position, Susan oversaw the tripling of MLSC’s annual budget, from $6 million to $20 million. She also helped to found a robust working relationship between the Administrative Office of the Courts and MLSC that significantly expanded Maryland’s Juvenile Family Law program and the number of residents it serves. Perhaps one of her greatest accomplishments, however, was her innovative program to remove barriers to employment in Maryland by placing civil legal aid lawyers in projects aimed at the fostering of more productive and prosperous workforces.

From the 2008 recession to our current-day COVID-19 pandemic, Susan’s drive, tenacity, and compassion has been an invaluable asset to our state. Through the projects I have mentioned and the countless others that she has led, Susan has utilized her institutional insight and diplomatic skills to bring together a wide coalition of allies to support and strengthen civil legal services. Susan has been an incredible leader to MLSC staff, even during the hardest of times.

Access to justice is a significant, growing challenge in Maryland and nationwide that has only been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. In most cases, low-income Americans receive inadequate or no legal help due to lack of available resources, even though they are eligible and entitled to legal assistance. During the pandemic, the Legal Services Corporation—LSC—reported that 94 percent of grantees surveyed said they were providing services to clients who were newly eligible for legal aid during the COVID-19 pandemic. I credit Susan and the excellent work of MLSC with making it as easy as possible for me to advocate for Federal funding. Her work and that of her organization nationwide has generated bipartisan support in Congress that was significant enough to turn back an effort to disband the Legal Services Corporation entirely in the last administration. There is no doubt that Susan’s leadership has allowed MLSC to endure as a beacon of hope in the face of the surge in demand since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The MLSC is an organization near and dear to my heart. From August 1988, to implement the Action Plan and serve as its chair. Previously, I chaired a task force that produced an innovative Office of the Legal Services to Maryland’s Poor in January of 1988. Many recommendations from the action plan, such as conversion of the Interest on Lawyer Trust Account—IOLTA—program from voluntary to mandatory, were ultimately adopted. I enjoyed working with Susan, who coincidentally joined the organization in 1986, to implement the action plan and modernize the organization. Although I moved on from MLSC a few years later, I was happy to know the organization was in such good hands. I am also confident that Susan’s successor, Deb Seltzer, will continue Susan’s legacy and make great progress towards achieving the mission of the MLSC.

In announcing Susan’s retirement, MLSC board chair Natalie McSherry had this to say: “Susan Erlichman is a giant among all leaders of IOLTA and other funding entities for civil legal services. We have been incredibly blessed to have had the benefit of her leadership for so many years.” It is clear that Susan’s impact on the Maryland Legal Services Corporation, and the State of Maryland for that matter, will be felt for years to come. For that, I sincerely thank her for her service to our State’s citizens and wish her a happy and well-deserved retirement.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 3:51 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:


The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC-1682. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Offshore Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands” (H.I.D. 59668-BK41) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1683. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Northeastern United
States; Recreational Management Measures for the Summer Flounder Fishery; Fishing Year 2021” (RIN0648–BK32) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1684. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; 2021 Harvest Specifications for Pacific Whiting, and 2021 Pacific Whiting Tribal Allocation” (RIN0648–BK25) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1685. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Aleutian Islands Groundfish Fisheries” (RIN0648–BK18) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1686. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Removing the Processing Restrictions on Incidentally Caught Squid and Sculpin Species in the Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Groundfish Fishery” (RIN0648–BK17) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1687. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Correcting Amendment to 50 CFR Part 660 for West Coast Sablefish Primary Fishery Season Dates” (RIN0648–BK15) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1688. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Herring; Framework Adjustment 2; 2021 Harvest Specifications” (RIN0648–BK11) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1689. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Correcting Amendment to 50 CFR Part 660 for Pacific Salmon Fisheries; Rebuilding Coho Salmon Stocks” (RIN0648–BJ74) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1690. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Salmon Bycatch Minimization” (RIN0648–BJ50) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1691. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Golden Tilefish Fishery; Extension of Amendment 29; 2021–22 Biennial Specifications and Management Measures; Correction” (RIN0648–BJ74) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1692. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Ocean Groundfish Fisheries” (RIN0648–LB06) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1693. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan; Amendment 2021–22 Biennial Specifications and Management Measures; Correction” (RIN0648–BJ74) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1694. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries Off West Coast States; Atlantic Herring; Framework Adjustment 33 to the Atlantic Herring Fishery Management Plan” (RIN0648–BX01) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1695. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands; Proposed 2021 and 2022 Harvest Specifications for Groundfish; Salmon bycatch minimization” (RIN0648–BJ50) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1696. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Pacific Island Fisheries; Mariana Archipelago Bottomfish Annual Catch Limits and Accountability Measures” (RIN0648–BJ36) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1697. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Standard for Infant Sleep Products” ((16 CFR Parts 1112, 1130, and 1236) (Docket No. CPSC–2017–0023)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1698. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Flammability of Mattresses and Mattress Pads; Amendment” ((16 CFR Part 1632) (Docket No. CPSC–2020–0025)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1699. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Flammability of Mattresses and Mattress Pads; Amendment” ((16 CFR Part 1632) (Docket No. CPSC–2020–0025)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.


EC–1701. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Television Broadcasting Services; Redding, California” ((DA 21–846) (Docket No. 21–176)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1702. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Television Broadcasting Services; Quincy, IL” ((DA 21–846) (Docket No. 21–219)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1703. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Television Broadcasting Services; Butte, Montana” ((DA 21–846) (Docket No. 21–176)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1704. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Television Broadcasting Services; Redding, California” ((DA 21–846) (Docket No. 21–176)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1705. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Television Broadcasting Services; Quincy, IL” ((DA 21–846) (Docket No. 21–219)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1706. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Pacific Halibut Fisheries; Catch Sharing Program Amendment” ((DA 21–846) (Docket No. 21–176)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1707. A communication from the Director of the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric
EC-1716. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH Helicopters; Amendment 39–21610” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2019–0293)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 27, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1724. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus (Type Certificate Previously Held by Eurocopter France) and Eurocopter France Helicopters; Amendment 39–21642” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2006–24733)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 27, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1725. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; International Aero Engines AG ‘Turbofan Engines; Amendment 39–21629’” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2021–0509)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 27, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1726. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes; Amendment 39–21635” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2021–0484)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 27, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1727. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; ATR-GIE Avions de Transport Regional Airplanes; Amendment 39–21604” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2020–0790)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 27, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1728. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH (AHD) Helicopters; Amendment 39–21666” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2021–0265)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 27, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1729. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Great Falls, MT” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2020–1269)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 27, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1730. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast National Marine Sanctuary Designation; Final Rule” (Docket No. BPD–2020–0007) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1735. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Testing and Labeling Pertaining to Product Certification; Requirements Pertaining to Third Party Conformity Assessment Bodies” ((16 CFR Parts 1107 and 1112) (Docket No. CPSC–2021–0013)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1719. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment 39–21605” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2021–0509)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 27, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1720. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment 39–21605” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2021–0509)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 27, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1721. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; ATR–GIE Avions de Transport Regional Airplanes; Amendment 39–21604” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2020–0790)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 27, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1722. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment 39–21605” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2021–0509)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 27, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1723. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH Helicopters; Amendment 39–21610” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2019–0293)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 27, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1724. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH Helicopters; Amendment 39–21610” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2019–0293)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 27, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1725. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH Helicopters; Amendment 39–21610” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2019–0293)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 27, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Region; 2020-2021 Commercial Closure for Spanish Mackerel in the Atlantic Southern Zone (RIN0648-XA946) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 21, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1756. A communication from the Fishery Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Region; 2020-2021 Closure of Commercial Run-Around Gillnet for King Mackerel” (RIN0648-AX876) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 21, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1757. A communication from the Fishery Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Less Than 60 Feet (18.3 Meters) Length Overall Using Hook-and-Line or Baited Longline Fishing Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-AX783) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 21, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1758. A communication from the Fishery Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Greater Than or Equal to 60 Feet Length Overall Using Pot Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-AX770) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 21, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1759. A communication from the Fishery Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Greater Than or Equal to 60 Feet Length Overall Using Set Trawls in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-AX767) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 21, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1766. A communication from the Fishery Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Halibut Commission Regulatory Areas 2A, 2C, and 3A.” (RIN0648-BJ39) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 22, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1767. A communication from the Fishery Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Halibut Commission Regulatory Areas 2A, 2C, and 3A.” (RIN0648-BJ39) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 22, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1769. A communication from the Fishery Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “‘Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Halibut Fisheries; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan; Amendment 29; 2021-2022 Biennial Specifications and Management Measures’” (RIN0648-BJ74) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 22, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1770. A communication from the Fishery Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Regional Fishery Management Council Membership; Financial Disclosure and Recusal” (RIN0648-BH73) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 22, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1771. A communication from the Fishery Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Framework Adjustment To Modify the Mid-Atlantic Vermilion Snapper and Recreational Bag Limit for Atlantic King Mackerel” (RIN0648-BK05) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 22, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1772. A communication from the Fishery Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries Off West Coast States; West Coast Salmon Fisheries 2020 Management Measures” (RIN0648-BJ38) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 22, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1773. A communication from the Fishery Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Highly Migratory Species; Pacific Halibut Fisheries; Catch Sharing Plan” (RIN0648-BJ39) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 22, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1774. A communication from the Fishery Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Halibut Commission Regulatory Areas 2A, 2C, and 3A.” (RIN0648-BJ39) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 22, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1775. A communication from the Fishery Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Central Gulf of Alaska Rockfish Program Amendment 111” (RIN0648-BJ73) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 22, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1776. A communication from the Fishery Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Central Gulf of Alaska Rockfish Program Amendment 111” (RIN0648-BJ73) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 22, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1777. A communication from the Fishery Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Central Gulf of Alaska Rockfish Program Amendment 111” (RIN0648-BJ73) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 22, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1778. A communication from the Fishery Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Regional Fishery Management Council Membership; Financial Disclosure and Recusal” (RIN0648-BH73) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 22, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1779. A communication from the Fishery Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Snapper-Groupers Fishery of the South Atlantic Region; Regulatory Amendment 33” (RIN0648-BJ73) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 22, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
EC-1777. A communication from the Fishery Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Pacific Halibut Fishery; Revisions to Catch Sharing Plan and Management Measures; Final Rule” (RIN0648-BK35) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 22, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1778. A communication from the Fishery Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic: Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Greater Amberjack Management Measures (RIN0648-AD55) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 22, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1779. A communication from the Fishery Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries Off West Coast States; Emergency Action To Temporarily Remove Seasonal Fishing Limitations in the Gulf of California, Outer Continental Shelf, and Offshore Areas” (RIN0648-AD54) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 22, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1780. A communication from the Fishery Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Increase in Sector Carryover of 2019 Annual Catch Entitlements and Related Amendments for fishing years ending in 2021 and 2022” (RIN0648-AD29) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 22, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. BALDWIN, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 2610. An original bill making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and related agencies for fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-35).

By Mr. HINCHMAN, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 2604. An original bill making appropriations for defense, military construction, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-35).

By Mr. FEINSTEIN, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 2605. An original bill making appropriations for defense, military construction, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-35).

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment and with a preamble:

S.J. Res. 19. A joint resolution to repeal the authorizations for use of military force against Iraq, and for other purposes.

By Mr. WARNER, from the Select Committee on Intelligence, without amendment:

S. 2610. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, including the Intelligence Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. MENENDEZ for the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Marc Evans Knapper, of California, to be a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Nominee Michael Brennan.


(The following is a list of all members of my immediate family and their spouses. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions, Amount, Date and Donee:

1. Self: 0.

2. Spouses: 0.

3. Children and Spouses: 0.

4. Parents: Roger Knapper—deceased; Yolanda Salzman—deceased; Mark Salzman—deceased.

5. Grandparents: 0.

6. Aunts and Uncles: 0.

7. Sisters and Spouses: 0.

8. Cousins: 0.

9. Other relatives: 0.

Contributions, Amount, Date and Donee:

1. Self: 0.

2. Spouses: 0.

3. Children and Spouses: 0.

4. Parents: Roger Knapper—deceased; Yolanda Salzman—deceased; Mark Salzman—deceased.

5. Grandparents: 0.

6. Aunts and Uncles: 0.

7. Sisters and Spouses: 0.

8. Cousins: 0.

9. Other relatives: 0.

Contributions, Amount, Date and Donee:

1. Self: 0.

2. Spouses: 0.

3. Children and Spouses: 0.

4. Parents: Roger Knapper—deceased; Yolanda Salzman—deceased; Mark Salzman—deceased.

5. Grandparents: 0.

6. Aunts and Uncles: 0.

7. Sisters and Spouses: 0.

8. Cousins: 0.

9. Other relatives: 0.

Contributions, Amount, Date and Donee:

1. Self: 0.

2. Spouses: 0.

3. Children and Spouses: 0.

4. Parents: Roger Knapper—deceased; Yolanda Salzman—deceased; Mark Salzman—deceased.

5. Grandparents: 0.

6. Aunts and Uncles: 0.

7. Sisters and Spouses: 0.

8. Cousins: 0.

9. Other relatives: 0.

Contributions, Amount, Date and Donee:

1. Self: 0.

2. Spouses: 0.

3. Children and Spouses: 0.

4. Parents: Roger Knapper—deceased; Yolanda Salzman—deceased; Mark Salzman—deceased.

5. Grandparents: 0.

6. Aunts and Uncles: 0.

7. Sisters and Spouses: 0.

8. Cousins: 0.

9. Other relatives: 0.

Contributions, Amount, Date and Donee:

1. Self: 0.

2. Spouses: 0.

3. Children and Spouses: 0.

4. Parents: Roger Knapper—deceased; Yolanda Salzman—deceased; Mark Salzman—deceased.

5. Grandparents: 0.

6. Aunts and Uncles: 0.

7. Sisters and Spouses: 0.

8. Cousins: 0.

9. Other relatives: 0.

Contributions, Amount, Date and Donee:

1. Self: 0.

2. Spouses: 0.

3. Children and Spouses: 0.

4. Parents: Roger Knapper—deceased; Yolanda Salzman—deceased; Mark Salzman—deceased.

5. Grandparents: 0.

6. Aunts and Uncles: 0.

7. Sisters and Spouses: 0.

8. Cousins: 0.

9. Other relatives: 0.
TJ Cox for Congress, 7/15/2018, $250.
Wexton for Congress, 7/16/2018, $250.
Friends of Dan Feanen, 7/22/2018, $250.
Katie Hill for Congress, 8/9/2018, $250.
Haley Stevens for Congress, 8/8/2018, $250.
Josh Harder for Congress, 8/8/2018, $250.
Cindy Axne for Congress, 8/16/2018, $250.
Casten for Congress, 8/16/2018, $250.
Jason Crow for Congress, 8/16/2018, $250.
DNC Services Corp./Dem. Nat'l Committee, 8/21/2018, $1000.
Friends of Raja for Congress, 8/21/2018, $250.
Haley Stevens for Congress, 8/8/2018, $250.
Kaine for Senate 9/6/2018, $100.
Manchin for West Virginia 9/6/2018, $100.
TJ Cox for Congress, 6/5/2018, $250.

Moe Davis for Congress, 10/26/2020, $250.
Warlock for Georgia, 12/5/2020, $250.
Jon Ossoff for Senate, 12/15/2020, $250.
Democratic Asian Americans of Virginia, 2/14/2021, $500.
Tammy Duckworth for Senate, 4/7/2021, $500.
Andy Kim for Congress, 5/7/2021, $500.
AAP Victory Alliance, 5/13/2021, $250.
Attachment 2: Kathleen Thomas Federal Contributions.

Jon Ossoff for Congress, 3/16/2017, $100.
DCCC, 6/15/2017, $500.
DSCC, 8/23/2017, $500.
DSCC, 8/23/2017, $500.
DNC Services Corp./Dem. Nat'l Committee, 9/28/2017, $1000.
Doug Jones for Senate Committee, 11/8/2017, $250.
DCCC, 1/2/2018, $250.
DSCC, 1/2/2018, $250.
Montanans for Tester, 4/30/2018, $400.
Manchin for West Virginia, 5/16/2018, $250.

Nate McMurray for Congress, 10/18/2018, $250.

Democratic Asian Americans of Virginia, 4/20/2019, $150.


Democratic Asian Americans of Virginia, 6/25/2019, $150.

Lauren Baer for Congress, 6/5/2018, $250.
APFA for Ohio, 6/5/2018, $250.
Beto for Texas, 6/5/2018, $250.
Andrew Kim for Congress, 6/5/2018, $250.

Montanans for Bullock, 8/14/2020, $250.

Biden for President, 11/4/2020, $250.

George Scott for Congress, 10/14/2018, $250.
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<td>Ron Johnson, of Wisconsin</td>
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<td>Mike Lee, of South Carolina</td>
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<td>John Cornyn, of Texas</td>
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<td>Susan Collins, of Maine</td>
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<td>Tom Carper, of Delaware</td>
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<td>Chris Van Hollen, of Maryland</td>
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<td>Roy Blunt, of Missouri</td>
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<td>Steve Daines, of Montana</td>
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<td>Kyrsten Sinema, of Arizona</td>
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<td>Mark Warner, of Virginia</td>
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<td>Jon Tester, of Montana</td>
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<td>Martin Heinrich, of Nevada</td>
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<td>Bob Casey, of Pennsylvania</td>
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<td>Brian Schatz, of Hawaii</td>
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<td>Dan Sullivan, of Georgia</td>
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<td>Gary Peters, of Florida</td>
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<td>Ben Ray Lujan, of New Mexico</td>
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**Note:** The above list represents contributions made by members of the immediate family of the Senator to the campaigns of their fellow legislators. This information is based on data compiled by the Center for Responsive Politics and is subject to change based on updated contributions.
of Career Minister, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Western Hemisphere Affairs).

Marcela Escobar, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

Monica P. Medina, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary of State for Oceanic and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs.

Rena Bitter, of the District of Columbia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Consular Affairs).

Gentry O. Smith, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Diplomatic Security).

Anne A. Witkowsky, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Conflict and Stabilization Operations).

Anne A. Witkowsky, of Maryland, to be Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization.

Mary Catherine Phee, of Illinois, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the African Development Foundation for a term expiring September 27, 2026.

Mary Catherine Phee, of Illinois, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the African Development Foundation for a term expiring September 27, 2021.

Mary Catherine Phee, of Illinois, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (African Affairs).

Lee Satterfield, of South Carolina, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Educational and Cultural Affairs).

Karl Erika Dowdried, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (European Affairs and Eurasian Affairs).

Jessica Lewis, of Ohio, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Political-Military Affairs).

Donald Lu, of California, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Assistant Secretary of State for South Asian Affairs.

Paloma Adams-Allen, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

Isobel Coleman, of New York, to be a Deputy Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee’s commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify and to serve as a duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Ms. SMITH):

S. 2595. A bill to address prescription drug shortages and improve the quality of prescription drugs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 2596. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for Federal student loan reform; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Ms. SMITH):

S. 2597. A bill to amend the Animal Health Protection Act with respect to the importation of live dogs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 2598. A bill to amend title 11, United States Code, to provide the treatment of student loans in bankruptcy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. BALDWIN:

S. 2599. An original bill making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 2600. A bill to establish the Refund to Rainy Day Savings Program; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 2601. A bill to allow employers to offer short-term savings accounts with automatic contributions for financial emergencies; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 2602. A bill to provide for an additional nondiscrimination safe harbor for automatic contribution arrangements; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 2603. A bill to establish a commission for the purpose of studying the issue of retirement security; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. FEINSTEIN:

S. 2604. An original bill making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. WARNER:

S. 2605. A bill to provide for the modernization of the electronic case management systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. CHABOT:

S. 2606. A bill to require an unclassified interagency report on the political influence of the People’s Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party with respect to the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PATTOCK (for himself, Mr. RUSSELL, Mr. CORNYN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. LUGGIE, Mr. WARNER, Mr. BINGHAM, and Mr. STEWART):

S. 2607. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the former hostages of the Iran Hostage Crisis of 1979–1981, highlighting their resilience throughout the unprecedented ordeal that they lived through and the national unity it produced, marking 4 decades since their 444 days in captivity, and recognizing their sacrifice to the United States; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 2608. A bill to direct the Attorney General to make grants to States that have in place or can develop programs to provide for the care of sexual assault survivors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. HAYES):

S. 2609. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure equitable payment for, and preserve Medicare beneficiary access to, diagnostic radiopharmaceuticals under the Medicare hospital outpatient prospective payment system; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WARNER:

S. 2610. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Intelligence Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes; from the Select Committee on Intelligence; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. CUPP, and Mrs. HAYES):

S. 2611. A bill to designate high priority corridors on the National Highway System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. LUJÁN (for himself, Mr. THUNE, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 2612. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to add physical therapists to the list of providers allowed to utilize locum tenens arrangements under Medicare; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 2613. A bill to provide for climate change planning, mitigation, and resilience in the United States Territories and Freely Associated States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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

S. 2614. A bill to provide for the modernization of electronic case management systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. OSSOFF (for himself, Mr. KING, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. 2615. A bill protecting the right to vote in elections for Federal office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, referred, or acted on as indicated:

By Mr. KAIN (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. Res. 336. A resolution designating September 15, 2021, as "International Myotonic Dystrophy Awareness Day" and supporting the goals and ideals of International Myotonic Dystrophy Awareness Day; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. RUBIO):

S. Res. 337. A resolution recognizing the anniversary of the explosion at the Port of Beirut on August 4, 2020, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.
ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 97

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 97, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of dental services under the Medicare program.

S. 469

At the request of Mr. MORGAN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 469, a bill to require the Administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration to establish an advisory board focused on creating opportunities for women in the trucking industry, and for other purposes.

S. 565

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 565, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the treatment of veterans who participated in the cleanup of Enewetak Atoll as radiation-exposed veterans for purposes of the presumption of service-connection of certain disabilities by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 612

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 612, a bill to require the Under Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide certain information to medical center staff and homelessness service providers of the Department regarding the coordinated entry processes for housing and services operated under the Continuum of Care Program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and for other purposes.

S. 618

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 618, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify and extend the deduction for charitable contributions for individuals not itemizing deductions.

S. 857

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 857, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to require the Director of the Office of Personnel Management to establish and maintain a public directory of the individuals occupying Government policy and supporting positions, and for other purposes.

S. 1007

At the request of Mr. TUBERVILLE, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1007, a bill to require that a temporary restraining order receives written notice of removal proceedings before being granted parole or released from detention and to enumerate the possible consequences for failing to attend such proceedings.

S. 1061

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1061, a bill to encourage the normalization of relations with Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 1106

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1106, a bill to prohibit the sale of shark fins, and for other purposes.

S. 1156

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) were added as cosponsors of S. 1156, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a refundable adoption tax credit.

S. 1451

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1451, a bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to implement policies to end preventable maternal, newborn, and child deaths globally.

S. 1532

At the request of Mr. KAIN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1532, a bill to provide a work opportunity tax credit for military spouses and to provide for flexible spending arrangements for childcare services for uniforms services families.

S. 1803

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1803, a bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of religion, sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), and marital status in the administration and provision of child welfare services, to improve safety, well-being, and permanency for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer or questioning foster youth, and for other purposes.

S. 1890

At the request of Mr. LUJAN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1890, a bill to direct the Federal Trade Commission to submit to Congress a report on unfair or deceptive acts or practices targeted at Indian Tribes or members of Indian Tribes, and for other purposes.

S. 1943

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ-MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1943, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to, and utilization of, bone mass measurement benefits under part B of the Medicare program by establishing a minimum payment amount under such part for bone mass measurement.

S. 1986

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1986, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act and the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 to expand and expedite access to cardiac rehabilitation programs and pulmonary rehabilitation programs under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 1988

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1988, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to protect access to telehealth services under the Medicare program.

S. 2190

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2190, a bill to establish a force on the Impact of the Affordable Housing Crisis, and for other purposes.

S. 2299

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2299, a bill to modify the age requirement for the Student Incentive Payment Program of the State maritime academies.

S. 2390

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. LITTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2390, a bill to allow Americans to receive paid leave time to process and address their own health needs and the health needs of their partners during the period following a pregnancy loss, an unsuccessful round of in vitro fertilization or of an assisted reproductive technology procedure, a failed adoption arrangement, a failed surrogacy arrangement, or a diagnosis or event that impacts pregnancy or fertility, to support related research and education, and for other purposes.

S. 2401

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2401, a bill to reauthorize the Assistive Technology Act of 1998, and for other purposes.

S. 2412

At the request of Ms. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2412, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to protect coverage for screening mammography, and for other purposes.

S. 2429

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr.
PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2429, a bill to amend chapter 38 of title 31, United States Code, relating to civil remedies, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. Peters, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2520, a bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for engagements with State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. Cramer) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2536, a bill to require the Government Accountability Office to submit a report on the public health mitigation messaging and guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. Capito) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2550, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide student assistance to students with disabilities and their families with access to critical information needed to select the right college and succeed once enrolled.

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. Rosen) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. Hassan) were added as cosponsors of S. 2559, a bill to establish the National Deepfake and Digital Provenance Task Force, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. Rounds) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2587, a bill to oppose the provision of assistance to the People’s Republic of China by the multilateral development banks.

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. Marshall), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. Braun) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. Collins) were added as cosponsors of S. J. Res. 10, a joint resolution to repeal the authorities for use of military force against Iraq, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. Blunt) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2129 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3684, a bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. Booker) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2219 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3684, a bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. Van Hollen) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2230 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3684, a bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. Inhofe) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. Hagerty) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2233 proposed to H.R. 3684, a bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. Van Hollen) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2315 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3684, a bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2335 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3684, a bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. BOOKE, the names of the Senator from California (Mr. Padilla), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. Van Hollen) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. Merkley) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2369 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3684, a bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. Hawley) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2380 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3684, a bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. Inhofe) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. Kennedy) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2388 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3684, a bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. Sullivan) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2396 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3684, a bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. Marshall) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2402 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3684, a bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. Murkowski) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2404 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3684, a bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Ms. LUMMIS, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. Barrasso) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2417 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3684, a bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. COTTTON, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. Hyde-Smith) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2428 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3684, a bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. Portman) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2435 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3684, a bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. Lummis) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2450 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3684, a bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. MORA, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. Cramer) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2451 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3684, a bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from California
SEC. 3. EFFECT OF DISCHARGE OF CERTAIN STUDENT LOANS. 

Section 524 of title 11, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(n) In this subsection:
"(A) The term 'cohort repayment rate', with respect to a covered institution of higher education, means the percentage of student borrowers who are making at least some progress paying down their student loans within 3 years of entering repayment;
"(B) The term 'covered institution of higher education' means an institution of higher education (as defined in section 102(r) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087a et seq.)); and
"(C) The term 'covered student loan' means the original principal of a loan—
"(i) the first payment on which became due before the 10-year period (exclusive of any applicable suspension of the repayment period) ending on the date of the filing of the petition; and
"(ii) used by the debtor to make a payment to a covered institution of higher education on behalf of the debtor for the purpose of attaining an educational benefit.
"(2) If a covered student loan is discharged in a bankruptcy case under this title, the covered institution of higher education to which the debtor of the bankruptcy case made a payment with the covered student loan shall pay to the Department of Education an amount determined in accordance with the following:
"(A) An amount equal to 50 percent of the amount of the covered student loan that is discharged, if the covered institution of higher education, on the date on which the first payment on the covered student loan became due—
"(i) had a cohort default rate (as determined under section 435(m) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1085m)) for each of the 3 fiscal years preceding that date that was equal to or more than 15 percent; and
"(ii) had a cohort repayment rate—
"(I) except for borrowers described in subclause (II), that was equal to or less than 25 percent; and
"(II) with respect to borrowers who were graduate or professional students who received a Federal Direct PLUS Loan for enrollment at the institution, that was equal to or less than 45 percent and more than 40 percent.
"(B) An amount equal to 30 percent of the amount of the covered student loan that is discharged, if the covered institution of higher education, on the date on which the first payment on the covered student loan became due—
"(i) had a cohort default rate (as determined under section 435(m) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1085m)) for each of the 3 fiscal years preceding that date that was equal to or more than 20 percent and less than 25 percent; and
"(ii) had a cohort repayment rate—
"(I) except for borrowers described in subclause (II), that was equal to or less than 3 percent; and
"(II) with respect to borrowers who were graduate or professional students who received a Federal Direct PLUS Loan for enrollment at the institution, that was equal to or less than 4 percent and more than 3 percent.
"(C) An amount equal to 20 percent of the amount of the covered student loan that is discharged, if the covered institution of higher education, on the date on which the first payment on the covered student loan became due—
"(i) had a cohort default rate (as determined under section 435(m) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1085m)) for each of the 3 fiscal years preceding that date that was equal to or more than 15 percent and less than 20 percent; and
"(ii) had a cohort repayment rate—
"(I) except for borrowers described in subclause (II), that was equal to or less than 3 percent; and
"(II) with respect to borrowers who were graduate or professional students who received a Federal Direct PLUS Loan for enrollment at the institution, that was equal to or less than 4 percent and more than 3 percent.
"

SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE; APPLICABILITY. 

This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall—
(1) take effect on the date that is 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act; and
(2) apply to a petition filed or amended under this title on or after the effective date under paragraph (1) with respect to a debt for an educational benefit, overpayment, loan, scholarship, or stipend of a debtor.
invasive daytime sleepiness, early cataplexy and heart, breathing, digestive, hormonal, speech, swallowing, diabetic, immune, vision, and cognitive difficulties; Myotonic dystrophy is a highly variable and complicated disorder in which the younger an individual is when symptoms first appear, the more severe symptoms are likely to be, with progressively more severe symptoms occurring after the earlier symptoms are experienced; Whereas misdiagnoses of myotonic dystrophy have persisted for decades, and delays in diagnosing myotonic dystrophy are common; Whereas there are currently no treatments for myotonic dystrophy approved by the Food and Drug Administration; Whereas, in 2007, the Myotonic Dystrophy Foundation partnered with a mission to enhance the quality of life of people living with myotonic dystrophy and to accelerate research focused on finding treatments and a cure; Whereas, in 2014, Congress reauthorized the Paul D. Wellstone Muscular Dystrophy Community Assistance, Research, and Education Amendments of 2014 (Public Law 113-166; 2 U.S.C. 201), which increased muscular dystrophy research funding and public health surveillance activities, including for myotonic dystrophy; Whereas, in September 2017, recognizing the seriousness of myotonic dystrophy and the especially disabling impact of myotonic dystrophy on individuals with congenital myotonic dystrophy, the Social Security Administration added congenital myotonic dystrophy to the Compassionate Allowances program that allows individuals to quickly qualify for disability benefits, including health insurance coverage; Whereas, Congress added myotonic dystrophy to the list of eligible conditions for research funding under the Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program of the Department of Defense, which resulted in more than $6,000,000 in new research awards; Whereas funding for myotonic dystrophy research supported by the National Institutes of Health remained flat between 2010 and 2020 with the agency awarding $24,000,000 in research grants in fiscal year 2020; and Whereas increased Federal funding for myotonic dystrophy research will improve health outcomes, reduce disability, and increase life expectancy for individuals living with myotonic dystrophy and holds great promise for helping individuals with similar genetic diseases: Now, therefore, be it
Resolved, That the Senate—
(1) designates September 15, 2021 as “International Myotonic Dystrophy Awareness Day”; and
(2) supports the goals and ideals of International Myotonic Dystrophy Awareness Day, including—
(A) committing to promoting and advancing the health, well-being, and inherent dignity of children and adults with myotonic dystrophy;
(B) supporting the advancement of scientific and medical myotonic dystrophy research at the National Institutes of Health and as part of the Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program of the Department of Defense; fostering biopharmaceutical innovation that will lead to treatments and is the hallmark of a cure for myotonic dystrophy; advancing programs and policies that assist individuals with disabilities caused by myotonic dystrophy and the caregivers of those individuals; and encouraging awareness and education of myotonic dystrophy among patients, caregivers, clinicians, and researchers.
I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to see the Resolution designating September 15th as International Myotonic Dystrophy Awareness Day as an opportunity to raise awareness for this devastating disease and to promote and advance the health, well-being, and inherent dignity of all children and adults with myotonic dystrophy. I ask for their support.
the Judicial Council for investigation and, on August 3, 2020, Judge Fadi Sawaan was appointed to head the investigation and possible prosecution.

