

SEC. 9004. From funds made available in this title, the Secretary of Defense may purchase for use by military and civilian employees of the Department of Defense in Iraq and Afghanistan: (a) passenger motor vehicles up to a limit of \$75,000 per vehicle and (b) heavy and light armored vehicles for the physical security of personnel or for force protection purposes up to a limit of \$250,000 per vehicle, notwithstanding price or other limitations applicable to the purchase of passenger carrying vehicles.

SEC. 9005. Not to exceed \$1,200,000,000 of the amount appropriated in this title under the heading "Operation and Maintenance, Army" may be used, notwithstanding any other provision of law, to fund the Commander's Emergency Response Program, for the purpose of enabling military commanders in Iraq and Afghanistan to respond to urgent humanitarian relief and reconstruction requirements within their areas of responsibility: Provided, That not later than 15 days after the end of each fiscal year quarter, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report regarding the source of funds and the allocation and use of funds during that quarter that were made available pursuant to the authority provided in this section or under any other provision of law for the purposes described herein.

SEC. 9006. Funds available to the Department of Defense for operation and maintenance may be used, notwithstanding any other provision of law, to provide supplies, services, transportation, including airlift and sealift, and other logistical support to coalition forces supporting military and stability operations in Iraq and Afghanistan: Provided, That the Secretary of Defense shall provide quarterly reports to the congressional defense committees regarding support provided under this section.

SEC. 9007. Each amount in this title is designated as being for overseas deployments and other activities pursuant to section 401(c)(4) and 423(a)(1) of S. Con. Res. 13 (111th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2010.

SEC. 9008. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be obligated or expended by the United States Government for a purpose as follows:

(1) To establish any military installation or base for the purpose of providing for the permanent stationing of United States Armed Forces in Iraq.

(2) To exercise United States control over any oil resource of Iraq.

(3) To establish any military installation or base for the purpose of providing for the permanent stationing of United States Armed Forces in Afghanistan.

SEC. 9009. (a) The Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense; the Commander of the United States Central Command; the Commander, Multi-National Security Transition Command—Iraq; and the Commander, Combined Security Transition Command—Afghanistan, shall submit to the congressional defense committees not later than 45 days after the end of each fiscal quarter a report on the proposed use of all funds appropriated by this or any prior Act under each of the headings "Iraq Security Forces Fund", "Afghanistan Security Forces Fund", and "Pakistan Counterinsurgency Fund" on a project-by-project basis, for which the obligation of funds is anticipated during the 3-month period from such date, including estimates by the commanders referred to in this section of the costs required to complete each such project.

(b) The report required by this subsection shall include the following:

(1) The use of all funds on a project-by-project basis for which funds appropriated under the headings referred to in subsection (a) were obligated prior to the submission of the report, including estimates by the commanders referred to

in subsection (a) of the costs to complete each project.

(2) The use of all funds on a project-by-project basis for which funds were appropriated under the headings referred to in subsection (a) in prior appropriations Acts, or for which funds were made available by transfer, reprogramming, or allocation from other headings in prior appropriations Acts, including estimates by the commanders referred to in subsection (a) of the costs to complete each project.

(3) An estimated total cost to train and equip the Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan security forces, disaggregated by major program and sub-elements by force, arrayed by fiscal year.

(c) The Secretary of Defense shall notify the congressional defense committees of any proposed new projects or transfers of funds between sub-activity groups in excess of \$20,000,000 using funds appropriated by this or any prior Act under the headings "Iraq Security Forces Fund", "Afghanistan Security Forces Fund", and "Pakistan Counterinsurgency Fund".

SEC. 9010. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act or any prior Act may be used to transfer, release, or incarcerate any individual who was detained as of October 1, 2009, at Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to or within the United States or its territories.

(b) In this section, the term "United States" means the several States and the District of Columbia.

SEC. 9011. In addition to amounts made available elsewhere in this title there is hereby appropriated \$329,000,000 for the purchase of fuel to the following accounts in the specified amounts:

"Operation and Maintenance, Army", \$83,552,000;

"Operation and Maintenance, Navy", \$33,889,000;

"Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps", \$1,619,000;

"Operation and Maintenance, Air Force", \$179,191,000;

"Operation and Maintenance, Army Reserve", \$8,567,000;

"Operation and Maintenance, Navy Reserve", \$3,007,000;

"Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps Reserve", \$39,000; and

"Operation and Maintenance, Army National Guard", \$19,136,000.

