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House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. FOXX).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 17, 2014.

I hereby appoint the Honorable VIRGINIA FOXX to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 7, 2014, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

USING WINNING FORMULA OF SAN ANTONIO SPURS ON AMERICA'S PROBLEMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, like many Americans, I was transfixed by the magnificent victory not just in game five of the NBA finals, but by every one of these amazing games, a superb effort against a very good Miami Heat team, dominated by a person widely acknowledged to be the best player in the NBA.

As a lifelong Portland Trail Blazers fan and one who remembers the excitement of being a long-suffering season ticketholder who had the joy of being in our coliseum when we won the NBA championship more years ago than I care to remember, I appreciate the dynamic that is involved with these five NBA championships over the last 17 years.

I confess, I have also become a fan of the Spurs, their organization, their coach—Greg Popovich—but also their approach to the way they do business. They have some important lessons for America.

I feel very strongly that we on Capitol Hill and, indeed, most Americans could learn a great deal by paying attention not just to the victories, but how the Spurs became the most successful sports franchise in any sport over the last 2 decades.

My son was privileged to play for Coach Popovich when he was head coach of the Pomona-Pitzer Sagehens, a Division III small basketball program. In fact, they had to put two colleges together, Pomona and Pitzer, to form one team. His values forged a small but excellent college athletic program that is very much in evidence in the Spurs today.

First, they look for talent wherever they find it around the globe. It meant players not just from the United States, but I think there are eight different countries represented on that roster.

There is a respect for each of them having a role as a team member, their commitment to the larger concept of winning for the greater good. Isn't it interesting that their postgame interviews are in six or seven different languages and that these players have been able to come together and meld into a unit?

The leadership of the coach is very much in evidence when you watch them in action. Coach Popovich is not a celebrity vying for the spotlight. Indeed, you could barely see him in the postgame victory television interviews. It was focused on the team.

Today, Americans are facing challenges that they sometimes feel are beyond our capacity. They are certainly beyond our capacity as individuals to deal with. We are facing a challenge that is similar to the rigors of a long, 82-game basketball season and a seemingly interminable playoff schedule.

Our challenges of reducing gun violence, of saving the planet from even greater carbon pollution and disruption from global warming, empowering our kids to protect them from the scourge of illegal drugs, rebuilding and renewing a country that is falling apart, these are challenges today that actually we know how to fix. They are all areas where progress is vital.

They seem to be intractable, but all could unite Americans to deal as a country on things that, individually, we could not make progress on. These all have characteristics in common with the success of Coach Popovich and the Spurs. These are long-term issues. They require careful thought. They require hard work and investment, and most of all, they require working together with an eye on our ultimate goals.

I would hope that, in the midst of the partisan rancor here in Washington, D.C., and the deep divisions among our citizens who yearn for simple answers to complex problems—which politicians are all too eager to provide—that we can think about the Spurs' success, a visionary and patient coach bringing people together to work with maximum effort, dealing with the fundamentals, and not quitting. That is what America needs today.

Congratulations to the world champion Spurs. Let's try your winning formula on America's problems.

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IRAN NUCLEAR NEGOTIATIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HOLDING) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HOLDING. Madam Speaker, the Foreign Affairs Committee heard last week about the tremendous challenges that remain in order to verify Iran's compliance with any possible final nuclear agreement.

Should a deal be reached, the most stringent compliance, verification, and notification standards must be in place, including regular reporting to Congress. As I have said many times on this floor, I firmly believe Iran has no inherent right to enrich any nuclear material and that any deal should completely dismantle their nuclear infrastructure.

A potential agreement would likely be hailed by this administration—an administration that puts politics before policy—as a foreign policy victory, which leads to an important question: Can this administration be trusted to uphold any compliance regime and fully inform Congress and the American people of even the smallest infraction by the regime in Tehran?

If Iran commits even the smallest infraction, such as installing one centrifuge above the deal's limits, will this administration blow the whistle and jeopardize a deal in which they have invested so much political capital?

This administration has shown, most recently with their Taliban prisoner swap, that they have no problem flaunting their responsibility to timely inform and consult Congress of their actions, but with a deal like the Iranian nuclear negotiation that has far-reaching national security implications, this administration must not leave the people's Representatives in the dark.

ISSUES IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to address issues in the Middle East. The President has been criticized for the fact that we do not have a large residual force in Iraq and that we do not have a status of forces agreement with the Iraqi Government.

Let us take note that it was President George Bush who installed Prime Minister Maliki in May of 2006. President George Bush's decision to allow Maliki to take power and to allow him to keep power is directly responsible for most of the woes facing Iraq today.

Maliki was so malevolent that, throughout 2006, 2007, and 2008, he refused to enter into a long-term status of forces agreement with the United States and with President Bush. He insisted that any troops that remained in Iraq after 2011 would be subject to Iraqi kangaroo courts and could be executed on trumped-up charges. Obviously, we couldn't leave our troops in Iraq under those circumstances.

It is Maliki that is the source of the problem, and it is President Bush that is the source of Maliki. To say that President Obama should be able to negotiate a long-term agreement with Maliki when President Bush was unable to do so is utterly absurd.

As to Sergeant Bergdahl, it is important for us to note that, while we have just released five prisoners from Guantanamo, President Bush released over 500 from Guantanamo, and virtually all of them were dangerous.

Over 100 of them are on the battlefield—and we know where on the battlefield they are—waging war against the United States and its allies. Most of the other 500 are also waging war against us; it is just that our intelligence isn't good enough to say exactly where on the battlefield they are located.

What did President Bush get for the release, not of five, but 500 dangerous prisoners from Guantanamo? Nothing, except a thank you from their native governments.

Now, on legal issues, we are told that section 1035 of the National Defense Authorization Act required President Obama not to release the five prisoners until 30 days after he notified Congress.

Even if he had followed those exact words, instead of releasing the five a few hours after Sergeant Bergdahl was in our hands, we would have released them a few weeks after Sergeant Bergdahl was back in our hands, hardly of great significance.

More importantly, the President has the constitutional right, as Commander in Chief, to engage in prisoner exchanges. In fact, the last Republican Attorney General of the United States, Michael Mukasey, said that very thing just recently.

The President was on firm legal ground in deciding he had the authority to take this action without a 30-day notification of Congress. That being said, it would have been preferable if President Obama had, in fact, discussed the matter with key congressional leaders.

America is strongest when the President views Congress as a source of counsel, a source of advice, rather than a group of enemies to be notified only when such notification is explicitly compelled by congressionally valid statutes.

Whether this deal is a good deal, time will tell. It was a judgment call, but the President could have benefited from the counsel of Congress. It is particularly insulting for some to say that Congress is not a source of counsel, but just a source of leaks.

Keep in mind that 16 congressional leaders knew that we had ascertained the hiding place of Osama bin Laden, and that information did not leak from Congress.

I hope, in the future, President Obama and future Presidents consult key Members of Congress when making a difficult decision.

We are told that we don't negotiate with terrorists. Nothing could be further from the truth. President Bush negotiated with each and every terrorist regime, each and every identified state sponsor of terrorism—Cuba, Iran, Sudan, Syria, North Korea.

The Bush administration paid a ransom to an al Qaeda affiliate for the release of Martin and Gracia Burnham. Secretary Colin Powell designated the Afghan Taliban as an organization authorized for legal negotiations.

Now, it is also said that a prisoner exchange alerts our enemies to the fact that we value our prisoners, that we will not want to leave anyone on the battlefield, as if this is news disclosed to the world in June of 2014. The fact is we have always valued those detained by the enemy, and the enemy has always known that.

SAN ANTONIO SPURS SET GREAT EXAMPLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GALLEGO) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GALLEGO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to take note not only of a wonderful victory, but of a great example. The most popular NBA team in the 23rd District and one of the most popular NBA teams in the entire country, the San Antonio Spurs, are now the NBA champions, for the fifth time—the drive for five.

There are some interesting things that Congress and the American people can learn from the Spurs. It is the most culturally diverse team in the NBA. In addition to Americans, there are folks from Canada, Argentina, Brazil, Italy, and Australia.

Tim Duncan, who has spent his entire career with the San Antonio Spurs, started out playing basketball in the ninth grade, after he was not able to swim anymore because the swimming pool he used in the Virgin Islands was destroyed.

□ 1215

None of the players are among the highest paid in the league. In fact, Tony Parker is the highest paid player and he ranked number 37 in the NBA. Five championships, some heartbreakingly close calls. In fact, last year they lost in the very last minute, but they never gave up. They continued working. They came back, and this year they won it all.

The Spurs have the greatest coach in the NBA. Coach Popovich has been in San Antonio since 1996. He is the longest-tenured active coach in all Big Four sports leagues, and he has the most consecutive winning seasons, including playoffs, of any coach in the NBA—17.

The Spurs have so much they can share. Their cultural diversity is their strength. They won because they played together and they played as a

team. They trusted each other. They worked together. They didn't care who got the credit. One second you would be watching Tony Parker on a drive, the next second somebody else had the ball, and the next second they scored.

All of these examples of working together, teamwork, understanding, and knowing that cultural diversity is a strength, all of these things, that drive and that determination, that practice every day, day in and day out, all of those things are examples that are well-suited to those of us who serve in Congress and well-suited to the American public at large. Never give up; never quit. That patchwork quilt of a basketball team is the same mosaic that represents all of America.

And you know what? They weren't arrogant. They weren't hardcore. They come across just as they are, as humble, decent, good-hearted human beings. They are clearly the 23rd District's favorite basketball team. In fact, I have the privilege of representing several of them who live in the 23rd District. I think the more that America gets to know them, they will soon be America's most popular basketball team.

Congratulations to each and every member of the NBA champs, the San Antonio Spurs, their coaches, their staff, their owners, and congratulations to each and every one of their fans.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 17 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SMITH of Nebraska) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

God of grace and goodness, thank You for giving us another day.

Your divine wisdom and power are abundantly sufficient for our many needs. Endow the Members of this assembly with a loyalty that never wavers and a courage that never falters as they seek to fulfill the high and holy mission which You have entrusted to them.

May it be their purpose, and all of ours, to see to the hopes of so many Americans that we authenticate the grandeur and glory of the ideals and principles of our democracy with the work we do.

As the House returns from visits to their respective districts, may we all be mindful of and thankful for our fathers, or the men who were father figures for us, whose love and support enabled us to mature and become productive members of our American society.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WELCH 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.

COMMON GROUND ON STUDENT LOAN REFORM

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, President Obama recently announced some changes to student loan repayment programs. Keeping with the pattern of his administration, he has chosen to impose those changes via the regulatory process.

For a while now, President Obama has been fond of saying he has a ''pen and a phone'' that he will use to codify his version of hope and change. Perhaps the pen is sufficient, but the regulatory process will take 18 months. The House is reauthorizing the Higher Education Act.

Working together, student loan reforms could be considered passed and implemented much sooner if only President Obama would pick up the phone, talk with Members of Congress, and find common ground; but that takes effort, and the President does not seem inclined to call.

Mr. Speaker, it seems this President has become so addicted to the pen that he no longer knows how to pick up the telephone.

INACTION LEADS TO NEW ATTACKS

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, as Islamic terrorists seize control of major Iraqi cities, it is clear that the President's failure to secure a status of forces agreement has jeopardized the progress our military made to promote democracy and peace in the region.

We have known for years that the Iraqi Government was struggling to implement democracy. Instead of offering help, the President ignored lessons learned of successfully maintaining peace with an American reserve of air defense, as we have done in Germany, Japan, Korea, and now in Kosovo.

Even now, as the Middle East watches to see how the United States will react to the current crisis, the President is putting our families at risk as he negotiates with terrorists and communicates with Israel's enemies.

The President needs to change course, recognize the growing threat of international terrorism, and understand that failed diplomacy and inaction allows the creation of safe havens to attack us again.

Peace can only be maintained by strength as the terrorists proclaim: Death to America, and death to Israel. They mean it.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism with freedom to prevail.

THE VAPORIZING OF TWO YEARS OF IRS EMAILS

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, crisis: IRS emails have vaporized.

Where, oh, where have the emails gone? Where, oh, where can they be? In another Friday evening news dump, the administration announced that 2 years of Lois Lerner's emails have vanished. Poof, gone.

That is not all. Today, we learned that the emails of six other prominent IRS officials involved in targeting conservatives have disappeared. Poof, gone. Isn't that an oddly convenient disappearance?

Have they gone to the same place the missing 18 minutes of Nixon's Watergate tapes went? The IRS blames the well-timed fiasco on a computer glitch.

Mr. Speaker, what do you suppose would happen if the IRS came to a citizen's home to audit their taxes and the citizen said, sorry, the records were lost in a computer crash? The tax collector would laugh.

It is time for a special prosecutor to investigate the IRS and find out where, oh, where have those emails gone. This yarn by the IRS requires a willing suspension of disbelief. Mr. Speaker, that dog just won't hunt.

And that's just the way it is.

HAMAS KIDNAPPINGS

(Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring attention to a serious

and heartbreaking situation in Israel, the kidnapping of three teenage boys—Gilad Shaar; Eyal Yifrach; and Naftali Frenkel, who is a dual Israeli-American citizen.

They were last seen near the West Bank city of Hebron, and it is strongly believed that Hamas is responsible for their abduction. My prayers go out to their families and for their safe return.

Secretary Kerry has called this a despicable act of terrorism and has offered America's full support. We must stand behind Israel's efforts to bring them home and hold accountable those involved.

However, this act of terrorism further demonstrates why America should not be providing foreign aid for the unity government between Hamas and Fatah. Secretary Kerry reiterated America's position that Hamas is a terrorist organization.

It is clear American tax dollars are not being used to promote peace. It is time to stop funding terrorism aimed at one of America's closest allies.

CONGRATULATING SAN ANTONIO SPURS ON NBA CHAMPIONSHIP

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, congratulations to the San Antonio Spurs on winning the 2014 NBA championship over the Miami Heat. This is the fifth NBA championship for the Spurs under Coach Greg Popovich. Coach Popovich was also named this season's NBA Coach of the Year.

The entire Spurs team, led by captains Tim Duncan and Tony Parker, played with determination to bring the championship trophy back to San Antonio. The Spurs also clinched the best record in the NBA this season with 26 wins and 20 losses.

Also, congratulations to Kawhi Leonard, who was named the NBA Finals Most Valuable Player. Leonard averaged over 17 points and six rebounds in the championship series, with three consecutive 20-point performances.

Leonard also had the help of the Spurs ''Big 3,'' made up of Tim Duncan, Manu Ginobili, and Tony Parker. The ''Big 3'' now has the most playoff wins of any trio in NBA history.

A well-deserved congratulations to the Spurs for bringing the trophy back to the Alamo City. As we say in San Antonio: Go, Spurs, go.

AMERICA DOES NOT HAVE SOLUTION FOR EVERY WORLD PROBLEM

(Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, President Kennedy said in a famous speech at the University of Washington in 1961:

> With only 6 percent of the world's population, we cannot correct every adversity or right every wrong and that, therefore, there cannot be an American solution for every problem.

Today, we are less than 4 percent of the world's population, and we have a national debt of a mind-boggling $17.6 trillion. We simply cannot keep sending megabillions to corrupt governments all over the world.

We should have trade and tourism with other countries, cultural and educational exchanges, and, of course, diplomatic relations; but the people in Iraq and Afghanistan are going to have to solve most of their problems themselves. We cannot do everything for them and still do what we should do for our own country and own people.

Let me repeat those words of President Kennedy:

> There cannot be an American solution for every world problem.

This is not isolationism, Mr. Speaker. It is common sense.

CONGRATULATING DR. ED HIGHTOWER ON HIS UPCOMING RETIREMENT

(Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Dr. Ed Hightower on his upcoming retirement.

Many of you may know Dr. Hightower from his time as a college basketball referee, working 12 NCAA Final Fours and countless games for the Big Ten and the Big East. He was also named the Men's College Basketball Official of the Year in 1992, and he was inducted into the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 1998.

Off the court, Dr. Hightower is a true community leader and a public servant. Ed Hightower has been an educator for 40 years, serving as a teacher, a principal, and an administrator. He has received three degrees from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and a doctorate from St. Louis University.

In 1996, he was hired as the first African American superintendent in Edwardsville school district history, a job that he is wrapping up at the end of the 2014–2015 school year.

On Dr. Hightower's watch, the Edwardsville school district saw incredible growth, doubling in population, requiring a new high school, a second middle school and other buildings, and weathered the same economic crisis that challenged all local school districts.

Thank you for your decades of service to our students, Dr. Hightower. Thank you for your leadership and your ability to always put the education of our children first in all of your decisions.

Enjoy your final year as superintendent, and good luck in your retirement.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

OFFICER TOMMY DECKER MEMORIAL POST OFFICE

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 43) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14 Red River Avenue North in Cold Spring, Minnesota, as the ''Officer Tommy Decker Memorial Post Office''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 43

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

SECTION 1. OFFICER TOMMY DECKER MEMORIAL POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14 Red River Avenue North in Cold Spring, Minnesota, shall be known and designated as the ''Officer Tommy Decker Memorial Post Office''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Officer Tommy Decker Memorial Post Office''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) and the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today to urge my colleagues to support H.R. 43, introduced by the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Mrs. BACHMANN), to designate the postal facility located at 14 Red River Avenue North in Cold Spring, Minnesota, as the Officer Tommy Decker Memorial Post Office.

Officer Decker served for 6 years with distinction as a member of the Cold Spring, Minnesota, police department.

On November 29, 2012, at just 31 years of age, he was tragically killed while trying to prevent a suicide.

□ 1415

He is survived by his wife, Alicia, and their children.

It is clear that Officer Decker touched many lives during his career. He received numerous awards and commendations for his hard work on the police force. At his memorial service, more than 3,000 police officers, friends, and members of the community gathered to honor his legacy.

Mr. Speaker, Officer Tommy Decker made the ultimate sacrifice by trying to help and protect the residents of Cold Spring. He is a true American hero. It is my honor to ask my colleagues to support H.R. 43.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, we support this. I am delighted to be here on an important afternoon to commemorate the lives of great Americans with these postal namings, which I hope we can do on a bipartisan basis.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Mrs. BACHMANN), my distinguished colleague.

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and also a great deal of emotion that I stand here today as the representative of the citizens of Cold Spring. In particular, we are here to honor the memory of the fallen, and that is Officer Tommy Decker.

On November 29, 2012, Cold Spring, Minnesota, Police Officer Tommy Decker was tragically killed in the line of duty. He is survived by his wife, Alicia, a wonderful woman who loved him dearly and whom Tommy dearly loved; his four young children, beautiful children, Kelly, Jade, Justin, and Devon; his parents, John and Rosella, pillars in the community of Cold Spring, who did a wonderful job raising their son and who Tommy's mother spoke to just briefly before he went on call for his final end of watch; and his siblings, his colleagues, and the community who dearly loved Tommy Decker.

Before his final act of service to the community that he loved, Tommy served the communities of Isle, Watkins, Kimball, and the Cold Spring/Richmond Police Department. He received several commendations and letters of appreciation for his exemplary work.

How he died is testament to how much Tommy Decker loved his hometown of Cold Spring and the kind of man of character that Tommy Decker was. For a decade, he bravely stood watch. He protected the citizens of central Minnesota with both diligence and a sense of respect.

The overwhelming outpouring of love and support, not only from the Cold Spring community but all Minnesotans in the wake of this unspeakable tragedy, speaks to the impact that Tommy had on countless lives.

While there are no words that could ever properly honor him, renaming his hometown post office in his memory so that his children, his parents, his wife, his siblings, his colleagues can all point to this memorial with pride and say to their friends, my father, our son, my husband, our brother, our citizen was a hero in our community—he sacrificially gave of his life to our community—therefore, Mr. Speaker, is a fitting tribute to a life well lived and to a man greatly missed.

As the Holy Scriptures teach us, Mr. Speaker, greater love hath no man than this, but that he laid down his life for his friends. Surely, this is what Tommy Decker did for the citizens of Cold Spring.

I join the entire Minnesota House delegation in urging our colleagues to support H.R. 43, to rename the post office in Cold Spring, Minnesota, in honor of him the Officer Tommy Decker Memorial Post Office.

Though Tommy is no longer with us, his legacy and example of courage and compassion lives on.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, at this point we have no one else to speak on this particular bill, so I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WELCH. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 43.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Brian Pate, one of his secretaries.

LANCE CORPORAL JOSHUA B. McDANIELS AND VETERANS MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1391) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 South Oak Street in London, Ohio, as the ''Lance Corporal Joshua B. McDaniels and Veterans Memorial Post Office Building''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1391

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

SECTION 1. LONDON FALLEN VETERANS MEMORIAL POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 South Oak Street in London, Ohio, shall be known and designated as the ''London Fallen Veterans Memorial Post Office''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''London Fallen Veterans Memorial Post Office''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) and the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today to urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1391, introduced by Representative STIVERS of Ohio and which would designate the postal facility located at 25 South Oak Street in London, Ohio, as the London Fallen Veterans Memorial Post Office. Our Nation's veterans have served our country and many have made the ultimate sacrifice for our defense and our freedom.

Three years ago, a young marine from Mr. STIVERS' district, Corporal Joshua McDaniels, was tragically killed while conducting combat operations in Helmand province in Afghanistan on June 12, 2011. A native of Dublin, Ohio, he was assigned to the 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. He was only 21 years old.

Men and women like Corporal McDaniels put their lives on the line every day so that we can enjoy the privileges of living in the United States of America. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should thank and honor them, their families, and all the members of the Armed Forces across this great country. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to stand before this body and pay tribute to Corporal McDaniels and all the brave men and women of our armed services.

Once again, I ask my colleagues to support H.R. 1391, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I support this legislation and thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. STIVERS) for bringing this to the House floor for consideration.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. STIVERS).

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from North Carolina for his help and the gentleman from Vermont for his support of H.R. 1391. It is a bill that will rename the post office in London, Ohio, the London Fallen Veterans Memorial Post Office.

This has been an interesting journey. It started a few years ago when I found out about the tragic death of Lance Corporal Joshua McDaniels who had served in the Marines, and we started a bill that would have named the post office after him. Then I heard from some of our Vietnam veterans—17 were killed from London High School in the Vietnam war—and they made the point very strongly and loudly that nothing had ever been named for any of them. While we can never go back and fix the inappropriate way that many of our Vietnam veterans were treated, I thought it was important to move forward in a way that honored their sacrifice as well as Joshua McDaniels' sacrifice and many other individuals from London and Madison County.

Throughout history, citizens from London and Madison County have fought bravely to defend our Nation and defend our freedoms. Unfortunately, many of them have made the ultimate sacrifice, and I would like to read a few of the names here today of the most recent casualties in the wars we are in in Afghanistan and Iraq, or have been in.

First, of course, Marine Lance Corporal Joshua McDaniels; second, Army Corporal Kevin Prince; Army Specialist Jason Lucas; Army Specialist Robert Swaney; and Army Chief Warrant Officer Matthew Ruffner. These are just the most recent members from that community to pay the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms.

This bill was a small step to honor the memory of all those in Madison County who have made the ultimate sacrifice, our fallen heroes, including the 17 who paid the ultimate sacrifice in the Vietnam war.

Again, while none of us can go back and correct the way that our Vietnam veterans have been treated, I think it is, today, an opportunity for us to recognize those 17 as well as all past and future fallen heroes who have paid the ultimate sacrifice by renaming the London Post Office the Fallen Veterans Memorial Post Office.

I want to thank my constituent Mary Henry who came up with the idea for this name. I want to make sure that we always remember the sacrifices of our brave men and women. I think this post office in London, Ohio, can stand as a tribute to all of our past fallen veterans and the future veterans who will pay the ultimate sacrifice to preserve our freedoms.

Thank you again to the gentleman from North Carolina and the gentleman from Vermont. I want to thank Chairman ISSA as well for allowing this bill to come to the floor and his support.

I would urge all of my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on H.R. 1391 to rename the London Post Office the London Fallen Veterans Memorial Post Office.

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I, too, would urge all of my colleagues to vote in support of this postal renaming, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I just want to thank the gentleman from Ohio for his leadership on this particular issue, and specifically with regards to our Vietnam veterans. Indeed, it was a tough time in the service to our country. Many of them never got the welcome home that they deserved when they came back. On behalf of my esteemed colleagues here today and the gentleman from Ohio, I would like to officially tell them, ''Welcome home.''

With that, I would urge the Members to support this bill and vote unanimously, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1391, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title was amended so as to read: ''A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 South Oak Street in London, Ohio, as the 'London Fallen Veterans Memorial Post Office'.''.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JAMES R. BURGESS JR. POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1707) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 302 East Green Street in Champaign, Illinois, as the ''James R. Burgess Jr. Post Office Building''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1707

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

SECTION 1. JAMES R. BURGESS JR. POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 302 East Green Street in Champaign, Illinois, shall be known and designated as the ''James R. Burgess Jr. Post Office Building''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''James R. Burgess Jr. Post Office Building''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) and the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today to urge support of H.R. 1707, introduced by Representative DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, which would designate the postal facility located at 302 East Green Street in Champaign, Illinois, as the James R. Burgess Jr. Post Office Building.

Mr. Burgess was born on December 19, 1915, in Algood, Tennessee, and served more than 20 years in the Army, playing a critical role as a leader of the 761st Tank Battalion and the first African-American armored unit to enter the battle in World War II.

At age 29, Mr. Burgess was a first lieutenant in command of one of the six companies who served under General George Patton in Europe.

□ 1430

Upon his retirement from the U.S. Army, he had reached the rank of major. He passed away in 1997.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Burgess was a trailblazer, a leader, and an American hero. Naming a postal facility in his honor is the least we can do to memorialize his service to our country.

I urge the support of H.R. 1707, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I look forward to hearing from Mr. DAVIS as he recounts the extraordinary life, service, and contributions of Mr. Burgess. We fully support this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS), my distinguished colleague.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from North Carolina and also my colleague from Vermont for their support of this piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor James R. Burgess Jr. My bill, H.R. 1707, will designate the post office located at 302 East Green Street in Champaign, Illinois, as the James R. Burgess Jr. Post Office Building.

Mr. Burgess served more than 20 years in the Army, playing a critical role in a largely unknown part of American military history. He was a leader of the 761st Tank Battalion, which was the first African American armored unit to enter battle in World War II. At the age of 29, Mr. Burgess was a first lieutenant in command of one of the six companies who served under General George Patton in Europe, and upon his retirement from the U.S. Army, Mr. Burgess had reached the rank of major.

After leaving the service in 1962, Mr. Burgess moved his wife and two sons to Champaign, Illinois, so he could attend law school at the University of Illinois, where he graduated 3 years later as the only African American in his class. Mr. Burgess was elected Champaign County State's attorney in 1972 and is still the only African American to be elected to

a countywide office in Champaign County. Later, he was appointed as a U.S. attorney for a large section of downstate Illinois.

Since Mr. Burgess' passing in 1997, many of my constituents in the 13th District, and especially his son Steve have been looking for a way to commemorate the achievements of his life.

Two years ago, Steve approached me seeking my help to honor the life and legacy of his father. It has taken a lot of time and a lot of work. While I am proud that we are finally to this point, Mr. Speaker, I also have a heavy heart.

Last November, Steve Burgess passed away suddenly. Steve worked tirelessly over the years to get this project to the finish line, and it is truly heartbreaking that he won't be able to see it completed.

Naming this building after Mr. James R. Burgess is but a small token of our gratitude for his service and an honor for his son, my friend, Steve Burgess.

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, the emotion and heart of my colleague, Mr. DAVIS, is evident today on this House floor. Far too often things are done here in a nonpersonal way. But I can tell you for Mr. DAVIS this is personal, and it is a great honor that I support him in H.R. 1707. I also encourage all the Members to support the passage of this bill.

I thank the gentleman for his leadership, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1707.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SERGEANT BRETT E. GORNEWICZ MEMORIAL POST OFFICE

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3472) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13127 Broadway Street in Alden, New York, as the ''Sergeant Brett E. Gornewicz Memorial Post Office''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3472

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

SECTION 1. SERGEANT BRETT E. GORNEWICZ MEMORIAL POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13127 Broadway Street in Alden, New York, shall be known and designated as the ''Sergeant Brett E. Gornewicz Memorial Post Office''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Sergeant Brett E. Gornewicz Memorial Post Office''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) and the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 3472, introduced by Representative COLLINS of New York, which would designate the postal facility located at 13127 Broadway Street in Alden, New York, as the Sergeant Brett E. Gornewicz Memorial Post Office.

Army Sergeant Brett Gornewicz was killed on November 3, 2012, in Paktia province, Afghanistan, when an improvised explosive device detonated nearby. He was killed in the same incident as Specialist Ryan Jayne—whom we are also honoring here today—and Staff Sergeant Dain Taylor Venne, another upstate New Yorker for whom the Oversight and Government Reform Committee has reported a postal-naming bill.

A native of Alden, New York, Sergeant Gornewicz was born in Buffalo on January 6, 1985. After graduating from Alden High School, he earned a degree in mechanical engineering from Buffalo State College.

Sergeant Gornewicz was a man of great humility. So great, in fact, that prior to his death, his family did not know that he had been awarded the Bronze Star with Valor for saving a life during a firefight earlier that year. He was a brave man, serving a tour in Iraq in addition to his deployment to Afghanistan, and performing the highly dangerous job of clearing roadsides of IEDs. Mr. Speaker, his example of courage and strength of character is one that we should strive to follow.

Sergeant Brett Gornewicz is rightly remembered as a hero. At only 27 years old, he made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.

I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 3472, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of H.R. 3472, which would designate the United States postal facility located in Alden, New York, as the Sergeant Brett E. Gornewicz Memorial Post Office.

Once again, we are hearing a story of an extraordinary American, and all of us are proud to be associated with memorializing that.

I reserve the balance of my time and look forward to hearing from the sponsor, Mr. COLLINS.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. COLLINS), my distinguished colleague.

Mr. COLLINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3472, a bill to rename the U.S. post office in Alden, New York, as the Sergeant Brett E. Gornewicz Memorial Post Office.

It is an honor to sponsor legislation naming a post office in my district after a hometown hero who gave his life serving our country.

I also want to take a moment and thank Senator GILLIBRAND and her staff for their work introducing S. 2056, corresponding Senate legislation to rename the post office.

Naming a postal facility honoring Sergeant Gornewicz is just a small token of our country's appreciation for a soldier who made the ultimate sacrifice to defend our freedom.

In 2006, after being deeply affected by the attacks of 9/11, Sergeant Gornewicz enlisted in the Army Reserves following graduation from Alden High School. From 2007 to 2008, he deployed to Iraq on his first tour and courageously served our country.

Upon his return home to the United States, Sergeant Gornewicz enrolled at Buffalo State College and obtained his degree in mechanical engineering. He was working as a computer-aided designer and mechanical designer for a Tonawanda, New York, company when he again answered the call of duty, returning to Afghanistan for his second tour.

Sergeant Gornewicz is described by many friends and family as a humble leader who always put the needs of others before his own. During his deployment, he displayed this selflessness when he risked his own life to save a fellow soldier during a firefight. He was awarded a Bronze Star with Valor for his actions.

Tragically, during Sergeant Gornewicz's second tour in 2012, his unit was hit by an IED in Afghanistan. The lives of Specialist Ryan Jayne of Corning, New York; Staff Sergeant Dain T. Venne of Port Henry, New York; and Sergeant Gornewicz were lost. At the time of the attack, Sergeant Gornewicz was assigned to the 444th Engineer Company. The company's primary mission was to clear roads of improvised explosive devices.

Sergeant Gornewicz was proud of the small town he came from: Alden, New York. It is my hope that this post office will allow the people of Alden, and those throughout the 27th District, to continue to honor the memory of Sergeant Gornewicz and ensure that his legacy of service and sacrifice lives on.

Renaming a post office is but a small step in recognizing this soldier's bravery and ultimate sacrifice for our Nation. Passage of this bill will exemplify

our admiration for our country's Armed Forces, and will honor one of the many heroes who have sacrificed their lives in the name of freedom.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3472.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York for his leadership, not just on this, but for those in Alden and throughout his district.

I urge all Members to support H.R. 3472, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I join Mr. MEADOWS in urging all of my colleagues to support the passage of this bill.

Just to comment, listening to Mr. COLLINS and to his predecessors—and we are going to have a few more—it is so amazing to think about these people that live in all of our districts, and what they did quietly with no expectation that anyone would notice or a post office would be named.

The thing I find inspiring, as I am listening to my colleagues, is that it is all really rooted in their local community. We are naming post offices, which is the center of activity for a lot of us, to recognize the everyday accomplishments of people who consider themselves to be everyday Americans, but who are quite extraordinary.

So I thank Mr. MEADOWS and Mr. COLLINS, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3472.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

THADDEUS STEVENS POST OFFICE

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1865) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 35 Park Street in Danville, Vermont, as the ''Thaddeus Stevens Post Office''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1865

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

SECTION 1. THADDEUS STEVENS POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 35 Park Street in Danville, Vermont, shall be known and designated as the ''Thaddeus Stevens Post Office''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Thaddeus Stevens Post Office''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) and the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today to urge support of H.R. 1865, introduced by Representative WELCH, my good friend from Vermont, which would designate the postal facility located at 35 Park Street in Danville, Vermont, as the Thaddeus Stevens Post Office.

Thaddeus Stevens was born in Danville, Vermont, on April 4, 1792. He attended nearby Peacham Academy and went on to study at the University of Vermont and Dartmouth College. After graduating from Dartmouth, Stevens moved to Pennsylvania to study law. He practiced law in Gettysburg and spent 4 years as a member of the Pennsylvania State legislature.

Thaddeus Stevens served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1849 to 1853 and from 1859 until his death in 1868. He is best remembered for being a fierce opponent of slavery and discrimination against African Americans. He was instrumental in the passage of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution and fought for African American rights during Reconstruction.

I ask my colleagues to honor the courageous actions and momentous contributions of this great American by voting in favor of H.R. 1865.

I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1445

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I thank my colleague, Mr. MEADOWS. You spoke very well and eloquently about how Vermonters are very proud of Thaddeus Stevens. You gave so much of his biography that I am going to just embrace what you said, but I am going to give you one pronunciation hint: it is Peacham, Vermont. We are going to bring you up there and show you where Thaddeus Stevens was born.

Again, thank you so much for your very gracious remarks about Thaddeus Stevens. We in Vermont are very proud of him, as I think Americans are, for many reasons.

Vermont was the 14th State. We were the first State that banned slavery in its constitution. We were also the first independent republic that had become part of the Union.

Thaddeus Stevens, we would like to think, carried on what was a Vermont conviction about the freedom of men and women, regardless of race. That conviction was to fight against slavery throughout the most tumultuous times of our republic: the years going up to the Civil War, the years during the Civil War, and then the post-Civil War Reconstruction period.

Some of the most important contributions by the United States Congress occurred after the Civil War, with the passage of, among other things, the 14th Amendment. Thaddeus Stevens was a leading proponent of that 14th Amendment that guaranteed due process of law to all of our citizens, regardless of race. This has been extremely important in our Constitution.

Thaddeus Stevens was a self-made person. He went to a local school. He attended Dartmouth and then went to Pennsylvania to make his mark. He becomes a State legislator. He was elected to Congress in one party, but he later changed. He began in the Anti-Masonic Party, later changed to the Whig Party, and then eventually joined the Republican Party.

All the while, he was guided by a conviction that all men and women are created equal. That is the test that each of us faces: How can we bring to life that constitutional commitment that all of us have embraced?

I would like to thank Senator SANDERS for his leadership in working with the Danville community to draft this bill. Senator SANDERS was also a transplant from Brooklyn, New York. He lived in the Danville area. He has been a lifelong admirer of Thaddeus Stevens.

Senator LEAHY, of course, was also a steadfast supporter in the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of this bill to acknowledge Thaddeus Stevens' public service and the steadfast dedication that his life represents to the equality of our citizens, regardless of race.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, my apologies to the residents of Peacham, Vermont. I thank my good friend from Vermont.

Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers. I urge all Members to support H.R. 1865, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1865.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NATIONAL CLANDESTINE SERVICE OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY NCS OFFICER GREGG DAVID WENZEL MEMORIAL POST OFFICE

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill

(H.R. 2112) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 787 State Route 17M in Monroe, New York, as the ''National Clandestine Service of the Central Intelligence Agency NCS Officer Gregg David Wenzel Memorial Post Office''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2112

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

SECTION 1. NATIONAL CLANDESTINE SERVICE OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY NCS OFFICER GREGG DAVID WENZEL MEMORIAL POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 787 State Route 17M in Monroe, New York, shall be known and designated as the ''National Clandestine Service of the Central Intelligence Agency NCS Officer Gregg David Wenzel Memorial Post Office''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''National Clandestine Service of the Central Intelligence Agency NCS Officer Gregg David Wenzel Memorial Post Office''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) and the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Vermont.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2112, introduced by Representative SEAN PATRICK MALONEY, which would designate the postal facility located at 787 State Route 17M in Monroe, New York, as the National Clandestine Service of the Central Intelligence Agency NCS Officer Gregg David Wenzel Memorial Post Office.

Mr. Wenzel joined the CIA in the wake of the September 11, 2001, attacks on his native New York City, driven by a call to serve his country and a purpose greater than himself.

He was tragically killed in a car accident in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on July 9, 2003, leaving behind his parents, Gladys and Mitchell; three sisters and brothers-in-law; and many nieces, nephews, and other family members and friends.

Born in Manhattan, Mr. Wenzel grew up in the Bronx and Monroe, New York, and graduated from Binghamton University and the University of Miami School of Law. Prior to his service in the CIA, Mr. Wenzel was a public defender in Miami and worked for the Florida Bar Association, where he tried supreme court cases. He was also a police academy instructor for the Miami-Dade Community College.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Wenzel was a person of remarkable accomplishments. In addition to his successful career, he finished 10 marathons, 3 Ironman competitions, and was a world traveler. He was also affiliated with and volunteered for many organizations.

I ask my colleagues to honor Gregg David Wenzel's sacrifice and service to his country by voting in favor of H.R. 2112, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of H.R. 2112, to designate a facility of the United States Postal Service as the National Clandestine Service of the Central Intelligence Agency NCS Officer Gregg David Wenzel Memorial Post Office.

I yield such time as he may consume to my colleague from New York (Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY), the sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I, too, rise today to honor the service and pay tribute to Gregg David Wenzel, a National Clandestine Service officer of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Gregg graduated from Monroe-Woodbury High School in my district and from SUNY Binghamton. He then went on to graduate from the University of Miami School of Law in the mid-nineties.

Choosing a life of public service, he worked as a public defender in Miami before taking a job with the Florida Bar Association. After the tragic events of September 11, 2001, Gregg joined the CIA. He was a member of the first post-9/11 class.

Serving in his very first assignment abroad in 2002, at the age of only 33, he lost his life in service to our country in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on July 9, 2003. The CIA honored Gregg and his service by placing a star on their memorial wall at the CIA headquarters, but it was not until later in 2009 that the full story of his service could be shared publicly.

Gregg Wenzel represents an entire generation who bravely served their country by answering the call to service following the attacks of September 11. He sought a career at the Agency for two reasons: to serve his country and to ''live for a greater purpose than himself.'' That is a legacy and expression of service that we can all learn from.

Recognized as a leader by CIA Director Leon Panetta and known for his sense of humor and desire to make a difference, Gregg served on the front lines of our intelligence operation abroad and ultimately sacrificed his life in defense of the freedoms we all too frequently take for granted.

Our country owes a debt of gratitude to Gregg and his family, including his mother, Gladys; his father, Mitchell; and his sisters, Maura, Rachel, and Heather.

With passage of H.R. 2112, a post office in Monroe, New York, will be named in his honor. For generations to come, his hometown will be reminded of his service and sacrifice, and my neighbors will continue to be inspired by this man's deep devotion to his country.

Although no one can ever fully repay his family for their tragic loss, I hope this bill will come as some small comfort and tribute to his memory.

Mr. Speaker, with honor and respect for the life of Gregg David Wenzel, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2112.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support passage of H.R. 2112, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2112.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JAMES ''JIM'' KOHNEN POST OFFICE

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1671) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6937 Village Parkway in Dublin, California, as the ''James 'Jim' Kohnen Post Office''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1671

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

SECTION 1. JAMES "JIM" KOHNEN POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6937 Village Parkway in Dublin, California, shall be known and designated as the ''James 'Jim' Kohnen Post Office''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''James 'Jim' Kohnen Post Office''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) and the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members

may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1671, introduced by Representative SWALWELL of California, which would designate the postal facility located at 6937 Village Parkway in Dublin, California, as the James ''Jim'' Kohnen Post Office.

Dr. Kohnen was a long-time leader in the community of Dublin. He passed away on May 29, 2012. He volunteered with the Boy Scouts, the League of Women Voters, served on the boards of five local boards of directors, and was an advocate for the importance of education.

Dr. Kohnen retired from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as a colonel after 30 years of service. He was a graduate of the U.S. Army War College, the Air War College, and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

Having earned six higher education degrees over the course of his lifetime, including two bachelor's degrees, two master's degrees, and a doctorate in education, he became a high school teacher of political science, management, and general science. He also served as a member of the management facilities of the University of Phoenix and St. Mary's College.

Mr. Speaker, the late Dr. Kohnen lived a life of humility and service to his community. I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this bill to honor his legacy, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of H.R. 1671, a bill which would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6937 Village Parkway in Dublin, California, as the James ''Jim'' Kohnen Post Office.

I yield such time as he may consume to my colleague from California (Mr. SWALWELL).

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1671, which would designate the U.S. postal facility located at 6937 Village Parkway in Dublin, California, as the James ''Jim'' Kohnen Post Office. I thank the Chair and the ranking member for bringing this to the floor today.

On May 29, 2012, the city of Dublin, California, and the entire Tri-Valley community lost a lifetime public servant in Dr. Jim Kohnen. Naming this postal facility after Dr. Kohnen would be a fitting tribute to a distinguished community member and Dublin's modern-day renaissance man.

Dr. Kohnen retired from the U.S. Army Reserve as a colonel after 30 years of service in the Corps of Engineers. During his service, he graduated from the U.S. Army War College, the Air War College, and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

□ 1500

Through his work and in the community, Jim emphasized the importance of lifetime learning.

His journey started with one of his earliest achievements, earning the rank of Eagle Scout. Jim never stopped learning, earning multiple degrees, including two bachelor degrees, two master's degrees, and a doctorate in education. A constant advocate for education and its importance, Dr. Kohnen completed his career by serving as a high school teacher at San Leandro High School, where he taught political science, management, and general science.

Jim Kohnen also never stopped serving. Using his education and experience, Dr. Kohnen served in just about every local community organization possible by volunteering with a variety of local organizations, most often serving as their treasurer, including for the Boy Scouts, the Dublin Historical Preservation Association, the League of Women Voters, and the Knights of Columbus at St. Raymond's Church. Dr. Kohnen also served as an elected or appointed official on five boards, including the Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District, the Dublin San Ramon Services District, the Zone 7 Water Agency, the Alameda County Special Districts Association, and the American Association of Quality.

Jim was always there to step up when we needed him to serve in any capacity. Jim never stopped learning and he never stopped serving, so naming Dublin's post office—our only post office—after Jim is a fitting tribute to his lifetime contributions, and it helps to inspire the Tri-Valley community residents to follow in his footsteps by dedicating their lives to the service of others.

Passing this bill now also ensures that Jim's surviving wife, whom he was married to for 47 years, Pat, and their children, Bill and Mark, will be able to see Jim honored. It is also the 50th anniversary this week of when Jim and Pat both met and graduated from Ripon College in Wisconsin.

Today, we honor Jim Kohnen—loving husband and father, faithful public servant, soldier, and Eagle Scout. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of H.R. 1671.

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I have no more speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support H.R. 1671, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1671.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

STAFF SERGEANT JOSEPH D'AUGUSTINE POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1458) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1 Walter Hammond Place in Waldwick, New Jersey, as the ''Staff Sergeant Joseph D'Augustine Post Office Building''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1458

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

SECTION 1. STAFF SERGEANT JOSEPH D'AUGUSTINE POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1 Walter Hammond Place in Waldwick, New Jersey, shall be known and designated as the ''Staff Sergeant Joseph D'Augustine Post Office Building''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Staff Sergeant Joseph D'Augustine Post Office Building''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) and the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 1458, introduced by Mr. SCOTT GARRETT of New Jersey, which would designate the postal facility located at 1 Walter Hammond Place in Waldwick, New Jersey, as the Staff Sergeant Joseph D'Augustine Post Office Building.

Staff Sergeant D'Augustine was killed on March 27, 2012, in Helmand province, Afghanistan—a fierce battleground where over 19,000 marines were deployed. He was conducting combat operations with other marines. He died 2 weeks before he was due to come home for his sister's wedding. At this funeral, hundreds of Waldwick residents gathered at the church in his memory, and hundreds more lined the streets to pay their respects.

Staff Sergeant D'Augustine was a native of Waldwick, New Jersey. He graduated from Waldwick High School in 2001, where he wrestled and played football. In the Marines, Sergeant D'Augustine was assigned to one of the most dangerous jobs as a member of an Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit. He bravely performed his duties and should be remembered for his courage and his heroism.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to pay tribute to Staff Sergeant Joseph D'Augustine today by asking my colleagues to vote in favor of this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of this bill, to designate the U.S. Postal Service facility located at 1 Walter Hammond Place in Waldwick, New Jersey, as the Staff Sergeant Joseph D'Augustine Post Office Building, and I very much look forward to hearing an account of Sergeant D'Augustine from Mr. GARRETT.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from the State of New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT), my distinguished colleague.

Mr. GARRETT. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness and a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life and legacy of one of New Jersey's sons, Staff Sergeant Joseph D'Augustine of Waldwick, New Jersey.

Staff Sergeant D'Augustine was killed more than 2 years ago on March 27, 2012, while conducting combat operations in Afghanistan. In the greatest act of sacrifice possible, Staff Sergeant D'Augustine gave his life while protecting his fellow men and women in uniform. He was just 29 years old. Today, this House will honor Staff Sergeant D'Augustine's ultimate sacrifice by passing H.R. 1458.

This legislation will designate the United States Postal Service located at 1 Walter Hammond Place in Waldwick, New Jersey, as the Staff Sergeant Joseph D'Augustine Post Office Building. While no action by this Congress could ever repay his sacrifice, this bill will create a permanent and visible memory of his heroism.

It was just 1 day after graduating from Waldwick High School back in 2001 that Staff Sergeant D'Augustine enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. He was assigned to the 8th Engineer Support Battalion, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, 2nd Marine Expeditionary Force. Staff Sergeant D'Augustine had served two tours of duty in Iraq, and as was stated, he was just 2 weeks away from completing his second tour of duty in Afghanistan.

While there, he worked as an Explosive Ordnance Disposal tech, and he was going ahead of his fellow marines, soldiers, sailors, and airmen and was clearing the way for them. We will never know how many lives Staff Sergeant D'Augustine saved, but his numerous awards, including the Bronze Star with valor, the Purple Heart, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, the Combat Action Ribbon, the Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Korea Defense Service Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, and the NATO–ISAF Medal, all speak of his selfless heroism.

Even after his passing, Staff Sergeant D'Augustine's legacy continues to this day in his community.

The Staff Sergeant Joseph D'Augustine Memorial Fund offers a scholarship to one male graduating senior and one female graduating senior who exemplify the highest standards of citizenship through strong character and dedication to community service. Since October 2012, the fund has donated more than $48,000 to numerous charities as well as making direct donations to veterans in need. The tremendous outpouring of love and support for his family since his death has provided a glimpse into the number of lives he has touched and also into the number of lives his legacy continues to touch.

To those who knew him best—his parents, Anthony and Patricia; his three sisters, Nicole, Jennifer, and Michele; and his brother-in-law, Len—he will always be remembered as a loving son and a loving brother.

To his fellow marines, he will be remembered as a faithful brother in arms.

To this Nation, he will be remembered as a patriot who loved his country, who loved the Marine Corps, and who gave his life in defense of freedom.

The Marine Corps motto is ''Semper Fidelis''—''always faithful.'' Staff Sergeant D'Augustine lived this motto, and his legacy embodies it. He was faithful to his country, and he was faithful to his mission. He was faithful to the Corps, and he was faithful to his fellow marines.

In times such as this, words fail to provide adequate comfort to his family and friends, and it is my sincere hope that they know that the prayers and gratitude of this Nation are always with them.

Mr. WELCH. I thank the gentleman from New Jersey for his eloquent statement, and we fully support this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I would just like to thank the gentleman from New Jersey for his leadership on this particular issue, for his love for those whom he represents and for his love for those who serve. I thank the gentleman so much for bringing this bill forward, and I urge all of the Members to support H.R. 1458.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1458.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DESIGNATION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR OF THE UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means:

To the Congress of the United States:

Consistent with the provisions of 19 U.S.C. 1330(c)(1), this is to notify the Congress that I have designated Meredith M. Broadbent as Chair and Dean A. Pinkert as Vice Chair of the United States International Trade Commission, effective June 17, 2014.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *June 17, 2014.*

CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN FEDERAL PROPERTY TO MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3786) to direct the Administrator of General Services, on behalf of the Archivist of the United States, to convey certain Federal property located in the State of Alaska to the Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3786

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

SECTION 1. REAL PROPERTY CONVEYANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of this Act and after completion of the survey and appraisal described in this section, the Administrator of General Services, on behalf of the Archivist of the United States, shall convey to the City by quitclaim deed for the consideration described in subsection (c), all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to a parcel of real property described in subsection (b).

(b) LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The parcel to be conveyed under subsection (a) consists of approximately 9 acres and improvements located at 400 East Fortieth Street in the City that is administered by the National Archives and Records Administration.

(2) SURVEY REQUIRED.—As soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of this Act, the exact acreage and legal description of the real property to be conveyed under subsection (a) shall be determined by a survey, paid for by the City, that is satisfactory to the Archivist.

(c) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—

(1) CONSIDERATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—As consideration for the conveyance of the property under subsection

(a), the City shall pay to the Archivist an amount not less than the fair market value of the conveyed property, to be determined as provided in subparagraph (B).

(B) APPRAISAL.—The fair market value of the property to be conveyed under subsection (a) shall be determined based on an appraisal that—

(i) is conducted by a licensed, independent appraiser that is approved by the Archivist and the City;

(ii) is based on the highest and best use of the property;

(iii) is approved by the Archivist; and

(iv) is paid for by the City.

(2) PRE-CONVEYANCE ENTRY.—The Archivist, on terms and conditions the Archivist determines to be appropriate, may authorize the City to enter the property at no charge for pre-construction and construction activities.

(3) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Archivist may require additional terms and conditions in connection with the conveyance under subsection (a) as the Archivist considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

(d) PROCEEDS.—Subject to appropriations Acts, the net proceeds from the conveyance of property under subsection (a) shall be available to the Archivist for activities funded in annual appropriations Acts under the heading ''National Archives and Records Administration—Repairs and Restorations''.

(e) CITY DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''City'' means the Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. CARSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 3786, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alaska?

There was no objection.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 3786, as amended, will direct the General Services Administration, on behalf of the National Archives, to convey property in Alaska to the city of Anchorage.

I am pleased to be the sponsor of this legislation, which will bring savings to the taxpayer.

The National Archives has determined that it no longer needs the property to be conveyed in the bill, and it wants to sell it as part of its efforts to shrink its space footprint. The bill will require fair market value for the property and will allow the National Archives to retain the proceeds to offset the costs of repairing other facilities. I urge my colleagues to support the passage of this legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I also support H.R. 3786, which directs the General Services Administration, the GSA, on behalf of the Archivist of the United States, to convey 9 acres of property in Anchorage, Alaska, to the local municipality in exchange for its fair market value.

The GSA reports that this property is, effectively, underutilized, and I support selling the property for its highest value and best use. This bill, Mr. Speaker, protects the interests of taxpayers, and it allows the Federal Government to manage its property portfolio more efficiently. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1515

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3786, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO, FEDERAL LAND CONVEYANCE ACT OF 2014

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3998) to authorize the Administrator of General Services to convey a parcel of real property in Albuquerque, New Mexico, to the Amy Biehl High School Foundation, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3998

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 ''Albuquerque, New Mexico, Federal Land Conveyance Act of 2014''.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ''Administrator'' means the Administrator of General Services.

(2) FEDERAL LAND.—The term ''Federal land'' means the real property, including any improvements thereon, located in Albuquerque, New Mexico, that, as determined by the Administrator, subject to survey, generally consists of lots 12 through 19, and for the westerly boundary, the portion of either lot 19 or 20 which is the outside west wall of the basement level of the Old Post Office building, and which has a municipal address of 123 Fourth Street, SW., in Block 18, New Mexico Town Company's Original Townsite, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

(3) FOUNDATION.—The term ''Foundation'' means the Amy Biehl High School Foundation.

SEC. 3. CONVEYANCE OF REAL PROPERTY IN ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO, TO THE AMY BIEHL HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION.

(a) CONVEYANCE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall offer to convey to the Foundation, by quitclaim deed, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the Federal land.

(b) CONSIDERATION.—As consideration for conveyance of the Federal land under subsection (a), the Administrator shall require the Foundation to pay to the Administrator consideration in an amount equal to the fair market value of the Federal land, as determined based on an appraisal that is acceptable to the Administrator.

(c) COSTS OF CONVEYANCE.—The Foundation shall be responsible for paying—

(1) the costs of an appraisal conducted under subsection (b); and

(2) any other costs relating to the conveyance of the Federal land under this Act.

(d) PROCEEDS.—

(1) DEPOSIT.—Net proceeds received under subsection (b) shall be paid into the Federal Buildings Fund established under section 592 of title 40, United States Code.

(2) EXPENDITURE.—Amounts paid into the Federal Buildings Fund under paragraph (1) shall be available to the Administrator, in amounts specified in appropriations Acts, for expenditure for any lawful purpose consistent with existing authorities granted to the Administrator.

(e) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Administrator may require that any conveyance under subsection (a) be subject to such additional terms and conditions as the Administrator considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

(f) DEADLINE.—The conveyance of the Federal land under this Act shall occur not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. CARSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 3998, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alaska?

There was no objection.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3998, as amended, will direct the GSA to convey property in New Mexico to the Amy Biehl High School Foundation for fair market value. The Amy Biehl High School is a public charter school that has been using the building since 2006.

While the school currently leases the facilities from the General Services Administration, GSA only receives nominal rent, making it more costly to the taxpayer to maintain the property. In fact, the Amy Biehl Foundation has invested funds to renovate and restore the building for use as a school.

GSA has determined there is no Federal need for the property and concluded the cost of managing this building exceeds any revenue. Selling this property for fair market value will ensure the taxpayer receives the best return on the property.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3998 was introduced by Representative MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM and directs the GSA to transfer the old Federal post office in Albuquerque, New Mexico, to the Amy Biehl High School Foundation in exchange for its fair market value.

The Amy Biehl High School Foundation runs a public charter school that was founded in 1999 and has been residing in the GSA-owned old Federal post office building since 2006. Currently, the public charter school has a long-term lease with the GSA for nominal rent.

GSA has determined that it would be best to remove the building from their inventory because the building does not generate significant revenue for the agency. In addition, the current lease is not consistent with GSA's mission.

The charter school has been working with GSA on transferring the building's ownership to the foundation since 2007. Today's bill, Mr. Speaker, will allow that transfer to happen very quickly, while protecting the taxpayers' interests.

I also want to take a moment to talk about Amy Biehl and the inspiration for this great charter school. Amy was a 26-year-old Fulbright Scholar working in South Africa when she was tragically attacked and killed in 1993.

Amy's parents refused to allow their daughter's violent death to become her legacy. Instead, Linda and Peter Biehl started a foundation to build on their daughter's work toward peace, reconciliation, and multiculturalism. The school in New Mexico builds on this work.

Approving this bill, Mr. Speaker, to transfer the lease at its fair market value will simply promote Amy's legacy and benefit taxpayers.

I support this bill, Mr. Speaker, and I certainly urge its passage.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Arizona (Ms. LUJAN GRISHAM).

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my colleagues from Indiana and Pennsylvania very much for their support on this bill.

I rise today, of course, in support of my bill, H.R. 3998, which would direct, as you have heard, the General Services Administration to sell, for fair market value, the historic post office building in downtown Albuquerque, New Mexico, to the Amy Biehl High School Foundation.

As you have also heard, the charter school is named after a young Fulbright Scholar from Santa Fe who was, in fact, tragically killed in South Africa in 1993 while working to end apartheid.

The high school is located in the heart of downtown Albuquerque. It is a few blocks away from a public library, a historical city theater, and a robust transportation center.

Fifty-five percent of the students receive free or reduced lunch, 64 percent of the students will be the first generation to attend college, and 70 percent of the students represent minority families in New Mexico. In fact, this school primarily serves at-risk youth.

The school's central location ensures that all of the students have access to transportation and allows the school to partner with nearby businesses and nonprofits to collaborate on community projects.

The Amy Biehl High School holds an impressive track record, with 99 percent of its graduates enrolling directly into college, and has been a recipient of several awards.

In 2000, the school was designated as one of 20 Mentor Schools in the Nation by the Coalition of Essential Schools. In 2006, the high school also won the National Trust for Historic Preservation Award.

The school has leased the old post office at the corner of Fourth and Gold in downtown and has held the lease from GSA since 2006. Currently, this lease is for a term of 60 years. The building was built in 1908 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the New Mexico Register of Cultural Properties.

The Amy Biehl High School moved into the old post office, which sat unoccupied for 6 years, and they were able to raise and invest more than $3 million in Federal, State, and private funds to renovate and restore the building for use as a school.

Selling the building to the high school provides the school with greater autonomy. It opens the door to capital campaigns and creates a permanent home for the school and the students.

The Amy Biehl High School Foundation and the GSA have determined that transferring ownership of the building is, in fact, in the best interest of both entities, the Federal Government and the school.

I would like to thank Senator TOM UDALL for working with me on this bill, and I ask my colleagues to support this legislation that will help the Amy Biehl High School continue to provide Albuquerque students with a first-rate education, while also preserving a historic piece of downtown Albuquerque.

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I would just like to put a plug in for charter schools period. The Amy Biehl school is an example of what can be done under charter schools and how it does serve a purpose.

We have been very successful in the State of Alaska with our charter schools, and I think it is crucially important to understand that sometimes other schools can fulfill that gap.

Apparently, this one does a good job, according to the young lady that sponsored the bill and the gentleman that is managing this bill. But let's just remember that when education is failing, then we have to look for other alternatives, and this is a classic alternative.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3998, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1530

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess for a period of less than 15 minutes.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1541

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois) at 3 o'clock and 41 minutes p.m.

PFC FLOYD K. LINDSTROM DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS CLINIC

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3375) to designate the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs to be constructed at 3141 Centennial Boulevard, Colorado Springs, Colorado, as the ''PFC Floyd K. Lindstrom Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3375

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

SECTION 1. PFC FLOYD K. LINDSTROM DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS CLINIC.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs to be constructed at 3141 Centennial Boulevard, Colorado Springs, Colorado, shall be known and designated as the ''PFC Floyd K. Lindstrom Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, regulation, map, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the building referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''PFC Floyd K. Lindstrom Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN) and the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 3375.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Colorado?

There was no objection.

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3375, which would name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic at 3141 Centennial Boulevard in Colorado Springs, Colorado, the PFC Floyd K. Lindstrom Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic.

We are here today to honor the life and sacrifice of Private First Class Floyd K. Lindstrom by naming a new VA community-based outpatient clinic in southern Colorado after him.

