

polyfluoroalkyl substance removal processes for low-risk, cost-effective, and validated commercialization; and

(V) identify 1 or more staff members of the eligible research university co-applicant and 1 or more staff members of the National Laboratory co-applicant who—

(aa) have expertise in sciences relevant to perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substance detection and remediation; and

(bb) have been jointly selected, and will be jointly appointed, by the co-applicants to lead, and carry out the purposes of, the Center.

(B) **RURAL CENTER.**—An eligible rural university desiring to establish the Rural Center shall submit to the Administrator an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Administrator may require.

(3) **TIMING.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to subparagraph (B), the Centers shall be established not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act.

(B) **DELAY.**—If the Administrator determines that a delay in the establishment of 1 or more of the Centers is necessary, the Administrator—

(i) not later than the date described in subparagraph (A), shall submit a notification to the appropriate committees of Congress explaining the necessity of the delay; and

(ii) shall ensure that the 1 or more Centers for which a delay is necessary are established not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(4) **REQUIREMENT.**—The Administrator shall carry out subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1)—

(A) in coordination with the Secretary of Energy, as the Administrator determines to be appropriate; and

(B) in consultation with the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program and the Environmental Security Technology Certification Program of the Department of Defense.

(d) **DUTIES AND CAPABILITIES OF THE CENTERS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Centers shall develop and maintain—

(A) capabilities for measuring, using methods certified by the Environmental Protection Agency, perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substance contamination in drinking water, ground water, and any other relevant environmental, municipal, industrial, or residential water samples; and

(B) capabilities for—

(i) evaluating emerging perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substance removal and destruction technologies and methods; and

(ii) benchmarking those technologies and methods relative to existing technologies and methods.

(2) **REQUIREMENTS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Centers shall, at a minimum—

(i) develop instruments and personnel capable of analyzing perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substance contamination in water using EPA method 533, EPA method 537.1, any future method or updated method, or any other relevant method for detecting perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances in water;

(ii) develop and maintain capabilities for evaluating the removal of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances from water using newly developed adsorbents or membranes;

(iii) develop and maintain capabilities to evaluate the degradation of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances in water or other media;

(iv) make the capabilities and instruments developed under clauses (i) through (iii)

available to researchers throughout the regions in which the Centers are located; and

(v) make reliable perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substance measurement capabilities and instruments available to municipalities and individuals in the region in which the Centers are located at reasonable cost.

(B) **OPEN-ACCESS RESEARCH.**—The Centers shall provide open access to the research findings of the Centers.

(e) **COORDINATION WITH OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.**—The Administrator may, as the Administrator determines to be necessary, use staff and other resources from other Federal agencies in carrying out this section.

(f) **REPORTS.**—

(1) **REPORT ON ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTER.**—With respect to each of the Center and the Rural Center, not later than 1 year after the date on which the center is established under subsection (c), the Administrator, in coordination with that center, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report describing—

(A) the establishment of that center; and

(B) the activities of that center since the date on which that center was established.

(2) **ANNUAL REPORTS.**—With respect to each of the Center and the Rural Center, not later than 1 year after the date on which the report under paragraph (1) for that center is submitted, and annually thereafter until the date on which that center is terminated under subsection (g), the Administrator, in coordination with that center, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report describing—

(A) the activities of that center during the year covered by the report; and

(B) any policy, research, or funding recommendations relating to the purposes or activities of that center.

(g) **TERMINATION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to paragraph (2), the Centers shall terminate on October 1, 2033.

(2) **EXTENSION.**—If the Administrator, in consultation with the Centers, determines that the continued operation of 1 or more of the Centers beyond the date described in paragraph (1) is necessary to advance science and technologies to address perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substance contamination—

(A) the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress—

(i) a notification of that determination; and

(ii) a description of the funding necessary for the applicable 1 or more Centers to continue in operation and fulfill their purpose; and

(B) subject to the availability of funds, may extend the duration of the applicable 1 or more Centers for such time as the Administrator determines to be appropriate.

(h) **FUNDING.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Of the amounts authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Defense for fiscal year 2024 by this Act, \$25,000,000 shall be made available to the Administrator to carry out this section, to remain available until September 30, 2033.

(2) **ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.**—Not more than 4 percent of the amounts made available to the Administrator under paragraph (1) shall be used by the Administrator for the administrative costs of carrying out this section.