Whereas Judge Fadi Sawaan charged several government officials with criminal negligence for ignoring warnings regarding unsafe conditions created by the storage of chemicals at the port;

Whereas those officials accused of negligence in the Port blast have claimed immunity from prosecution and filed legal efforts to remove Judge Fadi Sawaan from the probe;

Whereas on February 18, 2021, Judge Sawaan was removed from the investigation, further delaying justice for the victims of the horrific tragedy of the Port explosion and the people of Lebanon;

Whereas Hezbollah, designated by the Department of State as a foreign terrorist organization, benefits from governmental corruption at the Port of Beirut that allows for the illicit import and export of goods;

Whereas, on July 30, 2021, the European Union, with the support of the Department of State and the Department of the Treasury, adopted a sanctions regime targeting corrupt actors within the government of Lebanon; and

Whereas the people of Lebanon across the political and sectarian spectrum have demanded accountability for the tragic events of August 4, 2020, and have requested that their state institutions implement meaningful reform, accountability, and transparency; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) stands with the people of Lebanon 1 year on from the horrific tragedy of the Port explosion and acknowledges the burdens that the Lebanese people have shouldered;

(2) supports the demands of the people of Lebanon for an end to systemic and endemic corruption in the Government of Lebanon;

(3) further supports continued efforts by the United States Government to provide humanitarian relief in concert with other governments and international partners in a manner that directly benefits the Lebanese people and is through properly vetted channels, organizations, and individuals;

(4) commends the European Union for developing, with the support of the United States, a framework of sanctions regime to prompt accountability and good governance in Lebanon;

(5) calls on all Lebanese officials to respect and extend accountability, transparency, and an end to systemic and endemic corruption in the Government of Lebanon;

(6) further calls on Lebanese political leaders to form and approve a stable, democratic, and legitimate government and to immediately implement the reforms necessary to ensure good governance and economic stability.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2478. Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. WICKER, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. CORNYN) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2469. Mr. BLACKWELL (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2468. Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. LUajan, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. HEINRICH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2460. Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2459. Ms. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2458. Mrs. WARNER (for Mr. WYDEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2457. Mr. CONNS (for himself and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2456. Ms. LUMMIS (for herself and Mr. THUNE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2455. Mr. WHITEHOUSE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2454. Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Mr. WYDEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2453. Mr. COONS (for himself and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2452. Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2451. Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2450. Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2449. Mr. PADILLA submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2448. Mr. PADILLA submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.
amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2506. Mr. MARSHALL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2503. Mr. CASSIDY and Mr. ROMNEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2504. Mr. MURPHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.
SA 2527. Ms. WARREN (for herself, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. SMITH, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. HALLACK, Mr. SCHULTZ, and Mr. KING) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEREN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. Tester, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2536. Mr. ROY SMITH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEREN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. Tester, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2541. Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Mr. KELLY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEREN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. Tester, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2543. Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. TULLIS, Mr. CONWAY, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LUMMIS, Mr. WICKER, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. KELLY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEREN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. Tester, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2544. Mr. LANKFORD (for himself, Mr. DANNETT, Mr. KANE, Mr. HARRIS, and Mr. BRAUN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEREN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. Tester, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2545. Mr. MARSHALL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEREN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. Tester, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2554. Mr. LUJÁN (for himself and Mr. MORA) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEREN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. Tester, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.
proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. Schumer (for Ms. Sinema (for herself, Mr. Portman, Mr. Manchin, Mrs. Shaheen, Ms. Collins, Mr. Tester, Ms. Murkowski, Mr. Warner, and Mr. Romney)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2563. Mr. CARPER (for himself, Mr. Inhofe, Mr. Wicker, and Ms. Duckworth) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. Schumer (for Ms. Sinema (for herself, Mr. Portman, Mr. Manchin, Mrs. Shaheen, Ms. Collins, Mr. Tester, Ms. Murkowski, Mr. Warner, and Mr. Romney)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2564. Mr. CARPER (for himself, Mr. Inhofe, Mr. Wicker, and Ms. Duckworth) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. Schumer (for Ms. Sinema (for herself, Mr. Portman, Mr. Manchin, Mrs. Shaheen, Ms. Collins, Mr. Tester, Ms. Murkowski, Mr. Warner, and Mr. Romney)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2556. Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. Cornyn of Texas (for HOUSE)) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. Schumer (for Ms. Sinema (for herself, Mr. Portman, Mr. Manchin, Mrs. Shaheen, Ms. Collins, Mr. Tester, Ms. Murkowski, Mr. Warner, and Mr. Romney)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2557. Ms. BALDWIN (for herself and Mr. Hoeven) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. Schumer (for Ms. Sinema (for herself, Mr. Portman, Mr. Manchin, Mrs. Shaheen, Ms. Collins, Mr. Tester, Ms. Murkowski, Mr. Warner, and Mr. Romney)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2559. Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. Johnson) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. Schumer (for Ms. Sinema (for herself, Mr. Portman, Mr. Manchin, Mrs. Shaheen, Ms. Collins, Mr. Tester, Ms. Murkowski, Mr. Warner, and Mr. Romney)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2560. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. Schumer (for Ms. Sinema (for herself, Mr. Portman, Mr. Manchin, Mrs. Shaheen, Ms. Collins, Mr. Tester, Ms. Murkowski, Mr. Warner, and Mr. Romney)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2561. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. Schumer (for Ms. Sinema (for herself, Mr. Portman, Mr. Manchin, Mrs. Shaheen, Ms. Collins, Mr. Tester, Ms. Murkowski, Mr. Warner, and Mr. Romney)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2562. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. Schumer (for Ms. Sinema (for herself, Mr. Portman, Mr. Manchin, Mrs. Shaheen, Ms. Collins, Mr. Tester, Ms. Murkowski, Mr. Warner, and Mr. Romney)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2563. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. Schumer (for Ms. Sinema (for herself, Mr. Portman, Mr. Manchin, Mrs. Shaheen, Ms. Collins, Mr. Tester, Ms. Murkowski, Mr. Warner, and Mr. Romney)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2564. Mr. CARPER (for himself, Mr. Inhofe, Mr. Wicker, and Ms. Duckworth) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. Schumer (for Ms. Sinema (for herself, Mr. Portman, Mr. Manchin, Mrs. Shaheen, Ms. Collins, Mr. Tester, Ms. Murkowski, Mr. Warner, and Mr. Romney)) to the bill H.R. 3684, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2478. Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. Scott of South Carolina, Mr. Warner, Mr. Manchin, Mrs. Shaheen, Ms. Collins, Mr. Tester, Ms. Murkowski, Mr. Wyden, and Mr. Cornyn) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. Schumer (for Ms. Sinema (for herself, Mr. Portman, Mr. Manchin, Mrs. Shaheen, Ms. Collins, Mr. Tester, Ms. Murkowski, Mr. Warner, and Mr. Romney)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

DIVISION — MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

SEC. 01. SHORT TITLE.

This division may be cited as the “Minority Business Development Act of 2021”.

SEC. 02. DEFINITIONS.

In this division:

(1) AGENCY. The term “Agency” means the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce.

(2) COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION. — The term “community-based organization” has the meaning given the term in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

(3) ELIGIBLE ENTITY. — Except as otherwise expressly provided, the term “eligible entity” —

(A) means—

(i) a private sector entity;

(ii) a public sector entity; or

(iii) a Native entity; and

(B) includes an institution of higher education.

(4) FEDERAL AGENCY. — The term “Federal agency” has the meaning given the term “agency” in section 551 of title 5, United States Code.

(5) FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED AREA OF ECONOMIC DISTRESS. — The term “federally recognized area of economic distress” means—

(A) a HUBZone, as that term is defined in section 31(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(a));

(B) an area that—

(i) has been designated as—

(I) an empowerment zone under section 1391 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; or

(II) a Promise Zone by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; or

(ii) is a low or moderate income area, as determined by the Department of Housing and Urban Development;

(C) a qualified opportunity zone, as that term is defined in section 1400Z-1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; or

(D) any other political subdivision or unincorporated area of a State determined by the Under Secretary to be an area of economic distress.

(6) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION. — The term “institution of higher education” has the meaning given the term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

(7) MBDA BUSINESS CENTER. — The term “MBDA Business Center” means a business center that—

(A) is established by the Agency; and

(B) provides technical business assistance to minority business enterprises consistent with the requirements of this division.

(8) MBDA BUSINESS CENTER AGREEMENT. — The term “MBDA Business Center agreement” means a legal instrument—
A tribal Government;

(b) an Alaska Native village corporation as defined in or established under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.);

(c) a Native Hawaiian organization, as that term is defined in section 6207 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7517);

(d) the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; and

e) the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

(11) PRIVATE SECTOR ENTITY.—The term "private sector entity" means:

(i) a for-profit or not-for-profit enterprise;

(ii) any sector of the economy, including businesses, labor unions, professional associations, community organizations, political organizations, religious organizations, fraternal organizations, social service organizations, educational institutions, and organizations providing special services.

(iii) any other entity determined necessary or appropriate based on the priorities of the Agency.

(12) PUBLIC SECTOR ENTITY.—The term "public sector entity" means:

(a) a State;

(b) an agency of a State;

(c) a political subdivision of a State;

(d) an agency of a political subdivision of a State; or

(e) an EEOC entity.

(13) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Commerce.

(14) EQUALLY OR ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS CONCERN.—The term "socially or economically disadvantaged business concern" means a for-profit business enterprise—

(a) that is not less than 51 percent owned by 1 or more socially or economically disadvantaged individuals; and

(b) the management and daily business operations of which are controlled by 1 or more socially or economically disadvantaged individuals.

(15) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Commerce.

(16) MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY.—

(a) IN GENERAL.—There is within the Department of Commerce the Minority Business Development Agency.

(b) UNDER SECRETARY.—

(1) APPOINTMENT AND DUTIES.—The Under Secretary shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate; and with the advice and consent of the Senate; and shall be responsible for the administration of this division; and

(2) COMPENSATION.—

(A) The Under Secretary shall be compensated at an annual rate of basic pay prescribed for level III of the Executive Schedule under section 5314 of title 5, United States Code.

(B) TECNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 5314 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking "and Under Secretary of Commerce for Travel and Tourism" and inserting "Under Secretary of Commerce for Travel and Tourism, and Under Secretary of Commerce for Minority Business Development".

2. REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Director of the Agency shall be deemed to be a reference to the Under Secretary.

3. REVIEW AND REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that describes—

(a) the organizational structure of the Agency.

(b) the organizational position of the Agency within the Department of Commerce; and

(c) a description of how the Agency shall function in relation to the operations carried out by each other component of the Department of Commerce.

4. MINORITY BUSINESS CENTERS.—

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established within the Agency the Office of Business Centers.

(b) DIRECTOR.—The Office of Business Centers shall be administered by a Director, who shall be appointed by the Secretary.

(c) OFFICES OF THE AGENCY.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—In addition to the regional offices that the Under Secretary is required to establish under paragraph (2), the Under Secretary shall establish such other offices within the Agency as are necessary to carry out this division.

(ii) REGIONAL OFFICES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In order to carry out this division, the Under Secretary shall establish a regional office of the Agency for each of the regions of the United States, as determined by the Secretary.

(B) DUTIES.—Each regional office established under subparagraph (A) shall expand the reach of the Agency and enable the Federal Government to better serve the needs of minority business enterprises in the region served by the office, including by—

(i) understanding and participating in the business environment of that region;

(ii) working with.

(iii) MBD Business Centers that are located in that region;

(iv) resource and lending partners of other appropriate Federal agencies that are located in that region; and

(v) being aware of business retention or expansion programs that are specific to that region;

(vi) seeking out opportunities to collaborate with regular public and private programs that focus on minority business enterprises; and

(vii) promoting business continuity and preparedness.
nonprofit organizations, to increase the share of any market activity being performed by minority business enterprises; and
(3) facilitate the efforts of private sector entities to not be less than 3 years.

SEC. 102. PUBLIC SECTOR DEVELOPMENT.
The Under Secretary shall, whenever the Under Secretary determines such action is necessary or appropriate—
(1) consult and cooperate with public sector entities for the purpose of leveraging resources available in the jurisdictions of those public sector entities to promote the position of minority business enterprises in the local economies of those public sector entities, including by assisting public sector entities to establish or enhance—
(A) programs to procure goods and services through minority business enterprises and goals for that procurement;
(B) programs offering assistance relating to—
(i) management;
(ii) technology;
(iii) law;
(iv) financing, including accounting;
(v) security under the Act;
(vi) workforce development; and
(C) informational programs designed to inform minority business enterprises located in the jurisdictions of those public sector entities about the availability of programs described in this section;
(2) meet with leaders and officials of public sector entities to further the purpose of recommending and promoting local administrative and legislative initiatives needed to advance the position of minority business enterprises in the local economies of those public sector entities; and
(3) facilitate the efforts of public sector entities to establish or enhance—
(i) referral services to meet the needs of minority business enterprises; and
(ii) programs and services to accomplish the goals described in subsection (101(1));
(b) INFORMATION CLEARINGHOUSE.—The Under Secretary shall—
(A) establish and maintain an information clearinghouse for the collection and dissemination to relevant parties (including business owners and researchers) of demographic, economic, financial, marketing, and technical data relating to minority business enterprises; and
(B) take such steps as the Under Secretary may determine to be necessary and desirable to—
(i) search for, classify, coordinate, integrate, record, and catalog the data described in paragraph (a); and
(ii) in a manner that is consistent with section 520a of title 5, United States Code, protect the privacy of the minority business enterprises to which the data described in paragraph (1) relates.

Subtitle B—Minority Business Development
Agency Business Center Program

SEC. 111. ESTABLISHMENT.
In this subtitle, the term "MBDA Business Center Program" means the program established under subsection 113.

SEC. 112. PURPOSE.
The purpose of the MBDA Business Center Program shall be to create a national network of public-private partnerships that—
(1) assist minority business enterprises in—
(A) accessing capital, contracts, and grants; and
(B) creating and maintaining jobs;
(2) provide counseling and mentoring to minority business enterprises; and
(3) facilitate the growth of minority business enterprises by promoting trade.

SEC. 113. ESTABLISHMENT.
(a) IN GENERAL.—There is established in the Agency a program—
(1) that shall be known as the MBDA Business Center Program;
(2) that shall be separate and distinct from the efforts of the Under Secretary under section 101; and
(3) under which the Under Secretary shall make Federal awards to eligible entities to operate MBDA Business Centers, which shall, in accordance with section 114, provide technical assistance and business development services, or specialty services, to minority business enterprises.
(b) COVERAGE.—The Under Secretary shall take all necessary actions to ensure that the MBDA Business Center Program, in accordance with section 114, provides services described in subsection (a)(3) in all regions of the United States.

SEC. 114. GRANTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.
(a) REQUIREMENTS.—An MBDA Business Center referred to in this subtitle as a "Center", with respect to the Federal financial assistance award made to operate the Center under the MBDA Business Center Program—
(1) shall—
(A) provide to minority business enterprises programs and services determined to be appropriate by the Under Secretary, which may include—
(i) referral services to meet the needs of minority business enterprises; and
(ii) programs and services to accomplish the goals described in section 101(1);
(B) develop and maintain a network of strategic partnerships with organizations that foster access by minority business enterprises to economic markets, capital, or contracts;
(C) continue to upgrade and modify the services provided by the Center, as necessary, in order to meet the changing and evolving needs of the business community;
(D) establish or continue a referral relationship with not less than 1 community-based organization; and
(E) collaborate with other Centers; and
(2) in providing programs and services under the applicable MBDA Business Center agreement, may—
(A) operate a fee-for-service basis; or
(B) generate income through the collection of—
(i) client fees;
(ii) membership fees; and
(iii) any other appropriate fees required by the Center in the application submitted by the Center under subsection (e).
(b) TERM.—Subject to paragraph (3), the term of an MBDA Business Center agreement shall be not less than 3 years.
(c) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—The amount of financial assistance provided by the Under Secretary under an MBDA Business Center agreement shall be not less than $250,000 for the term of the agreement.
(2) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—
(A) IN GENERAL.—A Center shall match not less than 1/3 of the amount of the financial assistance awarded to the Center under the terms of the applicable MBDA Business Center agreement, unless the Under Secretary determines that a waiver of that requirement is necessary after a demonstration by the Center of a substantial need for that waiver.
(B) FORM OF FUNDS.—A Center may meet the matching requirement under subparagraph (A) by using—
(i) client fees or in-kind contributions, without regard to whether the contribution is made by a third party; or
(ii) Federal funds received from other Federal programs.
(3) USE OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND PROGR

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE
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with respect to a minority business enterprise that does not have employees, aiding the minority business enterprise in becoming an enterprise that has employees; and
(iii) meeting for minority business enterprises;
(2) the budget and corresponding budget narrative that the eligible entity will use in carrying out subsection (a) during the term of the applicable MBDA Business Center agreement.
(3) Certifications.—If the Under Secretary grants an application of an eligible entity submitted under subsection (e), the Under Secretary shall notify the eligible entity that the application has been granted not later than 150 days after the last day on which an application may be submitted under that subsection.
(4) Program Examination; Accreditation; Extensions.—
(a) Examination.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and biennially thereafter, the Under Secretary shall conduct a programmatic financial examination of each Center.
(b) Accreditation.—The Under Secretary may provide financial support, by contract or otherwise, to an association, not less than 51 percent of the members of which are Centers, to—
(A) pursue matters of common concern with respect to Centers; and
(B) develop an accreditation program with respect to Centers.
(c) Extensions.—
(A) In General.—The Under Secretary may extend the term under subsection (b) of an MBDA Business Center agreement to which a Center is a party, if the Center consents to the extension.
(B) Financial Assistance.—If the Under Secretary extends the term of an MBDA Business Center agreement under paragraph (1), the Under Secretary shall, in the same manner and amount in which financial assistance was provided during the initial term of the agreement, provide financial assistance under the agreement during the extended term of the agreement.
(5) MBDA Involvement.—The Under Secretary may take actions to ensure that the Agency is substantially involved in the activities of Centers in carrying out subsection (a), including by—
(i) providing to each Center training relating to the MBDA Business Center Program;
(ii) requiring that the operator and staff of each Center—
(A) attend—
(I) a conference with the Agency to establish the purposes and programs that the Center will provide in carrying out the requirements before the date on which the Center begins providing those services and programs; and
(II) training provided under paragraph (1);
(B) receive necessary guidance relating to carrying out the requirements under subsection (a); and
(C) work in coordination and collaboration with the Under Secretary to carry out the MBDA Business Center Program and other programs of the Agency;
(iii) facilitating connections between Centers and—
(A) Federal agencies other than the Agency,
(B) other institutions or entities that use Federal resources, such as—
(I) small business development centers, as that term is defined in section 304 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632(c));
(ii) women’s business centers described in section 29 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636); and
(iii) eligible entities, as that term is defined in section 4211 of title 18, United States Code, that provide services under the program carried out under chapter 142 of that title;
(iv) entities participating in the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program established under section 25 of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278k);
(v) each member of the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program described in subsection (c), and the agencies, foundations, and other entities described in subsection (d); and
(B) Congress; and
(C) the public, through a publicly available website.
(6) Review of Findings and Recommendations; Public Statements.—
(a) In General.—A Federal agency to which an application is submitted under subsection (a) shall—
(A) review that finding or recommendation; and
(B) promptly after the finding or recommendation is transmitted under subsection (d)(2)(C), issue a public statement—
(I) assessing the finding or recommendation; and
(II) disclosing the action, if any, the Federal agency intends to take with respect to the finding or recommendation.
(b) Joint Statement Permitted.—If a finding or recommendation described in subsection (d)(1) relates to more than 1 Federal agency, the applicable Federal agencies may, for the purposes of the finding or recommendation required under paragraph (1)(B), issue a joint statement.
(1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term “eligible institution” means an institution of higher education described in any of paragraphs (1) through (7) of section 317(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1067q(a)).

(2) GRANTS.—The Under Secretary shall award grants to eligible institutions to develop and implement entrepreneurship curricula.

(3) REQUIREMENTS.—An eligible institution to which a grant is awarded under this subsection shall use the grant funds to—

(A) develop a curriculum that includes training in various skill sets needed by contemporary successful entrepreneurs, including—

(i) business management and marketing;

(ii) financial management and accounting;

(iii) market analysis;

(iv) competitive analysis;

(v) innovation;

(vi) strategic and succession planning;

(vii) marketing;

(viii) general management;

(ix) technology and technology adoption;

(x) leadership; and

(xi) human resources; and

(B) a curriculum developed under subparagraph (A) at the eligible institution.

(4) IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE.—The Under Secretary shall establish and publish a timeline under which an eligible institution to which a grant is awarded under this section shall carry out the requirements under paragraph (3).

(5) REPORTS.—Each year, the Under Secretary shall submit to all applicable committees of Congress, and as part of the annual budget submission of the President under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, a report evaluating the awarding and use of grants under this subsection during the fiscal year immediately preceding the fiscal year in which the report is submitted, which shall include, with respect to the fiscal year covered by the report—

(A) a description of each curriculum developed and implemented under each grant awarded under this section;

(B) the date on which each grant awarded under this section was awarded; and

(C) the number of eligible entities that were recipients of grants awarded under this section.

TITLE III—RURAL MINORITY BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

SEC. 301. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives.

(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible entity” means—

(A) a minority-serving institution; or

(B) a consortium of institutions of higher education that is led by a minority-serving institution.

(3) MBDA RURAL BUSINESS CENTER.—The term “MBDA Rural Business Center” means an MBDA Business Center that provides technical business assistance to minority business enterprises located in rural areas.

(4) MBDA RURAL BUSINESS CENTER AGREEMENT.—The term “MBDA Rural Business Center agreement” means an MBDA Business Center agreement that establishes the terms by which the recipient of the Federal assistance described in this section is the subject of the agreement shall operate an MBDA Rural Business Center.

(5) MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTION.—The term “minority-serving institution” means an institution described in any of paragraphs (1) through (7) of section 317(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1067q(a)).

(6) RURAL AREA.—The term “rural area” has the meaning given in the term in section 343(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 1991(a)).

(7) RURAL MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE.—The term “rural minority business enterprise” means a minority business enterprise located in a rural area and is a minority-serving institution.

SEC. 302. BUSINESS CENTERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Under Secretary may establish MBDA Rural Business Centers.

(b) FUNCTIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—With respect to an MBDA Rural Business Center established by the Under Secretary, the Under Secretary shall establish the MBDA Rural Business Center in partnership with an eligible entity in accordance with paragraph (2).

(2) MBDA AGREEMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—With respect to each MBDA Rural Business Center established by the Under Secretary, the Under Secretary shall enter into a cooperative agreement with an eligible entity that provides that—

(i) the eligible entity shall provide space, facilities, and staffing for the MBDA Rural Business Center;

(ii) the Under Secretary shall provide funding for, and oversight with respect to, the MBDA Rural Business Center; and

(iii) subject to subparagraph (B), the eligible entity shall match 20 percent of the amount of the funding provided by the Under Secretary under clause (ii), which may be calculated to include the costs of providing the space, facilities, and staffing under clause (ii).

(B) LOWER MATCH REQUIREMENT.—Based on the available resources of an eligible entity, the Under Secretary may enter into a cooperative agreement with the eligible entity that provides that—

(i) the eligible entity shall match less than 20 percent of the amount of the funding provided by the Under Secretary under subparagraph (A)(i); or

(ii) if the Under Secretary makes a determination that one or more of the eligible entities under subparagraph (A)(i) is located in a State or region that has a significant population of socially or economically disadvantaged individuals; (i) the ability to collaborate with governmental and private sector entities to leverage capabilities of minority business enterprises through public-private partnerships; and

(vii) the ability to leverage resources from within the eligible entity to advance an MBDA Rural Business Center;

(viii) that the mission of the eligible entity aligns with the mission of the Agency;

(ix) the ability to leverage relationships with rural minority business enterprises; and

(x) a referral relationship with not less than 1 community-based organization; and

(b) GIVE PRIORITY TO AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY THAT—

(1) is located in a State or region that has a significant population of socially or economically disadvantaged individuals;

(2) has a history of serving socially or economically disadvantaged individuals; and

(3) in the determination of the Under Secretary, has not received an equitable allocation of land and financial resources under—

(A) the Act of July 2, 1962 (commonly known as the “First Morrill Act”) (2 Stat. 503, chapter 130; 7 U.S.C. 301 et seq.); or

(B) the Act of August 30, 1890 (commonly known as the “Second Morrill Act”) (2 Stat. 417, chapter 841; 7 U.S.C. 321 et seq.).

(3) CONSIDERATIONS.—In determining whether to enter into an MBDA Rural Business Center agreement with an eligible entity under this section, the Under Secretary shall consider the needs of the eligible entity.

SEC. 303. REPORT TO CONGRESS.

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Under Secretary...
shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that includes—

(1) a summary of the efforts of the Under Secretary to provide services to minority business concerns in the states that lack an MBDA Business Center, as of the date of enactment of this Act, and especially in those States that have significant minority populations; and

(2) recommendations for extending the outreach of the Agency to underserved areas.

SEC. 304. STUDY AND REPORT.

(a) In General.—The Under Secretary, in coordination with relevant leadership of the Agency and relevant individuals outside of the Department of Commerce, shall conduct a study to determine the ways in which minority business enterprises can meet gaps in the supply chain of the United States, with a particular focus on the supply chain of advanced manufacturing and essential goods and services.

(b) Report.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Under Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that includes the results of the study conducted under subsection (a), which shall include recommendations regarding the ways in which minority business enterprises can meet gaps in the supply chain of the United States.

TITLE VI—MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

SEC. 401. GRANTS TO NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS THAT SUPPORT MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES.

(a) Definition.—In this section, the term ‘‘covered entity’’ means a private nonprofit organization that—

(1) is described in paragraph (3), (4), (5), or (6) of section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of such Code; and

(2) has, as of the date of enactment of this Act, a primary activity of the organization to provide services to minority business enterprises, whether through education, making grants or loans, or other similar activities.

(b) Purpose.—The purpose of this section is to make grants to covered entities to help those covered entities continue the necessary work of supporting minority business enterprises.

(c) Designation of Officer.—

(1) Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Under Secretary shall designate an officer to make and administer grants under this section.

(2) Considerations.—In designating an officer under paragraph (1), the Under Secretary shall ensure that the officer designated has adequate staffing to carry out the responsibilities of the officer under this section.

(d) Application.—A covered entity desiring a grant under this section shall submit to the Under Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Under Secretary may require.

(e) Priority.—The Under Secretary shall, in carrying out this section, prioritize granting an application submitted by a covered entity that is located in a federally recognized distressed area.

(f) Use of Funds.—A covered entity to which a grant is made under this section may use the grant funds to support the development, growth, or retention of minority business enterprises.

(g) Procedures.—The Under Secretary shall—

(1) discourage and prevent waste, fraud, and abuse by applicants for, and recipients of, grants made under this section; and

(2) ensure that grants are made under this section to a diverse array of covered entities, which may include—

(A) covered entities with a national presence;

(B) community-based covered entities;

(C) covered entities with annual budgets below $30,000,000; and

(D) covered entities that principally serve low-income and rural communities.

(b) Inspector General Audit.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Under Secretary begins making grants under this section, the Inspector General of the Department of Commerce shall conduct an audit of grants made under this section, which shall seek to identify any discrepancies or irregularities with respect to those grants; and

(c) Report.—Not later than 30 days after the audit, the Under Secretary shall submit to Congress a report regarding the audit conducted under paragraph (1).

(3) a summary of the efforts of the Under Secretary to provide services to minority business concerns; and

(4) if applicable, demographic information with respect to the minority business enterprises served by the covered entities to which the grants were made;

(5) information regarding the industries of the minority business enterprises served by the covered entities to which the grants were made.

TITLE V—MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE ADVISORY COUNCIL

SEC. 501. PURPOSE.

The Under Secretary shall establish the Minority Business Enterprises Advisory Council (referred to in this title as the ‘‘Council’’) to advise and assist the Agency.

SEC. 502. COMPOSITION AND TERM.

(a) Composition.—The Council shall be composed of 9 members of the private sector and 1 representative from each of not fewer than 10 Federal agencies that support or otherwise have duties that relate to business formation, including duties relating to labor development, small business, national security, energy, agriculture, transportation, and housing.

(b) Chair.—The Under Secretary shall designate 1 of the private sector members of the Council as the Chair of the Council for a 1-year term.

(c) Term.—The Council shall meet at the request of the Under Secretary and members shall serve for a term of 2 years. Members of the Council may be reappointed.

SEC. 503. DUTIES.

(a) In General.—The Council shall provide advice to the Under Secretary by—

(1) serving as a source of knowledge and information on developments in areas of the economic and social life of the United States that affect socially or economically disadvantaged business concerns; and

(2) providing the Under Secretary with information regarding plans, programs, and activities in the public and private sectors that relate to socially or economically disadvantaged business concerns;

(b) Advisory Committees.—Members of the Council shall not serve on the Council but may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code.

(c) Termination.—Notwithstanding section 14 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.), the Council shall terminate on the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

TITLE VI—FEDERAL COORDINATION OF MINORITY BUSINESS PROGRAMS

SEC. 601. GENERAL.

The Under Secretary may coordinate, as consistent with law, the plans, programs, and operations of the Federal Government that affect, or may contribute to, the establishment and preservation of minority business firms or socially or economically disadvantaged business concerns.

SEC. 602. PARTICIPATION OF FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES.

The Under Secretary shall—

(1) consult with other Federal agencies and departments as appropriate to—

(A) develop policies, comprehensive plans, and specific program goals for the programs carried out under subtitle B of title I and title III;

(B) establish regular performance monitoring and reporting systems to ensure that goals established by the Under Secretary with respect to the implementation of this division are being achieved; and

(C) evaluate the impact of Federal support of socially or economically disadvantaged business concerns in achieving the objectives of this division;

(2) conduct a coordinated review of all proposed Federal training and technical assistance activities in direct support of the programs carried out under subtitles B of title I and title III to ensure consistency with program goals and to avoid duplication; and

(3) convene, for purposes of coordination, meetings of the heads of Federal agencies and departments, or their designees, the programs and activities of which may affect or contribute to the carrying out of this division.

TITLE VII—ADMINISTRATIVE POWERS OF THE AGENCY; MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SEC. 701. ADMINISTRATIVE POWERS.

(a) In General.—In carrying out this division, the Under Secretary may—

(1) adopt and use a seal for the Agency, which shall be judicially noticed;

(2) hold hearings, with or without notice, at which to receive testimony as the Under Secretary may determine to be necessary or appropriate to carry out this division;

(3) acquire, in any lawful manner, any property that the Under Secretary determines to be necessary or appropriate to carry out this division;

(4) with the consent of another Federal agency, enter into an agreement with that Federal agency to utilize, without or with reimbursement, any service, equipment, personnel, or facilities of the Federal agency; and

(5) coordinate with the heads of the Offices of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization of Federal agencies; and

(b) Develop procedures under which the Under Secretary may evaluate the compliance of a recipient of assistance under this Act with the requirements of this Act; and

(c) In furtherance of the purposes of this Act that have demonstrated an insufficient level of performance with respect to the assistance, or has demonstrated any measure of waste or fraud, the Under Secretary may provide under this Act to a recipient that has demonstrated an insufficient level of performance with respect to the assistance, or has engaged in wasteful or fraudulent spending, shall be ineligible to...
receive assistance under this Act for a period determined by the Under Secretary, consistent with the considerations under section 180.865 of title 2, Code of Federal Regulations (or any comparable regulation), beginning on the date on which the Under Secretary makes the applicable finding.

(b) Use of Property.—

(1) In General.—Subject to paragraph (2), in carrying out this division, the Under Secretary may, without cost (except for costs of care and handling), allow any public sector entity, or any recipient nonprofit organization, for the purpose of the development of minority business enterprises, to use any real or tangible personal property acquired by the Under Secretary in carrying out this division.

(2) Terms, Conditions, Reservations, and Restrictions.—The Under Secretary may impose reasonable terms, conditions, reservations, and restrictions upon the use of any property under paragraph (1).

SEC. 702. FEDERAL ASSISTANCE.

(a) In General.—Each recipient of Federal assistance under this Act shall be allocated among public sector entities and private sector entities, as applicable; and

(b) Methodology used by the Under Secretary to make allocations under subparagraph (C).

(3) Consultation.—The Under Secretary shall consult with public sector entities and private sector entities, as applicable, in deeding the amounts and types of Federal assistance to make available under subparagraph (C).

(b) Publicity.—In carrying out this section, the Under Secretary shall broadly publicize all opportunities for Federal assistance available under this section, including the means required under section 116.

SEC. 703. RECORDKEEPING.

(a) In General.—Each recipient of assistance under this division shall keep such records as the Under Secretary shall prescribe, including records that fully disclose, with respect to the assistance received by the recipient under this division—

(1) the amount and nature of that assistance;

(2) the disposition by the recipient of the proceeds of that assistance;

(3) the total cost of the undertaking for which the assistance is given or used;

(4) the amount and nature of the portion of the cost of the undertaking described in paragraph (3) that is supplied by a source other than the Agency;

(5) the return on investment, as defined by the Under Secretary; and

(6) any other record that will facilitate an effective audit with respect to the assistance.

(b) Access by Government Officials.—The Under Secretary, the Inspector General of the Department of Commerce, and the Comptroller General of the United States, or any duly authorized representative of any such individual, shall have access, for the purpose of audit, investigation, and examination, to any book, document, paper, record, or other material of the Agency or an MBDA Business Center.

SEC. 705. REVIEW AND REPORT BY COMPTROLLER GENERAL.

Not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall—

(1) conduct a thorough review of the programs carried out under this division; and

(2) submit to Congress a detailed report of the findings of the Comptroller General of the United States under the review carried out under paragraph (1), which shall include—

(A) an evaluation of the effectiveness of the programs in achieving the purposes of this division;

(B) a description of any failure by any recipient of assistance under this division to comply with the requirements under this division; and

(C) recommendations for any legislative or administrative actions that could be taken to improve the achievement of the purposes of this division.