PFC Lindstrom was raised by his mother in Colorado Springs, which is part of the Fifth Congressional District that I am honored to represent. There, he spent much of his youth working summers on the Stratton farm and playing basketball. As a young man, he delivered fruit and produce between California and Colorado, while helping to support his mother and sister.

Just after his 30th birthday, PFC Lindstrom answered the Nation's call to serve by enlisting in the United States Army on June 22, 1942. He was trained as a machine gunner; assigned to 2nd Platoon, H Company, 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment of the 3rd Infantry Division; and arrived in North Africa in the early months of 1943. That is when my father was also in North Africa.

On July 12, 1943, PFC Lindstrom's convoy was in Sicily and came under attack from enemy aircraft when he saw an out-of-control truck heading for a friendly dismounted soldier. Noticing that the soldier was unaware of the threat, Lindstrom abandoned the safety of his protective cover and redirected the truck, saving his fellow soldier's life. For these actions, Lindstrom was awarded the Silver Star.

This wasn't the only time he displayed extraordinary heroism and selfless sacrifice.

□ 1545

On November 11, 1943, PFC Lindstrom's unit was providing machine gun support for a rifle company attacking a hill near Mignano, Italy. When a German counterattack forced friendly forces to retreat to a defensive position, Lindstrom demonstrated complete fearlessness in the face of almost certain death by singlehandedly assaulting and knocking out an enemy machine gun position. That display of aggressive spirit and conspicuous gallantry was credited with breaking up the counterattack, and Lindstrom was subsequently nominated for the Medal of Honor.

I would like to read the last sentence from the citation for PFC Lindstrom when he received his Medal of Honor:

His spectacular performance completely broke up the German counterattack. PFC Lindstrom demonstrated aggressive spirit and complete fearlessness in the face of almost certain death.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I will introduce into the RECORD the citation for his Medal of Honor.

MEDAL OF HONOR CITATION

Private First Class Lindstrom's official Medal of Honor citation reads:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at risk of life above and beyond the call of duty. On 11 November 1943, this soldier's platoon was furnishing machinegun support for a rifle company attacking a hill near Mignano, Italy, when the enemy counterattacked, forcing the riflemen and half the machinegun platoon to retire to a defensive position. Pfc. Lindstrom saw that his small section was alone and outnumbered 5 to 1, yet he immediately deployed the few remaining men into position and opened fire with his single gun. The enemy centered fire on him with machinegun, machine pistols, and grenades. Unable to knock out the enemy nest from his original position, Pfc. Lindstrom picked up his own heavy machinegun and staggered 15 yards up the barren, rocky hillside to a new position, completely ignoring enemy small arms fire which was striking all around him. From this new site, only 10 yards from the enemy machinegun, he engaged it in an intense duel. Realizing that he could not hit the hostile gunners because they were behind a large rock, he charged uphill under a steady stream of fire, killed both gunners with his pistol and dragged their gun down to his own men, directing them to employ it against the enemy. Disregarding heavy rifle fire, he returned to the enemy machinegun nest for 2 boxes of ammunition, came back and resumed withering fire from his own gun. His spectacular performance completely broke up the German counterattack. Pfc. Lindstrom demonstrated aggressive spirit and complete fearlessness in the face of almost certain death.

Mr. LAMBORN. Following that event, PFC Lindstrom was given the option of staying with his fellow soldiers or taking a significantly safer assignment as a guard far removed from enemy lines. Consistent with his previous actions, Lindstrom refused to put his own safety ahead of his fellow soldiers and chose to remain with his unit. Less than 3 months later, he was killed during a German counterattack at Anzio, Italy. On April 20, 1944, PFC Lindstrom was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his courageous actions near Mignano.

He is now interred in Evergreen Cemetery in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

The new VA community-based outpatient clinic in Colorado Springs is set to open in the next few months and was only made possible through many years of hard work by the veterans of southern Colorado and the support of my colleagues here in Congress. The new facility will double the size of existing clinics while providing health care that is more comprehensive and convenient to the veterans of southern Colorado. It is only fitting for the new clinic to be named after one of Colorado Springs'—and the Nation's—greatest heroes.

I can think of no one more deserving of this honor than Private 1st Class Floyd K. Lindstrom. It is my pleasure to offer H.R. 3375, and I am grateful for the leadership and support of the VA Committee Chairman JEFF MILLER, Ranking Member MICHAUD, and the entire Colorado delegation.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this great hero by supporting this bill. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my support of H.R. 3375, a bill to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic that will be constructed at 3141 Centennial Boulevard, Colorado Springs, Colorado, as the PFC Floyd K. Lindstrom Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic.

Floyd Lindstrom was born on June 21, 1912. He was a truckdriver for the local store and frequently drove back and forth to California. He joined the Army from Colorado Springs in June 1942. By November 11, 1943, he was serving as a Private 1st Class in the 3rd Infantry Division. On that day, near Mignano, Italy, he singlehandedly charged and captured a German machine gun. PFC Lindstrom was killed in action 3 months later on February 3, 1944, at the age of 31. He is buried in Evergreen Cemetery in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

For his bravery and service, PFC Lindstrom was awarded two Italian military crosses, the Purple Heart, and a Silver Star. On April 20, 1944, he was posthumously awarded the United States military's highest decoration, the Medal of Honor, for his actions near Mignano, Italy, during World War II.

PFC Lindstrom went above and beyond the call of duty. He made the ultimate sacrifice for our Nation. It is most appropriate that the VA community-based outpatient clinic in Colorado Springs, Colorado, be named in honor of this local hero.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague, the gentleman from South Carolina, for his words and his support on this bill. This has special meaning to me because my father fought, also, in North Africa, Sicily, and Italy, and he recently passed away as one of the members of the Greatest Generation. Floyd Lindstrom, though, never came back. I believe he was engaged. He had a fiancee or a girlfriend, but he never came back.

So it is only fitting that we honor the veterans who have served in the past on a building that is going to be serving the needs of our veterans in the

present. And I believe this will also inspire generations in the future as they know the story of Floyd Lindstrom.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers at this time. I yield back the balance of my time, and I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 3375.

Mr. LAMBORN. I ask my colleagues to also support H.R. 3375, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3375.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

DORIS MILLER DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4199) to name the Department of Veterans Affairs medical center in Waco, Texas, as the ''Doris Miller Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4199

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

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) On October 12, 1919, Doris Miller was born in Waco, Texas.

(2) On September 16, 1939, Miller enlisted in the United States Navy as mess attendant, third class at Naval Recruiting Station, Dallas, Texas, to serve for a period of six years.

(3) On February 16, 1941, Miller received a change of rating to mess attendant, second class.

(4) On June 1, 1942, Miller received a change of rating to mess attendant, first class.

(5) On June 1, 1943, Miller received a change of rating, to cook, third class.

(6) On November 25, 1944, Miller was presumed dead by the Secretary of the Navy a year and a day after being carried as missing in action since November 24, 1943, while serving aboard USS Liscome Bay when that vessel was torpedoed and sunk in the Pacific Ocean.

(7) Miller was awarded the Navy Cross Medal, Purple Heart Medal, American Defense Service Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, and World War II Victory Medal.

(8) Miller's citation for the Navy Cross said ''for distinguished devotion to duty, extraordinary courage and disregard for his own personal safety during the attack on the Fleet in Pearl Harbor, Territory of Hawaii, by Japanese forces on December 7, 1941. While at the side of his Captain on the bridge, Miller, despite enemy strafing and bombing and in the face of a serious fire, assisted in moving his Captain, who had been mortally wounded, to a place of greater safety, and later manned and operated a machine gun directed at enemy Japanese attacking aircraft until ordered to leave the bridge.''.

(9) On June 20, 1973, the USS Miller (FF–1091), a Knox-class frigate, was named in honor of Doris Miller.

SEC. 2. NAME OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER, WACO, TEXAS.

The Department of Veterans Affairs medical center in Waco, Texas, shall after the date of the enactment of this Act be known and designated as the ''Doris Miller Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center''. Any reference to such medical center in any law, regulation, map, document, record, or other paper of the United States shall be considered to be a reference to the Doris Miller Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN) and the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 4199.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Colorado?

There was no objection.

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4199, which is sponsored by my good friend and colleague and fellow committee member, Representative BILL FLORES of Texas, who serves as the chairman of the Economic Opportunity Subcommittee.

H.R. 4199 would name the VA medical center in Waco, Texas, the Doris Miller Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Petty Officer Doris—or ''Dorie''—Miller served in the U.S. Navy from 1939 to 1943.

During the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, Dorie's heroic actions in the heat of battle helped to save the lives of many of his fellow servicemembers. For his actions, he received the Purple Heart Medal, the American Defense Service Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, the World War II Victory Medal, and the Navy Cross, making him the first African American in our Nation's history to receive that honor. It is only appropriate that the VA Medical Center in Waco, Texas, bear Dorie's name.

I am grateful to Representative FLORES for sponsoring this legislation and urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 4199. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the great heroes of World War II. H.R. 4199 would name the veterans medical center in Waco, Texas, after a decorated sailor who displayed tremendous courage during the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Doris ''Dorie'' Miller was the first African American hero of World War II. After enlisting in the United States Navy at the Dallas recruiting station and attending basic training in Norfolk, Virginia, Dorie arrived on the USS *West Virginia* stationed in Pearl Harbor.

At the time, there were few options for Black sailors in the Navy. Dorie was assigned as a mess attendant. At 6 a.m. on December 7, Dorie was awake conducting his duties as room steward for the officers when the alarm for general quarters rang out. Throughout the fighting, Dorie assisted in transporting wounded to the first aid station, helped load ammunition, and manned an unattended antiaircraft deck gun. While under bombardment from the Japanese, Dorie continued firing at the attacking planes, possibly bringing down one of the aircraft.

For his extraordinary courage, Dorie was awarded the Navy Cross by Admiral Chester Nimitz. He was the first African American to receive that honor in the Pacific Fleet. Nearly 2 years after Pearl Harbor, Dorie gave the ultimate sacrifice, going down with the ship during the Battle of Tarawa in the South Pacific.

Dorie has been immortalized in movies as well as with commemoration on a United States postal stamp. He also had the honor of having a United States Navy frigate named after him in 1973.

Dorie was born in Waco and played fullback at Waco's A.J. Moore High School. He also worked as a cook in Waco, supplementing the family income during the Great Depression.

We have a proud tradition of honoring our heroes by dedicating our flagship VA facilities to those who epitomize the selfless service and sacrifice of all veterans. So it is fitting that the Waco medical center proudly takes the name of its famous son.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas, Representative BILL FLORES, the sponsor of the bill.

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Speaker, I also thank the gentlemen from Colorado and South Carolina for their support of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my legislation, H.R. 4199, which would name the Waco VA medical center after Petty Officer First Class Doris Miller. Petty Officer Miller was the first African American to be awarded the Navy Cross.

Petty Officer Miller—better known by his nickname ''Dorie''—of Waco, Texas, bravely served in the United States Navy from 1939 to 1943 and was most renowned for his heroic acts during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. On that day, Miller was serving as

a mess attendant on the battleship *West Virginia* when the attack started.

During the attack and under heavy enemy fire, Miller bravely rose above and beyond the call of duty by aiding mortally wounded Captain Mervyn Bennion and then manning a .50-caliber antiaircraft machine gun. He returned fire upon the enemy until he was out of ammunition, reportedly shooting down one to three enemy planes.

In the final moments before the USS *West Virginia* sank, Miller continued his heroism by carrying many of his wounded shipmates to safety and saving the lives of several sailors in the process.

The story of Petty Officer Miller's bravery is a testament to his outstanding courage and commitment to serving his country. In May of 1942, in recognition of his heroism at Pearl Harbor, Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox and Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz commended and awarded Miller the Navy Cross, the second-highest military decoration for valor.

Admiral Nimitz commented that Miller's bravery ''marks the first time in this conflict that such high tribute has been made in the Pacific Fleet to a member of his race, and I am sure in the future we will see others similarly honored for brave acts.''

Miller continued his naval service in the Pacific war theater. During the spring of 1943, he was assigned to the USS *Liscome Bay*, an escort carrier involved in Operation Galvanic. During the ship's mission, on November 24, 1943, a Japanese submarine torpedoed the escort carrier, and within minutes the vessel sank. Petty Officer Miller was one of the 646 brave sailors that gave the ultimate sacrifice aboard the *Liscome Bay* that day.

□ 1600

In addition to being awarded the Navy Cross, Miller was decorated with the Purple Heart Medal, the American Defense Service Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, and the World War II Victory Medal.

Petty Officer Miller's actions at Pearl Harbor led him to be recognized as one of the heroes of World War II, and in doing so, he distinguished himself as a great African American hero in U.S. history.

Miller's story has become iconic as one of the heroic tales of bravery during World War II. Most notably, the portrayal of Miller by actor Cuba Gooding, Jr., in the 2001 movie ''Pearl Harbor,'' paid great tribute to Miller's heroics aboard the *West Virginia* that day.

Each year, the Waco VA medical center assists thousands of central Texas veterans with their health care needs. By naming the center after Miller, we not only pay honor to his service and his sacrifice, but to that of all veterans.

The tremendous courage and bravery Miller showed during the attack on Pearl Harbor is worthy of such an honor. In naming the center after a local hero, we will preserve the memory of Miller's outstanding valor and duty for generations to come.

Finally, I want to thank all of those who made this legislation possible. I want to thank Chairman MILLER and the House Veterans' Affairs Committee for their assistance. I would also like to thank the House Members of the Texas delegation for their 100 percent cosponsorship of this legislation. In addition, I want to thank Texas Senator CORNYN and Texas Senator CRUZ for introducing identical legislation in the Senate.

Additionally, I want to thank Waco Mayor Malcolm Duncan, McLennan County Commissioner Lester Gibson, and McLennan County Judge Scott Felton for their local support.

Last, but not least, I would like to thank the Texas chapters of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, the Disabled American Veterans, Military Officers Association of America, the Texas Veterans Commission, and the Texas Coalition of Veterans Organizations for lending their support to this recognition of a Texas hero.

Again, I urge and support the passage of H.R. 4199.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to add my thanks to Mr. FLORES and the entire Texas delegation for bringing this legislation.

I grew up studying about Dorie Miller. He was one of those who we knew should be honored, but there were many on that day. Among them was Joseph Henry Washington, who was serving on the *USS Arizona* on December 7 at the time of this attack. He survived, and I recently wrote about him.

There were many great men and women serving during this time who have gone unattended to, and I thank you so much for recognizing this one. I hope, as we continue our service here, that we will continue to look into the backgrounds and experiences of those others who have not yet been recognized and do the appropriate recognition at the proper time.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from South Carolina for his words and for his constructive and inspiring thoughts. I thank the sponsor for bringing this excellent piece of legislation forward. I encourage all Members to support H.R. 4199.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4199.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JASON CRISP FOREST SERVICE BUILDING

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4360) to designate the facility of the United States Forest Service for the Grandfather Ranger District located at 109 Lawing Drive in Nebo, North Carolina, as the ''Jason Crisp Forest Service Building''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4360

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF JASON CRISP FOREST SERVICE BUILDING, NEBO, NORTH CAROLINA.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the Grandfather Ranger District of the United States Forest Service located at 109 Lawing Drive in Nebo, North Carolina, shall be known and designated as the ''Jason Crisp Forest Service Building''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Jason Crisp Forest Service Building''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BENISHEK) and the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill H.R. 4360.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4360, a bill that would name the administrative building for the Grandfather District of the Pisgah National Forest in North Carolina for Officer Jason Crisp.

Officer Crisp spent 8 years serving in the McDowell County Sheriff's Office and serving in different roles in the community where he grew up. He graduated from the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in 2005, when he returned to western North Carolina to begin his career marking timber for the Forest Service and, later, to work in a K–9 unit, along with his partner, Maros.

Like other Forest Service officers, Officer Crisp and Maros were charged with protecting the National Forest and those in its boundaries, which they did with distinction. Officer Crisp and Maros often assisted in manhunts and other searches in the National Forest and surrounding community as part of their duty.

Officer Crisp was not on duty on March 12 when he received a phone call about a murder suspect on the loose.

Nevertheless, he selflessly agreed to assist, demonstrating his commitment to keeping his community safe.

This selfless attitude of dedication is prevalent among the men and women of the Forest Service Law Enforcement and Investigations division. Officer Crisp's life was senselessly taken in the line of duty on March 12, while assisting local and State police forces in the manhunt.

He leaves behind a wife, Amanda, and two sons, Garrett and Logan.

As we mourn the loss of Officer Crisp, we want to thank the Crisp family for Officer Crisp's years of service. Naming this building is a small token of thanks to Officer Crisp's family, in order to honor his memory and his service.

While Officer Crisp will be missed, naming the Forest Service building in his honor will be a reminder to the citizens of western North Carolina of all that he meant to the community.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4360. H.R. 4360 designates a facility at the United States Forest Service Grandfather Ranger District of the Pisgah National Forest in North Carolina the Jason Crisp Forest Service Building after United States Forest Service Officer Jason Crisp.

Officer Crisp and his canine, Maros, were tragically killed in the line of duty on March 12 in Burke County, North Carolina. Officer Crisp was off duty, but nonetheless assisted local authorities in the manhunt for a murder suspect on the loose.

This selflessness is demonstrative of Officer Crisp's commitment to the safety and security of his community, a commitment shared by our many dedicated Forest Service officers.

Designating this building the Jason Crisp Forest Service Building is our way of thanking and honoring Officer Crisp and his family—his wife, sons, parents, sister, and brothers—for his 16 years of service to the United States Forest Service.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4360.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS), the author of this legislation.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Michigan, and I thank my friend from South Carolina for their support of this bill.

I also want to thank, Mr. Speaker, Chairman LUCAS and Ranking Member PETERSON for their help in bringing this bill to the floor. Without their help, truly, we would not be here today. It is an honor not only to work with them both, but their staffs on this legislation, and so I would also like to thank the entire North Carolina delegation for their support.

On March 12, 2014, just this year, just a few months ago, Officer Jason Crisp and his canine, Maros, were shot and killed in Burke County, North Carolina. He was off duty at the time. The call came at home. When it came in, he was very quick to respond and participate in a manhunt to track down someone—a suspect who had committed two murders. It was the kind of selfless service that was not unique and not a one-time thing for Officer Crisp.

Just 5 days later, a memorial service was held in his honor, and we had thousands of law enforcement officers from all across the region come to honor his service, as well as other elected officials in government.

The bill we are considering today would name the United States Forest Service building in the Grandfather Ranger District in Nebo, North Carolina, as the Jason Crisp Forest Service Building, in honor of Officer Crisp's sacrifice.

Officer Crisp—or Jason, as his family and friends knew him—was 38 years old. He lived in Marion, North Carolina, in McDowell County, in the western part of North Carolina.

He graduated from the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in 2005, and he became an officer for the Forest Service. He and his dog, Maros, routinely assisted in hunts for suspects in McDowell, Burke, Avery, Watauga, and Caldwell counties.

He also served as a law enforcement reserve officer in the McDowell County Sheriff's Office. He also served as a deputy sheriff there prior to going to work for the U.S. Forest Service.

His wife, Amanda, and his two sons, Garrett and Logan, his parents and sister and two brothers are a reminder that many times, when we have people that serve, there are other people who are involved in that service as well, and so I want to thank them today.

Perhaps the best words were by some of his friends at his memorial that called him warmhearted, always looking out for others, a warrior, and, yes, someone who even played practical jokes.

The release from his family said:

> Jason was a loving father, loving husband, and a great friend. He was his wife's best friend and the love of her life. He loved the Lord and was an honest Christian man, who gave his life protecting his friends. He loved doing his job with a passion. The only thing that he loved more than his job was his family and friends. He died a hero. However, he was a hero well before that day.
>
> Maros was also our family member, and he was loved like a child. Jason loved working with Maros.
>
> Thank you to all of the agencies for your hard work, and thank you for all of the prayers, calls, and visits from our family and friends.

□ 1615

It is an honor for me today to not only recognize Officer Crisp but all the first responders who missed birthdays, anniversaries, dinners, and gatherings to answer the call to protect and serve our communities.

Every day, Mr. Speaker, we expect them to answer the call, serving silently and selflessly. We also expect them to come home. Some do not.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I would encourage the passage of H.R. 4360 to rename the Grandfather Ranger District Forest Service building in Nebo, North Carolina, in honor of Officer Jason Crisp, the Jason Crisp Forest Service Building.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of H.R. 4360 and yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4360.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DR. CAMERON MCKINLEY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS VETERANS CENTER

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1216) to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs Vet Center in Prescott, Arizona, as the ''Dr. Cameron McKinley Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Center''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1216

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

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Dr. Cameron K. McKinley was born on December 9, 1930, in Shreveport, Louisiana.

(2) Dr. McKinley served in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve in Shreveport, Louisiana, from 1947 to 1949.

(3) Dr. McKinley served valiantly at Wiesbaden Air Force Hospital during and after the Vietnam War, providing therapy to military personnel and their families.

(4) Dr. McKinley served with great distinction as the Chief of Psychology at the Veterans Affairs Hospital in Prescott, Arizona, from 1981–1995.

(5) At the Prescott Veterans Affairs Hospital, Dr. McKinley organized a ''Rap Group'' for Vietnam Era veterans dealing with various degrees of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). That group of veterans formed the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 95.

(6) Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 95, in concert with Dr. McKinley, local leaders, businesses and nonprofit groups petitioned the Federal Government for a freestanding Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC).

(7) Congress authorized 91 new rural VAMCs, among them the Prescott Vet Center. In June of 1985, the Prescott Vet Center opened.

(8) Dr. McKinley spent decades confronting the pressing issue of PTSD by providing cutting-edge psychological and neuropsychological assessments to the returning veterans of three wars. He produced targeted action plans for veterans suffering from PTSD, giving them tools to deal with their afflictions and transition successfully back into civilian life.

(9) Dr. McKinley's cutting-edge work has earned him recognition from Prescott VAMC, Vietnam Veterans of America, the Veterans' Readjustment Counseling Center, and the Department of the Army for his outstanding work to improve the lives of veterans of multiple generations.

(10) It is only well and fitting that as a tribute to this remarkable person's life that Congress seek to name the facility after the leader who was its inspiration and a lifesaver for so many.

SEC. 2. DR. CAMERON MCKINLEY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS VETERANS CENTER.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The Department of Veterans Affairs Vet Center located at 3180 Stillwater Dr. #A, Prescott, Arizona, shall after the date of the enactment of this Act be known and designated as the ''Dr. Cameron McKinley Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Center''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Department of Veterans Affairs Vet Center referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Dr. Cameron McKinley Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Center''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 1216.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Colorado?

There was no objection.

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1216, sponsored by my good friend and colleague, Representative PAUL GOSAR of Arizona. This bill would name the Vet Center in Prescott, Arizona, as the Dr. Cameron McKinley Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Center.

Dr. Cameron McKinley joined the United States Marine Corps Reserve after World War II. Following his time in uniform, Dr. McKinley pursued a career in service to his fellow veterans, eventually becoming chief psychologist at the VA Medical Center in Prescott, Arizona. Given his lifelong service to the mental well-being of his fellow veterans, it is only appropriate that the Vet Center in Prescott, Arizona, bear his name.

I am grateful to Representative GOSAR for sponsoring this legislation and urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 1216.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 1216, which designates the Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Center in Prescott, Arizona, as the Dr. Cameron McKinley Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Center.

Dr. McKinley was a dedicated and greatly admired public servant in Prescott, Arizona. As chief of psychology at the Prescott VA Medical Center from 1981 to 1996, he earned the respect and honor of many veterans' service organizations. His tireless efforts to support the mental health needs of Arizona servicemembers and their families made a huge difference to many veterans.

Dr. McKinley was a groundbreaker. He established a 24-hour information center, teams of support groups, and was responsible for establishing a veterans' mental health and rehabilitation center.

For his ''exceptionally meritorious and conspicuous service to his community,'' he received the Military Order of the Purple Heart. He was also made a charter member of Chapter 95 of the Vietnam Veterans of America, who cited his dedicated efforts on their behalf.

A Shreveport, Louisiana, native, Dr. McKinley was an avid outdoorsman, capturing the beauty he experienced fishing, hiking, and canoeing with his camera and on canvas as an artist and calligrapher.

An avid reader of student history, Dr. McKinley also volunteered for the Veterans History Project of the Library of Congress. He helped to preserve firsthand accounts of veterans he met at the veterans center he helped establish. In 1997 to 1998, he volunteered at the national Vietnam Wall in Washington.

While Dr. McKinley is no longer with us, his longstanding commitment to our Nation's heroes lives on. He is the ideal candidate for the naming of the Veterans Affairs Vet Center in Prescott.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LAMBORN. I thank my colleague from Massachusetts for his gracious words.

I would now yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR), the sponsor of the legislation.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to quickly thank Chairman MILLER and Chairman LAMBORN for their continued leadership at the House Veterans' Affairs Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I rise before you to honor a great man who served this Nation and its veterans with a lifetime of work. That man was Dr. Cameron Keith McKinley. The bill being considered here today, H.R. 1216, would designate the Veterans Affairs Vet Center in Prescott, Arizona, as the Dr. Cameron McKinley Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Center.

By way of background, Dr. McKinley served in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves in Shreveport, Louisiana, from 1947 to 1949. He served with honor at the Wiesbaden Air Force Hospital during and after the Vietnam war, providing therapy to military personnel and their families.

Later, he served with great distinction as the chief of psychology at the Veterans Affairs hospital in Prescott, Arizona, from 1981 to 1995.

Dr. McKinley spent decades confronting the pressing issues of posttraumatic stress disorder, also known as PTSD, by providing cutting-edge psychological and neuropsychological assessments to the returning veterans of three separate wars.

At the Prescott VA, Dr. McKinley organized a rap group for Vietnam veterans dealing with varying degrees of PTSD. Dr. McKinley and his team also made available off-station crisis intervention groups and other specialized groups to combat veterans experiencing PTSD. He produced targeted action plans for veterans suffering from PTSD, giving them tools to deal with their afflictions and transitioning them successfully back into civilian life.

Dr. McKinley and a group of veterans who have been working with him in that area then formed the Chapter 95 of the Vietnam Veterans of America. That VVA chapter, in concert with Dr. McKinley, local leaders, businesses, and nonprofit groups, successfully petitioned the Federal Government for a freestanding Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Prescott, Arizona. That vet center opened in June of 1985.

Dr. McKinley's cutting-edge work has earned him recognition from Veterans Affairs Medical Center, the Vietnam Veterans of America, the Veterans' Readjustment Counseling Center, and the Department of the Army for his outstanding work to improve the lives of veterans of multiple generations.

Among his numerous awards, I will name a few here: Special Recognition Award from the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 95, in 1983; Special Recognition Award from The Military Order of the Purple Heart; appreciation awards from the Prescott Vet Center on November 8, 1995; Certificate of Appreciation from the Veteran's Readjustment Counseling Center on November 11, 1989; United States Department of the Army Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Work in Support of Combat Veterans of Desert Shield and Desert Storm and Their Families on May 20, 1991; Special Appreciation, Prescott Vet Center, in December of 1995; and a Special Appreciation and Recognition Award for volunteer work at the Prescott Veterans Center in 2004.

Today it is with a heavy heart that I report to this Chamber that Dr. McKinley left this world on October 11, 2013. Thankfully, he passed peacefully at his home, surrounded by his loving family.

I insert his obituary from the Prescott Daily Courier in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

[From the Prescott Daily Courier]

OBITUARY: CAMERON KEITH MCKINLEY

Many longtime Prescott residents will be saddened by news of the death of Dr. Cameron Keith McKinley, former Chief of Psychology at the Prescott VA Medical Center

(1981–1996). Dr. McKinley died at his home in Evergreen, Colo., on the morning of Oct. 11, 2013, surrounded by his family and the beautiful pine-forested mountains filled with the many birds and animals he enjoyed watching.

He was born on Dec. 9, 1930, in Shreveport, La., to William Samuel McKinley Sr. and Goldia Simmons McKinley. He attended Louisiana Tech University and Centenary College and received a B.A. degree. He earned an M.A. and Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Houston.

Dr. McKinley completed an internship and residency at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, where he stayed on for another six years in clinical practice. For the next nine years, he and his family lived in Wiesbaden, Germany, during which time he established a Child & Family Treatment program at the U.S. Air Force Hospital. From there, the next assignment and home was Prescott, Ariz.

He was honored by many veterans organizations, among them the U.S. Army Reserve for his support of active military, veterans and their families, and for establishing a 24–hour information center, teams of support groups, a successful fundraising event, and a veterans mental health and rehabilitation center. He received the Military Order of the Purple Heart for exceptionally meritorious and conspicuous service to his community, fellow citizens and veterans. He was recognized by Vietnam Veterans of America as a charter member of Chapter 95 in Prescott, acknowledging his dedicated efforts on their behalf.

Cam volunteered at the National Vietnam Wall in Washington from 1997–1998, and also at the VA Hospital in Prescott for the Veterans History project and at the Vet Center that he established. In 2012, after letters and urging from the community, U.S. Congressman Paul Gosar introduced House Resolution 1743, a bill that would name the Veteran Affairs Vet Center in Prescott the Dr. Cameron K. McKinley Vet Center. Rep. Gosar introduced this bill to honor a groundbreaking health provider and true hero. It passed in the House of Representatives but stalled in the Senate because federal buildings are only named after someone who has died. Efforts to name the Vet Center in honor of Dr. McKinley will be renewed in the near future by those who knew him and respected his deep commitment to our military veterans.

Dr. McKinley married Anne Hinton McKinley April 9, 1955. He is survived by his wife; his daughter Carol; his son, John, and their spouses, Mark Harris and Mary McKinley; his grandchildren, Adam and Paige Roberts, Jeremy and Tim Lisby, and Cameron and Elizabeth McKinley; great-granddaughter Jillian Lisby; sister Nadine McKinley Runsick; nephews Alan and Joel Jessup; and niece Kristina McKinley Estes McKinley. His father, mother and brother, Bill, preceded him in death. His love of family was most important and brought him great peace toward the end of his life.

Cam, as he was known to those close to him, loved canoeing, hiking, fishing—the great outdoors. He took pride and interest in his Scottish heritage. He read voraciously, wrote his memoirs and expressed his artistic talents through painting, calligraphy, and his passion, photography. He captured the beauty of nature through the lens of his camera.

For those who knew Cam McKinley, his qualities of leadership, courage, humor and resilience stood out. He was generous of spirit, giving himself in service to others. We will remember his laugh and the twinkle in his eye. He will be missed by many and we are all better for having known him.

The family suggests memorial donations be sent to the Intrepid Fallen Heroes fund (fallenheroesfund.org), or the Mount Evans Hospice Inc. for their outstanding and loving care, 3081 Bergen Park Drive, Evergreen, CO 80439.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, so it is only well and fitting, as a tribute to this remarkable man's life, Congress names the facility after the very leader who was its inspiration and who was a lifesaver for so many.

I am also saddened that we could not take up this bill and pass it into law sooner so that Dr. McKinley could live to see how this hallowed body shows its appreciation for his work. I hope his family may share a few smiles as the bill moves forward in the legislative process. I would also like to think that Dr. McKinley is smiling down upon us right now.

I pose a challenge to my colleagues, Members of the executive branch, and anyone else listening. Dr. McKinley strove for exemplary service to his veteran colleagues. In naming this building after Dr. McKinley, we hold his life's work in the highest esteem. We hold it in this way to show all Americans what it means to lead a life of service to others, and so we shall all strive to follow in his footsteps.

The challenge before us is to provide timely, quality, patient-centered, and patient-friendly care to each and every veteran. Most importantly, it is long past time that the Federal Government follow his example and do the very thing that he did with all his veteran patients. The Federal Government must listen.

Today, I thank the Veterans' Affairs Committee for supporting this bill. I thank my Arizona colleagues for their support in being original cosponsors of this bill. I thank all of the veterans' service organizations for their support of this bill and all they do for our vets.

Finally, I want to thank a very special organization known as Friends of Camp McKinley for their continued advocacy on behalf of such a great man.

I ask my colleagues to pass this bill.

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Arizona for this excellent piece of legislation and his work on behalf of veterans in his district.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers at this time. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1216, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support H.R. 1216, and with that, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1216.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LYLE C. PEARSON COMMUNITY-BASED OUTPATIENT CLINIC

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3682) to designate the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs located at 1961 Premier Drive in Mankato, Minnesota, as the ''Lyle C. Pearson Community-Based Outpatient Clinic''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3682

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

SECTION 1. LYLE C. PEARSON COMMUNITY BASED OUTPATIENT CLINIC.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The community based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs located at 1961 Premier Drive in Mankato, Minnesota, shall be known and designated as the ''Lyle C. Pearson Community Based Outpatient Clinic''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the clinic referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Lyle C. Pearson Community Based Outpatient Clinic''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN) and the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. WALZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 3682.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Colorado?

There was no objection.

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3682, which is sponsored by my good friend and colleague and fellow committee member on the Veterans' Affairs Committee, Representative TIM WALZ, from Minnesota.

H.R. 3682 would name the VA Community-Based Outpatient Clinic in Mankato, Minnesota, the Lyle C. Pearson Community-Based Outpatient Clinic.

□ 1630

Lyle Pearson was a World War II prisoner of war who received the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with Clusters, and the Purple Heart for his service.

He was also a lifelong public servant, serving as the Disabled American Veterans National Commander from 1975 to 1976.

Recognizing Lyle's service and his sacrifice by naming the CBOC in Mankato after him is a fitting and appropriate honor.

I am grateful to Representative WALZ for sponsoring this legislation and urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 3682.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WALZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to thank my colleague and friend from Colorado for his kind words and his work on the Veterans' Affairs Committee. I am proud to serve with him.

I rise today in support of H.R. 3682, which designates the Department of Veterans Affairs Community-Based Outpatient Clinic in Mankato, Minnesota, as the Lyle C. Pearson Community-Based Outpatient Clinic.

Lyle Pearson was the true definition of an American hero. Through his lifelong dedication of service, both in and out of uniform, Lyle left a profound and everlasting impact on southern Minnesota and this country as a whole.

Lyle served in the skies over Europe as a B–17 pilot with the 15th Air Force during World War II. He completed 15 combat missions over occupied territory. In December 1944, Lyle's aircraft was shot down over Italy. Surviving the horrors of the shoot-down, Lyle was a prisoner of war from December of 1944 to May of 1945. For his actions in combat as a POW, Lyle was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with Clusters, and the Purple Heart.

Like so many of his colleagues, the distinguished service that he served in uniform might have only been outpaced by what he did after he came back home. After the war, Lyle rejoined his wife on their family farm, but his desire to serve was strong.

Beginning in 1957, Lyle administered programs for the Nicollet County juvenile court and Nicollet County court services, first as the chief probation officer, then as the director of court services. He helped turn around countless lives of many troubled youth in his time with the Nicollet County juvenile courts, earning Minnesota Corrections Officer of the Year in 1969.

One of Lyle's biggest impacts was helping his fellow veterans. He served his entire life helping other veterans and, as you heard from my colleague, he served as national commander of the Disabled American Veterans. He also spent 49 years as the adjutant of his local chapter.

He dedicated over half a century of service to the St. Peter State Hospital, was a 4–H club leader, and was active with his church throughout his entire life.

Through all of this, Lyle was a husband, a father of seven children, and a stalwart in his community.

Lyle's dedication to duty, his community, and this country reflected upon himself and was in keeping with the finest ideals of service, selflessness, and giving, making him the ideal namesake for the Mankato Community-Based Outreach Clinic that will serve so many of our fellow veterans.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to work with my colleague, Representative WALZ, on this fine piece of legislation honoring someone very deserving of this honor and the naming of this clinic.

So with that, Mr. Speaker, I urge all of our Members and colleagues to support H.R. 3682, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3682.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess for a period of less than 15 minutes.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 34 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1648

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois) at 4 o'clock and 48 minutes p.m.

AUTHORIZING USE OF ROTUNDA FOR CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL CEREMONY

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 37) authorizing the use of the rotunda of the United States Capitol in commemoration of the Shimon Peres Congressional Gold Medal ceremony.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

S. CON. RES. 37

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. USE OF THE ROTUNDA OF THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL IN COMMEMORATION OF THE SHIMON PERES CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL CEREMONY.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—The rotunda of the United States Capitol is authorized to be used on June 26, 2014, for the commemoration of the award of the Congressional Gold Medal to Shimon Peres.

(b) PREPARATIONS.—Physical preparations for the conduct of the ceremony described in subsection (a) shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as may be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. HARPER) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mississippi.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on the Senate concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Mississippi?

There was no objection.

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Senate concurrent resolution permitting the use of the rotunda of the United States Capitol in commemoration of the Shimon Peres Congressional Gold Medal ceremony.

The presentation of the Congressional Gold Medal is a physical recognition given by Congress to express our Nation's highest appreciation for an individual's distinguished achievements and contributions. The man we rise to discuss today is one who has many significant achievements and who holds a lifelong extraordinary record of public service.

Israeli President Shimon Peres was born in Poland in 1923, in a town which is now a part of Belarus. To escape the persecution of the Jewish people there at the time, he and his family immigrated to Palestine in 1934. There, Peres took up his calling for public service, and in 1947, he joined the Zionist Party, led by David Ben Gurion.

Once Israel achieved its independence in 1948, Peres was appointed to the head of Israel's navy and rose to become the Minister of Defense. Peres went on to serve in several high-level positions in the cabinet of Israel's government.

His career spans more than 70 years, including serving as Prime Minister twice and, now, as President of Israel. Throughout his career, he has been an integral hand in guiding his nation into the future.

His long career is marked by numerous events where Peres exercised his determination for peace. In 1993, Peres participated in secret negotiations between the Palestinians and Israelis, which are known as the Oslo Accords, an agreement that was designed to reconcile both Israelis and Palestinians.

The next year, he was jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his role serving as lead negotiator for Israel, while he served as Foreign Minister during these negotiations.

Peres is a statesman who has dedicated most of his life to the service of others. He has worked for the betterment of his nation where he lives, and he has taken seriously the calling and responsibilities of what it means to be a member on the world stage.

This was no more apparent than earlier this month, when Peres joined Pope Francis and Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas in praying for peace at the Vatican and offered his own invocation:

> Without peace, we are not complete. We have yet to achieve this mission of humanity. Even when peace seems distant, we must pursue it to bring it closer.

The United States has a longstanding and close relationship with the people

of Israel. Israel is our friend and closest ally in the Middle East. Through President Peres' leadership, this relationship and our international cooperation has only deepened and persevered.

Our two nations stand shoulder to shoulder when it comes to our commitments towards the pursuit of peace, democracy, liberty, and the furthering of human rights.

Later this month, on June 26, the Congress will meet together to honor this man—a man who has set an example of courage and perseverance for us all—and award him with the Congressional Gold Medal. It is fitting to present him with Congress' most prestigious award as a sign of our deep respect and admiration.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to start, Mr. Speaker, by thanking my colleague from Mississippi for coming down to the floor today.

Mr. Speaker, this simple resolution, which passed the Senate by unanimous consent last week, would authorize the use of the Capitol rotunda for a ceremony to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Shimon Peres. The Congressional Gold Medal is one of the highest civilian honors; and Shimon Peres, Israel's President, is most deserving of this noteworthy award.

During a recent trip to Israel last year, I had the distinct honor of meeting President Peres who, even at 90 years of age, is as devoted as ever to a strong and unbreakable bond between our two nations.

Awarding the Congressional Gold Medal to Shimon Peres will put him in a distinguished category of only nine individuals who have ever been awarded both the Congressional Gold Medal and the Presidential Medal of Freedom, which President Obama awarded Peres in 2012. Of the dual medalists, four are also Nobel Peace Prize laureates, an honor also bestowed on President Peres.

The resolution before us today is particularly timely, as President Peres is scheduled to visit the United States next week. With passage of this resolution, Congress will be able to hold the commemoration ceremony with him in attendance.

I would also like to take this time, Mr. Speaker, to thank the hardworking folks at the U.S. Mint, who have been working around the clock to be sure the medal will be ready on time.

Also, I thank the staff on the Financial Services Committee and members of leadership from both sides of the aisle in the House and the Senate, as well as their staff, for their support.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support the resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I would add that, throughout Israeli President Peres' Presidency and decades of service, he has stood as the Israeli people's unifying figure and upholder of the nation's moral compass. No one could have embodied those attributes more fully than Peres.

As he ends his term as President, our Nation joins his in thanking him for his honorable service and his unfailing humanitarian efforts.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. HARPER) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the concurrent resolution, S. Con. Res. 37.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 56 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1831

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois) at 6 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 3375, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 1671, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. The remaining electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

PFC FLOYD K. LINDSTROM DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS CLINIC

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3375) to designate the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs to be constructed at 3141 Centennial Boulevard, Colorado Springs, Colorado, as the ''PFC Floyd K. Lindstrom Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic,'' on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 396, nays 0, not voting 35, as follows:

[Roll No. 313]

YEAS—396

Aderholt
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Bachus
Barber
Barletta
Barr
Barrow (GA)
Barton
Bass
Becerra
Benishek
Bentivolio
Bera (CA)
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Broun (GA)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Camp
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cárdenas
Carney
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Cassidy
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Connolly
Conyers
Cook
Cooper
Costa
Cotton
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Daines
Davis (CA)
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Duckworth
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers
Engel
Enyart
Eshoo
Esty
Farenthold
Farr
Fattah
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Foster
Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guthrie
Hahn
Hall
Harper
Hartzler
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Heck (WA)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Holding
Holt
Honda
Horsford
Hoyer
Hudson
Huelskamp
Huffman
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Israel
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jolly
Jones
Jordan
Joyce
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kirkpatrick
Kline
Kuster
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
Latta
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lummis
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Marino
Massie
Matheson
Matsui
McAllister
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Messer
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod
Neugebauer
Noem
Nolan
Nugent
Nunes
O'Rourke
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters (CA)
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Pittenger
Pitts
Pocan
Poe (TX)

Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quigley
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruiz
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sanford
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Slaughter
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Speier
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman
Stutzman
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Walz
Waters
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—35

Beatty
Campbell
Carter
Crawford
Culberson
Cummings
Davis, Danny
Fortenberry
Gingrey (GA)
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harris
Hinojosa
King (NY)
Lankford
Marchant
Meng
Michaud
Miller, Gary
Mulvaney
Nunnelee
Peters (MI)
Petri
Rahall
Rangel
Rigell
Rohrabacher
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sires
Wasserman Schultz
Waxman
Weber (TX)

□ 1857

Ms. HAHN and Mr. CROWLEY changed their vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JAMES ''JIM'' KOHNEN POST OFFICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1671) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6937 Village Parkway in Dublin, California, as the ''James 'Jim' Kohnen Post Office'', on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 398, nays 0, not voting 33, as follows:

[Roll No. 314]

YEAS—398

Aderholt
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Bachus
Barber
Barletta
Barr
Barrow (GA)
Barton
Bass
Becerra
Benishek
Bentivolio
Bera (CA)
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Broun (GA)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Camp
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cárdenas
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cartwright
Cassidy
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Connolly
Conyers
Cook
Cooper
Costa
Cotton
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Daines
Davis (CA)
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Duckworth
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers
Engel
Enyart
Eshoo
Esty
Farenthold
Farr
Fattah
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Foster
Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guthrie
Hahn
Hall
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Heck (WA)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Holding
Holt
Honda
Horsford
Hoyer
Hudson
Huelskamp
Huffman
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Israel
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jolly
Jones
Jordan
Joyce
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kirkpatrick
Kline
Kuster
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Latham
Latta
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lummis
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marino
Massie
Matheson
Matsui
McAllister
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Messer
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, George
Moore
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod
Neugebauer
Noem
Nolan
Nugent
Nunes
O'Rourke
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters (CA)
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Pittenger
Pitts
Pocan
Poe (TX)
Polis
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quigley
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruiz
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sanford
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Slaughter
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Speier
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman
Stutzman
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tierney
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Walz
Waters
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—33

Beatty
Campbell
Crawford
Culberson
Cummings
Davis, Danny
Fortenberry
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Hanna
Hinojosa
King (NY)
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Meng
Michaud
Miller, Gary
Moran
Mulvaney
Nunnelee
Peters (MI)
Petri
Rahall
Rangel
Rigell
Rohrabacher
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sires
Tiberi
Wasserman Schultz
Waxman

□ 1905

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2377

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove my name as a cosponsor from H.R. 2377.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

REQUESTING RETURN OF OFFICIAL PAPERS ON H.R. 4412

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I send to the desk a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 627

Resolved, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives request the Senate to return to the House the bill (H.R. 4412) entitled ''An Act to authorize the programs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and for other purposes.''.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4870, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015 AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 3230, PAY OUR GUARD AND RESERVE ACT

Mr. WOODALL, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 113–475) on the resolution (H. Res. 628) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4870) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes and providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 3230) making continuing appropriations during a government shutdown to provide pay and allowances to members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces who perform inactive-duty training during such period, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

SPECIALIST RYAN P. JAYNE POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3765) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 198 Baker Street in Corning, New York, as the ''Specialist Ryan P. Jayne Post Office Building.''

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3765

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

SECTION 1. SPECIALIST RYAN P. JAYNE POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 198 Baker Street in Corning, New York, shall be known and designated as the ''Specialist Ryan P. Jayne Post Office Building''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Specialist Ryan P. Jayne Post Office Building''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COTTON). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 3765, introduced by Representative REED of New York, which would designate the postal facility located at 198 Baker Street in Corning, New York, as the Specialist Ryan P. Jayne Post Office Building.

Army Specialist Ryan Jayne was killed on November 3, 2012, in Paktia province, Afghanistan, when an improvised explosive device, an IED, detonated while he was performing route clearing duties with his fellow soldiers. He was killed in the same incident that took the life of fellow upstate New Yorker, Sergeant Brett E. Gornewicz, whom we also honored today. Specialist Jayne was a member of the 479th Engineering Battalion of the 411th Engineering Brigade and was just 22 years old at the time of his death.

Ryan Jayne was born on May 17 of 1990 in Corning, New York. After graduating from Corning East High School in 2008, he attended Corning Community College and enlisted in the service in 2010. His family and loved ones describe him as full of life, laughter and with an ability to light up a room with his smile. He was an avid Dallas Cowboys fan and enjoyed restoring his Monte Carlo SS.

It is my honor to stand before this body today and pay tribute to Specialist Ryan Jayne. This brave young man laid down his life far too soon so that we can enjoy our freedom. I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 3765.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am pleased this evening to join my colleagues, Mr. MEADOWS from North Carolina and Mr. REED from New York, in the consideration of H.R. 3765, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 198 Baker Street in Corning, New York, as the Specialist Ryan P. Jayne Post Office Building.

A native of Elmira, New York, Specialist Ryan P. Jayne graduated in 2008 from Corning East High School, where he received the Judi McCort Memorial Scholarship for exemplifying courage, hard work, and responsibility. Specialist Ryan P. Jayne subsequently attended Corning Community College and enlisted in the United States Army in 2010 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. He was assigned to the 178th Engineer Battalion, 412th Theater Engineer Command, U.S. Army Reserve, based in Oswego, New York, and he served as a combat engineer.

As Mr. MEADOWS indicated, on November 3, 2012, Specialist Jayne and two of his fellow soldiers were tragically killed when a roadside bomb hit their vehicle as they completed their route clearing duties. Specialist Jayne was on his second tour of duty in Afghanistan when that happened.

Mr. Speaker, Specialist Ryan P. Jayne's life stands as a shining example of the bravery and dedication of the heroic men and women who serve our country at home and abroad.

I urge the Members of both sides of the aisle to support this motion, authored by Mr. REED of New York and championed as well by Mr. MEADOWS of North Carolina, to pay tribute to Specialist Ryan P. Jayne for bravely answering the call of duty and proudly serving his country.

I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1915

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) for his beautiful words.

At this point, I yield as much time as he may consume to my distinguished colleague from the State of New York (Mr. REED).

Mr. REED. I thank the gentleman from North Carolina for yielding this evening.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 3765, to rename the post office at 198 Baker Street in Corning, New York, after Specialist Ryan P Jayne.

I am so pleased to have the support of my colleague from North Carolina, as well as my good friend from Massachusetts, coming together in a bipartisan manner to recognize, in a very special way, the ultimate sacrifice that Specialist Jayne provided for our family, for our country, and for all of us as he gave, at his young age of 22 years of age, the ultimate sacrifice, and we need to honor and recognize it here today.

As has been stated, Corning, New York, is my hometown, and Specialist Ryan Jayne was a 2008 graduate of Corning East High School, a high school I went to.

Ryan was an exemplary student and was awarded the Judi McCort Memorial Scholarship for his courage, hard work, and responsibility. Following high school, he went to our local community college, Corning Community College, before enlisting in 2010.

Serving his second tour of duty in Afghanistan, Specialist Jayne was tragically killed by an IED alongside two fellow New Yorkers, two of his fellow New York soldiers that were standing with him at the time of his death. At the time of his death, he had accrued over 2 years of service with the U.S. Army.

I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, I was there at the memorial service at Corning East High School auditorium, and in the stadium. His death was felt throughout our entire community, but he is remembered as a passionate young man, a lifelong Dallas Cowboys fan, as has been mentioned, and one who loved truly spending time with his family and friends.

We honor and remember Specialist Jayne for his sacrifice and the sacrifice of his family, actions of heroism that we will never, ever forget.

Naming the post office in Corning, New York, after Specialist Jayne is the

least we can do here in this body and in this Chamber this evening to honor Specialist Jayne's bravery, his service, and his love of our country, and for a love of his community, Corning, New York, that he called home.

So I encourage all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, let's come together, let's do what is right, and stand with Specialist Jayne this evening and recognize the courage, the sacrifice that he provided to all of us.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would just offer our prayers and condolences to the Jayne family and the people of Corning, New York, and Specialist Ryan P. Jayne's friends and neighbors.

We all mourn their loss, and we appreciate the sacrifice that has been made on behalf of our country.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from New York, who has taken the lead to make sure that those who give the ultimate sacrifice are not forgotten.

It is truly an honor to serve with the gentleman from Massachusetts, the gentleman from New York, and I would urge all my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3765.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

THE GROWING FIELD OF TELEMEDICINE

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss an important issue that will be on the floor during debate over the Department of Defense appropriations for fiscal year 2015: the growing field of telemedicine.

Mr. Speaker, dating back to 2011, I introduced the Servicemember Telemedicine and E-Health Portability, or STEP, Act. This legislation allows health care professionals credentialed by the Department of Defense to work across State lines without multiple licenses, regardless of where the servicemember is located.

It was an important beginning for the Department of Defense to utilize telemedicine, which is efficient, convenient, and a cost-effective way to address the challenges of delivering mental and behavioral health services.

Included in the committee report for fiscal year 2015 is language that improves upon the existing infrastructure and highlights the many advantages of utilizing telemedicine, along with an encouragement for all military branches to expand and prioritize these technologies.

I thank the chairman and the committee for their recognition of the importance of telemedicine in delivering care to our servicemen and -women, and look to continuing our work to ensure our troops are getting the care that they have earned and deserve.

LGBT PRIDE MONTH

(Mr. VEASEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in favor of diversity, equality, and affirming every American's right under the Constitution to equal justice under the law.

Today I speak in honor of LGBT Pride Month.

Despite all that we have achieved in recent years towards equality, opportunity, and justice for every American, regardless of identity or orientation, far too many LGBT Americans still suffer discrimination each and every day.

In this Congress we have the chance to pass legislation that bans discrimination in the workplace and in the military and in schools, and ensures that couples, regardless of sexual orientation, have the same rights as anyone else.

I am a proud cosponsor of the Respect for Marriage Act that affirms the Supreme Court decision to allow same-sex marriage and the Student Nondiscrimination Act that bans discrimination in schools.

I also support President Obama's intention to act, where this House has not, to end discrimination in the workplace.

Let us continue to work together to ensure that all Americans are provided the civil liberties they deserve.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. CULBERSON (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of travel delays.

Mr. MULVANEY (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today and June 18 on account of a medical procedure.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for June 11 through June 20.

PUBLICATION OF BUDGETARY MATERIAL

REVISIONS TO THE AGGREGATES AND ALLOCATIONS OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2015 BUDGET RESOLUTION

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET,
Washington, DC, June 17, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, Office of the Speaker, U.S. Capitol, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

MR. RYAN OF WISCONSIN: Mr. Speaker, I hereby submit for printing revisions to the aggregates and allocations set forth in the Statement of Committee Allocations, Aggregates, and Other Budgetary Levels for Fiscal Year 2015 published in the Congressional Record on April 29, 2014, pursuant to the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013, Public Law 113–67. These revisions are provided for bills, joint resolutions, and amendments thereto or conference reports thereon, considered by the House subsequent to this filing, as applicable.

The outlay revisions made by this communication are pursuant to the authority granted in section 115(e) of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013. For fiscal year 2015, aggregate levels of budget authority and outlays and the allocation to the Committee on Appropriations included in the levels of the budget resolution found in the Statement published in the Congressional Record on April 29, 2014, are revised. Associated tables are attached. The revisions are necessary to accommodate additional funding for appropriations designated for disaster relief under section 251(b)(2)(D) of the Budget Control Act of 2011 and for a technical adjustment to accommodate updated estimates of the outlays resulting from the base discretionary allocation of budget authority assigned to the Committee on Appropriations.

The provisions of H. Con. Res. 25 (113th Congress), as deemed in force by section 113 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013, Public Law 113–67, remain in force to the extent its budgetary levels are not superseded by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013 or subsequent action of the House of Representatives. This revision represents an adjustment for purposes of enforcing sections 302 and 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974. For the purposes of the Congressional Budget Act, these revised aggregates and allocations are to be considered as aggregates and allocations included in the budget resolution, pursuant to the Statement published in the Congressional Record on April 29, 2014, as adjusted.

Sincerely,
PAUL D. RYAN of Wisconsin,
Chairman.

HOUSE BUDGET COMMITTEE
BUDGET AGGREGATES

[On-budget amounts, in millions of dollars]

	Fiscal Year	
	2015	2015–2024
Current Aggregates:		
Budget Authority	3,025,306	[1]
Outlays	3,025,032	[1]
Revenues	2,533,388	31,202,135
Revision for Disaster Designated Spending:		
Budget Authority	6,438	[1]
Outlays	322	[1]
Revenues	0	0
Technical Revision to Base Discretionary Outlays:		
Budget Authority	0	[1]
Outlays	1,030	[1]
Revenues	0	0
Revised Aggregates:		
Budget Authority	3,031,744	[1]
Outlays	3,026,384	[1]
Revenues	2,533,388	31,202,135

[1] Not applicable because annual appropriations acts for fiscal years 2016–2024 will not be considered until future sessions of Congress.

ALLOCATION OF SPENDING AUTHORITY TO HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

[In millions of dollars]

	2015
Base Discretionary Action:	
BA	1,013,628
OT	1,141,432
Technical Adjustment for Base Discretionary Outlays:	
BA	0
OT	1,030
Global War on Terrorism:	
BA	85,357
OT	39,981
Disaster Designated Funds:	
BA	6,438
OT	322
Total Discretionary Action:	
BA	1,105,423
OT	1,182,765
Current Law Mandatory:	
BA	868,410
OT	861,637

PUBLICATION OF BUDGETARY MATERIAL

STATUS REPORT ON CURRENT SPENDING LEVELS OF ON-BUDGET SPENDING AND REVENUES FOR FISCAL YEARS 2014, 2015 AND THE 10-YEAR PERIOD FY 2015 THROUGH FY 2024

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET,
Washington, DC, June 17, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, Office of the Speaker, U.S. Capitol, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

MR. RYAN OF WISCONSIN: Mr. Speaker, to facilitate application of sections 302 and 311 of the Congressional Budget Act, I am transmitting an updated status report on the current levels of on-budget spending and revenues for fiscal years 2014, 2015, and for the 10-year period of fiscal year 2015 through fiscal year 2024. The report is current through June 13, 2014. The term ''current level'' refers to the amounts of spending and revenues estimated for each fiscal year based on laws enacted or awaiting the President's signature.

The current level has not changed since my last report submitted in the Congressional Record on May 15, 2014; therefore, that report should be consulted for the current level through June 13, 2014. The current status of fiscal year 2015 appropriations, however, has changed since my last report. The term ''current status'' reflects budgetary levels of discretionary appropriations acts that have either been reported by the Committee on Appropriations to the House of Representatives or passed by the House.

Table 1 in this letter compares the current status of fiscal year 2015 appropriations with the suballocations of discretionary budget authority and outlays among Appropriations subcommittees pursuant to section 302(b) of the Budget Act. The comparison is needed to enforce section 302(f) of the Budget Act because the point of order under that section equally applies to measures that would breach the applicable section 302(b) suballocation. The table also provides supplementary information on spending in excess of the base discretionary spending caps allowed under section 251(b) of the Budget Control Act.

In addition, letters from the Congressional Budget Office are attached that summarize and compare the budget impact of enacted legislation that occurred after adoption of the budget resolution against the budget resolution aggregates in force.

If you have any questions, please contact Paul Restuccia at (202) 226–7270.

Sincerely,

PAUL RYAN,
Chairman.

TABLE 1—DISCRETIONARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015—COMPARISON OF CURRENT STATUS WITH APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE 302(a) ALLOCATION AND APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE 302(b) SUB ALLOCATIONS AS OF JUNE 13, 2014

[Figures in millions] [1]

	302(b) allocations		302(b) for GWOT		Current status general purpose [1]		Current status GWOT		General purpose less 302(b)		GWOT less 302(b)	
	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT
Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA	20,880	21,848	0	0	20,880	21,716	0	0	0	−132	0	0
Commerce, Justice, Science	51,202	61,641	0	0	51,200	61,518	0	0	−2	−123	0	0
Defense	490,960	519,550	79,445	36,849	490,944	522,774	79,445	36,839	−16	+3,224	0	−10
Energy and Water Development	34,010	38,350	0	0	0	17,690	0	0	−34,010	−20,660	0	0
Financial Services and General Government	21,276	22,750	0	0	71	5,670	0	0	−21,205	−17,080	0	0
Homeland Security	39,220	45,568	0	0	9	19,346	0	0	−39,211	−26,222	0	0
Interior, Environment	30,220	30,191	0	0	0	12,296	0	0	−30,220	−17,895	0	0
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education	155,693	159,922	0	0	24,691	115,210	0	0	−131,002	−44,712	0	0
Legislative Branch	4,258	4,219	0	0	3,323	3,491	0	0	−935	−728	0	0
Military Construction and Veterans Affairs	71,499	76,100	0	0	71,499	76,100	0	0	0	0	0	0
State, Foreign Operations	42,381	42,319	5,912	3,132	0	28,179	0	0	−42,381	−14,140	−5,912	−3,132
Transportation, HUD	52,029	118,974	0	0	52,029	118,678	0	0	0	−296	0	0
Full Committee Allowance	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Total	1,013,628	1,141,432	85,357	39,981	714,646	1,002,668	79,445	36,839	−298,982	−138,764	−5,912	−3,142

Comparison of Total Appropriations and 302(a) allocation	General purpose		GWOT	
	BA	OT	BA	OT
302(a) Allocation	1,013,628	1,141,432	85,357	39,981
Total Appropriations	714,646	1,002,668	79,445	36,839
Total Appropriations vs. 302(a) Allocation	−298,982	−138,764	−5,912	−3,142

Memorandum	Amounts Assumed in 302(b)		Emergency Requirements		Disaster Funding		Program Integrity	
Spending in Excess of Base Budget Control Act Caps for Sec. 251(b) Designated Categories	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT
Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commerce, Justice, Science	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Defense	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Energy and Water Development	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Financial Services and General Government	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Homeland Security	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Interior, Environment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Legislative Branch	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Military Construction and Veterans Affairs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
State, Foreign Operations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transportation, HUD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

[1] Spending designated as emergency is not included in the current status of appropriations shown in this table.