SA 1017. Mr. RISCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe mili-

tary personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title XII, insert the following:

Subtitle —Western Hemisphere Partnership Act of 2023

SEC. . SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the “Western Hemisphere Partnership Act of 2023”.

SEC. . UNITED STATES POLICY IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE.

It is the policy of the United States to promote economic competitiveness, democratic governance, and security in the Western Hemisphere by—

(1) encouraging stronger economic relations, respect for property rights, the rule of law, and enforceable investment rules and labor and environmental standards;

(2) advancing the principles and practices expressed in the Charter of the Organization of American States, the American Declaration on the Rights and Duties of Man, and the Inter-American Democratic Charter; and

(3) enhancing the capacity and technical capabilities of democratic partner nation government institutions, including civilian law enforcement, the judiciary, attorneys general, and security forces.

SEC. . PROMOTING SECURITY AND THE RULE OF LAW IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE.

(a) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that the United States should strengthen security cooperation with democratic partner nations in the Western Hemisphere to promote a secure hemisphere and to address the negative impacts of transnational criminal organizations and malign external state actors.

(b) **COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS.**—The Secretary of State, in coordination with the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, should support the improvement of security conditions and the rule of law in the Western Hemisphere through collaborative efforts with democratic partners that—

(1) enhance the institutional capacity and technical capabilities of defense and security institutions in democratic partner nations to conduct national or regional security missions, including through regular bilateral and multilateral engagements, foreign military sales and financing, international military education and training programs, expanding the National Guard State Partnership Programs, and other means;

(2) provide technical assistance and material support (including, as appropriate, radars, vessels, and communications equipment) to relevant security forces to disrupt, degrade, and dismantle organizations involved in the illicit trafficking of narcotics and precursor chemicals, transnational criminal activities, illicit mining, and illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, and other illicit activities;

(3) enhance the institutional capacity, legitimacy, and technical capabilities of relevant civilian law enforcement, attorneys general, and judicial institutions to—

(A) strengthen the rule of law and transparent governance;

(B) combat corruption and kleptocracy in the region; and

(C) improve regional cooperation to disrupt, degrade, and dismantle transnational organized criminal networks and terrorist organizations, including through training, anticorruption initiatives, anti-money laundering programs, and strengthening cyber capabilities and resources;

(4) enhance port management and maritime security partnerships and airport management and aviation security partnerships

to disrupt, degrade, and dismantle transnational criminal networks and facilitate the legitimate flow of people, goods, and services;

(5) strengthen cooperation to improve border security across the Western Hemisphere, dismantle human smuggling and trafficking networks, and increase cooperation to demonstrably strengthen migration management systems;

(6) counter the malign influence of state and non-state actors and disinformation campaigns;

(7) disrupt illicit domestic and transnational financial networks;

(8) foster mechanisms for cooperation on emergency preparedness and rapid recovery from natural disasters, including by—

(A) supporting regional preparedness, recovery, and emergency management centers to facilitate rapid response to survey and help maintain planning on regional disaster anticipated needs and possible resources;

(B) training disaster recovery officials on latest techniques and lessons learned from United States experiences;

(C) making available, preparing, and transferring on-hand nonlethal supplies, and providing training on the use of such supplies, for humanitarian or health purposes to respond to unforeseen emergencies; and

(D) conducting medical support operations and medical humanitarian missions, such as hospital ship deployments and base-operating services, to the extent required by the operation;

(9) foster regional mechanisms for early warning and response to pandemics in the Western Hemisphere, including through—

(A) improved cooperation with and research by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention through regional pandemic response centers;

(B) personnel exchanges for technology transfer and skills development; and

(C) surveying and mapping of health networks to build local health capacity;

(10) promote the meaningful participation of women across all political processes, including conflict prevention and conflict resolution and post-conflict relief and recovery efforts; and

(11) hold accountable actors that violate political and civil rights.

(c) **LIMITATIONS ON USE OF TECHNOLOGIES.**—Operational technologies transferred pursuant to subsection (b) to partner governments for intelligence, defense, or law enforcement purposes shall be used solely for the purposes for which the technology was intended. The United States shall take all necessary steps to ensure that the use of such operational technologies is consistent with United States law, including protections of freedom of expression, freedom of movement, and freedom of association.

(d) **STRATEGY.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a 5-year strategy to promote security and the rule of law in the Western Hemisphere in accordance to this section.

(2) **ELEMENTS.**—The strategy required under paragraph (1) shall include the following elements:

(A) A detailed assessment of the resources required to carry out such collaborative efforts.