SEC. 706. BIANNUAL REPORTS; RECOMMENDATIONS.

(a) Biannual Report.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and 80 days after the last day of each odd-numbered year thereafter, the Under Secretary shall submit to Congress and publish on the website of the Agency, a report of each activity of the Agency carried out under this division during the period covered by the report.

(b) Recommendations.—The Under Secretary shall periodically submit to Congress and the President recommendations for legislation or other actions that the Under Secretary determines to be necessary or appropriate to promote the purposes of this division.

SEC. 707. SEPARABILITY.

If a provision of this division, or the application of a provision of this division to any person or circumstance, is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, that judgment—

(1) shall not affect any other provision of this division; or

(2) shall be confined in its operation to—

(A) the portion of the provision in respect to which the judgment is rendered; or

(B) the application of the provision of this division to any person or circumstance directly involved in the controversy in which the judgment is rendered.

SEC. 708. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Under Secretary $110,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025 to carry out this division, of which—

(1) a majority shall be used in each such fiscal year to carry out title III.

SEC. 2480. Mr. LANKFORD (for Mr. INHOFFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2480 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 2687, line 22, insert ‘‘Provided further, That, from funds made available under this heading in this Act, the Secretary shall provide an additional 23 percent of total project costs for any project described in subsection (d) or (e) of section 5309 of title 49, United States Code, that has a Full Funding Agreement that was entered into under such subsection (d) or (e) on or after January 1, 2017, and that has received an allocation of funding in any of fiscal years 2019, 2020, and 2021;’’ after ‘‘fiscal year 2023.’’

SEC. 11336. PAYMENTS ON FEDERAL-AID PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN BY A FEDERAL AGENCY.

Section 132 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a) (A) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively, and indenting appropriately;

(2) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A) (as so redesignated), by striking the subsection designation and heading and all that follows through ‘‘in a case’’ and inserting the following:

(‘‘a) Projects Undertaken by a Federal Agency.—

(1) In general.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), in a case in which—

(A) by adding at the end the following:

(2) Certain Projects Undertaken by the Secretary of the Army.—

(a) In General.—Subject to subparagraphs (B) through (D), in a case in which a proposed project described in paragraph (10)
or (1) of section 149(b), clause (iii) or (iv) of section 167(c)(5)(B), or clause (vii) or (viii) of section 117(d)(1)(A) is to be undertaken by the Secretary of the Army in accordance with the work between a State and the Secretary of the Army, the State may—

(1) direct the Secretary to transfer funds for the Federal share of the project directly to the Army; or

(2) make such deposit with, or payment to, the Secretary of the Army as is required to meet the obligation of the State under the agreement for the work undertaken or to be undertaken by the Secretary of the Army for the non-Federal share of the project.

(B) ADMINISTRATION OF FUNDS.—Amounts transferred under subparagraph (A)(i) or deposited or paid under subparagraph (A)(ii)—

(i) shall not be subject to the provisions of this title (other than this section); and

(ii) shall be administered by the Secretary of the Army in accordance with the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (33 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.).

(C) FEDERAL AND NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—Notwithstanding section 120, funds transferred under subparagraph (A)(i) or deposited or paid under subparagraph (A)(ii) to the Secretary of the Army for a project involving modernization activities under section 139 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2020 (Public Law 116–260) shall not be eligible for reimbursement by the Secretary of the Army to the Secretary of the Army for the Federal and non-Federal share, respectively, of a project described in subparagraph (A).

(D) SUPPLEMENT; NOT SUPPLANT.—Amounts transferred under subparagraph (A) shall supplement, and not supplant, funds otherwise made available to the Secretary of the Army.

(E) MODERNIZATION ACTIVITIES.—Amounts that are transferred under subparagraph (A)(i) or deposited or paid under subparagraph (A)(ii) to the Secretary of the Army for a project involving modernization activities under section 139 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2020 (Public Law 116–260) shall not be eligible for reimbursement by the Secretary of the Army to the Secretary of the Army for the project described in subparagraph (A).

SA 2483. Mr. CASEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

SA 2484. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitile A of title IV of division B, add the following:

SEC. 241. SAFETY INCENTIVES TO PREVENT OPERATOR OF MOTOR VEHICLES BY INTOXICATED PERSONS.

Section 163(e) of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

"(2) FISCAL YEAR 2002 AND THEREAFTER.—

(A) RESERVATION OF FUNDS.—Beginning on October 1, 2021, no amounts apportioned to a State under paragraphs (1) or (2) of section 104(b) may be spent in sanctuary jurisdictions.

(B) DEFINITION OF SANCTUARY JURISDICTION.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided under paragraph (2), for purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘sanctuary jurisdiction’ means any State or political subdivision of a State that has in effect a statute, ordinance, policy, or practice that prohibits or restricts any government entity or official from—

(i) sending, receiving, maintaining, or exchanging with any Federal or local government entity information regarding the citizenship or immigration status (lawful or unlawful) of an individual who is convicted of violating laws that prohibit the operation of motor vehicles by intoxicated persons; or

(ii) complying with a request lawfully made by the Department of Homeland Security under section 236 or 287 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1226 and 1237) to comply with a detainer for, or notify about the release of, an individual who is convicted of violating laws that prohibit the operation of motor vehicles by intoxicated persons.

(C) EXCEPTION.—A State or political subdivision of a State shall not be deemed a sanctuary jurisdiction based solely on the State or political subdivision having a policy under which officials of the State or political subdivision will not share information regarding, or comply with a request made by the Department of Homeland Security under section 236 or 287 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1226 and 1237) to comply with a detainer regarding, an individual who comes forward as a victim or a witness to a criminal offense.

SA 2485. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle A of title IV of division B, add the following:

DIVISION K—PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS

SEC. 101. PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS.

No funds made available under this Act or an amendment made by this Act may be used for the Civilian Climate Corps established pursuant to Executive Order 14098 (86 Fed. Reg. 7619 (February 1, 2021); relating to tackling the climate crisis at home and abroad).

On page 2642, line 23, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” after “charging infrastructure”.

On page 2643, line 3, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” after “charging infrastructure”.

On page 2643, line 8, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” after “infrastructure”.

On page 2643, line 9, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” after “charging infrastructure”.

On page 2643, line 22, insert “Provided further, That of the funds distributed to each State under the previous proviso, each State may determine how to allocate such funds for charging vehicle charging infrastructure or biofuel infrastructure projects, respectively:” after “Code:”.

On page 2644, line 19, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” after “charging infrastructure”.

On page 2644, line 15, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” after “charging infrastructure”.

On page 2646, line 20, insert “or fueling” after “the charging”.

On page 2646, line 21, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” after “charging infrastructure”.

On page 2646, line 25, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” after “charging infrastructure”.

On page 2647, line 8, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” after “charging infrastructure”.

On page 2647, line 14, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” after “charging infrastructure”.

On page 2647, line 24, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” after “charging infrastructure”.

On page 2648, line 1, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” after “charging infrastructure”.

On page 2648, line 5, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” after “infrastructure”.

On page 2648, line 12, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” before the semicolon.

On page 2648, line 14, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” before the comma.

On page 2648, line 22, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” after “charging infrastructure”.

On page 2649, line 7, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” after “charging infrastructure”.

On page 2649, line 9, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” after “charging infrastructure”.

On page 2649, line 14, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” after “charging infrastructure”.

On page 2649, line 17, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” after “charging infrastructure”.

On page 2649, line 21, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” before the comma.

On page 2649, line 25, insert “or biofuel vehicle owners” after “owners”.

On page 2650, line 1, insert “or biofuel vehicles” after “electric vehicles”.

On page 2650, line 2, insert “or biofuel” before “required”.

On page 2650, line 3, insert “or biofuel fueling stations” before the comma.

On page 2650, line 4, insert “or biofuel fueling stations” after “charging stations”.

On page 2650, line 5, insert “or biofuel” after “electric”.

On page 2650, line 6, insert “or biofuel fueling stations” after “charging stations”.

On page 2650, line 7, insert “or biofuel” after “electric”.

On page 2650, strike lines 13 and 14 and insert “scenario, for electric and biofuel vehicles and electric vehicle charging stations or biofuel fueling stations: Provided further. That not later”.

On page 2650, line 22, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” before “under”.

On page 2650, line 24, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” before “under”.

On page 2651, line 8, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” before “locations”.

On page 2651, line 12, insert “and biofuel infrastructure” before “corridors”.

On page 2651, line 15, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” after “charging infrastructure”.

On page 2651, line 24, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” after “charging infrastructure”.

On page 2651, line 25, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” before “corridors”.

On page 2652, line 21, insert “or biofuel infrastructure” after “charging infrastructure”.

On page 2654, line 4, insert “or biofuel vehicle” after “electric vehicle”.

On page 2655, line 7, insert “or biofuel fueling stations” after “stations”.

On page 2655, line 8, insert “or biofuel fueling stations” after “stations”.

On page 2655, line 11, insert “or biofuel fueling stations” after “stations”.

SA 2487. Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 443, lines 4 and 5, strike “in the first sentence by striking” and insert the following: “in the first sentence—(1) by inserting ‘clauses (i) and (iv) of subsection (c)(38)(A),’ after ‘subsection (c)(37),’ and (2) by striking…”

SA 2491. Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in division I, insert the following:

SEC. 3. FEDERAL CHARTER FOR THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF AVIATION.

(a) In General—Chapter 1 of Title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 118. NATIONAL CENTER FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF AVIATION.

(a) In General.—Chapter 1 of Subtitle I of title 49, United States Code, is amended by

(1) $1,000,000,000 of such funds shall be transferred to the Secretary of Energy for uranium extraction or purification activities for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026;

(2) $300,000,000 of such funds shall be transferred to the Secretary of Energy for lithium extraction or purification activities for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.

SA 2490. Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. LUJAN, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. HENRICH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 443, lines 4 and 5, strike “in the first sentence by striking” and insert the following: “in the first sentence—(1) by inserting ‘clauses (i) and (iv) of subsection (c)(38)(A),’ after ‘subsection (c)(37),’ and (2) by striking…”

SA 2488. Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in division I, insert the following:

SEC. 118. NATIONAL CENTER FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF AVIATION.

(a) In General—Chapter 1 of Subtitle I of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 118. NATIONAL CENTER FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF AVIATION.

(a) In General.—The National Center for the Advancement of Aviation (in this section referred to as the ‘Center’) is a Federally chartered entity. The Center is a private entity, not a department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, and for all purposes is independent of the Federal Government.
among the members of the Board.

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Board shall adopt a constitution, bylaws, regulations, policies, and procedures to carry out the purpose of the Center and may take any other action that it considers necessary (in accordance with the powers of the Center) for the management and operation of the Center. The Board is responsible for the general policies and management of the Center and for the control of all funds of the Center.

(B) POWERS OF BOARD.—The Board shall have the power to do the following:

(i) Adopt and alter a corporate seal
(ii) Establish and maintain offices to conduct its activities.
(iii) Enter into contracts
(iv) Acquire, own, lease, encumber, and transfer property as necessary and appropriate to carry out the purposes of the Center
(v) Publish documents and other publications in a publicly accessible manner.

(vi) Obligations
(vii) Make or issue grants and include any conditions on such grants in furtherance of the purpose and duties of the Center.
(viii) Enter into agreements or other act necessary and proper to carry out the purposes of the Center as described in its constitution and bylaws or duties outlined in this section.

(2) MEMBERSHIP.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Board shall have 11 Directors as follows:

(i) EX-OFFICIO MEMBERSHIP.—The following individuals, or their designees, shall serve as ex-officio members of the Board:

(I) The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration.
(II) The Director of the William J. Hughes Technical Center within the Federal Aviation Administration.

(ii) APPOINTMENTS.—The following individuals or groups shall be appointed by the Board:

(a) by the Secretary of Transportation shall appoint 5 members to the Board;

(b) the Secretary of Defense shall appoint 1 member to the Board;

(c) of Veterans Affairs shall appoint 1 member to the Board.

(III) TERMS.—The members appointed under subclause (I) shall serve for a term of 3 years, and such reappointed. To ensure subsequent appointments to the Board are staggered, of the 7 members first appointed under subclause (I), 2 shall be appointed for a term of 3 years, and 3 shall be appointed for a term of 3 years.

(III) CONSIDERATION.—When considering whom to appoint to the Board, the Secretary of Transportation and Secretary of Defense shall ensure the overall composition of the Board remains balanced between and within the fields of aviation, finance, and academia.

(iii) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—The Executive Director of the Center shall be a member of the Board pursuant to paragraph (5)(D).

(III) APPOINTMENT OF CENTER DIRECTOR.—The Board shall be filled in the same manner as the initial appointment.

(IV) CHILMAN OF THE BOARD.—The Board shall select a Chairman of the Board from among the members of the Board.

(V) ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS.
(A) Ensure research and development efforts conducted at Centers of Excellence of the Federal Aviation Administration are tracked, collected, and amplified across the aviation and aerospace community.

(B) Provide a repository of pertinent recommendations or other action items from all Centers of Excellence for public review.

(C) Dedicated annual reports for Centers of Excellence institution researchers, stakeholders, and other interested parties for the purpose of discussing research efforts.

(6) Serve as a forum, through symposia, conferences, and other means as appropriate, for cross-disciplinary collaboration among aviation and aerospace stakeholders to consider the near-term and long-term future of aviation and aerospace generally with respect to new training materials and products.

(7) Grants.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In order to accomplish the purpose under subsection (c) and duties under subsection (d), the Center shall have the authority and ability to issue grants to organizations and ability to issue grants to aviation and aerospace stakeholder groups for a time and for a specific reason as may be deemed necessary.

(2) MEMBERSHIP.—Any working group established by the Board under this subsection shall consist of 15 members who represent a balance of various aviation stakeholder groups. Once established, the membership of each working group shall be subject to the approval by the Board. Members of the Board of the Center may not sit on the advisory committee.

(3) TERMINATION.—Any working group established by the Board under this subsection shall terminate on the expiration of the term of 5 years.

(8) Duties.—The advisory committee shall:

(1) provide recommendations to the Center on an annual basis regarding the priorities for the Center’s activities; and

(2) advise the Center on an ongoing basis regarding the appropriate powers of the Board to accomplish the purposes and duties of the Center.

(9) Administrative Matters of the Center.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—At the request of the Center, the head of any Federal agency or department may detail to the Center, on a reimbursable or voluntary basis, any employee of the agency or department.

(B) CIVIL SERVICE STATUS.—The detail of an employee under subparagraph (A) shall be without interruption or loss of civil service status or privilege.

(C) NAMES AND SYMBOLS.—The Center may use proceeds derived from the Center’s use of the logo, seal, word mark, name, and other emblems and badges incorporating such name as lawfully adopted by the Board of Directors in furtherance of the purpose and duties of the Center.

(10) GIFTS, GRANTS, REQUESTS, AND DEDICATIONS.—The Center may accept, use, and dispose of gifts, grants, bequests, or devises of money, services, or property from any public or private source for the purpose of covering the costs incurred by the Center in furtherance of the purpose and duties of the Center.

(11) PROFIT.—The Center may not engage in business activity for profit.

(12) STOCKS AND DIVIDENDS.—The Center may not issue stock or declare or pay a dividend.

(13) POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.—The Center shall not engage in political activities that are, directly, or indirectly, intended to be or likely to be perceived as advocating or influencing the legislative process.

(14) Dividends or Income or Assets.—The assets of the Center may not inure to the benefit of a member of the Board, or an employee of the Center or be distributed to any person. This subsection does not prevent the payment of reasonable compensation to an employee, officer, or other person for services for actual and necessary expenses in amounts approved by the Board.

(15) LOANS.—The Center may not make a loan to a member of the Board or an officer, employee of the Center.

(16) No Claim of Governmental Approval or Authority.—The Center may not claim approval of Congress or of the authority of the United States for any of its activities.

(17) Advisory Committee.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Executive Director shall appoint an advisory committee subject to the approval by the Board. Members of the Board of the Center may not sit on the advisory committee.

(2) MEMBERS.—An advisory committee shall consist of 12 members who represent a balance of various aviation stakeholder groups. The advisory committee shall elect a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson from among members of the advisory committee.

(3) DUTIES.—The advisory committee shall:

(a) provide recommendations to the Board on an annual basis regarding the priorities for the Center’s activities; and

(b) advise the Board on an ongoing basis regarding the appropriate powers of the Board to accomplish the purposes and duties of the Center.

(18) Duties.—The Center shall:

(a) provide data and information to the Center to aid the Center in carrying out its duties and

(b) nominate United States citizens for consideration by the Board to be honored by the Center for their work in promoting aviation or education in the United States.

(19) Meetings.—The provisions for meetings of the Board under subsection (c)(1) shall apply to meetings of the advisory committee.

(1) Working Groups.—

(A) The Board may establish the membership of working groups for a time and for a specific reason as necessary and appropriate.

(B) Members of a working group established by the Board shall be selected from aviation stakeholders. Once established, the membership of any working group shall choose a Chairperson from among members of the working group.

(2) Termination.—Any working group established by the Board shall cease to function when the working group has accomplished its purposes for carrying out the purpose of the advisory committee.

(20) Records of accounts.—The Center shall keep accurate and complete records of accounts.

(21) Duty to Maintain Tax-Exempt Status.—The Center shall in a manner and for purposes that qualify the Center for exemption from taxation under the Internal Revenue Code as an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of that Code.

(1) Annual Report.—The Center shall submit an annual report to Congress on the activities of the Center during the prior year.

(2) Funding.—In order to carry out this section, notwithstanding any other provision of law, an amount equal to 5 percent of the interest from investment credited to the Airport and Airway Trust Fund shall be transferred annually as a direct lump sum payment on the first day of October to the Center to carry out this section and shall be available until expended without further action of Congress.

(22) Clerical Amendment.—The analysis for chapter 1 of subtitle 1 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by inserting after this item relating to section 117 the following:

‘‘118. National Center for the Advancement of Aviation.’’

SA 2492. Mr. LANKFORD (for Mr. INHOFFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2317 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 2466, line 17, insert ‘‘Provided further, That in allocating funds under the previous proviso, the Secretary of the Army shall prioritize channel deepening projects:’’ after ‘‘projects:’’.

On page 1738, line 25, insert ‘‘, including to be leveraged through performance contracting’’ after ‘‘expended’’.

At the end of title VIII of division D, add the following:

SEC. 408. REGENERATIVE GRADING DATA COLLECTION.

(a) Definitions.—In this section:

(1) Federal land.—The term ‘‘Federal land’’ means:

(A) public lands as defined in section 103 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1702); and

(B) National Forest System land.

(2) Program.—The term ‘‘program’’ means the pilot program established under subsection (b)(1).

(3) Secretaries.—The term ‘‘Secretaries’’ means the Secretary of Agriculture (acting through the Chief of the Forest Service) and the Secretary of the Interior (acting through the Director of the Bureau of Land Management), acting jointly.

(b) Pilot Program for Use of Regenerative Grading on Federal Land to Mitigate the Effects of Climate Change.—

(1) Establishment.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall establish a pilot program to study the effectiveness of using grasing on Federal land to mitigate the effects of climate change.

(2) Requirements.—In carrying out the program, the Secretaries shall—

(A) identify—

(i) a standard set of practices to study, such as carbon beneficial practices in the conservation practice standards of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, that support conservation goals, including—

(ii) practices that provide wildlife habitat benefits;
SA 2493. Mr. COONS (for himself and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1738, line 25, insert ‘‘, including to be leveraged through permanent contracting’’ after ‘‘expended’’.

SA 2494. Ms. LUMMIS (for herself and Mr. WYDEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title VIII of division D, add the following:

SEC. 408. REGENERATIVE GRAZING DATA COLLECTION.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) FEDERAL LAND.—The term ‘‘Federal land’’ means—

(A) public lands (as defined in section 103 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1702)); and

(B) National Forest System land.

(2) PROGRAM.—The term ‘‘program’’ means the pilot program established under subsection (b)(1).

(3) SECRETARIES.—The term ‘‘Secretaries’’ means the Secretary of Agriculture (acting through the Chief of the Forest Service) and the Secretary of the Interior (acting through the Director of the Bureau of Land Management), acting jointly.

(b) PILOT PROGRAM FOR USE OF REGENERATIVE GRAZING ON FEDERAL LAND TO MITIGATE THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretaries shall establish a pilot program to study the effectiveness of using grazing on Federal land to mitigate the effects of climate change.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out the program, the Secretaries shall—

(A) identify—

(i) a standard set of practices to study, such as carbon beneficial practices in the conservation practice standards of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, that support conservation goals, including—

(I) silvopasture;

(II) practices that provide wildlife habitat benefits;

(III) practices that consider flexibility in season of use;

(IV) forage and biomass management;

(V) planned grazing rotation; and

(VI) range monitoring; and

(ii) sufficient grazing allotments on a diverse mixture of ecosystems to identify how grazing is an effective tool to mitigate effects of climate change, including the ability to—

(I) improve soil health;

(II) sequester carbon;

(III) reduce wildfire risk; and

(IV) improve watershed resilience and biodiversity;

(B) in developing, implementing, and monitoring the program, consult with—

(i) relevant subject matter experts at the Forest Service;

(ii) relevant subject matter experts at the Bureau of Land Management;

(iii) the Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service;

(iv) the Director of the United States Geological Survey;

(v) ranchers and representatives of the ranching industry;

(vi) representatives from grazing districts, associations, or boards;

(vii) environmental and conservation non-governmental organizations;

(viii) institutions of higher education; and

(ix) any other organization that the Secretaries determine to be appropriate.

(c) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds made available to carry out the program may be used for—

(A) the conduct of research activities;

(B) the provision of technical assistance to permittees; or

(C) the construction of infrastructure necessary for implementing and analyzing regenerative grazing.

(d) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the Secretaries determine that a sufficient quantity of data has been collected under the program, the Secretaries shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the House of Representatives a report on the findings and data derived from the program, including whether and the extent to which the use of regenerative grazing improved the ability to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2023, to remain available until expended.

SA 2495. Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. THUNE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in division H, insert the following:

SEC. 45U. CREDIT FOR SALE OR BLENDING OF ETHANOL FUELS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following section:

SEC. 45U. CREDIT FOR SALE OR BLENDING OF ETHANOL FUELS.

(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of section 38, the ethanol fuel credit determined under this section for any taxable year is an amount equal to—

(A) in the case of a successful taxpayer which is described in subsection (b)(2)(A)—

(i) for each gallon of E15 blended by such taxpayer, 5 cents, and

(ii) for each gallon of fuel blended by such taxpayer which contains more than 15 volume percent ethanol, 10 cents, and

(B) subject to subsection (c), in the case of a successful taxpayer which is described in subsection (b)(2)(A)—

(i) for each gallon of E15 blended by such taxpayer, 5 cents, and

(ii) for each gallon of fuel blended by such taxpayer which contains more than 15 volume percent ethanol, 10 cents.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

(1) APPLICABLE TAXPAYER.—The term ‘‘applicable taxpayer’’ means—

(A) an oxygenate blender (as defined in section 10100 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations), and

(B) a retailer (as defined in paragraph (7) of section 109 of the Petroleum Marketing Practices Act (49 U.S.C. 2011)).

(2) ETIS.—The term ‘‘ETI’’ means gasoline that is marketed and sold as E15 contains
more than 13 percent ethanol and no more than 15 percent ethanol by volume.

(c) ELECTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—

(A) ELECTED BY OXYGENATE BLENDER.—

Subsection (a)(1) shall apply with respect to any gallon of fuel described in such subsection only if the applicable taxpayer described in subsection (b)(1)(A) elects to have such subsection apply with respect to such gallon of fuel. 

(B) NOTIFICATION.—The applicable taxpayer described in such subparagraph (a) shall provide notice of their election with respect to any gallon of fuel described in such subparagraph to any applicable taxpayer described in such subparagraph to such gallon of fuel.

(2) CREDIT FOR RETAILER AVAILABLE ONLY IF NOT CLAIMED BY OXYGENATE BLENDER.—

Subsection (a)(2) shall apply with respect to any gallon of fuel described in such subsection only if the applicable taxpayer described in subsection (b)(1)(A) has not elected (pursuant to paragraph (1)) to apply subsection (a)(1) with respect to such gallon of fuel.

(d) REFUNDABLE CREDIT FOR SMALL RETAILERS.—For purposes of this title, in the case of a retailer with not greater than 5 retail locations at the close of the taxable year, to the extent specified under subsection (a)(2) for such taxable year shall be treated as a credit allowable under subpart C (and not allowable under this subpart) for such taxable year.

(e) TRANSFER OF CREDIT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to such regulations or other guidance as the Secretary determines necessary or appropriate, if, with respect to the credit allowed under subsection (a) for any taxable year, the applicable taxpayer elects the application of this subsection to any such taxable year with respect to all (or any portion specified in such election) of such credit, the eligible entity specified in such election, and not the applicable taxpayer, shall be treated as the taxpayer for purposes of this title with respect to such credit (or such portion thereof).

(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'eligible entity' means any person within the supply chain for fuel described in such section.

(f) ELIGIBILITY OF GENERAL BUSINESS CREDIT.—Subsection (b) of section 38 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ‘‘plus’’ at the end of paragraph (32), in the period at the end of paragraph (33) and inserting ‘‘plus’’, and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

‘‘(33) the credit for sale or blending of ethanol fuels under section 45U to which such subsection (d) of such section does not apply.’’.

(g) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

‘‘Sec. 45U. Credit for sale or blending of ethanol fuel.’’

(h) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to fuel blended or sold after December 31, 2021.

SA 2496. Mr. PADILLA submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 237 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. Tester, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 331, between lines 23 and 24, insert the following:

‘‘(3) REGIONAL INNOVATION PILOT.—

(4) IN GENERAL.—In addition to eligible projects under paragraphs (1) and (2), a metropolitan planning organization may use amounts suballocated under subsection (c) for innovative strategies to reduce transportation emissions, including associated infrastructure improvements that will increase the share of multimodal trips and improve the efficiency of existing surface transportation infrastructure to address carbon reduction.

(5) NOTICE.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of the Surface Transportation Reauthorization Act of 2021, the plan shall provide notice and guidance for interested metropolitan planning organizations to participate in activities under subparagraph (A).

(6) EXCLUSION.—In carrying out activities under subparagraph (A), a metropolitan planning organization may not use amounts made available to carry out that subparagraph for a program that increases net capacity for vehicular travel.

SA 2497. Mr. PADILLA submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 237 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. Tester, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 338, between lines 7 and 8, insert the following:

‘‘(7) SELECTION OF PROJECTS.—

(4) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the applicable metropolitan planning organization shall determine the programming and expenditure of amounts that a State is required to obligate under clauses (i) and (ii) of paragraph (a), and the metropolitan planning organization under subparagraph (A) are eligible projects under this section.

SA 2498. Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. TOOMEY, and Mr. CRUZ) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 237 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. Tester, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 328, between lines 19 and 21, insert the following:

‘‘(a) ELIGIBILITY OF PROJECTS THAT RECEIVE STATE FUNDING UNDER RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE PROGRAMS.—

(1) ELIGIBILITY.—Nothing in this section or the amendments made by this section shall be construed to create any inference that a person described in section 6045(c)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as added by this section, includes any person solely engaged in the business of—

(A) validating distributed ledger transactions,

(B) selling hardware or software for which the sole function is to permit a person to control private keys which are used for accessing digital assets on a distributed ledger, or

(C) developing digital assets or their corresponding protocols applicable to other persons, provided that such other persons are not customers of the person developing such digital assets or protocols.

SEC. 80605. TERMINATION OF EMPLOYEE RETENTION CREDIT FOR EMPLOYERS SUBJECT TO CLOSURE DUE TO COVID-19.

SA 2499. Mr. KELLY (for himself, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, and Mr. CORNYN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 237 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. Tester, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 362, line 3, insert after ‘‘2026’’ the following:

‘‘Provided further. That for funds made available under this heading in this Act for planning, preparation, or design of eligible projects, the Secretary may consider whether the project will provide new or improved interstate highway connections between not less than 2 metropolitan areas with a population of not less than 500,000.’’.

SA 2500. Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 237 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. Tester, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of division F, add the following:

TITLE VI—STATE FUNDING UNDER RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE PROGRAMS

SEC. 60601. STATE FUNDING UNDER RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE PROGRAMS.

(a) ELIGIBILITY.—Projects that receive state funding—

(1) DEFINITION.—The term 'rural utilities service programs' means—

(1) the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 950c et seq.),
is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 704. ELIGIBILITY OF PROJECTS THAT RECEIVE STATE FUNDING.

"In administering any broadband or telecommunications program, the Secretary, acting through the Administrator of the Rural Utilities Service, shall not determine that a program is ineligible for funds because the project has received funding from a State.","

(b) STATE FUNDS TO SATISFY MATCHING REQUIREMENTS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), for purposes of any matching funds requirement under any program administered by the Secretary, acting through the Administrator of the Rural Utilities Service, an applicant for funding under that program may use funds received from a State program (including funds received by a State from the Federal Government) to satisfy the matching funds requirement.

(2) SUNSET.—This subsection shall cease to be effective on October 1, 2023.

SA 2501. Mr. RUBIO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 2485, line 13, strike "$31,615,000,000" and insert "$16,615,000,000".

On page 2489, line 22, insert "Provided further, That the amount provided under this heading in this Act, $5,000,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the South Florida ecosystem restoration: Provided further, That the amounts made available for South Florida ecosystem restoration shall be appropriated from amounts in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated; after in "this Act:"

SA 2502. Ms. ERNST submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 2487, line 13, strike "$31,615,000,000" and insert "$16,615,000,000".

On page 2489, line 22, insert "Provided further, That the amount provided under this heading in this Act, $5,000,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the South Florida ecosystem restoration: Provided further, That the amounts made available for South Florida ecosystem restoration shall be appropriated from amounts in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated; after in "this Act:"

SA 2503. Ms. ERNST submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 31, strike lines 12 through 17.

Beginning on page 547, strike line 17 and all that follows through page 550, line 11, and insert the following:

(E) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 167 of title

SA 2504. Ms. ERNST submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 386, strike line 1 and all that follows through page 392, line 9.

SA 2505. Ms. ERNST submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 254, between lines 2 and 3, insert the following:

(3) includes—

(A) a cost-benefit analysis of the use of Amtrak to cross the northern border, relative to other non-government subsidized options; and

(B) an explanation for any United States taxpayer dollars should be used to fund transportation in a foreign country.

(C) the amount of money the extension would lose annually.

SA 2506. Mr. MARSHALL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in division J, insert the following:

Sec.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b), none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to transport an alien described in section (b), unless the Secretary determines is practicable, sections.

(b) Funds made available by this Act may be used to transport an alien described in this subpart not later than September 30, 2021 (as soon thereafter as the Secretary determines practicable).

SA 2507. Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. RISCH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of division G, add the following:

TITLE XII—FOREST MANAGEMENT FOR RURAL STABILITY

SEC. 71201. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Forest Management for Rural Stability Act". 
SEC. 7102. FEDERAL CHARTER FOR FOREST AND REFUGE COUNTY FOUNDATION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES PERMANENT FUND.

(a) FEDERAL CHARTER FOR FOREST AND REFUGE COUNTY FOUNDATION.—Subtitle III of title 36, United States Code, is amended by inserting after chapter 3001 the following:

"Chapter 3002—Forest and Refuge County Foundation"

"Sec.

300201. Definitions.

300202. Establishment.

300203. Status and applicable laws.

300204. Board of Directors.

300205. Bylaws and duties.

300206. Authority of Corporation.

300207. Establishment of Natural Resources Permanent Fund.

"§ 300201. Definitions.

In this chapter:

(A) agency head.—The term ‘agency head’ means—

(1) the Secretary of the Treasury;

(2) the Chief of the Forest Service;

(3) the Director of the Bureau of Land Management; and

(B) the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

(B) Chairperson.—The term ‘Chairperson’ means the Chairperson of the Board.

(C) Corporation.—The term ‘Corporation’ means the Forest and Refuge County Foundation established by section 300202.

(D) County Fund.—The term ‘County Fund’ means the Natural Resources Permanent Fund established by section 300207(a).

(E) Highest historic payment.—The term ‘highest historic payment’ means the total amount of State payments received under section 101(a) of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7111(a)) for fiscal year 2008 (as adjusted to reflect changes during the period beginning on October 1, 2008, in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor).

(F) Manager.—The term ‘manager’ means the manager of investments employed by the Board pursuant to section 300205(c)(3).

(G) Resource Advisory Committee.—The term ‘resource advisory committee’ means—

(1) a resource advisory committee established under section 205 of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7125) (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this chapter); and

(2) an advisory council established pursuant to section 309(a) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1739(a)).

(H) Secretary Concerned.—The term ‘Secretary Concerned’ means—

(1) the Secretary of Agriculture, with respect to an account established by section 300207(b); and

(2) the Secretary of the Interior, with respect to an account established by paragraph (2) or (3) of section 300207(b).

§ 300202. Establishment.

