

SA 1182. Mr. BRAUN (for himself, Ms. ERNST, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mr. DAINES) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1092 submitted by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. COLLINS) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4366, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 2, after line 19, add the following:
SEC. 4. PROHIBITION ON EARMARKS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any provision of any division of this Act, none of the funds made available under any division of this Act may be used to implement any earmark, Community Project Funding, or Congressionally Directed Spending specified in any provision of any division of this Act or in any report described in section 3.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall prevent funds allocated for any earmark, Community Project Funding, or Congressionally Directed Spending included in any division of this Act or in a report described in section 3 of the matter preceding division A in this Act from being awarded under a merit-based process under existing law.

SA 1183. Mr. WELCH (for himself and Mr. MARSHALL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1092 submitted by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. COLLINS) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4366, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 147, beginning on line 9, strike “90 percent” and all that follows through line 19 and insert “75 percent of the households to be served by a project receiving a loan or grant under the pilot program shall be in a rural area without sufficient access to broadband: *Provided further*, That for purposes of such pilot program, a rural area without sufficient access to broadband shall be defined as 100 megabits per second downstream and 20 megabits per second upstream: *Provided further*, That to the extent possible, projects receiving funds provided under the pilot program must build out service to at least 100 megabits per second downstream and 100”.

SA 1184. Mr. WELCH (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Ms. HASSAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1092 submitted by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. COLLINS) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4366, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

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

SEC. ____ . REPORT ON TOXIC EXPOSURES EXPERIENCED BY VETERANS DURING ACTIVE MILITARY, NAVAL, AIR, OR SPACE SERVICE IN KOSOVO.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this

Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Representatives a report consisting of an analysis of data of suspected and known toxic exposures experienced by veterans during active military, naval, air, or space service in Kosovo and whether a presumption—

(1) of service connection for one or more conditions relating to such toxic exposures should be established under subchapter VII of chapter 11 of title 38, United States Code; or

(2) of toxic exposure should be established for such service under section 1119 of such title.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the terms “active military, naval, air, or space service”, “service-connected”, “toxic exposure”, and “veteran” have the meanings given such terms in section 101 of title 38, United States Code.

SA 1185. Mr. DAINES submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1092 submitted by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. COLLINS) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4366, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 41, line 6, insert after the colon the following: “*Provided further*, That the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to Congress a report containing an earned value analysis of the Veterans Electronic Health Record system, which shall include a graphic performance report, a schedule and cost performance indexes, an estimate at completion and budget at completion, and a variance analysis for cost and schedule.”.

SA 1186. Mr. MORAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1092 submitted by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. COLLINS) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4366, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

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

SEC. ____ . None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act for the Department of Agriculture may be used to increase the number of positions in the Department of Agriculture (measured on a full-time equivalent basis) for which the primary duty station is located in the National Capital Region.

SA 1187. Mr. KELLY (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4366, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title I of division C, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . UNITED STATES MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS.

(a) FINDINGS.—

(1) The United States is a maritime Nation.

(2) A robust commercial maritime industry in the United States is critical for providing military sea-lift capacity at times of war and for providing economic security in peace times.

(3) The United States Merchant Marine Academy and the State maritime academies play a critical role in training licensed merchant mariners to operate commercial vessels, in peacetime and during times of conflict.

(4) The United States Merchant Marine Academy is 1 of the 5 Federal service academies and plays a critical role in maintaining a domestic, commercial maritime industry, with each graduate having a commitment to serve not less than 8 years in the foreign and domestic commerce and the national defense of the United States, which may include service on a merchant vessel documented under chapter 121 of title 46, and graduates make up more than 80 percent of the Navy’s Strategic Sealift Officer Program.

(5) The 6 State maritime academies provide a critical complement to the Federal academy by providing instruction and at-sea training, which enables a graduate to become a commissioned officer and merchant marine upon graduation.

(6) The United States defense readiness and economic security relies on a strong investment in training and cultivating United States merchant marine officers at the maritime academies.

(7) The partnership between commercial shipping companies and the maritime academies to ensure students receive real-world training on commercial vessels has been successful for decades and should continue, while ensuring that these training opportunities are safe environments for students.

(8) To ensure that the United States continues to have a sufficient number of licensed merchant mariners to meet current and future economic and national security needs, the Maritime Administration and the Department of Transportation have a responsibility to provide suitable academic and dormitory facilities at the United States Merchant Marine Academy by maintaining a capital improvement program plan for campus-wide modernization and providing sufficient accountability and oversight to ensure that milestones in a capital improvement plan are met.

(9) In developing capital improvement plans for the United States Merchant Marine Academy, the Maritime Administration and the Department of Transportation should identify opportunities to utilize design-build contracts to increase delivery times and reduce costs.

(b) DIRECTIVES.—

(1) STATUS UPDATE.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary of Transportation and the Maritime Administrator shall provide an update to the Board of Visitors of the United States Merchant Marine Academy on—

(A) the status of the fiscal year 2022 United States Merchant Marine Academy’s capital improvement plan execution, including recent steps taken to obligate prior appropriated funds to address all critical near-term projects;

(B) the status of the fiscal year 2023 plan’s release; and

(C) the status of long-term projects not included in the capital improvement plan to enable full campus modernization.