(B) Annual benchmarks to track progress and obstacles in undertaking such collaborative efforts.

(C) A public diplomacy component to engage the people of the Western Hemisphere

with the purpose of demonstrating that the security of their countries is enhanced to a greater extent through alignment with the United States and democratic values rather than with authoritarian countries such as the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

(3) **BRIEFING.**—Not later than 1 year after submission of the strategy required under paragraph (1), and annually thereafter, the Secretary of State shall provide to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a briefing on the implementation of the strategy.

SEC. ____ . PROMOTING DIGITALIZATION AND CYBERSECURITY IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE.

(a) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that the United States should support digitalization and expand cybersecurity cooperation in the Western Hemisphere to promote regional economic prosperity and security.

(b) **PROMOTION OF DIGITALIZATION AND CYBERSECURITY.**—The Secretary of State, in coordination with the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, should promote digitalization and cybersecurity in the Western Hemisphere through collaborative efforts with democratic partners that—

(1) promote digital connectivity and facilitate e-commerce by expanding access to information and communications technology (ICT) supply chains that adhere to high-quality security and reliability standards, including—

(A) to open market access on a national treatment, nondiscriminatory basis; and

(B) to strengthen the cybersecurity and cyber resilience of partner countries;

(2) advance the provision of digital government services (e-government) that, to the greatest extent possible, promote transparency, lower business costs, and expand citizens' access to public services and public information; and

(3) develop robust cybersecurity partnerships to—

(A) promote the inclusion of components and architectures in information and communications technology (ICT) supply chains from participants in initiatives that adhere to high-quality security and reliability standards;

(B) share best practices to mitigate cyber threats to critical infrastructure from ICT architectures by technology providers that supply equipment and services covered under section 2 of the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C. 1601);

(C) effectively respond to cybersecurity threats, including state-sponsored threats; and

(D) to strengthen resilience against cyberattacks and cybercrime.

SEC. ____ . PROMOTING ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL PARTNERSHIPS IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE.

(a) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that the United States should enhance economic and commercial ties with democratic partners to promote prosperity in the Western Hemisphere by modernizing and strengthening trade capacity-building and trade facilitation initiatives, encouraging market-based economic reforms that enable inclusive economic growth, strengthening labor and environmental standards, addressing economic disparities of women, and encouraging transparency and adherence to the rule of law in investment dealings.

(b) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of State, in coordination with the United States Trade Representative, the Chief Executive Officer of the Development Finance Corporation, and the heads of other relevant Federal

agencies, should support the improvement of economic conditions in the Western Hemisphere through collaborative efforts with democratic partners that—

(1) facilitate a more open, transparent, and competitive environment for United States businesses and promote robust and comprehensive trade capacity-building and trade facilitation by—

(A) reducing trade and nontariff barriers between the countries in the region, establishing a mechanism for pursuing Mutual Recognition Agreements and Formalized Regulatory Cooperation Agreements in priority sectors of the economy;

(B) establishing a forum for discussing and evaluating technical and other assistance needs to help establish streamlined “single window” processes to facilitate movement of goods and common customs arrangements and procedures to lower costs of goods in transit and speed to destination;

(C) building relationships and exchanges between relevant regulatory bodies in the United States and democratic partners in the Western Hemisphere to promote best practices and transparency in rulemaking, implementation, and enforcement, and provide training and assistance to help improve supply chain management in the Western Hemisphere;

(D) establishing regional fora for identifying, raising, and addressing supply chain management issues, including infrastructure needs and strengthening of investment rules and regulatory frameworks;

(E) establishing a dedicated program of trade missions and reverse trade missions to increase commercial contacts and ties between the United States and Western Hemisphere partner countries; and

(F) strengthening labor and environmental standards in the region;

(2) establish frameworks or mechanisms to review and address the long-term financial sustainability and national security implications of foreign investments in strategic sectors or services;

(3) establish competitive and transparent infrastructure project selection and procurement processes that promote transparency, open competition, financial sustainability, and robust adherence to global standards and norms; and

(4) advance robust and comprehensive energy production and integration, including through a more open, transparent, and competitive environment for United States companies competing in the Western Hemisphere, including by—

(A) facilitating further development of integrated regional energy markets;

(B) improving management of grids, including technical capability to ensure the functionality, safe and responsible management, and quality of service of electricity providers, carriers, and management and distribution systems;