There is established a federally chartered, nonprofit corporation, to be known as the ‘Forest and Refuge County Foundation’, which shall be incorporated in the State of Oregon.

§ 300203. Status and applicable laws.

(A) Non-Federal Entity.—The Corporation is not—

(1) a department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government; or

(2) subject to title 31.

(B) Liability.—The United States Government shall not be liable for the actions or inactions of the Corporation.

(C) Nonprofit Corporation.—The Corporation shall maintain the status of the Corporation as a nonprofit corporation exempt from taxation under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

§ 300204. Board of Directors.

(A) Authority.—The powers of the Corporation shall be vested in a Board of Directors that governs the Corporation.

(B) Membership.—The Board shall be composed of 11 members, of whom—

(1) 3 shall be appointed by the Chief of the Forest Service;

(2) 2 shall be appointed by the Director of the Bureau of Land Management; and

(3) 6 shall be appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury.

(C) Qualifications.—In making appointments under paragraph (1), the agency heads shall—

(1) appoint members who represent the various States; and

(2) ensure that the membership of the Board is—

(i) apolitical; and

(ii) fairly balanced in terms of—

(I) the points of view represented; and

(II) the functions to be performed by the Board, by appointing—

(aa) 3 or more members who are county elected officials, as of the date of appointment of the members, of whom—

(AA) 1 shall be an elected official of a county that contains Federal land described in section 3(7)(A) of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7102(7)(A));

(BB) 1 shall be an elected official of a county that contains Federal land described in section 3(7)(B) of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7102(7)(B)); and

(CC) 1 shall be an elected official of a county that is eligible for a payment under section 401(c) of the Act of June 15, 1935 (commonly known as the ‘Refuge Revenue Sharing Act’) (49 Stat. 383, chapter 261; 16 U.S.C. 715s(c));

(d) 6 members with expert experience in fund management or finance; and

(e) 1 member to represent education interests.

(D) Terms.—

(1) In General.—The Chairperson of the Board shall be selected from among the members of the Board by a majority vote of the members.

(2) Term of Service.—The Chairperson of the Board—

(1) shall serve for a term of not longer than 5 years; and

(2) may be reelected to serve an additional term, subject to the condition that the Chairperson may serve for not more than 2 consecutive terms.

(E) Vacancy.—A vacancy on the Board shall—

(1) by not later than 90 days after the date on which the vacancy occurs; and

(2) in the manner in which the original appointment was made.

(F) Transitions.—Any member of the Board may continue to serve after the expiration of the term for which the member was appointed or elected until a qualified successor has been appointed or elected.

(G) Meetings and Quorum.—

(1) Meetings.

(A) In General.—The Board shall meet—

(i) not less frequently than once each calendar year; and

(ii) (I) at the call of—

(aa) the Chairperson; or

(bb) 3 or more members; or

(ii) as otherwise provided in the bylaws of the Corporation.

(B) Initial Meeting.—Not later than 150 days after the date of enactment of this chapter, the Board shall hold an initial meeting of the Board.

(2) Quorum.—A quorum of the Board shall be required to conduct any business of the Board.

(H) Approval of Board Actions.—Except as otherwise provided, the threshold for approval of Board actions shall be set forth in the bylaws of the Corporation.

(I) Reimbursement of Expenses.—

(1) In General.—A voting member of the Board—

(A) shall serve without pay; but

(B) subject to paragraph (2), may be reimbursed for the actual and necessary traveling expenses incurred by the member in the performance of duties for the Corporation.

(2) Maximum Amount.—The amount of reimbursement permitted under paragraph (1)(B) may not exceed the amount that would be authorized under section 5703 of title 5 for the payment...
of expenses and allowances for an individual employed intermittently in the Federal Gov-
ernment service.
§ 300205. Bylaws and duties
(a) In general.—The Board shall adopt, and may amend, the bylaws of the Corporation,
(b) Bylaws.—The bylaws of the Corporation shall include, at a minimum—
(1) the duties and responsibilities of the Board; and
(2) the operational procedures of the Cor-
poration.
(c) Duties and responsibilities of the Board.—The Board shall be responsible for
actions of the Corporation, including—
(1) employing for individuals at the Corpora-
tion to provide investment management services; or
(2) retaining the services of investment management services providers;
(3) employing a manager of investments to manage the amounts authorized to be in-
vested by the Board in accordance with subsection (d);
(4) entering into a contract with 1 or more banking or trust entities to act as the custodian of the assets of the Fund; and
(5) engaging other appropriate professional services to support the Board and the employees of the Board in carrying out the duties and responsibilities of the Board as set out in this chapter.
(d) Authority of Manager.—Subject to the direction of the Board, the manager shall
have control over the amounts under the jurisdic-
tion of the Corporation in the same manner as if the manager owned those amounts.
§ 300206. Authority of Corporation
Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the Corporation, acting through the manager, shall have authority—
(1) to manage the Fund;
(2) to make investments of amounts in the Fund under section 300207(d); and
(3) to make distributions from the Fund under section 300207(e); and
(4) to review certifications submitted by participating counties under section 300207(c) of the Forest Management for Rural Stability Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7143(a)).
§ 300207. Establishment of Natural Re-
sources Permanent Fund
(a) Establishment.—There is established within the Corporation a permanent fund, to be
known as the ‘Natural Resources Perman-
ent Fund’, consisting of—
(1) amounts deposited in the accounts under subsection (b); and
(2) amounts deposited by an eligible coun-
ty or State under subsection (c).
(b) Accounts.—Within the Fund, there are established the following accounts:
(1) The Forest Service Account, con-
sisting of the amounts transferred under section 71203(b) of the Forest Management for Rural Stability Act.
(2) The Bureau of Land Management Account, consisting of the amounts transferred under subsection (c)(2) and (d)(2) of section 71203 of the Forest Management for Rural Stability Act.
(3) The United States Fish and Wildlife Service Account, consisting of the amounts transferred under section 71203(e) of the Forest Management for Rural Stability Act.
(4) The Voluntary County Savings Ac-
count, consisting of voluntary contributions
**(B) UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE ACCOUNT.**

"(I) IN GENERAL.—Beginning in fiscal year 2024, for each fiscal year, amounts in the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Account within the Fund available for distribution for the fiscal year, as determined under paragraph (1), shall be used to make payments to eligible counties, in accordance with section 401(c) of the Act of June 15, 1935 (commonly known as the 'Refuge Revenue Sharing Act') (49 Stat. 383, chapter 261; 16 U.S.C. 715s(c)) and clause (I).

"(II) CALCULATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF AUTHORIZED PAYMENTS.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subparagraphs (A) and (B), the minimum amount of a payment to be distributed to a State or eligible county under subparagraph (A) or (B) of subparagraph (A)(ii)(III)(aa) or subparagraph (B)(ii)(III)(aa)(AA) for a fiscal year shall be the amount of the payment authorized for the fiscal year for that State or eligible county for fiscal year 2017 under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.) or section 401(c) of the Act of June 15, 1935 (commonly known as the 'Refuge Revenue Sharing Act') (49 Stat. 383, chapter 261; 16 U.S.C. 715s(c)), as applicable (as adjusted to October 1, 2017, in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor).

"(ii) OBLIGATION OF SECRETARY.—The Secretary concerned shall, based on the formulas for the fiscal year under section 401(c) of the Act of June 15, 1935 (commonly known as the 'Refuge Revenue Sharing Act') (49 Stat. 383, chapter 261; 16 U.S.C. 715s(c)), as determined under paragraph (I).

"(III) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to subparagraphs (A) and (B) and any payments authorized for the county, the Secretary concerned shall, based on the information under subparagraph (I), determine a maximum payment amount for each eligible county for each fiscal year to make payments to eligible counties under section 401(c) of the Act of June 15, 1935 (commonly known as the 'Refuge Revenue Sharing Act') (49 Stat. 383, chapter 261; 16 U.S.C. 715s(c)), as determined by the Secretary concerned, the Secretary concerned shall, based on the formulas for authorizing and distributing payments under that Act, calculate and submit to the Corporation the authorized payment amount for each eligible county.

"(IV) EFFECT OF MEETING MAXIMUM.—For any fiscal year for which payments to be distributed to a State or eligible county under subparagraph (A)(ii)(III)(aa) or (B)(ii)(III)(aa)(AA) are less than the minimum payment amount required under clause (I) and the Secretary concerned determines that the amount of payment to be distributed to a State or eligible county under subparagraph (A)(ii)(III)(bb) or (B)(ii)(III)(bb), as applicable, for the fiscal year, as determined by the Secretary concerned, for the fiscal year within the Fund for a fiscal year, as calculated by the Corporation to States or eligible counties shall receive, in addition to those payments from the Fund, any payments authorized for the State or eligible county for the fiscal year within the Fund, as of that date.

"(V) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—(A) IN GENERAL.—Beginning in fiscal year 2024, for each fiscal year, of the total amounts in the Fund, there shall be made available to the Corporation from the Fund for the payment of administrative expenses described in subparagraph (B) a description of the amounts distributed under subparagraph (B).

"(ii) IN GENERAL.—Beginning in fiscal year 2024, for each fiscal year, of the total amounts in the Fund, there shall be made available to the Corporation from the Fund for the payment of administrative expenses described in subparagraph (B) a description of the amounts distributed under subparagraph (B).

"(i) the amounts made available for administrative expenses under subparagraph (B) may be used by the Corporation—

"(ii) to ensure that amounts in Fund are managed in a manner consistent with the asset management strategies adopted under subsection (d)(1); and

"(iii) to reimburse members of the Board for actual and necessary traveling and subsistence expenses, in accordance with section 30203(b).

"(E) ELECTIONS TO OPT OUT AND OPT IN.—

"(1) OPTING OUT.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding paragraph (C), the Corporation may, by written notice to the Secretary concerned, and by written notice to the Secretary concerned, the Secretary concerned shall, based on the information under subparagraph (I), determine a maximum payment amount for each eligible county for each fiscal year to make payments to eligible counties under section 401(c) of the Act of June 15, 1935 (commonly known as the 'Refuge Revenue Sharing Act') (49 Stat. 383, chapter 261; 16 U.S.C. 715s(c)), as determined under paragraph (I).

"(ii) EFFECT.—Subject to subparagraph (B), an election under clause (i) to opt out of distributions from the Fund shall be applicable for—

"(III) NO EFFECT ON OTHER PAYMENTS.—An election by a county to opt out of distributions from the Fund under clause (i) shall not affect the eligibility of the county to receive any payment authorized for the county under—

"(i) the sixth paragraph under the heading 'FOREST SERVICE' in the Act of May 23, 1908 (35 Stat. 260, chapter 192; 16 U.S.C. 500), and section 13 of the Act of March 1, 1911 (commonly known as the 'Weeks Law') (36 Stat. 693, chapter 186; 16 U.S.C. 500); and

"(ii) subsection (a) of title II of the Act of August 28, 1937 (50 Stat. 875, chapter 876; 43 U.S.C. 2605) (III) the first section of the Act of May 24, 1939 (35 Stat. 753, chapter 144; 43 U.S.C. 2621); and

"(iv) section 401(c) of the Act of June 15, 1935 (commonly known as the 'Refuge Revenue Sharing Act') (49 Stat. 383, chapter 261; 16 U.S.C. 715s(c)).

"(3) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—(A) IN GENERAL.—Beginning in fiscal year 2024, for each fiscal year, of the total amounts in the Fund, there shall be made available to the Corporation from the Fund for the payment of administrative expenses described in subparagraph (B) a description of the amounts distributed under subparagraph (B).
fund.

description of the investment policy used for the Treasury a quarterly report that de-
corporation shall submit to the Secretary of chapter and every 90 days thereafter, the
90 days after the date of enactment of this chapter and annually thereafter, the Inspec-
tory and statutory duties of the Corporation.

(i) FUNDING.

(1) GENERAL.—Beginning in fiscal year 2022, out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer to the Fund 110 percent of such sums as are necessary to ensure that the required minimum payment amounts under subsection (e)(2)(C)(i) can be provided.

(2) ALLOCATION AMONG ACCOUNTS.—The amounts appropriated to the Fund under paragraph (1) shall be allocated among the Forest Service Account, the Bureau of Land Management Account, and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Account in a manner that ensures that—

(A) the amount allocated to the Forest Service Account is determined in accordance with the ratio that—

(i) the total amount of payments to counties under section 401(c) of the Act of June 15, 1935 (commonly known as the ‘Refuge Revenue Sharing Act’) (49 Stat. 383, chapter 261; 16 U.S.C. 715c(c)), for fiscal year 2017;

(B) the amount allocated to the Bureau of Land Management Account is determined in accordance with the ratio that—

(i) the total amount of payments to counties under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.) for fiscal year 2017; and

(ii) an amount equal to the sum of—

(I) the full funding amount for the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.) for fiscal year 2017; and

(II) the total amount of payments to counties under section 401(c) of the Act of June 15, 1935 (commonly known as the ‘Refuge Revenue Sharing Act’) (49 Stat. 383, chapter 261; 16 U.S.C. 715c(c)), for fiscal year 2017;

(C) the amount allocated to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Account is determined in accordance with the ratio that—

(i) the total amount of payments to counties under section 401(c) of the Act of June 15, 1935 (commonly known as the ‘Refuge Revenue Sharing Act’) (49 Stat. 383, chapter 261; 16 U.S.C. 715c(c)), for fiscal year 2017; and

(ii) an amount equal to the sum of—

(I) the full funding amount for the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.) for fiscal year 2017; and

(II) the total amount of payments to counties under section 401(c) of the Act of June 15, 1935 (commonly known as the ‘Refuge Revenue Sharing Act’) (49 Stat. 383, chapter 261; 16 U.S.C. 715c(c)), for fiscal year 2017;

(j) AGENCY REPORTING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this chapter and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior shall submit to the Corporation information describing activities on Federal land described in subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively, of section 37(f) of the Act of August 28, 1937 (36 Stat. 963, chapter 186; 16 U.S.C. 500), and section 13 of the Act of March 1, 1911 (commonly known as the ‘Weeks Law’) (36 Stat. 963, chapter 186; 16 U.S.C. 500).

(2) PUBLICATION.—Promptly after receipt of the information under paragraph (1), the Corporation shall make the information publicly available in an online searchable database in a machine-readable format.

(3) INCLUSION.—The table of chapters for subtitle III of title 36, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to chapter 3001 the following:

“3002. Forest and Refuge County Foundation 300201.”

(e) SUSPENSION OF PAYMENTS UNDER REFUGE REVENUE SHARING ACT.—Except as provided in section 300207(e)(2)(D)(ii) of title 36, United States Code, for fiscal year 2024 and each fiscal year thereafter—

(1) payments authorized for eligible non-Indian counties under section 401(c) of the Act of June 15, 1939 (commonly known as the ‘‘Refuge Revenue Sharing Act’’) (49 Stat. 383, chapter 261; 16 U.S.C. 715c(c)), shall be suspended; and

(2) the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Account within the Natural Resources Permanent Fund established by section 300207(b)(3) of title 36, United States Code, amounts equal to the amounts that would have otherwise been distributed as payments to eligible non-Indian counties under section 401(c) of the Act of June 15, 1939 (commonly known as the ‘‘Refuge Revenue Sharing Act’’) (49 Stat. 383, chapter 261; 16 U.S.C. 715c(c)).

SEC. 71204. AMENDMENTS TO SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY SELF-DETERMINATION ACT OF 2000.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 3 of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7120) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking ‘‘and paragraph (9)(B)(i);’’

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)(ii)—

(i) by inserting ‘‘of’’ before ‘‘acres’’; and

(ii) by inserting ‘‘and paragraph (7)(A)’’ after ‘‘Federal land’’; and

(B) in subparagraph (B)(i), by striking ‘‘after ‘‘Federal land’’’; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

‘‘(i) the election otherwise required by subparagraph (A) shall not apply; and

(ii) each affected county shall receive payments in accordance with chapter 3002 of title 36, United States Code, unless the affected county elects to opt out of distributions under section 300207(e)(4)(A) of title 36, United States Code;’’.

(b) PERMANENT AUTHORIZATION; SOURCE OF PAYMENT AMENDMENTS.—

(1) CALCULATION OF PAYMENTS.—Section 101 of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7111) (as amended by section 41202(b)(1)) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ‘‘of fiscal years’’ and all that follows through ‘‘the Secretary of Agriculture’’ and inserting ‘‘fiscal year, the Secretary of Agriculture’’; and

(B) in subsection (b), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ‘‘of fiscal years’’ and all that follows through ‘‘the Secretary of the Interior’’ and inserting ‘‘fiscal year, the Secretary of the Interior’’.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 102(d)(2) of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7120(b)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by inserting ‘‘through fiscal year 2023’’ after ‘‘second fiscal year thereafter’’; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following:

‘‘(E) FISCAL YEAR 2024 AND THEREAFTER.—For fiscal year 2024 and each fiscal year thereafter—

(i) the election otherwise required by subparagraph (A) shall not apply; and

(ii) each affected county shall receive payments in accordance with chapter 3002 of title 36, United States Code, unless the affected county elects to opt out of distributions under section 300207(e)(4)(A) of title 36, United States Code;’’.

(B) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking ‘‘through fiscal year 2015 and for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2023’’; and

(C) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

‘‘(3) SOURCE OF PAYMENT AMOUNTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—With respect to an eligible State or eligible county that has not elected to opt out of distributions under section 300207(e)(4)(A) of title 36, United States Code, the payment under this section for a fiscal year shall be derived from—

(i) the allocation of funds required under paragraph (1), by striking ‘‘fiscal year 2023’’; and

(ii) 15 percent shall be expended on county projects in accordance with title III; and

(iii) the elections otherwise required by subparagraphs (B), (C), (D), and (E) of section 300207(e)(4)(A) after ‘‘fiscal year’’ and inserting ‘‘fiscal years’’.

(B) IN GENERAL.—With respect to an eligible State or eligible county that has elected to opt out of distributions under section 300207(e)(4)(A) of title 36, United States Code—

(i) 85 percent shall be expended in the same manner in which the 25-percent payments or 50-percent payments, as applicable, are required to be expended; and

(ii) 15 percent shall be expended on county projects in accordance with title III; and

(iii) the elections otherwise required by subparagraphs (B), (C), (D), and (E) of section 300207(e)(4)(A) after ‘‘fiscal year’’ and inserting ‘‘fiscal years’’.

(C) IN GENERAL.—With respect to an eligible State or eligible county that has elected to opt out of distributions under section 300207(e)(4)(A) of title 36, United States Code—

(i) 85 percent shall be expended in the same manner in which the 25-percent payments or 50-percent payments, as applicable, are required to be expended; and

(ii) 15 percent shall be expended on county projects in accordance with title III; and

(iii) the elections otherwise required by subparagraphs (B), (C), (D), and (E) of section 300207(e)(4)(A) after ‘‘fiscal year’’ and inserting ‘‘fiscal years’’.
(ii) by redesigning paragraph (3) as paragraph (2); and

(iv) in subparagraph (B)(ii) of paragraph (2) (as so redesignated), by inserting ‘‘(as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of the Forest Management for Rural Stability Act)’’ after ‘‘February 1’’.

(B) Section 302(b) of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7124(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ‘‘and’’ and inserting ‘‘and shall’’, and ‘‘and’’ and all that follows through ‘‘publish in’’ in paragraph (1) and inserting ‘‘shall publish’’; and

(1) by striking paragraph (2).);

(C) Title IV of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7151 et seq.) is amended by striking section 403 (16 U.S.C. 7153) and inserting the following:

SEC. 403. TREATMENT OF FUNDS. ‘‘Funds made available under section 402 shall be in addition to any other annual appropriations for the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management.’’.

(D) Section 606(b)(1)(I)(i)(II) of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 7106(b)(1)(I)(i)(II)) is amended by inserting ‘‘(as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of the Forest Management for Rural Stability Act)’’ before the period at the end.

(E) Section 4003(b)(2)(B)(ii) of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (16 U.S.C. 7380(b)(2)(B)(ii)) is amended by striking ‘‘500 note’’ and inserting ‘‘725’’ as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of the Forest Management for Rural Stability Act’’.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE. —The amendments made by this subsection are effective on October 1, 2024.

(d) FUNDING. —Section 302(a) of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7124(a)) (as amended by section 4102(e)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking ‘‘on Federal land’’;

(2) in paragraph (4), by striking ‘‘and’’ at the end;

(3) in paragraph (5), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon;

and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

‘‘(6) for job training or job creation activities;

‘‘(7) for projects approved by—

‘‘(A) a resource advisory committee (as defined in section 30201 of title 36, United States Code); or

‘‘(B) a forest collaborative;

‘‘(8) for natural resource conservation projects;

‘‘(9) for forest health treatments;

‘‘(10) for economic development activities;

‘‘(11) for transportation infrastructure projects on county road systems that serve Federal land;

‘‘(12) to plan, develop, or carry out projects on Federal land that—

‘‘(A) are consistent with applicable Federal laws (including regulations) and forest plans; and

‘‘(B) create private sector jobs, generate county revenue, or provide merchantable forest products;’’;

‘‘(C) may include—

‘‘(i) forest health treatments;

‘‘(ii) implementation of work under a Master Stewardship Agreement;

‘‘(iii) implementation of work under a good neighbor agreement (as defined in section 536(a) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (16 U.S.C. 2502(a));’’;

(iv) road forest replacement, rehabilitation, or reconstruction; or

‘‘(13) to provide or expand access to—

‘‘(A) broadband telecommunications services at local schools; or

‘‘(B) the technology and connectivity necessary for students to use a digital learning tool at or outside of a local school campus.’’.

(e) CERTIFICATION. —Section 303 of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7131) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ‘‘February 1’’ and all that follows through ‘‘Secretary concerned’’ and inserting ‘‘February 1 of each calendar year beginning after a calendar year during which not less than $50,000 of county funds were expended by a participating county, the appropriate official of the participating county shall submit to the Forest and Refuge County Foundation established by section 300202 of title 36, United States Code’’;

and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking ‘‘Secretary concerned shall’’ and inserting ‘‘Forest and Refuge County Foundation shall’’; and

(B) by striking ‘‘Secretary concerned determines’’ and inserting ‘‘Foundation determines’’.

(f) FUNDING.—Title IV of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7151 et seq.) is amended by striking section 402 (16 U.S.C. 7152) and inserting the following:

SEC. 402. FUNDING. ‘‘(a) IN GENERAL.—On October 1 of each fiscal year, out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer to the Secretary concerned such sums as are necessary to carry out this Act, to remain available until expended.

‘‘(b) RECEIPT AND ACCEPTANCE.—The Secretary concerned shall be entitled to receive, shall accept, and shall use to carry out this section any funds paid under section (a) without further appropriation.’’.

SEC. 71205. TIMELINE FOR RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE EXPENDITURES. (a) DEFINITIONS. —In this section:

(1) PARTICIPATING COUNTY; PROJECT FUNDS.—The terms ‘‘participating county’’ and ‘‘project funds’’ have the meanings given those terms in section 302 of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7121) (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act).

(2) RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE. —The term ‘‘resource advisory committee’’ means a resource advisory committee (as defined in section 30201 of title 36, United States Code) acting within the participating county.

(3) SECURITIES CONCERNED.—The term ‘‘Secretary concerned’’ has the meaning given the term in section 3 of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7121) (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act).

(4) TIMELINE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if a resource advisory committee has any unobligated project funds available on the date described in section 207(a) of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7121) (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act), those project funds—

(1) shall remain available for obligation until the date that is 2 years after the date on which the resource advisory committee has a quorum; and

(2) shall not be obligated except in accordance with a project proposal that—

(A) is submitted by the resource advisory committee to the Secretary concerned in accordance with section 203 of that Act (16 U.S.C. 7123) (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act); and

(B) is approved by the Secretary concerned in accordance with section 204 of that Act (16 U.S.C. 7124) (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act).

(c) RETURN OF UNOBLIGATED FUNDS.—Any project funds that remain unobligated after the date that is 2 years after the date on which the applicable resource advisory committee has a quorum shall be returned to the Treasury of the United States.

SEC. 71206. FUNDING FOR REFUGE REVENUE SHARING ACT. (a) SOURCE OF PAYMENTS TO COUNTIES.— Section 401(c) of the Act of June 15, 1935 (commonly known as the ‘‘Refuge Revenue Sharing Act’’ (49 Stat. 333, chapter 261; 16 U.S.C. 715s(c)), is amended adding at the end the following:

‘‘SOURCE OF PAYMENTS TO COUNTIES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, for fiscal year 2024 and each fiscal year thereafter, with respect to counties that have not elected to opt out of distributions under section 300207(e)(4)(A) of title 36, United States Code, instead of making the payments to the applicable counties required under paragraph (1) (or from the fund, the payments shall be derived from—

‘‘(A) distributions to be paid under section 300207(e)(3)(I)(aa)(AA) of title 36, United States Code.’’.

(b) FUNDING.—Section 401 of the Act of June 15, 1935 (commonly known as the ‘‘Refuge Revenue Sharing Act’’ (49 Stat. 333, chapter 261; 16 U.S.C. 715s), is amended by striking subsection (d) and inserting the following:

‘‘(d) FUNDING.—‘‘(1) IN GENERAL.—‘‘On October 1 of each fiscal year, out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer to the Secretary concerned such sums as are necessary to make payments under paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (c) to counties, after taking into account—

‘‘(A) amounts in the fund available for the payments for the fiscal year; and

‘‘(B) amounts made available for payments from the National Resources Permanent Fund established by section 300207(a) of title 36, United States Code, for the fiscal year.

‘‘(2) RECEIPT AND ACCEPTANCE.—The Secretary shall be entitled to receive, shall accept, and shall use to carry out this section the funds transferred under paragraph (1), without further appropriation.’’.

SEC. 71207. EXEMPTION OF CERTAIN PAYMENTS FROM SEQUESTRATION. (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 255(g)(1)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 905(g)(1)(A)) is amended by inserting after ‘‘Payments to Social Security Trust Funds’’ (29-3404-4-1-651) the following:

‘‘Payments to States and eligible counties from the National Resources Permanent Fund established by section 300207(a) of title 36, United States Code.’’.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to any sequestration order issued under the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 900 et seq.) on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

August 4, 2021
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE
SA 2511. Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. MARKKAY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. WARNEN, and Mr. BOOKER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 2672, line 10, strike "$50,000,000,000" and insert "$11,200,000,000".
On page 2672, line 13, strike "$1,200,000,000" and insert "$3,200,000,000".
On page 2672, line 15, strike "$1,200,000,000" and insert "$3,200,000,000".
On page 2672, line 16, strike "$1,200,000,000" and insert "$3,200,000,000".
On page 2681, line 7, strike "$7,200,000,000" and insert "$11,200,000,000".
On page 2681, line 9, strike "$7,200,000,000" and insert "$11,200,000,000".
On page 2681, line 11, strike "$7,200,000,000" and insert "$11,200,000,000".
On page 2681, line 12, strike "$7,200,000,000" and insert "$11,200,000,000".
On page 2681, line 18, strike "$24,000,000,000" and insert "$44,000,000,000".

SA 2512. Mr. MERKLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1663, line 7, strike "electric vehicles" and insert "automobiles".
On page 1663, line 11, strike "electric vehicles" and insert "internal combustion engine vehicles, including oil exploitation and drilling".

SA 2514. Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In paragraph (1) of the matter under the heading ‘‘STATE AND TRIBAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS’’ under the heading ‘‘ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY’’ in title V of division J, strike the second and third provisos and insert ‘‘Provided further, That funds provided under this paragraph in this Act shall not be subject to the matching or cost sharing requirements of sections 602(b)(2), 602(b)(3), or 202 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act: Provided further, That, notwithstanding any provision of division J of title VI of division J, strike the second and third provisos and insert ‘‘Provided further, That funds provided under this paragraph in this Act shall not be subject to the matching or cost sharing requirements of sections 602(b)(2), 602(b)(3), or 202 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act: Provided further, That, notwithstanding any provision of the National Trail System Act (16 U.S.C. 1222).’’.

Public authority; toll facility.—The terms ‘‘public authority’’ and ‘‘toll facility’’ have the meanings such terms would have if such terms were included in chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code.

(E) EXEMPTION FROM CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS.—Notwithstanding any provision of title 23, United States Code, or any regulation promulgated pursuant to such provisions, any public authority receiving funds under this title for pedestrian and bike safety improvements shall be exempt from any requirements for which a public authority is otherwise required to obtain, maintain, or submit a plan that includes capitation grants to provide additional subсидization to eligible recipients in the form of a National Scenic Area in recognition of the outstanding natural, scenic, and recreational values of the area.

(F) NATIONAL TRAIL SYSTEM.—The term ‘‘National Trail System’’ means an area described in section 3 of the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1222).

(G) PUBLIC AUTHORITY; TOLL FACILITY.—The terms ‘‘public authority’’ and ‘‘toll facility’’ have the meanings such terms would have if such terms were included in chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code.

Section 609(b) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

(A) Payments from the Forest Service Account established under section 300207(b)(1) of title 36 shall be treated as payments made pursuant to subsection (a) of such heading ‘‘FOREST SERVICE’’ in the Act of May 23, 1908 (35 Stat. 260, chapter 192; 16 U.S.C. 550), and section 13 of the Act of March 1, 1911 (commonly known as the ‘‘Weakland Bill’’) (38 Stat. 963, chapter 186; 16 U.S.C. 550).

(B) Payments made from the Bureau of Land Management Account established under section 300207(b)(2) of title 36 shall be treated as payments made pursuant to subsection (a) of title II of the Act of August 28, 1957 (60 Stat. 875, chapter 533; 43 U.S.C. 235).

(C) Payments made from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Account established under section 300207(b)(3) of title 36 shall be treated as payments made pursuant to section 401(c)(2) of the Act of June 15, 1935 (commonly known as the ‘‘Refuge Revenue Sharing Act’’) (49 Stat. 383, chapter 261; 16 U.S.C. 715(c)(2)).

SA 2509. Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. CARPER, and Ms. DUCKWORTH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the amendment, add the following:

DIVISION V — ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE GRANT PROGRAMS

SEC. 111. FEDERAL GRANTS FOR PEDESTRIAN AND BIKE SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COVERED PUBLIC AUTHORITY.—The term ‘‘covered public authority’’ means a public authority possessing over a toll facility located within

(A) a National Scenic Area; and

(B) the National Trail System.

(2) NATIONAL TRAIL SYSTEM.—The term ‘‘National Scenic Area’’ means an area of the National Forest System federally designated as

ways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 1315 of division A.
Strike section 1317 of division A.
Strike section 300207(b)(1) of title 36.
Strike section 300207(b)(2) of title 36.
Strike section 6006 of division D.
Strike section 6007 of division D.

SEC. 111. FEDERAL GRANTS FOR PEDESTRIAN AND BIKE SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COVERED PUBLIC AUTHORITY.—The term ‘‘covered public authority’’ means a public authority possessing over a toll facility located within

(A) a National Scenic Area; and

(B) the National Trail System.

(2) NATIONAL TRAIL SYSTEM.—The term ‘‘National Scenic Area’’ means an area of the National Forest System federally designated as

ways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 1315 of division A.
Strike section 1317 of division A.
Strike section 300207(b)(1) of title 36.
Strike section 300207(b)(2) of title 36.
Strike section 6006 of division D.
Strike section 6007 of division D.

SEC. 111. FEDERAL GRANTS FOR PEDESTRIAN AND BIKE SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COVERED PUBLIC AUTHORITY.—The term ‘‘covered public authority’’ means a public authority possessing over a toll facility located within

(A) a National Scenic Area; and

(B) the National Trail System.
of assistance agreements with 100 percent forgiveness of principal or grants, or any combination of these:”.

In paragraph (2) of the matter under the heading “STATE AND TRIBAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS” under the heading “ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY” in title VI of division J, strike the second proviso and insert “Provided further, that funds provided under this paragraph in this Act shall not be subject to the matching or cost share requirements of section 1452(c) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, for the funds provided under this paragraph in this Act deposited into Drinking Water State Revolving Funds shall be provided to eligible recipients as assistance agreements with 100 percent principal forgiveness or as grants (or a combination of these):”.

In paragraph (3) of the matter under the heading “STATE AND TRIBAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS” under the heading “ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY” in title VI of division J, strike the third proviso and insert “Provided further, that funds provided under this paragraph in this Act deposited into Drinking Water State Revolving Funds shall be provided to eligible recipients as assistance agreements with 100 percent principal forgiveness or as grants (or a combination of these):”.

SA 2515. Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. Tester, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 2585, line 6, strike “three” and insert “four”.

On page 2587, line 3, strike “three” and insert “four”.

On page 2589, line 2, strike “three” and insert “four”.

On page 2590, line 15, strike “three” and insert “four”.

On page 2592, line 6, strike “three” and insert “four”.

On page 2597, line 4, strike “three” and insert “five”.

On page 2616, line 24, insert “Federal” before “salaries.”.

SA 2516. Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BOOKER, and Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. Tester, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of division A, add the following:

TITLE V—IGNITE HBCU EXCELLENCE ACT

SEC. 15001. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Institutional Grants for New Infrastructure, Technology, and Academic Excellence Act” or the “IGNITE HBCU Excellence Act”.