SEC. 9012. None of the funds made available under this Act may be distributed to the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN) or its subsidiaries.

SEC. 9013. The Secretary of Defense may, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, continue to support requirements for monthly integrated civilian-military training for civilians deploying to Afghanistan at Camp Atterbury, Indiana, including through the allocation of military and civilian personnel, trainers, and other resources for that purpose.

SEC. 9014. (a) HEARINGS ON STRATEGY AND RESOURCES WITH RESPECT TO AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN.—Appropriate committees of Congress shall hold hearings, in open and closed session, relating to the strategy and resources of the United States with respect to Afghanistan and Pakistan promptly after the decision by the President on those matters is announced.

(b) TESTIMONY.—The hearings described in subsection (a) should include testimony from senior civilian and military officials of the United States, including, but not limited to, the following:

(1) The Secretary of Defense.

(2) The Secretary of State

(3) The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

(4) The Commander of the United States Central Command.

(5) The Commander of the United States European Command and Supreme Allied Commander, Europe.

(6) The Commander of United States Forces—Afghanistan.

(7) The United States Ambassador to Afghanistan.

(8) The United States Ambassador to Pakistan.

SEC. 9015. (a) FUNDING FOR OUTREACH AND REINTEGRATION SERVICES UNDER YELLOW RIBBON REINTEGRATION PROGRAM.—Of the amounts appropriated or otherwise made available by title IX, \$20,000,000 shall be available for outreach and reintegration services under the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program under section 582(h) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (Public Law 110-181; 122 Stat. 125; 10 U.S.C. 10101 note).

(b) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—The amount made available by subsection (a) for the services described in that subsection is in addition to any other amounts available in this Act for such services.

This Act may be cited as the "Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010".

GOVERNMENT CHARGE CARD ABUSE PREVENTION ACT OF 2009

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 163, S. 942.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 942) to prevent the abuse of Government charge cards.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. BENNET. I ask unanimous consent the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 942) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 942

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Government Charge Card Abuse Prevention Act of 2009".

SEC. 2. MANAGEMENT OF PURCHASE CARDS.

(a) REQUIRED SAFEGUARDS AND INTERNAL CONTROLS.—The head of each executive agency that issues and uses purchase cards and convenience checks shall establish and maintain safeguards and internal controls to ensure the following:

(1) There is a record in each executive agency of each holder of a purchase card issued by the agency for official use, annotated with the limitations on single transactions and total transactions that are applicable to the use of each such card or check by that purchase cardholder.

(2) Each purchase cardholder and individual issued a convenience check is assigned an approving official other than the cardholder with the authority to approve or disapprove transactions.

(3) The holder of a purchase card and each official with authority to authorize expenditures charged to the purchase card are responsible for—

(A) reconciling the charges appearing on each statement of account for that purchase card with receipts and other supporting documentation; and

(B) forwarding such reconciliation to the certifying official in a timely manner to enable the certifying official to ensure that the Federal Government ultimately pays only for valid charges.

(4) Any disputed purchase card charge, and any discrepancy between a receipt and other supporting documentation and the purchase card statement of account, is resolved in the manner prescribed in the applicable governmentwide purchase card contract entered into by the Administrator of General Services and in accordance with all laws and executive agency regulations.

(5) Payments on purchase card accounts are made promptly within prescribed deadlines to avoid interest penalties.

(6) Rebates and refunds based on prompt payment, sales volume, or other actions by the agency on purchase card accounts are reviewed for accuracy and properly recorded as a receipt to the agency that pays the monthly bill.

(7) Records of each purchase card transaction (including records on associated contracts, reports, accounts, and invoices) are retained in accordance with standard Government policies on the disposition of records.

(8) Periodic reviews are performed to determine whether each purchase cardholder has a need for the purchase card.

(9) Appropriate training regarding the proper use of purchase cards is provided to each purchase cardholder in advance of being issued a purchase card and periodically thereafter and to each official with responsibility for overseeing the use of purchase cards issued by an executive agency in advance of assuming such oversight duties and periodically thereafter.

(10) The executive agency has specific policies regarding the number of purchase cards issued by various component organizations and categories of component organizations, the credit limits authorized for various categories of cardholders, and categories of employees eligible to be issued purchase cards, and that those policies are designed to minimize the financial risk to the Federal Government of the issuance of the purchase cards and to ensure the integrity of purchase cardholders.