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, June 17, 2014.

Hon. PAUL RYAN,
Chairman, Committee on the Budget, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The enclosed report shows the effects of Congressional action on the fiscal year 2014 budget and is current through June 13, 2014. This report is submitted under section 308(b) and in aid of section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act, as amended.

The estimates of budget authority, outlays, and revenues are consistent with the technical and economic assumptions of H. Con. Res. 25, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2014, as approved by the House of Representatives and subsequently revised.

Since my last letter dated May 15, 2014, there has been no Congressional action affecting budget authority, outlays, or revenues for fiscal year 2014.

Sincerely,

DOUGLAS W. ELMENDORF.

Enclosure.

FISCAL YEAR 2014 HOUSE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT THROUGH JUNE 13, 2014

[In millions of dollars]

	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Previously Enacted [a]			
Revenues	n.a.	n.a.	2,310,972
Permanents and other spending legislation [b]	1,849,079	1,778,854	n.a.
Appropriation legislation	0	504,662	n.a.
Offsetting receipts	−707,692	−707,792	n.a.
Total, Previously enacted	1,141,387	1,575,724	2,310,972
Enacted Legislation: [c]			
Authorizing Legislation			
Bipartisan Student Loan Certainty Act of 2013 (P.L. 113–28)	14,400	12,670	0
Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2013 (P.L. 113–37)	−1	−1	0
Helium Stewardship Act of 2013 (P.L. 113–40)	−16	−58	0
An act to extend the period during which Iraqis who were employed by the United States Government in Iraq may be granted special immigrant status and to temporarily increase the fee or surcharge for processing machine-readable nonimmigrant visas (P.L. 113–42)	2	2	5
National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (P.L. 113–66)	66	68	0
Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013/Pathway for SGR Reform Act of 2013 (P.L. 113–67)	−3,207	985	49
Agricultural Act of 2014 (P.L. 113–79)	3,243	2,124	5
Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014 (P.L. 113–93)	6,143	6,141	0
Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act (P.L. 113–94)	−34	0	0
Cooperative and Small Employer Charity Pension Flexibility Act (P.L. 113–97)	0	0	5
Total, Authorizing Legislation	20,596	21,931	64
Appropriations Legislation			
Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014 (P.L. 113–46) [d]	635	635	0
Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 (P.L. 113–76)	1,869,637	1,421,565	0
Support for Sovereignty, Integrity, Democracy, and Economic Stability of Ukraine Act of 2014 (P.L.. 113–95)	0	350	0
Total, Appropriations Legislation	1,870,272	1,422,550	0
Total, Enacted Legislation	1,890,868	1,444,481	64
Entitlements and Mandatories:			
Budget resolution estimates of appropriated entitlements and other mandatory programs	−98,066	−74,546	0
Total Current Level [e]	2,934,189	2,945,659	2,311,036
Total House Resolution [f]	2,924,837	2,937,044	2,311,026
Current Level Over House Resolution	9,352	8,615	10
Current Level Under House Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Memorandum:			
Revenues, 2014–2023:			
House Current Level	n.a.	n.a.	31,095,979
House Resolution [g]	n.a.	n.a.	31,095,742
Current Level Over House Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	237
Current Level Under House Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

Note: n.a. = not applicable; P.L. = Public Law.

a. Includes the following acts that affect budget authority, outlays, or revenues, and were cleared by the Congress during last session, but before adoption of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2014 (H. Con. Res. 25): an act to temporarily increase the borrowing authority of the FEMA for carrying out the National Flood Insurance Program (P.L. 113–1), the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013 (P.L. 113–2), the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Reauthorization Act of 2013 (FL. 113–5), the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013 (Pt. 113–6), and the Reducing Flight Delays Act of 2013 (P.L. 113–9).

b. Relative to the House Current Level Report dated October 24, 2013, House Current Level has increased by $361 million in 2014 because of assumptions related to the interest on the public debt that were revised pursuant to the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013 (Pt. 113–67).

c. Pursuant to section 314(d) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, amounts designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 shall not count for purposes of Title III and Title IV of the Congressional Budget Act. The amounts so designated for 2014, which are not included in the current level totals, are as follows:

	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014 (Sec. 155)	0	50	n.a.

d. Sections 135 and 136 of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014 (Pi. 113–46) provide $636 million for fire suppression activities, available until expended. Section 146 of the act freezes the pay of Members of Congress, which is estimated to result in a reduction in spending of $1 million in 2014.

e. For purposes of enforcing section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act in the House, the resolution, as approved by the House of Representatives, does not include budget authority, outlays, or revenues for off-budget amounts. As a result, current level does not include these items.

f. Periodically, the House Committee on the Budget revises the totals in H. Con. Res. 25, pursuant to various provisions of the resolution:

	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Original House Resolution:	2,769,406	2,815,079	2,270,932
Revisions:			
Pursuant to section 603 of H. Con. Res. 25	−14,089	−4,100	40,040
Adjustment for Disaster Designated Spending	6,079	230	0
Adjustment for Technical Correction to the Budget Control Act Spending Caps	549	308	0
Pursuant to section III of the Bipartisan Budget Act	162,892	125,527	54
Revised House Resolution	2,924,837	2,937,044	2,311,026

g. Periodically, the House Committee on the Budget revises the 2014–2023 revenue totals in H. Con. Res. 25, pursuant to various provisions of the resolution. The total shown in the table reflects those revisions.

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, June 17, 2014.

Hon. PAUL RYAN,
Chairman, Committee on the Budget, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The enclosed report shows the effects of Congressional action on the fiscal year 2015 budget and is current through June 13, 2014. This report is submitted under section 308(b) and in aid of section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act, as amended.

The estimates of budget authority, outlays, and revenues are consistent with the allocations, aggregates, and other budgetary levels printed in the Congressional Record on April 29, 2014, pursuant to section 115 of the Bipartisan Budget Act (Public Law 113–67).

Since my last letter dated May 15, 2014, there has been no Congressional action affecting budget authority, outlays, or revenues for fiscal year 2015.

Sincerely,

DOUGLAS W. ELMENDORF

Enclosure.

FISCAL YEAR 2015 HOUSE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT THROUGH JUNE 13, 2014

[In millions of dollars]

	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Previously Enacted [a]			
Revenues	n.a.	n.a.	2,533,388
Permanents and other spending legislation	1,882,631	1,805,294	n.a.
Appropriation legislation	0	508,261	n.a.
Offsetting receipts	−735,195	−734,481	n.a.
Total, Previously enacted	1,147,436	1,579,074	2,533,388
Entitlements and Mandatories:			
Budget resolution estimates of appropriated entitlements and other mandatory programs	866,768	851,071	0
Total Current Level [b]	2,014,204	2,430,145	2,533,388
Total House Resolution	3,025,306	3,025,032	2,533,388
Current Level Over House Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

FISCAL YEAR 2015 HOUSE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT THROUGH JUNE 13, 2014—Continued

[In millions of dollars]

	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Current Level Under House Resolution	1,011,102	594,887	n.a.
Memorandum:			
Revenues, 2015–2024:			
House Current Level	n.a.	n.a.	31,202,135
House Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	31,202,135
Current Level Over House Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Current Level Under House Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

Note: n.a. = not applicable; P.L. = Public Law.

a. Includes the following acts that affect budget authority, outlays, or revenues, and were cleared by the Congress during this session, but before publication in the Congressional Record of the statement of the allocations and aggregates pursuant to section 115 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013 (P.L. 113–67): the Agricultural Act of 2014 (P.L. 113–79), the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014 (P.L. 113–89), the Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act (P.L. 113–94), and the Cooperative and Small Employer Charity Pension Flexibility Act (P.L. 113–97).

b. For purposes of enforcing section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act in the House, the resolution, as approved by the House of Representatives, does not include budget authority, outlays, or revenues for off-budget amounts. As a result, current level does not include these items.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 23 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, June 18, 2014, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the third and fourth quarters of 2013 and the first and second quarters of 2014, pursuant to Public Law 95–384, are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO JAPAN, KOREA, AND CHINA, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 20 AND APR. 26, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Eric Cantor	4/20	4/22	Japan		743.88		(3)				743.88
Hon. Paul Ryan	4/20	4/22	Japan		743.88		(3)				743.88
Hon. Mac Thornberry	4/20	4/22	Japan		743.88		(3)				743.88
Hon. Kay Granger	4/20	4/22	Japan		743.88		(3)				743.88
Hon. Aaron Schock	4/20	4/22	Japan		743.88		(3)				743.88
Hon. Patrick Meehan	4/20	4/22	Japan		743.88		(3)				743.88
Hon. Kristi Noem	4/20	4/22	Japan		743.88		(3)				743.88
Hon. Paul Cook	4/20	4/22	Japan		743.88		(3)				743.88
Hon. Tulsi Gabbard	4/20	4/22	Japan		743.88		(3)				743.88
Neil Bradley	4/20	4/22	Japan		743.88		(3)				743.88
Robert Karem	4/20	4/22	Japan		743.88		(3)				743.88
Steve Stombres	4/20	4/22	Japan		743.88		(3)				743.88
Kristi Way	4/20	4/22	Japan		743.88		(3)				743.88
Megan Whittemore	4/20	4/22	Japan		743.88		(3)				743.88
Paul Irving	4/20	4/22	Japan		743.88		(3)				743.88
Robert Fitzpatrick	4/16	4/21	Japan		743.88		[4] 1,490.80				2,234.68
Hon. Eric Cantor	4/22	4/23	Korea		329.10		(3)				329.10
Hon. Paul Ryan	4/22	4/23	Korea		329.10		(3)				329.10
Hon. Mac Thornberry	4/22	4/23	Korea		329.10		(3)				329.10
Hon. Kay Granger	4/22	4/23	Korea		329.10		(3)				329/10
Hon. Aaron Schock	4/22	4/23	Korea		329.10		(3)				329.10
Hon. Patrick Meehan	4/22	4/23	Korea		329.10		(3)				329.10
Hon. Kristi Noem	4/22	4/23	Korea		329.10		(3)				329.10
Hon. Paul Cook	4/22	4/23	Korea		329.10		(3)				329.10
Hon. Tulsi Gabbard	4/22	4/23	Korea		329.10		(3)				329.10
Neil Bradley	4/22	4/23	Korea		329.10		(3)				329.10
Robert Karem	4/22	4/23	Korea		329.10		(3)				329.10
Steve Stombres	4/22	4/23	Korea		329.10		(3)				329.10
Kristi Way	4/22	4/23	Korea		329.10		(3)				329.10
Megan Whittemore	4/22	4/23	Korea		329.10		(3)				329.10
Paul Irving	4/22	4/23	Korea		329.10		(3)				329.10
Hon. Eric Cantor	4/23	4/26	China		1,027.32		(3)				1,027.32
Hon. Paul Ryan	4/23	4/26	China		1,027.32		(3)				1,027.32
Hon. Mac Thornberry	4/23	4/26	China		1,027.32		(3)				1,027.32
Hon. Kay Granger	4/23	4/26	China		1,027.32		(3)				1,027.32
Hon. Aaron Schock	4/23	4/26	China		1,027.32	[5] 7,419.40	(3)				1,027.32
Hon. Patrick Meehan	4/23	4/26	China		1,027.32		(3)				1,027.32
Hon. Kristi Noem	4/23	4/26	China		1,027.32		(3)				1,027.32
Hon. Paul Cook	4/23	4/26	China		1,027.32		(3)				1,027.32
Hon. Tulsi Gabbard	4/23	4/26	China		1,027.32	[5] 1,292.50	(3)				2,011.16
Bradley Neil	4/23	4/26	China		1,027.32		(3)				1,027.32
Robert Karem	4/23	4/26	China		1,027.32		(3)				1,027.32
Steve Stombres	4/23	4/26	China		1,027.32		(3)				1,027.32
Kristi Way	4/23	4/26	China		1,027.32		(3)				1,027.32
Megan Whittemore	4/23	4/26	China		1,027.32		(3)				1,027.32
Paul Irving	4/23	4/26	China		1,027.32		(3)				1,027.32
Robert Fitzpatrick	4/21	4/26	China		1,505.65		(3)				1,505.65
Committee total					33,445.27		10,202.70				43,647.97

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

[3] Military air transportation.

[4] Commercial flight to China.

[5] Return Flight.

ERIC CANTOR, May 23, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO KOREA, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAY 6 AND MAY 11, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Robert Reeves	5/7	5/11	South Korea		1,400.00		11,647.00				13,047.00
Kirsten Gullickson	5/7	5/11	South Korea		1,400.00		7,828.00				9,228.00
Committee total											22,275.00

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

ROBERT F. REEVES, May 27, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JUL. 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2013

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Eric Swalwell	8/26	8/26	Germany				9,093.40				9,093.40
	8/26	8/30	UAE		543.00						543.00
	8/30	8/30	Afghanistan		28.00						28.00
Hon. Richard Hudson	8/17	8/19	Israel		1,118.00						1,118.00
Committee total					1,689.00		9,093.40				10,782.40

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

MICHAEL T. McCAUL, Chairman, May XX, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2013

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Nick Palarino	11/3	11/5	Georgia		682.00		12,644.34				13,326.34
	11/5	11/8	Russia		1,500.00						1,500.00
Alan Carroll	11/3	11/5	Georgia		682.00		12,644.34				13,326.34
	11/5	11/8	Russia		1,500.00						1,500.00
Josh Katz	11/3	11/5	Georgia		682.00		12,644.34				13,326.34
	11/5	11/8	Russia		1,500.00						1,500.00
Lanier Avant	11/5	11/8	Russia		1,500.00		11,120.64				12,620.64
Greg Hill	11/3	11/6	Mexico		842.00		853.01				1,695.01
Charlotte Sellmyer	11/21	11/24	Mexico		842.00		793.59				1,635.59
Alison Northrop	11/3	11/6	Mexico		842.00		1,586.93				2,428.93
Hon. Susan Brooks	12/15	12/18	Belgium		841.42		1,590.00				2,431.42
Committee total					11,413.42		53,877.19				65,290.61

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

MICHAEL T. McCAUL, Chairman, May 29, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Michael McCaul	1/18	1/23	Russia		2,065.00		12,304.40				14,369.40
Hon. William Keating	1/18	1/23	Russia		2,065.00		17,304.54				19,369.54
Charlotte Sellmyer	1/18	1/23	Russia		2,065.00		11,299.60				13,364.60
Alan Carroll	3/8	3/12	UK		1,672.00		1,125.40				2,797.40
Michael Geffroy	3/8	3/12	UK		1,672.00		1,300.40				2,972.40
Committee total					9,539.00		43,334.34				52,873.34

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

MICHAEL T. McCAUL, Chairman, May 29, 2014.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

5982. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Agricultural Bioterrorism Protection Act of 2002; Biennial Review and Republication of the Select Agent and Toxin List; Amendments to the Select Agent and Toxin Regulations; Technical Amendment [Docket No.: APHIS-2009-0070] received May 13, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5983. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Thomas L. Conant, United States Marine Corps, and his advancement on the retired list in the grade of lieutenant general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

5984. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Raymond V. Mason, United States Army, and his advancement on the retired list in the grade of lieutenant general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

5985. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Thomas H. Copeman, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

5986. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to the United Kingdom pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

5987. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report entitled, ''Public Health and Medical Situational Awareness Strategy (Strategy)''; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5988. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting FY 2013 PDUFA financial report to Congress required by the Prescription Drug User Fee Act, as amended; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5989. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Amine salts of alkyl (C8-C24) benzenesulfonic acid (dimethylaminopropylamine, isopropylamine, mono-, di-, and triethanolamine); Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2012-0863; FRL-9909-17] received May 14, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5990. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Massachusetts; Reasonably Available Control Technology for the 1997 8-Hour Ozone Standard [EPA-R01-OAR-2013-0028; FRL-9908-52-Region 1] received May 14, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5991. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Iowa [EPA-R07-OAR-2014-0165; FRL-9910-67-Region 7] received May 14, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5992. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Iowa; Ambient Air Quality Standards, and Controlling Pollution [EPA-R07-OAR-2014-0164; FRL-9910-69-Region 7] received May 14, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5993. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Florida: New Source Review — Prevention of Significant Deterioration [EPA-R04-OAR-2013-0760; FRL-9909-91-R04] received May 14, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5994. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Interim Final Determination to Defer Sanctions, State of California, Los Angeles-South Coast Air Basin [EPA-R09-OAR-2013-0823; FRL-9911-06-Region 9] received May 14, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5995. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Quality Assurance Requirements for Continuous Opacity Monitoring Systems at Stationary Sources [EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0873; FRL-9909-98-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AH23) received May 14, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5996. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Ventura County Air Pollution Control District [EPA-R09-OAR-2014-0196; FRL-9909-71-Region 9] received May 14, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5997. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan; Ventura County Air Pollution Control District; Reasonably Available Control Technology for Ozone [EPA-R09-OAR-2014-0172; FRL-9910-85-Region 9] received May 14, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5998. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting Transmittal No. 14-12, Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer and Acceptance, pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

5999. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting Transmittal No. 14-0B, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6000. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a letter informing the Congress that approximately 275 U.S. Armed Forces personnel were deployed to Iraq to support the security of U.S. personnel and the Embassy; (H. Doc. No. 113–119); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

6001. A letter from the Administrator, Agency for International Development, transmitting the Agency's semiannual report from the office of the Inspector General for the period ending March 31, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6002. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the semiannual report on activities of the Inspector General for the period October 1, 2013, through March 31, 2014; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6003. A letter from the Administrator, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's semiannual report from the Office of the Inspector General during the 6-month period ending March 31, 2014; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6004. A letter from the Acting Chairman, National Endowment for the Arts, transmitting the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and the Semiannual Report on Final Action Resulting from Audit Reports, Inspection Reports, and Evaluation Reports for the period October 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6005. A letter from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's final rule — Administrative Wage Garnishment (RIN: 3206-AM89) received June 2, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6006. A letter from the Acting Director, Peace Corps, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period October 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6007. A letter from the Chair, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and a separate management report for the period October 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6008. A letter from the Controller, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, transmitting the Audited Financial Statements of NSDAR for the Fiscal Year ended December 31, 2013, pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 1101(20) and 1103; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

6009. A letter from the Chief, Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) and Generalized System of Preferences and Trade Benefits Under AGOA [CBP Dec. 14-07] (RIN: 1515-AB26) (former RIN: 1505-AB26) (RIN: 1515-AD50) (former RIN: 1505-AB38) received May 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6010. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Section 67 Limitations on Estates or Trusts [TD 9664] (RIN: 1545-BF80) received May 9, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6011. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Information Reporting for Affordable Insurance Exchanges [TD 9663] (RIN: 1545-BL42] received May 9, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6012. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report on one Agency's Drug-Free Workplace Plan, pursuant to Public Law 100-71, section 503(a)(1)(A) (101 Stat. 468); jointly to the Committees on Appropriations and Oversight and Government Reform.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky: Committee on Appropriations. Report on the Revised Suballocation of Budget Allocations for Fiscal Year 2015 (Rept. 113–474). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. NUGENT: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 628. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4870) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 3230) making continuing appropriations during a Government shutdown to provide pay and allowances to members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces who perform inactive-duty training during such period (Rept. 113–475). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. NEUGEBAUER (for himself and Mr. WESTMORELAND):

H.R. 4871. A bill to reauthorize the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. WOODALL (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

H.R. 4872. A bill to eliminate the use of the frank for mail transmitted by Members of Congress and Congressional officials, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House

Administration, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HASTINGS of Washington:

H.R. 4873. A bill to modify the Forest Service Recreation Residence Program as the program applies to units of the National Forest System derived from the public domain by implementing a simple, equitable, and predictable procedure for determining cabin user fees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. SMITH of Missouri (for himself, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. FARENTHOLD, and Mr. HULTGREN):

H.R. 4874. A bill to provide for the establishment of a process for the review of rules and sets of rules, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Appropriations, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BOUSTANY (for himself and Mr. ROE of Tennessee):

H.R. 4875. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to publish information on the provision of health care by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CARSON of Indiana (for himself, Mr. ENYART, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. SABLAN, and Ms. BROWN of Florida):

H.R. 4876. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to provide for contracting preferences and other benefits for emerging business enterprises, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Ms. BASS (for herself, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CICILLINE, and Mr. SMITH of Washington):

H.R. 4877. A bill to amend the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003 to authorize concurrent compacts for purposes of regional economic integration and cross-border collaborations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. COLLINS of Georgia (for himself, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. BOUSTANY, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. NEAL, and Mr. NUNES):

H.R. 4878. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the special expensing rules for certain film and television productions and to provide for special expensing for live theatrical productions; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COOPER (for himself and Mrs. LUMMIS):

H.R. 4879. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for expedited review of drugs and biological products to provide safer or more effective treatment for males or females, to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance the consideration of sex differences in basic and clinical research, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. MATSUI (for herself, Mr. WAXMAN, and Ms. ESHOO):

H.R. 4880. A bill to direct the Federal Communications Commission to promulgate regulations that prohibit certain preferential treatment or prioritization of Internet traffic; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. NEUGEBAUER (for himself, Mr. ROSS, Mr. PITTENGER, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. STIVERS, and Mrs. WAGNER):

H.R. 4881. A bill to place a 6-month moratorium on the authority of the Financial Stability Oversight Council to make financial stability determinations; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. SCHWEIKERT:

H.R. 4882. A bill to achieve operational control of the international border between the United States and Mexico through the deployment of members of the National Guard in support of the United States Customs and Border Protection, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. STOCKMAN:

H.R. 4883. A bill to provide for the establishment of a National Rare-Earth Refinery Cooperative, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. PALAZZO:

H. Res. 627. A resolution directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to request the Senate to return to the House the bill (H.R. 4412) entitled ''An Act to authorize the programs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and for other purposes.''; considered and agreed to. considered and agreed to.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Mr. MAFFEI introduced a bill (H.R. 4884) for the relief of Zenon Kolenda and Orysya Bilyanska Kolenda; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. NEUGEBAUER:

H.R. 4871.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3. The Congress shall have Power *** To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. WOODALL:

H.R. 4872.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 and Clause 7, Section 8 of Article 1 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. HASTINGS of Washington:

H.R. 4873.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, clause 2 (property clause)

By Mr. SMITH of Missouri:

H.R. 4874.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 1 of the United States Constitution, in that the legislation concerns the exercise of legislative powers generally granted to Congress by that section, including the exercise of those powers when delegated by Congress to the Executive; Article I, Sections 8 and 9 of the United States Constitution, in that the legislation concerns the exercise of specific legislative powers granted to Congress by those sections, including the exercise of those powers when delegated by Congress to the Executive; Article I, Section 8, clause 18 of the United States Constitution, in that the legislation exercises legislative power granted to Congress by that clause ''to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof'' and, Article III of the United States Constitution, in that the legislation defines or affects powers of the Judiciary that are subject to legislation by Congress.

By Mr. BOUSTANY:

H.R. 4875.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CARSON of Indiana:

H.R. 4876.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 and clause 18 of Article I of section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. BASS:

H.R. 4877.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 1.

Article. I.

Section 1.

All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

By Mr. COLLINS of Georgia:

H.R. 4878.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause I, Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution which reads: ''The Congress shall have the power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts, and Excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts, and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.''

By Mr. COOPER:

H.R. 4879.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional authority in which this bill rests is the power of the Congress to regulate Commerce, as enumerated by Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. MATSUI:

H.R. 4880.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. NEUGEBAUER:

H.R. 4881.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3. The Congress shall have Power * * * To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. SCHWEIKERT:

H.R. 4882.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of Section 8, of Article 1, in the United States Constitution.

By Mr. STOCKMAN:

H.R. 4883.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. MAFFEI:

H.R. 4884.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 4 and Amendment I, Clause 3 of the Constitution.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 6: Mr. HINOJOSA.
H.R. 60: Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 129: Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 140: Mr. CASSIDY.
H.R. 182: Mr. ENYART.
H.R. 274: Mr. RICHMOND and Ms. SPEIER.
H.R. 411: Mr. TIERNEY.
H.R. 477: Mr. KINGSTON.
H.R. 493: Mrs. BLACKBURN.
H.R. 532: Mr. NOLAN.
H.R. 535: Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 543: Mr. SMITH of Missouri and Mr. SIRES.
H.R. 628: Mr. RICHMOND.
H.R. 808: Mr. RANGEL.
H.R. 820: Ms. BASS.
H.R. 822: Mr. UPTON.
H.R. 896: Mr. POLIS.
H.R. 906: Mr. COTTON.
H.R. 997: Mrs. BACHMANN and Mrs. BLACKBURN.
H.R. 1015: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 1020: Mr. GOSAR, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. PETERS of California, and Ms. ESTY.
H.R. 1070: Ms. MATSUI and Mr. PETERS of California.
H.R. 1106: Mr. RICHMOND.
H.R. 1148: Mr. YOUNG of Indiana.
H.R. 1179: Mr. LARSEN of Washington.
H.R. 1284: Mr. FATTAH.
H.R. 1286: Mr. NOLAN.
H.R. 1292: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama.
H.R. 1337: Mr. GRIMM.
H.R. 1339: Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. KIND, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. YARMUTH, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. FATTAH, and Mr. GRAYSON.
H.R. 1429: Mrs. MILLER of Michigan.
H.R. 1518: Mr. BECERRA, Mr. RICHMOND, and Mr. PIERLUISI.
H.R. 1527: Mr. GUTIÉRREZ.
H.R. 1535: Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 1551: Mr. HURT and Mr. PALAZZO.
H.R. 1553: Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 1563: Ms. SPEIER and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 1635: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 1652: Mr. CLYBURN.
H.R. 1666: Mr. GRAYSON and Mr. OLSON.
H.R. 1698: Ms. TSONGAS.
H.R. 1699: Ms. WILSON of Florida.
H.R. 1767: Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. DEFAZIO, and Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 1775: Ms. SHEA-PORTER and Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 1822: Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD.
H.R. 1837: Mr. HIGGINS.
H.R. 1843: Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 1852: Mr. DEUTCH and Mr. RICHMOND.
H.R. 1893: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York and Mr. MCDERMOTT.
H.R. 1915: Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 2001: Mr. MCALLISTER.
H.R. 2053: Mrs. WAGNER.
H.R. 2170: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.
H.R. 2220: Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, and Mr. SCHWEIKERT.
H.R. 2283: Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan.
H.R. 2291: Mr. FOSTER and Mr. DEUTCH.
H.R. 2305: Mr. LOEBSACK.
H.R. 2313: Mr. MARCHANT.
H.R. 2384: Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 2415: Ms. PINGREE of Maine.
H.R. 2429: Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. ISSA, Mr. SANFORD, and Mr. GRIMM.
H.R. 2500: Ms. SHEA-PORTER and Mr. FRANKS of Arizona.
H.R. 2502: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.
H.R. 2536: Mr. BARR, Mr. UPTON, Mr. COLE, Mr. REED, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 2547: Mr. COTTON.
H.R. 2652: Mr. RANGEL.
H.R. 2707: Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 2901: Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. RANGEL, and Mr. MCDERMOTT.
H.R. 3086: Mr. DENT, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. PETERS of California, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, and Mrs. CAPITO.
H.R. 3116: Mr. PETERSON.
H.R. 3118: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
H.R. 3367: Mr. YOHO and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 3431: Mr. PAULSEN.
H.R. 3471: Mr. CROWLEY.
H.R. 3481: Mr. RANGEL.
H.R. 3485: Mr. LAMBORN.
H.R. 3566: Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Ms. NORTON, and Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 3593: Mr. FORBES.
H.R. 3662: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 3680: Mr. FOSTER, Mr. CLAY, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.
H.R. 3689: Mr. SOUTHERLAND.
H.R. 3698: Mr. SCALISE.
H.R. 3717: Mr. BOUSTANY.
H.R. 3775: Mr. SCHOCK and Mr. CRAMER.
H.R. 3833: Mrs. CAPPS.
H.R. 3836: Mr. CARNEY and Mr. JEFFRIES.
H.R. 3839: Mr. HIGGINS.
H.R. 3877: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia and Ms. SPEIER.
H.R. 3929: Ms. TSONGAS.
H.R. 4008: Mr. DESJARLAIS.
H.R. 4035: Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 4060: Mr. HULTGREN.
H.R. 4075: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 4136: Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 4144: Mr. JOLLY.
H.R. 4156: Mr. TERRY.
H.R. 4187: Mr. PASCRELL and Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 4188: Mr. TONKO and Mr. HIGGINS.
H.R. 4190: Mr. MCALLISTER, Mr. FORBES, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, and Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois.
H.R. 4216: Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. COHEN, Ms. EDWARDS, and Mr. MCNERNEY.
H.R. 4250: Mr. ROSKAM.
H.R. 4260: Mr. RANGEL.
H.R. 4305: Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
H.R. 4317: Mr. PEARCE.
H.R. 4320: Mr. HARRIS.
H.R. 4321: Mr. HUELSKAMP.
H.R. 4325: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 4333: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 4347: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 4348: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 4351: Mr. TAKANO, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. ROTHFUS, Ms. KUSTER, and Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 4380: Mr. MASSIE.
H.R. 4395: Ms. ESTY, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, and Mr. COBLE.
H.R. 4430: Mr. FINCHER.
H.R. 4437: Mr. SOUTHERLAND and Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee.
H.R. 4446: Mr. SOUTHERLAND, Mr. NEAL, and Mr. STIVERS.
H.R. 4450: Mr. HARRIS, Mr. GARDNER, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. CAMPBELL, and Mrs. WAGNER.
H.R. 4466: Mr. FINCHER.
H.R. 4494: Mr. FATTAH.
H.R. 4521: Mr. FINCHER.
H.R. 4546: Mr. HECK of Washington.
H.R. 4551: Mr. COSTA.
H.R. 4566: Mr. NOLAN.
H.R. 4574: Mr. FOSTER.
H.R. 4577: Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. SOUTHERLAND, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 4578: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. PETERS of California, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. WAXMAN, Ms. DELAURO, and Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H.R. 4582: Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Ms. WATERS, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. JEFFRIES, and Mr. DOYLE.
H.R. 4589: Mr. HUNTER and Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.
H.R. 4590: Mr. NUNNELEE.
H.R. 4592: Ms. DELAURO and Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 4608: Mr. RANGEL.
H.R. 4611: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 4612: Mr. OLSON.
H.R. 4625: Mr. PEARCE.
H.R. 4626: Mr. AL GREEN of Texas and Mr. BACHUS.
H.R. 4630: Ms. SCHWARTZ and Mr. SCHOCK.
H.R. 4632: Ms. BROWNLEY of California.
H.R. 4636: Mr. SCHIFF, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. STIVERS, Ms. CHU, and Mr. LANGEVIN.
H.R. 4643: Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. PERLMUTTER, and Mr. RANGEL.
H.R. 4651: Mr. HINOJOSA and Mr. MCCAUL.
H.R. 4653: Mr. CONNOLLY and Mr. RANGEL.
H.R. 4664: Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. PETERS of Michigan, Mr. TONKO, and Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 4682: Mr. BRIDENSTINE, Mr. JOYCE, Mr. JONES, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. MASSIE, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. DUFFY, Mr. GARAMENDI, and Mr. BISHOP of Utah.
H.R. 4699: Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN OF NEW MEXICO AND MR. POCAN.
H.R. 4701: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. ESTY, Mr. LANCE, Mr. SHIMKUS, and Mr. TONKO.
H.R. 4703: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. WEBER of Texas, and Mr. WALBERG.
H.R. 4707: Ms. HANABUSA and Mr. MEEKS.
H.R. 4718: Mr. NEUGEBAUER.
H.R. 4750: Mr. STOCKMAN.
H.R. 4759: Mr. LAMALFA.
H.R. 4783: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. QUIGLEY, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 4786: Mr. POLIS.
H.R. 4790: Ms. SPEIER and Mr. CONYERS.
H.R. 4792: Mr. MASSIE.
H.R. 4805: Mr. YOHO, Mrs. BACHMANN, and Mr. HENSARLING.
H.R. 4807: Ms. PINGREE of Maine.
H.R. 4808: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. BARR, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. CHABOT.
H.R. 4851: Mr. MARINO.
H.R. 4853: Mr. STIVERS and Mr. JOYCE.
H.R. 4863: Mrs. BACHMANN.
H.R. 4865: Ms. SINEMA, Mr. ENYART, Ms. KAPTUR, and Ms. ESHOO.
H. J. Res. 41: Mr. GOWDY.
H. J. Res. 50: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania and Mr. ROSS.
H. Con. Res. 101: Mr. VAN HOLLEN.
H. Res. 109: Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. SARBANES, and Mr. DEUTCH.
H. Res. 231: Mr. BARROW of Georgia.
H. Res. 356: Mr. MCALLISTER.
H. Res. 435: Mr. SIRES, Mr. GARCIA, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. MICA, Mr. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. KILMER, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. PETERS of Michigan, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. CROWLEY, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Ms. MENG, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CICILLINE, and Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.
H. Res. 456: Mr. POE of Texas.
H. Res. 476: Mr. BOUSTANY and Mr. FORBES.
H. Res. 494: Mr. COTTON.
H. Res. 542: Mr. COTTON.
H. Res. 571: Ms. BROWNLEY of California.
H. Res. 606: Mr. SERRANO, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. TAKANO, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H. Res. 607: Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, and Mr. RUSH.
H. Res. 611: Mr. MURPHY of Florida and Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H. Res. 612: Mr. BISHOP of Utah.
H. Res. 620: Mr. COOK, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr JOHNSON of Ohio, and Mr. HUNTER.

H. Res. 621: Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. STOCKMAN, and Mr. KING of Iowa.

H. Res. 622: Mr. VARGAS and Mr. GOSAR.

DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 2377: Mr. MILLER of Florida.

AMENDMENTS

Under clause 8 of rule XVIII, proposed amendments were submitted as follows:

H.R. 4870

OFFERED BY: MR. FORTENBERRY

AMENDMENT NO. 1: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to provide weapons directly or indirectly to combatants in Syria.

H.R. 4870

OFFERED BY: MR. COTTON

AMENDMENT NO. 2: At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert the following:

SEC.____. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to transfer or release any individual detained at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba to the individual's country of origin or to any other foreign country.

H.R. 4870

OFFERED BY: MR. MCGOVERN

AMENDMENT NO. 3: Page 9, line 6, after the dollar amount insert the following: ''(reduced by $3,000,000)''.

Page 33, line 11, after the dollar amount insert the following: ''(increased by $3,000,000)''.

Page 33, line 12, after the dollar amount insert the following: ''(increased by $3,000,000)''.

H.R. 4870

OFFERED BY: MR. BLUMENAUER

AMENDMENT NO. 4: Page 16, line 24, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $3,400,000)''.

Page 31, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $3,400,000)''.

H.R. 4870

OFFERED BY: MR. COFFMAN

AMENDMENT NO. 5: Page 31, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $15,722,000)''.

Page 141, line 4, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $15,722,000)''.

H.R. 4870

OFFERED BY: MR. COFFMAN

AMENDMENT NO. 6: Page 27, line 10, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $139,260,000)''.

Page 31, line 18, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $139,260,000)''.

Page 31, line 20, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $139,260,000)''.

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Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 160 WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, JUNE 17, 2014 No. 94

Senate

The Senate met at 10:00 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, because of Your power, monarchs reign and rulers decree justice. Radiate Your light and peace on Capitol Hill today. Help our Senators to understand Your will and make the commitment to follow Your leading. Lord, give them the wisdom to live in harmony with one another so that together they will strengthen America. May the weapons they face fail because of the shield of Your divine favor that protects them. Sustain them in their going out and coming in, in their rising up and lying down. Instruct them in the night seasons, providing them with wisdom to illuminate the darkness of our world.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore 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.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. I move to proceed to Calendar No. 428, the appropriations matter we have been working on.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report.

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 428, H.R. 4660, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year September 30, 2015, and for other purposes.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Following my remarks, we will be in morning business until 11:00 this morning. At 11:00 a.m. we will have four rollcall votes to confirm three district court judges and the Assistant Attorney General. The time until 11:00 will be equally divided and controlled by the leaders or their designees.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 4453, H.R. 4457

Mr. President, there are two bills at the desk due for their second reading.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the bills by title for a second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4453, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the reduced recognition period for built-in gains of S corporations.

H.R. 4457, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend increased expensing limitations, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I would object to any further proceedings with respect to these bills, en bloc.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Your objection is heard. The bills will be placed on the calendar.

APPROPRIATIONS CONSIDERATION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, today we are going to begin work on three very important appropriations bills. The leader of these bills, of course, will be the chairman of the overall committee, Senator MIKULSKI. Working with her will be other committee chairs—on the transportation subcommittee Senator PATTY MURRAY, who is extremely well versed on matters here on the floor, and on agriculture, the Senator from Arkansas Mr. PRYOR. We hope we can move forward on these bills immediately. There is no reason we cannot. It is something we should be doing to fund our government. Senator MIKULSKI is going to be leading this, as I indicated, along with the senior Senator from Alabama Mr. SHELBY. These bills will provide our government with the resources it needs to serve the American people. The manner in which we handle these very important issues will largely dictate how the appropriations are managed in the coming weeks and months. We need to keep our government operating.

I look forward to a cooperative amendment process and participation from all Senators. If we are successful in passing the bills in a timely manner, we can move to other essential legislation, including the much needed surface transportation bill.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

Mr. President, will the Chair announce the business of the day.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOKER). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 11:00 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes, with the time equally divided by the two leaders or their designees.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the distinguished senior Senator from Iowa is here to speak on one of the nominations. I am sure that if the Republican leader does come, he would yield to the Republican leader.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

KADZIK NOMINATION

Mr. GRASSLEY. For the third time in a couple weeks, I want to speak about one of the nominees we are going to be voting on today. That nominee is Peter Kadzik. He has been nominated to the Department of Justice's Office of

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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Legislative Affairs. He would have the position of Assistant Attorney General. Today I would like to make a few concluding comments about this nominee's record as well as this administration's record, more broadly speaking, with respect to congressional oversight.

It is hard for me to imagine a nominee who is less suited to head the Office of Legislative Affairs than Mr. Kadzik. It is not a mystery how the nominee will run that office if he is confirmed, and we know that because he has been Acting Assistant Attorney General for well over a year, and he has a long and well-established history of contempt for congressional oversight authority. It is clear to me that when it comes to this nominee, past practice will be an accurate predictor of future performance. Unfortunately, there is a lot of evidence that justifies my conclusion. I will start with the nominee's record of contempt for congressional oversight even before he joined the Justice Department.

When he was a private attorney back in 2001, the House ordered the nominee to testify as part of the Congress's investigation into the eleventh-hour pardon of billionaire tax fugitive Marc Rich. The nominee represented Rich. Not only did the nominee refuse to appear voluntarily, but he got on a plane to California the day before he was scheduled to testify before the House committee. In order to get him to testify before the House, the House had to send the U.S. Marshals to personally serve him with a subpoena in California. Isn't that a cute way to act when Congress is trying to speak to him? When he returned to Washington, he actually claimed that his lawyers had never bothered to mention the subpoena to him before he left on that plane trip to California. We know that claim isn't true because of handwritten notes that are now part of the record of this nominee's confirmation hearing.

Unfortunately, things haven't improved much since then. The nominee's record as Acting Assistant Attorney General has been completely unacceptable. Senators' letters and questions go unanswered for many months before the nominee provides—most often—a largely nonresponsive reply. So, as I said last week, this administration is sending a message by nominating Mr. Kadzik to the Office of Legislative Affairs. That message is this: You can expect more of the same.

I want to ask my colleagues this: How much more abuse of this body's prerogative by this White House are we willing to accept? How much more stonewalling of our legitimate, reasonable requests for information are we prepared to tolerate as we try to carry out our constitutional responsibility of oversight? How many more times do you intend to look the other way as this administration flaunts the law through illegal and unilateral executive action?

In recent weeks the administration has raised the stakes. Two weeks ago the President approved the release of the Taliban five from Guantanamo without so much as a phone call to the chair or vice chair of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. Disposition of the detainees at Guantanamo is one of the most important issues related to the war on terror, and Congress has a well-defined role under the law when it comes to releasing dangerous terrorists. But the administration doesn't care about the role Congress has assumed for itself under the Constitution and under the laws we write. This administration has shown total contempt for its obligations under the law—a law they took an oath to uphold. I guess the President's view is that it is better to ask forgiveness after the fact than it is to abide by his constitutional obligation to follow the law and take care that law is faithfully executed.

That is one reason why this nomination is so important. It is a perfect example of this administration's contempt for oversight and contempt for the law.

This Senator believes Congress is entitled to learn why the administration thinks it is free to ignore the law. That is why I asked the Attorney General to provide the legal rationale for the President's unilateral executive actions that the Office of Legal Counsel gave to the administration that they could ignore the law that said they had to notify Congress 30 days ahead of time when they were going to release Guantanamo prisoners. But back in May the nominee refused to disclose the Office of Legal Counsel materials.

Given the administration's flagrant disregard for the law governing the release of the Taliban fighters, I think my request to the Attorney General is all the more important right now. So I renew my request that the administration provide us with whatever advice it received from the Office of Legal Counsel before it decided to violate the National Defense Authorization Act and go forward with the stealth release of the Taliban prisoners.

On June 5 I asked the Attorney General to provide the Justice Department's legal rationale by June 19, which happens to be just 2 days from now. At the very least Senators should wait for a vote on this nomination until then so we can determine whether the Justice Department intends to comply with our request for the legal justification as to why the President could ignore the law when these prisoners were released. That would be a modest first step the administration could take to demonstrate it is serious about respecting oversight authority and the constitutional responsibility of the Congress to do that oversight and whether or not they respect the separation of powers under the Constitution.

I will conclude. My colleagues know this nominee embodies the administration's disregard for oversight authority and its dismissive approach to its legal obligations.

That much is clear. But my colleagues also need to remember this: If they vote for this nominee, they are voting to diminish congressional authority. If they vote for this nominee, they are voting to give the President more of a free pass than he already assumes—and specifically in this case on the unlawful release of Taliban fighters. They are voting also to empower unlawful execution of executive actions by this and future administrations. They are voting to chip away at the network of checks and balances that undergirds the relationship between the executive and the legislative branches—the very signal the Constitution writers sent to the Colonies that they didn't want one person making decisions in our government; they wanted that to be divided authority.

Also remember that one day the shoe may be on the other foot. One day there may be a Republican administration that is just as cavalier about its legal obligations. If that administration ignores our oversight request, any Senator who voted for these people will have no right to complain.

I urge Senators to stand up for the Senate's constitutional responsibilities of oversight and stand up to this administration and vote no.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader is recognized.

IRAQ

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, the world is learning of the profound challenge facing our Nation as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant sweeps across Iraq. We hear the names of former battlefields in Iraq and remember the hard-fought gains in places such as Fallujah and Al Qaim and Ramadi.

Just as many Members had not heard of Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula before a terrorist attempted to detonate an explosive device on an airliner over Detroit in 2009, they are now learning of ISIL, a vicious terrorist organization that operates across portions of Syria and Iraq. Like AQAP, ISIL consists of an insurgency that threatens stability in the region where it trains and fights, and that presents a terrorist threat to the United States.

The Iraqi security forces that were cowed in the face of ISIL advances are now less capable than when the President withdrew the entirety of our force without successfully negotiating a capable remaining U.S. presence. Such a force would have preserved the gains made on the ground by mentoring our partners and assisting with command and control and intelligence sharing. Now we must grapple with how best to help Iraq meet this threat.

ISIL is a lethal, violent terrorist force, and its activities in Syria and Iraq represent a grave threat to U.S. interests. The administration must act

quickly to provide assistance to the Maliki government before every gain made by the U.S. and allied troops is lost and before ISIL expands its sanctuary from which it can eventually threaten the United States.

Several weeks ago the President spoke at West Point, and in that speech he vaguely described a new counterterrorism strategy that he said ''matches this diffuse threat'' by ''expand[ing] our reach without sending forces that stretch our military too thin, or [that] stir up local resentments.'' He said that ''we need partners to fight terrorists alongside of us.''

The President must quickly provide us with a strategy and plan that address the threat posed by the insurgency and the terrorist capabilities of ISIL, and he must explain that new strategy.

THE IRS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, when the IRS targeting of conservative groups came to light after the last Presidential election, just about everyone denounced the agency's Nixonian tactics. Members of both parties—from the President on down—called it outrageous and inexcusable and just about everyone agreed no stone should be left unturned in figuring out how it happened in the first place.

Well, that was more than a year ago, and despite the President's assurances that he was as mad as everybody else, his administration has been anything but cooperative in the time that has elapsed since then. Instead of working with Congress to get to the bottom of what happened, the President's allies actually went in the opposite direction. They tried to slip a regulation by the American people that would have effectively enshrined the IRS's speech suppression tactics—the kind of tactics at the center of the IRS scandal—as permanent agency practice. It was a brazen move on the administration's part, and administration officials only backed down after Americans rose up and demanded that the IRS get out of the speech suppression business for good. Even some of our friends on the pro-First Amendment left—a dwindling constituency in recent years—joined us in condemning it. But I doubt we have seen the last of the administration's antifree speech efforts.

We have seen a revival in recent weeks of a truly radical proposal to change the First Amendment. When it comes to the IRS scandal, it is now quite obvious we have not seen the last of the administration's stalling either. The latest claim by the IRS is that it somehow lost a full 2 years' worth of emails from the woman in charge of the IRS department at the center of the scandal. They lost 2 years' worth of emails. But Congress submitted a request for these emails over a year ago, and they are suddenly telling us now? The committees investigating the scandal need those emails in order to figure out who knew what and when and to determine whether any coordination was going on between the IRS and anyone outside the agency.

I will be interested to see what the IRS Commissioner has to say about all of this when he testifies next week. But please, let's get past the ''dog ate my homework'' excuses buried in a late Friday news dump. The President promised to work ''hand in hand'' with Congress on this matter so his administration needs to live up to that promise immediately.

COAL REGULATIONS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, in the Obama administration's latest defensive on the war on coal, it has proposed new regulations that threaten Kentucky's 20 existing coal-fired powerplants while potentially putting thousands out of work. If enacted, the massive new regulations would prove the single worst blow to Kentucky's economy in modern times and a dagger to the heart of the Commonwealth's middle class.

Despite what they are called, the proposed restrictions on Kentucky's coal-fired powerplants amount to little more than a massive energy tax, and they will have a devastating effect on Kentucky.

The administration announced it would hold four public hearings on the new proposed regulations, and given the dramatic effects they are sure to have on my home State, you would think they would hold one of those hearings in eastern Kentucky or, at the very least, somewhere in Kentucky. But then, of course, you would be mistaken.

Once again, just like last year when the Obama administration held public hearings before proposing this national energy tax, not one of the sessions is slated for a nonmetropolitan area dependent on coal. The session that is the nearest to eastern Kentucky is a 10-hour roundtrip.

Since coal employs 11,000 Kentuckians and is over 90 percent of Kentucky's electricity, I wrote a letter to Gina McCarthy, the EPA Administrator, formally requesting that she convene a hearing in coal country. Of course I have yet to get a response. However, it doesn't appear that Administrator McCarthy is too busy to talk to some people. Imagine my surprise when I found she had time to appear on an HBO late-night comedy show where she admitted that the Obama administration is, in fact, waging a war on coal.

The host asked her this question:

> Some people call it a war on coal. I hope it is a war on coal. Is it?

After a moment of indirection, Administrator McCarthy conceded that a war on coal is ''exactly what this is.'' The EPA Administrator said the war on coal is ''exactly what this is.''

Of course, this talk show was recorded in front of a friendly anti-coal host and audience in a television studio in Los Angeles. It almost sounds like the site of one of her EPA anti-coal hearings.

So why does Administrator McCarthy have the time to appear on HBO but does not have the time to appear on WYMT–TV in Hazard so she can explain her war on coal to the people it is most directly affecting? Why does she have the time to sit down with a TV comedian but not with the editors of the Appalachian News Express in Pikeville so she can look my constituents in the eye and explain how these rules will impact them?

Of course, for those of us who watch this administration closely, this kind of admission is nothing new. A year ago an adviser to the White House acknowledged that ''a War on Coal is exactly what's needed.''

Last year, because the administration refused to hold any of its listening sessions in coal country, I held one of my own. We heard a lot of riveting testimony from those in the industry and their families, and I brought their stories back to the administration where I testified on their behalf since the Administrator would not directly hear from them.

I am committed to making sure Kentucky's voice is heard on this issue even if the Obama administration doesn't want to listen. That is why I immediately responded to the administration's new regulations in my own legislation, the Coal Country Protection Act, to push back against the President's extreme anti-coal scheme. Supported by the Kentucky Coal Association, my legislation would require that the following simple but important benchmarks be met before the rules take effect.

Here is what it would do: No. 1, the Secretary of Labor would have to certify that the rules would not generate loss of employment.

No. 2, the Director of the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office would have to certify the rules would not result in any loss in American gross domestic product.

No. 3, the Administrator of the Energy Information Administration would have to certify the rules would not increase electricity rates.

And No. 4, the Chair of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the president of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation would have to certify that electricity delivery would remain reliable. That is it.

My legislation is plain common sense, and I urge the majority leader to allow a vote on my legislation.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, this morning there was a scene on television I had never seen before. In fact, the commentators said they had never seen it either.

I might preface this by saying I grew up in the Midwest. Tornadoes are a part of our lives. I cannot recall how many times I was rousted out of my bed in the middle of the night as the sirens were going on outside and mom and dad would take me to the basement. That is what we did as I grew up in the Midwest. Tornadoes were part of our lives.

This morning showed what happened in Nebraska yesterday to be a virtually unique occurrence—twin tornadoes came ripping through the State of Nebraska killing people and destroying lives and businesses and homes and farms. There was a reflection on this about how the weather seems to be getting more extreme in this country. Are we getting more and more extreme weather events, many of which are very destructive? I think the clear answer is yes. Don't trust a politician or even an environmentalist for that answer. Go to the people who do this for a living. That is what I did. I held a hearing and called the leaders from the property and casualty insurance companies. They do this for a living, and they said not only are we getting more extreme weather events, they are much more expensive than ever before. The destruction is much larger. So many insurance companies, because of these extreme weather events, are starting to charge higher premiums and backing off of coverage. They said they can't create a reserve for the possibility of an extreme weather event that would be so destructive.

There are some people who hear what I just said and say: Well, God has his ways—or her ways—and God may decide the weather is going to be a lot tougher for you in this generation than in other generations. I heard that back home. But there are some people who believe—and I am one of them—that this is not just God's work, this has something to do with our work on this planet.

I happen to believe carbon pollution is a challenge, not just for America but for the world, and we need to reduce carbon pollution, which is changing the planet we live on. Because of carbon pollution, this warming climate—this warming planet—is creating situations which are troubling.

There was an article in the paper over the weekend. Norfolk, VA—not a liberal bastion—is now taking steps because of the rising ocean. It is up about a foot and a half from what they knew as the standard and they expect it to grow even more, threatening buildings, commerce, and homes all around that area. The impact of climate change and carbon pollution is evident in every direction of this world.

I have said this on the floor four or five times and I will repeat it: There is only one major political party in the world today that denies climate change and denies these extreme weather events have anything to do with our activity on Earth. The Republican Party of the United States of America is in denial. So when they deny the premise that something is happening on this Earth that we need to think about and worry about, it is easy to dismiss any and every effort to deal with it.

The Senator who spoke before me is from my neighboring State of Kentucky. His coal fields abut my coal fields in Southern Illinois, so we have a common energy resource. But I will say in all honesty, if we want to use the energy resource of coal in Illinois, we have to change the way we use it to reduce pollution. I think we can do that. It will be better technology in the electrical powerplants and uses something that is underway in our State: carbon capturing sequestration. Imagine if we could take the carbon pollution that is headed for the atmosphere that causes the problem and never let it reach the atmosphere.

That is what we are going to do. We are going to dig deep into the Earth over 1 mile down under three levels of shale rock and store compressed CO_2 so it doesn't go into the atmosphere. Carbon capturing sequestration, that is not a war on coal; that is a war on our energy problems and a responsible approach for dealing with coal.

I think that is the honest answer to my friends in Southern Illinois and those who value the coal industry and what it means to our economy. We have to be thoughtful, reflective, and innovative in making certain we use the energy resources we have responsibly and leave this Earth in a situation where our children and grandchildren will say our generation did not ignore the obvious.

Twin tornadoes in Nebraska are an indicator to me that time is not on our side. We have to step up. Both parties have to step up and find solutions that are responsible.

YANDLE NOMINATION

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise in support of Staci Yandle, who has been nominated to serve as a Federal district court judge in the Southern District of Illinois. She is going to replace a fine Federal judge, J. Philip Gilbert, who took senior status in March. It is a judicial emergency, so I am glad we are moving to it today.

Staci Yandle has the experience, integrity, and the judgment to be an excellent Federal judge. Born in Centreville, IL—incidentally, the hometown of my wife—she currently lives in Carlyle, IL, downstate. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Illinois and her law degree from Vanderbilt.

Over the course of her career, Staci Yandle has gained extensive experience in the courtroom. She has her own solo practice based in O'Fallon, IL, which she has operated now for 7 years. She has worked for several outstanding law firms in southern Illinois and handled a wide range of litigation matters, including employment, education, medical injury, civil rights, and nursing home abuse cases. She also worked as an arbitrator for the Twentieth Judicial Circuit Court in Illinois.

Ms. Yandle currently serves on the board of the Illinois Bar Foundation. She has taught as an adjunct law professor at the St. Louis University School of Law.

Additionally, she has a distinguished record of pro bono service in southern Illinois, representing indigent clients and nonprofit corporations, including the Delta Economic Development Corporation, which operates a childcare center in St. Clair County.

Ms. Yandle's nomination is historic in several respects. Never before in the course of the history of our State has there been an Article III Federal judge who was openly a member of the LGBT community. Upon confirmation, Staci Yandle will be the first. Upon confirmation, she will also be the first African-American Federal judge ever to serve in the Southern District of Illinois. She will be only the second woman to serve, as she is joining Nancy Rosenstengel, who was approved by the Senate just a few weeks ago.

In short, Staci Yandle's confirmation marks another important milestone in America's journey toward equality of opportunity.

Ms. Yandle was recommended to me by a bipartisan screening committee which I established to take a look at all of the judicial candidates, and I was pleased to recommend her to President Obama. He forwarded her nomination for consideration by the Senate Judiciary Committee where it passed with a strong vote. I hope there will be an equally strong vote today in support of her nomination.

In conclusion, Ms. Yandle is an excellent nominee and I hope my colleagues will join me in voting to confirm her.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

NOMINATION

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I rise to speak about an important vote we are going to be taking today to confirm the next U.S. district judge for the Eastern District of Washington State.

It is not every day that I get to support a nominee who also happens to be a former intern in my Senate office, but it is also not every day that a man who is the son of a migrant farmworker and himself worked on farms in the Yakima Valley is called upon by the President of the United States to become the very first Latino Federal judge in the Eastern District of Washington. So I am incredibly proud to stand in support of Judge Salvador Mendoza, Jr., whose confirmation we will vote on shortly.

Through his life story, Judge Mendoza represents the very best of my home State's honest, hard-working spirit. Through his work ethic, his commitment to his community, and

his belief in equal opportunity, Judge Mendoza is a leader and a role model for families throughout our State, particularly young men and women born into poverty and difficult circumstances. In fact, in his application to serve as Federal judge, he discussed his own upbringing, and I wish to quote him. Judge Mendoza wrote:

> I wrote and studied hard to better myself and my family. I understood then what I believe now, that both the quality of the educational system coupled with a strong system of justice will lift up the entire community.

Those are the words of a man who belongs in our judicial system. It should come as no surprise that throughout his professional life, Judge Mendoza has stayed true to those words. From serving as a trustee for Columbia Basin College to helping to coordinate the annual Tri-Cities Youth and Justice Conference, to helping create the first drug court for Benton and Franklin counties, Judge Mendoza has given his time and experience, investing in institutions that lift communities throughout our State.

Judge Mendoza is currently a superior court judge, but his judicial career spans private practice, service as an assistant attorney general, and years of experience in superior, district, municipal, and juvenile court. He is an experienced practitioner in Federal court and served from 2010 to 2013 as lawyer representative to the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference.

Through his many years of legal practice and judicial experience, Judge Mendoza will come to the Federal bench well prepared.

Judge Mendoza has described his judicial philosophy as guided by the principles of patience, respect, and humility—the same principles that have guided his life and legal career—and principles that will serve him well as a member of the Federal judiciary.

Let me close by thanking him for his willingness to serve Washington State as a Federal judge. I have always believed that as a country we are at our best when good people are willing to give of themselves in service to others. It is that kind of service to others that has defined Judge Mendoza throughout his career and that will continue to define him as he assumes the duties of this new office.

I am proud to support his nomination to be U.S. district judge, and I urge our colleagues to support his nomination as well.

I thank the Chair.

I yield the floor and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

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

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

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I rise to support the nomination of Salvador Mendoza, Jr., to be a district judge for the Eastern District of our State. I applaud the Senate Judiciary Committee for favorably reporting Mr. Mendoza's nomination on a bipartisan basis out of the committee with a 17-to-1 vote, so he enjoys a great deal of support. We are happy because we filled one vacancy for the Eastern District bench earlier in April, and now it is time for the Senate to move forward in filling the last of the two vacancies by voting to confirm Judge Mendoza.

Judge Mendoza is a well-qualified, dedicated judge whose passion and perspective will serve the Eastern District of Washington very well. He has had experience serving as a superior court judge. He has served as a prosecutor, he has been in private practice, and he has been a community leader in the central part of our State. There is no question that he is ready for the challenge of being a Federal judge.

I also wish to speak in terms of the historic nature of this vote. Salvador Mendoza will become the first ever Hispanic Federal judge in Eastern Washington. That is a major step forward and one that is long overdue. One in every nine residents of Washington State is Hispanic. Yet we have not yet had a Hispanic Federal judge in the eastern part of our State. Judge Mendoza is the right man for the job and he is ready to make history.

Judge Mendoza personifies the American dream. Eastern Washington is home to a very large and growing Hispanic population. Many who settled in Eastern Washington did so for the very same reasons Judge Mendoza's family did. He grew up in a family of migrant workers who moved from California to Washington's Yakima Valley when he was just a small child. He went on from working alongside his parents in the fields to earn a bachelor's degree from the University of Washington and a law degree from the University of California at Los Angeles.

Coming from very modest beginnings, Judge Mendoza has built a stellar legal resume. Judge Mendoza served as a deputy prosecuting attorney and spent 1 year as assistant attorney general. He has worked in private practice in a partner firm, and he went on to serve as judge pro tempore for Benton County Superior Court and Franklin County juvenile district court. Since 2013 he has served as Washington State's superior court judge for Benton and Franklin Counties.

A few years ago I had the honor of speaking with Judge Mendoza at a roundtable of Latino community leaders in the Tri-Cities. I came away very impressed with his intellect and his ability and keen understanding of our challenges in Central and Eastern Washington and of our legal system. He talked about the importance of an effective drug court to tackle the challenges facing Central Washington, and Judge Mendoza has shown his commitment to making his community a better place to live. He helped found the juvenile drug court program for Benton and Franklin Counties, which provides the opportunities for treatment for juvenile drug offenders. He is the main organizer of the Tri-Cities Youth and Justice Forum, an organization that encourages students from underrepresented communities to seek careers within the legal system. He also serves on many other boards, including the board of trustees for Columbia Basin College.