SEC. 15002. GRANTS FOR THE LONG-TERM IMPROVEMENT OF HBCUS.

(a) In General.—For each fiscal year, the Secretary shall make grants to eligible entities, on a competitive basis, to support long-term improvement and competitive upgrading of the facilities of such entities in accordance with this title.

(b) Application.—To be considered for a grant under this section, an eligible entity shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, including:

(1) to the extent feasible, the information necessary for the Secretary to make the determinations under subsection (c);

(2) a description of the projects that such eligible entity plans to carry out with the grant, and how such projects will advance the long-term goals of the entity; and

(3) an explanation of how such projects will reduce risks to the health, welfare, and safety of students, staff, administrators, faculty, researchers, and guests at such eligible entity.

(c) Priority.—In awarding grants under this section, the Secretary—

(1) shall give priority to eligible entities that—

(A) demonstrate the greatest need to improve campus facilities, as determined by a comparison of factors identified by the Secretary, which may include—

(i) consideration of threats posed by the proximity of such facilities to toxic sites;

(ii) the vulnerability of such facilities to natural disasters and environmental risks;

(iii) the median age of such facilities, including the facilities that such eligible entities will use grant funds to improve;

(iv) the extent to which student enrollment exceeds physical and instructional capacity;

(v) the condition of major systems in such facilities such as heating, ventilation, air conditioning, electrical, water, and sewer systems;

(vi) the condition of roofs, windows, and doors of such facilities;

(vii) other critical health and safety conditions;

(viii) the number and condition of facilities in significant disrepair; and

(ix) the total amount of deferred maintenance of such facilities;

(B) demonstrate the most limited capacity to raise funds for the long-term improvement of campus facilities, as determined by an assessment of—

(i) the current and historic ability of the eligible entity to raise funds for construction, renovation, modernization, and major repair projects for campus;

(ii) whether the eligible entity has been able to issue bonds or receive other funds to support school construction projects; and

(iii) the bond rating of the eligible entity;

(C) select the highest percentages of students who are eligible to receive a Federal Pell Grant under part A of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a et seq.) whose families qualify for other Federal need-based aid;

(D) are public institutions facing declining State support or investment; or

(E) Acquire and administer the funds necessary to seek support from public and private entities for projects carried out with a grant awarded under this title; and

(2) may give priority to eligible entities—

(A) that lack access to high-speed broadband and will use the grant funds to improve access to high-speed broadband sufficient to support digital learning in accordance with section 15005(a)(6); or

(B) at which the highest degree that is pre-dominantly awarded to students is an associate’s degree.

(d) GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION.—The Secretary shall ensure that this section are awarded to eligible entities in a manner that reflects the geographic distribution of such entities in the United States.

SEC. 15003. GRANT USES.

(a) PERMITTED USES.—Except as provided in subsection (b), an eligible entity that receives a grant under this title shall use such grant funds to carry out at least one of the following activities:

(1) Construct, modernize, renovate, or retrofit the campus facilities of such entity, which may include—

(A) providing for the improvement of existing, or the establishment of new, instructional program spaces, laboratories, or research facilities relating to fields of science, technology, engineering, mathematics, health, agriculture, education, medicine, law, and other disciplines;

(B) constructing or improving roads or other transportation infrastructure on campus, for which the eligible entity is responsible;

(C) establishing or improving the use of campus facilities for the purpose of community-based partnerships that provide students and community members with academic, health, career, and social services; and

(D) preserving facilities with historic significance, and facilities that house historic or cultural artifacts.

(b) PROHIBITED USES.—Except as provided in subsection (a)(1), an eligible entity shall not use grant funds to carry out any of the following activities:

(1) Acquire and modernize vehicle fleets owned and operated by such entity that are used primarily for the purpose of facilitating campus accessibility and student academic access;

(2) Carry out major repairs to the facilities or other physical plants of such entity, including deferred maintenance projects.

(3) Purchase or modernize academic and residential furniture, fixtures, and instructional research-related equipment and technology in the campus facilities of such entity.

(4) For the purpose of providing for the construction of new campus facilities funded with a grant under this title—
(A) purchase or otherwise acquire title to land to serve as a permanent site for such facilities; and
(B) to the extent that other public or private funds are insufficient—
(i) prepare land for the construction of such facilities; and
(ii) pay other preconstruction costs relating to the design and engineering of such facilities.

6. Install or extend the life and usability of basic systems and components of campus facilities, which may include—
(A) wide-bandwidth internet infrastructure sufficient to support digital and technology-based learning;
(B) high-capacity, middle-mile broadband networks with wide bandwidth to allow broadband networks, including 5G and future network generations;
(C) fiber, cyber, and telecommunications infrastructure, including small cells;
(D) heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) or other indoor air quality systems;
(E) support for last-mile service for rural campuses when other means of providing this support is unavailable; and
(F) other infrastructure to support the success of students and other digital and technology needs.

7. Strengthen the safety and security of the campus of such entity by improving or utilizing the following principles, technology and—
(A) guarantee layers of security throughout the campus; and
(B) uphold the function of such campus as a learning and teaching environment.

8. Reduce current or anticipated overcrowding in the campus facilities.

9. (i) Pay the building envelopes of the campus facilities—
(A) protect occupants and interiors of such facilities from natural elements; and
(B) are structurally sound and secure.

10. Improve energy and water efficiency to lower the costs of energy and water consumption in campus facilities.

11. With respect to campus facilities, reduce or eliminate the presence of—
(A) toxins and chemicals, including mercury, radon, polychlorinated biphenyls, lead, and asbestos; and
(B) mold and mildew;
(C) rodents and pests; or
(D) biological, radiological, and other waste related to research.

12. Ensure the safety of drinking water at the tap and water used for meal preparation in campus facilities, which may include—
(i) testing of all water sources at the tap; and
(ii) the presence of lead and other contaminants.

13. Bring campus facilities into compliance with applicable fire, health, and safety codes and regulations.

14. Make existing campus facilities accessible to individuals with disabilities through compliance with—
(A) the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.); and

15. PROHIBITED USES.—An eligible entity that receives a grant under this title may not use such grant funds for—
(1) payment of routine and predictable maintenance costs, minor repairs, and utility bills;
(2) any facility that is—
(A) primarily used for athletic contests or exhibitions or other events for which admission is charged to the general public;
(B) primarily used for or associated with sectarian instruction or religious worship; or
(C) purchased or support of any communications equipment or service (as defined in section 9 of the Secure and Trusted Net-works Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C. 1680B)) that poses a risk to national security.

16. SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—An eligible entity shall use a grant received under this title to enhance the level of Federal, State, and local public funds that would, in the absence of such grant, be made available for the activities supported by the grant, and not to supplant such funds.

17. ENCOURAGING PARTNERSHIPS.—The Secretary shall encourage partnerships between eligible entities and public and private entities to—
(1) provide additional funding; and
(2) assist in carrying out the activities under this title.

SEC. 15004. REQUIREMENTS FOR HAZARD-RESISTANCE AND ENERGY AND WATER CONSERVATION

An eligible entity that receives a grant under this title shall ensure that any new construction, modernization, or renovation of campus facilities is consistent with the following:

(1)Performance criteria under the WaterSense program, established under section 324B of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6294b), applicable to such facilities within a nationally recognized, consensus-based model building code.

(2) Requirements for such projects set forth in guidelines established by a nationally recognized, consensus-based model energy conservation code.

SEC. 15005. USE OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS.

In carrying out projects funded with a grant under this title, an eligible entity shall promote and encourage small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans (including service-disabled veterans), qualified HUBZone small business concerns, small business concerns owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals, and small business concerns owned and controlled by women.

SEC. 15006. RESERVATION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE AND OTHER ACTIVITIES.

(a) Reservation.—An eligible entity that receives a grant under this title may reserve a total of not more than five percent of the amount of such grant to—
(1) develop the facilities master plan required under paragraph (b);
(2) carry out activities to—
(A) protect the health of students, staff, administrators, researchers, and guests during the construction or modernization of the campus facilities of such entity; and
(B) mitigate excessive noise caused by activities carried out under this title;
(3) pay personnel to carry out administrative work related to the grant program; and
(4) pay other administrative costs associated with the grant program.

(b) FACILITIES MASTER PLAN.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after receiving a grant under this title, an eligible entity shall submit to the Secretary a comprehensive 10-year facilities master plan.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The facilities master plan required under paragraph (1) shall include, with respect to the eligible entity submitting such plan, a description of—
(A) the extent to which the campus facilities—
(i) meet the educational needs of students; and
(ii) support the educational mission and vision of such entity;
(B) the physical condition of the campus facilities;
(C) the current health, safety, and environmental conditions of the campus facilities, including—
(i) indoor air quality;
(ii) the presence of hazardous and toxic substances and chemicals on or near such facilities;
(iii) the safety of drinking water at the tap and water used for meal preparation, including the level of lead and other contaminants in such water;
(iv) energy and water efficiency; and
(v) excessive noise in academic spaces; and
(vi) other health, safety, and environmental conditions that would impact the health and safety, and learning ability of students;
(D) the actual and anticipated impact of current and future student enrollment levels (including the design of current and future campus facilities, as well as the financial implications of such enrollment levels);
(E) the dollar amount and percentage of funds such entity will dedicate to capital construction projects, including—
(i) any funds in the budget of such entity that will be dedicated to such projects; and
(ii) any funds not in such budget that will be dedicated to such projects, including any funds available to the eligibility entity as a result of a bond issued by a historically Black College and University Capital Financing Program under part D of title III of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1095c); and
(F) the dollar amount and percentage of funds such entity will dedicate to the maintenance and operation of campus facilities, including—
(i) any funds in the budget of such entity that will be dedicated to the maintenance and operation of such facilities; and
(ii) any funds not in such budget that will be dedicated to the maintenance and operation of such facilities.

(3) CONSULTATION.—In developing the facilities master plan, the eligible entity demonstrate that it conducted meaningful consultation with diverse stakeholders, which may include—
(A) staff and other institutional leaders;
(B) custodial and maintenance staff;
(C) emergency first responders;
(D) campus facilities directors;
(E) students and faculty;
(F) community residents, including those directly affected by actions undertaken as a result of utilizing grant funds;
(G) government entities;
(H) local charitable foundations;
(I) local employers;
(J) Indian Tribes, as applicable; and
(K) other such individuals and entities.

SEC. 15007. HBCU CAPITAL FINANCING LOAN DISBURSEMENT AND FORGIVENESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Each time an institution of higher education receives a disbursement of a loan amount under a covered closed loan agreement, the Secretary shall repay—
(1) the outstanding balance of principal, interest, and fees, and costs on such loan amount (as of the date of such disbursement) under the covered closed loan agreement; and
(2) any reimbursement (including reimbursements of escrow and return of fees and deposits) relating to the covered closed loan agreement that are not paid to the institution when the loan is paid off by the institution.

(b) COVERED CLOSED LOAN AGREEMENT.—In this section, the term “covered closed loan agreement” means each of the following:

(1) A closed loan agreement executed before the date of enactment of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260); and
(2) any loan agreement under part D of title III of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1066 et seq.).
SEC. 15009. DEFINITIONS.

(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘‘eligible entity’’ means—

(A) a part B institution, as such term is defined in section 322(2) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1016(2)); or

(B) a Historically Black Graduate Professional School identified in section 326(e) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1068b(e)).

(2) SECRETARY.—The term ‘‘Secretary’’ means the Secretary of Education.

(3) STATE.—The term ‘‘State’’ has the meaning given such term in section 103 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1003).

SEC. 15100. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This title shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 15101. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this title for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2027.

SA 2517. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be made by amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. CAS- SIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3694, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 40801 of division D and insert the following:

SEC. 40801. FOREST SERVICE LEGACY ROAD AND TRAIL REMEDIATION PROGRAM.

(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish the Forest Service Legacy Road and Trail Remediation Program (referred to in this section as the ‘‘Program’’).

(b) ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out the Program, the Secretary shall—

(1) establish a process for annually selecting projects for funding under the Program;

(2) prepare previously closed National Forest System roads for long-term storage, in accordance with subsections (c)(1) and (d), in a manner that—

(A) prevents motor vehicle use, as appropriate to conform to route designations;

(B) preserves the roads from damaging adjacent resources, including aquatic and wildlife resources;

(C) reduces or eliminates the need for road maintenance; and

(D) preserves the roads for future use;

(3) decommission previously closed National Forest System roads and trails in accordance with subsections (c)(1) and (d);

(4) create National Forest System roads and trails—

(A) to increase resilience to extreme weather events, flooding, and other natural disasters; and

(B) to respond to changing resource conditions and public input;

(5) convert National Forest System roads to National Forest System trails, allowing for continued use for motorized and nonmotorized recreation, to the extent the use is compatible with the management status of the road or trail;

(6) decommission temporary roads—

(A) that were constructed before the date of enactment of this Act; or

(B) for emergency operations; or

(ii) to facilitate a resource extraction project;

(iii) that were designated as a temporary road by the Secretary; and

(iv) in violation of section 12(b) of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 1608(b)), on which vegetation cover has not been reestablished; and

(7) carry out projects on National Forest System roads, trails, and bridges to improve resilience to extreme weather events, flooding, or other natural disasters.

(c) PROJECT SELECTION.—

(1) PROJECT ELIGIBILITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may only fund under the Program a project described in paragraph (2) or (3) of subsection (b) if the Secretary previously and separately—

(i) solicited public comment for changing the management status of an applicable National Forest System road or trail—

(I) to close the road or trail to access; and

(II) to minimize impacts to natural resources; and

(ii) has closed the road or trail to access as described in clause (i)(I).

(B) REQUIREMENT.—Each project carried out under the Program shall be on a National Forest System road or trail, except with respect to a project carried out on a watershed for which the Secretary has entered into a cooperative agreement under section 323 of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999 (16 U.S.C. 1011a).

(d) ANNUAL SELECTION OF PROJECTS FOR FUNDING.—The Secretary shall—

(A) establish a process for annually selecting projects for funding under the Program, consistent with the requirements of this section;

(B) solicit and consider public input regionally in the ranking of projects for funding under the Program; and

(C) give priority for funding under the Program to projects that would—

(i) protect or improve water quality in public drinking water source areas;

(ii) restore the habitat of a threatened, endangered, or sensitive fish or wildlife species; or

(iii) maintain future access to the adjacent area for the public, contractors, permittees, or firefighters; and

(D) publish on the website of the Forest Service—

(i) the selection process established under subparagraph (A); and

(ii) a list that includes a description and the proposed outcome of each project funded under the Program in each fiscal year.

(II) to minimize impacts to natural resources; and

(III) to increase resilience to extreme weather events, flooding, and other natural disasters.

(iii) the number and percentage of students enrolled in the grant program and the proposed number of eligible entities with grant funds awarded under this title, an assessment of—

(I) the types of such projects;

(II) the square footage of the improvements made by such projects, disaggregated by—

(i) the type of improvement;

(ii) the total cost of each such project; and

(III) the cost described in clause (ii), disaggregated by the cost of—

(I) planning;

(II) design;

(III) construction;

(IV) site purchase; and

(V) improvements;

(IV) the geographic distribution of such projects; and

(V) the demographic composition of the student population served by such projects, disaggregated by—

(I) race and ethnicity; and

(II) the number and percentage of students enrolled at such entities who are eligible to receive a Federal Pell Grant under part 1 of part A of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a et seq.).

(II) an analysis of compliance with the requirement in section 15003(c).

(b) COMPTROLLER GENERAL STUDY REPORT.

(1) STUDY REQUIRED.—Not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of this title, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study on the implementation of the grant program under this title.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The study conducted under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) the proposed number of project implementation challenges; and

(B) an assessment of whether any changes are needed to make grants under this title more accessible to eligible entities with fiscal challenges to help them raise capital for infrastructure projects.

(c) REPORT.—After the completion of the study under paragraph (1), the Comptroller General shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the results of the study, including any recommendations for improvement to the Secretary for improvements to the implementation of the grant program under this title.

SEC. 15009. DEFINITIONS.

In this title—

(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘‘eligible entity’’ means—

(A) the department or agency—

(i) responsible for the administration of national forest and rangeland system activities; and

(ii) responsible for the administration of national forests and rangelands;

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(C) that provides for loan amounts that have not been disbursed as of the date of enactment of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260).

(2) A closed loan agreement—

(A) authorized under section 3512 of the CARES Act (20 U.S.C. 1001 note); and

(B) made for the deferment of balances that have not been disbursed as of the date of enactment of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260).

SEC. 15008. REPORTS.

(a) DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this title, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the projects carried out with grant funds awarded under this title.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) with respect to projects carried out by eligible entities with grant funds awarded under this title, an assessment of—

(i) the types of such projects;

(ii) the square footage of the improvements made by such projects, disaggregated by—

(I) the type of improvement;

(II) the total cost of each such project; and

(III) the cost described in clause (ii), disaggregated by the cost of—

(I) planning;

(II) design;

(III) construction;

(IV) site purchase; and

(V) improvements;

(IV) the geographic distribution of such projects; and

(V) the demographic composition of the student population served by such projects, disaggregated by—

(I) race and ethnicity; and

(II) the number and percentage of students enrolled at such entities who are eligible to receive a Federal Pell Grant under part 1 of part A of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a et seq.);

(B) an evaluation of a sample of grant recipients, selected by the Secretary taking into account size and geographic location of each entity, to determine how such recipients are using the grant and the effectiveness of the activities carried out with the grant; and

(C) an analysis of compliance with the requirement in section 15003(c).
"(E) is adequate for supporting emergency operations, such as evacuation routes during wildfires, floods, and other natural disasters; and

"(2) all projects funded under the Program are consistent with any applicable forest plan or travel management plan.

"(e) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—A decision to fund a project under this section shall not affect any determination made previously or to be made in the future by the Secretary with regard to road or trail closures.

"(b) N O PRESIDENTIAL PERMIT REQUIRED.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out section 8 of Public Law 88–657 (commonly known as the "Forest Service Modernization Act and Trails Act") $250,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.

SA 2518. Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. KAIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MUKROWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 238, line 5 through 12 and insert the following:

(1) $10,000,000 for the award of grants under subsection (c)(3), which shall remain available until expended;

(2) for the award of grants under subsection (d)—

(A) $50,000,000 for fiscal year 2022; and

(B) $60,000,000, to remain available until expended.

On page 241, line 4, strike "$250,000,000" and insert "$500,000,000".

Beginning on page 247, line 20 and all that follows through page 2473, line 9, and insert the following:

DIGITAL EQUITY

-INFRINGEMENT OF RIGHTS

SA 2522. Mr. MARSHALL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MUKROWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

After section 2, insert the following:

SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

(a) In General.—A provision described in subsection (b), including an amendment made by such provision, shall not take effect until the head of the relevant Federal agency certifies that the provision and the amendment made by that provision would not increase the reliability of the United States on foreign nations for critical resources, including cobalt, copper, nickel, lithium, manganese, or graphite.

(b) PROVISIONS DESCRIBED.—The provisions referred to in subsection (a) are the following:

(1) Section 11109.

(2) Section 11129.

(3) Section 11401.

(4) Section 11403.

(5) Section 25005.

(6) Section 25006.

(7) Section 40107.

(8) Section 40112.

(9) Section 40207.

(10) Section 40431.

(11) Any appropriations made available under division J for electric vehicles or electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

SA 2521. Mr. MARSHALL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MUKROWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title III of division D, add the following:

SEC. 403. KEYSTONE XL AUTHORIZATION.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, L.P., may construct, connect, operate, and maintain the pipeline facilities at the international border of the United States and Canada at Phillips County, Montana, for the import of oil from Canada to the United States described in the Presidential Permit of March 29, 2019 (84 Fed. Reg. 13101).

(b) No PRESIDENTIAL PERMIT REQUIRED.—No Presidential permit (or similar permit) under Executive Order 13867 (3 U.S.C. 301 note; relating to the issuance of permits with respect to facilities and land transpor- tation crossings at the international boundaries of the United States), Executive Order 12038 (42 U.S.C. 7151 note; relating to the transfer of certain functions to the Sec- retary of Energy), or Executive Order 14085 (15 U.S.C. 77b note; relating to the performance of functions respecting electric power and
natural gas facilities located on United States borders), or any other Executive order shall be required for the construction, con-

section, operation, or maintenance of the pipeline facilities described in subsection (a).

SA 2523. Mr. MARSHALL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2317 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CAS-

sidy, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other pur-

poses; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 2149, lines 11 and 12, strike "sex, gender identity, sexual orientation."

SA 2524. Mr. MARSHALL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2317 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CAS-

sidy, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other pur-

poses; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in division I, in-

sert the following:

SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW 2.5 GHZ TRIBAL PRIORITY WINDOW.

(a) COMMISSION DEFINED.—In this section, the term "Commission" means the Federal Communications Commission.

(b) NEW TRIBAL PRIORITY WINDOW.—The Commission shall—

(1) not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, establish a new Tribal priority window for the 2.5 gigahertz band, under the same terms and conditions as the Tribal priority window established in the Report and Order of the Federal Communications Commission, adopted by the Commission on July 18, 2019 (FCC 19-62), for any portions of the band—

(A) for which the Commission did not re-

ceive an application during the Tribal priority window established in that Report and Order; and

(B) for which the Commission did not re-

ceive an application during the Tribal priority window established in that Report and Order; and

(2) accept applications in the new window established under paragraph (1) during the period that—

(A) begins on the date on which the window is established; and

(B) ends on the date that is 180 days after the date on which the window is established, or such later date as the Commission con-

siders appropriate.

(c) EXCEPTION FROM CERTAIN PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS.—To the extent that the Com-

mission determines that section 535 of title 5, United States Code, chapter 6 of that title (commonly known as the "Paperwork Reduction Act"), subchapter I of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known as the "Regulatory Flexi-

bility Act"), subsection (b) or from being implemented by the Commission from establishing the new Tribal priority window by the date required under paragraph (1) of subsection (b) or from being implemented by the Commission to establish that window to or begin accepting applications in that window (as the case may be).

SA 2528. Mr. MERRKLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2317 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CAS-

sidy, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other pur-

poses; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 2563, line 21, insert "Provided fur-

thermore, that the limitation in the preceding proviso shall not apply to amounts made available under this paragraph in this Act that the Environmental Protection Agency provides grants or loans to federal entities that provide technical assistance, outreach, and engagement: after "adminis-

tration":"

SA 2529. Mr. MERRKLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2317 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CAS-

sidy, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other pur-

poses; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1461, lines 23 and 24, strike "AND

RECYCLING".

Beginning on page 1462, strike line 3 and all that follows through page 1463, line 18 and insert the following:

(A) property designed to be used to produce energy from the sun, water, wind, geo-

thermal or hydrothermal (as those terms are defined in section 612 of the Energy Inde-

pendence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17191)) resources, or enhanced geothermal systems (as defined in that section);

(B) fuel cells, microturbines, or energy storage systems and components;

(C) electric grid modernization equipment or components;

(D) property designed to produce energy from nanotechnology (including for res-

idential, commercial, and industrial applica-

tions);

(E)(i) light-, medium-, or heavy-duty elec-

tric or fuel cell vehicles, electric or fuel cell locomotives, electric or fuel cell maritime vessels, or electric or fuel cell planes; and

(ii) technologies, components, and materi-

als of those vehicles, locomotives, mariti-

me vessels, or planes; and

(iii) charging or refueling infrastructure associated with those vehicles, locomotives, maritime vessels, or planes; and

(F)(i) hybrid vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of not less than 14,000 pounds; and

(ii) technologies, components, and materi-

als for those vehicles.

On page 1466, lines 2 and 3, strike "or recy-

cling" and substitute the following:

(i) low- or zero-carbon process heat sys-

tems;

(ii) technology relating to energy effi-

ciency and security; and

(iii) any other industrial technology that

significantly reduces greenhouse gas emis-

sions, as determined by the Secretary;
an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CAS- sidy, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of division I, add the following:

SEC. 90099. NEGOTIATIONS WITH RESPECT TO IMPORTATION OF GRAIN-ORIENTED ELECTRICAL STEEL FOR USE IN THE PRODUCTION OF ELECTRIC GRID TRANSFORMERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The United States Trade Representative shall immediately seek to enter into negotiations with Canada and Mexico to ensure that—

(1) the national security of the United States is not impaired by the importation into the United States of grain-oriented electrical steel in the form of core parts, cores, or laminations for use in the production of electric grid transformers and

(2) Canada and Mexico are not being used as pass-through countries for other countries engaged in the dumping (as defined in section 133a of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1673a)) of electrical steel for use in applications in the United States.

(b) REPORTS REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 90 days thereafter until the date described in paragraph (2), the Trade Representative shall submit to Congress a report on the status of the negotiations described in subsection (a).

(2) DATE DESCRIBED.—The date described in this paragraph is the date on which the President certifies to Congress that Canada and Mexico have agreed to measures that will prevent the importation of the United States of grain-oriented electrical steel in the form of core parts, cores, or laminations from impairing the national security of the United States.

SA 2531. Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Mr. KELLY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 1104, strike subsection (c) and insert the following:

(c) ADJUSTMENTS TO CERTAIN STATE APPORTIONMENT AMOUNTS.—Section 104 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(3) CONGRESSIONAL AUTHORITY.—The Director shall not submit to Congress the matter after the resolution described in that paragraph unless the joint resolution the matter after the resolution clause of which is as follows: ‘‘That Congress disapproves the modification submitted by the Director of the United States Mint’’;

(b) the procedural rules in the House of Representatives and the Senate for a joint resolution of disapproval described in that paragraph shall be the same as provided for a joint resolution of disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5.’’.

(b) DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.—The budgetary effects of this section, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by redetermining most recently by retroactive application of the latest statement titled ‘‘Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation’’ for this section, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

SA 2533. Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. LUIJAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to
amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself), Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 24220 of title IV of division B, add at the end the following:

(1) The term "High-priority military construction requirements" means—
(A) $21,000,000,000 for Navy public shipyard facilities, dock, dry dock, capital equipment improvements, and dredging efforts needed by such shipyards,
(B) $2,000,000,000 for Navy private new construction shipyard facilities, dock, dry dock, capital equipment improvements, and dredging efforts needed by such shipyards,
(C) $2,000,000,000 for Navy private repair shipyard facilities, dock, dry dock, capital equipment improvements, and dredging efforts needed by such shipyards,
(D) $350,000,000, which shall be transferred to the Department of Homeland Security, for Coast Guard Yard facilities, dock, dry dock, capital equipment improvements, and dredging efforts needed by such shipyards,
(2)Projects in addition to other construction projects.—Construction projects undertaken using amounts appropriated under subsection (a) shall be in addition to and separate from any military construction program authorized by any Act to authorize appropriations for a fiscal year (or military construction programs of the Department of Defense and for military construction.
(d)Definitions.—In this section:
(C) Navy public shipyard yard.—The term "Coast Guard Yard" means the Coast Guard Yard in Baltimore, Maryland.
(D) Navy public shipyard yard.—The term "Navy private new construction shipyard"—

NAVY AND COAST GUARD SHIPYARD INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT

SEC. 1008. (a) Appropriations.—
(1) In general.—For an additional amount for "Defense Infrastructure Fund", $25,350,000,000, to remain available until expended, to improve, in accordance with subsections (b) and (c), the Navy public shipyard infrastructure of the United States.
(b) Use of Funds.—
(1) In general.—As soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall make an amount appropriated under paragraph (1) directly available to the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of Homeland Security for obligation and expenditure in accordance with paragraph (1).
(2) Allocation of Funds.—The amounts appropriated under subsection (a) shall be allocated as follows:
(A) $21,000,000,000 for Navy public shipyard facilities, dock, dry dock, capital equipment improvements, and dredging efforts needed by such shipyards,
(B) $2,000,000,000 for Navy private new construction shipyard facilities, dock, dry dock, capital equipment improvements, and dredging efforts needed by such shipyards,
(C) $2,000,000,000 for Navy private repair shipyard facilities, dock, dry dock, capital equipment improvements, and dredging efforts needed by such shipyards,
(D) $350,000,000, which shall be transferred to the Department of Homeland Security, for Coast Guard Yard facilities, dock, dry dock, capital equipment improvements, and dredging efforts needed by such shipyards,
SA 2538. Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mr. YOUNG) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2373 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

SEC. 412. RESTORING TRAVEL AT THE UNITED STATES-Canada border.

(a) In general.—Not later than 10 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall expand the list of permitted essential travel into the United States at land ports of entry along the United States-Canada border to include the following categories:

(1) An individual traveling to visit a member, who is a United States citizen or permanent resident, of the immediate or extended family of such individual.

(2) An individual traveling to visit property, including boats, within the United States owned or leased by such individual.

(3) An individual traveling to the United States to attend business meetings or site visits.

(4) An individual traveling directly to a United States airport for the purpose of boarding a flight to a United States or international destination.

(b) PLAN FOR FULL REOPENING.—Not later than 20 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to Congress and begin implementation of a plan to fully restore non-essential travel into the United States at land ports of entry along the United States-Canada border.

(c) APPLICABILITY.—This section applies to only those restrictions (and the related relief sought in accordance with this section) in place pursuant to section 318(b)(2) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 318(b)(2)) at land ports of entry along the United States-Canada border due to the COVID-19 public health emergency as in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 2358. Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mr. YOUNG) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2373 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 782, line 24, insert "owned" after "privately".
At the end of section 40803 of division D, add the following:

(1) inform eligible entities applying for a multipurpose brownfield grant of the option to develop a clean energy project on a brownfield site;

(2) provide technical and programmatic assistance to eligible entities, including data mapping, solar siting, and feasibility studies;

(3) integrate parcel-level, spatially explicit data into the existing inventory of mine land and brownfield sites to facilitate and streamline identification and evaluation of suitable sites; and

(4) engage with State and local entities to promote awareness of the program.

SA 2541. Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Mr. SCHATZ) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CAS- SIDY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MUKROWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of division C, add the following:

SEC. 3. AFFORDABLE HOUSING INCEN- TIVES IN CAPITAL INVESTMENT GRANTS.

Section 3309 of title 49, United States Code (as amended by section 3309(a),(a)), is amended—

(1) in subsection (g)—

(A) in paragraph (2)(B)—

(i) in clause (i) by striking ‘‘and’’ and inserting a semicolon;

(ii) in clause (ii) by striking the period and inserting ‘‘; and’’; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following: ‘‘(iii) allow a weighting of up to five percentage points greater to the criteria relating to economic development under subsection (d)(2)(A)(iii) or (e)(2)(A)(iv), as applicable, and up to five percentage points lesser to the lowest scoring criteria under either such subsection, if the applicant demon- strates substantial effort to preserve or encourage affordable housing near the project by—

‘‘(1) providing documentation of policies that allow for the approval of multi-family housing, single room occupancy units, and accessory dwelling units without a discre- tionary review by the Secretary;’’;

(B) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in subparagraph (C) by striking ‘‘and’’ at the end;

(ii) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (E); and

(iii) by inserting after subparagraph (E) the following:

‘‘(D) from grant proceeds distributed under section 103 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5303) or section 201 of the Public Works and Eco- nomic Development Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3141), except that—

‘‘(i) such proceeds are used in conjunction with the planning or development of affordable housing; and

‘‘(ii) such affordable housing is located within one-half of a mile of a new defined station.’’;

SA 2542. Mr. MARKEY (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CAS- SIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MUKROWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 9001 of division D, strike subsection (b).

SA 2543. Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. CORTÉZ MASTO, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. WICKER, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. KELLY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHA- HEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MUKROWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROM-NEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in division I, insert the following:

SEC. 4. AUTHORITY TO USE CORONAVIRUS RE- LEIF FUNDS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS.

(a) In General.—Title VI of the Social Se- curity Act (42 U.S.C. 801 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 602—

(A) in subsection (a)(1), by inserting ‘‘(except as provided in subsection (c)(4))’’ after ‘‘December 31, 2024’’; and

(B) in subsection (i)—

(i) in paragraph (1), in the matter pre- ceeding subparagraph (A), by striking ‘‘paragraphs (3) and (4)’’; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

‘‘(4) AUTHORITY TO USE FUNDS FOR CERTAIN INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS.—

‘‘(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (C), notwithstanding any other provision of law, a State, territory, or Tribal government receiving a payment under this section or a transfer pursuant to section 603(c)(4) may use funds provided under such payment or transfer for projects described in subparagraph (B), including—

‘‘(i) in the case of a project described in clause (i), (xiv), (xv), or (xviii) of that sub- paragraph, to satisfy a non-Federal share re- quirement applicable to such a project; and

‘‘(ii) in the case of a project described in clause (xv) of that subparagraph, to repay a
loan provided under the program described in that clause.

(‘‘(B) PROJECTS DESCRIBED.—A project re-
ferrred to in subparagraph (A) is any of the following:

(i) A project that receives a grant under
section 117 of title 23, United States Code.

(ii) A project eligible under section 119 of
title 23, United States Code.

(iii) A project eligible under section 124 of
title 23, United States Code, as added by the
Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

(iv) A project eligible under section 133 of
title 23, United States Code.

(v) An activity to carry out section 134 of
title 23, United States Code.

(vi) A project eligible under section 148 of
title 23, United States Code.

(vii) A project eligible under section 149 of
title 23, United States Code.

