(8) TRUSTED.—The term ''trusted'' means, with respect to a provider of advanced communications service or a supplier of communications equipment or service, that the Secretary has determined that the provider or supplier is not owned by, controlled by, or subject to the influence of, a foreign adversary.

(9) VOLUNTARY CONSENSUS STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''voluntary consensus standards development organization'' means an organization that develops standards in a process that meets the principles for the development of voluntary consensus standards (as defined in the document of the Office of Management and Budget entitled ''Federal Participation in the Development and Use of Voluntary Consensus Standards and in Conformity Assessment Activities'' (OMB Circular A–119)).

(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term ''voluntary consensus standards development organization'' includes the 3GPP, the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions, the Agricultural Industry Electronics Foundation, and the Global System for Mobile Communications Association.

SEC. 3. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to enhance the participation of precision agriculture in the United States; and

(2) to promote United States leadership in voluntary consensus standards development organizations that set standards for precision agriculture.

SEC. 4. INTERCONNECTIVITY STANDARDS FOR PRECISION AGRICULTURE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, shall—

(1) develop voluntary, consensus-based, private sector-led interconnectivity standards, guidelines, and best practices for precision agriculture that will promote economies of scale and ease the burden of the adoption of precision agriculture; and

(2) in carrying out paragraph (1)—

(A) coordinate with relevant public and trusted private sector stakeholders and other relevant industry organizations, including voluntary consensus standards development organizations; and

(B) consult with sector-specific agencies, other appropriate agencies, and State and local governments.

(b) CONSIDERATIONS.—The Secretary, in carrying out subsection (a), shall, in consultation with the Federal Communications Commission and the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, consider—

(1) the evolving demands of precision agriculture;

(2) the connectivity needs of precision agriculture equipment;

(3) the cybersecurity challenges facing precision agriculture, including cybersecurity threats for agriculture producers and agriculture supply chains;

(4) the impact of advanced wireless communications technology on precision agriculture; and

(5) the impact of artificial intelligence on precision agriculture.

SEC. 5. GAO ASSESSMENT OF PRECISION AGRICULTURE STANDARDS.

(a) STUDY.—Not later than 1 year after the Secretary develops standards under section 4, and every 2 years thereafter for the following 8 years, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study that assesses those standards, including the extent to which those standards, as applicable—

(1) are voluntary;

(2) were developed in coordination with relevant industry organizations, including voluntary consensus standards development organizations; and

(3) have successfully encouraged the adoption of precision agriculture.

(b) REPORT.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives a report that summarizes the findings of each study conducted under subsection (a).

By Mr. REED (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 735. A bill to strengthen the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. REED. Madam President, I am pleased to join Senator COLLINS and Senators VAN HOLLEN, CORTEZ MASTO, and KLOBUCHAR in introducing legislation that would permanently reauthorize the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, the Council or USICH.

The Council was established during the Reagan administration as part of the landmark McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 1987. Over the last three and a half decades, it has brought Agencies from across the Federal Government together to coordinate efforts to address homelessness. In 2009, the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing, HEARTH, Act, which I authored along with Senator COLLINS, expanded the Council's role, allowing it to work with public, nonprofit and private stakeholders to develop a national strategic plan to end homelessness. With a small budget and a small staff, the Council has helped guide Federal, State, and local stakeholders in deploying their resources in a smart, effective and coordinated fashion. The results have been evident. In the decade after USICH published its first plan, overall homelessness declined 9 percent. Family and veterans homelessness declined significantly, as well, with the total numbers dropping nearly 30 percent and 50 percent, respectively. In fact, the Council has been able to help 83 communities and three States effectively end veteran homelessness.

Even with this progress, homelessness has persisted, and we have faced a growing challenge in the wake of the COVID–19 pandemic. The Department of Housing and Urban Development's 2022 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report to Congress found that, on ''a single night in 2022, roughly 582,500 people were experiencing homelessness in the United States,'' while the majority of individuals experiencing homelessness were living on the street or in other unsheltered locations and were not in homeless shelters. The COVID–19 pandemic and its accompanying economic effects have also pushed homelessness rates higher in many parts of the country. Indeed, the number of individuals experiencing homelessness increased in the majority of States between January 2020, and 2022, including a staggering 48 percent jump in my home State of Rhode Island.

USICH can help us meet this challenge by guiding how its 19 Federal member Agencies deploy and leverage their resources with nonfederal partners in order to help communities effectively address homelessness. We know that smart, coordinated investments in programs that address homelessness and increase affordable housing pay additional dividends. According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness, ''Based on 22 different studies from across the country, providing permanent supportive housing to chronically homeless people creates net savings of $4,800 per person per year, through reduced spending on jails, hospitals, shelters, and other emergency services.'' In short, helping people avoid homelessness not only helps them, it can also save taxpayers money, and USICH helps make our investments to address homelessness more informed and more effective.

Indeed, the Council continues to prove that the government can work and save money in the process. That is why we should permanently authorize USICH and why organizations like the National Low Income Housing Coalition, the National Alliance to End Homelessness, the Rhode Island Coalition to End Homelessness, and HousingWorks RI have supported our bill. I urge our colleagues to join us in supporting this legislation.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 745. A bill to designate additions to the Rough Mountain Wilderness and the Rich Hole Wilderness of the George Washington National Forest, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mr. KAINE. Madam President, this bill authorizes additions to two existing wilderness areas within the George Washington National Forest in Bath County, VA. This text represents years of negotiation and compromise among Virginia stakeholders who rely on the GW Forest.

In many parts of America, Federal land management is controversial. Some may view these lands as repositories for timber, energy, or minerals. Others may enjoy using recreational trails through them. Others may believe that they should be left undisturbed. The truth, of course, is that all of these uses are important; the conflict lies in deciding which lands are best suited to which purposes.

In the lead-up to the latest multiyear GW Forest Management Plan, various forest users came together to see if they could find reasonable compromises that would avoid years of unproductive disagreement and litigation. This group, known as the George