(11) The executive agency utilizes effective systems, techniques, and technologies to prevent or identify fraudulent purchases.

(12) The executive agency invalidates the purchase card of each employee who—

(A) ceases to be employed by the agency, immediately upon termination of the employment of the employee; or

(B) transfers to another unit of the agency immediately upon the transfer of the employee unless the agency determines that the units are covered by the same purchase card authority.

(13) The executive agency takes steps to recover the cost of any erroneous, improper, or illegal purchase made with a purchase card or convenience check by an employee, including, as necessary, through salary offsets.

(b) **GUIDANCE ON MANAGEMENT OF PURCHASE CARDS.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall review the existing guidance and, as necessary, prescribe additional guidance governing the implementation of the safeguards and internal controls required by subsection (a) by executive agencies.

(c) **PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The head of each executive agency shall provide for appropriate adverse personnel actions or other punishment to be imposed in cases in which employees of the agency violate agency policies implementing the guidance required by subsection (b) or make improper, erroneous, or illegal

purchases with purchase cards or convenience checks.

(2) **DISMISSAL.**—Penalties prescribed for employee misuse of purchase cards or convenience checks shall include dismissal of the employee, as appropriate.

(3) **REPORTS ON VIOLATIONS.**—The guidance prescribed under subsection (b) shall direct each head of an executive agency with more than \$10,000,000 in purchase card spending annually, and each Inspector General of such an executive agency on a semiannual basis, to submit to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget a joint report on violations or other actions covered by paragraph (1) by employees of such executive agency. At a minimum, the report shall set forth the following:

(A) A description of each violation.

(B) A description of any adverse personnel action, punishment, other action taken against the employee for such violation.

(d) **RISK ASSESSMENTS AND AUDITS.**—The Inspector General of each executive agency shall—

(1) conduct periodic assessments of the agency purchase card or convenience check programs to identify and analyze risks of illegal, improper, or erroneous purchases and payments in order to develop a plan for using such risk assessments to determine the scope, frequency, and number of periodic audits of purchase card or convenience check transactions;

(2) perform analysis or audits as necessary, of purchase card transactions designed to identify—

(A) potentially illegal, improper, erroneous, and abusive uses of purchase cards;

(B) any patterns of such uses; and

(C) categories of purchases that could be made by means other than purchase cards in order to better aggregate purchases and obtain lower prices (excluding transactions made under card-based strategic sourcing arrangements);

(3) report to the head of the executive agency concerned on the results of such analysis or audits; and

(4) report to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget on the implementation of recommendations made to the head of the executive agency to address findings of any analysis or audit of purchase card and convenience check transactions or programs for compilation and transmission by the Director to Congress and the Comptroller General.

(e) **DEFINITION OF EXECUTIVE AGENCY.**—In this section, the term “executive agency” has the meaning given such term in section 4(1) of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act (41 U.S.C. 403(1)), except as provided under subsection (f)(1).

(f) **RELATIONSHIP TO DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PURCHASE CARD REGULATIONS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The requirements of subsections (a) through (d) shall not apply to the Department of Defense.

(2) **CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**—Section 2784 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subsection (b), by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

“(11) That each purchase cardholder and individual issued a convenience check is assigned an approving official other than the cardholder with the authority to approve or disapprove transactions.

“(12) That the Department of Defense utilizes effective systems, techniques, and technologies to prevent or identify fraudulent purchases.

“(13) That the Department of Defense takes appropriate steps to invalidate the purchase card of each employee who—

“(A) ceases to be employed by the Department of Defense, immediately upon termi-

nation of the employment of the employee; or

“(B) transfers to another unit of the Department of Defense immediately upon the transfer of the employee unless the Secretary of Defense determines that the units are covered by the same purchase card authority.

“(14) That the Department of Defense takes appropriate steps to recover the cost of any erroneous, improper, or illegal purchase made with a purchase card or convenience check by an employee, including, as necessary, through salary offsets.

“(15) That the Inspector General of the Department of Defense conducts periodic assessments of purchase card or convenience check programs to identify and analyze risks of illegal, improper, or erroneous purchases and payments and uses such risk assessments to develop appropriate recommendations for corrective actions.”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(d) **SEMIANNUAL REPORT.**—The Secretary of Defense and the Inspector General of the Department of Defense, shall submit to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget on a semiannual basis a joint report on illegal, improper, or erroneous purchases and payments made with purchase cards or convenience checks by employees of the Department of Defense. At a minimum, the report shall include the following:

“(1) A description of each violation.