(viii) A project eligible under section 165 of
title 23, United States Code.

(ix) A project eligible under section 167 of
title 23, United States Code.

(x) A project eligible under section 173 of
title 23, United States Code, as added by the
Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

(xi) A project eligible under section 202 of
title 23, United States Code.

(xii) A project eligible under section 203 of
title 23, United States Code.

(xiii) A project eligible under section 204 of
title 23, United States Code.

(xiv) A project that receives a grant under
the program for national infrastructure
security and resilience (as determined by the
Secretary of Transportation): ‘‘Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program’’.

(xv) A project that receives credit assist-
ance under the TIFIA program under chapter 6
title 23, United States Code.

(xvi) A project that receives a grant under

(xvii) A project that receives a grant under
section 5309 of title 49, United States Code.

(xviii) A project that receives a grant under
section 5311 of title 49, United States Code.

(xix) A project that receives a grant under
section 5337 of title 49, United States Code.

(xx) A project that receives a grant under
section 5337 of title 49, United States Code.

(‘‘(xxi) A project that receives a grant under
section 5339 of title 49, United States Code.

(xxii) A project that receives a grant under
section 5397 of title 49, United States Code.

(xxiii) A project that receives a grant under
section 603 of title 49, United States Code, as added by the Infrastructure Investment
and Jobs Act.

(xxiv) A project that receives a grant under
section 603 of title 49, United States Code.

(xxv) A project that receives a grant under
section 603 of title 49, United States Code.

(xxvi) A project that receives a grant under
section 603 of title 49, United States Code.

(xxvii) A project that receives a grant under
section 603 of title 49, United States Code.

(xxviii) A project that receives a grant under
section 603 of title 49, United States Code.

(xxix) A project that receives a grant under
section 503 of title 49, United States Code.

(‘‘(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph
(B), notwithstanding any other provision of
law, a metropolitan city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county receiving a payment under this section may use funds provided under such payment for projects described in subparagraph (A) of this subsection in the following
manner:

(i) in the case of a project described in clause (i), (xiv), (xv), or (xviii) of that subsection, to satisfy a non-Federal share re-
quirement applicable to such a project; and

(ii) in the case of a project described in
clause (xvii) of that subparagraph, to repay a loan, or guarantee payment under the program described in that clause.

(‘‘(B) LIMITATIONS; APPLICATION OF REQUIRE-
MENTS.—(i) LIMITATION ON AMOUNTS TO BE USED FOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS.—Subject to clause (ii), the total amount that a metropoli-
tan city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county may use from a pay-
ment made under this section for uses de-
scribed in subparagraph (A) shall not exceed 25 percent of such payment or transfer.
SA 2544. Mr. LANKFORD (for himself, Mr. DAINES, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. SASSE, Ms. ERNST, and Mr. BRAUN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Beginning on page 2322, strike line 16 and all that follows through page 2323, line 4, and insert the following:

(B) in the case of manufactured products, that—
(i) the manufactured product was manufactured in the United States;
(ii) the cost of the components of the manufactured product that are mined, produced, or manufactured in the United States is greater than 75 percent of the total cost of all components of the manufactured product, unless another standard for determining the minimum content of domestic content of the manufactured product has been established under applicable law or regulation; and
(iii) in case of electronic products, the cost of the components of the electronic product that are mined, produced, or manufactured in the United States is greater than 80 percent of the total cost of all components of the electronic product; and

SA 2547. Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. KAIN, and Mrs. BLACKBURN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in division I, insert the following:

SEC. 90. GRANTS FOR CERTAIN MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL CLUBS.
(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall, subject to the availability of appropriations, make covered grants to eligible entities in accordance with this section.
(b) AUTHORITY.—The Associate Administrator for the Office of Disaster Assistance of the Small Business Administration shall coordinate and formulate policies relating to the administration of covered grants.
(c) CERTIFICATION OF NEED.—An eligible entity applying for a covered grant shall submit a good faith certification that the uncertainty of current economic conditions makes necessary the grant to support the ongoing operations of the eligible entity.
(d) MULTIPLE BUSINESS ENTITIES.—The Administrator shall treat each eligible entity as an independent, non-affiliated entity for the purposes of this section.
(e) GRANT TERMS.—
(1) NUMBER OF GRANTS.—
(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), an eligible entity may receive only 1 covered grant.
(B) SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT.—The Administrator may make a second covered grant to an eligible entity if, as of June 30, 2021, the gross revenues of such eligible entity for calendar year 2021 as of such date are not more than 30 percent of the gross revenues of such eligible entity for the corresponding period of 2019, or, if the gross revenues of the eligible entity were negatively impacted by a natural disaster or weather disruption in 2019, not more than 30 percent of the average gross revenues of the eligible entity during the first 6 months of 2016, 2017, and 2018, due to the COVID–19 pandemic.
(2) AMOUNT.—
(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), a covered grant shall be in an amount equal to the lesser of—
(i) the amount equal to 45 percent of the gross revenues of the eligible entity for 2019, or
(ii) the gross revenues of the eligible entity during the preceding 10-day period; or
(B) has not been fully vaccinated against COVID–19;
(c) has symptoms of COVID–19; or
(D) title VI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1302 et seq.).
(iii) any covered utility payment;
(iv) payments of interest or principal due on any covered mortgage obligation;
(v) payments of interest or principal due on any non-tax-exempt debt instrument incurred in the ordinary course of business that is a liability of the eligible entity and was in place or incurred prior to February 15, 2020;
(vi) covered worker protection expenditures;
(vii) payments made to independent contractors reported on Form-1099 MISC in excess of $100,000 in annual compensation for any individual employee of an independent contractor; and
(viii) other necessary business expenses, including—
(I) maintenance expenses;
(II) administrative costs, including fees and licensing costs;
(III) State and local taxes and fees;
(IV) operating leases in effect as of February 15, 2020;
(V) payments required for insurance on any insurance policy;
(VI) settling existing debts with vendors; and
(VII) advertising, production, transportation, and capital expenditures relating to the primary venue of the eligible entity or events held at such venue, except that a grant may not be used primarily for such expenditures.

(C) PROHIBITED EXPENSES.—An eligible entity may not use amounts received under a grant for any of the following:

(i) to purchase real estate;
(ii) for payments of interest or principal for loans originated after February 15, 2020;
(iii) for dividends;
(iv) for contributions or expenditures to, or on behalf of, any political party, party committee or candidate for elective office; or
(v) any other use as may be reasonably prohibited by the Administrator.

(f) INCREASED OVERSIGHT.—The Administrator shall increase oversight of eligible entities receiving covered grants, which may include the following:

(1) DOCUMENTATION.—Additional documentation requirements that are consistent with and supplement other requirements under this section, including requiring an eligible entity that receives a grant under this section to retain records that document compliance with the requirements for grants under this section—
(A) with respect to employment records, for the 4-year period following receipt of the grant;
(B) with respect to other records, for the 3-year period following receipt of the grant.
(2) REVIEWS OF USE.—Reviews of the use of the grant proceeds by an eligible entity to ensure the compliance with requirements established under this section and by the Administrator, including that the Administrator—
(A) review and audit grants under this section; and
(B) in the case of fraud or other material noncompliance with respect to a grant under this section—
(i) require repayment of mispent funds; or
(ii) pursue legal action to collect funds.

Oversight and Audit Plan

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives an audit plan that details—
(A) the procedures of the Administrator for conducting oversight and audits of covered grants; and
(B) the metrics that the Administrator shall use to determine which covered grants will be audited pursuant to subsection (f).

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and each month thereafter until the date that is 1 year after the date on which all amounts appropriated to make covered grants have been expended, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives an oversight audit and audit activities of the Administrator under this subsection, which shall include—
(A) the total number of covered grants approved and disbursed;
(B) the total number of covered grants received by each eligible entity;
(C) the number of active investigations and audits of covered grants;
(D) the number of completed reviews and audits of covered grants, including a description of any findings of fraud or other material noncompliance; and
(E) any substantial changes made to the oversight and audit plan submitted under paragraph (1).

(h) TAX TREATMENT OF COVERED LOANS.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—For the purposes of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986—
(A) no covered grant shall be included in the gross income of the eligible entity that receives such covered grant;
(B) no deduction shall be denied, no tax attribute shall be lost, no tax benefit shall be denied, and no tax credit shall be reduced, and no basis in property shall be denied, by reason of the exclusion from gross income provided by subparagraph (A); and
(C) in the case of a partnership or S corporation that receives such a covered grant—
(i) any amount excluded from income by reason of subparagraph (A) shall be treated as tax exempt income for purposes of section 705 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;
(ii) the Secretary of the Treasury (or the Secretary's delegate) shall prescribe rules for determining a partner's distributive share of any amount described in clause (i) for purposes of section 705 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(2) APPLICABILITY.—Paragraph (1) shall apply to taxable years ending after the date of enactment of this Act.

(i) FUNDING.—Notwithstanding any provision of covered law, from any funds appropriated under such a law that have not been obligated as of the date of enactment of this Act and are no longer being used to carry out the activities under such a law, the remaining funds or $550,000,000, whichever is greater, but in any case not more than $550,000,000 shall be allocated to the Administrator to carry out any activities that are carried out after the date of enactment of this Act.

(j) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term "Administrator" means the Administrator of the Small Business Administration.
(2) COVERED GRANTS.—The term "covered grant" means a grant made under this section to an eligible entity.
(3) COVERED LAW.—The term "covered law" means—

(A) the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 (Public Law 116–123);
(B) the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (Public Law 116–127);
(C) the CARES Act (Public Law 116–183);
(D) the Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act (Public Law 116–139; 134 Stat. 620);
(E) the division N of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116–260); or
(F) the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117–2).

(4) COVERED MORTGAGE OBLIGATION; COVERED RENT OBLIGATION; COVERED UTILITY PAYMENT.—The terms "covered mortgage obligation", "covered rent obligation", "covered utility payment", and "covered worker protection expenditure" have the meanings given those terms in section 7A(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)).

(5) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term "eligible entity" means any Minor League Baseball Club or Independent Professional Baseball Club that meets the following requirements:

(A) The Minor League Baseball Club or Independent Professional Baseball Club was operating in the ordinary course of business on February 29, 2020.

(B) The gross revenues of the Minor League Baseball Club or Independent Professional Baseball Club in calendar year 2020 were not more than 25 percent of the gross revenues of the Minor League Baseball Club or Independent Professional Baseball Club in calendar year 2019, or, if the gross revenues of the Minor League Baseball Club or Independent Professional Baseball Club were negatively impacted by a natural disaster or other disruption in 2020, more than 25 percent of the average annual gross revenues of the Minor League Baseball Club or Independent Professional Baseball Club over the 3-year period from 2016 through 2018, as determined by the Administrator using the accrual method of accounting and excluding any amounts received received under the CARES Act (15 U.S.C. 9001 et seq.), an amendment to such Act, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116–260), or any subsequent COVID Relief package.

(C) At the time the Minor League Baseball Club or Independent Professional Baseball Club submits the certification required under subsection (c), the Minor League Baseball Club or Independent Professional Baseball Club is open, or intends to reopen, for the primary purpose of conducting baseball games.

(D) The Minor League Baseball Club or Independent Professional Baseball Club is not owned, directly or indirectly, by Major League Baseball, a Major League Baseball Club, or one or more persons who have a greater than 10 percent ownership interest in a Major League Baseball Club.

(6) INDEPENDENT PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL CLUB.—The term "Independent Professional Baseball Club" means a professional baseball club that is a corporation, limited liability company, or partnership or operated as a sole proprietorship, that—

(A) operates for profit or as a nonprofit organization;

(B) is located in the United States; and

(C) as of February 29, 2020, was a member of—

(i) the American Association of Professional Baseball;

(ii) the Atlantic League of Professional Baseball;

(iii) the Canadian American Association of Professional Baseball;

(iv) the Empire Professional Baseball League;

(v) the Frontier League;

(vi) the Pacfic Association of Professional Baseball Clubs;

(vii) the Pecos League of Professional Baseball Clubs;

(viii) the United Shore Professional Baseball League;

(ix) the Western League.

(7) MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL CLUB.—The term "Minor League Baseball Club" means a
professional baseball team, including a professional baseball team that is a corporation, limited liability company, or a partnership or operated as a sole proprietorship, that—
(A) finances for profit or as a nonprofit organization;
(B) is located in the United States; and
(C)(i) as of February 29, 2020, was a member of a league that was a member of the National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues, Inc.; or
(ii) has been offered and is operating or has agreed to operate under a Player Development License granted by MLB Professional Development Leagues, LLC; or
(D) is licensed by Appalachian League, Inc.
(8) PAYROLL COSTS.—The term ‘‘payroll costs’’ has the meaning given the term in section 601(h)(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)(36)(A)).

SA 2548. Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. HOEVEN) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, MR. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end of title VIII of division D, add the following:

SEC. 408. JOINT CHIEFS LANDSCAPE RESTORATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.
(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:
(1) CHIEFS.—The term ‘‘Chiefs’’ means the Chief of the Forest Service and the Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service.
(2) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITY.—The term ‘‘eligible activity’’ means an activity—
(A) to reduce the risk of wildfire;
(B) to protect water quality and supply; or
(C) to improve wildlife habitat for at-risk species.
(3) PROGRAM.—The term ‘‘Program’’ means the Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration Partnership program established under subsection (b)(1).
(4) SECRETARY.—The term ‘‘Secretary’’ means the Secretary of Agriculture.
(5) WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE.—The term ‘‘wildland-urban interface’’ has the meaning given the term in section 101 of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6511).
(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration Partnership program to improve the health and resilience of forest landscapes across National Forest System land and State, Tribal, and private land.
(2) ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary shall administer the Program by coordinating eligible activities conducted on National Forest System land and State, Tribal, or private land across a forest landscape to improve the health and resilience of the forest landscape by—
(A) assisting producers and landowners in implementing eligible activities on eligible private or Tribal land using the applicable programs and authorities administered by the Chief of the Forest Service; or by the Natural Resources Conservation Service under title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3801 et seq.), not including the conservation reserve program established under subchapter B of chapter 1 of subtitle D of that title (16 U.S.C. 3831 et seq.); and
(B) conducting eligible activities on National Forest System land or assisting landowners in implementing eligible activities on State, Tribal, or private land using the applicable programs and authorities administered by the Chief of the Forest Service.
(c) SELECTION OF ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—The appropriate Regional Forester and State Conservationist shall jointly submit to the Chiefs on an annual basis proposals for eligible activities under the Program.
(d) EVALUATION.—In evaluating and selecting proposals submitted under subsection (c), the Chiefs shall consider—
(1) criteria including whether the proposal—
(A) reduces wildfire risk in a municipal watershed or the wildland-urban interface;
(B) was developed through a collaborative process with participation from diverse stakeholders;
(C) increases forest workforce capacity or forest infrastructure and development;
(D) leverages existing authorities and non-Federal funding;
(E) provides measurable outcomes; or
(F) supports established State and regional priorities; and
(2) such other criteria relating to the merits of the proposals as the Chiefs determine to be appropriate.
(e) OUTREACH.—The Secretary shall provide—
(1) public notice on the websites of the Forest Service and the Natural Resources Conservation Service describing—
(A) the solicitation of proposals under subsection (c); and
(B) the criteria for selecting proposals in accordance with subsection (d); and
(2) information relating to the Program and activities under the Program to States, Indian Tribes, units of local government, and private landowners.
(f) EXCLUSIONS.—An eligible activity may not be carried out under the Program—
(1) in a wilderness area or designated wilderness study area;
(2) in an inventoried roadless area;
(3) on any Federal land on which, by Act of Congress or Presidential proclamation, the removal of vegetation is restricted or prohibited; or
(4) in an area in which the eligible activity would be inconsistent with the applicable land and resource management plan.
(g) ACCOUNTABILITY.—
(1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report describing projects for which funding is made available under paragraph (1)—
(A) mechanisms for the Program; and
(B) staff capacity to carry out the Program;
(2) PRIVACY LAWS.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘‘privacy laws’’ means applicable public laws relating to the collection, use, and disclosure of personal information.
(i) to carry out eligible activities; or
(ii) for other purposes, including such technical assistance, project development, or local capacity building.

SA 2549. Mr. CASEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of division H, insert the following:

TITLE VII—QUALIFIED COMMUNITY COLLEGE BONDS

SEC. 80701. SHORT TITLE.
This title may be cited as the ‘‘Community College Infrastructure Act of 2021’’.

SEC. 80702. TAX CREDIT FOR QUALIFIED COMMUNITY COLLEGE BONDS.
(a) IN GENERAL.—Part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting after subpart G the following new subpart H:

"Subpart H—Qualified Community College Bonds

"SEC. 54. QUALIFIED COMMUNITY COLLEGE BONDS.

"(a) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subchapter, the term ‘‘qualified community college bond’’ means any bond issued as part of an issue if—
(1) 95 percent of the available project proceeds of such issue are to be used for a qualified purpose with respect to a qualified community college;
(2) the bond is issued by a State or local government in consultation with the jurisdiction of which such college is located, and
(3) the issuer—
(A) designates such bond for purposes of this section, and
(B) certifies that it has the written approval of the governing body for such bond issuance.
"(b) LIMITATION ON AMOUNT OF BONDS DESIGNATED.—
"(1) IN GENERAL.—There is a national community college bond limitation of $400,000,000 for each fiscal year.
"(2) ALLOCATION OF LIMITATION.—
"(A) IN GENERAL.—The national community college bond limitation shall be allocated by the Secretary

SEC. 80703. QUALIFIED COMMUNITY COLLEGE BONDS.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The national community college bond limitation shall be allocated by the Secretary

S$0,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 and 2023.

(2) ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—In addition to the funds described in paragraph (1), the Secretary shall make funds available from accounts used to carry out the existing Joint Chiefs’ Landscape Restoration Partnership prior to the date of enactment of this Act to carry out the Program.
(3) DURATION OF AVAILABILITY.—Funds made available under paragraph (1) shall remain available until expended.
(4) DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.—Of the funds made available under paragraph (1)—
(A) not less than 40 percent shall be allocated to carry out eligible activities through the Natural Resources Conservation Service; and
(B) not less than 40 percent shall be allocated to carry out eligible activities through the Forest Service; and
(C) the remaining funds shall be allocated by the Chiefs to the Natural Resources Conservation Service or the Forest Service—
(i) to carry out eligible activities; or
(ii) for other purposes, such as technical assistance, project development, or local capacity building.
among the States on the basis of their respective populations of individuals below the poverty line (as defined by the Office of Management and Budget).

(B) LIMITATION PER STATE.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), a State may not receive an allocation of more than 5 percent of the national community college bond limitation in any calendar year.

(C) ALLOCATIONS TO GOVERNING BODIES.—

(1) In general.—The limitation amount allocated to a State under subparagraph (A) shall be allocated by the State to appropriate governing bodies within such State.

(2) Priority for allocations.—

(I) LARGEST METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA.—For purposes of this subparagraph, the education agency shall, as applicable, ensure that the governing body for a proposed qualified community college which will serve the residents of the largest metropolitan statistical area within such State which does not contain an institution described in subsection (c)(2)(A) receives an allocation equal to the lesser of—

(a) one-third of the total allocation to the State under subparagraph (A), or

(b) the allocation amount requested by such governing body.

(II) ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES FOR ALLOCATION.—For purposes of making allocations under this subparagraph, the State education agency shall give priority to any governing body which has—

(aa) a partnership, including a dual or concurrent enrollment program (as defined in section 315(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 2751)), with local high schools,

(bb) a partnership with four-year institutions of higher education, including a credit-transfer articulation agreement (as defined in section 486A(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1000a)), for students at the qualified community college, or

(cc) a partnership with a State workforce development board established under section 101 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102).

(III) DESIGNATION SUBJECT TO LIMITATION AMOUNT.—The maximum aggregate face amount of bonds issued during any calendar year which may be designated under subsection (a) with respect to any qualified community college shall not exceed the limitation amount allocated to the governing body of such college under paragraph (2)(C) for such calendar year.

(IV) CARRYOVER OF UNUSED LIMITATION.—

(A) In General.—If for any calendar year—

(i) the limitation amount for any State exceeds

(ii) the amount of bonds issued during such year which are designated under subsection (a) with respect to qualified community colleges within such State,

the limitation amount for such State for the following calendar year shall be increased by the amount of such excess.

(B) LIMITATION ON CARRYOVER.—Any carryover amount may be carried only to the first 2 years following the unused limitation year. For purposes of the preceding sentence, a limitation amount shall be treated as used on a first-in-first-out basis.

(C) ALLOCATION OF UNUSED CARRYOVER AMOUNT.—

(A) In general.—Any unused carryover amount of a State for any calendar year shall be assigned to the Secretary for allocation among qualified States for the succeeding fiscal year. For such allocations to be in addition to the amounts allocated pursuant to paragraph (2)(A),

(B) FORMULA FOR ALLOCATION.—The amount allocated under this subparagraph to a qualified State for any calendar year shall be the amount determined by the Secretary to be in addition to the aggregate unused carryover amounts of all States for the preceding calendar year as such State’s population for the calendar year bears to the population of all qualified States for the calendar year. For purposes of the preceding sentence, population shall be determined in accordance with section 146(j).

(C) REMAINING AMOUNT.—For purposes of this subparagraph:

(i) UNUSED CARRYOVER AMOUNT.—The term ‘unused carryover amount’ means the amount of any carryover of a limitation amount allocated to a State which has expired pursuant to subparagraph (B).

(ii) QUALIFIED AREA.—The term ‘qualified area’ means, with respect to any calendar year, a State—

(A) which allocated its limitation amount allocated to qualified community colleges for the calendar year to governing bodies within such State (as described in paragraph (2)(C)), and

(B) for which a request is made (not later than May 1 of any calendar year) to receive an allocation under this subparagraph.

(D) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

(i) GOVERNING BODY.—The term ‘governing body’ means—

(A) the board of trustees or other governing body for a qualified community college, or

(B) a State or local government (or any political subdivision thereof), or any combination of school districts or municipalities, which participate or propose to participate in the establishment and operation of a qualified community college.

(ii) QUALIFIED COMMUNITY COLLEGE.—

(A) In General.—The term ‘qualified community college’ means a public institution of higher education—

(i) at which the highest degree that is predominantly awarded to students is an associate’s degree (including 2-year tribally controlled institutions),

(ii) which is or will be established and operated under the supervision of a governing body in conjunction with the State and local governments whose residents will be served by such institution, and

(iii) which is located within a qualified area.

(B) QUALIFIED AREA.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘qualified area’ means—

(i) a city or metropolitan statistical area (as determined by the Secretary of Labor based on the most recent available data), and

(ii) which is or will be established and operated under the supervision of a governing body in conjunction with the State and local governments whose residents will be served by such institution.

(C) CREDIT TO HOLDERS AND ISSUERS.—Section 54A(c)(3).''.

(Sec. 80703. CREDIT TO HOLDERS AND ISSUERS OF QUALIFIED COMMUNITY COLLEGE BONDS.

(A) ALLOWANCE OF CREDIT.—

(1) In general.—Section 54A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as in effect on the day before repeal by Public Law 115–97, is revived.

(2) Credit limited to qualified community college bonds.—Section 54A(d) of such Code is amended by—

(A) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

"(1) QUALIFIED TAX CREDIT BOND.—The term ‘qualified tax credit bond’ means a qualified community college bond which is part of an issue that meets requirements of paragraphs (2), (4), (5), and (6).";

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

"(C) QUALIFIED PURPOSE.—For purposes of this subparagraph, the term ‘qualified purpose’ means a purpose specified in section 54(c)(3).’’;

(C) CREDIT ALLOWED TO ISSUER.—

(1) In general.—Section 54B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as in effect on the day before repeal by Public Law 115–97, is re- 

(2) Conforming amendments.—

(A) Sections 6511(f) of such Code, as revived by paragraph (1), is amended by striking
paragraphs (2) and (3) and inserting the following:

"(2) SPECIFIED TAX CREDIT BOND.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘specifed tax credit bond’ means any qualified tax credit bond (as defined in section 54A(d)(1)) if the issuer of such bond makes an irrevocable election to have this subsection apply.''.

(b) Subsection (b) of section 6211(b)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ‘‘628A’’ and inserting ‘‘628A, and 6431’’.

SEC. 80706. USE OF AMERICAN IRON, STEEL, AND MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS.

(a) In General.—In carrying out a new construction or renovation project using any available project proceeds from the issuance of any qualified community college bond (as defined in subsection (a) of section 54 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986), a governing body (as defined in subsection (c)(1) of such section) shall use, of those proceeds, not less than the applicable percentage described in subsection (b) for construction or renovation that is certified, verified, or consistent with the applicable provisions of—

(1) the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design green building rating standard of the United States Green Building Council;

(2) the Living Building Challenge green building certification program developed by the International Living Future Institute;

(3) a green building program developed by the Collaborative for High-Performance Schools that is designated as CHPS Verified; or

(4) a green building program that—

(A) has standards that are equivalent to or more stringent than the standards of a program described in paragraph (1), (2), or (3); and

(B) is adopted by the State or another jurisdiction with authority over the local educational agency; and

(C) includes a verifiable method to demonstrate compliance with the program.

(b) APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE DESCRIBED.—

The applicable percentage referred to in subsection (a) is—

(1) for fiscal year 2022, 60 percent; or

(2) for fiscal year 2022, 70 percent; or

(3) for fiscal year 2023, 80 percent; or

(4) for fiscal year 2025, 90 percent; and

(5) each of the fiscal years 2026 through 2031, 100 percent.

SEC. 80705. USE OF AMERICAN IRON, STEEL, AND MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS.

(a) In General.—A governing body (as defined in subsection (c)(1) of section 54 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) that receives covered funds shall ensure that any iron, steel, or manufactured products used in projects carried out with such funds are produced in the United States.

(b) WAIVER AUTHORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may waive the requirement of subsection (a) if the Secretary determines that—

(A) the project is in the public interest; and

(B) iron, steel, and manufactured products produced in the United States are used in a sufficient and reasonably available amount or are not of a satisfactory quality.

(2) INCLUSIONS.—The term ‘‘utility facility’’ includes—

(i) a renewable energy generation facility;

(ii) electrical transmission and distribution infrastructure; and

(iii) broadband infrastructure and conduit.

(3) ACCOMMODATION.—In determining whether to apply to obligations issued after the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 2550. Mr. OSSOFF (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2197 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2551. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2197 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

"(i) held in trust by the United States for the benefit of any Indian tribe or individual Indian; or

(ii) held by an Indian Tribe or individual Indian; and

(C) RIGHT-OF-WAY.—The term ‘‘right-of-way’’ means any real property, or interest therein, acquired, dedicated, or reserved for the construction, operation, and maintenance of a highway.

(D) UTILITY FACILITY.—The term ‘‘utility facility’’ means any privately, publicly, or cooperatively owned line, facility, or system for producing, transmitting, or distributing communications, power, electricity, light, heat, gas, water, steam, waste, storm water not connected with highway drainage, or any other similar commodity, including any fire or police signal system or street lighting system, that directly or indirectly serves the public.

(ii) INCLUSIONS.—The term ‘‘utility facility’’ includes—

(i) a renewable energy generation facility;

(ii) electrical transmission and distribution infrastructure; and

(iii) broadband infrastructure and conduit.

(2) ACCOMMODATION.—In determining whether to apply to obligations issued after the date of enactment of this Act.

"(1) VEGEATION MANAGEMENT.—States are encouraged to implement, or enter into partnerships to implement, vegetation management practices, such as increased mowing, burned and planted wild pol-liinator-friendly habitats, along a right-of-way on a Federal-aid highway, if the implementa-

"(i) is in the public interest; and

(ii) will not impair the highway or interfere with the free and safe flow of traffic.''.

SA 2551. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2197 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

"(i) held in trust by the United States for the benefit of any Indian tribe or individual Indian; or

(ii) held by an Indian Tribe or individual Indian; and

(C) RIGHT-OF-WAY.—The term ‘‘right-of-

way’’ means any real property, or interest therein, acquired, dedicated, or reserved for

SEC. 25101. SHORT TITLE.
This subtitle may be cited as the “Cannabis and Marihuana Research Expansion Act.”

SEC. 25102. DEFINITIONS.
In this subtitle—

(1) the term “appropriately registered” means that an individual or entity is registered under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.), to engage in the type of activity that is carried out by the individual or entity with respect to a controlled substance on the schedule that is applicable to cannabis or marihuana, as applicable; and

(2) the term “practitioner” means—

(A) a practitioner who is registered under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.), to engage in the type of activity that is carried out by the individual or entity with respect to a controlled substance on the schedule that is applicable to cannabis or marihuana, as applicable; and

(B) a practitioner who is appropriately registered under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.).

(3) the term “controlled substance”, “dispenser”, “distributor”, “manufacturer”, “marihuana”, and “practitioner” have the meanings given such terms in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802), as amended.

(4) the term “covered institution of higher education” means an institution of higher education as defined in section 106 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001) that—

(A)(i) has higher or higher research activity; and (ii) is an accredited medical school or an accredited school of osteopathic medicine; and

(B) is appropriately registered under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.).

(5) the term “drug” has the meaning given the term in section 201(g)(1) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 321(g)(1)).

(6) the term “medical research for drug development” means medical research that is—

(A) a preclinical study or clinical investigation conducted in accordance with section 505(f) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355(f)) or otherwise permitted by the Department of Health and Human Services to determine the potential medical benefits of marihuana or cannabis as a drug; and

(B) conducted by a covered institution of higher education, practitioner, or manufacturer that is appropriately registered under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.).

(7) the term “State” means any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, and any territory of the United States.

CHAPTER 1—REGISTRATIONS FOR MARIHUANA RESEARCH

SEC. 25121. MARIHUANA RESEARCH APPLICATIONS.
Section 303(f) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 823(f)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (5) as subparagraphs (A) through (E), respectively; and

(2) by striking “(f) The Attorney General and inserting “(f)(1) The Attorney General”.

SEC. 25122. RESEARCH PROTOCOLS.
(a) In general.—Paragraph (2)(B) of section 303(f) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 823(f)), as amended by section 25121 of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(2)(B) notice of receipt of a notification under item (aa) is provided to the registrant prior to the date on which the Attorney General receives notice of receipt of the notification by the Attorney General.”

(b) A notice of receipt of a notification under item (aa) is provided to the registrant prior to the date on which the Attorney General receives notice of receipt of the notification by the Attorney General.

(c) The Attorney General shall ensure that—

(1) the party’s research protocols—

(a) have been reviewed and approved by the Secretary of Health and Human Services; and

(b)(1) has been reviewed and allowed—

(A) the Drug Enforcement Administration registration number of the registrant; and

(B) notice of receipt of a notification under item (aa) is provided to the registrant prior to the date on which the Attorney General receives notice of receipt of the notification by the Attorney General.

(2) the number of marihuana needed to complete the research; and

(3) the number of additional marihuana needed to complete the research.

(d)(AA) A registrant under clause (i) may proceed with an amended or supplemental research protocol described in item (aa) if the Attorney General does not explicitly object during the 30-day period beginning on the date on which the Attorney General receives the notice under item (aa).

(II)(aa) The Attorney General may only object to an amended or supplemental research protocol under this subclause if additional marihuana is needed to safeguard against diversion or abuse.

(DD) An amendment or supplemental research protocol under this subclause if additional marihuana is needed to safeguard against diversion or abuse.

(DD) A registrant under clause (i) may proceed with an amended or supplemental research protocol described in item (aa) if the Attorney General does not explicitly object during the 30-day period beginning on the date on which the Attorney General receives the notice under item (aa).

(II)(aa) The Attorney General may only object to an amended or supplemental research protocol under this subclause if additional marihuana is needed to safeguard against diversion or abuse.

(DD) An amendment or supplemental research protocol under this subclause if additional marihuana is needed to safeguard against diversion or abuse.

(DD) A registrant under clause (i) may proceed with an amended or supplemental research protocol described in item (aa) if the Attorney General does not explicitly object during the 30-day period beginning on the date on which the Attorney General receives the notice under item (aa).

(II)(aa) The Attorney General may only object to an amended or supplemental research protocol under this subclause if additional marihuana is needed to safeguard against diversion or abuse.

(DD) An amendment or supplemental research protocol under this subclause if additional marihuana is needed to safeguard against diversion or abuse.

(DD) A registrant under clause (i) may proceed with an amended or supplemental research protocol described in item (aa) if the Attorney General does not explicitly object during the 30-day period beginning on the date on which the Attorney General receives the notice under item (aa).

(II)(aa) The Attorney General may only object to an amended or supplemental research protocol under this subclause if additional marihuana is needed to safeguard against diversion or abuse.

(DD) An amendment or supplemental research protocol under this subclause if additional marihuana is needed to safeguard against diversion or abuse.
"(BB) necessitates that the registrant implement additional security measures to safeguard against diversion or abuse.

"(IV) Nothing in this clause shall limit the authority of the Secretary of Health and Human Services over requirements related to research protocols, including changes in—

"(aa) the method of administration of marihuana;

"(bb) the dosing of marihuana; and

"(cc) the number of individuals or patients involved in research.