(C) facilitating private sector-led development of reliable and affordable power generation capacity;

(D) establishing a process for surveying grid capacity and management focused on identifying electricity service efficiencies and establishing cooperative mechanisms for providing technical assistance for—

(i) grid management, power pricing, and tariff issues;

(ii) establishing and maintaining appropriate regulatory best practices; and

(iii) proposals to establish regional power grids for the purpose of promoting the sale of excess supply to consumers across borders;

(E) assessing the viability and effectiveness of decentralizing power production and transmission and building micro-grid power networks to improve, when feasible, access

to electricity, particularly in rural and underserved communities where centralized power grid connections may not be feasible in the short to medium term; and

(F) exploring opportunities to partner with the private sector and multilateral institutions, such as the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank, to promote universal access to reliable and affordable electricity in the Western Hemisphere.

SEC. ____ . PROMOTING TRANSPARENCY AND DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE.

(a) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that the United States should support efforts to strengthen the capacity and legitimacy of democratic institutions and inclusive processes in the Western Hemisphere to promote a more transparent, democratic, and prosperous region.

(b) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of State, in coordination with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development and heads of other relevant Federal agencies, should support transparent, accountable, and democratic governance in the Western Hemisphere through collaborative efforts with democratic partners that—

(1) strengthen the capacity of national electoral institutions to ensure free, fair, and transparent electoral processes, including through pre-election assessment missions, technical assistance, and independent local and international election monitoring and observation missions;

(2) enhance the capabilities of democratically elected national legislatures, parliamentary bodies, and autonomous regulatory institutions to conduct oversight;

(3) strengthen the capacity of subnational government institutions to govern in a transparent, accountable, and democratic manner, including through training and technical assistance;

(4) combat corruption at local and national levels, including through trainings, cooperation agreements, initiatives aimed at dismantling corrupt networks, and political support for bilateral or multilateral anticorruption mechanisms that strengthen attorneys general and prosecutors' offices;

(5) strengthen the capacity of civil society to conduct oversight of government institutions, build the capacity of independent professional journalism, facilitate substantive dialogue with government and the private sector to generate issue-based policies, and mobilize local resources to carry out such activities;

(6) promote the meaningful and significant participation of women in democratic processes, including in national and subnational government and civil society; and

(7) support the creation of procedures for the Organization of American States (OAS) to create an annual forum for democratically elected national legislatures from OAS member States to discuss issues of hemispheric importance, as expressed in section 4 of the Organization of American States Legislative Engagement Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-343).

SEC. ____ . INVESTMENT, TRADE, AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA AND LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN.

(a) **STRATEGY REQUIRED.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The President shall establish a comprehensive United States strategy for public and private investment, trade, and development in Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean.

(2) **FOCUS OF STRATEGY.**—The strategy required by paragraph (1) shall focus on increasing exports of United States goods and services to Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean by 200 percent in real dollar value by the date that is 10 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(3) **CONSULTATIONS.**—In developing the strategy required by paragraph (1), the President shall consult with—

(A) Congress;

(B) each agency that is a member of the Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee;

(C) the relevant multilateral development banks, in coordination with the Secretary of the Treasury and the respective United States Executive Directors of such banks;

(D) each agency that participates in the Trade Policy Staff Committee established;

(E) the President's Export Council;

(F) each of the development agencies;

(G) any other Federal agencies with responsibility for export promotion or financing and development; and

(H) the private sector, including businesses, nongovernmental organizations, and African and Latin American and Caribbean diaspora groups.

(4) **SUBMISSION TO APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—

(A) **STRATEGY.**—Not later than 200 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to Congress the strategy required by subsection (a).

(B) **PROGRESS REPORT.**—Not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to Congress a report on the implementation of the strategy required by paragraph (1).

(b) **SPECIAL AFRICA AND LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN EXPORT STRATEGY COORDINATORS.**—The Secretary of Commerce shall designate an individual within the Department of Commerce to serve as Special Africa Export Strategy Coordinator and an individual within the Department of Commerce to serve as Special Latin America and the Caribbean Export Strategy Coordinator—

(1) to oversee the development and implementation of the strategy required by subsection (a);

(2) to coordinate developing and implementing the strategy with—

(A) the Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee;

(B) the Director General for the U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service and the Assistant Secretary for Global Markets;

(C) the Assistant United States Trade Representative for African Affairs or the Assistant United States Trade Representative for the Western Hemisphere, as appropriate;

(D) the Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs or the Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs, as appropriate;

(E) the Foreign Agricultural Service of the Department of Agriculture;

(F) the Export-Import Bank of the United States;

(G) the United States International Development Finance Corporation; and

(H) the development agencies; and

(3) considering and reflecting the impact of promotion of United States exports on the economy and employment opportunities of importing country, with a view to improving secure supply chains, avoiding economic disruptions, and stabilizing economic growth in a trade and export strategy.