I think Judge Mendoza has earned this important position. I hope my colleagues will support him. I know my colleague Senator MURRAY, who just spoke, Governor Jay Inslee, and many other attorneys and judges across the State of Washington enthusiastically support Judge Mendoza's nomination. So I urge my colleagues to confirm him today.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote on the nominations of three judicial nominees to serve on the U.S. districts courts: Judge Salvador Mendoza, to serve in the Eastern District of Washington, Staci Yandle, to fill an emergency vacancy in the Southern District of Illinois, and Judge Darrin Gayles, to fill an emergency vacancy in the Southern District of Florida. Each of these nominees has the support of their home State Senators, and each was reported over a month ago with unanimous or nearly unanimous approval of members of the Senate Judiciary Committee. None of these qualified nominees deserved to be filibustered yesterday, and should be confirmed without delay.

The confirmation of these nominees will be historic milestones for diversity on the Federal bench. If confirmed, Judge Mendoza would be the first Latino to serve on the Federal bench in the Eastern District of Washington. The confirmation of Staci Yandle would make her the first African-American woman ever to serve as a Federal judge in the Southern District of Illinois, as well as the first openly gay Federal judge to serve in Illinois. And, if confirmed, Judge Gayles would be the first openly gay African-American man judge to ever serve on the Federal bench. It is important that the Federal bench reflects the diversity of the American people, and we should be proud of the progress we are making today.

Judge Salvador Mendoza has been nominated to fill a judicial vacancy on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Washington. Judge Mendoza has served since 2013 as a Washington State superior court judge in Benton and Franklin Counties. He previously served as a judge pro tempore in Benton and Franklin Counties from 2002 to 2013. In 2002, he helped start the Benton-Franklin Juvenile Drug Court program, a treatment-based program intended to be an alternative to full criminal prosecution. Before his time

as a judge, he worked in private practice as the president and managing attorney of Mendoza and Johnson, P.S. from 2002 to 2013. He served as vice president at Haney and Mendoza, P.S. from 1999 to 2002. After graduating from law school, he served as assistant attorney general in the Washington State Attorney General's Office from 1997 to 1998, and as the deputy prosecuting attorney in the Franklin County Prosecutor's Office from 1998 to 1999. He has the support of his home State Senators, Senator CANTWELL and Senator MURRAY. The Judiciary Committee reported his nomination favorably with near-unanimous bipartisan support to the full Senate on April 3, 2014.

Staci Yandle has been nominated to fill a judicial emergency vacancy on the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Illinois. Staci Yandle has worked since 2007 in private practice as a sole practitioner, and since 2010 as counsel for the Farrise Firm P.C. She previously served as a partner at The Rex Carr Law Firm from 2003 to 2007 and as an associate at Carr, Korein, Schlichter, Kunin, Montroy, Glass & Bogard from 1987 to 2003. She worked as an adjunct professor at the St. Louis University School of Law from 1991 to 2000, teaching courses in trial advocacy and civil practice. From 1992 to 1996, she served as a member of the Illinois Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. Staci Yandle has been active in her community, providing pro bono legal services to indigent clients on issues ranging from tenant disputes to personal injury claims. She has the support of her home State Senators, Senator DURBIN and Senator KIRK. The Judiciary Committee reported her nomination favorably with near-unanimous bipartisan support to the full Senate on April 3, 2014.

Judge Darrin Gayles has been nominated to fill a judicial emergency vacancy on the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida. He has served since 2011 as a Florida State judge on the Eleventh Judicial Circuit Court, and previously served as a county judge in the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida from 2004 to 2011. Prior to becoming a judge, he served as an assistant U.S. attorney in the Southern District of Florida from 1999 to 2004, an assistant district counsel in the U.S. Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service from 1997 to 1999, and as an assistant State attorney in the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office from 1993 to 1997. He has the support of his home State Senators, Senator NELSON and Senator RUBIO. The Judiciary Committee reported his nomination by voice vote to the full Senate on May 8, 2014.

I commend the majority leader for bringing the nominations of these three nominees up for a vote. With yesterday's cloture votes, the Senate has voted on cloture for judicial nominees 50 times so far this year. This is more than all the cloture votes on judicial nominees during the two preceding administrations combined. This level of partisanship is meritless, and only serves to weaken the Federal courts and the American justice system. I hope that my colleagues will join me in voting to confirm these qualified nominees, and allow them to get to work for the American people.

I thank the Chair and 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. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF SALVADOR MENDOZA, JR., TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

NOMINATION OF STACI MICHELLE YANDLE TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

NOMINATION OF DARRIN P. GAYLES TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk reported the nominations of Salvador Mendoza, Jr., of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Washington, Staci Michelle Yandle, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Illinois, and Darrin P. Gayles, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There are now 2 minutes of debate prior to a vote on the Mendoza nomination.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I yield back all time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, all time is yielded back.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Salvador Mendoza, of Washington, to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Washington?

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN), and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN).

The result was announced—yeas 92, nays 4, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 195 Ex.]

YEAS—92

Alexander	Grassley	Murphy
Ayotte	Hagan	Murray
Baldwin	Harkin	Nelson
Barrasso	Hatch	Paul
Begich	Heinrich	Portman
Bennet	Heitkamp	Pryor
Blumenthal	Heller	Reed
Booker	Hirono	Reid
Boozman	Hoeven	Roberts
Boxer	Inhofe	Rubio
Brown	Isakson	Sanders
Burr	Johanns	Schatz
Cantwell	Johnson (SD)	Schumer
Cardin	Johnson (WI)	Scott
Carper	Kaine	Sessions
Chambliss	King	Shaheen
Coats	Kirk	Shelby
Coburn	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Collins	Landrieu	Tester
Coons	Leahy	Thune
Corker	Lee	Toomey
Cornyn	Manchin	Udall (CO)
Donnelly	Markey	Udall (NM)
Durbin	McCain	Vitter
Enzi	McCaskill	Walsh
Feinstein	McConnell	Warner
Fischer	Menendez	Warren
Flake	Merkley	Whitehouse
Franken	Mikulski	Wicker
Gillibrand	Moran	Wyden
Graham	Murkowski	

NAYS—4

Blunt	Cruz
Crapo	Risch

NOT VOTING—4

Casey	Levin
Cochran	Rockefeller

The nomination was confirmed.

VOTE ON YANDLE NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There is now 2 minutes of debate prior to the vote on the Yandle nomination.

Mr. REID. I yield back all time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, all time is yielded back.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Staci Michelle Yandle, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Illinois?

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. 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 assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr.

CASEY) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 196 Ex.]

YEAS—52

Baldwin	Heinrich	Reed
Begich	Heitkamp	Reid
Bennet	Hirono	Rockefeller
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Sanders
Booker	Kaine	Schatz
Boxer	King	Schumer
Brown	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cantwell	Landrieu	Stabenow
Cardin	Leahy	Tester
Carper	Markey	Udall (CO)
Coons	McCaskill	Udall (NM)
Donnelly	Menendez	Walsh
Durbin	Merkley	Warner
Feinstein	Mikulski	Warren
Franken	Murphy	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Murray	Wyden
Hagan	Nelson	
Harkin	Pryor	

NAYS—44

Alexander	Fischer	McConnell
Ayotte	Flake	Moran
Barrasso	Graham	Murkowski
Blunt	Grassley	Paul
Boozman	Hatch	Portman
Burr	Heller	Risch
Chambliss	Hoeven	Roberts
Coats	Inhofe	Rubio
Coburn	Isakson	Scott
Collins	Johanns	Shelby
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Thune
Cornyn	Kirk	Toomey
Crapo	Lee	Vitter
Cruz	Manchin	Wicker
Enzi	McCain	

NOT VOTING—4

Casey	Levin
Cochran	Sessions

The nomination was confirmed.

VOTE ON GAYLES NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there are 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to the vote on the Gayles nomination.

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, I wish to share with the Senate that this judge has come through the process Senator RUBIO and I have in Florida where we have a judicial nomination commission specifically to try to take the politics out of the selection of judges. He has been through many different iterations. So I encourage the Senate to support him.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Darrin P. Gayles, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida?

Mr. HATCH. 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 assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) is necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HEITKAMP). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 98, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 197 Ex.]

YEAS—98

Alexander	Graham	Murphy
Ayotte	Grassley	Murray
Baldwin	Hagan	Nelson
Barrasso	Harkin	Paul
Begich	Hatch	Portman
Bennet	Heinrich	Pryor
Blumenthal	Heitkamp	Reed
Blunt	Heller	Reid
Booker	Hirono	Risch
Boozman	Hoeven	Roberts
Boxer	Inhofe	Rockefeller
Brown	Isakson	Rubio
Burr	Johanns	Sanders
Cantwell	Johnson (SD)	Schatz
Cardin	Johnson (WI)	Schumer
Carper	Kaine	Scott
Chambliss	King	Sessions
Coats	Kirk	Shaheen
Coburn	Klobuchar	Shelby
Collins	Landrieu	Stabenow
Coons	Leahy	Tester
Corker	Lee	Thune
Cornyn	Levin	Toomey
Crapo	Manchin	Udall (CO)
Cruz	Markey	Udall (NM)
Donnelly	McCain	Vitter
Durbin	McCaskill	Walsh
Enzi	McConnell	Warner
Feinstein	Menendez	Warren
Fischer	Merkley	Whitehouse
Flake	Mikulski	Wicker
Franken	Moran	Wyden
Gillibrand	Murkowski	

NOT VOTING—2

Casey	Cochran

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table. The President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to a vote on the Kadzik motion.

Mr. NELSON. I yield back time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the time has been yielded back.

Under the previous order, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Peter Joseph Kadzik, of New York, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Christopher A. Coons, Sheldon Whitehouse, Christopher Murphy, Al Franken, Jon Tester, Richard Blumenthal, Jeff Merkley, Richard J. Durbin, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Benjamin L. Cardin, Bill Nelson, Dianne Feinstein, Elizabeth Warren, Tom Harkin, Mazie K. Hirono.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Peter Joseph Kadzik, of New York, to be an Assistant Attorney General shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) is necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 54, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 198 Ex.]

YEAS—54

Baldwin	Heinrich	Nelson
Begich	Heitkamp	Pryor
Bennet	Hirono	Reed
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Booker	Kaine	Rockefeller
Boxer	King	Sanders
Brown	Klobuchar	Schatz
Cantwell	Landrieu	Schumer
Cardin	Leahy	Shaheen
Carper	Levin	Stabenow
Coons	Manchin	Tester
Donnelly	Markey	Udall (CO)
Durbin	McCaskill	Udall (NM)
Feinstein	Menendez	Walsh
Franken	Merkley	Warner
Gillibrand	Mikulski	Warren
Hagan	Murphy	Whitehouse
Harkin	Murray	Wyden

NAYS—43

Alexander	Flake	Murkowski
Ayotte	Graham	Paul
Barrasso	Grassley	Portman
Blunt	Hatch	Risch
Boozman	Heller	Roberts
Burr	Hoeven	Rubio
Chambliss	Inhofe	Scott
Coats	Isakson	Sessions
Collins	Johanns	Shelby
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Thune
Cornyn	Kirk	Toomey
Crapo	Lee	Vitter
Cruz	McCain	Wicker
Enzi	McConnell	
Fischer	Moran	

NOT VOTING—3

Casey	Coburn	Cochran

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote the yeas are 54, the nays are 43. The motion is agreed to.

NOMINATION OF PETER JOSEPH KADZIK TO BE AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Peter Joseph Kadzik, of New York, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, following my remarks and those of Senator THUNE, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate recess until 2:15

p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings and that the time during the recess count postcloture on the Kadzik nomination, with the time during the recess equally divided.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Washington.

FAMILY FRIENDLY POLICIES

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, Senate Democrats have been focused on a lot of ways to expand opportunity and economic security for women and mothers in today's workforce. We have talked about the need to ensure equal pay for equal work, to make childcare more affordable, and to encourage profamily workplace policies that help workers be good parents and good employees.

We have explained how each of those policies and others would give working women and mothers a better shot at success. It is important to keep in mind that times have changed in the last few decades. Today two-thirds of families with children have two working parents. Dads are taking a more hands-on role in raising their children. This means in many working families fathers are increasingly facing a lot of the same challenges that mothers do. In fact, more and more fathers report they are struggling to balance work and family.

At a time when so many families need both parents to be at work in order to make ends meet, we clearly need to update our policies so that both mothers and fathers can succeed at work and at home. So today, since it was just Father's Day, I asked a few dads to come in and speak with my colleagues and me about how many of the policies often thought of as especially important to working women, such as affordable childcare, paid sick leave, would also do a lot for dads. I want to thank them for taking the time to share their stories and their experiences with all of us, because what we heard was really powerful. We heard fathers speak about how family-friendly policies helped them raise their kids and meet their responsibilities at work.

We heard from a dad who decided to stay home with his twins rather than pay for childcare because it was simply too expensive. We heard from a father and a small business owner who has made fair pay a priority at his business because he knows how fast those lost wages add up and how much equal pay can mean for a working family with a mortgage or student loans or car payments or all three of those.

What these fathers made clear is the economic barriers we often see as impacting women, such as inflexible workplace policies or the high cost of childcare or unequal pay, are not just holding women back, they are holding 21st century families back. There is no question in my mind they are a drag on our economy. That is why Democrats are fighting for policies that would help hard-working mothers and fathers across the country.

We are fighting to make sure women get equal pay for equal work, just as we made sure women do not get charged more for health insurance because of their gender. We have legislation to expand access to affordable quality childcare and early education so that mothers and fathers can go to work knowing their children are safe and thriving while they are away.

We have also proposed raising the minimum wage so parents are not working full time but still stuck in poverty and struggling to make ends meet. Democrats are also fighting to help our workers compete for good jobs by bringing down tuition costs and ensuring workers can get the training and education they need.

There is much more we can do as well. But any of those policies would go an enormously long way toward helping working families get the fair shot they deserve. This is why it has been so disappointing to see that when it comes to everything from the Paycheck Fairness Act to the raising of minimum wage for millions of our workers, to helping ease the burden of student loans, our Republican colleagues have so far said no, even though these policies are policies that would help millions of our working families and even though we know Americans across the country strongly support these kinds of changes. I know they would certainly mean a lot to many of the fathers I spoke with today.

I came here today to say I hope our Republican colleagues rethink the approach they have taken on all of those issues so far, because I believe if we take steps to break down the barriers working mothers and fathers are facing in today's economy, families across our country will have more opportunity and our country will be stronger now and over the long term.

There is no reason for us not to get to work on these.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Dakota.

SOUTH DAKOTA FLOODING

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, before I begin my prepared remarks, I wish to acknowledge my constituents in South Dakota who are dealing with unprecedented flooding. We have seen historic amounts of rainfall already in the month of June that dwarf anything we can compare to throughout our State's history. Hail and winds are causing widespread damage across the State.

It is not just confined to our State. There are States in the region as well that are experiencing some of these same circumstances and tremendous damage to property. So I wanted to express my thoughts and prayers to the people I represent as well as to those in other States who are dealing with some of these circumstances, and to say thank you and express my appreciation to our first responders who have been very much in demand and on call the last few days.

THE ECONOMY

The American people are very tired. They are very weary. They are arguably fed up. The Washington Post headline from last Friday summed it up, ''Obama's image hits record lows in trio of polls.'' Gallup, CNN/ORC, and Bloomberg polls all found that the President's favorable rating had fallen to new lows. It is no wonder. Five years after the recession supposedly ended, most Americans still feel as though they are in the midst of it.

It is not just me saying that. The President's own Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen stated as recently as March, ''The recovery still feels like a recession to many Americans, and it also looks that way in some economic statistics.''

Let's talk about some of those statistics. Unemployment has spent the past 5½ years at recession level highs. Currently nearly 10 million Americans are unemployed, more than one-third of them for 6 months or longer. The labor force participation rate is at a 36-year low. A USA Today editorial from last week noted that the ''decline in the 'labor force participation rate' is one of the most troubling trends of our time.'' Of course, the labor participation rate being the fraction of the available workforce that is actually working or at least looking for work.

What is driving that trend, Americans so discouraged by their failure to find a job that they have literally given up looking altogether? That is what is driving the trend in the labor participation rate.

Even after accounting for baby-boomers retiring and more people going to college—and this is again from the USA Today piece I mentioned earlier—this translates to 6 million people who could be working or looking for work. As the paper points out, the lack of these workers in the workforce means a weaker economy, lower tax revenue, as well as greater governmental expense.

Young people just getting out of college face a bleak job market. The unemployment rate for young adults is a staggering 13.2 percent or more than twice the national average. The director of Outreach for Generation Opportunity, a nonprofit advocacy organization for millennials, recently stated that more than four out of five recent graduates do not have jobs. Currently, 36 percent of young adults are living at home with their parents.

It is no wonder that CNNmoney reports that young adults, aged 18 to 34, are most likely to feel the American dream is unattainable, with 63 percent saying it is not only unattainable, it is impossible.

Everywhere Americans look, prices are rising. The price of everything from milk to the refrigerator to hold it has increased over the past several years. Gas prices have almost doubled since President Obama took office. College costs are soaring.

Then there is ObamaCare, which has meant soaring premiums and huge deductibles for way too many American families. Being in the middle class was once associated with financial security. With a little prudence, middle-class families could be expected to see their kids through college and to retire comfortably. No more.

In the Obama economy, the future is less secure. Household income not only failed to rise over the past 5½ years, it has actually dropped by $3,500 under the President's watch. Wages have remained flat and economic growth has been tepid at best. Middle-class families are no longer looking forward to a future of economic security. Instead, they are praying they do not get hit with any unexpected bills. They are worrying that they will not be able to send their kids to college, and they are wondering how long they will have to work past retirement to the economic security they need.

In a previous America, low-income families could confidently expect that effort and hard work could bring them into the ranks of the middle class. How many of our parents started out living on a shoestring but ended up sending their kids to college and retiring comfortably?

Today, though, opportunities to reach the middle class are few and far between. Fourteen million more Americans are on food stamps today than when the President took office. Democratic policies such as the ObamaCare 30-hour workweek are hitting low-income Americans the hardest. Many of the better paying jobs lost during the recession are not being replaced. Seventy-eight percent of the jobs lost during the recession were high- or mid-wage jobs, but just 56 percent of the jobs recovered have been high or mid-wage jobs. That means almost half of the new jobs that have been created are low-wage jobs. That is not the kind of climate that enables upward mobility.

The worst part is it does not look as though things are going to get better anytime soon. This week the International Monetary Fund announced it now predicts the United States economic growth rate will not exceed 2 percent this year. That is not anywhere close to the kind of growth we need for a real recovery.

The New York Times reported last week, ''The Federal Reserve, persistently optimistic in its previous forecasts, said in March that it no longer expected a full recovery in the foreseeable future.'' Let me repeat that. The Federal Reserve said it no longer expected a full recovery in the foreseeable future.

Four years ago President Obama and his administration proclaimed the advent of the summer of economic recovery. President Obama claimed the economy is headed in the right direction. Vice President BIDEN confidently predicted in April of 2010 that sometime in the next couple of months we are going to be creating between 250,000 jobs a month and 500,000 jobs a month. In August of that year, Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner published an op-ed in the New York Times entitled, ''Welcome to the Recovery.''

Well, as the American people know, recovery summer never materialized. Four years later the American people are still waiting. According to the Federal Reserve, they are going to have to wait longer. In 2009, the President's economic advisors predicted that unemployment would fall below 6 percent in 2012. Two years later, unemployment is still firmly stuck above 6 percent. The Federal Reserve Bank in San Francisco has suggested that 6-percent unemployment should be considered the ''new normal.''

I do not accept that. Republicans do not accept that. We do not accept 6.3 percent unemployment, sluggish economic growth, and struggling middle-class families as the new normal, because it does not have to be that way. We can get our economy going again. But it is going to take something a lot different than the policies of the past 5½ years. It is going to take the kind of policies that remove families' burdens, instead of increasing them. It is going to take policies that encourage businesses to create jobs, not to cut jobs. Republicans have a lot of ideas about how to get started, ideas such as repealing the ObamaCare medical device tax that has already killed tens of thousands of jobs and will kill thousands more if it is not stopped or restoring the 40-hour workweek so businesses will no longer be forced to cut employees' hours under ObamaCare's mandates or stopping the President's national energy tax which would make it more difficult for American families, particularly low-income families, to afford gas, heating, and electricity or enacting trade promotion authority to open new markets to American farmers, workers, and businesses, and to create new good-paying jobs for American workers.

The list goes on. These are just a few of the ideas Republicans have to get our economy going again.

If Democrats were serious about wanting to help American families, they would be working with Republicans to help us get legislation passed. We don't have to accept the President's economy as the new normal: chronic high unemployment, sluggish growth, massive amounts of debt. That shouldn't be the norm, and we shouldn't be satisfied with it.

Republicans are going to be working every day to ensure it isn't the new normal, and we will continue working until our economy is flourishing again and every American has the opportunity for a good job and a prosperous and secure future. We hope Democrats will work with us toward that end. It means opening this floor of the Senate to legislation that will grow our economy, create jobs, and allow us to openly debate, allow us to offer amendments, something that hasn't happened for the past year.

Since July of last year, there have been only nine Republican amendments voted on on the floor of the Senate—nine—nine amendments in almost a year. The ironic thing about that is the same procedures that are being used to block Republican amendments are also blocking Democratic amendments. So in that same timeframe Democrats have only had seven amendments voted on in the past year.

In the world's greatest deliberative body, the place where we are supposed to have open debate and an open amendment process, Republicans had nine amendments voted on. We could take that as a personal affront, but that is not what it is about. It is about the people whom we represent because they elect us here to come out, represent them, and to make sure their voices are heard in the political processes in the debates we have in Washington on the big issues that are important to them and their families. So when amendments are blocked and this process is shut down on the floor of the Senate, it is the people's voices who don't get heard and don't get represented. That has to change, and it needs to change soon, because the issues are big, and the problems and the challenges that face middle-income families are consequential.

Many of us in this Chamber come here every single day hoping to offer legislation and amendments that we believe will be solutions to getting the economy growing again and to create jobs. Every single day for the last year, at least, we have been shut down.

We can do better by the American people. They deserve better. I hope we will do better, and we can start now.

I yield the floor.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:47 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Ms. BALDWIN).

NOMINATION OF PETER JOSEPH KADZIK TO BE AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time? If no one yields time, time will be charged equally to both sides.

The Senator from Idaho.

TRIBUTE TO LEONARD N. ''BUD'' PURDY

Mr. RISCH. Madam President, I rise today to pay tribute to one of Idaho's legendary ranchers and conservationists, Leonard N. Purdy, who was known to all of us as Bud Purdy. Bud passed away on April 14, at the age of 96, at his home on Silver Creek in Picabo, ID.

Bud never called himself a cowboy, but when I think of an Idaho cowboy, Bud is the one who frequently comes to mind. As many have said, he was the definition of the values we attribute to

cowboys—hard work, common sense, persistence, determination, faith in others, honesty, and, to me, a true friend. Bud demonstrated these every day in life on the ranch, at the store and the grain businesses he owned, and especially among family, friends, and in the community.

I think the love of ranching was just in his blood, an inherited trait. After graduating from Washington State University in Pullman, Bud went to work on his grandfather's ranch. He worked his way up to managing the Picabo Ranch and then he bought it. He also bought the Picabo Store and Silver Creek Supply—a grain elevator and seed business.

Bud was known by all for his love of the cattle industry. He enjoyed moving cattle, riding the fences, and moving and checking water, some of which he did long after most would have retired. He was a real Idaho cowboy. In fact, Bud helped get the Idaho Cattle Association started, where he served as president and was a longtime member of the board.

Bud was one of the larger-than-life Idahoans who helped make the Gem State a great place to live, work, and play. Working the land for livestock grazing, Bud recognized the value of conserving for future generations, so some 20 years ago he donated a 3,500-acre conservation easement along Silver Creek to the Nature Conservancy—a contribution valued at $7 million. Yet Bud—true to his character—did not even take the associated tax deduction.

Clearly, like he valued the land, Bud valued Idaho. He had natural leadership talent which was called on time and again in community and industry organizations. He served on the Idaho Rangeland Committee and the National Bureau of Land Management Advisory Council. Bud also gave time to foundations of the University of Idaho and College of Southern Idaho and the Blaine County Medical Center. In addition, he helped raise funds for the new St. Luke's Hospital. Bud also helped establish the Idaho Association of Commerce and Industry, where he also served as chairman. IACI, as it is known, is a strong and well-respected group fostering business interests in Idaho.

Amazingly, Bud found time for hunting, skiing, fishing, and flying. Among those he hosted, hunted, and skied with were Ernest Hemingway, Jimmy Stewart, and Gary Cooper—all frequent visitors to his ranch on Silver Creek.

Flying became a passion. He checked the ranch from the air and piloted to many meetings across the State and Nation. As late as last year, he and his son Nick flew to California to attend a meeting. At the time of Bud's passing, he was the second oldest pilot in Idaho. He once told me he hoped he could fly long enough to be the oldest pilot in Idaho. Unfortunately, he didn't quite make it. But if there are planes in Heaven, Bud is definitely flying one today.

Among the many honors and awards Bud received were an induction into the Idaho Hall of Fame, an honorary doctorate in range science from the University of Idaho, the Idaho Statesman Distinguished Citizens Award, and serving as grand marshal of the 2013 Ketchum Wagon Days Parade.

As busy as he was, Bud was always a family man. He and his first wife Maxine Dahl had three children—Nick, Mark, and Kris. Nick continues the family ranching legacy. In 1952 Bud married Ruth Eccles. Her son Gordon helped manage the Picabo Store. Throughout the years, Bud employed other family members as well. In fact, you could say the town of Picabo is successfully run and managed by the Purdy family.

Idaho has lost one of its most beloved and respected citizens, but Idaho and our great Nation are better places for the accomplishments and contributions of Bud Purdy. The legacy he leaves the world is one we all would do well to emulate.

Bud, a grateful Idaho and nation will miss you.

Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican whip.

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

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

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, I am returning to the Senate floor to talk once again about the wave of migrant children who are coming across the U.S.-Mexican border unaccompanied by adults. So far this year, since October, 47,000 unaccompanied minors have been detained at the border, most of them coming not from Mexico, which obviously is closer to the United States, but from as far away as Central America and beyond.

To put this in some context, from Guatemala City, Guatemala, to McAllen, TX, is roughly a trip of 1200 miles. I have spoken many times and I will continue to speak to anyone who will listen about the horrific and dangerous conditions these children and other migrants travel just to get to the United States. Thousands of migrant children, almost all of whom come from Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Mexico are currently being held in U.S. military facilities such as Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, TX. While Federal, State, and local officials try to figure out, No. 1, who they are—find out what their identity is, because many of them show up without any identification—they try to figure out, well, do they have any relatives here in the United States or possible legal guardians? Then they have to decide what to do with them while their cases are being processed. Obviously since the majority of them come from countries other than Mexico, they cannot just be turned back, particularly in the case of minor children, some of whom have been reported to be as young as 5 years old. The average age is roughly 14 years old, but still when I describe, as I will today and will continue to do, the horrific conditions under which these migrant children travel from Mexico and up from Central America, no one in their right mind would want to have their child subjected to that sort of potential and reality of abuse and mistreatment.

I am glad the President has asked Vice President JOE BIDEN to travel to Central America, but I worry that so far I haven't heard any plan whatsoever that would stop the flow of these unaccompanied children from Central America and Mexico.

As you can imagine, this is a bureaucratic nightmare, trying to figure out how to deal with this mass of humanity coming across the border. In fact, the Border Patrol is spending so much time trying to take care of the humanitarian crisis that they are neglecting some of their principal responsibilities, which are to stem the flow of illegal immigration and drugs across the border. So this is diverting law enforcement from its assigned role just to deal with the temporary crisis. At least I hope it is temporary.

The authorities in South Texas and the Rio Grande Valley do not have the resources or the manpower to handle such a massive influx of unaccompanied children. In terms of the children who have been released from U.S. custody, we still don't know how many of their ''temporary guardians'' are themselves illegal immigrants. We don't know because I assume there is not a background check conducted on them. I hope I am wrong. But I hope we don't find out that some of these unaccompanied minors are being turned over to relatives who are themselves perhaps criminals or sex offenders. In other words, we have no idea, because the President has not spoken out, what kind of plan there is to make sure of the conditions these children are living in or what sort of potential abuse they might suffer. It is an awful situation any way you look at it.

What makes it even more outrageous is it is directly the result of the impression that President Obama is uninterested in enforcing our immigration laws, specifically his refusal to enforce and his granting of so-called deferred action programs he announced in the Rose Garden 2 years ago.

To be fair to the President and the Senators who voted for the Senate immigration bill, it would have, if signed into law, granted a deferred action for a certain class of minors, so-called DREAM Act kids. But none of these children entering the country currently qualify or would qualify for either the President's deferred action order that he issued unilaterally or the

Senate-passed DREAM Act provisions. So we know they are entering in violation of American law, but there are no negative consequences associated with it as long as they are basically accommodated in the United States.

As a result, the number of children entering the country, together with the number of adults, is simply skyrocketing. As I said previously, to start with, it was estimated that 47,000 have been detained so far this year, and that this entire calendar year there will be as many as 60,000. Next year the numbers are expected to double to 120,000 children.

The fact is this is not just affecting States such as Texas, a border State, or even Arizona or California. This is affecting States such as Virginia, Maryland, Oklahoma, and other places where the Federal Government is simply looking for a place to warehouse these children while it figures out what to do with them.

Of course, the ensuing crisis has prompted a fresh debate over security conditions at the U.S.-Mexican border. As the debate goes forward, it is worth considering exactly what we mean when we talk about border security, because I fear it is a term that is often misunderstood.

Border security is not just about catching people along the Rio Grande or checkpoints in places such as Falfurrias or Sarita, it is also about deterring potential illegal immigrants from starting out from their home country on such a dangerous journey in the first place. My friend Congressman HENRY CUELLAR from Laredo said, for example, when you play football you don't just defend at the goal line; you start 20 yards from the goal line, you start at midfield and on the other team's turf. So we need to make sure we have a comprehensive approach and a plan to deal with illegal immigration into the country, as I said, hopefully with the goal in large part of deterring parents from turning their children over to the hands of the drug cartels and other transnational criminal gangs and sending them on this perilous and horrific journey north to the United States.

This journey from Central America to southern Mexico to the U.S. border is one of the most dangerous journeys anywhere in the world. Indeed, every single corridor is controlled by transnational criminal drug organizations, including drug smugglers and cartels. They prey on the weakest and most vulnerable people they find. They will rob them, they will sexually assault them, they will kill them if need be in order to suit their purposes. Not surprisingly, the ongoing surge of Central American migrants has been an absolute gift to the Mexican drug cartels and their gangland affiliates. As an Austin-based immigration lawyer told the L.A. Times recently: ''The smugglers are milking this situation for all it's worth.'' This is money in the bank for the drug cartels and the human smugglers, the people who prey on the most vulnerable people who are smuggled in from Central America and Mexico to the United States. That is how they make their money. That is their business model, so to speak.

President Obama has often defended his immigration policies as a humane response to a broken system. I would be among the first to acknowledge that America's immigration system is indeed broken, but there is nothing humane about incentivizing people who risk their lives and their children's lives by traveling through the most dangerous smuggling corridors in the Western Hemisphere. There is nothing humane about incentivizing people to pay human traffickers for transportation through Mexico.

Yet when the administration deliberately refuses to enforce our immigration laws and talks daily about its investigation into changing repatriation policies, it effectively tells people in Mexico and Central America that if they make it across to the U.S. border they will almost certainly be allowed to stay. When the administration does those things, it is effectively encouraging poor, vulnerable immigrants to embark on a treacherous and often deadly journey.

As I said, the journey is especially treacherous for young migrant women and children. The migrant women are frequently raped, kidnapped, and sold to sex traffickers. Some experts believe that 6 out of 10 of the migrant women who traverse this dangerous territory are sexually assaulted. It is truly appalling and without question one of the worst human rights nightmares anywhere in our hemisphere. For that matter, it is likely getting worse. A new Congressional Research Service memo indicates that girls and children below the age of 13 represent a growing number of unaccompanied minors who are being apprehended at the southern border. Needless to say, as more and more migrant children travel through Mexico, more will be forced into sex slavery and prostitution.

I think we all agree that the status quo is simply intolerable and unacceptable.

So what is the solution? Well, I spent the past couple of days urging the President to take a few basic steps that would help curtail the seemingly endless flow of unaccompanied minors up through this dangerous smuggling corridor. The steps I have outlined I think reflect common sense. For starters, the President of the United States must make it abundantly clear to everyone that his deferred action program on deportation does not apply to the children who are now streaming across our border in floodlike proportions. If the President himself were to make such an announcement, it would get noticed.

Right now Central American newspapers as well as the criminal cartels are actively spreading the word that if you turn yourselves over to us and pay our price to get smuggled into the United States, you can get free passage and stay, because they are saying you will not be repatriated.

If the President also worked with the Mexican Government to help secure its southern border with Guatemala—that border is about 500 miles long and it is currently the place the migrants come from Central America into Mexico to begin that long, perilous journey, many on a train system that has become known as The Beast or The Beast of Death, which has been written about a lot. If the President were to help provide Mexico, in consultation with our Mexican friends, a way to help secure that border, it would help stem more than half the flow of migrants including these unaccompanied children from Central America. And if the President sent the message, contrary to what he has done recently, that he is committed to enforcing all of our immigration laws until Congress and the President can engage in our constitutionally required process of amending those laws, then the tide of children flooding across South Texas might soon be reversed.

I wish I had confidence that President Obama would take the actions I have described. His record on immigration and border security, unfortunately, inspires no confidence that he will.

To reiterate, once again, solving this crisis isn't simply about securing America's southern border. It is not just about goal-line defense, in the words of Congressman CUELLAR, it is about enforcing our immigration laws. It is about saving mothers and daughters, fathers and sons, from contact with some of the most brutal criminal organizations on the planet.

I hope the President is listening. I am encouraged that Vice President BIDEN is traveling to the region, but, of course, we know that Central America, the government there, has deteriorated to the point that it has become an increasingly dangerous place. That is another one of the arguments that is made, that people are simply fleeing from violence in those Central American countries. I certainly am sympathetic, but the fact is the United States cannot absorb people from every part of the globe who want to come to the United States without imperiling our way of life. So what we need to do is find a way to control immigration through legal channels, and we need to send the message to other countries that you cannot come here with impunity and simply overwhelm our ability in the United States to take care of legal immigrants.

The President can do a lot. Sending Vice President BIDEN to Central America is a start, but what we need is a plan along the lines I have outlined in order to stem this humanitarian crisis that is occurring not just in South Texas but is being spread to Virginia, Maryland, Oklahoma, Arizona, and California, because that is where these children are being sent in the custody

of the Federal Government—basically in warehouses or it occurs to me that this is more like a refugee camp on American soil. This is not the way we would want our children to live, and this is not the way we should want other parents' children to live. We will take care of them to the best of our ability while they are here, but what we need is an unequivocal message that says America does not have an open border and that parents should not turn their children over to these dangerous drug cartels and human smugglers in order to come to the United States.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

VETERANS HEALTH CARE

Mr. SANDERS. Madam President, what the recent crisis at the Veterans' Administration has taught us is that the cost of war does not end when the last shots are fired and the last missiles are launched. The cost of war continues until the last veteran receives the care and benefits that he or she has earned on the battlefield. In other words, the cost of war is very expensive. It is expensive in terms of human life, in terms of human suffering, and in terms of financial commitment.

The cost of war in Iraq and Afghanistan alone is almost 7,000 dead. The cost of war is some 200,000 men and women coming home from those wars with post-traumatic stress disorder or traumatic brain injury. The cost of war from Iraq and Afghanistan is that many of our veterans have come home without arms or legs or eyesight or without their hearing. The cost of war is tragic suicides taking place all over this country from people who have returned from war.

The cost of war is veterans coming home unable to find jobs and get their feet back on the ground financially. The cost of war is high divorce rates and the impact that family stress has on kids. The cost of war is widows suddenly having to start their life anew without the person they married at their side.

Two weeks ago Senator MCCAIN and I hammered together a proposal to deal with the current crisis at the VA, and I thank him very much for understanding the need to move forward expeditiously.

Last Wednesday this legislation passed the Senate by a vote of 93 to 3, and I thank all of the Members in both political parties for voting for this bill. I thank them for understanding that we need to continue moving forward on this legislation as quickly as possible and in a nonpartisan way.

A recent VA audit revealed that more than 57,000 veterans are waiting to be scheduled for medical appointments. They are in facilities where the waiting lists are much too long. That, to my mind, is clearly an emergency situation.

I thank all of those Senators who not only voted to pass this bill but, perhaps more importantly, voted to pay for this bill through emergency funding. I could not agree more with Senator MCCAIN when he said:

> If there is a definition of emergency, I would say that this legislation fits that. It is an emergency. It is an emergency what is happening to our veterans and the men and women who have served this country. And we need to pass this legislation and get it in conference with the House as soon as possible.

I fully agree with Senator MCCAIN's sentiment. Madam President, 93 Senators—in a strong bipartisan showing—agreed with Senator MCCAIN and me that this is an emergency, that veterans must get the quality health care they need, and they must get it in a timely manner. We need to provide the funding the VA needs and do it in an expeditious way.

Needless to say, the bill we passed in the Senate is a compromise. It is not the bill I know Senator MCCAIN would have written alone, and it is surely not the bill I would have written if I could have had the power to write it alone. It is a compromise that was hammered out in good faith, which is something we need to see more of in this body.

What this bill does is address the immediate crisis facing the VA of long waiting periods and makes certain that as soon as possible, the veterans of our country get the high-quality care they need and they get it in a timely fashion. That is what our veterans deserve.

I will briefly touch on some of the major provisions in the bill. This bill allows for 26 major medical facility leases, which means improved and expanded care for veterans in 17 States and Puerto Rico. There has been some disagreement about a 27th facility located in Oklahoma. That facility was in the original bill I introduced, and I supported its inclusion in final passage.

This bill also provides for the expedited hiring of VA doctors and nurses and $500 million targeted to hire those providers with unobligated funds. No medical program can provide quality care in a timely manner if those programs do not have an adequate number of doctors, nurses, and other medical providers.

This bill will provide an opportunity for the VA to immediately increase capacity within their system. It will provide an expedited hiring authority to allow VA to quickly hire doctors and nurses, which is not the case right now. One of the problems with the VA is they have a very complicated process. It takes a whole lot of time, and they often lose their applicants because it takes such a long period of time. We need to change that, and this bill does that.

Right now there are 741 vacancy announcements for physician positions at VA on USAJOBS. My understanding is that is a flaw. In fact, the real number of physicians needed is significantly greater than that. In Phoenix alone there have been estimates that up to 500 new providers in that one facility alone—and those are doctors, nurses, and other health care providers—are needed if the veterans in Phoenix are going to have timely care.

Further, what our legislation also does is say to veterans around the country that if they cannot get into a VA facility in a timely manner, they will be able to get the care they need outside of the VA. In my view, what we need to do is hire those doctors, nurses, and supporting staff so veterans who come to the VA can get timely care there, but if they cannot get to a VA facility, this legislation is very clear in stating that they can go to private doctors, community health centers, Department of Defense bases or Indian health care facilities.

The goal is to give veterans a wide option to access care in a timely manner through providers in their communities. If the VA is unable to accommodate those veterans, they are going to go outside of the VA and get timely health care, and that is a very important provision in this bill.

This bill also says veterans who live 40 miles or more from a VA facility—if they choose—also have the option of seeking care outside of the VA. For those veterans living in very rural areas—and I have talked to one Senator who indicated that in some cases a veteran has to travel hundreds and hundreds of miles to get VA health care—this provision will also be very important.

The bill also addresses a major crisis we have seen in the military; that is, the tragedy and the outrage of sexual assault. Our bill will significantly increase VA services for those veterans who experienced sexual assault in the military.

This bill also deals with an issue—where there is widespread support across partisan lines—instate tuition for all veterans at public colleges and universities. This bill also importantly provides that surviving spouses—mostly wives who have lost their husbands in battle—will also be eligible for the post-9/11 GI bill, and that is exactly the right thing to do.

This bill also establishes commissions to provide help to give the VA in terms of improving schedule capabilities and capital planning. These are areas, frankly, where the VA has not been strong. They can use private sector and expert help so they can improve their scheduling capabilities and their ability to do capital planning.

Finally, and importantly, this bill gives the Secretary the authority to immediately fire incompetent employees or those who have falsified or manipulated data in terms of waiting periods. All of us have been outraged that people have intentionally manipulated data to make it appear that veterans

have been getting timely care when that was not the case.

Our bill gives the Secretary the ability to fire those employees and other incompetent employees and it also provides due process. I think that is important because I do not want to see the VA politicized. I don't want to see a President coming into office with a new Secretary firing 300 or 400 top-level supervisors. We do not want to see the VA politicized. We want the best people regardless of their political views.

The House of Representatives passed legislation last week which covers a lot of the same ground the Sanders-McCain bill covers, and I am very confident that in working with chairman JEFF MILLER and ranking member MIKE MICHAUD, we can bridge the differences and send the President a bill he can sign in the very near future. I think that is what the American people want. That is what Members of Congress want. We do not want this to drag on and on and on. We want to get this bill done quickly.

Finally, I did want to say a word to the 300,000 employees who work at the VA. These last several months have been a tough time for many of them. The truth is the overwhelming majority of the people who work at the VA are hard-working, honest, and serious people. In fact, many of them are veterans themselves. I know many others who work at the VA look at what they do not as a job—a 9-to-5 job—but they look at it as a mission. They feel very seriously that our veterans have to get the best health care possible, and they are doing their best to make that happen. I thank them very much for that.

Over and over, I hear from my State of Vermont and from across the country that once veterans get into the VA health care system, the care is good. That is not just my view; it is the view of virtually all of the major veterans organizations and independent studies that compare VA health care with care in the private sector.

In the State of Vermont some 98 percent of veterans get appointments into the system within 30 days. That is good, but it needs to be better in Vermont and throughout this country. The goal must be the highest quality care possible and getting people their appointments in a timely manner.

Let me read, interestingly enough, a poll that just came out from Gallup today. It was published today, and it was commissioned by MarketWatch from the Wall Street Journal. The interesting paragraph here—they polled some 42,000-plus Americans regarding their satisfaction with health care in America. Let me quote what the article says:

> Despite recent troubles with veterans not having access to prompt medical appointments, current and former military personnel are the most satisfied with their health care, as 77% expressed contentment. That was the highest satisfaction rate among those broken out by method of coverage.

Veterans, obviously, get their health care in other ways—not just through the VA—but it is important to recognize that for many, many veterans the health care they are getting is good, and they appreciate that.

Let me conclude by saying our job right now—and I think the American people are with us on this virtually 100 percent—is to make sure those men and women who have put their lives on the line to defend us—they are now asking us to defend them, to make sure they get the health care and the benefits to which they are entitled. My goal is to see that we move this legislation as quickly as possible. I hope by tomorrow we will have named conferees to the conference committee. My hope is we can get this legislation on to the President's desk as soon as we possibly can.

It is one thing to give heartfelt speeches about how much we love and respect veterans; it is another to act, and now is the time for action. The Senate and House committee staffs have already begun preliminary discussions. My understanding is the House conferees will be named tomorrow. I believe we will do the same here in the Senate. My job and what I intend to work on as hard as I can is to make sure we pass strong legislation as soon as we possibly can and have the President sign that legislation.

With that, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MANCHIN). The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

IMMIGRATION REFORM

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, just a few minutes ago the Senator from Texas, my friend JOHN CORNYN, came to the floor and spoke about immigration and the situation on our border. It was a very moving statement that he has made before and needs to make again. He did it today and identified a serious issue we are facing—not just one but several serious issues. They are dramatized by the fact that we are seeing hundreds of children who are being turned loose on America's border with Mexico crossing the border, being apprehended, and being placed in a humane situation in America—children, some as young as 5, 6, and 7 years of age, not accompanied by adults. You think to yourself, what is going on here?

Senator CORNYN, of course, representing the State of Texas, knows this better than most because they are watching these children.

Eighty percent of these children come from three countries: Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala. In these countries there is a state of lawlessness at this point that is so desperate—so desperate—that a family would turn over a child to someone who says: I will get them across the American border.

Some of these kids show up—I do not know how many; I cannot tell you—with little slips of paper with a name and a telephone number of a relative in the United States. Think about that for a second. How desperate would a family have to be to turn over a 5-year-old, a 6-or 7-year-old child to someone and say: Take them hundreds of miles and enter illegally into the United States of America with my little girl or my little boy. I cannot even imagine the desperation that people are facing that they would do such a thing.

That represents a major problem for the United States at several levels.

First, we are a humane and caring nation. We will not see a child abandoned at the border and turn our backs. What we are doing is taking these children into protective custody, trying to find a way to link them with some member of their family for their own good. Imagine the trauma these kids have gone through at that point and now what they might face. That is why we are stepping forward.

Senator CORNYN came to the floor, and he rightfully said that many of these children do not make these journeys unharmed. Terrible things happen to them. Awful things happen to them—assaults, rapes, beatings, and God only knows. You think to yourself, what impact will that trauma have on that child for such a long period of time?

The lawlessness in these three countries is leading to this outmigration for safety, this desperation by many families and parents.

The second aspect is one that we cannot ignore either. Many children come into the United States, and some of them come in the most extreme situations for a very basic human reason—children who were raised in other countries and their parents are in the United States. They have not seen them sometimes for years. They have received cash to keep them going under the care of another relative, gifts at Christmas, gifts for their birthday. But some of these kids—these little kids—will jump on these freight trains and go through Central America toward the United States in the hope of finding a parent. I cannot tell you the exact numbers.

There is a book that won the Pulitzer Prize called ''Enrique's Journey.'' A woman named Nazario who writes for the L.A. Times went down to Central America, got on one of these trains with these kids, who sit on top of these freight cars as they go through these countries trying to get to the United States. Many of them—she believes the majority of them—are simply trying to be reunited with their parents.

Listen to the tragedy in what I have just described. Think about the desperation of families and the desperation of these children and where it puts us in the world today, and reflect for a moment on a political reality that did not come up in the earlier statement. The political reality is that it has been

more than 1 year since the Senate passed a comprehensive immigration reform bill with 68 votes, 14 Republicans joining the Democrats in a bipartisan effort.

I know a little bit about this bill because I joined the group who wrote it, four Democrats, four Republicans, sitting across the table—on our side, CHUCK SCHUMER of New York, BOB MENENDEZ of New Jersey, MIKE BENNET of Colorado; on the Republican side, JOHN MCCAIN of Arizona, JEFF FLAKE of Arizona, LINDSEY GRAHAM of South Carolina, and MARCO RUBIO of Florida. We sat in this room—many rooms, I should say—over a period of months and hammered out a comprehensive bill that deals with many of the issues that are behind the tragedy I just described. That is something we ought to acknowledge is part of our challenge today, that 1 year has gone by and the House of Representatives has refused to even call this bill for consideration.

I am pretty proud of what we did and what we wrote. I do not think there are many pieces of legislation that bipartisan that have the support of business and labor and religious groups of every denomination. They all support our bill. I am proud of that fact.

I served in the House. I know they have some pride of authorship. They may want to do their version of the bill. That is OK. But doing nothing is not OK. It is not acceptable. We have a broken immigration system. Senator CORNYN of Texas said as much himself.

If we are going to deal with the problem at the border with these children, if we are going to deal with the problem of 11 million or more undocumented people in America—many of whom have been here for long periods of time, may live in a household where everyone else in the house is an American citizen, and I know of these cases in Chicago; I have met them—people who are willing to come forward at this point in their lives, register with the government, tell the government where they live, where they work, have a background check so that if they have serious criminal issues they are gone, stay in this country, pay their taxes, pay a fine for being undocumented, learn English, and wait 13 years at the earliest before they can become citizens, and they go to the absolute back of the line—that is what our bill says. That, to me, is a movement toward a solution of what we are facing today.

But I hear many times criticism of this President. I will tell you, this President has been fully supportive of this effort for comprehensive immigration reform. I cannot tell you how many hours I have spent with him and so many others trying to work toward this goal. I know, because he used to be my junior Senator from Illinois and we are pretty close. I know that when he was going through the transition to become President, he invited Senators MCCAIN and GRAHAM to meet with him in Chicago before he was sworn in. They talked about immigration. That is how important it is to this President. So those who would blame him or dismiss him for the current situation, it is not fair. He supports comprehensive immigration reform.

He said to the House of Representatives and the Republican leadership that he will step back in terms of doing anything on an executive level and give them the opportunity to do what they are supposed to do—call this matter for a vote. We are praying they do it before the end of July because we are running out of time. In just a few months there will be an election and then a lame-duck session between the election and the new Congress. Not much can get done in that period of time.

The President has said to Speaker BOEHNER and the Republicans: Move the bill. So when I hear the criticism of some of the terrible injustices in our current immigration system, I think we ought to be very honest. We have passed a bill—a bipartisan bill, a comprehensive bill—in the Senate, and it has been sitting in the House for more than a year. More than a year.

I came to this issue, like most, with a family story. I have told my family story on the floor many times, but I am proud of it, so I am going to repeat it.

My mother was an immigrant to this country. She came to America, brought here at the age of 2. She was brought from Lithuania. My grandmother packed her up with my aunt and uncle and brought them over in a ship. They landed in Baltimore and somehow got on a train to St. Louis. They were headed for their great opportunity in America, their land of opportunity, the town I was born in, East St. Louis, IL. That is where I came from. That is where they landed because the Lithuanians were there working in the packing houses and the steel mills and all of the jobs that immigrants take.

That is my story. That is my family's story. But that is also America's story. Those immigrants who come here and take the dirtiest, hardest jobs, work night and day trying to make sure their kids have another chance, create time and again generations of renewal in America.

There is something in our DNA, my friends—all of us who are proud to say we are Americans—there is something in our DNA about that immigrant spirit, to think that my family and millions of others said: We are leaving Jurbarkas, Lithuania, and we are going to America, where we do not even speak the language.

What an adventure. What courage. What Americanism. That is what creates us. That is in our national DNA. Thank goodness it is.

There is something else I would like to note. It has been 2 years since President Obama issued an Executive order. It was known as the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program, DACA.

Here is the history. Thirteen years ago I got a call in my Chicago office from a Korean mother who said she had a problem. She had brought her daughter to the United States at the age of 2 on a visitor's visa. Her daughter was now grown up, 18 years of age. She had never filed any papers for her. Technically mom, who was here legally as a citizen, had an undocumented child in her house.

The problem was that this undocumented girl had turned out to be a spectacular pianist and had won an opportunity for scholarships to the Juilliard School of Music and the New York Conservatory of Music. She was that good. When she went to fill out the application, they asked her for her citizenship. She turned to her mom and said: What am I?

Her mom said: I don't know.

The girl said: What are you going to do?

Mom said: Let's call DURBIN.

So they called my office. We checked the law. The law was very clear. That little girl who had been in the United States for 16 or 17 years at that point in her life was undocumented and under the law had to leave the United States for 10 years and apply to come back in. That is how the law was written.

I thought to myself: That is not fair. That little girl did not have any say in her parents moving here. She had nothing to say when they failed to file the necessary papers. Now she was the victim of our legal system and her parents' failure to file the papers so she could be here legally.

So I introduced the DREAM Act. The DREAM Act I introduced 13 years ago said: If you are in that kind of a circumstance—brought here as a child by your parents, have lived in the United States, finished high school, no serious criminal record—we will give you a chance. Either enlist in our military or go to college for at least 2 years, and we will put you on the path to citizenship.

That is the DREAM Act. Well, that bill has been around a long time—13 years. It has passed in the Senate as part of a comprehensive bill, and it has passed in the House individually. But it has never passed in both places, which, as we know, is what is necessary to become a law.

So I wrote to President Obama, with 22 of my colleagues—that at one point included Senator Lugar of Indiana, my Republican colleague then—and asked the President: Create an Executive order so these young people eligible for the DREAM Act will not be deported while we debate. Give them a chance to be here in a legally recognized status because they would qualify under this bill that continues to pass—the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals. That, of course, was enacted by the President in Executive order 2 years ago.

After it was enacted, Congressman LUIS GUTIÉRREZ and I—in Chicago—said: We want to give all of those eligible to apply for this deferred action

protection under the Executive order a chance to sign up.

So LUIS and I said: We are going to reserve Navy Pier—if you have ever been to Chicago, there is a huge ballroom at the end of Navy Pier, one of the most popular sites in downtown—and we are going to invite any young person who wants to sign up for DACA so they won't be deported to come in and sign up.

I said initially: I hope we get 200 people to come because we have a big room here.

In the end over 10,000 showed up. It overwhelmed us. We had volunteer lawyers there, lots of friends there, and people helping. Parents got in line at midnight the night before, standing with their kids and waiting for a chance to give these kids a chance to be legally in the United States and not deported; that is how much it meant to them.

Some of these parents, sadly, didn't have the same protection, but they wanted to do everything they could for their kids. Well, the time has passed, and in the course of time we have seen 560,000 children across America who signed up for this protection under DACA—560,000.

I have come to the floor and told about 50 or 60 stories about these DREAMers. We call them DREAMers—these young kids. Each time I tell the story, I get responses from people saying: I can't believe that we still haven't resolved this problem.

I want to tell you one of these stories today. I want to update you about one of the DREAMers I have spoken about on the floor.

This is Erika Andiola and her mother Guadalupe Arreola. Guadalupe's husband—Erika's father—abused her for 15 years. In order to escape this abuse and protect her kids, she fled to the United States.

Free from threats of violence, Guadalupe and her children made life in this country. Her daughter Erika graduated with honors from Arizona State University with a bachelor's degree in psychology. She is the founder and president of the Arizona DREAM Act Coalition, a group advocating for immigration reform.

After receiving DACA, her protection under the President's Executive order, Erika became the first DREAMer to work for the Congress. She could legally do it under the President's order. She served as district outreach director for Congresswoman KYRSTEN SINEMA of Arizona. I might add that Congressman GUTIÉRREZ also hired one of the earliest DREAMers under DACA on his staff as well.

The same week that Erika was hired to work for a Member of Congress, they received notice that her mother was being placed in deportation proceedings. Why were we trying to deport Erika's mother, Guadalupe? Because she was pulled over for a traffic violation and she had a deportation order that was 15 years old.

Erika made a difficult decision. She gave up her job with the Congresswoman and started focusing on helping her mom. Her mother wrote me a letter and said:

> I have always taught my children that there is nothing more important than the love for our families. . . . I ask Congress and the President to realize that I am a human being who was just looking to protect my children from a life full of violence.

There are 11 million undocumented immigrants like Guadalupe in the United States. They are hard-working men and women with courage who leave everything behind they know to build a better life. They have strong family values, and they make a real contribution to our country and our economy. They serve our food in restaurants. They clean off the tables when we are finished eating. They take care of our small children in daycare, and they watch our parents in nursing homes. That is who the undocumented are in America.

They raise children like Erika and make contributions to our country. They want to be Americans. But under current law, there is no way for them to get in line and legalized.

Last week the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, Jeh Johnson, was kind enough to come to Chicago. I invited him. I wanted him to see the Broadview processing facility, where those who are about to face deportation are held. It is a grim reminder of families that are being broken up right before our eyes. I wanted him also to meet with people in the Muslim community, in the Syrian community, in the Hispanic communities, and talk about immigration in America today. He was kind enough to do that.

Along with my colleagues, Congressmen LUIS GUTIÉRREZ and BILL FOSTER, we visited the center. We met in the detention cells a 51-year-old man who came to the United States at the age of 6. He has three kids who are U.S. citizens. One now serves in the U.S. Army and another is a police officer. In the visitation area outside, we met his mother, who is 80 years old. She was hoping to get a glimpse of her son before he was deported.

This is the human impact of immigration laws and policies. The House of Representatives has a chance to fix this and many other problems. We can move together to stop this horrible humanitarian crisis at the border with children. We can move together to deal with the undocumented among us who will step forward, pay their taxes and their fines, learn English, go to the back of the line and wait their turns. We will be a better country if we do.

I hope the House Republicans will take up this responsibility. If they have a better idea, bring it to the floor and vote on it but, if not, call up our bipartisan Senate bill. Let's fix this broken immigration system. Let's move this country forward.

I yield the floor.

Mr. LEVIN. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. PORTMAN. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. RES. 469

Mr. PORTMAN. I rise today to put the Senate on record on something very important, and that is speaking to the decision by the Obama administration to release five top Taliban leaders from Guantanamo Bay without consulting Congress, as required by law—a decision that I believe endangers the lives of American personnel, not to mention the countless Afghans and the success of our mission in Afghanistan.

It has been well reported in the press that this release was done without consulting Congress or congressional leaders on either side of the aisle—Republican or Democrat, by the way. This was in clear violation of a requirement to provide detailed notice to Congress before such action is taken—a requirement that is contained in both an authorization bill called the 2004 National Defense Authorization Act and a spending bill, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014, both of which passed Congress with big bipartisan majorities. Both were bipartisan bills, and there was a bipartisan consensus about having this notification.

Despite several closed-door briefings and public comments from the administration since we learned of the release, the administration has been unable to provide any legitimate justification for violating the requirement and for failing to consult with Congress.

I believe the President's conduct raises a lot of questions—questions which should concern every Member of this body on both sides of the aisle.

This is not a partisan issue, nor is it about what kind of soldier SGT Bowe Bergdahl may have been. I trust the Army will handle that matter appropriately. This is about our role in the Congress, and it is about our national security. It is about protecting our men and women in Afghanistan. It is about ensuring that what they have fought for in the last decade and the gains they have made in our war against terrorism and for the people in Afghanistan will not be squandered, as we are seeing today in the country of Iraq.

Congress enacted the bipartisan notice requirement to secure those interests and to prevent the release of dangerous terrorists who are likely to rejoin the fight if they are freed. It requires the President to give a detailed justification for the release of detainees from Guantanamo Bay, why such a release is in the country's national security interests, and what actions the administration will take to ensure that

those released detainees do not return to the battlefield to threaten American lives—basically asking the administration to notify us, but to also provide a justification for the release and the conditions of that release.

Had the President followed the law, I believe many of the dangers posed by this decision could have been avoided altogether. I think he would have heard on a bipartisan basis the concerns of the Congress, which were only voiced after the decisions were made, again, on both sides of the aisle.

Make no mistake, these five men who were released are dangerous. Don't take my word for it. This is what the administration has said repeatedly. I was in a hearing before the Senate Armed Services Committee in 2012. I was a member of the committee at that time. Senator LEVIN, my colleague and chairman of the committee, who is here on the floor with us today, was at that committee hearing. In fact, he asked some very good questions, including questions to the President's own Director of National Intelligence James Clapper.

What did Mr. Clapper say? He reiterated a 2010 administration assessment that these five Taliban leaders—these same five who were just released—posed a high risk of returning to the fight.

On this very point, Director Clapper did not equivocate, saying:

> I do not think anyone harbors any illusions about these five Taliban members and what they might do if they were transferred.

This was sworn testimony before our committee. Even if, as the President admits, there is ''absolutely a risk that these men will return to the battlefield,'' these men were senior members of the Taliban. They include the Taliban's deputy defense minister, deputy minister of intelligence, administrator of the interior, and some were closely associated with Osama bin Laden or Al Qaeda. Two are wanted by the United Nations for war crimes.

Yet despite these red flags—which, according to reports from the press, were reiterated during internal White House debates of the transfer—President Obama released these men anyway without following the notice provided in the law.