"(b) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall promulgate regulations to carry out the amendment made by this section.

SEC. 25123. APPLICATIONS TO MANUFACTURE MARIHUANA FOR RESEARCH.

(a) In GENERAL.—Section 303 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 823) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (c) through (k) as subsections (d) through (l), respectively;

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

"(c)(1) As it relates to applications to manufacture marihuana for research purposes, the Attorney General shall, not later than 60 days after the date on which the Attorney General receives a completed application—

"(i) approve the application; or

"(ii) request supplemental information.

"(B) For purposes of subparagraph (A), an application shall be deemed complete when the applicant has submitted documentation showing each of the following:

"(i) the applicant has submitted documentation in the notice in the Federal Register that the application is complete;

"(ii) the requirements under this Act are satisfied;

"(iii) the applicant will limit the transfer and sale of any marihuana manufactured under this subsection to—

"(I) researchers who are registered under this Act to conduct research with controlled substances in schedule I; and

"(II) for purposes of use in preclinical research or in an investigation pursuant to an investigational new drug exemption under 505(i) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355(i)).

"(c)(2) The Attorney General may not approve an application under this subsection only with prior, written consent for the transfer or sale by the Attorney General.

"(d) A registration that has been established and begun operation of a process for storage and handling of controlled substances in schedule I, including for inventory control and monitoring of use by the Attorney General, shall remain in effect under this subsection for a period of 2 years from the date on which the Attorney General authorized the registration to conduct research on marihuana.

SEC. 25124. ADEQUATE AND UNINTERRUPTED SUPPLY OF MARIHUANA.

On an annual basis, the Attorney General shall assess whether there is an adequate and uninterrupted supply of marihuana, including of specific strains, for research purposes.

SEC. 25125. SECURITY REQUIREMENTS.

(a) In GENERAL.—An individual or entity engaged in researching marihuana or its components shall store it in a securely locked, substantially constructed cabinet.

(b) REQUIREMENTS FOR OTHER MEASURES.—Any other security measures required by the Attorney General to prevent diversion shall be consistent with those required for practitioners conducting research on other controlled substances in schedules I and II, and in section 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812(c)) that have a similar risk of diversion and abuse.

SEC. 25126. PROHIBITION AGAINST REINSTATING INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW PROCESS FOR NON-NIH-FUNDED RESEARCHERS.

The Secretary of Health and Human Services may not—

(1) reinstate the Public Health Service interdisciplinary review process described in the guidance entitled ‘‘Guidance on Procedures for the Provision of Marijuana for Medical Research’’ (issued on May 21, 1999); or

(2) require another review of scientific protocols that is applicable to research on marihuana or its components.

CHAPTER 2—DEVELOPMENT OF FDA-APPROVED DRUGS USING CANNABIDIOL AND MARIHUANA

SEC. 25141. MEDICAL RESEARCH ON CANNABIDIOL.

Notwithstanding any provision of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.), the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (20 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), chapter 81 of title 42, United States Code, or any other Federal law, an appropriately registered covered institution of higher education, a practitioner, or a manufacturer that may manufacture, distribute, dispense, or possess marihuana or cannabidiol if the marihuana or cannabidiol is manufactured, distributed, dispensed, or possessed, respectively, for purposes of medical research for drug development or subsequent commercial production in accordance with section 25142.

SEC. 25142. REGISTRATION FOR THE COMMERCIAL PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION-APPROVED DRUGS USING CANNABIDIOL.

The Attorney General shall register an applicant to manufacture or distribute cannabidiol or marihuana for the purpose of commercial production of a drug containing or derived from marihuana that is approved by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355), in accordance with the applicable requirements under this section.

SEC. 25143. IMPORTATION OF CANNABIDIOL FOR RESEARCH PURPOSES.

The Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. 951 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 202(a) (21 U.S.C. 952(a))—

"(A) in paragraph (1), by striking "and" at the end;

"(B) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking "and" after "and" in the heading; and

"(C) inserting before the undesignated matter following paragraph (2)(C) the following:

"(3) such amounts of marihuana or cannabidiol as are defenses (as defined in section 2512(3) of the Cannabidiol and Marihuana Research Expansion Act) as are—

"(A) approved for medical research for drug development (as such terms are defined in section 25102 of the Cannabidiol and Marihuana Research Expansion Act), or
SEC. 25181. FEDERAL RESEARCH.

(a) The term "derivative, including cannabidiol, as a legal guardian of the patient of the physician including cannabidiol, as a treatment with the benefits of marihuana derivatives, in the United States Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.) for a

(b) by the Commissioner of Food and Drugs under section 1008, or unless such person is exempt from registration under subsection (b).

(1) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to the import of marihuana or cannabidiol (as defined in section 25102 of the

(2) medical research for drug development and approved for use under this section and the Federal Food, Drug, and

Subsection (b).

(c) activities—To the extent practicable, the Secretary (7) for the purposes of obtaining, either directly or through awarding, contacts, on the potential effects of cannabidiol and marihuana, as outlined in the report submitted under paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a).

Subtitle C—GAO Study

SEC. 25201. GAO STUDY ON IMPROVING THE EFFICIENCY OF TRAFFIC SYSTEMS.

Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall prepare and submit to Congress a report describing the results of a study on the potential benefits of improving the efficiency of traffic systems.

SA 2552. Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 2286, line 17, strike "or in part".

SA 2553. Mr. HEINRICH (for himself, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. LUJAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURkowski, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in division G, insert the following:

TITLE 3—CHAMPIONING APPRENTICESHIPS CONTRACTS

SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS.

SEC. 3. TECHNOLOGY APPRENTICESHIP CONTRACTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Labor (referred to in this section as the "Secretary") shall enter into designated with industry intermediaries for the purpose of promoting the development of and access to apprenticeships in the technology sector, from amounts appropriated under subsection (e).

(b) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to be awarded a contract under this section, an intermediary may include a letter of application to the Secretary, at such time and in such a manner as may be required by the Secretary, that identifies proposed activities designed to further the purpose described in subsection (a).

(c) SELECTION.—The Secretary shall award contracts under this section based on competitive criteria to be prescribed by the Secretary.

(d) CONTRACTOR ACTIVITIES.—An intermediary that is awarded a contract under this section may only use the funds made available through such contract to carry out activities designed to further the purpose described in subsection (a), including—

(1) facilitating the provision and development of apprenticeships in the technology sector through collaborations with public and private entities that provide job-related instruction, such as on-the-job training, pre-apprenticeship training, and technical training;

(2) encouraging entities to establish such apprenticeships;

(3) identifying, assessing, and training applicants for such apprenticeships who are—

(A) enrolled in high school;

(B) enrolled in an early college high school that focuses on education in STEM subjects;

(C) individuals aged 18 years or older who meet appropriate qualifications;

(D) enrolled in pre-apprenticeship or apprenticeship training initiatives that allow adults to concurrently increase academic and workforce skills through proven, evidence-based models that connect all learning opportunities in a comprehensive approach that significantly accelerate completion of preparation for the apprenticeship; and

(4) tracking the progress of such applicants who participate in such apprenticeships;

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to
the Secretary such sums as may be necessary for the purposes of carrying out this section.

SEC. 4. CHANCE IN TECH AWARDS FOR COVERED SCHOOLS.

(a) AWARDS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of Education may issue awards, to be known as “CHANCE in TECH Awards for 21st Century Schools” (herein referred to in this section as “covered schools”) that—

(1) are secondary schools or junior or community colleges; and

(2) illustrate high achievement in providing students necessary skills to compete in the 21st century workforce.

(b) CRITERIA.—In selecting a covered school for an award under subsection (a), the Secretary shall take into account—

(1) the availability of STEM, career and technical education, and computer technology courses at the covered school;

(2) State academic assessments, as described in section 1111(b)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311(b)(2)), of students at the covered school in STEM subjects;

(3) any coordination between the covered school and local and regional employers in the technology sector for the purpose of providing work-based learning programs such as apprenticeships and internships; and

(4) the availability of individualized plans provided to students relating to postsecondary education or training, career paths, and financial aid.

SEC. 5. FUNDING.

(a) FISCAL YEAR 2021.—Amounts made available to the Secretary of Labor under the Department of Labor Appropriations Act, 2021 to carry out the Act referred to in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801) may be used to carry out this title.

(b) SUBSEQUENT YEARS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022 and each subsequent fiscal year.

SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) APPRENTICESHIP.—The term “apprenticeship” means an apprenticeship registered under the Act of August 16, 1937 (commonly known as the “National Apprenticeship Act”); 50 Stat. 684, chapter 683; 29 U.S.C. 50 et seq.).

(2) CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION.—The term “career and technical education” has the meaning given such term in section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302).

(3) EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL.—The term “early college high school” has the meaning given such term in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

(4) HIGH SCHOOL.—The term “high school” has the meaning given such term in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

(5) INDUSTRY INTERMEDIARY.—The term “industry intermediary” means an entity that—

(A) in order to accelerate apprenticeship program development and helps establish new apprenticeship partnerships at the national, State, or regional level, serves as a conduit between an employer and an entity, such as—

(i) an industry partner;

(ii) the Department of Labor; and

(iii) a State agency responsible for workforce development and adult basic education;

(B) demonstrates a capacity to work with employers and other key partners to identify workforce trends and foster public-private funding initiatives to establish new apprenticeship programs; and

(C) is an entity such as—

(i) a business;

(ii) a consortium of businesses;

(iii) a business-related nonprofit organization, including industry associations and business federations;

(iv) a private organization functioning as a workforce intermediary for the express purpose of serving the needs of businesses, including for-profit, nonprofit, and federal, state, and local training providers and industry-aligned training providers; or

(v) a consortium of any of the entities described in clauses (i) through (iv).

(6) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term “institution of higher education” has the meaning given such term in section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002).

(7) JUNIOR OR COMMUNITY COLLEGE.—The term “junior or community college” has the meaning given the term in section 312(f) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1058(f)).

(8) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—The term “local educational agency” has the meaning given such term in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

(9) SECONDARY SCHOOL.—The term “secondary school” has the meaning given such term in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

(10) STATE EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—The term “State educational agency” has the meaning given such term in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

(11) STEM.—The term “STEM” means science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

(12) TECHNOLOGY SECTOR.—The term “technology sector” means the industry sector involved in the design or development of hardware, software, or security of digital data.

SA 2554. Mr. LÜJAN (for himself and Mr. HENRICH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Miss SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MORKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle A of title I of division A, add the following:

SEC. 111. CORROSION PREVENTION FOR BRIDGES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPLICABLE BRIDGE PROJECT.—The term “applicable bridge project” means a project for construction, replacement, rehabilitation, maintenance, or protection, other than de minimis work, as determined by the applicable State department of transportation, on a bridge project assisted under title 23, United States Code.

(2) CERTIFIED CONTRACTOR.—The term “certified contractor” means a contracting or subcontracting firm that has been certified by a third-party organization in the industry-wide that evaluates the capability of the contractor or subcontractor to properly perform 1 or more specified aspects of an applicable bridge project described in subsection (b)(2).

(3) QUALIFIED TRAINING PROGRAM.—The term “qualified training program” means a training program in corrosion control, mitigation, and prevention that is—

(A) offered or accredited by an organization that sets industry corrosion standards; or

(B) an industrial coatings applicator training program—

(i) that was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1842, line 9, insert “. Corrosion control and maintenance programs shall—”.

On page 1847, line 9, insert “. and water-based.”.

On page 1417, line 19, insert “implementation,” before “and construction”.

On page 1851, line 7, insert “watershed function,” after “benefits.”.

SA 2556. Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle A of title I of division A, add the following:

(1) QUALITY CONTROL.—A certified contractor shall carry out aspects of an applicable bridge project described in paragraph (2).

(2) ASPECTS OF APPLICABLE BRIDGE PROJECTS.—Aspects of an applicable bridge project referred to in paragraph (1) include—

(A) surface preparation or coating application on steel or rebar, and other passive forms of corrosion prevention of rebar, such as galvanic anodes, of an applicable bridge project;

(B) removal of a lead-based or other hazardous coating from steel of an existing applicable bridge project; and

(C) shop painting of structural steel or rebar fabricated for installation on an applicable bridge project.

(3) CORROSION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.—A State department of transportation shall—

(A) implement a corrosion management system that utilizes nationally-recognized standards and corrosion mitigation and prevention methods to address—

On page 1842, line 9, insert “. and restoration,” and “maintenance” after “management”.

On page 1847, line 9, insert “. and water-based.”.

On page 1851, line 7, insert “watershed function,” after “benefits.”.
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(1) surface preparation; (ii) protective coatings; (iii) materials selection; (iv) cathodic protection; (v) personnel training; and (vi) best practices in environmental protection to prevent environmental degradation and public health and safety.

(b) requires a certified contractor, for the purpose of carrying out aspects of applicable bridge projects described in paragraph (2), to employ a substantial number of individuals who are trained and certified by a qualified training program meeting the ANSI/NACE Number 13/SSPC-ACS-1 standard (or a successor standard).

(c) Certification.—For an applicable bridge project that includes an aspect described in paragraph (2), a State department of transportation shall only accept bids from a certified contractor that presents written proof that the certification of the contractor meets the relevant SSPC–QP standards (or successor standard).

(d) Training Program.—As a condition of entering into a contract for an applicable bridge project, each certified contractor shall provide training for each individual who is not a certified applicator but that the certified contractor employs to carry out an applicable bridge projects described in subsection (b)(2).

SA 2557. Ms. BALDWIN (for herself and Mr. JOHNSON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In the eighth proviso under the heading "DISTANCE LEARNING, TELEMEDICINE, and BROADBAND PROGRAM" under the heading "RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE" under the heading "RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS" under the heading "DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE" in title I of division J, strike "electric cooperatives and insert "pole owners".

SA 2558. Ms. BALDWIN (for herself and Mr. JOHNSON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In the proviso under the heading "DISTANCE LEARNING, TELEMEDICINE, and BROADBAND PROGRAM" under the heading "RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE" under the heading "RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS" under the heading "DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE" in title I of division J, strike "electric cooperatives and insert "pole owners".

SEC. 810. PAYMENT TO CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS WHO DYE FUEL.

(a) In General.—Subchapter B of chapter 65 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

SEC. 6435. DYED FUEL.

(1) surface preparation; (ii) protective coatings; (iii) materials selection; (iv) cathodic protection; (v) personnel training; and (vi) best practices in environmental protection to prevent environmental degradation and public health and safety.

(b) requires a certified contractor, for the purpose of carrying out aspects of applicable bridge projects described in paragraph (2), to employ a substantial number of individuals who are trained and certified by a qualified training program meeting the ANSI/NACE Number 13/SSPC-ACS-1 standard (or a successor standard).

(c) Certification.—For an applicable bridge project that includes an aspect described in paragraph (2), a State department of transportation shall only accept bids from a certified contractor that presents written proof that the certification of the contractor meets the relevant SSPC–QP standards (or successor standard).

(d) Training Program.—As a condition of entering into a contract for an applicable bridge project, each certified contractor shall provide training for each individual who is not a certified applicator but that the certified contractor employs to carry out an applicable bridge projects described in subsection (b)(2).

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(b) requires a certified contractor, for the purpose of carrying out aspects of applicable bridge projects described in paragraph (2), to employ a substantial number of individuals who are trained and certified by a qualified training program meeting the ANSI/NACE Number 13/SSPC-ACS-1 standard (or a successor standard).

(c) Certification.—For an applicable bridge project that includes an aspect described in paragraph (2), a State department of transportation shall only accept bids from a certified contractor that presents written proof that the certification of the contractor meets the relevant SSPC–QP standards (or successor standard).

(d) Training Program.—As a condition of entering into a contract for an applicable bridge project, each certified contractor shall provide training for each individual who is not a certified applicator but that the certified contractor employs to carry out an applicable bridge projects described in subsection (b)(2).

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(c) Certification.—For an applicable bridge project that includes an aspect described in paragraph (2), a State department of transportation shall only accept bids from a certified contractor that presents written proof that the certification of the contractor meets the relevant SSPC–QP standards (or successor standard).

(d) Training Program.—As a condition of entering into a contract for an applicable bridge project, each certified contractor shall provide training for each individual who is not a certified applicator but that the certified contractor employs to carry out an applicable bridge projects described in subsection (b)(2).

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(c) Certification.—For an applicable bridge project that includes an aspect described in paragraph (2), a State department of transportation shall only accept bids from a certified contractor that presents written proof that the certification of the contractor meets the relevant SSPC–QP standards (or successor standard).

(d) Training Program.—As a condition of entering into a contract for an applicable bridge project, each certified contractor shall provide training for each individual who is not a certified applicator but that the certified contractor employs to carry out an applicable bridge projects described in subsection (b)(2).

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under this division and title 23, United States Code, or appropriated by the Secretary under sections 202 or 204 of that title, by multiplying—

(a) the proportion determined under paragraph (3) by

(B) the amounts authorized to be appropriated for each such program for the fiscal year; and

(c) the amounts distributed under paragraph (4), for Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs that are appropriated by the Secretary under title 23, United States Code (other than the amounts appropriated under sections 202 and 204 of title 23, United States Code) in the proportion that—

(A) amounts authorized to be appropriated for the programs that are appropriated under title 23, United States Code, to each State for the fiscal year, bears to

(B) the total of the amounts authorized to be appropriated for the programs that are appropriated under title 23, United States Code, to all States for the fiscal year.

(f) OBLIGATION LIMITATION.—No obligations may be incurred under this division, or under any other provision of law, for the fiscal year for funds made available under subsection (a) shall—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), obligation limitations imposed by subsection (a) shall apply to contract authority for transportation research programs authorized under chapter 5 of title 23, United States Code.

(2) EXCEPTION.—Obligation authority made available under subsection (b) if an amount distributed cannot be obligated during that fiscal year; and

(3) LIMITATION.—The Secretary shall, after August 1 of each fiscal year—

(A) review a distribution of the obligation authority made available under subsection (b) if an amount distributed cannot be obligated during that fiscal year; and

(B) redistribute sufficient amounts to those States to able to obligate amounts in addition to those previously distributed during that fiscal year, giving priority to those States having large obligated balances of funds apportioned under sections 144 (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of MAP-21 (Public Law 112–141)) and 104 of title 23, United States Code.

(d) APPLICABILITY OF OBLIGATION LIMITATIONS TO TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH PROGRAMS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), obligation limitations imposed by subsection (a) shall apply to contract authority for transportation research programs authorized under chapter 5 of title 23, United States Code.

(2) EXCEPTION.—Obligation authority made available under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) remain available for a period of 4 fiscal years; and

(B) be in addition to the amount of any limitation imposed on obligations for Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs for future fiscal years.

(e) REDEPLOYMENT OF CERTAIN AUTHORIZED FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of distribution of obligation authority under subsection (b) for each fiscal year, the Secretary shall distribute to the States all unexpended balances of funds authorized for the program under section 202 of title 23, United States Code that—

(A) are authorized to be appropriated for the fiscal year for Federal-aid highway programs; and

(B) the Secretary determines will not be allocated to the States (or will not be appropriated to the States under section 204 of title 23, United States Code), and will not be available for obligation, for the fiscal year because of the imposition of any obligation limitation for the fiscal year.

(2) RATIOS.—Funds shall be distributed under paragraph (1) in the same proportion as the distribution of obligation authority under subsection (a).

(3) AVAILABILITY.—Funds distributed to each State under paragraph (1) shall be available for any purpose described in section 133(b) of title 23, United States Code.

At the end of division C, add the following:

SEC. 3. OBLIGATION LIMITATION.

Section 500 of title 49, United States Code (as amended by section 30017), is amended by adding at the end the following:

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Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-260; 134 Stat. 2624) shall not apply to the extent that such projects are carried out using funds provided in the preceding proviso: Provided further, That in funds referred to in the preceding proviso, the Secretary shall give priority to projects included in the Capital Investment Strategy of the Corps of Engineers.


On page 2488, line 3, insert ‘‘Provided further, That the amounts provided in the preceding proviso do not limit the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, from allotting additional funds from the amounts provided under this title in this Act to additional shore protection projects:’’ after ‘‘2024’’.

On page 2488, line 9, insert ‘‘Provided further, That in selecting projects under the previous proviso, the Secretary of the Army shall prioritize projects with overriding life-safety benefits: Provided further, That of the funds in the proviso preceding the preceding proviso, of the Army shall to the maximum extent practicable, prioritize projects in the work plan that directly benefit economically disadvantaged communities into consideration in the selection of prioritizing projects that benefit areas in which the percentage of people that live in poverty or identify as belonging to a minority group is greater than the average such percentage in the United States, based on data from the Bureau of the Census:’’ after ‘‘purposes:’’.

On page 2492, between lines 2 and 3, insert the following:

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S 300. For projects that are carried out with funds under this heading, the Secretary of the Army and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall consider other factors in addition to the benefit-cost ratio when determining the economic benefits of projects that benefit disadvantaged communities.

SA 2565. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 2561, strike line 21 and insert the following:

(c) Effective Date.—The rule required under subsection (b) shall become effective on Secretary of the Army fiscal year beginning after the date on which the Secretary issues that rule.

(d) Periodic Review.—Nothing in this section prev.

SA 2566. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 519, line 11, insert ‘‘and rural commuters’’ after ‘‘commuters’’.

SA 2569. Mr. HOEVEN (for himself and Mr. PETERS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1099, strike lines 22 through 24 and insert the following:

(C) to purchase or lease a license plate reader; or

(D) to purchase, lease, or operate an unmanned aircraft system manufactured by an entity domiciled in the People’s Republic of China or subject to influence or control by the Government of the People’s Republic of China or the Communist Party of the People’s Republic of China (or a subsidiary or affiliate of such an entity).

SA 2570. Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mr. GILLIBRAND) submitted an amendment to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place in division B, insert the following:

SECT. 3. FEDERAL SAFETY STANDARDS.

(a) LIMOUSINE COMPLIANCE STANDARDS.—

(1) SAFETY BELT AND SHATING SYSTEM STANDARDS FOR LIMOUSINES.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall prescribe a final rule that—

(A) amends Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard Numbers 230, 208, and 210 to require that a limousine:

(i) be equipped with an occupant restraint system consisting of integrated lap-shoulder belts or an occupant restraint system consisting of a lap belt, if an occupant restraint system described in clause (i) does not meet the need for motor vehicle safety; and

(ii) be equipped with an occupant restraint system described in clause (i) or (ii) to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 2286, between lines 14 and 15, insert the following:

(f) AGGREGATION PERMITTED.—Section 908(b) of division N of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260), as amended by subsection (a) of this section, is amended by adding at the end the following:

(2) AGGREGATION PERMITTED.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Commission shall adopt rules providing that:

(A) a unit of local government may pay a participating provider on behalf of an eligible household for an internet service offered, in lieu of the participating provider applying a monthly discount to the amount charged to the eligible household; and

(B) the Commission will reimburse the unit of local government for amounts paid to a participating provider as described in subparagraph (A) in the same manner as the Commission would have reimbursed the participating provider for applying a monthly discount to the amount charged to the eligible household, subject to the applicable maximum amount of the affordable connectivity benefit under paragraph (1).”.

SA 2568. Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mr. LUJÁN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 519, line 11, insert ‘‘and rural commuters’’ after ‘‘commuters’’.
(a)(1) and any standards prescribed under subsection (b) or (c) of section 23015 shall apply to a person modifying a passenger motor vehicle (as defined in section 32101 of title 49, United States Code) that has already been purchased by the first purchaser (as defined in section 30102(b) of that title) by increasing the wheelbase of the vehicle to make it illegal to use on public highways.

(c) APPLICATION.—The requirements of this section apply notwithstanding section 3012(b)(1) of title 49, United States Code.

SA 2571. Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. HOEVEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2571 by Mr. SCHUMER for Mrs. SINEMA for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1099, beginning on line 22, strike "or" and all that follows through line 24, and insert the following:

(C) to purchase or lease a license plate reader; or

(D) to purchase, lease, or operate an unmanned aircraft system (as defined in section 44801 of title 49, United States Code) manufactured by:

(i) an entity domiciled in the People’s Republic of China; or

(ii) an entity, or a subsidiary or affiliate of an entity, that is subject to influence or control by

(I) the Government of the People’s Republic of China; or

(II) the Chinese Communist Party.

SA 2572. Ms. HIRONO (for herself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of division G, add the following:

TITLE XII—AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH FACILITIES INFRASTRUCTURE

SEC. 71201. AMENDING FOR AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH FACILITIES AND RESEARCH FACILITIES OF THE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH FACILITY.—The term “agricultural research facility” has the meaning given in the term in section 2 of the Research Facilities Act (7 U.S.C. 390).

(2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture.

(b) APPROPRIATION.—In addition to amounts otherwise available, there is appropriated to the Secretary for the period of fiscal years 2022 through 2026, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, $12,500,000,000, to remain available until expended, to carry out the competitive grant program established under section 4 of the Research Facilities Act (7 U.S.C. 390b) to provide to agricultural research facilities the Federal share of the costs of the construction, alteration, acquisition, modernization, renovation, or remodeling of—

(A) the agricultural research facilities or

(B) the equipment of the agricultural research facilities necessary for conducting agricultural research; and

(2) $1,000,000,000 to provide direct payments to research facilities of the Agricultural Research Service for the purpose of addressing deferred maintenance, with priority given to the more critical structures, in accordance with the Agricultural Research Service Capital Investment Strategy dated April 23, 2012.

(c) APPLICATION.—The requirements of this subsection are up to 100 percent of those costs.

(d) EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In awarding grants under the program described in paragraph (1) of this subsection (b) using amounts made available by this subsection, the Secretary, to the maximum extent practicable, shall ensure:

(A) an equitable geographic distribution of funds;

(B) an equitable distribution of funds to diverse institutions; and

(C) an equitable distribution of funds to agricultural research facilities of various sizes.

(2) REQUIREMENT.—Of the amounts made available by this paragraph (1) of this subsection, not more than 20 percent may be provided for projects in any 1 State each fiscal year.

SA 2573. Mr. O’SOSOFF submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 202, strike line 5 and insert the following:

(2) in subsection (1),

(A) by striking paragraph (2);

(B) by striking the subsection designation and all that follows through "in determining" in paragraph (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

(i) ACCOMMODATING UTILITY FACILITIES IN THE RIGHT-OF-WAY.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

(A) AGRICULTURAL LAND.—The term ‘Agricultural land’ means the Federal land owned by the United States.

(B) INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY.—The term ‘Indigenous community’ means—

(i) the title to which is held by a dependent Indian community;

(ii) the title to which is held by a dependent Indian community;

(iii) the title to which is held by an Indian Tribe or an individual Indian.

(2) REQUIREMENT.—A State, on behalf of the Secretary, may approve accommodation in paragraph (1)(i) of a right-of-way on a Federal-aid highway.

(3) EXCLUSION.—Paragraph (3) shall not apply to a utility facility on Federal land or Indian land.

(4) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this subsection alters or affects any prohibition relating to commercial activity under section 111(a).

(5) INCLUSIONS.—The term ‘utility facility’ includes—

(i) a renewable energy generation facility;

(ii) electrical transmission and distribution infrastructure; and

(iii) broadband infrastructure and conduits.

(2) ACCOMMODATION.—In determining;

(ii) INCLUSIONS.—The term ‘utility facility includes—

(i) a renewable energy generation facility;

(ii) electrical transmission and distribution infrastructure; and

(iii) broadband infrastructure and conduits.

(2) ACCOMMODATION.—In determining; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

(3) STATE APPROVAL.—A State, on behalf of the Secretary, may approve accommodation in paragraph (1)(i) of a right-of-way on a Federal-aid highway.

(4) EXCLUSION.—Paragraph (3) shall not apply to a utility facility on Federal land or Indian land.

(5) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this subsection alters or affects any prohibition relating to commercial activity under section 111(a).

(3) in subsection (o)—

On page 202, line 23, strike “(3)” and insert “(4)”.

On page 203, strike line 17 and insert the following:

the project is located on a Federal-aid highway.

(1) VEGETATION MANAGEMENT.—States are encouraged to implement, or to enter into partnerships to implement, vegetation management practices, such as increased mowing heights and planting native grasses and pollinator-friendly habitats, along a right-of-way on a Federal-aid highway, if the implementation of those practices—

(i) is in the public interest; and

(ii) will not impair the highway or interfere with the free and safe flow of traffic.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I have 6 requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, August 4, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.
Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Amanda Hoffman, a legislative fellow on my staff, be granted privileges of the floor for the remainder of the 117th Congress.

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

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 2021
Mr. SCHUMER. Now, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10:30 a.m., Thursday, August 5; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed extended; that the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 3684.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?
Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT
Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator PORTMAN.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

INVEST IN AMERICA ACT
Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I thank the majority leader for allowing me to say a few words tonight, and I want to commend him and the Republican Leader, MITCH MCCONNELL, for allowing us to have this series of amendments.

The Senate has worked its will and will continue to work its will tomorrow. As was said, there have been 22 amendments on the floor. About half of them are Democratic amendments, and about half of them are Republican amendments.

I will say also, there has just been a lot of discussion that has ensued because of this amendment process. So a lot of people have had the opportunity to discuss their issues to try to improve the bill in certain ways, and, frankly, a lot of these amendments were accepted; they were voted on positively—well, one just recently with regard to a safety issue that was just discussed—and improve the bill. So that is the way this place ought to work, and I think it is consistent with what we tried to do through the beginning, where we saw an opportunity to pull out core infrastructure from a much larger package and deal with it without raising taxes but by focusing on bipartisan solutions, and that is exactly what the bill does.

The next step in that, then, was to say: Let’s try to have an open amendment process too. And sure enough, we have.

And some colleagues of mine have come up to me tonight and say: You know, it is nice to see the Senate working its will again, because these are colleagues who were around in previous decades where, you know, they saw this more often.

So, again, I want to thank my colleagues for going through this process. It requires some patience. It requires some consensus. Some amendments had to be altered in some ways to be sure that both sides were comfortable with the votes of them. And at the end of the day, we are able to say that people’s voices are being heard.

This will continue tomorrow. I just saw a list of about 10 amendments, and I know there are others as well that people would like to offer tomorrow, and I am all for it, as is Senator SINEMA. Senator SINEMA and I are very pleased that Members have the opportunity to express themselves.

I also want to talk a little about what this bill does and why it is so important for our country.

For the past 2 days, we have been working through this amendment process, and sometimes we lose sight of the bigger picture here. The bigger picture is that we as a country have an infrastructure system that is badly in need of repair. We are consistently rated as a country with an infrastructure system that, frankly, hasn’t kept up with the rest of the world.

There is an incredible called the World Economic Forum, and they give a report card every couple years, and America ends up, you know, 13th or 14th in the world in terms of infrastructure. That is not where we want to be.

By the way, on a broader gauge of competitiveness, we are right up at the top in terms of our trade system, our tax system, our economic system generally. With regard to infrastructure, we are not.

As some of you have heard me say before, this is about competitiveness too. Think about this: China spends three or four times more as a percentage of their GDP than we do on infrastructure. The reality, as I have looked at those numbers, is that it is even higher than that, but let’s say three or four times higher. Why? Because they get it. They are trying to outcompete us in every way, including having better ports, better rail, better airports, and the ability to both buy and sell their products overseas, and we here in America want to be at the top of that list. That is why it is very important, from my point of view, that we focus on economic competitiveness.

If we get this bill passed, it will make our economy more efficient; therefore, more productive; therefore, the economy will grow; therefore, more tax revenue will come into the coffers.

There has been a lot of discussion about the pay-fors in this legislation. We will know more as the CBO report tells us very specifically how it is paid for. But the bottom line is, much of what happens in this bill, which is spending for capital expenditures, this long-term spending—it is not going to be spent next year. It may be spent in 5 years or 10 years. It may be a bridge in Georgia. It may be a port in Alabama. Those take years and years and years. The funding we are providing, the $550 billion in this bill, will be spent over that period of time. It will add to those hard assets. It is, as a result of that, on the supply side of the economy, creating jobs, creating hard assets, like roads and rail and ports, and as a result of that, it is actually counter-inflationary.

I know there has been concern on the floor, including raised today in one of the amendments, about the fact that more spending leads to more inflation. Not this kind of spending. The kind of spending that would lead to it is more what is called the demand side of the equation—you know, as an example, the stimulus checks or even the unemployment insurance payments. That led to more demand in the economy. Yes, that did drive up our inflation over the past several months and continues to. This is not that. This is spending over the long haul. It will create these capital assets that will make our economy more efficient and should be counter-inflationary.

We have a number of economists who have spoken to this: Doug Holtz-Eakin some of you know; also Michael Strain, who is at the American Enterprise Institute. The Penn Wharton study on this is very interesting. They say, actually, that our legislation, as they analyze it, will end up growing the
economy, creating more jobs, and actually reducing the deficit, meaning more money will come into the coffers than we are spending here that is not paid for with CBO-certified official scores because of the economic impact of this.

So this is very important for all of our constituencies. It is also important for our broader economy, to make sure America stays at the forefront and that we can be competitive for our kids and our grandkids.

Let me take the State of Ohio as an example since I happen to be from Ohio and why it is going to help my State.