“(2) A description of any adverse personnel action, punishment, or other action taken against the employee for such violation.

“(3) A description of actions taken by the Department of Defense to address recommendations made to address findings arising out of risk assessments and audits conducted pursuant to this section.”.

SEC. 3. MANAGEMENT OF TRAVEL CARDS.

Section 2 of the Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-264; 5 U.S.C. 5701 note) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(h) **MANAGEMENT OF TRAVEL CHARGE CARDS.**—

“(1) **REQUIRED SAFEGUARDS AND INTERNAL CONTROLS.**—The head of each executive agency that has employees that use travel charge cards shall establish and maintain the following internal control activities to ensure the proper, efficient, and effective use of such travel charge cards:

“(A) There is a record in each executive agency of each holder of a travel charge card issued on behalf of the agency for official use, annotated with the limitations on amounts that are applicable to the use of each such card by that travel charge cardholder.

“(B) Rebates and refunds based on prompt payment, sales volume, or other actions by the agency on travel charge card accounts are monitored for accuracy and properly recorded as a receipt of the agency that employs the cardholder.

“(C) Periodic reviews are performed to determine whether each travel charge cardholder has a need for the travel charge card.

“(D) Appropriate training is provided to each travel charge cardholder and each official with responsibility for overseeing the use of travel charge cards issued by an executive agency.

“(E) Each executive agency has specific policies regarding the number of travel charge cards issued for various component organizations and categories of component organizations, the credit limits authorized for various categories of cardholders, and categories of employees eligible to be issued travel charge cards, and designs those policies to minimize the financial risk to the

Federal Government of the issuance of the travel charge cards and to ensure the integrity of travel charge cardholders.

“(F) Each executive agency ensures its contractual arrangement with each servicing travel charge card issuing contractor contains a requirement to evaluate the creditworthiness of an individual before issuing that individual a travel charge card, and that no individual be issued a travel charge card if that individual is found not creditworthy as a result of the evaluation (except that this paragraph shall not preclude issuance of a restricted use travel charge card or pre-paid card when the individual lacks a credit history or has a credit score below the minimum credit score established by the Office of Management and Budget). The Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall establish a minimum credit score for determining the creditworthiness of an individual based on rigorous statistical analysis of the population of cardholders and historical behaviors. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, such evaluation shall include an assessment of an individual’s consumer report from a consumer reporting agency as those terms are defined in section 603 of the Fair Credit Reporting Act.

“(G) Each executive agency utilizes effective systems, techniques, and technologies to prevent or identify improper purchases.

“(H) Each executive agency ensures that the travel charge card of each employee who ceases to be employed by the agency is invalidated immediately upon termination of the employment of the employee.

“(I) Each executive agency utilizes, where appropriate, direct payment to the holder of the travel card contract.

“(2) GUIDANCE ON MANAGEMENT OF TRAVEL CHARGE CARDS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall review the existing guidance and, as necessary, prescribe additional guidance for executive agencies governing the implementation of the requirements in paragraph (1).

“(3) PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Consistent with the guidance prescribed under paragraph (2), each executive agency shall provide for appropriate adverse personnel actions to be imposed in cases in which employees of the executive agency fail to comply with applicable travel charge card terms and conditions or applicable agency regulations or commit fraud with respect to a travel charge card, including removal in appropriate cases.

“(B) REPORTS ON VIOLATIONS.—The guidance prescribed under paragraph (2) shall require each head of an executive agency with more than \$10,000,000 in travel card spending annually, and each inspector general of such an executive agency, on a semiannual basis, to submit to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget a joint report on violations or other actions covered by subparagraph (A) by employees of such executive agency. At a minimum, the report shall set forth the following:

“(i) A description of each violation.

“(ii) A description of any adverse personnel action, punishment, or other action taken against the employee for such violation or other action.