We need to know why. We need to know what security risks these five individuals pose. We need to know what measures have been put in place to mitigate those risks. I don't know why any Member of this body would oppose going on record saying that the law was violated and seeking answers to these good questions.

In a moment I am going to ask for unanimous consent on a resolution which I have offered and many of my colleagues have cosponsored calling on Congress, through regular order and committee jurisdiction, to investigate the decision to authorize this release. This resolution has a very narrow purpose: It only seeks to ensure that, when Congress speaks, the President listens. I would remind us that this provision on Guantanamo transfer passed in an overwhelming bipartisan manner.

This is not an issue of politics. No matter what party the President is from, our entire constitutional balance depends on adherence to the rule of law. This is about more than the President ignoring Congress. The American people are the ones who deserve these answers. We are their representatives. That is why that provision was put in place, so that we, representing them, could give the President better advice.

The American people deserve these answers. So do, by the way, our men and women in uniform who continue to put their lives on the line for us every single day.

Already this month, since the release of these detainees, eight American servicemen have lost their lives in Afghanistan. We still have over 30,000 troops in the theater—30,000 Americans putting their lives on the line for us every day. I think a lot of them are wondering: What was the justification? Why? What effect will it have on them and their safety? One could hardly doubt that the administration's decision to release these Taliban leaders will put even more Americans at risk.

We should be under no illusions: If we take no action, I do not believe this will be the last unlawful transfer of detainees from Guantanamo Bay back to the battlefield.

In other words, if we don't speak and go on record to say: Wait a minute; we had a law here; this is wrong; we need a detailed justification—I believe the wrong message will be sent to the administration. The sense is Congress didn't seem to care that we violated the authorization bill, the appropriations bill, and went ahead without providing the appropriate notice.

President Obama has made it clear that closing Guantanamo is one of his top priorities in the waning days of his administration. I understand that. But he has provided no such clarity on what he intends to do with the dangerous men who are housed there—men such as Khalid Shaikh Mohammed, the principal architect of the 9/11 attacks. He is there. Will he be released? Into whose custody? The terrorist known as Hambali, the mastermind of the Bali bombing that killed 200 people, including 7 Americans; Ramsey bin Al-Shabab, a high-ranking Al Qaeda operative who helped coordinate the 9/11 attacks.

We also need to remember why we went to Afghanistan in the first place. Before 9/11, under Taliban rule the country had become a haven for Al Qaeda, a power base for Osama bin Laden, and a place from which to plan and launch attacks against the United States and our allies. We went to Afghanistan to seek justice for those who died on September 11, but we also went to remove the Taliban from power, to free the Afghan people, and to ensure that Afghanistan never again becomes this base, this platform for terrorist activity which threatens us. We must not be blind to the fact that the Taliban aims to regain as much power as they can in Afghanistan and in Pakistan. That means a return to oppression, human rights abuses, the suppression of women's rights and, most importantly to us and our national security, the complicit harboring of their ally Al Qaeda. We have just returned to them the leadership team to help them achieve that goal.

President Obama tells us the war in Afghanistan is coming to an end. We need to ensure that end is one of sustainable victory, not defeat. The deteriorating situation we see unfolding before us on our TV sets in Iraq today demonstrates what can happen when we rush to the exits without preparing for an appropriate exit.

Today, the black flag of radical Islam flies over the second largest city in Iraq, and armed militants are advancing on Baghdad. Proclaiming victory in Iraq did not make it so.

Many made it clear that if we failed to maintain appropriate forces in Iraq to help the government transition and establish its authority, the long-term stability of Iraq would be open to threats and radical groups. We chose not to complete a status-of-forces agreement with the Maliki government. President Obama did not heed the warnings from those who saw these threats, and unfortunately we are seeing some of these predictions come true. Whatever we do in Afghanistan, I hope we learn from the lessons of Iraq.

The decisions to release high-ranking members of the Taliban while the fight against the Taliban continues to this day has shaken the trust of the American people, the trust of the Afghan people, and it opens the frightening possibility that what we are seeing today in Iraq may be a foreshadowing of Afghanistan's future.

In my view, Congress has the responsibility to get to the bottom of how this release happened and to ensure it doesn't happen again. I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will support the resolution I have submitted so we can fulfill that responsibility.

I ask unanimous consent that the Armed Services Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 469; that the Senate proceed to its consideration; that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. LEVIN. Reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I do intend to object to the resolution for a number of reasons.

First of all, the resolution prejudges the very conclusion that the resolution

says it wants an investigation to determine. It calls for an investigation, but then it already concludes that the President violated the law. That is not what I call an impartial investigation. That is a resolution which reaches a conclusion prejudging the very investigation it calls for.

There are other problems here as well. My good friend from Ohio said the President violated the law because he didn't give 30 days notice to Congress. Indeed, the National Defense Authorization Act provides for 30 days notice. But it also is a matter of fact the President said, when he signed the National Defense Authorization Act, that if there were necessary circumstances where there were negotiations going on with foreign countries or foreign people in terms of preserving or saving an American life that he is not going to be bound by 30 days notice. He said that at the signing ceremony.

You can't change a law at a signing ceremony, but what you can do at a signing ceremony is what this President did: At the very signing ceremony for the very act the Senator is relying on, the President put us on notice that there could be circumstances under which he could not give 30 days notice to the Congress.

When he did not give 30 days notice in this circumstance, he did it on the advice of counsel. The Department of Justice told him that he has powers, as Commander in Chief, under article II. That is part of the law of this land. The law of this land includes the National Defense Authorization Act. As a matter of fact, the Presiding Officer is very much aware of the fact that the National Defense Authorization Act, of which he is so important a part, is part of the law of this land. But so is article II of the Constitution, which gives the Commander in Chief certain powers, and the Department of Justice said he could use those powers to not give 30 days notice because it could jeopardize the life of an American citizen.

Maybe there are those who argue that is OK, follow the authorization law instead of article II, because the authorization law somehow or another has precedence over article II, which it doesn't. Article II is part of the Constitution. But the authorization act itself was said to be subject to article II powers of the President when he signed the very act.

So what happened? The President decided, because of the exigencies of these circumstances—whether you agree or don't agree with the details of the deal, that is one issue. People can disagree with that all they want. But as to whether once the President decided he was going to make that deal and save that life and not jeopardize that life by waiting 30 days, at that point the question is, was that illegal? That is what a court could decide if it so chose as to whether a President could use article II powers in order to act quickly to save an American life.

I think that prejudging this kind of an issue with the kind of investigation that would prejudge it—because that is part of the resolution itself—is not what this Senate should be doing.

By the way, during that 30-day period the President would have had to have not just waited 30 days; he would have also had to have made all kinds of detailed and substantive classified notifications. He would have had to have made certain kinds of findings, detailed statements, the basis for the transfer release, and explanation of why the transfer release is in the national security interest of the United States, a description of any actions taken to mitigate the risks. He would have had to have done all that before he was able to execute the transfer of an American citizen to the safety of this country.

The President did do all of those things immediately after he made the decision to act. So we got all of that notification that is required by law, but we didn't get it 30 days in advance because of the jeopardy it would have created to American life.

Again, people are going to disagree as to whether this agreement should have been reached. That is fair discussion, fair game for debate, but that is a very different issue as to whether we should prejudge as to whether the President, who acted under his article II powers—and told us he might do so when he signed this bill—acted illegally, and that is what this resolution says happened—that the President acted illegally. It prejudges the investigation.

I think for a number of reasons it is inappropriate for us to adopt this resolution, so I will object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. PORTMAN. It is unfortunate that we cannot at this point come to a bipartisan agreement on something even, it seems to me, as straightforward as this.

To my friend from Michigan I would say a couple of things. One, this resolution does not prejudge the investigation. The resolution—and I have it in front of me now—does not talk about the President's article II powers. It very clearly says that transfer of these detainees violated the National Defense Authorization Act—legislation that you brought to the floor—and the appropriations bill. That is what it says. So that is clear by the very language in those bills, that it does violate those bills. It doesn't talk about the constitutional authorities the President may have. It does say that it violates the terms of this legislation. It does not prejudge the investigation, which is in the why, the investigation as to why it happened, with, again, the intent of trying to keep this from happening again.

I do think the President could have used some reasoned judgment from some people who have been around a while, maybe even Senator LEVIN, who has some strong views on these national security matters and was involved earlier in the hearings that I was in where, under oath, the administration official talked about how dangerous these very men were.

Second, Senator LEVIN correctly says the President cannot change the law, and that is all we are saying. He cannot change the law with a signing statement. If he didn't believe this law was appropriate, he should have vetoed it, and he has done that in the past—as have other Presidents—vetoed legislation with which he didn't agree.

So I do believe that under article II, Chairman LEVIN is correct that the President does have certain authorities. That is why we were very careful when we drafted this legislation, this resolution, to say that this says the Congress shall go on record establishing that under the clear terms of these two laws that were passed by the Congress and signed into law by the President, the President did not follow the terms of those laws. That is clear. The investigation, then, is into why, and the Armed Services Committee would have the ability to do that.

By the way, today I know many are celebrating the capture of Ahmed Abu Khattala. Ahmed Abu Khattala was one of the terrorists who attacked the American compound in Benghazi, and I am glad to hear we have captured him and he may be deported back to the United States of America.

It is interesting because we got notice. I don't know if the chairman was notified, but I know the intelligence committee was notified. And that wasn't required by law, by the way. It is just common practice that happens when you have a relationship between the administration and Congress that is confidential.

We were notified, of course, with regard to the bin Laden capture. I cannot imagine the bin Laden capture was any less sensitive or any different in kind to make it something that we could do a notification on when we couldn't do it on the release of these five detainees from Guantanamo.

So this is something I think is very reasonable. We are asking for justification not after the decision is made—that is not what the legislation says. It says before the decision is made so that Congress can have the opportunity to discuss this with the President and to make sure that, in fact, we are proceeding appropriately with these very dangerous detainees at Guantanamo.

I would again make the point that some of these detainees who are at Guantanamo right now are people who—just as in the case of these five Taliban—have been considered to be extremely dangerous, and I would ask the question, If Congress isn't on record saying that we expect the law to be followed here and that the President ought to notify Congress before we release these people, what is going to happen with Khalid Shaikh Mohammed? What is going to happen with Hambali? What is going to happen with Ramzi bin al-Shibh, an architect of the

9/11 attacks? These are all people who are at Guantanamo. The President says he wants to shut it down.

I think the legislation Senator LEVIN and others crafted—which, by the way, was legislation that changed over time. It evolved. The notification was a relatively slight requirement on the President compared to the previous legislation when I was on the Armed Services Committee with Chairman LEVIN. So this was something we thought about. We decided notification was appropriate, notifying Congress and providing a detailed justification. It is not too much to ask.

Again, we required the President to tell the Congress before releasing Guantanamo detainees. We spoke with one voice in the Congress. The President ignored that legal requirement. He ignored the voice of Congress. He ignored the law. If we are not going to hold him accountable, I don't know who will. Again, what does it say about the separation of powers enshrined in our Constitution, which simply says Congress has a role as one of the branches of government. No declaration, no investigation, no recourse? I don't think that is going to be helpful in terms of ensuring that balance of power continues and that we don't have this situation recur, as the President is talking about shutting down Guantanamo Bay and releasing other detainees.

I hope my friends on the other side of the aisle will reconsider their course of action today and take a careful look at this resolution, which was carefully drafted—including not to impinge on the President's constitutional powers under article II. I think the stakes are simply too high to do otherwise.

I yield back my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. LEVIN. I thank the Presiding Officer.

Mr. President, first of all, look at what the resolution says. When you read the resolution, it says: Congress should investigate the actions taken by President Obama and his administration that led to the unlawful transfer of such detainees.

So when my friend says it doesn't prejudge that it was unlawful, by its very terms it says ''investigate the actions taken by President Obama that led to the unlawful transfer of such detainees.'' That is what the resolution says.

Secondly, the point that the resolution makes no reference to article II—my friend says that, and he is accurate in that regard. That is the problem. What is missing is a reference to what the President was advised he could do—which is act under his article II powers—and what the President said he would do when he signed this bill.

Third, the fact that we were notified of the bin Laden capture—I don't know how many of us were notified, but it certainly wasn't 30 days before he was captured, if it was at all. That is the issue here—not whether the President should have notified—by the way, I think he could have done a better job of notifying Congress. That is not the question. The question is whether he acted illegally, as the resolution says he did, because he didn't follow the 30-day notice requirement, which, in his judgment and I think a lot of other people's judgment, including mine, would have jeopardized the life of an American citizen. So he acted under article II powers to avoid that jeopardy, and there is no reference to article II in here. There is no reference to the fact that the Department of Justice informed the President he could act without abiding by a 30-day provision if he acted under his article II powers to save the life of an American citizen.

There are many reasons that this resolution—there are many problems that it seems to me this resolution does not fairly address or resolve, and that is the reason I object.

One other issue; that is, my friend from Ohio made reference to James Clapper, who is the Director of National Intelligence. Well, Director Clapper supports the deal that was made relative to this transfer, as does General Dempsey, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Admiral Winnefeld, the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs.

I yield the floor.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the time until 4:45 p.m. be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees and that at 4:45 p.m. all postcloture time be expired and the Senate proceed to vote on the confirmation of Calendar No. 572, with all the provisions of the previous order remaining in effect, and that the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, with this agreement there will be two rollcall votes at 4:45 p.m., first on the confirmation of Peter Kadzik to be Assistant Attorney General and second on cloture on the motion to proceed to H.R. 4660, the House Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Ms. AYOTTE. Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. President, I am coming to the floor today to talk about what is happening in Ukraine, but before I do that, I cannot help but—having heard some of the discussion before this from my colleague from Michigan and my colleague from Ohio—add to that discussion.

First of all, the President didn't even notify the chair of the intelligence committee and the ranking member of that committee. And I think it is clear why he didn't notify the chair of the intelligence committee. Because there was widespread opposition from the intelligence committee to transferring these five particular detainees, and that was made clear to the administration well before this prisoner swap was made.

Moreover, what I find not only shocking—that the chair and ranking member of the intelligence committee weren't consulted about this, but what made my jaw drop was when I learned that our commander in Afghanistan had not been consulted in advance about the impact on the ground of this particular prisoner transfer in terms of the five Taliban detainees—which, make no mistake, what our intelligence community has said is that these five detainees, the five Taliban dream team—on a scale of 1 to 10, how likely will it be that they get back in the fight against us and our allies and against our interests? Four of them, we were told, are a 10 out of 10 that they will get back into the fight. That is why these five detainees were designated as high-risk by the board that is supposed to review these issues and decide whether prisoners can be safely transferred out of Guantanamo or whether they should be indefinitely detained.

I just wanted to add that to this discussion because it is important to understand. I do believe we should bring our men and women home who have served our country, but these five detainees represent a real danger to us and our allies going forward, and that is why even the intel committee on a bipartisan basis didn't think this was a good idea.

The notion that the President couldn't trust, for example, the ranking member of the intel committee, whom I have great respect for, and the chairman of that committee, whom we entrust every day to hold classified information, to ask at least what the intel committee thought, I just think that is absurd, that they would have somehow put at risk our soldier in Afghanistan.

So I wanted to add that to the discussion. And it seems to me that if we really wanted to consult on the ground with our commander in Afghanistan, we would want to know from him in advance what he thought about putting the five detainees back in the battle space, regardless of what he thinks now about it because making a good decision means consulting the people who are knowledgeable about this in advance.

What worries me the most about this transfer is the fact that five out of the five are likely to get back in the fight, and we don't have a good record on this. The estimates are that 29 percent of those who have been detained in Guantanamo have either gotten directly back in the fight or we believe have gotten back in the fight against our interests or the interests of our allies. That is the national security concern about this transfer.

UKRAINE

I am here today to talk about the situation in Ukraine. As we look around

the world there is so much happening and so much which is of concern to our country, but today I would like to focus on Ukraine and what Russia is doing in Eastern Ukraine to interfere with the sovereignty of the Ukrainian people, to interfere with their choice of how they want to conduct their country, the choices they have a right to make for their own country.

Of course, this began with the illegal invasion and annexation of Crimea, but it has not stopped there. It has continued in Eastern Ukraine, where essentially we have seen violence and turmoil in parts of Eastern Ukraine.

Make no mistake, the cause of that violence and turmoil in Eastern Ukraine is by the so-called separatists, and the cause is very clear: Vladimir Putin and Russia hold the key to that violence. They hold the key and are as responsible for that violence as they are responsible for the illegal invasion of Crimea.

In fact, I would say Vladimir Putin has operational control of what is happening. He could ask those separatists to stop what they are doing. He could stop giving them arms. He could stop giving them the things he has been giving them, including the capability of shooting down Ukrainian planes, giving them the capability of tanks and arms.

With everything the Ukrainian people are trying to deal with, what do they want? The Ukrainian people want to determine their own future. They want Vladimir Putin and Russia to butt out. They want Russia to respect their sovereign territory, and unfortunately none of this is happening.

I recently had the honor of leading a delegation to Ukraine to oversee the Presidential election last month. I had the chance to sit down and meet with the now-elected President Boris Plushenko in Ukraine.

I also had the chance to meet many people in Ukraine and see their elections firsthand. One of the events that was very inspiring to me was the first polling place I went to in Kiev. There was an older gentleman, probably in his seventies, who cast the first ballot of the day. As he cast his ballot, he said: ''For democracy.'' That was a very moving moment because that is what we saw throughout the polling places we observed in Ukraine. They had a very high turnout.

The Ukrainian people came out to vote in their elections so they could choose their President, not a President chosen by Vladimir Putin. They came out to vote for a President chosen by the Ukrainian people, and they did it despite what was happening in Eastern Ukraine. They did it despite the threats Russia made against their sovereignty and their country.

I think they did it in spite of Russia and to send a message, as a people, to say: We are going to determine our future. Vladimir Putin, you are not going to determine our future. I found it all inspiring.

Why does Ukraine and what happens there matter to the United States of America? First of all, if Russia believes they can go in and invade the sovereign territory of another country without consequences, what does that mean for the rest of Europe and the security of Europe? Unfortunately, we have seen history such as this before, where countries are invaded and other countries act in an apathetic fashion; there are no consequences as a result of that invasion.

The President gave a moving speech in Warsaw, Poland, on June 4 of this year, to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Freedom Day there. In that speech the President said:

> Ukraine must be free to choose its own future for itself and by itself. We will not accept Russia's occupation of Crimea or its violation of Ukraine sovereignty.

It means increased support to help our friends such as Ukraine and Moldova and Georgia, all of which are watching what is happening in Ukraine and wondering: Will we be next if there are no consequences for the invasion of Ukraine? To help them provide for their own defense, our free nations will stand united so further Russian provocations will only mean more isolation and costs for Russia.

In fact, as I went to Ukraine to oversee the elections, the President had said—with those impending Presidential elections in Ukraine—along with Chancellor Merkel of Germany, that if the Ukrainian elections were interfered with, there would be more costs to Russia. Well, guess what. When I was there overseeing the elections in places such as Kiev, where we had a record turnout, the Russians continued to foment violence in the eastern province.

In Donetsk and Luhansk, the people there did not have the free right to vote and exercise their decisionmaking for the future of their country. Where were the costs for that? There were none imposed. In fact, the economic sanctions imposed by this administration have not had an impact on Russia.

In fact, their stock market is back to where it was before the sanctions, and at this point they feel they have gotten away with it because the economic sanctions we imposed prior to those elections were imposed on individuals and some minimal sanctions on sectoral, but very limited, and we have done nothing to actually support the Ukrainians in helping them to defend themselves.

What has happened since the President talked about the costs they would endure if they interfered with the election? Nothing happened even though the Russians continue to foment violence in the east.

Flash forward to the Warsaw speech in Poland, where the President said if there is further aggression by the Russians, there will be costs if they interfere with the sovereignty of Ukraine.

Guess what happened since then. Since that time, the developments have been absolutely shocking, and I think the Russians are trying to take advantage of what is happening in Iraq and other things happening around the world. They are thinking we will lose sight of their illegal invasion of Ukraine and what they are doing in Eastern Ukraine.

On June 12, Russian-backed separatists in Ukraine reportedly acquired T–64 tanks and BM–21 rocket launchers from Russia. These are the types of vehicles—rocket launchers—Russia is supplying to their agents, essentially, in Eastern Ukraine. There have been tanks sighted. This is no grassroots movement. Tanks and rockets have all been provided by Russia to kill Ukrainian people who are trying to defend their sovereignty. This has all happened since the elections, adding on to the violence that was committed in Eastern Ukraine during the elections.

The President said there will be costs. There have been no costs for tanks and missile launchers in Eastern Ukraine. In fact, on June 14 pro-Russian separatists shot down a Ukrainian military transport killing all 49 people on board in the deadliest unrest in months in Eastern Ukraine. This is the type of transport the Russians—the agents they backed—shot down.

In order to shoot down a plane such as this, they have to have the technology to do it, and guess who is giving them that technology. Russia. Yet there have been no costs to that because at this point the President has just talked. He has not imposed tougher sanctions on the economy of Russia nor has he provided the Ukrainian military with support.

This is what it looked like when they shot down those 49 people who were killed. The Russian agents and the separatists they are giving the arms to did this—shot down that plane, and this is the actual picture of that plane.

At this point what is the State Department's response? What has our administration said? We are highly concerned about the new Russian efforts to support the separatists. We are very concerned. If they don't deescalate, there will be additional costs.

How many times will our President and the State Department say there will be additional costs if the Russians do anything further? How many times will the Russians again shoot down Ukrainian planes by giving these arms to their agents and their separatists? How many more Russian tanks have to cross the Ukrainian border before we will impose such costs?

Words don't mean anything to someone such as Vladimir Putin, and he knows we keep talking and not acting, so he can keep shooting down their planes. He can make sure the tanks roll over the border—the Russian tanks. This is not a grassroots movement. They have tanks and rocket launchers to shoot down aircraft. This is a subversion where the Russians are also trying to repeat the playbook of what happened in Crimea to further

take over the rest of Ukraine, and it is time for us to back up our words with actions.

What kind of actions are we talking about? We are talking about legislation we have offered in the Congress. I have worked with Senator CORKER and others on legislation that will impose tougher economic sanctions on Russia and will make a difference to them and their economy. We have financial sector sanctions, energy sector sanctions, military sector sanctions—sanctions that will send the message that, yes, this will hurt your economy if you don't respect the sovereignty of another country or if you continue to escalate the violence by providing not only tanks but also rocket launchers and shooting down planes of the Ukrainian people.

When I had the chance to meet with the new President of Ukraine, he had a request of us. First of all, he wants to make sure we are tougher than we have been on Russia in terms of economic sanctions so Russia doesn't continue to invade their territory and, not only that, so they don't go into other countries in the region. We need to use the economic tools at our disposal so we are forced to use military tools down the line. We have economic tools this administration is not using to impose costs on Russia and to back up the words of our President rather than continuing to look the other way when tanks roll in and airplanes are shot down.

What else can we do? The President asked me about supporting their military. No one wants to send a U.S. troop to Ukraine. No one wants to send our people to fight their battle, but this is what he asked of us: The former Russian-backed President gutted our military. Can you help get us some basic things for our military—body armor, communication equipment, night vision goggles, in addition, antitank and anti-aircraft capability.

What would that do for them? They could defend themselves from the tanks. They could help push back against their planes from being shot down. So what they want is the ability and the help to defend themselves.

Why should we give it to them? We should give it to them because not only is it the right thing to do so they can help defend themselves and we can push back against the Russian invasion in their country, but it is the right thing to do because we were a signatory to the Budapest memorandum.

In 1994, Ukraine gave up their nuclear weapons. They gave up their nuclear weapons under the Budapest memorandum that the United States, the United Kingdom, and Russia signed. Russia has violated this agreement because the agreement required all parties to respect the sovereignty of Ukraine and the agreement required us to respect not only their sovereignty, but they expected some security assurance because they were giving up their nuclear weapons by signing this agreement.

We haven't even given them antitank, anti-aircraft equipment so they can defend themselves after they gave up nuclear weapons. What other country in the world is ever going to give up their nuclear weapons when we are not even going to impose tough economic sanctions on a country that has been invaded. We have not even given them basic military equipment when they were invaded.

I would argue, in looking at this playbook, no rational country is going to give up their nuclear weapons again in such an agreement if we don't actually follow through in what our President said, which is: There will be costs if the Russians continue to invade the territory of Ukraine.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

Ms. AYOTTE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have 1 additional minute.

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

Ms. AYOTTE. In summary, I do not expect us to go alone. I would ask our European partners to step up too. It is a shame that the French will continue their recent sale to the Russians to give them further capability of the Mistral class amphibious assault ships. So shame on the French for that because Europe is threatened by the Russian aggression here, and I not only expect our country to follow through, but our allies should be held accountable to follow through as well.

Ukraine matters. We cannot continue to look the other way as Russia thinks they can invade another country without consequences. We can make a difference in this Congress. I urge the President to follow through on his words; otherwise, do not say it if you were not willing to back it up, Mr. President.

The Ukrainian people deserve our support. They love America. All they want is to determine their own future instead of Vladimir Putin determining their future for them.

I thank the Presiding Officer.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

EMBASSY SECURITY

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President, I rise today to talk about an important topic, the topic of embassy security. The safety of American embassies abroad and especially our capital ''A'' Ambassadors and our small ''a'' ambassadors, who go to work every day in communities across the globe—182 countries where we have embassies—to represent the United States.

Embassy security has been in the news yesterday. The President announced the dispatch of 275 additional marines to Baghdad to protect the American Embassy and embassy personnel in Iraq. Today we received the news of the excellent law enforcement work that has been done by the United States to finally capture one of the leaders behind the raid on Benghazi in September of 2012. Obviously, embassy security is an important and very newsworthy and topical issue.

Mr. President, I think you have noticed what I have, that in the aftermath of the tragic attack on the embassy compound in Benghazi that cost four Americans their lives, there has been much discussion in Congress about Benghazi. But too much of it, in my view, has been focused on trying to play the blame game than trying to talk about what we should do to minimize the chance of such an incident happening again.

We have seen attacks on embassies. From the attack on the U.S. Embassy in Beirut in the 1980s, to attacks on embassies in Africa in the 1990s, we have seen this before. But what we ought to be talking about in this body and in the House is how to make our embassies safer instead of trying to play a blame game.

I want to bring in this speech one fact about embassy security that should trouble us a lot, and especially us in the Senate. Of the 182 countries in the world that have United States Ambassadors, 54 of the U.S. Ambassador posts are currently vacant. Nearly 30 percent of the ambassador posts in the world—where the U.S. Ambassador goes to represent us—are currently vacant. Ten of the posts are vacant because the White House has not forwarded a name to the Senate, which is responsible for the consent to those nominations. One of those 10—Syria—has not been forwarded because of security reasons. Twenty-one posts are vacant because the White House has sent nominees but the nominees are pending in the Foreign Relations Committee, where I serve. The chairman of the committee, Senator MENENDEZ, is doing all he can to move those through but is facing some pretty significant opposition, often from members of the committee. And 23 of the positions are vacant because they have gone through the Foreign Relations Committee, they have received overwhelming votes of support, but they are being held here on the Senate floor with no action on the Senate floor, often for a very long period of time.

Let me tell you about those 23 nations. The ambassador to the nation of Djibouti, which is a critical partner in Africa for the United States in counterterrorism operations—his nomination has been pending in the Senate for 67 days; for the Czech Republic, the nomination has been pending for 95 days; for the Bahamas, the nomination has been pending for 122 days; for the State of Kuwait, in the Middle East—a critical area—the nomination has been pending for 179 days; for Bosnia and Herzegovina, 200 days; for Hungary, 215 days; for New Zealand, 223 days; for Iceland, 223 days; for Zambia, 270 days; for the Gabonese Republic, 270 days; for the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, pending here in the Senate, 272 days; for the Kingdom of Norway, 272 days; for Jamaica, 272 days; for the Kingdom of Lesotho, 312 days; for the Republic

of Palau, 313 days; for the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, 313 days; for Cameroon, 314 days; for Namibia, 314 days; for Niger—Niger, critical in issues of terrorism and counterterrorism in Africa—the nomination on this floor, pending for 314 days; for Trinidad and Tobago, 314 days; for Albania, 319 days; for Sierra Leone, 335 days; and topping the list, a strong ally of the United States, the Republic of Peru, the ambassadorial nomination has been pending on the floor of the Senate for 353 days—almost a year.

Again, these vacancies represent nearly 30 percent of all of the in-country ambassadorships that the United States sends around the globe—essentially just hanging a sign out in front of the Embassy of the United States with a big ''vacant'' sign on it.

I would submit that ''vacancies'' means an uncertainty about leadership and that hurts embassy security. Mr. President, you and I were both Governors. We know that our agencies ran a lot better when they knew who the leaders were. An interim, a part-time, a temporary, an acting—that is not the same as a leader. That is not the same as a confirmed ambassador. So our personnel, who are serving in these 54 embassies around the world—often in very dangerous places in the world—are there waiting for their leader to come. Now they have a deputy in charge of the mission, and those people are usually fine, but even that deputy is waiting to find out: Who will our leader be? Times of uncertainty increase insecurity.

So I would say to my colleagues, if you really care about Benghazi and embassy security, you should care about confirming ambassadors in these 54 nations that are waiting for American leadership.

The ability to promptly nominate and confirm these ambassadors is directly connected to our security, and I would argue that individuals blocking or slowing down ambassadorial appointments are not being accurate when they claim to support embassy security.

The effects of these vacancies are not just in the security of our embassies, obviously. I often hear colleagues on the floor of this body or see them on television criticizing America as retreating from global leadership. Well, if you care about America's global leadership, why allow 54 American embassies around the world to not have ambassadors? Why allow those vacancies to exist?

The existence of these vacancies—some for nearly as long as a year—sends a pretty powerful message to the nations where the vacancies exist. And the message could be interpreted one of two ways. Maybe the United States is retreating from global leadership because if the United States cared, the Senate would confirm ambassadors. Or in some countries the interpretation is a little bit different. It is not about global leadership. Some countries interpret it as: Maybe we are not that important to the United States. It is a sign of disrespect to nations as important as Niger, some of the nations in the Middle East I mentioned, France, to not have ambassadors for extended periods of time.

This is a very important issue and I do not think this body, which is constitutionally charged with this responsibility, should be complicit in sending a message to the nations of the world that we are retreating or that we are uninterested in our relationships with them.

Let me conclude by coming back to the subject of embassy security. Mr. President, I know you, like I, in this job have had the opportunity to travel around the world and meet some of our embassy personnel. What I try to do when I travel—I imagine you try to do the same—is not just spend time with the capital ''A'' ambassadors—that is important—but I also try to spend time with the small ''a'' ambassadors: the Foreign Service officers on their first or second tour who have chosen—even though the salary is not great, even though the working conditions can be tough, even though security challenges can be significant—to serve the United States abroad.

I was in Beirut, in Lebanon, in February with Senator ANGUS KING of Maine. Let me tell you about our personnel in Lebanon. Because of the dangers in that country, they all have to live on the embassy compound. They live there in Beirut, which has been subject to some very difficult times. The U.S. Marine barracks in Beirut were bombed in the 1980s. The U.S. Embassy was bombed. Hundreds were killed in those two bombings. The U.S. embassy annex was bombed. Other U.S. Embassy personnel were targeted and killed. Hundreds of Americans serving not just in the military but as Foreign Service officers lost their lives in Lebanon, representing us in the best way they could.

For that reason our embassy personnel live on the embassy compound in Beirut. Guess what kind of personal life they have. They are allowed 6 hours a week personal time to be off the embassy compound, and they have to be escorted by security. They described what it is like. They might want to go to the beach, and traffic is horrible, so in that 6 hours a week, it is an hour and a half to get to where they want to go, and then it is an hour and a half to get back from where they want to go, so what they really get is about 3 hours a week of personal time. That is what these wonderful American public servants do.

I then went to Egypt, and I had a visit with a young first-tour Foreign Service officer there who was talking about needing to finish a meeting we were having because of the Skype date with her husband. I was not familiar with that terminology. She serves in a capacity where, for safety and other reasons, it was not ideal for him to be there with her. So on Friday nights they both dress up, and with a glass of wine they then fire up the Skype and talk across thousands of miles to try to keep their marriage alive. This is a person who is thrilled to serve the United States in a dangerous part of the world. Again, it is not for the salary. It is not for the comfort. It is for the honor of representing this country.

We owe them something. We owe them a secure operation that can make them feel—not completely safe because there is no guarantee of safety for our personnel in many of these countries but at least that we are doing all we can to try to keep them safe.

I stand today because we are not doing all we can to keep these people safe. To the extent that we in the Senate are responsible for the vacancies of nearly 30 percent of the ambassadorial posts around the world—and the absence of ambassadors leads to additional insecurity—we are not honoring our obligation to the brave Americans who want to serve this Nation in very dangerous places.

I urge my colleagues, if you are talking about Benghazi and the need for more embassy security, you should be promptly confirming ambassadors to represent the United States. If you are worried about the role of America in the world, and you are asserting, critically, that America is retreating from global leadership, you should be confirming promptly the ambassadorial nominees who are pending before the Senate.

With that, Mr. President, I thank you and 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. DONNELLY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

VOTE ON KADZIK NOMINATION

Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Peter J. Kadzik, of New York, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) is necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. WARREN). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

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

[Rollcall Vote No. 199 Ex.]

YEAS—55

Baldwin	Heitkamp	Pryor
Begich	Hirono	Reed
Bennet	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Blumenthal	Kaine	Rockefeller
Booker	King	Sanders
Boxer	Klobuchar	Schatz
Brown	Landrieu	Schumer
Cantwell	Leahy	Shaheen
Cardin	Levin	Stabenow
Carper	Manchin	Tester
Coons	Markey	Udall (CO)
Donnelly	McCaskill	Udall (NM)
Durbin	Menendez	Walsh
Feinstein	Merkley	Warner
Franken	Mikulski	Warren
Gillibrand	Murphy	Whitehouse
Hagan	Murray	Wyden
Harkin	Nelson	
Heinrich	Paul	

NAYS—43

Alexander	Fischer	Moran
Ayotte	Flake	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Portman
Blunt	Grassley	Risch
Boozman	Hatch	Roberts
Burr	Heller	Rubio
Chambliss	Hoeven	Scott
Coats	Inhofe	Sessions
Coburn	Isakson	Shelby
Collins	Johanns	Thune
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Toomey
Cornyn	Kirk	Vitter
Crapo	Lee	Wicker
Cruz	McCain	
Enzi	McConnell	

NOT VOTING—2

Casey	Cochran

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will resume legislative session.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 428, H.R. 4660, an act making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes.

Harry Reid, Barbara Mikulski, Richard J. Durbin, Elizabeth Warren, Tim Kaine, Richard Blumenthal, Robert P. Menendez, Debbie Stabenow, Christopher Murphy, Patrick J. Leahy, Sheldon Whitehouse, Sherrod Brown, Patty Murray, Tom Harkin, Tom Udall, Christopher A. Coons, Robert P. Casey, Jr.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived. The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 428, H.R. 4660, an act making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) is necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 95, nays 3, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 200 Leg.]

YEAS—95

Alexander	Gillibrand	Murphy
Ayotte	Graham	Murray
Baldwin	Grassley	Nelson
Barrasso	Hagan	Portman
Begich	Harkin	Pryor
Bennet	Hatch	Reed
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Reid
Blunt	Heitkamp	Risch
Booker	Hirono	Roberts
Boozman	Hoeven	Rockefeller
Boxer	Inhofe	Rubio
Brown	Isakson	Sanders
Burr	Johanns	Schatz
Cantwell	Johnson (SD)	Schumer
Cardin	Johnson (WI)	Scott
Carper	Kaine	Sessions
Chambliss	King	Shaheen
Coats	Kirk	Shelby
Coburn	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Collins	Landrieu	Tester
Coons	Leahy	Thune
Corker	Levin	Toomey
Cornyn	Manchin	Udall (CO)
Crapo	Markey	Udall (NM)
Cruz	McCain	Vitter
Donnelly	McCaskill	Walsh
Durbin	McConnell	Warner
Enzi	Menendez	Warren
Feinstein	Merkley	Whitehouse
Fischer	Mikulski	Wicker
Flake	Moran	Wyden
Franken	Murkowski	

NAYS—3

Heller	Lee	Paul

NOT VOTING—2

Casey	Cochran

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote the yeas are 95, the nays are 3. Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

NOMINATIONS

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I rise to speak to the 42 very well-qualified and very patient nominees who, through no fault of their own and certainly no fault of the Foreign Relations Committee and no fault of their records of service to this Nation that have been established, are trapped on the executive calendar, unable to assume their appointed posts because the Republican leadership has chosen obstructionism as a political tool. They have consciously chosen the strategy to do nothing, pass nothing, approve nothing, and leave, most importantly in my view, key diplomatic posts unfilled for months, threatening in many cases national security and our ability to conduct foreign policy.

Those who say that Congress is broken are wrong. The Congress isn't broken, but if the Republican leadership wants you to believe it is, they use every parliamentary tool to make certain, among other posts, we cannot fill key foreign policy positions. And the world waits, American foreign policy waits, diplomacy waits, and our allies wait to let these nominees and their families have some closure and get to work.

The blame for these posts being left vacant with these people being in political limbo rests squarely on the shoulders of the Republican leadership. It is not a problem with Congress or the Democrats or the President or with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Never, to my knowledge, has this body as a political strategy obstructed en masse the appointments of noncontroversial career Foreign Service officers who have worked for both Democratic and Republican administrations. Never.

Never have we held up appointments to so many ambassadorial positions, State Department positions, USAID positions, and representatives to the multilateral development banks. Eighteen of the forty-two pending nominees are ambassadors who would fill important posts in the Czech Republic, Bosnia, Albania, Gabon, Mauritania, Cameroon, Niger, Sierra Leone, Djibouti, and Kuwait. Nearly 20 percent—20 percent—of our total ambassadorial presence in Africa is being held up by the Republican leadership. All of them have waited on average 280 days—280 days—for Senate action. That is unfair to them. It is unfair to their families. It is bad policy. It is unnecessary, irresponsible, and completely unacceptable. And it has to end. It harms our regional coordination on issues such as food, security, and counterterrorism.

We are seeing what is happening across Africa, particularly northern Africa, and we have a challenge. We have a challenge that involves our national interests and our national security. You cannot promote the solutions to those challenges if you don't have an ambassador on the ground in those countries. Let us remember that U.S. leadership plays a major role in supporting peace and security efforts alongside our development, democracy, and humanitarian goals across Africa and around the world, preventing us from being able to project power and leadership, leaving us—in my view—vulnerable from a national security standpoint.

In West Africa, the Nigerian terrorist organization Boko Haram is perpetuating a brutal campaign of violence

and fear, kidnapping young women and taking advantage of porous borders with Niger and Cameroon. The United States is leading an effort with our international partners to improve regional coordination to address both this threat and serious development challenges in the region.

Unfortunately, the Senate has yet to confirm the ambassadorial nominees to Niger or Cameroon. We need to fill these ambassadorial positions in order to promote our interests and our coordination in the region in pursuit of some of these goals.

Mauritania has been a key partner in addressing the terrorist threat posed by Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb, AQIM, in Africa's volatile Sahel region.

Let's not forget that the East African Nation of Djibouti holds U.S. Africa Command's Combined Joint Task Force—Horn of Africa and is the U.S. military's only enduring infrastructure in Africa, Camp Lemonnier, home to some 4,000 U.S. servicemembers and civilians.

Our cooperation with Djibouti supports counterterrorism efforts against Al-Shabaab in Somalia and Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula in nearby Yemen and anti-piracy operations in the Gulf of Aden. Al-Shabaab recently carried out its first terrorist attack in Djibouti, targeting a restaurant frequented by westerners. Yet our ambassadorial nominee, Thomas Kelly, remains unconfirmed.

In addition to supporting peace and security efforts in Africa, the United States also plays a key role supporting democratic governance across the continent, which in turn contributes to greater stability.

Niger and Namibia are set to hold Presidential elections within the next 9 months and both ambassadorial nominees have yet to be confirmed by the full Senate.

At a time when stability in parts of Africa is tenuous, at best, with conflicts, famine, and the ever-increasing threat from criminal and terrorist organizations, it is simply not in our national interest to have the President's nominees—many of them career Foreign Service officers—in many cases held up for political reasons for nearly a year—a year in so many cases.

U.S. leadership in international organizations is being negatively affected. In fact, the nominee for Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs was reported to the Senate on March 3. Her nomination is not the least bit controversial, and yet she has not been confirmed.

Nominees for posts at the United Nations have been pending for months, including the nominee to be U.S. Representative to the U.N. Conference on Disarmament, who was reported out on March 11. These gaps have affected our credibility around the world, and they are affecting U.S. national security.

It is worth understanding that this list is not static. We are constantly adding nominees to the Executive Calendar. We held hearings for an additional five nominees last week. Four more had their hearings today, chaired by Senator CARDIN—who is here on the floor with me and has done an exceptional job in this regard—including our nominees to be ambassador to Korea and Vietnam. Simply stated, the backlog is weakening America's role in the world.

The vast majority of these nominees are uncontroversial. They have passed committee by voice vote, not even a recorded vote, and are nominations that normally would have gone through the Senate en bloc by unanimous consent. Holding them hostage is simply wrong on every level.

Never has one party stood in the way of full and complete conduct of foreign policy, and it is time the American people understand who is to blame for the dysfunction that is holding them hostage for political reasons. And as we hold up action on these nominees, the world is convulsing. The days are filled with a steady stream of breaking-news stories, disheartening images, trending tweets of reports of unrest in Ukraine, Iraq, Venezuela; mass atrocities in Syria, South Sudan, the Central African Republic; heart-wrenching accounts of kidnapped girls in Nigeria and alarming events of violence against women in Egypt, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and other parts of the world. That is the daily diet of what we see unfolding across the world.

American leadership is expected by the international community during this challenging period, and it is in fact something that is in our own national interests and national security interests.

Some complain that the United States does too much and others argue that we don't do enough, but always the debate in foreign affairs is centered on our Nation and the vital role we fill within the international system. We live in a new world defined by technological advancement and rapid globalization, but we are history-bound by a deeply imbued duty to provide moral clarity when it appears lacking, of serving as a lighthouse to a community of nations undergoing profound transformation.

In one very particular arena, we are failing this charge. We are leaving our embassies without the tools they need, without the necessary leadership to pick up that metaphorical hammer.

Using obstruction as a political tool, we are being forced to turn from our vital responsibility of confirming ambassadorial nominees to conduct American foreign policy. That means turning from our responsibility in everything from providing emergency services for Americans abroad to responding to humanitarian crises around the world, to supporting U.S. businesses and our commerce agenda overseas. The lack of confirmed ambassadors is crippling our global agenda.

Consider this: Key U.S.-held positions at the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, the Inter-American Development Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and other international financial institutions are not filled.

Seizing the opportunity, Russia and China are actively lobbying IMF members to reduce U.S. ownership share in the bank. Just recently, Christine Lagarde, IMF managing director said: ''I wouldn't be surprised if one of these days the IMF was headquartered in Beijing.''

No nation can hear what we have to say if we are not there, if we have no voice. It is not an overstatement to say our national security is affected by Republican noncooperation. One example is the Assistant Secretary of State for Verification, Compliance, and Implementation tasked with monitoring and verifying our arms control agreements remains empty, and that affects our ability to design and implement a potential agreement to halt Iran's illicit nuclear weapons program.

Last week, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee held a hearing for the nominees to serve in Egypt, Iraq, and Qatar. Imagine those countries not having a U.S. ambassador during a time when they are going through massive turmoil and change—some of them, not all of them, but Iraq is certainly going through turmoil. We will soon vote to approve these Foreign Service officers, but there is no guarantee they will be confirmed expeditiously by the Senate despite the very obvious need for a constant U.S. presence in these Nations. Iraq is on the verge of civil war and we have no way to confirm Stu Jones, a very qualified nominee who is currently serving in Jordan for the post to replace Robert Beecroft, who is headed to Egypt but is currently in Iraq.

That this scenario is even a possibility, given their pending assignments, concerns me and should concern all of us. Perhaps their fate will be similar to the nominee to Kuwait, who has not received a confirmation vote for nearly 200 days.

The Emir of Kuwait recently made a historic visit to Iran. Persistent reports link wealthy Kuwaiti donors to a variety of extremists, including the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria—the ISIS, which is threatening Iraq. Yet we lack the ambassador's ears and eyes on the ground to provide the analysis we need.

Of the 42 unconfirmed nominees, almost half are career ambassadors, who, as I said earlier, have served this Nation for a lifetime on behalf of Democratic and Republican administrations. Some were already confirmed, as I said earlier, in the past by the Senate and served as ambassadors in previous posts.

So let me conclude by saying since becoming chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, we have debated and voted to approve 125 nominees, oftentimes unanimously and without discord.

But apparently the pricetag for Leader REID executing what some call the nuclear option to get anything done in the Senate is the Republican leadership's intransigence that gums up the Senate proceedings, particularly holding ambassadorial nominees hostage and in so doing harming our national security objectives. This standoff is having very negative and real implications in the world that is beset by chaos and in need of American engagement. It has to end and it has to end now.

It is not about a Republican or a Democratic divide in terms of importance. This is about the national interests and security of the United States. If we are not in our embassies abroad as a leader, we can do all the diplomacy and efforts from the State Department, but at the end of the day the person on the ground every day and engaging with the leadership of that country and promoting American ideals, values, and interests is the ambassador. In the absence of an ambassador, we cannot be heard. I don't want the United States not to be heard.

I see my colleague from Maryland, a distinguished member of the committee who has held so many of these hearings for nominees and has done a fantastic job on behalf of the committee. He is going to speak next. As the chair of one of our key subcommittees, it is critical, as you will hear from him, that we have our nominees so our interests can be represented.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, first, I thank Senator MENENDEZ for his incredible leadership on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. What Senator MENENDEZ did not bring out is the number of hours our committee has had hearings on each one of these nominees.

We take the nomination process very seriously—the committee does—under Senator MENENDEZ's leadership. We have a complete record on the background and experience of each of President Obama's nominees. We have vetted them, gone over everything, and we have had hearings.

As Senator MENENDEZ pointed out, today I chaired a hearing where we considered the nominations for our Ambassadors to Algeria, Vietnam, and the Republic of Korea as well as an Assistant Administrator for USAID for Asia. That hearing lasted an hour and a half, many questions were asked. The record is open through Thursday so members of the committee can ask additional questions.

Many times additional questions are asked for the record. We get those responses, and we then analyze all of that information and go to a committee markup where every member of the committee has a chance to debate each nominee. As Senator MENENDEZ has pointed out, in most cases they have been approved by our committee by unanimous votes, and many times it is not recorded because there is no controversy.

In many cases these are career diplomats, and in other cases they are people who have an extraordinary background to add to the service of their country, and we are very blessed that they are willing to step forward to take on the ambassadorship or membership in a key national organization to further U.S. foreign policy. That is the record.

So what happens after we act? Senator MENENDEZ has expedited these nominations as quickly as he could do it in carrying out the responsibilities of the Senate to advise on these nominations. But what has happened afterward is that they cannot get a Senate vote and not because of any meritorious objections to the confirmation. They are just being backlogged in order to gum up the operations of the Senate. There is no policy reason or substantive reason for the delay in the consideration of these nominations.

This is foreign policy for the United States. This is in the best interests of the United States. It is hard for the public to understand and it is hard for this Senator to understand why we would hold up having a confirmed ambassador heading up our embassy in any country in the world but particularly those countries that are critically important to U.S. interests. We should have a confirmed head of our embassy in every country.

As far as it is affecting U.S. interests, let me give you what I think is obvious, and the Presiding Officer understands this. Our national defense strategy depends upon not just our soldiers and our weapons, it depends very much on diplomacy and development assistance. The diplomacy—and to a large extent the development assistance—is managed by our embassy in the host country and the CEO of that embassy is the confirmed ambassador, and in many cases we don't have a confirmed ambassador. We don't have an ambassador because the Senate has not confirmed that position.

For months we have gone without confirming an ambassador after the Senate Foreign Relations Committee has recommended a confirmation, and that is why we have come to the floor to talk about that. This does affect our national security interests.

Senator MENENDEZ pointed out a very obvious fact; that is, the face-to-face interchange of our ambassador and the country he or she is representing that gives the United States the best opportunity in that country. That is how you do diplomacy. You don't do diplomacy through letters; you don't do diplomacy through long exchanges from one country to another; you do it by being in that country—by your personal commitment to that country. That is why we have our embassies and our ambassadors. When we don't have a confirmed ambassador—when we don't have the CEO of that embassy there—we miss that personal face-to-face interchange which is critically important.

Just think for a moment. Here we are trying to make an important contact in a foreign country, and we may meet with the Prime Minister or the Foreign Minister, and we don't have an ambassador to be our representative or to be there to supervise the diplomacy that is taking place.

What many people are not aware of is that our embassies are more than just the ambassador dealing with current foreign policy issues. We have a host of functions that are carried out under the supervision of our ambassador who, as we pointed out in many cases, is not there because we have not acted. Maybe we are interested in what is going on with U.S. business. We have a lot of economic interests around the world.

We are in a global economy. American businesses depend upon our embassy being there for them to fight for the government contracts on a fair, level playing field so they can conduct their business internationally. They depend upon an embassy to be at full strength. Because of global competition, we are fighting every day for job opportunities for Americans and American companies.

In too many countries we don't have that person there fighting for our businesses because the Senate is not active because those on the other side of the aisle have prevented us from taking up these ambassadors for confirmation, even though there has been no controversy surrounding their individual confirmation, and that is hurting U.S. business interests.

There are many citizens who travel abroad. They expect to have the full service of their embassy if they need it or if they get sick or they need the services of our embassy for whatever it might be. They depend on that embassy, and they want the CEO to be present in that embassy in order to fight for their interests.

That confirmed ambassador is not there today because the Republicans have denied the vote in the Senate to confirm that position. We are not at full strength to protect Americans who are traveling abroad. Our participation in environmental opportunities is very much dependent upon the functioning of our embassy.

Our humanitarian efforts depend upon the functioning of the embassy. Our eyes and ears on the ground depend upon the functioning of the embassy. Our development assistance programs are run out of the embassies. In many cases the CEO is not there because of the obstruction by the Republicans in the Senate who are not allowing a vote on noncontroversial nominees. Because these nominations have not taken place, we are not at full strength.

We are hurting our country. We are hurting our interests. We are hurting our business interests, our security interests, and our leadership on environmental issues. As Senator MENENDEZ

pointed out, they are not just ambassadors to countries, they are ambassadors to international organizations.

We are not at full strength on economic international organizations. We are not at full strength on arms control negotiations because we don't have our key person there—not because that person is controversial, not because the President has elected someone who is controversial but to the contrary. Almost all of these nominations are noncontroversial and waiting for months because the Republicans will not allow a vote.

Somebody said: OK. Don't we need a lot of floor time to debate this? Look at the record. Look how much floor debate has been spent on approving these nominations. I am willing to wager—although we can't wager on the floor of the Senate. I am willing to point out that if we bring these nominations to floor consideration, in almost every case there will be virtually no debate, and they will be approved by an overwhelming majority, if not a unanimous vote.

We are hurting our country. We are hurting the reputation of the United States. We are supposedly the major power. Yet we can't get a CEO confirmed to head our embassies abroad.

It is also unfair to the people who are making a sacrifice for public service. As Senator MENENDEZ pointed out, a large number of these nominees were ambassadorships or career diplomats. These are not political appointments, these are career people who have made their career serving their country.

Many have young families. What do they do about school enrollment in September? Do they enroll their children in the school where they are now or do they wait to see if they will be confirmed and enroll them in the country in which they will be serving? Why are we putting people who are serving their country through that type of uncertainty and anxiety? But we are. We are, by failing to move in a timely way the nominations that have been brought forward to us.

I will just mention one other example. I started with the hearing I chaired today on behalf of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee dealing with four nominees. One was the Ambassador to Vietnam. I was just recently in Vietnam. I met with our current Ambassador, Ambassador Shear. I mention that because he has been nominated to be Assistant Secretary of Defense for Asia, so he is leaving Vietnam. We had a hearing today on the next Ambassador to Vietnam—a well-qualified career diplomat. The question is: Are we going to have the orderly change of command in Vietnam, a country critically important to U.S. interests? We are negotiating a Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement. Part of that involves good governance changes that we expect in Vietnam. We expect our Ambassador to be there to negotiate these issues. The question is: Will we have that orderly transfer?

Two career people seeking to move forward in their careers are being held up by inaction on the floor of the Senate.

I come to the last point I wish to make. Yes, we are hurting the United States in not having these confirmed CEOs. It is creating unfairness to the families of people who want to serve our country—and the uncertainty that is there. But it is also hurting the Senate because it is our responsibility to act on Presidential appointments. It is our responsibility to act in a timely, thoughtful way. We are not carrying out that responsibility. By the Republicans obstructing votes on the President's nominations on key foreign policy positions, we are not carrying out our responsibility—an oath that we took to serve in the Senate to protect the interests of this country. It is our responsibility to act on these nominations in a timely way, and we have not done that because of the obstructionism of the Republicans.

I urge my colleagues to put our national interests first. Let us move forward with our responsibility. The committee has carried out its responsibility and, quite frankly, the chairman has carried that out in a very bipartisan way. We have had cooperation between Republicans and Democrats on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. We have carried out our responsibility. Now it is time for the Senate to carry out its responsibility, for the Republicans to allow us to vote in a timely way on this backlog of nominees for critical foreign policy positions. I urge my colleagues to allow us to move forward in the best interests of our country and in respect for those who have stepped forward to serve our country, to carry out the responsibilities we all swore to uphold in the Senate.

With that, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. MORAN. Madam President, as a sponsor of the Veterans' Access to Care through Choice, Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014, I am pleased the Senate has risen to the occasion and come together on this critical legislation. Although I was still in Kansas attending to my family, I would have joined my colleagues in voting aye on Rollcall vote No. 187, a bipartisan plan to help make certain veterans receive the access to quality, timely care they deserve. I will continue to work to address the challenges and problems at the Department of Veterans Affairs so our Nation's heroes have a VA worthy of their service.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR MYLE HAMMOND

• Mrs. HAGAN. Madam President, I wish to honor the service of a great Marine infantryman, Maj. Myle Hammond. Major Hammond will be retiring from the Marine Corps after more than 20 years of dedicated service to our country. On this occasion, I believe it is fitting to recognize his contribution to the Marine Corps, the Senate, and the Nation.

Major Hammond's career included three combat tours in Iraq, a tour with the Ceremonial Honor Guard at Marine Barracks, Washington, 3 years in the Marine Corps Senate Liaison Office, and 1 year working as a congressional fellow in my office. A marine's marine, Myle's distinguished service in combat and in garrison is emblematic of the caliber of his character.

I was proud to welcome Myle into my office, and he exceeded every expectation. His indepth knowledge of the Marine Corps and the legislative process made him an invaluable member of my staff. At the conclusion of his fellowship, Myle moved on to be the deputy director of the Marine Senate Liaison. His quick wit and strategic thinking were vital in guiding the Marine Corps senior leadership through the Senate. His efforts were instrumental in ensuring the completion of the MV–22B acquisition program, executing a responsible drawdown of the Marine Corps, and recognizing the contributions of the first African-American marines through the award of the Congressional Gold Medal in tribute to the Montford Point Marines.

A decorated combat veteran and proud father, Myle is a model American to us all. As Myle hangs up his uniform, he will remain in Virginia with his wife Rani and their two young children, Mason and Sydney. Although his absence will be felt in the Marine Corps and in Congress, I trust that his contributions in the private sector will equal those of his public service.

I share the sentiments of many Senators in my gratitude and appreciation to Major Hammond for his outstanding leadership and his unwavering dedication to the Marine Corps and the country. I wish Myle and his family all the best upon his retirement.•

DES MOINES COUNTY, IOWA

• Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, the strength of my State of Iowa lies in its

vibrant local communities, where citizens come together to foster economic development, make smart investments to expand opportunity, and take the initiative to improve the health and well-being of residents. Over the decades, I have witnessed the growth and revitalization of so many communities across my State, and it has been deeply gratifying to see how my work in Congress has supported these local efforts.

I have always believed in accountability for public officials, and this, my final year in the Senate, is an appropriate time to give an accounting of my work across four decades representing Iowa in Congress. I take pride in accomplishments that have been national in scope—for instance, passing the Americans with Disabilities Act and spearheading successful farm bills. But I take a very special pride in projects that have made a big difference in local communities across my State.

Today, I would like to give an accounting of my work with leaders and residents of Des Moines County to build a legacy of a stronger local economy, better schools and educational opportunities, and a healthier, safer community.

Between 2001 and 2013, the creative leadership in your community has worked with me to secure funding in Des Moines County worth over $45 million and successfully acquire financial assistance from programs I have fought hard to support, which have provided more than $158 million to the local economy.

Of course, my favorite memories of working together include helping to get compensation for sick former nuclear workers at the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant, improving transportation in the county, and helping area residents access to quality, affordable health care by building a Community Health Center.

Investing in Iowa's economic development through targeted community projects: In Southeast Iowa, we have worked together to grow the economy by making targeted investments in important economic development projects including improved roads and bridges, modernized sewer and water systems, and better housing options for residents of Des Moines County. In many cases, I have secured Federal funding that has leveraged local investments and served as a catalyst for a whole ripple effect of positive, creative changes. For example, working with mayors, city council members, and local economic development officials in Des Moines County, I have fought for funding for important transportation projects, including $118 million for the Avenue of the Saints, more than $45 million for the four-lane highway from Des Moines to Burlington, another $45 million to replace the Burlington Northern bridge over the Mississippi River, and maintaining Essential Air Service funding to the community, helping to create jobs and expand economic opportunities.

Main Street Iowa: One of the greatest challenges we face—in Iowa and all across America—is preserving the character and vitality of our small towns and rural communities. This isn't just about economics; it is also about maintaining our identity as Iowans. Main Street Iowa helps preserve Iowa's heart and soul by providing funds to revitalize downtown business districts. This program has allowed towns like Burlington to use that money to leverage other investments to jumpstart change and renewal. I am so pleased that Des Moines County has earned $130,000 through this program. These grants build much more than buildings; they build up the spirit and morale of people in our small towns and local communities.

School grants: Every child in Iowa deserves to be educated in a classroom that is safe, accessible, and modern. That is why, for the past decade and a half, I have secured funding for the innovative Iowa Demonstration Construction Grant Program—better known among educators in Iowa as Harkin grants for public schools construction and renovation. Across 15 years, Harkin grants worth more than $132 million have helped school districts to fund a range of renovation and repair efforts—everything from updating fire safety systems to building new schools. In many cases, these Federal dollars have served as the needed incentive to leverage local public and private dollars, so it often has a tremendous multiplier effect within a school district. Over the years, Des Moines County has received $717,400 in Harkin grants. Similarly, schools in Des Moines County have received funds that I designated for Iowa Star Schools for technology totaling $20,000.

Disaster mitigation and prevention: In 1993, when historic floods ripped through Iowa, it became clear to me that the national emergency response infrastructure was woefully inadequate to meet the needs of Iowans in flood-ravaged communities. I went to work dramatically expanding the Federal Emergency Management Agency's hazard mitigation program, which helps communities reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters and enables mitigation measures to be implemented during the immediate recovery period. Disaster relief means more than helping people and businesses get back on their feet after a disaster, it means doing our best to prevent the same predictable flood or other catastrophe from recurring in the future. The hazard mitigation program that I helped create in 1993 provided critical support to Iowa communities impacted by the devastating floods of 2008. Des Moines County has received over $1 million to remediate and prevent widespread destruction from natural disasters.