Ohio is a big infrastructure State. We have a lot of roads and a lot of bridges. Ohio’s roadway network has a lot of congestion also. It is estimated that the congestion in Ohio costs motorists an estimated $1.7 billion each year in lost time and wasted fuel. That is according to the American Society of Civil Engineers, which scored Ohio’s roads as D in their 2021 infrastructure report card—a D. Now, the Nation as a whole is only a C-minus under their analysis. Ohio is a D. So we are a little worse than the Nation as a whole. As a whole, again, we are falling behind but Ohio is really bad.

We are second in the Nation for the number of bridges. We have got a lot of little rivers and railroad tracks in Ohio, so we have got a lot of bridges. We have 44,736 bridges in Ohio.

By the way, they have looked at these bridges. Their analysis is that nearly half of them are not in good condition.

Our farmers, who are working to plant crops in their fields, want to be able to then get those crops to market. They want to get them to the elevators. They want to be able to export them. They care about infrastructure.

The moms and dads across Ohio who commute to work every day would heck of a lot rather spend their time with their kids than sitting in a car in a traffic jam on, you know, I-71 or 75 or I-270 or I-70.

We have got a lot of great roads in Ohio, but, frankly, they can’t keep up with the demand, so we have got a lot of traffic jams during rush hour. Those are some of the people who care a lot about infrastructure.

Our manufacturers in Ohio—we make everything in Ohio. We make cars. We make trucks. We make machines. We make tanks. We are proud of what we make in Ohio and what we export all around the world. We have got to be sure to get those products to market, too, so infrastructure is really important.

Today, I talked to a company in Ohio that has trucks all over Ohio and the country, for that matter. It is the Cintas Corporation. They are the uniform company, but they do a lot more than uniforms. They are excited about this bill because it is going to help them be more efficient in their delivery of their services.

That is the same with our truckers. I talked to a trucking company person yesterday who was interested in how this would affect the truckstops and wanted to know about, you know, electric vehicle charging stations and so on. But the bottom line was, this person said this is going to help because our truckers want to have a safe road and they want to be able to meet their requirements and not get stuck in traffic jams and be able to make more money on the road, frankly.

So this is something that helps our constituents across the board. But it goes well beyond just our roads. This is also about water infrastructure in this legislation. Communities across our State deserve water infrastructure that is going to deliver them clean, safe drinking water. We have got a lot of old water systems in Ohio that need help and need it badly.

We also have a lot of wastewater systems in Ohio that are in trouble. Some of you may know this, but there are currently ongoing reports out over the past couple decades about wastewater systems and particularly combined sewer overflow systems, where when you have a lot of rain, in many of our systems in Ohio, there is a combined sewer overflow system and the wastewater system, and that is not safe. Yet fixing it is really expensive.

Those communities—mostly midsize cities in Ohio but some larger cities as well—have all said to me: Can you help us a little more on water infrastructure?

With the revolving loan program we have in here, the ability for them to get low-interest Federal loans to be able to expand their water infrastructure system—they will be able to do that in this legislation, as well as receive grants from the Federal Government to help them ensure that we do have water systems that work.

Folks in rural parts of our State—Ohio is an Appalachian State. We have about 32 counties considered part of Appalachia. And guess what. In most of those counties, we have virtually no internet. I mean, sometimes there is real slow internet you can get but virtually no internet. This is why, for some of our kids in those counties in Ohio—these are rural counties that don’t have access to Wi-Fi of a speed that is appropriate for school, much less work.

These kids are falling behind, and particularly, of course, during the pandemic, when they had to rely on online learning. And the stories are out there, and you know them, and the mom that comes up to me when I am out and about in Ohio and says: You know what? I had to take my kid to the parking lot of the library, which is a 45-minute drive for me across rural Ohio roads, to be able to do her homework.

That makes no sense. We want the digital divide to be closed. We want the ability for those kids in rural Ohio to have access to the internet, just as kids can get access to it in suburban or more urban settings. But even in the suburban and urban settings, we want to help be sure those kids have the hookup to their home to get that internet and to be able to afford that internet.

So this legislation is unprecedented in many ways in terms of infrastructure—more roads, more bridges, more ports, more water systems—but it is also historic, unprecedented in terms of the expansion of broadband, finally.

So this is a win-win.

There are countries around the world that actually have better broadband than we do that are not even developed countries. They are poorer countries. You would think they might be a little behind, but they are outsort of leapfrogging us in terms of technology because they realize how important having that internet build-out is.

The other issue is for telehealth. There are more and more people relying on telehealth. Part of this comes out of the pandemic, when people kind of had to do that. They didn’t want to go into a doctor’s office or hospital for fear of the COVID pandemic. And, frankly, right now with the variants—and the delta variant—there are some people who are still now, unfortunately, not comfortable going into a healthcare setting, but they need to have an appointment. They need to have someone to check them out, and they need, perhaps, with regard to behavioral health, to have the ability to have a consult. They can do that online now, and the Federal government has been reimbursement that for the first time, because before, under Medicare and Medicaid, that was very difficult. So this is going to be a part of our system.

It is a good thing, sort of a rare silver lining in a terrible dark cloud of the pandemic that we learned how to use telehealth better.

So what if you don’t have access to internet? So what if you are a veteran in southeast Ohio and you have to drive 2½ hours to a VA clinic, and instead you would like to do telehealth because it makes sense for your situation, particularly during the pandemic, but you don’t have internet? So, definitely, that is not fair. So telehealth is another reason for us to expand internet access.

Finally, just for our economic benefit in these communities, we want more startups. We want more companies to be able to be successful. Without the internet—let’s face it—it is going to be very, very difficult. These are all part of this legislation as well.

The hard core infrastructure you think of—like roads and bridges, yes; water infrastructure, yes; ports, rail, freight—but also the digital infrastructure that is another—part of this legislation as well.

Again, it is why economists who look at this say this is actually going to help make our economy work better, make it more efficient. We will be more productive as a country and we will have more economic growth and then more revenue will come in. That is why this is so popular.
I mean, when you think about it, what can everybody agree on in America today? Not much. We are a country that is more divided, and that saddens me. It concerns me, particularly as we face challenges, some of which, like the pandemic, are here domestically, and some of which are global challenges brought on by some of our adversaries, like Russia or China or North Korea or Iran. But we are divided as a country. One thing that brings us together is our military. I think most people acknowledge and respect the role that our military plays. And another is infrastructure. It is an issue where traditionally Republicans and Democrats were able to come together and say: We may disagree on taxes and healthcare and all sorts of other things, but on this issue of strong infrastructure, we can come together.

Again, I think it makes sense economically, and, also, it is popular. People know when they are driving over potholes or getting stuck in traffic jams or not being able to get a product because the ports are backed up, which they are right now. Our ports are inefficient and people literally can’t get products. They can’t get cars or they can’t get electronic devices. That is all part of this. So this is something that ought to bring us together, and it does bring us together.

The polling out there shows this, by the way. There are two polls in the last few months that both said that 87 percent of the American people want us to work on this infrastructure project on a bipartisan process and get it done. Those numbers were unbelievable, and it was exactly 87 percent in both polls, interestingly, even though one was CBS and one was CNBC.

But forget the polls for a minute and just go home and talk to people. They do want to make sure that we are not raising taxes to do this. They don’t want to see us helping the economy long-term with infrastructure, but hurting the economy short-term with higher taxes. And I agree. And we don’t do that here. That is what is particularly great about this approach. It is that we said that we are going to pull out core infrastructure only and we are not going to raise taxes.

So we have the funds in here to be able to help with regard to our highways, our bridges, our ports, our waterways, our expansion of broadband, and also have the ability for us to do that in a way that makes sense for all Americans.

In Ohio, it is going to help us do something else that is important, and that is to help with regard to some of our big infrastructure projects. I will talk about one tonight briefly—the Brent Spence Bridge. This is in my hometown of Cincinnati, OH. It is a critical bridge because it is where I-75 and I-71 come together, and therefore it is the most heavily traveled as people drive on that bridge every day as it was built for. Twice as many cars drive on that bridge every day—and trucks—as it was built for. It is the reason that there is a traffic jam there during rush hour. But it is also the reason that it is unsafe, because over time the shoulders have been removed to create another lane. So if there is an accident on that bridge, there is nowhere to go. We had two accidents with two trucks that collided, and we had to close it down, actually, for several weeks, and it was a mess.

And talk about the effect on the economy. Think about this. There are roughly 2 million people in the metropolitan area there, with Dayton and Cincinnati on one side, and the other side has about 1 million people in Covington, KY. And you have traffic going all the way north and south from Canada to Mexico, and all of a sudden you don’t have a bridge available because of the safety concerns that led to the accident. So we need a solution with regard to that bridge, and we have been talking about it for years. For 25 years, I have been involved in the effort to try to find the funding to replace this bridge because it needs it. Finally, we will have the ability to do that. We will have the ability to help, with Kentucky and with Ohio and with the Federal Government working together with the local community, to complete this Brent Spence Bridge corridor project. Why? Because we are putting an unprecedented amount of money into not just bridges but bridges like this one—bridges that are major commercial bridges that are functionally obsolete, which ours have been for years; bridges that desperately need the help.

We also have a big aviation industry in Ohio. We support a lot of jobs through aviation, our second biggest industry after agriculture in Ohio. There is $25 billion for new spending for airports in here. That is going to help airports build on the momentum that we need right now in Ohio to be able to expand our air industry.

On the shores of Lake Erie, on the north coast of Ohio, we will also have help. Lake Erie supports fishing and tourism industries that total over $10 billion. It provides drinking water for 10 million people.

It is the top tourist attraction in our State, but as anyone who visits the lake will tell you, they have some serious long-term health challenges with the lake because we have a problem with toxic algal blooms. We have pollution. We have rising levels of the lake. This bill helps with regard to all of that. With regard to rising levels of the lake, there are communities on the lake that tell you their water systems don’t work because the lake water has risen to the point where the outtake valve which is next to the intake valve is now actually underwater, so the system doesn’t work well. In fact, the system is incredibility obsolete. So this will help with regard to that.

As cochair of the Senate Great Lakes Caucus, I am very pleased to see this investment because it will support the infrastructure and infrastructure investments in communities all along Lake Erie and every one of our Great Lakes.

Finally and crucially, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act before us helps more than 300,000 Ohio households that lack access to this high-speed internet. That is incredibly important. Our legislation does everything that I have talked about in terms of infrastructure, and that is important.

Again, we have the studies out there that I talked about, including one from Penn, from the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School. They talked about how the economic growth from this study will actually make our economy better and create more jobs, and they say that, actually, over time, it reduces the deficit, based on looking at our study and, specifically, our proposals. So all that is true.

But the most important thing I want to say is that it goes beyond infrastructure. It goes to how to get Washington back to a point where Washington is solving problems for the American people. And this bill is not perfect for anybody—no Republican, no Democrat. Why? It is a bipartisan compromise.

You know, again, we started off with a product that President Biden introduced that was $2.65 trillion—a huge package called “infrastructure,” but most of it was not for infrastructure. It had huge tax increases in it—the highest tax increase, it would have been, in American history. It would have made our country less competitive, in my view.

We said: OK, let’s find a group of Democrats and Republicans, and let’s agree to pull out the core parts of this, the core infrastructure, and find a way to pay for it without raising taxes. That is what we did, and we worked hard to create a product that was fair for everybody. But that means finding that consensus, and that is not easy.

You know, we all had to make concessions, but, at the end of the day, we got a product—$550 billion over the next 5 years, which will be spread out, spent over many, many years, that will put America back on top in terms of infrastructure.

It will put us in a position where, for our kids and our grandkids, they are less likely to have a more congested infrastructure, and a more efficient economy—one that produces more, one that has the ability for America to say to the world: Look at us again. We are back. We are back. We now have an infrastructure system with our ports and our roads and our bridges, with our great infrastructure, and with our broadband that can be, once again, a model for the rest of the world and help move us forward and ensure that every American has the opportunity to succeed.

So this bipartisan process in and of itself, I think, is an accomplishment of this legislation. The underlying bill is what is most important, I suppose, but...
just being able to show that Republicans and Democrats can come together in this town and get something done that is positive for our country, that in and of itself is an accomplishment.

With that, I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10:30 A.M.
TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate stands adjourned until 10:30 a.m. tomorrow.

The following, the Senate, at 9:36 p.m. adjourned until Thursday, August 5, 2021, at 10:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CHAYVONDA J. JACOBS-YOUNG, OF GEORGIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE FOR RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND ECONOMICS, VICE CATHERINE R. WOTKEI.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

JOHN F. PLUMB, OF NEW YORK, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, (NEW POSITION).

SOUTHEAST CRESCENT REGIONAL COMMISSION

JENNIFER CLYFURN BRED, OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO BE FEDERAL COCHAIRPERSON OF THE SOUTHEAST CRES-CENT REGIONAL COMMISSION, (NEW POSITION).

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

IN THE MARINE CORPS

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Marine Corps to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under Title 10, U.S.C., Section 601:

LT. GEN. DAVID J. JULAZADEH

To be major

MAJ. GEN. DAVID J. JULAZADEH

The following named officers for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Air Force under Title 10, U.S.C., Section 624:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. ARTHUR G. NORDSTROM

To be colonel

INGRID C. KAAT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

ANGELICA HAWRYSIAK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

KATHRIN A. ARBOTT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

SHUNDONNA S. SHAW
JAZMIN NICOLE SHAWELL
CHRISTOPHER D. SHAWRY
JESSICA DAWN SHELEY
SUSAN E. SHELENT
ALICIA D. SHEPHERD
STEPHEN D. SHELENT
TAJANA TORELLI SHULER
DANIELLE M. SILER
CANDICE J. SMITH
SYLVENNIE SHANTRELL, SMITH
NICHOLE L. SPEARS-LANGFORS
NATHAN A. SPARGUE
RICHARD W. STALLEY
ANDREW A. STEPHENS
MARGO A. STOUTGREN
ALANE J. SWAIN
ERIC D. SWANSON
BRIAN W. SWIFT
HELEN L. TALLEY
THOMAS L. THOMPSON
JAKE D. THURSDON
ERIC ALAN TITUS
JOSE LUIS TORGES
NICOLE R. TRAYLOR
JESSE E. TREXLER
CHRISTELA MARIE TURNER
SHEILA M. MAVAAUDBY VALDEZ
LAURA GARRETT VELASQUEZ
VIRGIE T. VINCIC
FAYOLA D. WARD
DARYL G. WELCH
KATLYN J. WHITE BATHOL
SETH R. WILLS
MIGRAN E. WITSON
RICHIE NEPP WITTMAN
YUGA A. WONG
BANNER JEE S. ZUMMERMAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

JON R. ALEXANDER
LUZIBOR M. BISWAS
SAMANTHA J. BROWN
KRISTIN PATRICK CHURCHILL
OSCAR M. CASTRO
MIN JUAN CHEN
DOUG CHINN COLE
CHRISTOPER R. COTY
COVERTON R. DABBI
DERRICK D. BAVES
KRISTOPH D. DREW
BENJAMIN E. FISCHER
RUSLAN A. GILZHALL
TILLI R. GRAF
TAMKO TOYAMA GREEN
THEBEZA C. HALL
WILLIAM C. HARRIS III
ANTHONY D. HEDRICK
JOSHUA D. HOGELAND
JOHN KELLY HOUSEMAN
AUSTIN M. HOUDE
MIGRAN E. WITSON
FAYOLA D. WARD
DARYL G. WELCH
KATLYN J. WHITE BATHOL
SETH R. WILLS
MIGRAN E. WITSON
RICHIE NEPP WITTMAN
YUGA A. WONG
BANNER JEE S. ZUMMERMAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

JON R. ALEXANDER
LUZIBOR M. BISWAS
SAMANTHA J. BROWN
KRISTIN PATRICK CHURCHILL
OSCAR M. CASTRO
MIN JUAN CHEN
DOUG CHINN COLE
CHRISTOPER R. COTY
COVERTON R. DABBI
DERRICK D. BAVES
KRISTOPH D. DREW
BENJAMIN E. FISCHER
RUSLAN A. GILZHALL
TILLI R. GRAF
TAMKO TOYAMA GREEN
THEBEZA C. HALL
WILLIAM C. HARRIS III
ANTHONY D. HEDRICK
JOSHUA D. HOGELAND
JOHN KELLY HOUSEMAN
AUSTIN M. HOUDE
MIGRAN E. WITSON
FAYOLA D. WARD
DARYL G. WELCH
KATLYN J. WHITE BATHOL
SETH R. WILLS
MIGRAN E. WITSON
RICHIE NEPP WITTMAN
YUGA A. WONG
BANNER JEE S. ZUMMERMAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

JON R. ALEXANDER
LUZIBOR M. BISWAS
SAMANTHA J. BROWN
KRISTIN PATRICK CHURCHILL
OSCAR M. CASTRO
MIN JUAN CHEN
DOUG CHINN COLE
CHRISTOPER R. COTY
COVERTON R. DABBI
DERRICK D. BAVES
KRISTOPH D. DREW
BENJAMIN E. FISCHER
RUSLAN A. GILZHALL
TILLI R. GRAF
TAMKO TOYAMA GREEN
THEBEZA C. HALL
WILLIAM C. HARRIS III
ANTHONY D. HEDRICK
JOSHUA D. HOGELAND
JOHN KELLY HOUSEMAN
AUSTIN M. HOUDE
MIGRAN E. WITSON
FAYOLA D. WARD
DARYL G. WELCH
KATLYN J. WHITE BATHOL
SETH R. WILLS
MIGRAN E. WITSON
RICHIE NEPP WITTMAN
YUGA A. WONG
BANNER JEE S. ZUMMERMAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:
S5888

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE
August 4, 2021

Kim R. Clidas
John Gasko
Andrew B. Gottlieb
Tina P. Holley
Bena L. Patrioto
Benjamin W. Riley

The following named officers for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Army Veterinary Corps under Title 10, U.S.C., Sections 642 and 7064.

To be major

Kelsy L. Abell
Alric E. Agner
Nicholas A. Anderson
Kristen K. Boresella
Kala H. Ching
Lisa M. Chervosker
Erik Dombour
Colleen E. Dywer
Allison R. Emment
Kate R. Fodor
James E. Gaffney
Adrielle F. Green
Ginger F. Hammett
Noma A. Healy
Cassandra R. Kerwin
Jennifer L. Limshoefen
Janice S. O'Brien
Christopher W. Reeves
Taylor J. Retzos
Colleen D. Tinkoff
Stefanie P. Tower

The following named officers for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Army Medical Specialist Corps under Title 10, U.S.C., Sections 642 and 7064.

To be major

Brian J. Ahern
James B. Akins
Cheryl L. Alshehan
Matthew L. Baumann
Carla M. Beavert
Alejandro Beltran
Morgan A. Beltran
Stephen J. Bonanni, Jr.
Gregory M. Bookston
Dennis J. Bradby
Nicholas J. Branch
Kira A. Brown
Jordyn L. Burdowski
Andrew R. Carlson
Frazier C. Cole
Justin W. Clark
William B. Cobb
Patrick N. Colston
Bradley H. Corehill
Mike A. Coston
Kyle B. Cunningham
Phillip P. Dandridge
Susan E. Delozier-Stock
Tanja I. Didas
Robert L. Diem III
Alfred J. Doughlas
Garey F. Dredge
Misty D. Duken
Maks D. Duma
Laura B. Dy
Kristine E. Fauske-Martini
Matthew W. Francis
Kerley L. Gerbeaux
Samantha K. Gerberne
Robert K. Geenrener
Avery R. Hanson
Nathannah A. Harvey
Jenna M. Hegg
Robert C. Holler
John P. Horsch
Kendra Howard
Angie M. Isom
Patrick G. Keenan
Duane L. Kelley II
Michael B. Kern
Bryan E. Kettner
Matthew G. McVauty
Colleen M. Meaney
Adrianna B. Mitchell
Chelsea G. Nance
Brittney M. Nieele
Michael W. Nielsen
Lina Oroho
Danielle J. Finn
Jay E. Obara
David J. Orate
Robert J. Orcutt
Michelle R. Pocock
Selina M. Pooser
Christopher M. Reed
Elizabeth B. Reinholtz
Heidi N. Richardson
Christopher M. Rogers
Paul R. Rosbrook

Nicolletta D. Santiago
Paul M. Schultz
Vincent M. Scuderi
Kelli M. Scott
Melissa A. Sparff
James L. Shearer
Travis L. Shindler
Casey E. Shuttlesworth
Jennifer M. Simon
Joshua A. Simon
Ashy N. Stidham
Sean M. Stiltney
Adam R. Todd
Tara J. Tzanakellos
James O. Wages, Jr.
Lucas M. Wangenes
Christopher Wedot
Ian E. Wheelis

The following named officers for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Army Medical Service Corps under Title 10, U.S.C., Sections 642 and 7064.

To be major

Anthony W. Adams
Donnie L. Ahling
Jose G. Ailes
David T. Attiaso
Robert C. Baker
Geoffrey S. Beal
Amber M. Brudert
Britain L. Bryar
Michael J. Bell
Said Benmassa
Allan J. Bishop, Jr.
Ryan R. Black
John E. Blumhorst
Jonathan I. Boggs
Jeremy D. Bowland
David L. Bishop
Chauncy T. Shinton
Andrew S. Brown
St. P. Bulang
Stephanie J. Burg
Jennifer L. Burns
Abel N. Carlson
Joseph E. Cardot
Francisco Caraballo
Claudia M. Carlera
Victoria K. Carrod
Rachel E. Chillemi
Alex Y. Cho
Troy A. Claus
Tonia L. Conner
David S. Coon
Wilson Cordiero
Casey E. Cosse
Kurtis G. Gruters
Michael W. Hart
Pamela M. Holtz
Christopher W. Howell, Jr.
Ryan L. Howlett
James S. Hunt
Julie A. Huy<br>Eliza H. Johnson
Lauren J. Johnson
Terry L. Jones
Erisa H. Kim
Kevin J. Knight
Matthew J. Kolf
Jennifer M. Koss
Christian T. Kosinski
Nelson A. Kran<br>Georgios S. Libradazi
Shawn P. Lefakis
Bryan A. Lunn
Katherine E. Lunsford
Lynda M. Lussier
Robert A. Malloy
John M. Maselli
Ashley M. Martinis
Sarah A. Martinis
Jaiyim M. Mellette
Stephen D. Mercado
Dana K. Mass<br>Adam W. Metzler
Matthew A. Mihlbuhl
David A. Minnick
Christopher M. Mitchell
Jordonna L. Mollins
Laura A. Montre
James M. Moore
Kenneth J. Moran
Kate F. Morris<br>Crystal L. Morris
Christopher D. Morse
Joshua P. Mosier
To be colonel

To be major

To be lieutenant colonel

To be colonel

To be major

To be lieutenant colonel
To be colonel
KAREN M. HANSEN
KAREN F. WIGGINS

IN THE NAVY
SPIROS KULUBIS

To be lieutenant commander
Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, August 5, 2021 may be found in the Daily Digest of today’s RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

AUGUST 10
10 a.m.
Committee on Foreign Relations
Subcommittee on Near East, South Asia, Central Asia, and Counterterrorism
To hold hearings to examine U.S. security assistance in the Middle East.
SD-419/VTC

AUGUST 11
10 a.m.
Committee on Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Amanda Howe, of Virginia, and David M. Uhlmann, of Michigan, both to be an Assistant Administrator, and Carlton Waterhouse, of Virginia, to be Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste, all of the Environmental Protection Agency.
SD-406

Committee on the Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine pending nominations.
SD-226
Daily Digest
Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5791–S5890

Measures Introduced: Twenty-one bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2595–2615, and S. Res. 336–337. Page S5832

Measures Reported:


S. 2604, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022. (S. Rept. No. 117–35)

S. 2605, making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022. (S. Rept. No. 117–36)

S. 2610, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Intelligence Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System.

S.J. Res. 10, to repeal the authorizations for use of military force against Iraq. Page S5829

Measures Considered:

Invest in America Act—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Adopted:

By 96 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. 301), Carper (for Peters) Amendment No. 2464 (to Amendment No. 2137), to modify certain provisions relating to cybersecurity. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having achieved 60 affirmatives votes, be agreed to.) Pages S5791–S5821, S5884–87

Carper (for Cardin) Amendment No. 2478 (to Amendment No. 2137), to require the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce to promote and administer programs in the public and private sectors to assist the development of minority business enterprises and to ensure that such Agency has the necessary supporting resources, particularly during economic downturns. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the requirement of a 60 affirmative vote threshold, be vitiared.) Pages S5811, S5813–14

Carper (for Rosen/Risch) Amendment No. 2358 (to Amendment No. 2137), to modify a provision relating to providing support for activities to increase the resiliency of the National Highway System to mitigate the cost of damages from wildfires.

Carper Amendment No. 2564 (to Amendment No. 2137), to improve provisions relating to appropriations for the Corps of Engineers. Page S5818

Carper (for Bennet/Hoeven) Amendment No. 2548 (to Amendment No. 2137), to require the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration Partnership program.

By unanimous vote of 95 yeas (Vote No. 306), Carper (for Fischer/Cortez Masto) Amendment No. 2164 (to Amendment No. 2137), to promote transparency by requiring the establishment of an online interactive map displaying the locations of broadband deployment projects that are funded by the Federal Government.

By 58 yeas to 39 nays (Vote No. 307), Carper (for Schumer/Gillibrand) Amendment No. 2570 (to Amendment No. 2137), to establish safety standards for certain limousines.

Rejected:

By 48 yeas to 49 nays (Vote No. 298), Carper (for Johnson) Amendment No. 2245 (to Amendment No. 2137), to prohibit the cancellation of contracts for physical barriers and other border security measures for which funds already have been obligated and for which penalties will be incurred in the case of such cancellation and prohibiting the use of funds for payment of such penalties. (Pursuant to the order of Tuesday, August 3, 2021, the amendment having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.) Pages S5791, S5799–S5801
By 43 yeas to 55 nays (Vote No. 299), Carper (for Wicker) Amendment No. 2146 (to Amendment No. 2137), to provide that the Administrative Procedures Act shall apply to actions taken by the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information in carrying out the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program. Pages S5796, S5801–03

By 19 yeas to 79 nays (Vote No. 300), Carper (for Kennedy) Amendment No. 2210 (to Amendment No. 2137), to provide emergency assistance for disaster response and recovery, and for other expenses, directly related to Hurricanes Laura, Delta, and Zeta. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.) Pages S5796–99, S5803–04

By 53 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. 302), Carper (for Lankford) Amendment No. 2233 (to Amendment No. 2137), to prohibit Federal funding for any entity that fails to enroll in and comply with the E-Verify Program. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.) Pages S5811, S5812–13

By 48 yeas to 50 nays (Vote No. 303), Carper (for Daines) Amendment No. 2449 (to Amendment No. 2137), to provide additional funds for post-fire restoration activities and restoration activities carried out using good neighbor agreements. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.) Pages S5811–12, S5814

By 42 yeas to 55 nays (Vote No. 304), Carper (for Scott (FL)) Amendment No. 2338 (to Amendment No. 2137), to prohibit funds from being disursed or obligated if the Congressional Budget Office determines that such disbursement or obligation would result in an increase in inflation. Page S5815

By 47 yeas to 50 nays (Vote No. 305), Carper (for Lee) Amendment No. 2279 (to Amendment No. 2137), to establish a project delivery program under National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 for water storage infrastructure projects. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.) Pages S5816–17

Pending:

Schumer (for Sinema) Amendment No. 2137, in the nature of a substitute. Page S5791

Carper/Capito Amendment No. 2131 (to Amendment No. 2137), to strike a definition. Page S5791

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Thursday, August 5, 2021. Page S5884

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Chavonda J. Jacobs-Young, of Georgia, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Research, Education, and Economics.

John F. Plumb, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

Jennifer Clyburn Reed, of South Carolina, to be Federal Cochairperson of the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission.

Jamie L. Harpootlian, of South Carolina, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Slovenia.

1 Air Force nomination in the rank of general.

1 Marine Corps nomination in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, and Navy. Pages S5807–90

Messages from the House:

Executive Communications:

Pages S5824–29

Executive Reports of Committees:

Pages S5829–32

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S5833–35

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Page S5835

Additional Statements:

Pages S5824

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Pages S5883

Privileges of the Floor:

Page S5884

Record Votes: Ten record votes were taken today. (Total—307) Pages S5801, S5803–04, S5812–17, S5820–21

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10:30 a.m. and adjourned at 9:36 p.m., until 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, August 5, 2021. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S5887.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Appropriations: Committee ordered favorably reported the following bills:

An original bill making appropriations for Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022;

An original bill making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022; and

An original bill making appropriations for Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022.
BUSINESS MEETING
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 451, to require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, to help facilitate the adoption of composite technology in infrastructure in the United States;

S. 1790, to ensure that the Federal Communications Commission does not approve radio frequency devices that pose a national security risk, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1880, to direct the Federal Trade Commission to submit to Congress a report on unfair or deceptive acts or practices targeted at Indian Tribes or members of Indian Tribes, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2068, to require the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce to promote and administer programs in the public and private sectors to assist the development of minority business enterprises, to ensure that such Agency has the necessary supporting resources, particularly during economic downturns, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2299, to modify the age requirement for the Student Incentive Payment Program of the State maritime academies;

S. 2424, to make available $250,000,000 from the Travel Promotion Fund for the Corporation for Travel Promotion, with an amendment; and

The nominations of Jennifer L. Homendy, of Virginia, to be Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, Karen Jean Hedlund, of Colorado, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board, and Carol Annette Petsonk, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Transportation.

BUSINESS MEETING
Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Donald Lu, of California, to be Assistant Secretary for South Asian Affairs, Rufus Gifford, of Massachusetts, to be Chief of Protocol, and to have the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service, Jessica Lewis, of Ohio, to be an Assistant Secretary (Political-Military Affairs), Lee Satterfield, of South Carolina, to be an Assistant Secretary (Educational and Cultural Affairs), and Christopher P. Lu, of Virginia, to be Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform, with the rank of Ambassador, and to be an Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, during his tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform, all of the Department of State, and Isobel Coleman, of New York, and Paloma Adams-Allen, of the District of Columbia, both to be a Deputy Administrator, and Marcela Escobari, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Administrator, all of the United States Agency for International Development.

BUSINESS MEETING
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 2559, to establish the National Deepfake and Digital Provenance Task Force;

S. 2551, to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to establish or otherwise provide an artificial intelligence training program for the acquisition workforce;

S. 2520, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for engagements with State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2305, to enhance cybersecurity education, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2439, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for the responsibility of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency to maintain capabilities to identify threats to industrial control systems;
S. 2525, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require research and development to identify and evaluate the extent to which critical domain risks within the United States supply chain pose a substantial threat to homeland security; and

The nominations of Robert Luis Santos, of Texas, to be Director of the Census, Department of Commerce, and Ed Gonzalez, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 989, to establish a Native American language resource center in furtherance of the policy set forth in the Native American Languages Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

S. 1402, to amend the Native American Languages Act to ensure the survival and continuing vitality of Native American languages.

NATIONAL SECURITY THREATS

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee concluded a hearing to examine threats to U.S. national security, focusing on Beijing’s long arm, after receiving testimony from William R. Evanina, The Evanina Group, former Director for the National Counterintelligence and Security Center, Alexandria, Virginia; Anna B. Puglisi, Georgetown University Center for Security and Emerging Technology, Washington, D.C.; and Matt Pottinger, The Hoover Institute, former Deputy National Advisor for the White House, Stanford, California.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. The House is scheduled to meet in Pro Forma session at 12 p.m. on Friday, August 6, 2021.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 2021

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Homer L. Wilkes, of Mississippi, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Natural Resources and Environment, 10 a.m., SR–301.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Julia Ruth Gordon, of Maryland, David Uejio, of California, and Solomon Jeffrey Greene, of the District of Columbia, each to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the roles of and programs within the Department of Energy’s Office of Science, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Michael Raynor, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Senegal, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, Marc Ostfield, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Paraguay, and Troy Damian Fitrell, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Guinea, all of the Department of State, and other pending nominations, 10 a.m., SH–216/VTC.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to continue hearings to examine domestic terrorism and violent extremism, focusing on the threat of racially, ethnically, religiously, and politically motivated attacks, 10:15 a.m., SD–342/VTC.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider S. 1787, to amend title 28 of the United States Code to prevent the transfer of actions arising under the antitrust laws in which a State is a complainant, and the nominations of Myrna Perez, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, Jia M. Cobb, of Virginia, and Florence Y. Pan, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, Sarah A.L. Merriam, to be United States District Judge for the District of Connecticut, Karen McGlashan Williams, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey, and Matthew G. Olsen, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, 9 a.m., SD–G50.

Select Committee on Intelligence: closed business meeting to consider pending intelligence matters, Time to be announced, S–115, Capitol.

House

Committee on House Administration, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Oversight of the Renovations to the Cannon House Office Building: Lessons Learned”, 1:30 p.m., Webex.
Next Meeting of the SENATE
10:30 a.m., Thursday, August 5

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will continue consideration of H.R. 3684, INVEST in America Act, with roll call votes expected.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
12 noon, Friday, August 6

House Chamber

Program for Friday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 12 noon.