(c) **TRADE MISSIONS TO AFRICA AND LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN.**—It is the sense of Congress that, not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce and other high-level officials of the United States Government with responsibility for export promotion, financing, and development should conduct joint trade missions to Africa and to Latin America and the Caribbean.

(d) **TRAINING.**—The President shall develop a plan—

(1) to standardize the training received by United States and Foreign Commercial Service officers, economic officers of the Depart-

ment of State, and economic officers of the United States Agency for International Development with respect to the programs and procedures of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, the United States International Development Finance Corporation, the Small Business Administration, and the United States Trade and Development Agency; and

(2) to ensure that, not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act—

(A) all United States and Foreign Commercial Service officers that are stationed overseas receive the training described in paragraph (1); and

(B) in the case of a country to which no United States and Foreign Commercial Service officer is assigned, any economic officer of the Department of State stationed in that country receives that training.

(e) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Finance, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Ways and Means, and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives.

(2) **DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES.**—The term “development agencies” means the United States Department of State, the United States Agency for International Development, the Millennium Challenge Corporation, the United States International Development Finance Corporation, the United States Trade and Development Agency, the United States Department of Agriculture, and relevant multilateral development banks.

(3) **MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS.**—The term “multilateral development banks” has the meaning given that term in section 1701(c)(4) of the International Financial Institutions Act (22 U.S.C. 262r(c)(4)) and includes the African Development Foundation.

(4) **TRADE POLICY STAFF COMMITTEE.**—The term “Trade Policy Staff Committee” means the Trade Policy Staff Committee established pursuant to section 2002.2 of title 15, Code of Federal Regulations.

(5) **TRADE PROMOTION COORDINATING COMMITTEE.**—The term “Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee” means the Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee established under section 2312 of the Export Enhancement Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 4727).

(6) **UNITED STATES AND FOREIGN COMMERCIAL SERVICE.**—The term “United States and Foreign Commercial Service” means the United States and Foreign Commercial Service established by section 2301 of the Export Enhancement Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 4721).

SEC. ____ . SENSE OF CONGRESS ON PRIORITIZING NOMINATION AND CONFIRMATION OF QUALIFIED AMBASSADORS.

It is the sense of Congress that it is critically important that both the President and the Senate play their respective roles to nominate and confirm qualified ambassadors as quickly as possible.

SEC. ____ . WESTERN HEMISPHERE DEFINED.

In this subtitle, the term “Western Hemisphere” does not include Cuba, Nicaragua, or Venezuela.

SEC. ____ . REPORT ON EFFORTS TO CAPTURE AND DETAIN UNITED STATES CITIZENS AS HOSTAGES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of

the House of Representatives a report on efforts by the Maduro regime of Venezuela to detain United States citizens and lawful permanent residents.

(b) **ELEMENTS.**—The report required by subsection (a) shall include, regarding the arrest, capture, detainment, and imprisonment of United States citizens and lawful permanent residents—

(1) the names, positions, and institutional affiliation of Venezuelan individuals, or those acting on their behalf, who have engaged in such activities;

(2) a description of any role played by transnational criminal organizations, and an identification of such organizations; and

(3) where relevant, an assessment of whether and how United States citizens and lawful permanent residents have been lured to Venezuela.

(c) **FORM.**—The report required under subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but shall include a classified annex, which shall include a list of the total number of United States citizens and lawful permanent residents detained or imprisoned in Venezuela as of the date on which the report is submitted.

SA 1018. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2226, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

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

SEC. 345. STUDY ON FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE NECESSARY TO CONDUCT MILITARY OPERATIONS AND EXTEND THE OPERATIONAL REACH OF THE ARMED FORCES INTO THE ARCTIC REGION.

(a) **STUDY.**—The Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Commandant of the Coast Guard, shall conduct a study to evaluate and plan facilities and infrastructure that would be required north of the Arctic Circle to conduct military operations and extend the operational reach of the Armed Forces into the Arctic region of the United States.