Iowa Army Ammunitions workers: When a constituent, Bob Anderson, wrote me a letter to saying that he was sick with lymphoma and believed it was because he had worked at the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant, which manufactured nuclear weapons during the Cold War, I began looking into his claims. Even though the Army initially denied these accusations, I continued to investigate the situation and discovered that workers there were in fact exposed to massive doses of radiation and that this wasn't an injustice unique to Iowa. Working to get compensation to Bob and thousands of other sick workers throughout the United States involved a massive bipartisan legislative and bureaucratic undertaking, starting with the passage of the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Plan Act of 2000. To date, the Department of Labor has paid out over $10 billion in compensation to workers all over the United States, including over $239 million to the Burlington workers and more than $57 million to a special cohort of workers at the Ames Laboratory.

Keeping Iowa communities safe: I also firmly believe that our first responders need to be appropriately trained and equipped, able to respond to both local emergencies and to statewide challenges such as, for instance, the methamphetamine epidemic. Since 2001, Des Moines County's fire departments have received over $1.2 million for firefighter safety and operations equipment and more than $499,000 in Byrne Justice Assistance Grants.

Wellness and health care: Improving the health and wellness of all Americans has been something I have been passionate about for decades. That is why I fought to dramatically increase funding for disease prevention, innovative medical research, and a whole range of initiatives to improve the health of individuals and families not only at the doctor's office but also in our communities, schools, and workplaces. I am so proud that Americans have better access to clinical preventive services, nutritious food, smoke-free environments, safe places to engage in physical activity, and information to make healthy decisions for themselves and their families. These efforts not only save lives, they will also save money for generations to come thanks to the prevention of costly chronic diseases, which account for a whopping 75 percent of annual health care costs. I am pleased that Des Moines County has worked with me to secure $2.9 million for the Community Health Center.

Disability rights: Growing up, I loved and admired my brother Frank, who was deaf. However, I was deeply disturbed by the discrimination and obstacles he faced every day. That is why I have always been a passionate advocate for full equality for people with disabilities. As the primary author of the Americans with Disabilities Act and the ADA Amendments Act, I have had four guiding goals for our fellow citizens with disabilities: equal opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency.

Nearly a quarter century since passage of the ADA, I see remarkable changes in communities everywhere I go in Iowa—not just in curb cuts or closed captioned television but in the full participation of people with disabilities in our society and economy, folks who at long last have the opportunity to contribute their talents and to be fully included. These changes have increased economic opportunities for all citizens of Des Moines County, both those with and without disabilities.

This is at least a partial accounting of my work on behalf of Iowa, and specifically Des Moines County, during my time in Congress. In every case, this work has been about partnerships, cooperation, and empowering folks at the State and local level, including in Des Moines County, to fulfill their own dreams and initiatives. And, of course, this work is never complete. Even after I retire from the Senate, I have no intention of retiring from the fight for a better, fairer, richer Iowa. I will always be profoundly grateful for the opportunity to serve the people of Iowa as their Senator.●

SCOTT COUNTY, IOWA

● Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, the strength of my State of Iowa lies in its vibrant local communities, where citizens come together to foster economic development, make smart investments to expand opportunity, and take the initiative to improve the health and well-being of residents. Over the decades, I have witnessed the growth and revitalization of so many communities across my State. And it has been deeply gratifying to see how my work in Congress has supported these local efforts.

I have always believed in accountability for public officials, and this, my final year in the Senate, is an appropriate time to give an accounting of my work across four decades representing Iowa in Congress. I take pride in accomplishments that have been national in scope—for instance, passing the Americans with Disabilities Act and spearheading successful farm bills. But I take a very special pride in projects that have made a big difference in local communities across my State.

Today, I would like to give an accounting of my work with leaders and residents of Scott County to build a legacy of a stronger local economy, better schools and educational opportunities, and a healthier, safer community.

Between 2001 and 2013, the creative leadership in your community has worked with me to secure funding in Scott County worth over $299 million and successfully acquire financial assistance from programs I have fought hard to support, which have provided more than $89.2 million to the local economy.

Of course, in addition to numerous housing, transportation, defense, riverfront development, and arts projects we have worked on together over the years, one of my favorite memories of working with Scott County has to be the outstanding legal aid project in Davenport. Every American, regardless of his or her station in life, deserves equal access to our justice system. Having been a legal aid attorney myself, I can tell you that there are many, many people who would have no access to legal representation if it weren't for programs like this one. This funding will help legal aid lawyers reach out and serve those who otherwise would be disenfranchised from our justice system. That is why, throughout my career, I have fought to improve funding for Legal Aid Services, to expand their scope, and to offer loan forgiveness for attorneys who choose to serve their communities by becoming legal aid attorneys.

Among the highlights:

Investing in Iowa's economic development through targeted community projects: In Eastern Iowa, we have worked together to grow the economy by making targeted investments in important economic development projects, including improved roads and bridges, modernized sewer and water systems, and better housing options for residents of Scott County. In many cases, I have secured Federal funding that has leveraged local investments and served as a catalyst for a whole ripple effect of positive, creative changes. For example, working with mayors, city council members, and local economic development officials in Scott County, I have fought for over $256.9 million in defense projects through the Rock Island Arsenal, ALCOA, John Deere, Carleton Life Support Systems, and other local businesses, helping to create jobs and expand economic opportunities.

School grants: Every child in Iowa deserves to be educated in a classroom that is safe, accessible, and modern. That is why, for the past decade and a half, I have secured funding for the innovative Iowa Demonstration Construction Grant Program better known among educators in Iowa as Harkin grants for public schools construction and renovation. Across 15 years, Harkin grants worth more than $132 million have helped school districts to fund a range of renovation and repair efforts—everything from updating fire safety systems to building new schools. In many cases, these Federal dollars have served as the needed incentive to leverage local public and private dollars, so it often has a tremendous multiplier effect within a school district. Over the years, Scott County has received $3.2 million in Harkin grants. Similarly, schools in Scott County have received funds that I designated for Iowa Star Schools for technology totaling $336,600.

Keeping Iowa communities safe: I also firmly believe that our first responders need to be appropriately trained and equipped, able to respond to both local emergencies and to statewide challenges such as, for instance, the methamphetamine epidemic. Since 2001, Scott County's fire departments have received over $1.5 million for firefighter safety and operations equipment and over $521,000 for Byrne Justice Assistance Grants.

Wellness and health care: Improving the health and wellness of all Americans has been something I have been passionate about for decades. That is why I fought to dramatically increase funding for disease prevention, innovative medical research, and a whole range of initiatives to improve the health of individuals and families not only at the doctor's office, but also in our communities, schools, and workplaces. I am so proud that Americans have better access to clinical preventive services, nutritious food, smoke-free environments, safe places to engage in physical activity, and information to make healthy decisions for themselves and their families. These efforts not only save lives, they will also save money for generations to come thanks to the prevention of costly chronic diseases, which account for a whopping 75 percent of annual health care costs. I am pleased that Scott County has recognized this important issue by securing over $9.8 million for the Community Health Center.

Disability rights: Growing up, I loved and admired my brother Frank, who was deaf. But I was deeply disturbed by the discrimination and obstacles he faced every day. That is why I have always been a passionate advocate for full equality for people with disabilities. As the primary author of the Americans with Disabilities Act, ADA, and the ADA Amendments Act, I have had four guiding goals for our fellow citizens with disabilities: equal opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency. Nearly a quarter century since passage of the ADA, I see remarkable changes in communities everywhere I go in Iowa—not just in curb cuts or closed captioned television but in the full participation of people with disabilities in our society and economy, folks who at long last have the opportunity to contribute their talents and to be fully included. These changes have increased economic opportunities for all citizens of Scott County, both those with and without disabilities. And they make us proud to be a part of a community and country that respects the worth and civil rights of all of our citizens.

This is at least a partial accounting of my work on behalf of Iowa, and specifically Scott County, during my time in Congress. In every case, this work has been about partnerships, cooperation, and empowering folks at the State and local level, including in Scott County, to fulfill their own dreams and initiatives. And, of course, this work is never complete. Even after I retire from the Senate, I have no intention of retiring from the fight for a better, fairer, richer Iowa. I will always

be profoundly grateful for the opportunity to serve the people of Iowa as their Senator.●

RECOGNIZING THE RENO RODEO

● Mr. HELLER. Madam President, today I wish to recognize the 95th year of the Annual Reno Rodeo, the ''Wildest, Richest Rodeo in the West''. Revered by some as the greatest outdoor rodeo in the world, I, along with my fellow Nevadans, are proud that it has called the great State of Nevada home for so many years.

The Reno Rodeo was started in 1919 by local community leaders and has grown exponentially in the past 95 years, offering Nevadans and rodeo goers nationwide a place to truly experience the gritty, energetic entertainment that the Wild West is best known for. For generations fans have been flocking to Reno to see some of our Nation's toughest cowboys and cowgirls compete in ten days of competition, showcasing their amazing talents, from roping to bull riding. This event has become a yearly tradition for many Nevada families, including my own, and is the source of many cherished memories. As rodeo lovers, my wife Lynne and I have proudly ridden in the Reno Rodeo Parade on our horses, Jackson and Cruise, and Lynne has had the privilege of singing the National Anthem at the Rodeo's opening several times.

From its start as a charitable organization in 1986, the Reno Rodeo Foundation has focused its mission on benefitting and enriching the lives of Nevada families in need. With the help of over 500 dedicated volunteers in the community, the Reno Rodeo Foundation has made a tradition of giving the annual proceeds of the event back to the residents of Nevada in a variety of ways. The organization has used the proceeds to build a horseback riding facility for Marvin Piccolo, a school for children with special physical or mental needs in Reno, and has created a recreation center on the Kids' Kampus to benefit abused and neglected children in protective custody. These are just a few examples of how the rodeo gives back to the Silver State. I am both humbled and honored to recognize the Reno Rodeo here today for donating over $1 million in the form of scholarships, children's charities, high school rodeo, literacy programs, and much more.

I ask my colleagues to join me and all Nevadans in recognizing Reno Rodeo, a special event that has proudly called Nevada home for the past 95 years, and I would like to offer the best of luck to all who are participating in this year's events.●

CONGRATULATING STEVE AND SUSAN DUPREY

● Mr. McCAIN. Madam President, I wish to offer my most heartfelt congratulations to Steve and Susan Duprey as they receive the Boy Scouts of America's New Hampshire Distinguished Citizens Award this evening. The Granite State is known for a straightforward and honest approach to politics and life, and a commitment to liberty summed up by its State motto, Live free or die.' Through their longtime dedication to community service and active engagement in the public life of their State and Nation, Steve and Susan embody the great spirit of their State and richly deserve this honor.

Steve has been a leader in New Hampshire since he was first elected to the State legislature as a 19-year-old college student. He graduated from law school, built a highly successful real estate development and management company, and served as chairman of the New Hampshire Republican Party for four terms. Susan, a land use attorney, has served in leadership positions at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and United Way, among other organizations, and has been involved in Presidential campaigns going back to 1979. Altogether, Steve and Susan have worked on more than 30 national and State Republican campaigns since the 1970s. Susan most recently served as an adviser to Ann Romney during the 2012 campaign. Steve currently serves as New Hampshire's Republican national committeeman where he promotes and protects the vital role of the Granite State's first in the Nation primary. Wherever one looks, the Dupreys are working to serve their State, country and community.

In some of the darkest days of my Presidential run in 2007 and 2008—when more than a few respected pundits declared my campaign over—I could always count on Steve and Susan to stand with me. Without their steadfast support and wise counsel, I don't know if I would have won the Republican nomination. During the general election, Steve traveled throughout the country with me, serving as a trusted adviser. Steve was officially designated as the 'Secretary of Fun' on the campaign trail, and could always be counted on to lighten the mood in what can often be a tense and stressful experience. While we lost that campaign, I will always cherish the opportunity to travel this remarkable country and gain more than a few friends, few better than my fellow rebel-rouser Steve Duprey.

Congratulations to Steve and Susan—you deserve this recognition. Enjoy the evening.●

ROSLYN, SOUTH DAKOTA

● Mr. THUNE. Madam President, today I wish to recognize Roslyn, SD. The town of Roslyn will be celebrating its centennial on June 19–21, 2014. Roslyn will be hosting centennial events which include an antique tractor and car show, an alumnus social and a parade.

Located in Day County, Roslyn was founded in 1914 and was named after the first postmaster's hometown in Scotland. Roslyn has long been known for their vinegar museum, where they show 101 uses of vinegar, as well as being a community with deep ties to South Dakota's agriculture economy. Since its beginning 100 years ago, the community of Roslyn has continued to serve as a strong example of South Dakota values and traditions.

I would like to offer my congratulations to the citizens of Roslyn on its centennial and wish them continued prosperity in the years to come.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

(The message received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries, on June 16, 2014.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a withdrawal which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, on June 16, 2014.

(The message received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

NOTIFICATION OF THE DESIGNATION OF MEREDITH M. BROADBENT AS CHAIR AND DEAN A. PINKERT AS VICE CHAIR OF THE UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION, EFFECTIVE JUNE 17, 2014—PM 44

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

To the Congress of the United States:

Consistent with the provisions of 19 U.S.C. 1330(c)(1), this is to notify the Congress that I have designated Meredith M. Broadbent as Chair and Dean A. Pinkert as Vice Chair of the United States International Trade Commission, effective June 17, 2014.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *June 17, 2014.*

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

MR. HARKIN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions will to meet on June 24, 2014, at 10 a.m. in room SD–430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled ''Falling Through the Cracks: The Challenges of Prevention and Identification in Child Trafficking and Private Re-homing.''

For further information regarding this meeting, please contact Ashley Eden of the committee staff on (202) 224–9243.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 4453. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the reduced recognition period for built-in gains of S corporations.

H.R. 4457. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend increased expensing limitations, and for other purposes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. MIKULSKI, from the Committee on Appropriations:

Special Report entitled ''Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 2015'' (Rept. No. 113–193).

By Mr. TESTER, from the Committee on Indian Affairs:

Report to accompany S. 1603, a bill to reaffirm that certain land has been taken into trust for the benefit of the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatami Indians, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113–194).

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 Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BURR, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. COONS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. KING, Mr. KIRK, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. THUNE, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. WICKER):

S. 2475. A bill to realign structure and reallocate resources in the Federal Government, in keeping with the core American belief that families are the best protection for children and the bedrock of any society, to bolster United States diplomacy and assistance targeted at ensuring that every child can grow up in a permanent, safe, nurturing, and loving family, and to strengthen intercountry adoption to the United States and around the world and ensure that it becomes a viable and fully developed option for providing families for children in need, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. FRANKEN, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 2476. A bill to direct the Federal Communications Commission to promulgate regulations that prohibit certain preferential treatment or prioritization of Internet traffic; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 2477. A bill to prohibit certain foreign assistance to the Government of Egypt as a result of the July 3, 2013, military coup d'etat; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 2478. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to partner with industry to strengthen the safety culture and safety practices of short line and regional freight railroads; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. REID:

S. 2479. A bill to provide for a land conveyance in the State of Nevada; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. REID (for himself and Mr. HELLER):

S. 2480. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal land to Elko County, Nevada, and to take land into trust for certain Indian tribes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 2481. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to provide authority for sole source contracts for certain small business concerns owned and controlled by women, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. BEGICH (for himself and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 2482. A bill to implement the Convention on the Conservation and Management of the High Seas Fisheries Resources in the North Pacific Ocean, as adopted at Tokyo on February 24, 2012, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. HIRONO, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 2483. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to protect more victims of domestic violence by preventing their abusers from possessing or receiving firearms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCHATZ:

S. 2484. A bill to implement the Convention on the Conservation and Management of the High Seas Fishery Resources in the South Pacific Ocean, as adopted at Auckland on November 14, 2009, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MARKEY:

S. 2485. A bill to implement the Amendment to the Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, as adopted at Lisbon on September 28, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. ROBERTS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. CORKER):

S. Res. 477. A resolution designating June 20, 2014, as ''American Eagle Day'', and celebrating the recovery and restoration of the bald eagle, the national symbol of the United States; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 114

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 114, a bill to amend title 11, United States Code, with respect to certain exceptions to discharge in bankruptcy.

S. 644

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 644, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to prevent the abuse of dextromethorphan, and for other purposes.

S. 822

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 822, a bill to protect crime victims' rights, to eliminate the substantial backlog of DNA samples collected from crime scenes and convicted offenders, to improve and expand the DNA testing capacity of Federal, State, and local crime laboratories, to increase research and development of new DNA testing technologies, to develop new training programs regarding the collection and use of DNA evidence, to provide post conviction testing of DNA evidence to exonerate the innocent, to improve the performance of counsel in State capital cases, and for other purposes.

S. 907

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 907, a bill to provide grants to better understand and reduce gestational diabetes, and for other purposes.

S. 987

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 987, a bill to maintain the free flow of information to the public by providing conditions for the federally compelled disclosure of information by certain persons connected with the news media.

S. 1012

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1012, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve operations of recovery auditors under the Medicare integrity program, to increase transparency and accuracy in audits conducted by contractors, and for other purposes.

S. 1030

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1030, a bill to amend the

Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for an energy investment credit for energy storage property connected to the grid, and for other purposes.

S. 1040

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1040, a bill to provide for the award of a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Jack Nicklaus, in recognition of his service to the Nation in promoting excellence, good sportsmanship, and philanthropy.

S. 1249

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 1249, a bill to rename the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking of the Department of State the Bureau to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons and to provide for an Assistant Secretary to head such Bureau, and for other purposes.

S. 1335

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1335, a bill to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes.

S. 1511

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1511, a bill to amend part E of title IV of the Social Security Act to remove barriers to the adoption of children in foster care through reauthorization and improvement of the adoption incentives program, and for other purposes.

S. 1738

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN), the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1738, a bill to provide justice for the victims of trafficking.

S. 1810

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1810, a bill to provide paid family and medical leave benefits to certain individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 1823

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1823, a bill to amend part E of title IV of the Social Security Act to better enable State child welfare agencies to prevent human trafficking of children and serve the needs of children who are victims of human trafficking, and for other purposes.

S. 2172

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2172, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to improve nonretaliation provisions relating to equal pay requirements.

S. 2187

At the request of Mr. BEGICH, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2187, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a five-year extension of the rural community hospital demonstration program.

S. 2192

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2192, a bill to amend the National Alzheimer's Project Act to require the Director of the National Institutes of Health to prepare and submit, directly to the President for review and transmittal to Congress, an annual budget estimate (including an estimate of the number and type of personnel needs for the Institutes) for the initiatives of the National Institutes of Health pursuant to such an Act.

S. 2204

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2204, a bill to establish the Proprietary Education Oversight Coordination Committee.

S. 2234

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2234, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow employers a credit against income tax for employees who participate in qualified apprenticeship programs.

S. 2244

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2244, a bill to extend the termination date of the Terrorism Insurance Program established under the Terrorism Insurance Act of 2002, and for other purposes.

S. 2295

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2295, a bill to establish the National Commission on the Future of the Army, and for other purposes.

S. 2298

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2298, a bill to provide for a lifetime National Recreational Pass for any veteran with a service-connected disability, and for other purposes.

S. 2464

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2464, a bill to adopt the bison as the national mammal of the United States.

S. RES. 462

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 462, a resolution recognizing the Khmer and Lao/Hmong Freedom Fighters of Cambodia and Laos for supporting and defending the United States Armed Forces during the conflict in Southeast Asia and for their continued support and defense of the United States.

S. RES. 469

At the request of Mr. JOHANNS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 469, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate on the May 31, 2014, transfer of five detainees from the detention facility at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. FRANKEN, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 2476. A bill to direct the Federal Communications Commission to promulgate regulations that prohibit certain preferential treatment or prioritization of Internet traffic; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr President, in recent months, we have seen an outpouring of public support for maintaining meaningful open Internet rules. Americans are speaking loud and clear—they want an Internet that is a platform for free expression and innovation, where the best ideas and services can reach consumers based on merit rather than based on a financial relationship with a broadband provider. I agree, which is why today I am proud to join my friend in the House, Representative DORIS MATSUI of California, to introduce bicameral legislation requiring the Federal Communications Commission FCC, to ban pay-to-play deals on the Internet.

Since FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler began a proceeding to consider new open Internet rules, nearly 300,000 Americans have commented on his proposal. They are concerned that the Internet will become a place where broadband providers charge tolls to websites or applications in order to reach end users. This would represent a fundamental departure from the way in which consumers and entrepreneurs interact with the Internet. A two-tiered Internet based on ability to pay would harm the innovative and competitive environment we have all come to expect in the online world.

A pay-to-play Internet would allow larger companies to squeeze out their competitors. A small web company in Vermont that develops an idea to rival the largest Silicon Valley titans should not have to worry that its access to

consumers could be blocked because its competitors have a paid arrangement with broadband providers. The next generation of Internet companies should have the same protections that allowed a company like Vermont's Dealer.com to become a thriving success.

Such arrangements would also harm consumers, who would not have the assurance that the service they are paying for will provide the speed that they want. Too many Americans currently lack real choice in broadband providers, particularly those in rural areas. If the FCC clears the way for pay-to-play deals, whole swaths of the Internet could become functionally inaccessible to the customers of certain Internet providers. This is not the Internet we know today and we must act to ensure that it does not come to pass.

The Online Competition and Consumer Choice Act, which I am introducing with Congresswoman MATSUI today, is straightforward. It requires the FCC to establish rules preventing providers from charging websites for priority access. It also requires rules to prevent providers from prioritizing their own affiliated content or services. This legislation should not be used by opponents of meaningful open Internet rules as an excuse for the FCC to not take any action that will protect consumers and innovators. The FCC should act now to ban these deals. I appreciate that Chairman Wheeler is asking whether they should be banned outright in the current open Internet proceeding. The overwhelming response from the American people is that they should be.

The importance of an open Internet is an issue that resonates outside of the Beltway, and with good reason—most Americans interact with the Internet as part of their daily lives. The issue of how we protect and promote an open Internet is crucial to our culture and our economy. I want to make sure that stakeholders from outside of Washington have an opportunity to show policymakers and regulators here that their decisions will have a significant impact throughout the country. That is why I am holding a Judiciary Committee field hearing on July 1 at the University of Vermont.

There should be widespread agreement to prevent special deals that harm consumers and dampen online innovation. The FCC and Congress should rightly focus on this timely and significant issue. I urge the Senate to pass this constructive legislative response.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 2476

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 ''Online Competition and Consumer Choice Act of 2014''.

SEC. 2. FCC REGULATIONS PROHIBITING CERTAIN PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT OR PRIORITIZATION OF INTERNET TRAFFIC.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall promulgate regulations that—

(1) prohibit a broadband provider from entering into an agreement with an edge provider under which the broadband provider agrees, for consideration, in transmitting network traffic over the broadband Internet access service of an end user, to give preferential treatment or priority to the traffic of such edge provider over the traffic of other edge providers; and

(2) prohibit a broadband provider, in transmitting network traffic over the broadband Internet access service of an end user, from giving preferential treatment or priority to the traffic of content, applications, services, or devices that are provided or operated by such broadband provider, or an affiliate of such broadband provider, over the traffic of other content, applications, services, or devices.

(b) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—

(1) CERTAIN TRAFFIC NOT AFFECTED.—Nothing in this section shall be construed as superseding any obligation or authorization a broadband provider may have to address the needs of emergency communications or law enforcement, public safety, or national security authorities, consistent with or as permitted by applicable law, or as limiting the ability of the provider to do so.

(2) CLARIFICATION OF AUTHORITY.—Nothing in this section shall be construed as limiting the authority of the Commission under any other provision of law, including the authority to promulgate regulations prohibiting or limiting preferential treatment or prioritization of the traffic of an edge provider by a broadband provider under GN Docket No. 14–28 (relating to the matter of protecting and promoting the open Internet).

(c) ENFORCEMENT.—For purposes of sections 503(b) and 504 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 503(b); 504), this section shall be considered to be a part of such Act. With respect to enforcement under this section only, the following modifications of such section 503(b) shall apply:

(1) Paragraph (5) shall not apply.

(2) Paragraph (6) shall be applied by substituting the following: ''No forfeiture penalty shall be determined or imposed against any person under this subsection if the violation charged occurred more than 3 years prior to the date of issuance of the required notice or notice of apparent liability.''.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) AFFILIATE.—The term ''affiliate'' has the meaning given such term in section 3 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 153).

(2) BROADBAND INTERNET ACCESS SERVICE.—The term ''broadband Internet access service'' has the meaning given such term in section 8.11 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations.

(3) BROADBAND PROVIDER.—The term ''broadband provider'' means a provider of broadband Internet access service.

(4) COMMISSION.—The term ''Commission'' means the Federal Communications Commission.

(5) EDGE PROVIDER.—The term ''edge provider'' means an individual, institution, or other entity that provides—

(A) any content, application, or service over the Internet; or

(B) a device used for accessing any content, application, or service over the Internet.

(6) END USER.—The term ''end user'' means an individual, institution, or other entity that uses a broadband Internet access service.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 2478. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to partner with industry to strengthen the safety culture and safety practices of short line and regional freight railroads; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, today Senator MURRAY and I are introducing legislation to enhance the safety practices and safety culture of short line railroads. The horrific derailment that occurred in Lac-Megantic, Quebec, last year, just 30 miles from the Maine border, brought to light the importance of ensuring the safe transportation of energy products. Specifically, our bill would authorize the Secretary of Transportation to make grants to a new Short Line Safety Institute for research, development, evaluation, and training efforts.

In the early morning hours of July 6, 2013, a freight train carrying hundreds of thousands of gallons of crude oil was sent hurtling toward the small, picturesque Canadian village of Lac-Megantic. The train derailed in the center of town, leveling several blocks, and killing 47 residents. Since the accident, the National Transportation Safety Board and the Department of Transportation have been working with American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association to develop new safety guidelines to prevent future disasters.

While this tragedy hit very close to home for us Mainers, there have been several other derailments of crude oil and other hazardous material recently across the country. Despite these incidents, the railroad industry maintains it has a strong safety record. According to the Association of American Railroads, 99.997 percent of rail hazmat shipments reached their destination without a release of product. This underscores the problem we face today we must ensure that we are taking the necessary steps to prevent another Lac-Megantic, while not overburdening an industry that has a proven track record of safety.

There are 550 short line railroad companies that operate over 50,000 miles of track, or nearly one third of the national railroad network. The tracks can be as short as 2 miles or up to more than 1,000 miles long. Generally, short line railroads must follow the same rules and regulations as the Nation's major railroads. But railroad safety is about more than just following the rules. Our bill would authorize the Short Line Safety Institute, under the Federal Railroad Administration's research and development programs, to provide a continuous and active focus on short line safety to assist individual short lines to improve their safety performance. It would allow for the hiring

of professional assessment staff who would work with individual short line managers and their employees to assess and improve safety practices. Safety training materials and techniques would be developed, and efforts would be made to further increase management and employee focus on creating a safety culture.

Short line railroads are mostly small businesses with far fewer employees than the Class I railroads. In addition, most of the employees have multiple responsibilities, stretching their time and resources thin. Furthermore, a large percentage of short line railroad resources go into track rehabilitation, which limits the resources available for other areas. This bill would allow short line railroad management to continually work with their employees using the most up to date methods to ensure safe operations. It would also improve awareness of industry best practices, both in general and with regard to specific commodities such as crude oil.

For those in rural America, short line railroads are a critical link to the national railroad network. Most are preserving light density lines that otherwise would have been abandoned, leaving thousands of small shippers in the lurch. They do their best to provide an essential service as safely as possible; however, with assistance, they believe they can do better, and establishing a Short Line Safety Institute is a cost effective way to do so. The concept merits our support, and I am pleased to introduce this legislation with Senator MURRAY to help make this concept a reality.

By Mr. REID:

S. 2479. A bill to provide for a land conveyance in the State of Nevada; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 2479

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 ''Moapa Band of Paiutes Land Conveyance Act''.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) MAP.—The term ''map'' means the map entitled ''Moapa River Reservation Expansion'', dated June 16, 2014, and on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Bureau of Land Management.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior.

(3) TRIBE.—The term ''Tribe'' means the Moapa Band of Paiutes.

SEC. 3. TRANSFER OF LAND TO BE HELD IN TRUST FOR THE MOAPA BAND OF PAIUTES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to valid existing rights, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the land described in subsection (b) shall be—

(1) held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Tribe; and

(2) part of the reservation of the Tribe.

(b) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The land referred to in subsection (a) is the approximately 26,565 acres of land administered by the Bureau of Land Management and the Bureau of Reclamation as generally depicted on the map as ''Expansion Area''.

(c) SURVEY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall complete a survey of the boundary lines to establish the boundaries of the land taken into trust under subsection (a).

(d) USE OF TRUST LAND.—

(1) GAMING.—Land taken into trust under subsection (a) shall not be eligible, or considered to have been taken into trust, for class II gaming or class III gaming (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2703)).

(2) GENERAL USES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Tribe shall use the land taken into trust under subsection (a) only for—

(i) traditional and customary uses;

(ii) stewardship conservation for the benefit of the Tribe;

(iii) residential or recreational development; or

(iv) renewable energy development.

(B) OTHER USES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—If the Tribe uses any portion of the land taken into trust under subsection (a) for a purpose other than a purpose described in subparagraph (A), the Tribe shall pay to the Secretary an amount that is equal to the fair market value of the portion of the land, as determined by an appraisal in accordance with clause (ii).

(ii) APPRAISAL.—The Secretary shall determine the fair market value of the land under clause (i) based on an appraisal that is performed in accordance with—

(I) the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions;

(II) the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practices; and

(III) any other applicable law (including regulations).

By Mr. REID (for himself and Mr. HELLER):

S. 2480. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal land to Elko County, Nevada, and to take land into trust for certain Indian tribes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Mr. REID. Mr. President. I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 2480

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''Nevada Native Nations Land Act''.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. Definition of Secretary.
TITLE I—ELKO MOTOCROSS LAND CONVEYANCE
Sec. 101. Definitions.
Sec. 102. Conveyance of land to county.
TITLE II—CONVEYANCE OF LAND TO INDIAN TRIBES
Sec. 201. Conveyance of land to be held in trust for certain Indian tribes.
Sec. 202. Administration.

SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF SECRETARY.

In this Act, the term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior.

TITLE I—ELKO MOTOCROSS LAND CONVEYANCE

SEC. 101. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) CITY.—The term ''city'' means the city of Elko, Nevada.

(2) COUNTY.—The term ''county'' means the county of Elko, Nevada.

(3) MAP.—The term ''map'' means the map entitled ''Elko Motocross Park'' and dated January 9, 2010.

SEC. 102. CONVEYANCE OF LAND TO COUNTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, subject to valid existing rights and this section, the Secretary shall convey to the county, without consideration, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the land described in subsection (b).

(b) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The land referred to in subsection (a) consists of approximately 275 acres of land managed by the Bureau of Land Management, Elko District, Nevada, as generally depicted on the map as ''Elko Motocross Park''.

(c) MAP AND LEGAL DESCRIPTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall finalize the legal description of the parcel to be conveyed under this section.

(2) MINOR ERRORS.—The Secretary may correct any minor error in—

(A) the map; or

(B) the legal description.

(3) AVAILABILITY.—The map and legal description shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Bureau of Land Management.

(d) USE OF CONVEYED LAND.—The land conveyed under this section shall be used only as a motocross, bicycle, off-highway vehicle, or stock car racing area, or for any other public purpose consistent with uses allowed under the Act of June 14, 1926 (commonly known as the ''Recreation and Public Purposes Act'') (43 U.S.C. 869 et seq.).

(e) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—The Secretary shall require the county to pay all survey costs and other administrative costs necessary for the preparation and completion of any patents for, and transfers of title to, the land described in subsection (b).

(f) REVERSION.—If the land conveyed under this section ceases to be used for a public purpose in accordance with subsection (d), the land shall, at the discretion of the Secretary, revert to the United States.

TITLE II—CONVEYANCE OF LAND TO INDIAN TRIBES

SEC. 201. CONVEYANCE OF LAND TO BE HELD IN TRUST FOR CERTAIN INDIAN TRIBES.

(a) TE-MOAK TRIBE OF WESTERN SHOSHONE INDIANS OF NEVADA (ELKO BAND).—

(1) DEFINITION OF MAP.—In this subsection, the term ''map'' means the map entitled ''Te-moak Tribal Land Expansion'', dated September 30, 2008, and on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Bureau of Land Management.

(2) CONVEYANCE OF LAND.—Subject to valid existing rights, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the land described in paragraph (3)—

(A) is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone Indians of Nevada (Elko Band); and

(B) shall be part of the reservation of the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone Indians of Nevada (Elko Band).

(3) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The land referred to in paragraph (2) is the approximately 373 acres of land administered by the

Bureau of Land Management as generally depicted on the map as ''Lands to be Held in Trust''.

(b) CONVEYANCE OF LAND TO BE HELD IN TRUST FOR THE FORT MCDERMITT PAIUTE AND SHOSHONE TRIBE.—

(1) DEFINITION OF MAP.—In this subsection, the term ''map'' means the map entitled ''Fort McDermitt Indian Reservation Expansion Act'', dated February 21, 2013, and on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Bureau of Land Management.

(2) CONVEYANCE OF LAND.—Subject to valid existing rights, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the land described in paragraph (3)—

(A) is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe; and

(B) shall be part of the reservation of the Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe.

(3) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The land referred to in paragraph (2) is the approximately 19,094 acres of land administered by the Bureau of Land Management as generally depicted on the map as ''Reservation Expansion Lands''.

(c) CONVEYANCE OF LAND TO BE HELD IN TRUST FOR THE SHOSHONE PAIUTE TRIBES.—

(1) DEFINITION OF MAP.—In this subsection, the term ''map'' means the map entitled ''Mountain City Administrative Site Proposed Acquisition'', dated July 29, 2013, and on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Forest Service.

(2) CONVEYANCE OF LAND.—Subject to valid existing rights, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the land described in paragraph (3)—

(A) is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Shoshone Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Indian Reservation; and

(B) shall be part of the reservation of the Shoshone Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Indian Reservation.

(3) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The land referred to in paragraph (2) is the approximately 82 acres of land administered by the Forest Service as generally depicted on the map as ''Proposed Acquisition Site''.

(d) TRANSFER OF LAND TO BE HELD IN TRUST FOR THE SUMMIT LAKE PAIUTE TRIBE.—

(1) DEFINITION OF MAP.—In this section, the term ''map'' means the map entitled ''Summit Lake Indian Reservation Conveyance'', dated February 28, 2013, and on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Bureau of Land Management.

(2) CONVEYANCE OF LAND.—Subject to valid existing rights, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the land described in paragraph (3)—

(A) is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Summit Lake Paiute Tribe; and

(B) shall be part of the reservation of the Summit Lake Paiute Tribe.

(3) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The land referred to in paragraph (2) is the approximately 941 acres of land administered by the Bureau of Land Management as generally depicted on the map as ''Reservation Conveyance Lands''.

(e) TRANSFER OF LAND TO BE HELD IN TRUST FOR THE RENO-SPARKS INDIAN COLONY LAND.—

(1) DEFINITION OF MAP.—In this subsection, the term ''map'' means the map entitled ''Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Expansion'', dated June 11, 2014, and on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Bureau of Land Management.

(2) CONVEYANCE OF LAND.—Subject to valid existing rights, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the land described in paragraph (3)—

(A) is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony; and

(B) shall be part of the reservation of the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony.

(3) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The land referred to in paragraph (2) is the approximately 13,434 acres of land administered by the Bureau of Land Management as generally depicted on the map as ''RSIC Amended Boundary''.

(f) TRANSFER OF LAND TO BE HELD IN TRUST FOR THE PYRAMID LAKE PAIUTE TRIBE.—

(1) MAP.—In this subsection, the term ''map'' means the map entitled ''Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation Expansion'', dated June 9, 2014, and on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Bureau of Land Management.

(2) CONVEYANCE OF LAND.—Subject to valid existing rights, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the land described in paragraph (1)—

(A) is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe; and

(B) shall be part of the reservation of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe.

(3) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The land referred to in paragraph (2) is the approximately 30,669 acres of land administered by the Bureau of Land Management as generally depicted on the map as ''Reservation Expansion Lands''.

(g) TRANSFER OF LAND TO BE HELD IN TRUST FOR THE TE-MOAK TRIBE OF WESTERN SHOSHONE INDIANS OF NEVADA (SOUTH FORK BAND).—

(1) RELEASE OF WILDERNESS STUDY AREA.—

(A) FINDING.—Congress finds that, for the purposes of section 603(c) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782(c)), the Red Spring wilderness study area has been adequately studied for wilderness designation.

(B) RELEASE.—The public land described in subparagraph (A) is no longer subject to section 603(c) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782(c)).

(2) TRANSFER OF LAND TO BE HELD IN TRUST FOR THE TE-MOAK TRIBE OF WESTERN SHOSHONE INDIANS OF NEVADA (SOUTH FORK BAND).—

(A) DEFINITION OF MAP.—In this paragraph, the term ''map'' means the map entitled ''South Fork Indian Reservation Expansion'', dated June 9, 2014, and on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Bureau of Land Management.

(B) CONVEYANCE OF LAND.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii) and all valid existing rights, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the land described in subparagraph (C)—

(I) is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone Indians of Nevada (South Fork Band); and

(II) shall be part of the reservation of the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone Indians of Nevada (South Fork Band).

(ii) EXCEPTION.—The oversight and renewal of all oil and gas leases in existence on the date of the enactment of this Act shall remain the responsibility of the Bureau of Land Management in consultation with the South Fork Band Council.

(C) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The land referred to in subparagraph (B) is the approximately 28,162 acres of land administered by the Bureau of Land Management as generally depicted on the map as ''Reservation Expansion Lands''.

SEC. 202. ADMINISTRATION.

(a) SURVEY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall complete a survey of the boundary lines to establish the boundaries of the land taken into trust for each Indian tribe under section 201.

(b) USE OF TRUST LAND.—

(1) GAMING.—Land taken into trust under section 201 shall not be eligible, or considered to have been taken into trust, for class II gaming or class III gaming (as those terms are defined in section 4 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2703)).

(2) GENERAL USES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Each Indian tribe for which land is taken into trust under section 201 shall use the land taken into trust under that section only for—

(i) traditional and customary uses;

(ii) stewardship conservation for the benefit of the Indian tribe;

(iii) residential or recreational development;

(iv) renewable energy development; or

(v) mineral development.

(B) OTHER USES.—If an Indian tribe for which land is taken into trust under section 201 uses any portion of the land taken into trust under that section for a purpose other than a purpose described in subparagraph (A), that Indian tribe shall pay to the Secretary an amount that is equal to the fair market value of the portion of the land, as determined by an appraisal.

(C) APPRAISAL.—The Secretary shall determine the fair market value of the land under paragraph (2)(B) based on an appraisal that is performed in accordance with—

(i) the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions;

(ii) the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practices; and

(iii) any other applicable law (including regulations).

(3) THINNING; LANDSCAPE RESTORATION.—With respect to the land taken into trust under section 201, the Secretary, in consultation and coordination with the applicable Indian tribe, may carry out any fuel reduction and other landscape restoration activities, including restoration of sage grouse habitat, on the land that is beneficial to the Indian tribe and the Bureau of Land Management.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 477—DESIGNATING JUNE 20, 2014, AS ''AMERICAN EAGLE DAY'', AND CELEBRATING THE RECOVERY AND RESTORATION OF THE BALD EAGLE, THE NATIONAL SYMBOL OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. ROBERTS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. CORKER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 477

Whereas on June 20, 1782, the bald eagle was officially designated as the national emblem of the United States by the founding fathers in the Congress of the Confederation;

Whereas the bald eagle is the central image of the Great Seal of the United States;

Whereas the image of the bald eagle is displayed in the official seal of many branches and departments of the Federal Government, including—

(1) the Office of the President;

(2) the Office of the Vice President;

(3) Congress;

(4) the Supreme Court;

(5) the Department of the Treasury;

(6) the Department of Defense;

(7) the Department of Justice;
(8) the Department of State;
(9) the Department of Commerce;
(10) the Department of Homeland Security;
(11) the Department of Veterans Affairs;
(12) the Department of Labor;
(13) the Department of Health and Human Services;
(14) the Department of Energy;
(15) the Department of Housing and Urban Development;
(16) the Central Intelligence Agency; and
(17) the Postal Service;

Whereas the bald eagle is an inspiring symbol of—
(1) the spirit of freedom; and
(2) the sovereignty of the United States;

Whereas since the founding of the Nation, the image, meaning, and symbolism of the bald eagle have played a significant role in the art, music, history, commerce, literature, architecture, and culture of the United States;

Whereas the bald eagle is prominently featured on the stamps, currency, and coinage of the United States;

Whereas the habitat of bald eagles exists only in North America;

Whereas by 1963, the population of bald eagles that nested in the lower 48 States had declined to approximately 417 nesting pairs;

Whereas due to the dramatic decline in the population of bald eagles in the lower 48 States, the Secretary of the Interior listed the bald eagle as an endangered species on the list of endangered species published under section 4(c)(1) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533(c)(1));

Whereas caring and concerned individuals from the Federal, State, and private sectors banded together to save, and help ensure the recovery and protection of, bald eagles;

Whereas on July 20, 1969, the first manned lunar landing occurred in the Apollo 11 Lunar Excursion Module, which was named ''Eagle'';

Whereas the ''Eagle'' played an integral role in achieving the goal of the United States of landing a man on the Moon and returning that man safely to Earth;

Whereas in 1995, as a result of the efforts of those caring and concerned individuals, the Secretary of the Interior listed the bald eagle as a threatened species on the list of threatened species published under section 4(c)(1) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533(c)(1));

Whereas by 2007, the population of bald eagles that nested in the lower 48 States had increased to approximately 10,000 nesting pairs, an increase of approximately 2,500 percent from the preceding 40 years;

Whereas in 2007, the population of bald eagles that nested in the State of Alaska was approximately 50,000 to 70,000;

Whereas on June 28, 2007, the Secretary of the Interior removed the bald eagle from the list of threatened species published under section 4(c)(1) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533(c)(1));

Whereas bald eagles remain protected in accordance with—
(1) the Act entitled ''An Act for the protection of the bald eagle'', approved June 8, 1940 (16 U.S.C. 668 et seq.) (commonly known as the ''Bald Eagle Protection Act of 1940''); and
(2) the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703 et seq.);

Whereas on January 15, 2008, the Secretary of the Treasury issued 3 limited edition bald eagle commemorative coins under the American Bald Eagle Recovery and National Emblem Commemorative Coin Act (Public Law 108–486; 118 Stat. 3934);

Whereas the sale of the limited edition bald eagle commemorative coins issued by the Secretary of the Treasury has raised approximately $7,800,000 for the nonprofit American Eagle Foundation of Pigeon Forge, Tennessee to support efforts to protect the bald eagle;

Whereas if not for the vigilant conservation efforts of concerned Americans and the enactment of conservation laws (including regulations), the bald eagle would face extinction;

Whereas the American Eagle Foundation has brought substantial public attention to the cause of the protection and care of the bald eagle nationally;

Whereas, November 4, 2010, marked the 25th anniversary of the American Eagle Foundation;

Whereas facilities around the United States, such as the Southeastern Raptor Center at Auburn University in the State of Alabama, rehabilitate injured eagles for release into the wild;

Whereas the dramatic recovery of the population of bald eagles—
(1) is an endangered species success story; and
(2) an inspirational example for other wildlife and natural resource conservation efforts around the world;

Whereas the initial recovery of the population of bald eagles was accomplished by the concerted efforts of numerous government agencies, corporations, organizations, and individuals; and

Whereas the continuation of recovery, management, and public awareness programs for bald eagles will be necessary to ensure—
(1) the continued progress of the recovery of bald eagles; and
(2) that the population and habitat of bald eagles will remain healthy and secure for future generations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—
(1) designates June 20, 2014, as ''American Eagle Day'';
(2) applauds the issuance of bald eagle commemorative coins by the Secretary of the Treasury as a means by which to generate critical funds for the protection of bald eagles; and
(3) encourages—
(A) educational entities, organizations, businesses, conservation groups, and government agencies with a shared interest in conserving endangered species to collaborate and develop educational tools for use in the public schools of the United States; and
(B) the people of the United States to observe American Eagle Day with appropriate ceremonies and other activities.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3244. Ms. MIKULSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 4660, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3245. Mr. LEVIN (for himself and Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4660, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3246. Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. BLUNT, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3244 submitted by Ms. MIKULSKI and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4660, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3247. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3244 submitted by Ms. MIKULSKI and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4660, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3248. Mr. MARKEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4660, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3249. Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. BENNET) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4660, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3244. Ms. MIKULSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 4660, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

DIVISION A—COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES

The following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for Departments of Commerce and Justice, and Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses for international trade activities of the Department of Commerce provided for by law, to carry out activities associated with facilitating, attracting, and retaining business investment in the United States, and for engaging in trade promotional activities abroad, including expenses of grants and cooperative agreements for the purpose of promoting exports of United States firms, without regard to sections 3702 and 3703 of title 44, United States Code; full medical coverage for dependent members of immediate families of employees stationed overseas and employees temporarily posted overseas; travel and transportation of employees of the International Trade Administration between two points abroad, without regard to section 40118 of title 49, United States Code; employment of citizens of the United States and aliens by contract for services; rental of space abroad for periods not exceeding 10 years, and expenses of alteration, repair, or improvement; purchase or construction of temporary demountable exhibition structures for use abroad; payment of tort claims, in the manner authorized in the first paragraph of section 2672 of title 28, United States Code, when such claims arise in foreign countries; not to exceed $294,300 for official representation expenses abroad; purchase of passenger motor vehicles for official use abroad, not to exceed $45,000 per vehicle; obtaining insurance on official motor vehicles; and rental of tie lines, $480,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, of which $10,000,000 is to be derived from fees to be retained and used by the International Trade Administration, notwithstanding section 3302 of title 31, United States Code: *Provided*, That, of amounts provided under this heading, not less than $16,400,000 shall be for China antidumping and countervailing duty enforcement and compliance activities: *Provided further*, That the provisions of the first sentence of section 105(f) and all of section 108(c) of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2455(f) and 2458(c)) shall apply in carrying out these activities; and that for the purpose of this Act, contributions under the provisions of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange

Act of 1961 shall include payment for assessments for services provided as part of these activities.

BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND SECURITY

OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses for export administration and national security activities of the Department of Commerce, including costs associated with the performance of export administration field activities both domestically and abroad; full medical coverage for dependent members of immediate families of employees stationed overseas; employment of citizens of the United States and aliens by contract for services abroad; payment of tort claims, in the manner authorized in the first paragraph of section 2672 of title 28, United States Code, when such claims arise in foreign countries; not to exceed $13,500 for official representation expenses abroad; awards of compensation to informers under the Export Administration Act of 1979, and as authorized by section 1(b) of the Act of June 15, 1917 (40 Stat. 223; 22 U.S.C. 401(b)); and purchase of passenger motor vehicles for official use and motor vehicles for law enforcement use with special requirement vehicles eligible for purchase without regard to any price limitation otherwise established by law, $105,549,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the provisions of the first sentence of section 105(f) and all of section 108(c) of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2455(f) and 2458(c)) shall apply in carrying out these activities: *Provided further*, That payments and contributions collected and accepted for materials or services provided as part of such activities may be retained for use in covering the cost of such activities, and for providing information to the public with respect to the export administration and national security activities of the Department of Commerce and other export control programs of the United States and other governments.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

For grants for economic development assistance as provided by the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965, for trade adjustment assistance, and for the cost of loan guarantees and grants authorized by section 27 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3722), $235,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which $20,000,000 shall be for regional innovation programs and loan guarantees under section 27 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980: *Provided*, That $40,000,000 shall be derived from prior year unobligated balances from funds, or recoveries of funds, previously appropriated for Economic Development Assistance Programs: *Provided further*, That the costs for loan guarantees, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That these funds for loan guarantees under such section 27 are available to subsidize total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, not to exceed $70,000,000: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding paragraph (7) of section 27(d) of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3722(d)(7)), amounts made available in prior appropriations Acts for guaranteeing loans for science park infrastructure under such section shall be available to the Secretary of Commerce to guarantee such loans after September 30, 2014.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of administering the economic development assistance programs as provided for by law, $37,000,000: *Provided*, That these funds may be used to monitor projects approved pursuant to title I of the Public Works Employment Act of 1976, title II of the Trade Act of 1974, and the Community Emergency Drought Relief Act of 1977.

MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the Department of Commerce in fostering, promoting, and developing minority business enterprise, including expenses of grants, contracts, and other agreements with public or private organizations, $28,286,000.

ECONOMIC AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, as authorized by law, of economic and statistical analysis programs of the Department of Commerce, $106,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for collecting, compiling, analyzing, preparing and publishing statistics, provided for by law, $252,200,000: *Provided*, That, from amounts provided herein, funds may be used for promotion, outreach, and marketing activities.

PERIODIC CENSUSES AND PROGRAMS

For necessary expenses for collecting, compiling, analyzing, preparing and publishing statistics for periodic censuses and programs provided for by law, $896,744,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That, from amounts provided herein, funds may be used for promotion, outreach, and marketing activities: *Provided further*, That within the amounts appropriated, $1,551,000 shall be transferred to the ''Office of Inspector General'' account for activities associated with carrying out investigations and audits related to the Bureau of the Census.

NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, as provided for by law, of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), $48,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 1535(d), the Secretary of Commerce shall charge Federal agencies for costs incurred in spectrum management, analysis, operations, and related services, and such fees shall be retained and used as offsetting collections for costs of such spectrum services, to remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Commerce is authorized to retain and use as offsetting collections all funds transferred, or previously transferred, from other Government agencies for all costs incurred in telecommunications research, engineering, and related activities by the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences of NTIA, in furtherance of its assigned functions under this paragraph, and such funds received from other Government agencies shall remain available until expended.

PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES, PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION

For the administration of prior-year grants, recoveries and unobligated balances of funds previously appropriated are available for the administration of all open grants until their expiration.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) provided for by law, including defense of suits instituted against the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO, $3,458,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the sum herein appropriated from the general fund shall be reduced as offsetting collections of fees and surcharges assessed and collected by the USPTO under any law are received during fiscal year 2015, so as to result in a fiscal year 2015 appropriation from the general fund estimated at $0: *Provided further*, That during fiscal year 2015, should the total amount of such offsetting collections be less than $3,458,000,000 this amount shall be reduced accordingly: *Provided further*, That any amount received in excess of $3,458,000,000 in fiscal year 2015 and deposited in the Patent and Trademark Fee Reserve Fund shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the Director of USPTO shall submit a spending plan to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate for any amounts made available by the preceding proviso and such spending plan shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section: *Provided further*, That any amounts reprogrammed in accordance with the preceding proviso shall be transferred to the United States Patent and Trademark Office Salaries and Expenses account: *Provided further*, That from amounts provided herein, not to exceed $900 shall be made available in fiscal year 2015 for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That in fiscal year 2015 from the amounts made available for ''Salaries and Expenses'' for the USPTO, the amounts necessary to pay (1) the difference between the percentage of basic pay contributed by the USPTO and employees under section 8334(a) of title 5, United States Code, and the normal cost percentage (as defined by section 8331(17) of that title) as provided by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) for USPTO's specific use, of basic pay, of employees subject to subchapter III of chapter 83 of that title, and (2) the present value of the otherwise unfunded accruing costs, as determined by OPM for USPTO's specific use of post-retirement life insurance and post-retirement health benefits coverage for all USPTO employees who are enrolled in Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) and Federal Employees Group Life Insurance (FEGLI), shall be transferred to the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund, the FEGLI Fund, and the FEHB Fund, as appropriate, and shall be available for the authorized purposes of those accounts: *Provided further*, That any differences between the present value factors published in OPM's yearly 300 series benefit letters and the factors that OPM provides for USPTO's specific use shall be recognized as an imputed cost on USPTO's financial statements, where applicable: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, all fees and surcharges assessed and collected by USPTO are available for USPTO only pursuant to section 42(c) of title 35, United States Code, as amended by section 22 of the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act (Public Law 112–29): *Provided further*, That within the amounts appropriated, $2,000,000 shall be transferred to the ''Office of Inspector General'' account for activities associated with carrying out investigations and audits related to the USPTO.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL RESEARCH AND SERVICES

For necessary expenses of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), $685,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed $9,000,000 may be transferred to the ''Working Capital Fund'': *Provided*, That not to exceed $5,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That NIST may provide local transportation for summer undergraduate research fellowship program participants.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

For necessary expenses for industrial technology services, $156,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which $141,000,000 shall be for the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership, and of which $15,000,000 shall be for the Advanced Manufacturing Technology Consortia.

CONSTRUCTION OF RESEARCH FACILITIES

For construction of new research facilities, including architectural and engineering design, and for renovation and maintenance of existing facilities, not otherwise provided for the National Institute of Standards and Technology, as authorized by sections 13 through 15 of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278c–278e), $59,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Commerce shall include in the budget justification materials that the Secretary submits to Congress in support of the Department of Commerce budget (as submitted with the budget of the President under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code) an estimate for each National Institute of Standards and Technology construction project having a total multi-year program cost of more than $5,000,000, and simultaneously the budget justification materials shall include an estimate of the budgetary requirements for each such project for each of the 5 subsequent fiscal years.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of activities authorized by law for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, including maintenance, operation, and hire of aircraft and vessels; grants, contracts, or other payments to nonprofit organizations for the purposes of conducting activities pursuant to cooperative agreements; and relocation of facilities, $3,228,964,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, except that funds provided for cooperative enforcement shall remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That fees and donations received by the National Ocean Service for the management of national marine sanctuaries may be retained and used for the salaries and expenses associated with those activities, notwithstanding section 3302 of title 31, United States Code: *Provided further*, That in addition, $116,000,000 shall be derived by transfer from the fund entitled ''Promote and Develop Fishery Products and Research Pertaining to American Fisheries'', which shall only be used for fishery activities related to the Saltonstall-Kennedy Grant Program, Cooperative Research, Annual Stock Assessments, Survey and Monitoring Projects, Interjurisdictional Fisheries Grants, and Fish Information Networks: *Provided further*, That of the $3,359,964,000 provided for in direct obligations under this heading $3,228,964,000 is appropriated from the general fund, $116,000,000 is provided by transfer, and $15,000,000 is derived from recoveries of prior year obligations: *Provided further*, That the total amount available for National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration corporate services administrative support costs shall not exceed $226,800,000: *Provided further*, That any deviation from the amounts designated for specific activities in the report accompanying this bill, or any use of deobligated balances of funds provided under this heading in previous years, shall be subject to the procedures set forth in section 505 of this Act: *Provided further*, That in addition, for necessary retired pay expenses under the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection and Survivor Benefits Plan, and for payments for the medical care of retired personnel and their dependents under the Dependents Medical Care Act (10 U.S.C. 55), such sums as may be necessary.

PROCUREMENT, ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION

For procurement, acquisition and construction of capital assets, including alteration and modification costs, of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, $2,131,686,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017, except that funds provided for construction of facilities shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the $2,144,686,000 provided for in direct obligations under this heading, $2,131,686,000 is appropriated from the general fund and $13,000,000 is provided from recoveries of prior year obligations: *Provided further*, That any deviation from the amounts designated for specific activities in the report accompanying this bill, or any use of deobligated balances of funds provided under this heading in previous years, shall be subject to the procedures set forth in section 505 of this Act: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Commerce shall include in budget justification materials that the Secretary submits to Congress in support of the Department of Commerce budget (as submitted with the budget of the President under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code) an estimate for each National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration procurement, acquisition or construction project having a total of more than $5,000,000 and simultaneously the budget justification shall include an estimate of the budgetary requirements for each such project for each of the 5 subsequent fiscal years: *Provided further*, That, within the amounts appropriated, $1,302,000 shall be transferred to the ''Office of Inspector General'' account for activities associated with carrying out investigations and audits related to satellite procurement, acquisition and construction.

PACIFIC COASTAL SALMON RECOVERY

For necessary expenses associated with the restoration of Pacific salmon populations, $65,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That, of the funds provided herein, the Secretary of Commerce may issue grants to the States of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, California, and Alaska, and to the Federally recognized tribes of the Columbia River and Pacific Coast (including Alaska), for projects necessary for conservation of salmon and steelhead populations that are listed as threatened or endangered, or that are identified by a State as at-risk to be so listed, for maintaining populations necessary for exercise of tribal treaty fishing rights or native subsistence fishing, or for conservation of Pacific coastal salmon and steelhead habitat, based on guidelines to be developed by the Secretary of Commerce: *Provided further*, That all funds shall be allocated based on scientific and other merit principles and shall not be available for marketing activities: *Provided further*, That funds disbursed to States shall be subject to a matching requirement of funds or documented in-kind contributions of at least 33 percent of the Federal funds.

FISHERMEN'S CONTINGENCY FUND

For carrying out the provisions of title IV of Public Law 95–372, not to exceed $350,000, to be derived from receipts collected pursuant to that Act, to remain available until expended.

FISHERIES FINANCE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

Subject to section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, during fiscal year 2015, obligations of direct loans may not exceed $24,000,000 for Individual Fishing Quota loans and not to exceed $100,000,000 for traditional direct loans as authorized by the Merchant Marine Act of 1936.

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the management of the Department of Commerce provided for by law, including not to exceed $4,500 for official reception and representation, $56,000,000: *Provided*, That the Secretary may use space provided by State, local, and other governmental entities, non-profit entities, or other businesses on a reimbursable or non-reimbursable basis to engage in activities that provide businesses and communities with information, advice, and referrals to Department of Commerce programs.

RENOVATION AND MODERNIZATION

For necessary expenses for the renovation and modernization of Department of Commerce facilities, $10,000,000, to remain available until expended.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), $30,596,000.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

SEC. 101. During the current fiscal year, applicable appropriations and funds made available to the Department of Commerce by this Act shall be available for the activities specified in the Act of October 26, 1949 (15 U.S.C. 1514), to the extent and in the manner prescribed by the Act, and, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3324, may be used for advanced payments not otherwise authorized only upon the certification of officials designated by the Secretary of Commerce that such payments are in the public interest.

SEC. 102. During the current fiscal year, appropriations made available to the Department of Commerce by this Act for salaries and expenses shall be available for hire of passenger motor vehicles as authorized by 31 U.S.C. 1343 and 1344; services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; and uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5901–5902).

SEC. 103. Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the Department of Commerce in this Act may be transferred between such appropriations, but no such appropriation shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers: *Provided*, That any transfer pursuant to this section shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Commerce shall notify the Committees on Appropriations at least 15 days in advance of the acquisition or disposal of any capital asset (including land, structures, and equipment) not specifically provided for in this Act or any other law appropriating funds for the Department of Commerce.

SEC. 104. The requirements set forth by section 105 of the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2012 (Public Law 112–55), as amended by section 105 of title I of division B of Public Law 113–6, are hereby adopted by reference and made applicable with respect to fiscal year 2015: *Provided*, That the life cycle cost for the Joint Polar Satellite System is $11,323,400,000 and the life cycle cost for the Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite R-Series Program is $10,829,500,000.