“(4) RISK ASSESSMENTS AND AUDITS.—The inspector general of each executive agency shall—

“(A) conduct periodic assessments of the agency travel charge card program and associated internal controls to identify and analyze risks of illegal, improper, or erroneous travel charges and payments in order to develop a plan for using such risk assessments to determine the scope, frequency, and num-

ber of periodic audits of travel charge card transactions;

“(B) perform periodic analysis and audits, as appropriate, of travel charge card transactions designed to identify potentially improper, erroneous, and illegal uses of travel charge cards;

“(C) report to the head of the executive agency concerned on the results of such analysis and audits; and

“(D) report to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget on the implementation of recommendations made to the head of the executive agency to address findings of any analysis or audit of travel charge card transactions or programs for compilation and transmission by the Director to Congress and the Comptroller General.

“(5) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

“(A) The term ‘executive agency’ means an agency as that term is defined in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 5701(1) of title 5, United States Code.

“(B) The term ‘travel charge card’ means any Federal contractor-issued travel charge card that is individually billed to each cardholder.”

SEC. 4. MANAGEMENT OF CENTRALLY BILLED ACCOUNTS.

(a) REQUIRED INTERNAL CONTROLS FOR CENTRALLY BILLED ACCOUNTS.—The head of an executive agency that has employees who use a travel charge card that is billed directly to the United States Government shall establish and maintain the following internal control activities:

(1) Items submitted on an employee’s travel voucher shall be compared with items paid for using a centrally billed account on any related travel to ensure that an employee is not reimbursed for an item already paid for by the United States Government through a centrally billed account.

(2) The executive agency shall dispute unallowable and erroneous charges and track the status of the disputed transactions to ensure appropriate resolution.

(3) The executive agency shall submit requests to servicing airlines for refunds of fully or partially unused tickets, when entitled to such refunds, and track the status of unused tickets to ensure appropriate resolution.

(b) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall review the existing guidance and, as necessary, prescribe additional guidance for executive agencies implementing the requirements of subsection (a).

SEC. 5. CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act shall be construed to excuse the head of an executive agency from the responsibilities set out in section 3512 of title 31, United States Code, or in the Improper Payments Act of 2002 (31 U.S.C. 3321 note).

VETERANS’ INSURANCE AND BENEFITS ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2009

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 155, S. 728.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 728) to amend title 38, United States Code, to enhance veterans’ insurance benefits, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee

on Veterans’ Affairs, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) *SHORT TITLE.*—This Act may be cited as the “Veterans’ Benefits Enhancement Act of 2009”.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Reference to title 38, United States Code.

TITLE I—INSURANCE MATTERS

Sec. 101. Increase in amount of supplemental insurance for totally disabled veterans.

Sec. 102. Adjustment of coverage of dependents under Servicemembers’ Group Life Insurance.

Sec. 103. Expansion of individuals qualifying for retroactive benefits from traumatic injury protection coverage under Servicemembers’ Group Life Insurance.

Sec. 104. Consideration of loss of dominant hand in prescription of schedule of severity of traumatic injury under Servicemembers’ Group Life Insurance.

Sec. 105. Enhancement of veterans’ mortgage life insurance.

TITLE II—COMPENSATION AND PENSION MATTERS

Sec. 201. Cost-of-living increase for temporary dependency and indemnity compensation payable for surviving spouses with dependent children under the age of 18.

Sec. 202. Eligibility of veterans 65 years of age or older for service pension for a period of war.

Sec. 203. Clarification of additional requirements for consideration to be afforded time, place, and circumstances of service in determinations regarding service-connected disabilities.

Sec. 204. Extension of reduced pension for certain veterans covered by Medicaid plans for services furnished by nursing facilities.

Sec. 205. Enhancement of disability compensation for certain disabled veterans with difficulties using prostheses and disabled veterans in need of regular aid and attendance for residuals of traumatic brain injury.

Sec. 206. Commencement of period of payment of original awards of compensation for veterans retired or separated from the uniformed services for catastrophic disability.

Sec. 207. Applicability of limitation to pension payable to certain children of veterans of a period of war.

Sec. 208. Payment of dependency and indemnity compensation to survivors of former prisoners of war who died on or before September 30, 1999.

TITLE III—READJUSTMENT AND RELATED BENEFIT MATTERS

Sec. 301. Repeal of limitation on number of veterans enrolled in programs of independent living services and assistance.

Sec. 302. Eligibility of disabled veterans and members of the Armed Forces with severe burn injuries for automobiles and adaptive equipment.

Sec. 303. Enhancement of automobile assistance allowance for veterans.

Sec. 304. Payment of unpaid balances of Department of Veterans Affairs guaranteed loans.