(b) **ELEMENTS.**—In conducting the study required under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

(1) assess possible locations that could serve as forward bases for personnel recovery, agile combat employment, and distributed operations; and

(2) evaluate the capacity and potential of locations for infrastructure, storage and distribution points, refueling stations, staging bases for tactical operations, medical support centers, and providers of common-user logistics support.

(c) **REPORT.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives a report on the study required under subsection (a).

SA 1019. Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction,

and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle C of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1240A. EXTENSION OF LEND-LEASE AUTHORITY TO UKRAINE.

Section 2(a)(1) of the Ukraine Democracy Defense Lend-Lease Act of 2022 (Public Law 117-118; 136 Stat. 1184) is amended by striking “fiscal years 2022 and 2023” and inserting “fiscal years 2022 through 2024”.

SA 1020. Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. LUMMIS, and Mr. ROUNDS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title XVI, insert the following:

SEC. 16. IMPROVEMENTS RELATING TO CYBER PROTECTION SUPPORT FOR DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PERSONNEL IN POSITIONS HIGHLY VULNERABLE TO CYBER ATTACK.

Section 1645 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328; 10 U.S.C. 2224 note) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the subsection heading, by striking “AUTHORITY” and inserting “REQUIREMENT”;

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by inserting “and personal accounts” after “personal technology devices”; and

(ii) by inserting “and shall provide such support to any such personnel who request the support” after “in paragraph (2)”; and

(C) in paragraph (2)(B), by inserting “or personal accounts” after “personal technology devices”;

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “or personal accounts” after “personal technology devices”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “and networks” and inserting “, personal networks, and personal accounts”; and

(3) by striking subsections (d) and (e) and inserting the following new subsection (d):

“(d) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

“(1) The term ‘personal accounts’ means accounts for online and telecommunications services, including telephone, residential internet access, email, text and multimedia messaging, cloud computing, social media, health care, and financial services, used by Department of Defense personnel outside of the scope of their employment with the Department.

“(2) The term ‘personal technology devices’ means technology devices used by Department of Defense personnel outside of the scope of their employment with the Department and includes networks to which such devices connect.”.

SEC. 16. COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORT ON EFFORTS TO PROTECT PERSONAL INFORMATION OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PERSONNEL FROM EXPLOITATION BY FOREIGN ADVERSARIES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall brief the appropriate congressional committees on Department of Defense ef-

forts to protect personal information of its personnel from exploitation by foreign adversaries.

(b) **ELEMENTS.**—The briefing required under subsection (a) shall include any observations on the following elements:

(1) An assessment of efforts by the Department of Defense to protect the personal information, including location data generated by smart phones, of members of the Armed Forces, civilian employees of the Department of Defense, veterans, and their families from exploitation by foreign adversaries.

(2) Recommendations to improve Department of Defense policies and programs to meaningfully address this threat.

(c) **REPORT.**—The Comptroller General shall publish on its website an unclassified report, which may contain a classified annex submitted to the congressional defense and intelligence committees, on the elements described in subsection (b) at a time mutually agreed upon.

(d) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—In this section, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(1) the congressional defense committees;

(2) the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(3) the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

SA 1021. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title VIII, insert the following:

SEC. . PROHIBITION ON CONTRACTING WITH CERTAIN BIOTECHNOLOGY PROVIDERS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The head of an executive agency may not—

(1) procure or obtain or extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain any covered biotechnology equipment or service; or

(2) enter into a contract or extend or renew a contract with any entity that—

(A) uses covered biotechnology equipment or services acquired after the date of the enactment of this Act; or

(B) enters into any contract the performance of which such entity knows or has reason to believe will require the direct use of covered biotechnology equipment or services.

(b) **PROHIBITION ON LOAN AND GRANT FUNDS.**—The head of an executive agency may not obligate or expend loan or grant funds to—

(1) procure or obtain or extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain any covered biotechnology equipment or service; or

(2) enter into a contract or extend or renew a contract with an entity described in subsection (a)(2).

(c) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The prohibitions under subsections (a) and (b) shall take effect 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) **WAIVER AUTHORITIES.**—

(1) **SPECIFIC BIOTECHNOLOGY EXCEPTION.**—

(A) **WAIVER.**—The head of an executive agency may waive the prohibition under subsections (a) and (b) on a case-by-case basis—

(i) with the approval of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Federal Acquisition Security Council and the Secretary of Defense; and