SEC. 105. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may furnish services (including but not limited to utilities, telecommunications, and security services) necessary to support the operation, maintenance, and improvement of space that persons, firms, or organizations are authorized, pursuant to the Public Buildings Cooperative Use Act of 1976 or other authority, to use or occupy in the Herbert C. Hoover Building, Washington, DC, or other buildings, the maintenance, operation, and protection of which has been delegated to the Secretary from the Administrator of General Services pursuant to the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 on a reimbursable or non-reimbursable basis. Amounts received as reimbursement for services provided under this section or the authority under which the use or occupancy of the space is authorized, up to $200,000, shall be credited to the appropriation or fund which initially bears the costs of such services.

SEC. 106. Nothing in this title shall be construed to prevent a grant recipient from deterring child pornography, copyright infringement, or any other unlawful activity over its networks.

SEC. 107. The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is authorized to use, with their consent, with reimbursement and subject to the limits of available appropriations, the land, services, equipment, personnel, and facilities of any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States, or of any State, local government, Indian tribal government, Territory, or possession, or of any political subdivision thereof, or of any foreign government or international organization, for purposes related to carrying out the responsibilities of any statute administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

SEC. 108. The National Technical Information Service shall not charge any customer for a copy of any report or document generated by the Legislative Branch unless the Service has provided information to the customer on how an electronic copy of such report or document may be accessed and downloaded for free online. Should a customer still require the Service to provide a printed or digital copy of the report or document, the charge shall be limited to recovering the Service's cost of processing, reproducing, and delivering such report or document.

SEC. 109. In order to carry out the responsibilities of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the Administrator of NOAA is authorized to: (1) enter into grants and cooperative agreements with; (2) use on a non-reimbursable basis land, services, equipment, personnel, and facilities provided by; and (3) receive and expend funds made available on a consensual basis from: a Federal agency, State or subdivision thereof, local government, tribal government, territory, or possession or any subdivisions thereof: *Provided*, That funds received for permitting and related regulatory activities pursuant to this section shall be deposited as offsetting collections under the heading ''National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—Operations, Research, and Facilities'' and shall remain available until expended for such purpose: *Provided further*, That all offsetting collections within this section and their corresponding uses are subject to section 505 of this Act.

SEC. 110. The Secretary of Commerce may waive the requirement for bonds under 40 U.S.C. 3131 with respect to contracts for the construction, alteration, or repair of vessels, regardless of the terms of the contracts as to payment or title, when the contract is made under the Coast and Geodetic Survey Act of 1947 (33 U.S.C. 883a et seq.).

This title may be cited as the ''Department of Commerce Appropriations Act, 2015''.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the administration of the Department of Justice, $115,000,000, of which not to exceed $4,000,000 for security and construction of Department of Justice facilities shall remain available until expended.

JUSTICE INFORMATION SHARING TECHNOLOGY

For necessary expenses for information sharing technology, including planning, development, deployment and departmental direction, $25,842,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Attorney General may transfer up to $35,400,000 to this account, from funds available to the Department of Justice for information technology, for enterprise-wide information technology initiatives: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority in the preceding proviso is in addition to any other transfer authority contained in this Act.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW AND APPEALS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses necessary for the administration of pardon and clemency petitions and immigration-related activities, $351,072,000, of which $4,000,000 shall be derived by transfer from the Executive Office for Immigration Review fees deposited in the ''Immigration Examinations Fee'' account: *Provided*, That of the amount provided:

(1) not to exceed $10,000,000 is for the Executive Office of Immigration Review for courthouse operations, language services, and automated system requirements and shall remain available until expended;

(2) $10,024,000 is for the Executive Office for Immigration Review Legal Orientation Program; and

(3) $5,824,000 is for the Executive Office for Immigration Review to develop, implement, and evaluate a pilot program to provide counsel for unaccompanied alien children: *Provided*, That such pilot program shall be carried out in consultation with the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Homeland Security and relevant non-governmental organizations and experts.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General, $88,577,000, including not to exceed $10,000 to meet unforeseen emergencies of a confidential character.

UNITED STATES PAROLE COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the United States Parole Commission as authorized, $13,308,000.

LEGAL ACTIVITIES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, GENERAL LEGAL ACTIVITIES

For expenses necessary for the legal activities of the Department of Justice, not otherwise provided for, including not to exceed $20,000 for expenses of collecting evidence, to be expended under the direction of, and to be accounted for solely under the certificate of, the Attorney General; and rent of private or Government-owned space in the District of Columbia, $915,000,000, of which not to exceed $10,000,000 for litigation support contracts shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amount provided for INTERPOL Washington dues payments, not to exceed $685,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, not to exceed $9,000 shall be available to INTERPOL Washington for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 205 of this Act, upon a determination by the Attorney General that emergent circumstances require additional funding for litigation activities of the Civil Division, the Attorney General may transfer such amounts to ''Salaries and Expenses, General Legal Activities'' from available appropriations for the current fiscal year for the Department of Justice, as may be necessary to respond to such circumstances: *Provided further*, That any transfer pursuant to the previous proviso shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section: *Provided further*, That of the amount appropriated, such sums as may be necessary shall be available to the Civil Rights Division for salaries and expenses associated with the election monitoring program under section 8 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 1973f) and to reimburse the Office of Personnel Management for such salaries and expenses: *Provided further*, That of the amounts provided under this heading for the election monitoring program, $3,390,000 shall remain available until expended.

In addition, for reimbursement of expenses of the Department of Justice associated with processing cases under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, not to exceed $7,833,000, to be appropriated from the Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, ANTITRUST DIVISION

For expenses necessary for the enforcement of antitrust and kindred laws, $162,246,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, fees collected for premerger notification filings under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976 (15 U.S.C. 18a), regardless of the year of collection (and estimated to be $100,000,000 in fiscal year 2015), shall be retained and used for necessary expenses in this appropriation, and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated from the general fund shall be reduced as such offsetting collections are received during fiscal year 2015, so as to result in a final fiscal year 2015 appropriation from the general fund estimated at $62,246,000.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS

For necessary expenses of the Offices of the United States Attorneys, including intergovernmental and cooperative agreements, $1,950,000,000: *Provided*, That of the total amount appropriated, not to exceed $7,200 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $25,000 shall remain available until expended.

UNITED STATES TRUSTEE SYSTEM FUND

For necessary expenses of the United States Trustee Program, as authorized, $225,908,000, to remain available until expended and to be derived from the United States Trustee System Fund: *Provided*, That,

notwithstanding any other provision of law, deposits to the Fund shall be available in such amounts as may be necessary to pay refunds due depositors: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, $225,908,000 of offsetting collections pursuant to section 589a(b) of title 28, United States Code, shall be retained and used for necessary expenses in this appropriation and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated from the Fund shall be reduced as such offsetting collections are received during fiscal year 2015, so as to result in a final fiscal year 2015 appropriation from the Fund estimated at $0.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, FOREIGN CLAIMS SETTLEMENT COMMISSION

For expenses necessary to carry out the activities of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission, including services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, $2,326,000.

FEES AND EXPENSES OF WITNESSES

For fees and expenses of witnesses, for expenses of contracts for the procurement and supervision of expert witnesses, for private counsel expenses, including advances, and for expenses of foreign counsel, $270,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed $16,000,000 is for construction of buildings for protected witness safesites; not to exceed $3,000,000 is for the purchase and maintenance of armored and other vehicles for witness security caravans; and not to exceed $11,000,000 is for the purchase, installation, maintenance, and upgrade of secure telecommunications equipment and a secure automated information network to store and retrieve the identities and locations of protected witnesses.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, COMMUNITY RELATIONS SERVICE

For necessary expenses of the Community Relations Service, $12,972,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 205 of this Act, upon a determination by the Attorney General that emergent circumstances require additional funding for conflict resolution and violence prevention activities of the Community Relations Service, the Attorney General may transfer such amounts to the Community Relations Service, from available appropriations for the current fiscal year for the Department of Justice, as may be necessary to respond to such circumstances: *Provided further*, That any transfer pursuant to the preceding proviso shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

ASSETS FORFEITURE FUND

For expenses authorized by subparagraphs (B), (F), and (G) of section 524(c)(1) of title 28, United States Code, $20,514,000, to be derived from the Department of Justice Assets Forfeiture Fund.

UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the United States Marshals Service, $1,185,000,000, of which not to exceed $6,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses, and not to exceed $15,000,000 shall remain available until expended.

CONSTRUCTION

For construction in space controlled, occupied or utilized by the United States Marshals Service for prisoner holding and related support, $9,800,000, to remain available until expended.

FEDERAL PRISONER DETENTION

For necessary expenses related to United States prisoners in the custody of the United States Marshals Service as authorized by section 4013 of title 18, United States Code, $1,595,307,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That not to exceed $20,000,000 shall be considered ''funds appropriated for State and local law enforcement assistance'' pursuant to section 4013(b) of title 18, United States Code: *Provided further*, That the United States Marshals Service shall be responsible for managing the Justice Prisoner and Alien Transportation System: *Provided further*, That any unobligated balances available from funds appropriated under the heading ''General Administration, Detention Trustee'' shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation under this heading.

NATIONAL SECURITY DIVISION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary to carry out the activities of the National Security Division, $91,800,000, of which not to exceed $5,000,000 for information technology systems shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 205 of this Act, upon a determination by the Attorney General that emergent circumstances require additional funding for the activities of the National Security Division, the Attorney General may transfer such amounts to this heading from available appropriations for the current fiscal year for the Department of Justice, as may be necessary to respond to such circumstances: *Provided further*, That any transfer pursuant to the preceding proviso shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

INTERAGENCY LAW ENFORCEMENT

INTERAGENCY CRIME AND DRUG ENFORCEMENT

For necessary expenses for the identification, investigation, and prosecution of individuals associated with the most significant drug trafficking and affiliated money laundering organizations not otherwise provided for, to include inter-governmental agreements with State and local law enforcement agencies engaged in the investigation and prosecution of individuals involved in organized crime drug trafficking, $505,000,000, of which $50,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That any amounts obligated from appropriations under this heading may be used under authorities available to the organizations reimbursed from this appropriation.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Federal Bureau of Investigation for detection, investigation, and prosecution of crimes against the United States, $8,291,233,000, of which not to exceed $216,900,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That not to exceed $184,500 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

CONSTRUCTION

For necessary expenses, to include the cost of equipment, furniture, and information technology requirements, related to construction or acquisition of buildings, facilities and sites by purchase, or as otherwise authorized by law; conversion, modification and extension of Federally-owned buildings; preliminary planning and design of projects; and operation and maintenance of secure work environment facilities and secure networking capabilities; $93,982,000, to remain available until expended.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Drug Enforcement Administration, including not to exceed $70,000 to meet unforeseen emergencies of a confidential character pursuant to section 530C of title 28, United States Code; and expenses for conducting drug education and training programs, including travel and related expenses for participants in such programs and the distribution of items of token value that promote the goals of such programs, $2,018,000,000; of which not to exceed $75,000,000 shall remain available until expended and not to exceed $90,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, for training of State and local law enforcement agencies with or without reimbursement, including training in connection with the training and acquisition of canines for explosives and fire accelerants detection; and for provision of laboratory assistance to State and local law enforcement agencies, with or without reimbursement, $1,201,004,000, of which not to exceed $36,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses, not to exceed $1,000,000 shall be available for the payment of attorneys' fees as provided by section 924(d)(2) of title 18, United States Code, and not to exceed $20,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated herein shall be available to investigate or act upon applications for relief from Federal firearms disabilities under section 925(c) of title 18, United States Code: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be available to investigate and act upon applications filed by corporations for relief from Federal firearms disabilities under section 925(c) of title 18, United States Code: *Provided further*, That no funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to transfer the functions, missions, or activities of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to other agencies or Departments.

FEDERAL PRISON SYSTEM

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Federal Prison System for the administration, operation, and maintenance of Federal penal and correctional institutions, and for the provision of technical assistance and advice on corrections related issues to foreign governments, $6,804,000,000: *Provided*, That the Attorney General may transfer to the Health Resources and Services Administration such amounts as may be necessary for direct expenditures by that Administration for medical relief for inmates of Federal penal and correctional institutions: *Provided further*, That the Director of the Federal Prison System, where necessary, may enter into contracts with a fiscal agent or fiscal intermediary claims processor to determine the amounts payable to persons who, on behalf of the Federal Prison System, furnish health services to individuals committed to the custody of the Federal Prison System: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $5,400 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $50,000,000 shall remain available for necessary operations until September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That, of the amounts provided for contract confinement, not to exceed $20,000,000 shall remain available until expended to make payments in advance for grants, contracts and reimbursable agreements, and other expenses: *Provided further*, That the Director of the Federal Prison System may accept donated property and services relating to the operation of the prison

card program from a not-for-profit entity which has operated such program in the past, notwithstanding the fact that such not-for-profit entity furnishes services under contracts to the Federal Prison System relating to the operation of pre-release services, halfway houses, or other custodial facilities.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For planning, acquisition of sites and construction of new facilities; purchase and acquisition of facilities and remodeling, and equipping of such facilities for penal and correctional use, including all necessary expenses incident thereto, by contract or force account; and constructing, remodeling, and equipping necessary buildings and facilities at existing penal and correctional institutions, including all necessary expenses incident thereto, by contract or force account, $105,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which not less than $91,000,000 shall be available only for modernization, maintenance and repair, and of which not to exceed $14,000,000 shall be available to construct areas for inmate work programs: *Provided*, That labor of United States prisoners may be used for work performed under this appropriation.

FEDERAL PRISON INDUSTRIES, INCORPORATED

The Federal Prison Industries, Incorporated, is hereby authorized to make such expenditures within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available, and in accord with the law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 9104 of title 31, United States Code, as may be necessary in carrying out the program set forth in the budget for the current fiscal year for such corporation.

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES, FEDERAL PRISON INDUSTRIES, INCORPORATED

Not to exceed $2,700,000 of the funds of the Federal Prison Industries, Incorporated, shall be available for its administrative expenses, and for services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, to be computed on an accrual basis to be determined in accordance with the corporation's current prescribed accounting system, and such amounts shall be exclusive of depreciation, payment of claims, and expenditures which such accounting system requires to be capitalized or charged to cost of commodities acquired or produced, including selling and shipping expenses, and expenses in connection with acquisition, construction, operation, maintenance, improvement, protection, or disposition of facilities and other property belonging to the corporation or in which it has an interest.

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PREVENTION AND PROSECUTION PROGRAMS

For grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other assistance for the prevention and prosecution of violence against women, as authorized by the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3711 et seq.) (''the 1968 Act''); the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–322) (''the 1994 Act''); the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–647) (''the 1990 Act''); the Prosecutorial Remedies and Other Tools to end the Exploitation of Children Today Act of 2003 (Public Law 108–21); the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5601 et seq.) (''the 1974 Act''); the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–386) (''the 2000 Act''); the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–162) (''the 2005 Act''); and the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (Public Law 113–4) (''the 2013 Act''); and for related victims services, $430,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That except as otherwise provided by law, not to exceed 5 percent of funds made available under this heading may be used for expenses related to evaluation, training, and technical assistance: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided—

(1) $195,000,000 is for grants to combat violence against women, as authorized by part T of the 1968 Act;

(2) $26,000,000 is for transitional housing assistance grants for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault as authorized by section 40299 of the 1994 Act;

(3) $3,000,000 is for the National Institute of Justice for research and evaluation of violence against women and related issues addressed by grant programs of the Office on Violence Against Women, which shall be transferred to ''Research, Evaluation and Statistics'' for administration by the Office of Justice Programs;

(4) $10,000,000 is for a grant program to provide services to advocate for and respond to youth victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; assistance to children and youth exposed to such violence; programs to engage men and youth in preventing such violence; and assistance to middle and high school students through education and other services related to such violence: *Provided*, That unobligated balances available for the programs authorized by sections 41201, 41204, 41303 and 41305 of the 1994 Act, prior to its amendment by the 2013 Act, shall be available for this program: *Provided further*, That 10 percent of the total amount available for this grant program shall be available for grants under the program authorized by section 2015 of the 1968 Act: *Provided further*, That the definitions and grant conditions in section 40002 of the 1994 Act shall apply to this program;

(5) $50,000,000 is for grants to encourage arrest policies as authorized by part U of the 1968 Act, of which $4,000,000 is for a homicide reduction initiative;

(6) $30,000,000 is for sexual assault victims assistance, as authorized by section 41601 of the 1994 Act;

(7) $33,000,000 is for rural domestic violence and child abuse enforcement assistance grants, as authorized by section 40295 of the 1994 Act;

(8) $12,000,000 is for grants to reduce violent crimes against women on campus, as authorized by section 304 of the 2005 Act;

(9) $42,500,000 is for legal assistance for victims, as authorized by section 1201 of the 2000 Act;

(10) $4,500,000 is for enhanced training and services to end violence against and abuse of women in later life, as authorized by section 40802 of the 1994 Act;

(11) $16,000,000 is for grants to support families in the justice system, as authorized by section 1301 of the 2000 Act: *Provided*, That unobligated balances available for the programs authorized by section 1301 of the 2000 Act and section 41002 of the 1994 Act, prior to their amendment by the 2013 Act, shall be available for this program;

(12) $6,000,000 is for education and training to end violence against and abuse of women with disabilities, as authorized by section 1402 of the 2000 Act;

(13) $500,000 is for the National Resource Center on Workplace Responses to assist victims of domestic violence, as authorized by section 41501 of the 1994 Act;

(14) $1,000,000 is for analysis and research on violence against Indian women, including as authorized by section 904 of the 2005 Act: *Provided*, That such funds may be transferred to ''Research, Evaluation and Statistics'' for administration by the Office of Justice Programs; and

(15) $500,000 is for a national clearinghouse that provides training and technical assistance on issues relating to sexual assault of American Indian and Alaska Native women.

OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

RESEARCH, EVALUATION AND STATISTICS

For grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other assistance authorized by title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (''the 1968 Act''); the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (''the 1974 Act''); the Missing Children's Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5771 et seq.); the Prosecutorial Remedies and Other Tools to end the Exploitation of Children Today Act of 2003 (Public Law 108–21); the Justice for All Act of 2004 (Public Law 108–405); the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–162) (''the 2005 Act''); the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–647); the Second Chance Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–199); the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (Public Law 98–473); the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–248) (''the Adam Walsh Act''); the PROTECT Our Children Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–401); subtitle D of title II of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–296) (''the 2002 Act''); the NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–180); the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (Public Law 113–4) (''the 2013 Act''); and other programs, $115,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which—

(1) $42,000,000 is for criminal justice statistics programs, and other activities, as authorized by part C of title I of the 1968 Act;

(2) $38,000,000 is for research, development, and evaluation programs, and other activities as authorized by part B of title I of the 1968 Act and subtitle D of title II of the 2002 Act;

(3) $30,000,000 is for regional information sharing activities, as authorized by part M of title I of the 1968 Act; and

(4) $5,000,000 is for activities to strengthen and enhance the practice of forensic sciences, of which $4,000,000 is for transfer to the National Institute of Standards and Technology to support scientific working groups.

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE

For grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other assistance authorized by the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–322) (''the 1994 Act''); the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (''the 1968 Act''); the Justice for All Act of 2004 (Public Law 108–405); the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–647) (''the 1990 Act''); the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–164); the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–162) (''the 2005 Act''); the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–248) (''the Adam Walsh Act''); the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–386); the NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–180); subtitle D of title II of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–296) (''the 2002 Act''); the Second Chance Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–199); the Prioritizing Resources and Organization for Intellectual Property Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–403); the Victims of Crime

Act of 1984 (Public Law 98–473); the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–416); the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (Public Law 113–4) (''the 2013 Act''); and other programs, $1,149,500,000, to remain available until expended as follows—

(1) $376,000,000 for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant program as authorized by subpart 1 of part E of title I of the 1968 Act (except that section 1001(c), and the special rules for Puerto Rico under section 505(g) of title I of the 1968 Act shall not apply for purposes of this Act), of which, notwithstanding such subpart 1, $1,000,000 is for a program to improve State and local law enforcement intelligence capabilities including antiterrorism training and training to ensure that constitutional rights, civil liberties, civil rights, and privacy interests are protected throughout the intelligence process, $2,000,000 is for a State, local, and tribal assistance help desk and diagnostic center program, $15,000,000 is for a Preventing Violence Against Law Enforcement Officer Resilience and Survivability Initiative (VALOR), $10,000,000 is for an initiative to support evidence-based policing, $5,000,000 is for an initiative to enhance prosecutorial decision-making; and $3,000,000 is for competitive grants to distribute firearm safety materials and gun locks;

(2) $150,000,000 for the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program, as authorized by section 241(i)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1231(i)(5)): *Provided*, That no jurisdiction shall request compensation for any cost greater than the actual cost for Federal immigration and other detainees housed in State and local detention facilities;

(3) $10,000,000 for competitive grants to improve the functioning of the criminal justice system, to prevent or combat juvenile delinquency, and to assist victims of crime (other than compensation);

(4) $15,000,000 for victim services programs for victims of trafficking, as authorized by section 107(b)(2) of Public Law 106–386, for programs authorized under Public Law 109–164, or programs authorized under Public Law 113–4;

(5) $41,000,000 for Drug Courts, as authorized by section 1001(a)(25)(A) of title I of the 1968 Act;

(6) $9,000,000 for mental health courts and adult and juvenile collaboration program grants, as authorized by parts V and HH of title I of the 1968 Act, and the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–416);

(7) $12,000,000 for grants for Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners, as authorized by part S of title I of the 1968 Act;

(8) $2,000,000 for the Capital Litigation Improvement Grant Program, as authorized by section 426 of Public Law 108–405, and for grants for wrongful conviction review;

(9) $15,000,000 for economic, high technology and Internet crime prevention grants, including as authorized by section 401 of Public Law 110–403, of which not more than $2,500,000 is for intellectual property enforcement grants, including as authorized by section 401 of Public Law 110–403;

(10) $2,000,000 for a student loan repayment assistance program pursuant to section 952 of Public Law 110–315;

(11) $20,000,000 for sex offender management assistance, as authorized by the Adam Walsh Act, and related activities;

(12) $8,000,000 for an initiative relating to children exposed to violence;

(13) $17,000,000 for an Edward Byrne Memorial criminal justice innovation program;

(14) $23,000,000 for the matching grant program for law enforcement armor vests, as authorized by section 2501 of title I of the 1968 Act: *Provided*, That $1,500,000 is transferred directly to the National Institute of Standards and Technology's Office of Law Enforcement Standards for research, testing and evaluation programs;

(15) $1,000,000 for the National Sex Offender Public Website;

(16) $8,500,000 for competitive and evidence-based programs to reduce gun crime and gang violence;

(17) $58,500,000 for grants to States to upgrade criminal and mental health records in the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, of which no less than $12,000,000 shall be for grants made under the authorities of the NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–180);

(18) $12,000,000 for Paul Coverdell Forensic Sciences Improvement Grants under part BB of title I of the 1968 Act;

(19) $125,000,000 for DNA-related and forensic programs and activities, of which—

(A) $117,000,000 is for a DNA analysis and capacity enhancement program and for other local, State, and Federal forensic activities, including the purposes authorized under section 2 of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–546) (the Debbie Smith DNA Backlog Grant Program): *Provided*, That up to 4 percent of funds made available under this paragraph may be used for the purposes described in the DNA Training and Education for Law Enforcement, Correctional Personnel, and Court Officers program (Public Law 108–405, section 303);

(B) $4,000,000 is for the purposes described in the Kirk Bloodsworth Post-Conviction DNA Testing Program (Public Law 108–405, section 412); and

(C) $4,000,000 is for Sexual Assault Forensic Exam Program grants, including as authorized by section 304 of Public Law 108–405;

(20) $41,000,000 for a grant program for community-based sexual assault response reform;

(21) $6,000,000 for the court-appointed special advocate program, as authorized by section 217 of the 1990 Act;

(22) $70,000,000 for offender reentry programs and research, as authorized by the Second Chance Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–199), without regard to the time limitations specified at section 6(1) of such Act, of which not to exceed $7,000,000 is for a program to improve State, local, and tribal probation or parole supervision efforts and strategies, and $5,000,000 is for Children of Incarcerated Parents Demonstrations to enhance and maintain parental and family relationships for incarcerated parents as a reentry or recidivism reduction strategy: *Provided*, That up to $15,000,000 of funds made available in this paragraph may be used for performance-based awards for Pay for Success projects, of which up to $10,000,000 shall be for Pay for Success programs implementing the Permanent Supportive Housing Model;

(23) $5,000,000 for a veterans treatment courts program;

(24) $7,000,000 for a program to monitor prescription drugs and scheduled listed chemical products;

(25) $2,000,000 to operate a National Center for Campus Public Safety;

(26) $22,000,000 for a justice reinvestment initiative, for activities related to criminal justice reform and recidivism reduction;

(27) $4,000,000 for additional replication sites employing the Project HOPE Opportunity Probation with Enforcement model implementing swift and certain sanctions in probation, and for a research project on the effectiveness of the model;

(28) $12,500,000 for the Office of Victims of Crime for supplemental victims' services and other victim-related programs and initiatives, including research and statistics, and for tribal assistance for victims of violence; and

(29) $75,000,000 for the Comprehensive School Safety Initiative, described in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided*, That section 213 of this Act shall not apply with respect to the amount made available in this paragraph:

Provided, That, if a unit of local government uses any of the funds made available under this heading to increase the number of law enforcement officers, the unit of local government will achieve a net gain in the number of law enforcement officers who perform non-administrative public sector safety service.

JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS

For grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other assistance authorized by the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (''the 1974 Act''); the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (''the 1968 Act''); the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–162) (''the 2005 Act''); the Missing Children's Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5771 et seq.); the Prosecutorial Remedies and Other Tools to end the Exploitation of Children Today Act of 2003 (Public Law 108–21); the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–647) (''the 1990 Act''); the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–248) (''the Adam Walsh Act''); the PROTECT Our Children Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–401); the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (Public Law 113–4) (''the 2013 Act''); and other juvenile justice programs, $257,500,000, to remain available until expended as follows—

(1) $61,500,000 for programs authorized by section 221 of the 1974 Act, and for training and technical assistance to assist small, nonprofit organizations with the Federal grants process: *Provided*, That of the amounts provided under this paragraph, $500,000 shall be for a competitive demonstration grant program to support emergency planning among State, local and tribal juvenile justice residential facilities;

(2) $53,000,000 for youth mentoring grants;

(3) $37,000,000 for delinquency prevention, as authorized by section 505 of the 1974 Act, of which, pursuant to sections 261 and 262 thereof—

(A) $5,000,000 shall be for the Tribal Youth Program;

(B) $3,000,000 shall be for gang and youth violence education, prevention and intervention, and related activities;

(C) $1,000,000 shall be for programs and activities to enforce State laws prohibiting the sale of alcoholic beverages to minors or the purchase or consumption of alcoholic beverages by minors, for prevention and reduction of consumption of alcoholic beverages by minors, and for technical assistance and training; and

(D) $8,000,000 shall be for competitive grants to police and juvenile justice authorities in communities that have been awarded Department of Education School Climate Transformation Grants to collaborate on use of evidence-based positive behavior strategies to increase school safety and reduce juvenile arrests;

(4) $19,000,000 for programs authorized by the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990;

(5) $11,000,000 for community-based violence prevention initiatives, including for public health approaches to reducing shootings and violence;

(6) $68,000,000 for missing and exploited children programs, including as authorized by sections 404(b) and 405(a) of the 1974 Act (except that section 102(b)(4)(B) of the PROTECT Our Children Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–401) shall not apply for purposes of this Act);

(7) $1,500,000 for child abuse training programs for judicial personnel and practitioners, as authorized by section 222 of the 1990 Act;

(8) $1,000,000 for grants and technical assistance in support of the National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention;

(9) $500,000 for an Internet site providing information and resources on children of incarcerated parents;

(10) $2,000,000 for competitive grants focusing on girls in the juvenile justice system; and

(11) $3,000,000 for a program to improve juvenile indigent defense:

Provided, That not more than 10 percent of each amount may be used for research, evaluation, and statistics activities designed to benefit the programs or activities authorized: *Provided further*, That not more than 2 percent of the amounts designated under paragraphs (1) through (6) may be used for training and technical assistance: *Provided further*, That the previous two provisos shall not apply to grants and projects authorized by sections 261 and 262 of the 1974 Act and to missing and exploited children programs.

PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER BENEFITS

For payments and expenses authorized under section 1001(a)(4) of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, such sums as are necessary (including amounts for administrative costs), to remain available until expended; and $16,300,000 for payments authorized by section 1201(b) of such Act and for educational assistance authorized by section 1218 of such Act, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 205 of this Act, upon a determination by the Attorney General that emergent circumstances require additional funding for such disability and education payments, the Attorney General may transfer such amounts to ''Public Safety Officer Benefits'' from available appropriations for the Department of Justice as may be necessary to respond to such circumstances: *Provided further*, That any transfer pursuant to the previous proviso shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES PROGRAMS

For activities authorized by the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–322); the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (''the 1968 Act''); and the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–162) (''the 2005 Act''), $224,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That any balances made available through prior year deobligations shall only be available in accordance with section 505 of this Act: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided under this heading—

(1) $7,000,000 is for anti-methamphetamine-related activities, which shall be transferred to the Drug Enforcement Administration upon enactment of this Act;

(2) $16,500,000 is for improving tribal law enforcement, including hiring, equipment, training, and anti-methamphetamine activities;

(3) $180,500,000 is for grants under section 1701 of title I of the 1968 Act (42 U.S.C. 3796dd) for the hiring and rehiring of additional career law enforcement officers under part Q of such title notwithstanding subsection (i) of such section: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding subsection (g) of the 1968 Act (42 U.S.C. 3796dd), the Federal share of the costs of a project funded by such grants may not exceed 75 percent unless the Director of the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services waives, wholly or in part, the requirement of a non-Federal contribution to the costs of a project: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding section 1704(c) of such title (42 U.S.C. 3796dd–3(c)), funding for hiring or rehiring a career law enforcement officer may not exceed $125,000 unless the Director of the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services grants a waiver from this limitation: *Provided further*, That within the amounts appropriated, $16,500,000 shall be transferred to the Tribal Resources Grant Program: *Provided further*, That of the amounts appropriated under this paragraph, $7,500,000 is for community policing development activities in furtherance of the purposes in section 1701: *Provided further*, That within the amounts appropriated under this paragraph, $5,000,000 is for the collaborative reform model of technical assistance in furtherance of the purposes in section 1701;

(4) $10,000,000 is for competitive grants to State law enforcement agencies in States with high seizures of precursor chemicals, finished methamphetamine, laboratories, and laboratory dump seizures: *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this paragraph shall be utilized for investigative purposes to locate or investigate illicit activities, including precursor diversion, laboratories, or methamphetamine traffickers; and

(5) $10,000,000 is for competitive grants to statewide law enforcement agencies in states with high rates of primary treatment admissions for heroin and other opioids: *Provided*, That these funds shall be utilized for investigative purposes to locate or investigate illicit activities, including activities related to the distribution of heroin or unlawful distribution of prescription opioids, or unlawful heroin and prescription opioid traffickers through statewide collaboration.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SEC. 201. In addition to amounts otherwise made available in this title for official reception and representation expenses, a total of not to exceed $50,000 from funds appropriated to the Department of Justice in this title shall be available to the Attorney General for official reception and representation expenses.

SEC. 202. None of the funds appropriated by this title shall be available to pay for an abortion, except where the life of the mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to term, or in the case of rape: *Provided*, That should this prohibition be declared unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, this section shall be null and void.

SEC. 203. None of the funds appropriated under this title shall be used to require any person to perform, or facilitate in any way the performance of, any abortion.

SEC. 204. Nothing in the preceding section shall remove the obligation of the Director of the Bureau of Prisons to provide escort services necessary for a female inmate to receive such service outside the Federal facility: *Provided*, That nothing in this section in any way diminishes the effect of section 203 intended to address the philosophical beliefs of individual employees of the Bureau of Prisons.

SEC. 205. Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the Department of Justice in this Act may be transferred between such appropriations, but no such appropriation, except as otherwise specifically provided, shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers: *Provided*, That any transfer pursuant to this section shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

SEC. 206. The Attorney General is authorized to extend through September 30, 2014, the Personnel Management Demonstration Project transferred to the Attorney General pursuant to section 1115 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–296; 28 U.S.C. 599B) without limitation on the number of employees or the positions covered.

SEC. 207. None of the funds made available under this title may be used by the Federal Bureau of Prisons or the United States Marshals Service for the purpose of transporting an individual who is a prisoner pursuant to conviction for crime under State or Federal law and is classified as a maximum or high security prisoner, other than to a prison or other facility certified by the Federal Bureau of Prisons as appropriately secure for housing such a prisoner.

SEC. 208. (a) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used by Federal prisons to purchase cable television services, or to rent or purchase audiovisual or electronic media or equipment used primarily for recreational purposes.

(b) Subsection (a) does not preclude the rental, maintenance, or purchase of audiovisual or electronic media or equipment for inmate training, religious, or educational programs.

SEC. 209. None of the funds made available under this title shall be obligated or expended for any new or enhanced information technology program having total estimated development costs in excess of $100,000,000, unless the Deputy Attorney General and the investment review board certify to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate that the information technology program has appropriate program management controls and contractor oversight mechanisms in place, and that the program is compatible with the enterprise architecture of the Department of Justice.

SEC. 210. The notification thresholds and procedures set forth in section 505 of this Act shall apply to deviations from the amounts designated for specific activities in this Act and in the accompanying report, and to any use of deobligated balances of funds provided under this title in previous years.

SEC. 211. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to plan for, begin, continue, finish, process, or approve a public-private competition under the Office of Management and Budget Circular A–76 or any successor administrative regulation, directive, or policy for work performed by employees of the Bureau of Prisons or of Federal Prison Industries, Incorporated.

SEC. 212. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no funds shall be available for the salary, benefits, or expenses of any United States Attorney assigned dual or additional responsibilities by the Attorney General or his designee that exempt that United States Attorney from the residency requirements of section 545 of title 28, United States Code.

SEC. 213. At the discretion of the Attorney General, and in addition to any amounts that otherwise may be available (or authorized to be made available) by law, with respect to funds appropriated by this title under the headings ''Research, Evaluation and Statistics'', ''State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance'', and ''Juvenile Justice Programs''—

(1) up to 3 percent of funds made available to the Office of Justice Programs for grant or reimbursement programs may be used by such Office to provide training and technical assistance;

(2) up to 2 percent of funds made available for grant or reimbursement programs under such headings, except for amounts appropriated specifically for research, evaluation, or statistical programs administered by the National Institute of Justice and the Bureau of Justice Statistics, shall be transferred to and merged with funds provided to the National Institute of Justice and the Bureau of Justice Statistics, to be used by them for research, evaluation, or statistical purposes, without regard to the authorizations for such grant or reimbursement programs; and

(3) up to 5 percent of funds made available for grant or reimbursement programs: (1) under the heading ''State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance''; or (2) under the headings ''Research, Evaluation, and Statistics'' and ''Juvenile Justice Programs'', to be transferred to and merged with funds made available under the heading ''State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance'', shall be available for tribal criminal justice assistance without regard to the authorizations for such grant or reimbursement programs.

SEC. 214. Upon request by a grantee for whom the Attorney General has determined there is a fiscal hardship, the Attorney General may, with respect to funds appropriated in this or any other Act making appropriations for fiscal years 2012 through 2015 for the following programs, waive the following requirements:

(1) For the adult and juvenile offender State and local reentry demonstration projects under part FF of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3797w(g)(1)), the requirements under section 2976(g)(1) of such part.

(2) For State, Tribal, and local reentry courts under part FF of title I of such Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3797w–2(e)(1) and (2)), the requirements under section 2978(e)(1) and (2) of such part.

(3) For the prosecution drug treatment alternatives to prison program under part CC of title I of such Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3797q–3), the requirements under section 2904 of such part.

(4) For grants to protect inmates and safeguard communities as authorized by section 6 of the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (42 U.S.C. 15605(c)(3)), the requirements of section 6(c)(3) of such Act.

SEC. 215. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, section 20109(a) of subtitle A of title II of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13709(a)) shall not apply to amounts made available by this or any other Act.

SEC. 216. None of the funds made available under this Act, other than for the national instant criminal background check system established under section 103 of the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act (18 U.S.C. 922 note), may be used by a Federal law enforcement officer to facilitate the transfer of an operable firearm to an individual if the Federal law enforcement officer knows or suspects that the individual is an agent of a drug cartel, unless law enforcement personnel of the United States continuously monitor or control the firearm at all times.

SEC. 217. No funds provided in this Act shall be used to deny the Inspector General of the Department of Justice timely access to all records, documents, and other materials in the custody or possession of the Department or to prevent or impede the Inspector General's access to such records, documents and other materials, unless in accordance with an express limitation of section 6(a) of the Inspector General Act, as amended, consistent with the plain language of the Inspector General Act, as amended. The Department of Justice shall report to the Committee on Appropriations within five calendar days any failures to comply with this requirement.

SEC. 218. Section 8(e) of Public Law 108–79 (42 U.S.C. 15607(e)) shall not apply to funds appropriated to or administered by the Office on Violence Against Women, to subpart 1 of part E of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, and to section 221 of the Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, including funds appropriated in previous appropriations acts that remain available for obligation.

SEC. 219. Discretionary funds that are made available in this Act for the Office of Justice Programs may be used to participate in Performance Partnership Pilots authorized under section 526 of division H of Public Law 113–76.

SEC. 220. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used in contravention of section 7606 (''Legitimacy of Industrial Hemp Research'') of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–79) by the Department of Justice or the Drug Enforcement Administration.

This title may be cited as the ''Department of Justice Appropriations Act, 2015''.

TITLE III

SCIENCE

OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

For necessary expenses of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, in carrying out the purposes of the National Science and Technology Policy, Organization, and Priorities Act of 1976 (42 U.S.C. 6601 et seq.), hire of passenger motor vehicles, and services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, not to exceed $2,250 for official reception and representation expenses, and rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia, $5,555,000.

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

SCIENCE

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of science research and development activities, including research, development, operations, support, and services; maintenance and repair, facility planning and design; space flight, spacecraft control, and communications activities; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance, and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, $5,200,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That the formulation and development costs (with development cost as defined under section 30104 of title 51, United States Code) for the James Webb Space Telescope shall not exceed $8,000,000,000: *Provided further*, That should the individual identified under subsection (c)(2)(E) of section 30104 of title 51, United States Code, as responsible for the James Webb Space Telescope determine that the development cost of the program is likely to exceed that limitation, the individual shall immediately notify the Administrator and the increase shall be treated as if it meets the 30 percent threshold described in subsection (f) of section 30104.

AERONAUTICS

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of aeronautics research and development activities, including research, development, operations, support, and services; maintenance and repair, facility planning and design; space flight, spacecraft control, and communications activities; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance, and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, $551,100,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

SPACE TECHNOLOGY

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of space research and technology development activities, including research, development, operations, support, and services; maintenance and repair, facility planning and design; space flight, spacecraft control, and communications activities; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance, and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, $580,200,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

EXPLORATION

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of exploration research and development activities, including research, development, operations, support, and services; maintenance and repair, facility planning and design; space flight, spacecraft control, and communications activities; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance, and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, $4,367,700,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That not less than $1,200,000,000 shall be for the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle: *Provided further*, That not less than $2,051,300,000 shall be for the Space Launch System, which shall have a lift capability not less than 130 metric tons and which shall have an upper stage and other core elements developed simultaneously: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available for the Space Launch System, $1,700,000,000 shall be for launch vehicle development and $351,300,000 shall be for exploration ground systems: *Provided further*, That hereafter NASA shall provide for the Space Launch System and Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle, concurrent with the annual budget submission, 5 year budget profiles and projections that adhere to the 70 percent Joint Confidence Level [JCL]: *Provided further*, That any JCL approved by the NASA Administrator that is less than 70 percent for the Space Launch System and Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle shall be justified and documented, and that the NASA Administrator shall still provide concurrently with the annual budget submission the full cost estimates for both programs to achieve a 70 percent JCL: *Provided further*, That in no case shall the JCL of the Space Launch System or the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle be less than the guidance outlined in NASA Procedural Requirements 7120.5E: *Provided further*, That funds made available for the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle and Space Launch System are in addition to funds provided for these programs under the

''Construction and Environmental Compliance and Restoration'' heading: *Provided further*, That $805,000,000 shall be for commercial spaceflight activities: *Provided further*, That $311,400,000 shall be for exploration research and development.

SPACE OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of space operations research and development activities, including research, development, operations, support and services; space flight, spacecraft control and communications activities, including operations, production, and services; maintenance and repair, facility planning and design; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, $3,830,800,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

EDUCATION

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in carrying out aerospace and aeronautical education research and development activities, including research, development, operations, support, and services; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance, and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, $108,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, of which $18,000,000 shall be for the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research and $40,000,000 shall be for the National Space Grant College program.

CROSS AGENCY SUPPORT

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of science, aeronautics, exploration, space operations and education research and development activities, including research, development, operations, support, and services; maintenance and repair, facility planning and design; space flight, spacecraft control, and communications activities; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; not to exceed $63,000 for official reception and representation expenses; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance, and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, $2,778,600,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

CONSTRUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND RESTORATION

For necessary expenses for construction of facilities including repair, rehabilitation, revitalization, and modification of facilities, construction of new facilities and additions to existing facilities, facility planning and design, and restoration, and acquisition or condemnation of real property, as authorized by law, and environmental compliance and restoration, $446,100,000, to remain available until September 30, 2020: *Provided*, That proceeds from leases deposited into this account shall be available for a period of 5 years to the extent and in amounts as provided in annual appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That such proceeds referred to in the preceding proviso shall be available for obligation for fiscal year 2015 in an amount not to exceed $9,584,100: *Provided further*, That each annual budget request shall include an annual estimate of gross receipts and collections and proposed use of all funds collected pursuant to section 315 of the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958 (51 U.S.C. 20145).

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the Inspector General Act of 1978, $37,500,000, of which $500,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Funds for announced prizes otherwise authorized shall remain available, without fiscal year limitation, until a prize is claimed or the offer is withdrawn.

Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in this Act may be transferred between such appropriations, but no such appropriation, except as otherwise specifically provided, shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers. Balances so transferred shall be merged with and available for the same purposes and the same time period as the appropriations to which transferred. Any transfer pursuant to this provision shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

The spending plan required by this Act shall be provided by NASA at the theme, program, project, and activity level. The spending plan, as well as any subsequent change of an amount established in that spending plan that meets the notification requirements of section 505 of this Act, shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

RESEARCH AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

For necessary expenses in carrying out the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.), and Public Law 86–209 (42 U.S.C. 1880 et seq.); services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code; maintenance and operation of aircraft and purchase of flight services for research support; acquisition of aircraft; and authorized travel; $5,838,690,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, of which not to exceed $520,000,000 shall remain available until expended for polar research and operations support, and for reimbursement to other Federal agencies for operational and science support and logistical and other related activities for the United States Antarctic program: *Provided*, That receipts for scientific support services and materials furnished by the National Research Centers and other National Science Foundation supported research facilities may be credited to this appropriation: *Provided further*, That not less than $159,690,000 shall be available for activities authorized by section 7002(c)(2)(A)(iv) of Public Law 110–69.

MAJOR RESEARCH EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION

For necessary expenses for the acquisition, construction, commissioning, and upgrading of major research equipment, facilities, and other such capital assets pursuant to the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.), including authorized travel, $200,760,000, to remain available until expended.

EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES

For necessary expenses in carrying out science, mathematics and engineering education and human resources programs and activities pursuant to the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.), including services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, authorized travel, and rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia, $889,750,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That not less than $60,890,000 shall be available for activities authorized by section 7030 of Public Law 110–69.

AGENCY OPERATIONS AND AWARD MANAGEMENT

For agency operations and award management necessary in carrying out the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.); services authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code; hire of passenger motor vehicles; uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia; and reimbursement of the Department of Homeland Security for security guard services; $307,000,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed $8,280 is for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That contracts may be entered into under this heading in fiscal year 2014 for maintenance and operation of facilities and for other services to be provided during the next fiscal year.

OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD

For necessary expenses (including payment of salaries, authorized travel, hire of passenger motor vehicles, the rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia, and the employment of experts and consultants under section 3109 of title 5, United States Code) involved in carrying out section 4 of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1863) and Public Law 86–209 (42 U.S.C. 1880 et seq.), $4,370,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed $2,500 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General as authorized by the Inspector General Act of 1978, $14,430,000, of which $400,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the National Science Foundation in this Act may be transferred between such appropriations, but no such appropriation shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers. Any transfer pursuant to this section shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

This title may be cited as the ''Science Appropriations Act, 2015''.

TITLE IV

RELATED AGENCIES

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Commission on Civil Rights, including hire of passenger motor vehicles, $9,400,000: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated in this paragraph shall be used to employ in excess of four full-time individuals under Schedule C of the Excepted Service exclusive of one special assistant for each Commissioner: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated in this paragraph shall be used to reimburse Commissioners for more than 75 billable days, with the exception of the chairperson, who is permitted 125 billable days: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated in this paragraph shall be used

for any activity or expense that is not explicitly authorized by section 3 of the Civil Rights Commission Act of 1983 (42 U.S.C. 1975a).

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission as authorized by title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, the Equal Pay Act of 1963, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, section 501 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Civil Rights Act of 1991, the Genetic Information Non-Discrimination Act (GINA) of 2008 (Public Law 110–233), the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–325), and the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–2), including services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code; hire of passenger motor vehicles as authorized by section 1343(b) of title 31, United States Code; nonmonetary awards to private citizens; and up to $30,000,000 for payments to State and local enforcement agencies for authorized services to the Commission, $365,000,000: *Provided*, That the Commission is authorized to make available for official reception and representation expenses not to exceed $2,250 from available funds: *Provided further*, That the Commission may take no action to implement any workforce repositioning, restructuring, or reorganization until such time as the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate have been notified of such proposals, in accordance with the reprogramming requirements of section 505 of this Act: *Provided further*, That the Chair is authorized to accept and use any gift or donation to carry out the work of the Commission.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the International Trade Commission, including hire of passenger motor vehicles and services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, and not to exceed $2,250 for official reception and representation expenses, $85,000,000, to remain available until expended.

LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

PAYMENT TO THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

For payment to the Legal Services Corporation to carry out the purposes of the Legal Services Corporation Act of 1974, $400,000,000, of which $367,000,000 is for basic field programs and required independent audits; $4,000,000 is for the Office of Inspector General, of which such amounts as may be necessary may be used to conduct additional audits of recipients; $19,000,000 is for management and grants oversight; $4,000,000 is for client self-help and information technology; $5,000,000 is for a Pro Bono Innovation Fund; and $1,000,000 is for loan repayment assistance: *Provided*, That the Legal Services Corporation may continue to provide locality pay to officers and employees at a rate no greater than that provided by the Federal Government to Washington, DC-based employees as authorized by section 5304 of title 5, United States Code, notwithstanding section 1005(d) of the Legal Services Corporation Act (42 U.S.C. 2996(d)): *Provided further*, That the authorities provided in section 205 of this Act shall be applicable to the Legal Services Corporation: *Provided further*, That, for the purposes of section 505 of this Act, the Legal Services Corporation shall be considered an agency of the United States Government.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION—LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

None of the funds appropriated in this Act to the Legal Services Corporation shall be expended for any purpose prohibited or limited by, or contrary to any of the provisions of, sections 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, and 506 of Public Law 105–119, and all funds appropriated in this Act to the Legal Services Corporation shall be subject to the same terms and conditions set forth in such sections, except that all references in sections 502 and 503 to 1997 and 1998 shall be deemed to refer instead to 2014 and 2015, respectively.

Section 504 of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996 (as contained in Public Law 104–134) is amended:

(1) in subsection (a), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting after ''(''' the following: ''that uses Federal funds (or funds from any source with regard to paragraphs (7), (14) and (15)) in a manner'';

(2) by striking subsection (d); and

(3) by redesignating subsections (e) and (f) as subsections (d) and (e), respectively.

MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Marine Mammal Commission as authorized by title II of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361 et seq.), $3,431,000.

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of the United States Trade Representative, including the hire of passenger motor vehicles and the employment of experts and consultants as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, $55,000,000, of which $1,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That not to exceed $124,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

STATE JUSTICE INSTITUTE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the State Justice Institute, as authorized by the State Justice Institute Authorization Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10701 et seq.) $5,121,000, of which $500,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That not to exceed $2,250 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That, for the purposes of section 505 of this Act, the State Justice Institute shall be considered an agency of the United States Government.

TITLE V

GENERAL PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

SEC. 501. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be used for publicity or propaganda purposes not authorized by the Congress.

SEC. 502. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 503. The expenditure of any appropriation under this Act for any consulting service through procurement contract, pursuant to section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except where otherwise provided under existing law, or under existing Executive order issued pursuant to existing law.

SEC. 504. If any provision of this Act or the application of such provision to any person or circumstances shall be held invalid, the remainder of the Act and the application of each provision to persons or circumstances other than those as to which it is held invalid shall not be affected thereby.

SEC. 505. None of the funds provided under this Act, or provided under previous appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2015, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that: (1) creates or initiates a new program, project or activity; (2) eliminates a program, project or activity; (3) increases funds or personnel by any means for any project or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted; (4) relocates an office or employees; (5) reorganizes or renames offices, programs or activities; (6) contracts out or privatizes any functions or activities presently performed by Federal employees; (7) augments existing programs, projects or activities in excess of $500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, or reduces by 10 percent funding for any program, project or activity, or numbers of personnel by 10 percent; or (8) results from any general savings, including savings from a reduction in personnel, which would result in a change in existing programs, projects or activities as approved by Congress; unless the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations are notified 15 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds.

SEC. 506. (a) If it has been finally determined by a court or Federal agency that any person intentionally affixed a label bearing a ''Made in America'' inscription, or any inscription with the same meaning, to any product sold in or shipped to the United States that is not made in the United States, the person shall be ineligible to receive any contract or subcontract made with funds made available in this Act, pursuant to the debarment, suspension, and ineligibility procedures described in sections 9.400 through 9.409 of title 48, Code of Federal Regulations.

(b)(1) To the extent practicable, with respect to authorized purchases of promotional items, funds made available by this Act shall be used to purchase items that are manufactured, produced, or assembled in the United States, its territories or possessions.

(2) The term ''promotional items'' has the meaning given the term in OMB Circular A–87, Attachment B, Item (1)(f)(3).

SEC. 507. (a) The Departments of Commerce and Justice, the National Science Foundation, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a quarterly report on the status of balances of appropriations at the account level. For unobligated, uncommitted balances and unobligated, committed balances the quarterly reports shall separately identify the amounts attributable to each source year of appropriation from which the balances were derived. For balances that are obligated, but unexpended, the quarterly reports shall separately identify amounts by the year of obligation.

(b) The report described in subsection (a) shall be submitted within 30 days of the end of the first quarter of fiscal year 2015, and subsequent reports shall be submitted within 30 days of the end of each quarter thereafter.

(c) If a department or agency is unable to fulfill any aspect of a reporting requirement described in subsection (a) due to a limitation of a current accounting system, the department or agency shall fulfill such aspect to the maximum extent practicable under such accounting system and shall identify

and describe in each quarterly report the extent to which such aspect is not fulfilled.

SEC. 508. Any costs incurred by a department or agency funded under this Act resulting from, or to prevent, personnel actions taken in response to funding reductions included in this Act shall be absorbed within the total budgetary resources available to such department or agency: *Provided*, That the authority to transfer funds between appropriations accounts as may be necessary to carry out this section is provided in addition to authorities included elsewhere in this Act: *Provided further*, That use of funds to carry out this section shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section: *Provided further*, That for the Department of Commerce, this section shall also apply to actions taken for the care and protection of loan collateral or grant property.

SEC. 509. None of the funds provided by this Act shall be available to promote the sale or export of tobacco or tobacco products, or to seek the reduction or removal by any foreign country of restrictions on the marketing of tobacco or tobacco products, except for restrictions which are not applied equally to all tobacco or tobacco products of the same type.

SEC. 510. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, amounts deposited or available in the Fund established by section 1402 of chapter XIV of title II of Public Law 98–473 (42 U.S.C. 10601) in any fiscal year in excess of $775,000,000 shall not be available for obligation until the following fiscal year.

SEC. 511. None of the funds made available to the Department of Justice in this Act may be used to discriminate against or denigrate the religious or moral beliefs of students who participate in programs for which financial assistance is provided from those funds, or of the parents or legal guardians of such students.

SEC. 512. None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriations Act.

SEC. 513. Any funds provided in this Act used to implement E-Government Initiatives shall be subject to the procedures set forth in section 505 of this Act.

SEC. 514. (a) The Inspectors General of the Department of Commerce, the Department of Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Science Foundation, and the Legal Services Corporation shall conduct audits, pursuant to the Inspector General Act (5 U.S.C. App.), of grants or contracts for which funds are appropriated by this Act, and shall submit reports to Congress on the progress of such audits, which may include preliminary findings and a description of areas of particular interest, within 180 days after initiating such an audit and every 180 days thereafter until any such audit is completed.

(b) Within 60 days after the date on which an audit described in subsection (a) by an Inspector General is completed, the Secretary, Attorney General, Administrator, Director, or President, as appropriate, shall make the results of the audit available to the public on the Internet website maintained by the Department, Administration, Foundation, or Corporation, respectively. The results shall be made available in redacted form to exclude—

(1) any matter described in section 552(b) of title 5, United States Code; and

(2) sensitive personal information for any individual, the public access to which could be used to commit identity theft or for other inappropriate or unlawful purposes.

(c) Any person awarded a grant or contract funded by amounts appropriated by this Act shall submit a statement to the Secretary of Commerce, the Attorney General, the Administrator, Director, or President, as appropriate, certifying that no funds derived from the grant or contract will be made available through a subcontract or in any other manner to another person who has a financial interest in the person awarded the grant or contract.

(d) The provisions of the preceding subsections of this section shall take effect 30 days after the date on which the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Government Ethics, determines that a uniform set of rules and requirements, substantially similar to the requirements in such subsections, consistently apply under the executive branch ethics program to all Federal departments, agencies, and entities.

SEC. 515. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act may be used by the Departments of Commerce and Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, or the National Science Foundation to acquire a high-impact information system, as defined for security categorization in the National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST) Federal Information Processing Standard Publication 199, ''Standards for Security Categorization of Federal Information and Information Systems'' unless the agency has—

(1) reviewed the supply chain risk for the information systems against criteria developed by NIST to inform acquisition decisions for high-impact information systems within the Federal Government and against international standards and guidelines, including those developed by NIST;

(2) reviewed the supply chain risk from the presumptive awardee against available and relevant threat information provided by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and other appropriate agencies; and

(3) developed, in consultation with NIST and supply chain risk management experts, a mitigation strategy for any identified risks.

SEC. 516. None of the funds made available in this Act shall be used in any way whatsoever to support or justify the use of torture by any official or contract employee of the United States Government.

SEC. 517. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law or treaty, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act or any other Act may be expended or obligated by a department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States to pay administrative expenses or to compensate an officer or employee of the United States in connection with requiring an export license for the export to Canada of components, parts, accessories or attachments for firearms listed in Category I, section 121.1 of title 22, Code of Federal Regulations (International Trafficking in Arms Regulations (ITAR), part 121, as it existed on April 1, 2005) with a total value not exceeding $500 wholesale in any transaction, provided that the conditions of subsection (b) of this section are met by the exporting party for such articles.

(b) The foregoing exemption from obtaining an export license—

(1) does not exempt an exporter from filing any Shipper's Export Declaration or notification letter required by law, or from being otherwise eligible under the laws of the United States to possess, ship, transport, or export the articles enumerated in subsection (a); and

(2) does not permit the export without a license of—

(A) fully automatic firearms and components and parts for such firearms, other than for end use by the Federal Government, or a Provincial or Municipal Government of Canada;

(B) barrels, cylinders, receivers (frames) or complete breech mechanisms for any firearm listed in Category I, other than for end use by the Federal Government, or a Provincial or Municipal Government of Canada; or

(C) articles for export from Canada to another foreign destination.

(c) In accordance with this section, the District Directors of Customs and postmasters shall permit the permanent or temporary export without a license of any unclassified articles specified in subsection (a) to Canada for end use in Canada or return to the United States, or temporary import of Canadian-origin items from Canada for end use in the United States or return to Canada for a Canadian citizen.

(d) The President may require export licenses under this section on a temporary basis if the President determines, upon publication first in the Federal Register, that the Government of Canada has implemented or maintained inadequate import controls for the articles specified in subsection (a), such that a significant diversion of such articles has and continues to take place for use in international terrorism or in the escalation of a conflict in another nation. The President shall terminate the requirements of a license when reasons for the temporary requirements have ceased.

SEC. 518. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States receiving appropriated funds under this Act or any other Act shall obligate or expend in any way such funds to pay administrative expenses or the compensation of any officer or employee of the United States to deny any application submitted pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2778(b)(1)(B) and qualified pursuant to 27 CFR section 478.112 or .113, for a permit to import United States origin ''curios or relics'' firearms, parts, or ammunition.

SEC. 519. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to include in any new bilateral or multilateral trade agreement the text of—

(1) paragraph 2 of article 16.7 of the United States-Singapore Free Trade Agreement;

(2) paragraph 4 of article 17.9 of the United States-Australia Free Trade Agreement; or

(3) paragraph 4 of article 15.9 of the United States-Morocco Free Trade Agreement.

SEC. 520. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to authorize or issue a national security letter in contravention of any of the following laws authorizing the Federal Bureau of Investigation to issue national security letters: The Right to Financial Privacy Act; The Electronic Communications Privacy Act; The Fair Credit Reporting Act; The National Security Act of 1947; USA PATRIOT Act; and the laws amended by these Acts.

SEC. 521. If at any time during any quarter, the program manager of a project within the jurisdiction of the Departments of Commerce or Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, or the National Science Foundation totaling more than $75,000,000 has reasonable cause to believe that the total program cost has increased by 10 percent, the program manager shall immediately inform the respective Secretary, Administrator, or Director. The Secretary, Administrator, or Director shall notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 30 days in writing of such increase, and shall include in such notice: the date on which such determination was made; a statement of the reasons for such increases; the action taken and proposed to be

taken to control future cost growth of the project; changes made in the performance or schedule milestones and the degree to which such changes have contributed to the increase in total program costs or procurement costs; new estimates of the total project or procurement costs; and a statement validating that the project's management structure is adequate to control total project or procurement costs.

SEC. 522. Funds appropriated by this Act, or made available by the transfer of funds in this Act, for intelligence or intelligence related activities are deemed to be specifically authorized by the Congress for purposes of section 504 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 414) during fiscal year 2015 until the enactment of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015.

SEC. 523. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to enter into a contract in an amount greater than $5,000,000 or to award a grant in excess of such amount unless the prospective contractor or grantee certifies in writing to the agency awarding the contract or grant that, to the best of its knowledge and belief, the contractor or grantee has filed all Federal tax returns required during the three years preceding the certification, has not been convicted of a criminal offense under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and has not, more than 90 days prior to certification, been notified of any unpaid Federal tax assessment for which the liability remains unsatisfied, unless the assessment is the subject of an installment agreement or offer in compromise that has been approved by the Internal Revenue Service and is not in default, or the assessment is the subject of a non-frivolous administrative or judicial proceeding.

(RESCISSIONS)

SEC. 524. (a) Of the unobligated balances available for ''Department of Commerce, Departmental Management, Franchise Fund'', $2,906,000 are hereby rescinded.

(b) Of the unobligated balances available to the Department of Justice, the following funds are hereby rescinded, not later than September 30, 2015, from the following accounts in the specified amounts—

(1) ''Working Capital Fund'', $54,000,000;

(2) ''Legal Activities, Assets Forfeiture Fund'', $193,000,000;

(3) ''United States Marshals Service, Federal Prisoner Detention'', $122,000,000;

(4) ''State and Local Law Enforcement Activities, Office on Violence Against Women, Violence Against Women Prevention and Prosecution Programs'', $12,200,000;

(5) ''State and Local Law Enforcement Activities, Office of Justice Programs'', $59,000,000; and

(6) ''State and Local Law Enforcement Activities, Community Oriented Policing Services'', $26,000,000.

(c) The Department of Justice shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report no later than September 1, 2015, specifying the amount of each rescission made pursuant to subsection (b).

SEC. 525. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to purchase first class or premium airline travel in contravention of sections 301–10.122 through 301–10.124 of title 41 of the Code of Federal Regulations, and no funds may be used for premium travel consistent with these sections unless the agency or department has filed its premium travel report with the General Services Administration for the previous 3 fiscal years.

SEC. 526. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to send or otherwise pay for the attendance of more than 50 employees from a Federal department or agency at any single conference occurring outside the United States unless such conference is a law enforcement training or operational conference for law enforcement personnel and the majority of Federal employees in attendance are law enforcement personnel stationed outside the United States.

SEC. 527. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act may be used in a manner that is inconsistent with the principal negotiating objective of the United States with respect to trade remedy laws to preserve the ability of the United States—

(1) to enforce vigorously its trade laws, including antidumping, countervailing duty, and safeguard laws;

(2) to avoid agreements that—

(A) lessen the effectiveness of domestic and international disciplines on unfair trade, especially dumping and subsidies; or

(B) lessen the effectiveness of domestic and international safeguard provisions, in order to ensure that United States workers, agricultural producers, and firms can compete fully on fair terms and enjoy the benefits of reciprocal trade concessions; and

(3) to address and remedy market distortions that lead to dumping and subsidization, including overcapacity, cartelization, and market-access barriers.

SEC. 528. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act may be used to transfer, release, or assist in the transfer or release to or within the United States, its territories, or possessions Khalid Sheikh Mohammed or any other detainee who—

(1) is not a United States citizen or a member of the Armed Forces of the United States; and

(2) is or was held on or after June 24, 2009, at the United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, by the Department of Defense.

SEC. 529. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act may be used to construct, acquire, or modify any facility in the United States, its territories, or possessions to house any individual described in subsection (c) for the purposes of detention or imprisonment in the custody or under the effective control of the Department of Defense.

(b) The prohibition in subsection (a) shall not apply to any modification of facilities at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

(c) An individual described in this subsection is any individual who, as of June 24, 2009, is located at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and who—

(1) is not a citizen of the United States or a member of the Armed Forces of the United States; and

(2) is—

(A) in the custody or under the effective control of the Department of Defense; or

(B) otherwise under detention at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

SEC. 530. To the extent practicable, funds made available in this Act should be used to purchase light bulbs that are ''Energy Star'' qualified or have the ''Federal Energy Management Program'' designation.

SEC. 531. The Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall instruct any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States receiving funds appropriated under this Act to track undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts and include in its annual performance plan and performance and accountability reports the following:

(1) Details on future action the department, agency, or instrumentality will take to resolve undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts.

(2) The method that the department, agency, or instrumentality uses to track undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts.

(3) Identification of undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts that may be returned to the Treasury of the United States.

(4) In the preceding 3 fiscal years, details on the total number of expired grant accounts with undisbursed balances (on the first day of each fiscal year) for the department, agency, or instrumentality and the total finances that have not been obligated to a specific project remaining in the accounts.

SEC. 532. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to pay the salaries or expenses of personnel to deny, or fail to act on, an application for the importation of any model of shotgun if—

(1) all other requirements of law with respect to the proposed importation are met; and

(2) no application for the importation of such model of shotgun, in the same configuration, had been denied by the Attorney General prior to January 1, 2011, on the basis that the shotgun was not particularly suitable for or readily adaptable to sporting purposes.

SEC. 533. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities.

SEC. 534. The Departments of Commerce and Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the National Science Foundation shall submit spending plans, signed by the respective department or agency head, to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate within 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 535. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to enter into a contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, make a grant to, or provide a loan or loan guarantee to, any corporation that was convicted of a felony criminal violation under any Federal law within the preceding 24 months, where the awarding agency is aware of the conviction, unless a Federal agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and has made a determination that this further action is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government.

SEC. 536. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to enter into a contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, make a grant to, or provide a loan or loan guarantee to, any corporation that has any unpaid Federal tax liability that has been assessed, for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted or have lapsed, and that is not being paid in a timely manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting the tax liability, where the awarding agency is aware of the unpaid tax liability, unless the agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and has made a determination that this further action is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government.

SEC. 537. All agencies and departments funded under this Act shall send to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate at the end of

the fiscal year a report containing a complete inventory of the total number of vehicles owned, permanently retired, and purchased during fiscal year 2015 as well as the total cost of the vehicle fleet, including maintenance, fuel, storage, purchasing, and leasing.

SEC. 538. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to pay for the painting of a portrait of an officer or employee of the Federal government, including the President, the Vice President, a member of Congress (including a Delegate or a Resident Commissioner to Congress), the head of an executive branch agency (as defined in section 133 of title 41, United States Code), or the head of an office of the legislative branch.

SEC. 539. (a) The head of any Executive branch department, agency, board, commission, or office funded by this Act shall submit annual reports to the Inspector General or senior ethics official for any entity without an Inspector General, regarding the costs and contracting procedures related to each conference held by any such department, agency, board, commission, or office during fiscal year 2015 for which the cost to the United States Government was more than $100,000.

(b) Each report submitted shall include, for each conference described in subsection (a) held during the applicable period—

(1) a description of its purpose;

(2) the number of participants attending;

(3) a detailed statement of the costs to the United States Government, including—

(A) the cost of any food or beverages;

(B) the cost of any audio-visual services;

(C) the cost of employee or contractor travel to and from the conference; and

(D) a discussion of the methodology used to determine which costs relate to the conference; and

(4) a description of the contracting procedures used including—

(A) whether contracts were awarded on a competitive basis; and

(B) a discussion of any cost comparison conducted by the departmental component or office in evaluating potential contractors for the conference.

(c) Within 15 days of the date of a conference held by any Executive branch department, agency, board, commission, or office funded by this Act during fiscal year 2015 for which the cost to the United States Government was more than $20,000, the head of any such department, agency, board, commission, or office shall notify the Inspector General or senior ethics official for any entity without an Inspector General, of the date, location, and number of employees attending such conference.

(d) A grant or contract funded by amounts appropriated by this or any other appropriations Act may not be used for the purpose of defraying the costs of a banquet or conference that is not directly and programmatically related to the purpose for which the grant or contract was awarded, such as a banquet or conference held in connection with planning, training, assessment, review, or other routine purposes related to a project funded by the grant or contract.

(e) None of the funds made available in this or any other appropriations Act may be used for travel and conference activities that are not in compliance with Office of Management and Budget Memorandum M–12–12 dated May 11, 2012.

This Act may be cited as the ''Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015''.

DIVISION B—TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES

The following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Secretary, $108,000,000, of which not to exceed $2,696,000 shall be available for the immediate Office of the Secretary; not to exceed $1,011,000 shall be available for the immediate Office of the Deputy Secretary; not to exceed $19,980,000 shall be available for the Office of the General Counsel; not to exceed $10,300,000 shall be available for the Office of the Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy; not to exceed $12,676,000 shall be available for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs; not to exceed $2,500,000 shall be available for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Governmental Affairs; not to exceed $27,131,000 shall be available for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration; not to exceed $2,000,000 shall be available for the Office of Public Affairs; not to exceed $1,714,000 shall be available for the Office of the Executive Secretariat; not to exceed $1,414,000 shall be available for the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization; not to exceed $10,778,000 shall be available for the Office of Intelligence, Security, and Emergency Response; and not to exceed $15,800,000 shall be available for the Office of the Chief Information Officer: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Transportation is authorized to transfer funds appropriated for any office of the Office of the Secretary to any other office of the Office of the Secretary: *Provided further*, That no appropriation for any office shall be increased or decreased by more than 5 percent by all such transfers: *Provided further*, That notice of any change in funding greater than 5 percent shall be submitted for approval to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $60,000 shall be for allocation within the Department for official reception and representation expenses as the Secretary may determine: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, excluding fees authorized in Public Law 107–71, there may be credited to this appropriation up to $2,500,000 in funds received in user fees: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided in this Act shall be available for the position of Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs.

RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

For necessary expenses related to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology, $13,500,000, of which $8,218,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That there may be credited to this appropriation, to be available until expended, funds received from States, counties, municipalities, other public authorities, and private sources for expenses incurred for training: *Provided further*, That any reference in law, regulation, judicial proceedings, or elsewhere to the Research and Innovative Technology Administration shall be deemed to be a reference to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology of the Department of Transportation.

NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS

For capital investments in surface transportation infrastructure, $550,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Transportation shall distribute funds provided under this heading as discretionary grants to be awarded to a State, local government, transit agency, or a collaboration among such entities on a competitive basis for projects that will have a significant impact on the Nation, a metropolitan area, or a region: *Provided further*, That projects eligible for funding provided under this heading shall include, but not be limited to, highway or bridge projects eligible under title 23, United States Code; public transportation projects eligible under chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code; passenger and freight rail transportation projects; and port infrastructure investments (including inland port infrastructure): *Provided further*, That the Secretary may use up to 35 percent of the funds made available under this heading for the purpose of paying the subsidy and administrative costs of projects eligible for Federal credit assistance under chapter 6 of title 23, United States Code, if the Secretary finds that such use of the funds would advance the purposes of this paragraph: *Provided further*, That in distributing funds provided under this heading, the Secretary shall take such measures so as to ensure an equitable geographic distribution of funds, an appropriate balance in addressing the needs of urban and rural areas, and the investment in a variety of transportation modes: *Provided further*, That a grant funded under this heading shall be not less than $10,000,000 and not greater than $200,000,000: *Provided further*, That not more than 25 percent of the funds made available under this heading may be awarded to projects in a single State: *Provided further*, That the Federal share of the costs for which an expenditure is made under this heading shall be, at the option of the recipient, up to 80 percent: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall give priority to projects that require a contribution of Federal funds in order to complete an overall financing package: *Provided further*, That not less than 20 percent of the funds provided under this heading shall be for projects located in rural areas: *Provided further*, That for projects located in rural areas, the minimum grant size shall be $1,000,000 and the Secretary may increase the Federal share of costs above 80 percent: *Provided further*, That of the amount made available under this heading, the Secretary may use an amount not to exceed $35,000,000 for the planning, preparation or design of projects eligible for funding under this heading: *Provided further*, That grants awarded under the previous proviso shall not be subject to a minimum grant size: *Provided further*, That projects conducted using funds provided under this heading must comply with the requirements of subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall conduct a new competition to select the grants and credit assistance awarded under this heading: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may retain up to $20,000,000 of the funds provided under this heading, and may transfer portions of those funds to the Administrators of the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, the Federal Railroad Administration and the Federal Maritime Administration, to fund the award and oversight of grants and credit assistance made under the National Infrastructure Investments program.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT CAPITAL

For necessary expenses for upgrading and enhancing the Department of Transportation's financial systems and re-engineering business processes, $5,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2016.

CYBER SECURITY INITIATIVES

For necessary expenses for cyber security initiatives, including necessary upgrades to wide area network and information technology infrastructure, improvement of network perimeter controls and identity management, testing and assessment of information technology against business, security, and other requirements, implementation of Federal cyber security initiatives and information infrastructure enhancements, implementation of enhanced security controls on network devices, and enhancement of cyber security workforce training tools, $5,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2016.

OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Civil Rights, $9,600,000.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING, RESEARCH, AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses for conducting transportation planning, research, systems development, development activities, and making grants, to remain available until expended, $6,000,000.

WORKING CAPITAL FUND

For necessary expenses for operating costs and capital outlays of the Working Capital Fund, not to exceed $182,000,000 shall be paid from appropriations made available to the Department of Transportation: *Provided*, That such services shall be provided on a competitive basis to entities within the Department of Transportation: *Provided further*, That the above limitation on operating expenses shall not apply to non-DOT entities: *Provided further*, That no funds appropriated in this Act to an agency of the Department shall be transferred to the Working Capital Fund without majority approval of the Working Capital Fund Steering Committee and approval of the Secretary: *Provided further*, That no assessments may be levied against any program, budget activity, subactivity or project funded by this Act unless notice of such assessments and the basis therefor are presented to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and are approved by such Committees.

MINORITY BUSINESS RESOURCE CENTER PROGRAM

For the cost of guaranteed loans, $333,000, as authorized by 49 U.S.C. 332: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That these funds are available to subsidize total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, not to exceed $18,367,000.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the guaranteed loan program, $592,000.

MINORITY BUSINESS OUTREACH

For necessary expenses of Minority Business Resource Center outreach activities, $3,099,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That notwithstanding 49 U.S.C. 332, these funds may be used for business opportunities related to any mode of transportation.

PAYMENTS TO AIR CARRIERS

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

In addition to funds made available from any other source to carry out the essential air service program under 49 U.S.C. 41731 through 41742, $155,000,000, to be derived from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That in determining between or among carriers competing to provide service to a community, the Secretary may consider the relative subsidy requirements of the carriers: *Provided further*, That basic essential air service minimum requirements shall not include the 15-passenger capacity requirement under subsection 41732(b)(3) of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That none of the funds in this Act or any other Act shall be used to enter into a new contract with a community located less than 40 miles from the nearest small hub airport before the Secretary has negotiated with the community over a local cost share.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

SEC. 101. None of the funds made available in this Act to the Department of Transportation may be obligated for the Office of the Secretary of Transportation to approve assessments or reimbursable agreements pertaining to funds appropriated to the modal administrations in this Act, except for activities underway on the date of enactment of this Act, unless such assessments or agreements have completed the normal reprogramming process for Congressional notification.

SEC. 102. The Secretary or his designee may engage in activities with States and State legislators to consider proposals related to the reduction of motorcycle fatalities.

SEC. 103. Notwithstanding section 3324 of title 31, United States Code, in addition to authority provided by section 327 of title 49, United States Code, the Department's Working Capital Fund is hereby authorized to provide payments in advance to vendors that are necessary to carry out the Federal transit pass transportation fringe benefit program under Executive Order 13150 and section 3049 of Public Law 109–59: *Provided*, That the Department shall include adequate safeguards in the contract with the vendors to ensure timely and high-quality performance under the contract.

SEC. 104. The Secretary shall post on the Web site of the Department of Transportation a schedule of all meetings of the Credit Council, including the agenda for each meeting, and require the Credit Council to record the decisions and actions of each meeting.

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

For necessary expenses of the Federal Aviation Administration, not otherwise provided for, including operations and research activities related to commercial space transportation, administrative expenses for research and development, establishment of air navigation facilities, the operation (including leasing) and maintenance of aircraft, subsidizing the cost of aeronautical charts and maps sold to the public, lease or purchase of passenger motor vehicles for replacement only, in addition to amounts made available by Public Law 108–176, $9,750,000,000, of which $8,595,000,000 shall be derived from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, of which not to exceed $7,396,654,000 shall be available for air traffic organization activities; not to exceed $1,215,458,000 shall be available for aviation safety activities; not to exceed $16,605,000 shall be available for commercial space transportation activities; not to exceed $765,047,000 shall be available for finance and management activities; not to exceed $60,089,000 shall be available for NextGen and operations planning activities; and not to exceed $296,147,000 shall be available for staff offices: *Provided*, That not to exceed 2 percent of any budget activity, except for aviation safety budget activity, may be transferred to any budget activity under this heading: *Provided further*, That no transfer may increase or decrease any appropriation by more than 2 percent: *Provided further*, That any transfer in excess of 2 percent shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 405 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section: *Provided further*, That not later than March 31 of each fiscal year hereafter, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall transmit to Congress an annual update to the report submitted to Congress in December 2004 pursuant to section 221 of Public Law 108–176: *Provided further*, That the amount herein appropriated shall be reduced by $100,000 for each day after March 31 that such report has not been submitted to the Congress: *Provided further*, That not later than March 31 of each fiscal year hereafter, the Administrator shall transmit to Congress a companion report that describes a comprehensive strategy for staffing, hiring, and training flight standards and aircraft certification staff in a format similar to the one utilized for the controller staffing plan, including stated attrition estimates and numerical hiring goals by fiscal year: *Provided further*, That the amount herein appropriated shall be reduced by $100,000 per day for each day after March 31 that such report has not been submitted to Congress: *Provided further*, That funds may be used to enter into a grant agreement with a nonprofit standard-setting organization to assist in the development of aviation safety standards: *Provided further*, That none of the funds in this Act shall be available for new applicants for the second career training program: *Provided further*, That none of the funds in this Act shall be available for the Federal Aviation Administration to finalize or implement any regulation that would promulgate new aviation user fees not specifically authorized by law after the date of the enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That there may be credited to this appropriation as offsetting collections funds received from States, counties, municipalities, foreign authorities, other public authorities, and private sources for expenses incurred in the provision of agency services, including receipts for the maintenance and operation of air navigation facilities, and for issuance, renewal or modification of certificates, including airman, aircraft, and repair station certificates, or for tests related thereto, or for processing major repair or alteration forms: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not less than $149,000,000 shall be for the contract tower program, of which $10,350,000 is for the contract tower cost share program: *Provided further*, That none of the funds in this Act for aeronautical charting and cartography are available for activities conducted by, or coordinated through, the Working Capital Fund: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided in this Act may be used for the Federal Aviation Administration to issue a job announcement for air traffic control specialists that renders ineligible any applicant who had been included in the air traffic control specialist applicant inventory as of January 15, 2014, and who was born between February 9, 1983 and October 1, 1984.

FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, for acquisition, establishment, technical support services, improvement by contract or purchase, and hire of national airspace systems and experimental facilities and equipment, as authorized under part A of subtitle VII of title 49, United States Code, including initial acquisition of necessary sites by lease or grant; engineering and service testing, including construction of test facilities and acquisition of necessary sites by

lease or grant; construction and furnishing of quarters and related accommodations for officers and employees of the Federal Aviation Administration stationed at remote localities where such accommodations are not available; and the purchase, lease, or transfer of aircraft from funds available under this heading, including aircraft for aviation regulation and certification; to be derived from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, $2,473,700,000, of which $458,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2015, and $2,015,700,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That there may be credited to this appropriation funds received from States, counties, municipalities, other public authorities, and private sources, for expenses incurred in the establishment, improvement, and modernization of national airspace systems: *Provided further*, That upon initial submission to the Congress of the fiscal year 2016 President's budget, the Secretary of Transportation shall transmit to the Congress a comprehensive capital investment plan for the Federal Aviation Administration which includes funding for each budget line item for fiscal years 2016 through 2020, with total funding for each year of the plan constrained to the funding targets for those years as estimated and approved by the Office of Management and Budget: *Provided further*, That the amount herein appropriated shall be reduced by $100,000 per day for each day after the initial submission of the fiscal year 2016 President's budget that such report has not been submitted to Congress.

RESEARCH, ENGINEERING, AND DEVELOPMENT

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, for research, engineering, and development, as authorized under part A of subtitle VII of title 49, United States Code, including construction of experimental facilities and acquisition of necessary sites by lease or grant, $156,750,000, to be derived from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund and to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That there may be credited to this appropriation as offsetting collections, funds received from States, counties, municipalities, other public authorities, and private sources, which shall be available for expenses incurred for research, engineering, and development.

GRANTS-IN-AID FOR AIRPORTS

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

(INCLUDING RESCISSION)

For liquidation of obligations incurred for grants-in-aid for airport planning and development, and noise compatibility planning and programs as authorized under subchapter I of chapter 471 and subchapter I of chapter 475 of title 49, United States Code, and under other law authorizing such obligations; for procurement, installation, and commissioning of runway incursion prevention devices and systems at airports of such title; for grants authorized under section 41743 of title 49, United States Code; and for inspection activities and administration of airport safety programs, including those related to airport operating certificates under section 44706 of title 49, United States Code, $3,200,000,000, to be derived from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund and to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That none of the funds under this heading shall be available for the planning or execution of programs the obligations for which are in excess of $3,480,000,000 in fiscal year 2015, notwithstanding section 47117(g) of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, of funds made available in the fiscal year ending on September 30, 2014, under section 48112 of title 49, United States Code, and limited under this heading, $130,000,000 shall be obligated for facilities and equipment of the Federal Aviation Administration that are located on airport property, including runway safety areas, runway status lights, landing and navigational lighting systems, and air traffic control tower improvements and replacements: *Provided further*, That the funds limited under this heading shall be deemed reduced by $130,000,000 for purposes of 47102(6) of Title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That none of the funds under this heading shall be available for the replacement of baggage conveyor systems, reconfiguration of terminal baggage areas, or other airport improvements that are necessary to install bulk explosive detection systems: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 47109(a) of title 49, United States Code, the Government's share of allowable project costs under paragraph (2) for subgrants or paragraph (3) of that section shall be 95 percent for a project at other than a large or medium hub airport that is a successive phase of a multi-phased construction project for which the project sponsor received a grant in fiscal year 2011 for the construction project: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, of funds limited under this heading, not more than $107,100,000 shall be obligated for administration, not less than $15,000,000 shall be available for the Airport Cooperative Research Program, not less than $29,750,000 shall be available for Airport Technology Research, and $8,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available and transferred to ''Office of the Secretary, Salaries and Expenses'' to carry out the Small Community Air Service Development Program.

(RESCISSION)

Any amounts made available for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, under section 48112 of title 49, United States Code, are rescinded.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 110. None of the funds in this Act may be used to compensate in excess of 600 technical staff-years under the federally funded research and development center contract between the Federal Aviation Administration and the Center for Advanced Aviation Systems Development during fiscal year 2014.

SEC. 111. None of the funds in this Act shall be used to pursue or adopt guidelines or regulations requiring airport sponsors to provide to the Federal Aviation Administration without cost building construction, maintenance, utilities and expenses, or space in airport sponsor-owned buildings for services relating to air traffic control, air navigation, or weather reporting: *Provided*, That the prohibition of funds in this section does not apply to negotiations between the agency and airport sponsors to achieve agreement on ''below-market'' rates for these items or to grant assurances that require airport sponsors to provide land without cost to the FAA for air traffic control facilities.

SEC. 112. The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration may reimburse amounts made available to satisfy 49 U.S.C. 41742(a)(1) from fees credited under 49 U.S.C. 45303 and any amount remaining in such account at the close of that fiscal year may be made available to satisfy section 41742(a)(1) for the subsequent fiscal year.

SEC. 113. Amounts collected under section 40113(e) of title 49, United States Code, shall be credited to the appropriation current at the time of collection, to be merged with and available for the same purposes of such appropriation.

SEC. 114. None of the funds in this Act shall be available for paying premium pay under subsection 5546(a) of title 5, United States Code, to any Federal Aviation Administration employee unless such employee actually performed work during the time corresponding to such premium pay.

SEC. 115. None of the funds in this Act may be obligated or expended for an employee of the Federal Aviation Administration to purchase a store gift card or gift certificate through use of a Government-issued credit card.

SEC. 116. The Secretary shall apportion to the sponsor of an airport that received scheduled or unscheduled air service from a large certified air carrier (as defined in part 241 of title 14 Code of Federal Regulations, or such other regulations as may be issued by the Secretary under the authority of section 41709) an amount equal to the minimum apportionment specified in 49 U.S.C. 47114(c), if the Secretary determines that airport had more than 10,000 passenger boardings in the preceding calendar year, based on data submitted to the Secretary under part 241 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 117. None of the funds in this Act may be obligated or expended for retention bonuses for an employee of the Federal Aviation Administration without the prior written approval of the Assistant Secretary for Administration of the Department of Transportation.

SEC. 118. Subparagraph (D) of section 47124(b)(3) of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking ''benefit.'' and inserting ''benefit, with the maximum allowable local cost share capped at 20 percent.''.

SEC. 119. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds made available under this Act or any prior Act may be used to implement or to continue to implement any limitation on the ability of any owner or operator of a private aircraft to obtain, upon a request to the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, a blocking of that owner's or operator's aircraft registration number from any display of the Federal Aviation Administration's Aircraft Situational Display to Industry data that is made available to the public, except data made available to a Government agency, for the noncommercial flights of that owner or operator.

SEC. 119A. None of the funds in this Act shall be available for salaries and expenses of more than 9 political and Presidential appointees in the Federal Aviation Administration.

SEC. 119B. None of the funds made available under this Act may be used to increase fees pursuant to section 44721 of title 49, United States Code, until the FAA provides to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations a report that justifies all fees related to aeronautical navigation products and explains how such fees are consistent with Executive Order 13642.

SEC. 119C. None of the funds appropriated or limited by this Act may be used to change weight restrictions or prior permission rules at Teterboro airport in Teterboro, New Jersey.

SEC. 119D. None of the funds in this Act may be used to close a regional operations center of the Federal Aviation Administration or reduce its services unless the Administrator notifies the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations not less than 90 full business days in advance.

SEC. 119E. Section 916 of Public Law 112–95 is amended by striking ''Advanced Materials in Transport Aircraft'' and inserting ''Joint Advanced Materials and Structures''.

SEC. 119F. Subsection 47109(c)(2) of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding before the period ''', except that at a non-hub airport located in a State as set forth in paragraph (1) of this subsection that is within 15 miles of another State as set forth in paragraph (1) of this subsection, the Government's share shall be an average of the Government share applicable to any project in each of the States''.

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Not to exceed $426,100,000, together with advances and reimbursements received by the Federal Highway Administration, shall be obligated for necessary expenses for administration and operation of the Federal Highway Administration. In addition, not to exceed $3,248,000 shall be transferred to the Appalachian Regional Commission in accordance with section 104 of title 23, United States Code.

FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAYS

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

Funds available for the implementation or execution of programs of Federal-aid Highways and highway safety construction programs authorized under titles 23 and 49, United States Code, and the provisions of Public Law 112–141 shall not exceed total obligations of $40,256,000,000 for fiscal year 2015: *Provided*, That the Secretary may collect and spend fees, as authorized by title 23, United States Code, to cover the costs of services of expert firms, including counsel, in the field of municipal and project finance to assist in the underwriting and servicing of Federal credit instruments and all or a portion of the costs to the Federal Government of servicing such credit instruments: *Provided further*, That such fees are available until expended to pay for such costs: *Provided further*, That such amounts are in addition to administrative expenses that are also available for such purpose, and are not subject to any obligation limitation or the limitation on administrative expenses under section 608 of title 23, United States Code.

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For the payment of obligations incurred in carrying out Federal-aid Highways and highway safety construction programs authorized under title 23, United States Code, $40,995,000,000 derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account), to remain available until expended.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 120. (a) For fiscal year 2015, the Secretary of Transportation shall—

(1) not distribute from the obligation limitation for Federal-aid Highways—

(A) amounts authorized for administrative expenses and programs by section 104(a) of title 23, United States Code; and

(B) amounts authorized for the Bureau of Transportation Statistics;

(2) not distribute an amount from the obligation limitation for Federal-aid Highways that is equal to the unobligated balance of amounts—

(A) made available from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) for Federal-aid Highways and highway safety construction programs for previous fiscal years the funds for which are allocated by the Secretary (or apportioned by the Secretary under sections 202 or 204 of title 23, United States Code); and

(B) for which obligation limitation was provided in a previous fiscal year;

(3) determine the proportion that—

(A) the obligation limitation for Federal-aid Highways, less the aggregate of amounts not distributed under paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection; bears to

(B) the total of the sums authorized to be appropriated for the Federal-aid Highways and highway safety construction programs (other than sums authorized to be appropriated for provisions of law described in paragraphs (1) through (12) of subsection (b) and sums authorized to be appropriated for section 119 of title 23, United States Code, equal to the amount referred to in subsection (b)(13) for such fiscal year), less the aggregate of the amounts not distributed under paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection;

(4) distribute the obligation limitation for Federal-aid Highways, less the aggregate amounts not distributed under paragraphs (1) and (2), for each of the programs (other than programs to which paragraph (1) applies) that are allocated by the Secretary under the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act and title 23, United States Code, or apportioned 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 such fiscal year; and

(5) distribute the obligation limitation for Federal-aid Highways, less the aggregate amounts not distributed under paragraphs (1) and (2) and the amounts distributed under paragraph (4), for Federal-aid Highways and highway safety construction programs that are apportioned by the Secretary under title 23, United States Code (other than the amounts apportioned for the National Highway Performance Program in section 119 of title 23, United States Code, that are exempt from the limitation under subsection (b)(13) and the amounts apportioned under sections 202 and 204 of that title) in the proportion that—

(A) amounts authorized to be appropriated for the programs that are apportioned under title 23, United States Code, to each State for such fiscal year; bears to

(B) the total of the amounts authorized to be appropriated for the programs that are apportioned under title 23, United States Code, to all States for such fiscal year.

(b) EXCEPTIONS FROM OBLIGATION LIMITATION.—The obligation limitation for Federal-aid Highways shall not apply to obligations under or for—

(1) section 125 of title 23, United States Code;

(2) section 147 of the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1978 (23 U.S.C. 144 note; 92 Stat. 2714);

(3) section 9 of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1981 (95 Stat. 1701);

(4) subsections (b) and (j) of section 131 of the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982 (96 Stat. 2119);

(5) subsections (b) and (c) of section 149 of the Surface Transportation and Uniform Relocation Assistance Act of 1987 (101 Stat. 198);

(6) sections 1103 through 1108 of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (105 Stat. 2027);

(7) section 157 of title 23, United States Code (as in effect on June 8, 1998);

(8) section 105 of title 23, United States Code (as in effect for fiscal years 1998 through 2004, but only in an amount equal to $639,000,000 for each of those fiscal years);

(9) Federal-aid Highways programs for which obligation authority was made available under the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (112 Stat. 107) or subsequent Acts for multiple years or to remain available until expended, but only to the extent that the obligation authority has not lapsed or been used;

(10) section 105 of title 23, United States Code (as in effect for fiscal years 2005 through 2012, but only in an amount equal to $639,000,000 for each of those fiscal years);

(11) section 1603 of SAFETEA–LU (23 U.S.C. 118 note; 119 Stat. 1248), to the extent that funds obligated in accordance with that section were not subject to a limitation on obligations at the time at which the funds were initially made available for obligation; and

(12) section 119 of title 23, United States Code (as in effect for fiscal years 2013 and 2014, but only in an amount equal to $639,000,000 for each of those fiscal years); and

(13) section 119 of title 12, United States Code (but, for fiscal year 2015, only in an amount equal to $639,000,000).

(c) REDISTRIBUTION OF UNUSED OBLIGATION AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), the Secretary shall, after August 1 of such fiscal year—

(1) revise a distribution of the obligation limitation made available under subsection (a) if an amount distributed cannot be obligated during that fiscal year; and

(2) redistribute sufficient amounts to those States able to obligate amounts in addition to those previously distributed during that fiscal year, giving priority to those States having large unobligated balances of funds apportioned under sections 144 (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of 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), the obligation limitation for Federal-aid Highways shall apply to contract authority for transportation research programs carried out under—

(A) chapter 5 of title 23, United States Code; and

(B) division E of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act.

(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 Highways and highway safety construction programs for future fiscal years.

(e) REDISTRIBUTION OF CERTAIN AUTHORIZED FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of distribution of obligation limitation under subsection (a), the Secretary shall distribute to the States any funds (excluding funds authorized for the program under section 202 of title 23, United States Code) that—

(A) are authorized to be appropriated for such fiscal year for Federal-aid Highways programs; and

(B) the Secretary determines will not be allocated to the States (or will not be apportioned to the States under section 204 of title 23, United States Code), and will not be available for obligation, for such fiscal year because of the imposition of any obligation limitation for such fiscal year.

(2) RATIO.—Funds shall be distributed under paragraph (1) in the same proportion as the distribution of obligation authority under subsection (a)(5).

(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.

SEC. 121. Notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, funds received by the Bureau of Transportation Statistics from the sale of data products, for necessary expenses incurred pursuant to chapter 63 of title 49, United States Code, may be credited to the Federal-aid Highways account for the purpose of reimbursing the Bureau for such expenses: *Provided*, That such funds shall be subject to the obligation limitation for Federal-aid Highways and highway safety construction programs.

SEC. 122. Not less than 15 days prior to waiving, under his statutory authority, any Buy America requirement for Federal-aid Highways projects, the Secretary of Transportation shall make an informal public notice and comment opportunity on the intent to issue such waiver and the reasons therefor: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall provide an annual report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on any waivers granted under the Buy America requirements.

SEC. 123. None of the funds in this Act to the Department of Transportation may be used to provide credit assistance unless not less than 3 days before any application approval to provide credit assistance under sections 603 and 604 of title 23, United States Code, the Secretary of Transportation provides notification in writing to the following committees: the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations; the Committee on Environment and Public Works and the Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs of the Senate; and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives: *Provided*, That such notification shall include, but not be limited to, the name of the project sponsor; a description of the project; whether credit assistance will be provided as a direct loan, loan guarantee, or line of credit; and the amount of credit assistance.

SEC. 124. From the unobligated balances of funds apportioned among the States prior to October 1, 2012, under sections 104(b) of title 23, United States Code (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of Public Law 112–141), the amount of $22,100,000 shall be made available in fiscal year 2015 for the administrative expenses of the Federal Highway Administration: *Provided*, That this provision shall not apply to funds distributed in accordance with section 104(b)(5) of title 23, United States Code (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of Public Law 112–141); section 133(d)(1) of such title (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of Public Law 109–59); and the first sentence of section 133(d)(3)(A) of such title (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of Public Law 112–141): *Provided further*, That such amount shall be derived on a proportional basis from the unobligated balances of apportioned funds to which this provision applies: *Provided further*, That the amount made available by this provision in fiscal year 2015 for the administrative expenses of the Federal Highway Administration shall be in addition to the amount made available in fiscal year 2015 for such purposes under section 104(a) of title 23, United States Code.

FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY OPERATIONS AND PROGRAMS

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For payment of obligations incurred in the implementation, execution and administration of motor carrier safety operations and programs pursuant to section 31104(i) of title 49, United States Code, and sections 4127 and 4134 of Public Law 109–59, as amended by Public Law 112–141, $271,000,000, to be derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account), together with advances and reimbursements received by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, the sum of which shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That funds available for implementation, execution or administration of motor carrier safety operations and programs authorized under title 49, United States Code, shall not exceed total obligations of $271,000,000 for ''Motor Carrier Safety Operations and Programs'' for fiscal year 2015, of which $9,000,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2017, is for the research and technology program, and of which $34,545,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2017, is for information management: *Provided further*, That $2,300,000 shall be made available for commercial motor vehicle operator's grants to carry out section 4134 of Public Law 109–59, as amended by Public Law 112–141, of which $1,300,000 is to be made available from prior year unobligated contract authority provided in Public Law 112–141, or other appropriations or authorization acts: *Provided further*, That of unobligated contract authority provided in Public Law 112–141, or other appropriations or authorization acts for ''Motor Carrier Safety Operations and Programs'', $1,500,000 shall be made available for enforcement and investigation activities related to the safe transportation of energy products, $5,200,000 shall be made available to augment funding to address information management and technology needs related to the monitoring of high-risk carriers and carriers operating under consent agreements, and $4,000,000 shall be made available to administer the study required under section 133 of this Act, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2017: *Provided further*, That the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration shall transmit to Congress a report by March 27, 2015, on the agency's ability to meet its requirement to conduct compliance reviews on mandatory carriers: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall complete final regulatory action on the implementation of 49 United States Code 31137 no later than January 30, 2015: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall initiate action on the Safety Fitness Determination rule no later than December, 31, 2013.

NATIONAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

Of the unobligated contract authority provided in the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (Public Law 105–178) or other appropriation or authorization acts for the national motor carrier safety program, $8,300,000 shall be made available to augment funding to execute the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's Capital Improvement Plan for border facilities and field offices, including physical information technology infrastructure: *Provided*, That such funds as necessary for payment of obligations incurred in carrying out this section shall be derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) and total limitations of these obligations shall not exceed $8,300,000.

MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY GRANTS

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For payment of obligations incurred in carrying out sections 31102, 31104(a), 31106, 31107, 31109, 31309, 31313 of title 49, United States Code, and sections 4126 and 4128 of Public Law 109–59, as amended by Public Law 112–141, $313,000,000, to be derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) and to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That funds available for the implementation or execution of motor carrier safety programs shall not exceed total obligations of $313,000,000 in fiscal year 2015 for ''Motor Carrier Safety Grants''; of which $218,000,000 shall be available for the motor carrier safety assistance program, $30,000,000 shall be available for commercial driver's license program improvement grants, $32,000,000 shall be available for border enforcement grants, $5,000,000 shall be available for performance and registration information system management grants, $25,000,000 shall be available for the commercial vehicle information systems and networks deployment program, and $1,000,000 shall be available for safety data improvement grants: *Provided further*, That, of the funds made available herein for the motor carrier safety assistance program, $32,000,000 shall be available for audits of new entrant motor carriers.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION—FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 130. Funds appropriated or limited in this Act shall be subject to the terms and conditions stipulated in section 350 of Public Law 107–87 and section 6901 of Public Law 110–28.

SEC. 131. None of the funds limited or otherwise made available under the heading ''Motor Carrier Safety Operations and Programs'' may be used to deny an application to renew a Hazardous Materials Safety Program permit for a motor carrier based solely on that carrier's Hazardous Materials Out-of-Service rate, unless the carrier has the opportunity to submit a written description of corrective actions taken, and other documentation the carrier wishes the Secretary to consider, including submitting a corrective action plan, and the Secretary determines the actions or plan is insufficient to address the safety concerns that resulted in that Hazardous Materials Out-of-Service rate.

SEC. 132. None of the funds limited or otherwise made available under this Act shall be used by the Secretary to enforce any regulation prohibiting a State from issuing a commercial learner's permit to individuals under the age of eighteen if the State had a law authorizing the issuance of commercial learners permits to individuals under eighteen years of age as of May 9, 2011.

SEC. 133. (a) TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF ENFORCEMENT.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act or any other Act shall be used to enforce sections 395.3(c) and 395.3(d) of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, and such sections shall have no force or effect from the date of enactment of this Act until the later of September 30, 2015, or upon submission of the final report issued by the Secretary under this section. The restart provisions in effect on June 30, 2013, shall be in effect during this period.

(b) PUBLIC NOTIFICATION.—As soon as possible after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall publish a Notice in the Federal Register and on the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration website announcing that the provisions in the rule referred to in subsection (a) shall have no force or effect from the date of enactment of this Act through September 30, 2015, and the restart rule in effect on June 30, 2013, shall immediately be in effect.

(c) COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE (CMV) DRIVER RESTART STUDY.—Within 90 days of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall

initiate a naturalistic study of the operational, safety, health and fatigue impacts of the restart provisions in sections 395.3(c) and 395.3(d) of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, on commercial motor vehicle drivers. The study required under this subsection shall—

(1) compare the work schedules and assess operator fatigue between the following two groups of commercial motor vehicle drivers, each large enough to produce statistically significant results:

(A) commercial motor vehicle drivers who operate under such provisions, in effect between July 1, 2013, and the day before the date of enactment of this Act, and

(B) commercial motor vehicle drivers who operate under the provisions as in effect on June 30, 2013.

(2) compare, at a minimum, the 5-month work schedules and assess safety critical events (crashes, near crashes and crash-relevant conflicts) and operator fatigue between the following two groups of commercial motor vehicle drivers, from a statistically significant sample of drivers comprised of fleets of all sizes, including long-haul, regional and short-haul operations in various sectors of the industry, including flat-bed, refrigerated, tank, and dry-van, to the extent practicable;

(3) assess drivers' safety critical events, fatigue and levels of alertness and driver health outcomes by using both electronic and captured record of duty status, including the Psychomotor Vigilance Test (PVT), e-logging data, actigraph watches and cameras or other on-board monitoring systems that record or measure safety critical events and driver alertness;

(4) utilize data from electronic logging devices, consistent to the extent practicable, with the anticipated requirements for such devices in section 31137(b) of title 49, United States Code, from motor carriers and drivers of commercial motor vehicles, notwithstanding any limitation on the use of such data under section 31137(e) of title 49, United States Code; and

(5) include the development of an initial study plan and final report, each of which shall be subject to an independent peer review panel of individuals with relevant medical and scientific expertise.

(d) DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL REVIEW.—Prior to the study required under this subsection commencing, the Secretary shall submit a plan outlining the scope and methodology for the study to the Department of Transportation Inspector General within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

(1) Within 30 days of receiving the plan, the Office of Inspector General shall review and comment on the plan, including whether it includes—

(A) a sufficient number of drivers participating to produce statistically significant results and consistent with subsection (c)(2);

(B) an assessment of whether the technologies being used to assess the operational, safety and fatigue components of the study are reliable and will produce consistent and valid results;

(C) appropriate performance measures to properly evaluate the study outcomes; and

(D) assess the selection of the independent review panel under subsection (c)(5).

(2) The Office of Inspector General shall report its findings, conclusions and recommendations to the Secretary and to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 30 days of receipt of the plan.

(e) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall submit a final report on the findings and conclusions of the study and the Department's recommendations on whether the provisions in effect on July 1, 2013, provide a greater net benefit for the operational, safety, health and fatigue impacts of the restart provisions to the Inspector General within 210 days of receiving the Office of the Inspector General report required in subsection (d)(2).

(1) Within 60 days of receipt of the Secretary's findings and recommendations in subsection (e), the Inspector General shall report to the Secretary and the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on the study's compliance with the requirements outlined under subsection (c).

(2) Upon submission of the Office of the Inspector General report in paragraph (1), the Secretary shall submit its report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and make the report publically available on its website.

(f) CERTIFICATION.—The Secretary of Transportation shall certify in writing in a manner addressing the Inspector General's findings and recommendations in subsection (d)(1) and (e)(1) of this section that the Secretary has met the requirements as described in section (c) and (d).

(g) PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT EXCEPTION.—The study and the Office of the Inspector General reviews shall not be subject to section 3506 or 3507 of title 44, United States Code.

NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS AND RESEARCH

For expenses necessary to discharge the functions of the Secretary, with respect to traffic and highway safety authorized under chapter 301 and part C of subtitle VI of title 49, United States Code, $134,500,000, of which $20,000,000 shall remain available through September 30, 2016.

OPERATIONS AND RESEARCH

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For payment of obligations incurred in carrying out the provisions of 23 U.S.C. 403, and chapter 303 of title 49, United States Code, $138,500,000, to be derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) and to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That none of the funds in this Act shall be available for the planning or execution of programs the total obligations for which, in fiscal year 2015, are in excess of $138,500,000, of which $133,500,000 shall be for programs authorized under 23 U.S.C. 403 and $5,000,000 shall be for the National Driver Register authorized under chapter 303 of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That within the $133,500,000 obligation limitation for operations and research, $20,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016, and shall be in addition to the amount of any limitation imposed on obligations for future years: *Provided further*, That $20,000,000 of the total obligation limitation for operations and research in fiscal year 2015 shall be applied toward unobligated balances of contract authority provided in prior Acts for carrying out the provisions of 23 U.S.C. 403, and chapter 303 of title 49, United States Code.

HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY GRANTS

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For payment of obligations incurred in carrying out provisions of 23 U.S.C. 402 and 405, section 2009 of Public Law 109–59, as amended by Public Law 112–141, and section 31101(a)(6) of Public Law 112–141, to remain available until expended, $561,500,000, to be derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account): *Provided*, That none of the funds in this Act shall be available for the planning or execution of programs the total obligations for which, in fiscal year 2015, are in excess of $561,500,000 for programs authorized under 23 U.S.C. 402 and 405, section 2009 of Public Law 109–59, as amended by Public Law 112–141, and section 31101(a)(6) of Public Law 112–141, of which $235,000,000 shall be for ''Highway Safety Programs'' under 23 U.S.C. 402; $272,000,000 shall be for ''National Priority Safety Programs'' under 23 U.S.C. 405; $29,000,000 shall be for ''High Visibility Enforcement Program'' under section 2009 of Public Law 109–59, as amended by Public Law 112–141; $25,500,000 shall be for ''Administrative Expenses'' under section 31101(a)(6) of Public Law 112–141: *Provided further*, That none of these funds shall be used for construction, rehabilitation, or remodeling costs, or for office furnishings and fixtures for State, local or private buildings or structures: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $500,000 of the funds made available for ''National Priority Safety Programs'' under 23 U.S.C. 405 for ''Impaired Driving Countermeasures'' (as described in subsection (d) of that section) shall be available for technical assistance to the States: *Provided further*, That with respect to the ''Transfers'' provision under 23 U.S.C. 405(a)(1)(G), any amounts transferred to increase the amounts made available under section 402 shall include the obligation authority for such amounts: *Provided further*, That the Administrator shall notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations of any exercise of the authority granted under the previous proviso or under 23 U.S.C. 405(a)(1)(G) within 60 days.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 140. An additional $130,000 shall be made available to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, out of the amount limited for section 402 of title 23, United States Code, to pay for travel and related expenses for State management reviews and to pay for core competency development training and related expenses for highway safety staff.

SEC. 141. The limitations on obligations for the programs of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration set in this Act shall not apply to obligations for which obligation authority was made available in previous public laws but only to the extent that the obligation authority has not lapsed or been used.

SEC. 142. None of the funds in this Act shall be used to implement section 404 of title 23, United States Code.

FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION

SAFETY AND OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses of the Federal Railroad Administration, not otherwise provided for, $191,250,000, of which $15,400,000 shall remain available until expended.

RAILROAD RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses for railroad research and development, $40,730,000, to remain available until expended.

RAILROAD REHABILITATION AND IMPROVEMENT FINANCING PROGRAM

The Secretary of Transportation is authorized to issue direct loans and loan guarantees pursuant to sections 501 through 504 of the Railroad Revitalization and Regulatory Reform Act of 1976 (Public Law 94–210), as amended, such authority to exist as long as any such direct loan or loan guarantee is outstanding: *Provided*, That, pursuant to section 502 of such Act, as amended, no new direct loans or loan guarantee commitments shall be made using Federal funds for the credit risk premium during fiscal year 2015.

GRANTS TO THE NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

To enable the Secretary of Transportation to make grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation as authorized by the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008 (division B of Public Law 110–432, hereafter referred to as ''such law'' for purposes of this heading), $1,390,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amounts available under this heading, up to $149,000,000 shall be for debt service obligations, up to $350,000,000 shall be for the operation of intercity passenger rail, and not less than $50,000,000 shall be made available to bring Amtrak served facilities and stations into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act: *Provided further*, That after an initial distribution of up to $200,000,000, which shall be used by Amtrak as a working capital account, all remaining capital and debt service funds shall be provided only on a reimbursable basis: *Provided further*, That funding for the operation of intercity passenger rail, as authorized by section 101 of such law, shall be distributed no more frequently than quarterly: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may retain up to one-half of 1 percent of the funds provided under this heading to fund the costs of project management and oversight of activities authorized by subsections 101(a) and 101(c) of such law: *Provided further*, That in addition to the project management oversight funds authorized under section 101(d) of such law, the Secretary may retain up to an additional one-half of 1 percent of the funds provided under this heading to fund expenses associated with section 24905 of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Corporation shall transmit, in electronic format, to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations a business plan and 5-year Financial Plan for fiscal year 2015 as required under section 204 of such law.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 150. Hereafter, notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds provided in this Act for the National Railroad Passenger Corporation shall immediately cease to be available to said Corporation in the event that the Corporation contracts to have services provided at or from any location outside the United States. For purposes of this section, the word ''services'' shall mean any service that was, as of July 1, 2006, performed by a full-time or part-time Amtrak employee whose base of employment is located within the United States.

SEC. 151. The Secretary of Transportation may receive and expend cash, or receive and utilize spare parts and similar items, from non-United States Government sources to repair damages to or replace United States Government owned automated track inspection cars and equipment as a result of third-party liability for such damages, and any amounts collected under this section shall be credited directly to the Safety and Operations account of the Federal Railroad Administration, and shall remain available until expended for the repair, operation and maintenance of automated track inspection cars and equipment in connection with the automated track inspection program.

SEC. 152. The amounts available to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation for the operation of intercity passenger rail shall be available for distribution by the Secretary only after receiving and reviewing a grant request for each specific train route accompanied by a detailed financial analysis, revenue projection, and capital asset plan justifying the Federal support to the Secretary's satisfaction.

SEC. 153. None of the funds provided to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation may be used to fund any overtime costs in excess of $35,000 for any individual employee: *Provided*, That the president of Amtrak may waiver the cap set in the previous proviso for specific employees when the president of Amtrak determines such a cap poses a risk to the safety and operational efficiency of the system: *Provided further*, That Amtrak shall notify the House and Senate Committee on Appropriations within 30 days of waiving such cap and delineate the reasons for such waiver.

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

For necessary administrative expenses of the Federal Transit Administration's programs authorized by chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code, $110,500,000, of which not less than $7,000,000 shall be available to carry out the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 5329: *Provided*, That none of the funds provided or limited in this Act may be used to create a permanent office of transit security under this heading: *Provided further*, That upon submission to the Congress of the fiscal year 2016 President's budget, the Secretary of Transportation shall transmit to Congress the annual report on New Starts, including proposed allocations for fiscal year 2016.

TRANSIT FORMULA GRANTS

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For payment of obligations incurred in the Federal Public Transportation Assistance Program in this account, and for payment of obligations incurred in carrying out the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 5305, 5307, 5310, 5311, 5318, 5322(d), 5329(e)(6), 5335, 5337, 5339, and 5340, as amended by Public Law 112–141; and section 20005(b) of Public Law 112–141, $9,500,000,000, to be derived from the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund and to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That funds available for the implementation or execution of programs authorized under 49 U.S.C. 5305, 5307, 5310, 5311, 5318, 5322(d), 5329(e)(6), 5335, 5337, 5339, and 5340, as amended by Public Law 112–141, and section 20005(b) of Public Law 112–141, shall not exceed total obligations of $8,595,000,000 in fiscal year 2015.

TRANSIT RESEARCH

For necessary expenses to carry out 49 U.S.C. 5312 and 5313, $33,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That $30,000,000 shall be for activities authorized under 49 U.S.C. 5312 and $3,000,000 shall be for activities authorized under 49 U.S.C. 5313.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING

For necessary expenses to carry out 49 U.S.C. 5314 and 5322(a), (b) and (e), $5,500,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That $5,000,000 shall be for activities authorized under 49 U.S.C. 5314 and $500,000 shall be for activities authorized under 49 U.S.C. 5322(a), (b) and (e).

CAPITAL INVESTMENT GRANTS

For necessary expenses to carry out 49 U.S.C. 5309, $2,161,000,000, to remain available until expended.

GRANTS TO THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY

For grants to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority as authorized under section 601 of division B of Public Law 110–432, $150,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall approve grants for capital and preventive maintenance expenditures for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority only after receiving and reviewing a request for each specific project: *Provided further*, That prior to approving such grants, the Secretary shall certify that the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority is making significant progress in eliminating the material weaknesses, significant deficiencies, and minor control deficiencies identified in the most recent Financial Management Oversight Review: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall determine that the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority has placed the highest priority on those investments that will improve the safety of the system before approving such grants: *Provided further*, That the Secretary, in order to ensure safety throughout the rail system, may waive the requirements of section 601(e)(1) of title VI of Public Law 110–432 (112 Stat. 4968).

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 160. The limitations on obligations for the programs of the Federal Transit Administration shall not apply to any authority under 49 U.S.C. 5338, previously made available for obligation, or to any other authority previously made available for obligation.

SEC. 161. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated or limited by this Act under the Federal Transit Administration's discretionary program appropriations headings for projects specified in this Act or identified in reports accompanying this Act not obligated by September 30, 2019, and other recoveries, shall be directed to projects eligible to use the funds for the purposes for which they were originally provided.

SEC. 162. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any funds appropriated before October 1, 2014, under any section of chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code, that remain available for expenditure, may be transferred to and administered under the most recent appropriation heading for any such section.

SEC. 163. Hereafter, the Secretary may not enforce regulations related to charter bus service under part 604 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, for any transit agency that during fiscal year 2008 was both initially granted a 60-day period to come into compliance with part 604, and then was subsequently granted an exception from said part.

SEC. 164. For purposes of applying the project justification and local financial commitment criteria of 49 U.S.C. 5309(d) to a New Starts project, the Secretary may consider the costs and ridership of any connected project in an instance in which private parties are making significant financial contributions to the construction of the connected project; additionally, the Secretary may consider the significant financial contributions of private parties to the connected project in calculating the non-Federal share of net capital project costs for the New Starts project.

SEC. 165. In developing guidance implementing 49 U.S.C. 5309(i) Program of Interrelated Projects, the Secretary shall consider projects eligible under section 5309(h) Small Starts Projects, including streetcars.

SEC. 166. New bus rapid transit projects recommended in the President's budget submission to the Congress of the United States for funds appropriated under the heading ''CAPITAL INVESTMENT GRANTS'' in this Act shall be funded from $20,000,000 in unobligated amounts that were made available to carry out the discretionary bus and bus facilities program under 49 U.S.C. 5309 in fiscal years 1984 through 2012: *Provided*, That all such projects shall remain subject to the Capital Investment Grants Program requirements of 49 U.S.C. 5309 for New Starts, Small Starts, or Core Capacity projects as applicable.

SAINT LAWRENCE SEAWAY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation is hereby authorized to make such expenditures, within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available to the Corporation, and in accord with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 104 of the Government Corporation Control Act, as amended, as may be necessary in carrying out the programs set forth in the Corporation's budget for the current fiscal year.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

(HARBOR MAINTENANCE TRUST FUND)

For necessary expenses to conduct the operations, maintenance, and capital asset renewal activities of those portions of the St. Lawrence Seaway owned, operated, and maintained by the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, $31,500,000, to be derived from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund, pursuant to Public Law 99–662, and of which $14,300,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2017, for the Asset Renewal Program.

MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

MARITIME SECURITY PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to maintain and preserve a U.S.-flag merchant fleet to serve the national security needs of the United States, $186,000,000, to remain available until expended.

OPERATIONS AND TRAINING

For necessary expenses of operations and training activities authorized by law, $149,900,000, of which $11,300,000 shall remain available until expended for maintenance and repair of training ships at State Maritime Academies, and of which $2,400,000 shall remain available through September 30, 2016, for the Student Incentive Program at State Maritime Academies, and of which $1,200,000 shall remain available until expended for training ship fuel assistance payments, and of which $15,954,000 shall remain available until expended for facilities maintenance and repair, equipment, and capital improvements at the United State Merchant Marine Academy, and of which $3,000,000 shall remain available through September 16, 2016, for Maritime Environment and Technology Assistance grants and cooperative agreement: *Provided,* That amounts apportioned for the United States Merchant Marine Academy shall be available only upon allotments made personally by the Secretary of Transportation or the Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs: *Provided further,* That the Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent and the Director of the Office of Resource Management of the United State Merchant Marine Academy may not be allotment holders for the United States Merchant Marine Academy, and the Administrator of the Maritime Administration shall hold all allotments made by the Secretary of Transportation or the Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs under the previous proviso: *Provided further,* That 50 percent of the funding made available for the United States Merchant Marine Academy under this heading shall be available only after the Secretary, in consultation with the Superintendent and the Maritime Administrator, completes a plan detailing by program or activity how such funding will be expended at the Academy, and this plan is submitted to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further,* That not later than January 12, 2015, the Administrator of the Maritime Administration shall transmit to Congress the biennial survey and report on sexual assault and sexual harassment at the United States Merchant Marine Academy as required pursuant to section 3507 of Public Law 110–417: *Provided further,* That the amount herein appropriated shall be reduced by $100,000 for each day after January 12, 2015 that such report has not been submitted to the Congress.

SHIP DISPOSAL

For necessary expenses related to the disposal of obsolete vessels in the National Defense Reserve Fleet of the Maritime Administration, $4,800,000, to remain available until expended.

MARITIME GUARANTEED LOAN (TITLE XI) PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the cost of guaranteed loans, as authorized, $7,100,000, of which $4,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided,* That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended: *Provided further,* That not to exceed $3,100,000 shall be available for necessary administrative expenses to carry out the maritime guaranteed loan program, which shall be paid to the appropriations for ''Operations and Training, Maritime Administration''.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 170. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Maritime Administration is authorized to furnish utilities and services and make necessary repairs in connection with any lease, contract, or occupancy involving Government property under control of the Maritime Administration: *Provided*, That payments received therefor shall be credited to the appropriation charged with the cost thereof and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That rental payments under any such lease, contract, or occupancy for items other than such utilities, services, or repairs shall be covered into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts.

PIPELINE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONAL EXPENSES

(PIPELINE SAFETY FUND)

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary operational expenses of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, $22,225,000: *Provided*, That $1,500,000 shall be transferred to ''Pipeline Safety'' in order to fund ''Pipeline Safety Information Grants to Communities'' as authorized under section 60130 of title 49, United States Code.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY

For expenses necessary to discharge the hazardous materials safety functions of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, $52,000,000, of which $7,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That up to $800,000 in fees collected under 49 U.S.C. 5108(g) shall be deposited in the general fund of the Treasury as offsetting receipts: *Provided further*, That there may be credited to this appropriation, to be available until expended, funds received from States, counties, municipalities, other public authorities, and private sources for expenses incurred for training, for reports publication and dissemination, and for travel expenses incurred in performance of hazardous materials exemptions and approvals functions.

PIPELINE SAFETY

(PIPELINE SAFETY FUND)

(OIL SPILL LIABILITY TRUST FUND)

(PIPELINE SAFETY DESIGN REVIEW FUND)

For expenses necessary to conduct the functions of the pipeline safety program, for grants-in-aid to carry out a pipeline safety program, as authorized by 49 U.S.C. 60107, and to discharge the pipeline program responsibilities of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, $158,000,000, of which $19,500,000 shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund and shall remain available until September 30, 2017; and of which $136,500,000 shall be derived from the Pipeline Safety Fund, of which $78,309,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2017; and of which $2,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be derived from the Pipeline Safety Design Review Fund.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GRANTS

(EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FUND)

For necessary expenses to carryout 49 U.S.C. 5128(b), $188,000 to be derived from the Emergency Preparedness Fund, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That notwithstanding the fiscal year limitation specified in 49 U.S.C. 5116, not more than $28,318,000 shall be made available for obligation in fiscal year 2015 from amounts made available by 49 U.S.C. 5116(i), and 5128(b) and (c): *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available by 49 U.S.C. 5116(i), 5128(b), or 5128(c) shall be made available for obligation by individuals other than the Secretary of Transportation, or his designee: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding 49 U.S.C. 5128(b) and (c) and the current year obligation limitation, prior year recoveries recognized in the current year shall be available to develop a hazardous materials response training curriculum for emergency responders, including response activities for crude oil, ethanol and other flammable liquids by rail, consistent with National Fire Protection Association standards, and to make such training available through an electronic format and a competitive process to non-profit organizations to train public sector employees to respond to an accident or incident involving the transportation of hazardous materials.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—PIPELINE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 180. Subsection (i)(4) of section 5116 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking ''2 percent'' and inserting ''4 percent''.

SEC. 181. Notwithstanding section 60117(n)(1)(B) of title 49, United States Code, the Secretary may require the person proposing any project with design and construction costs over $2,500,000,000 for the construction, expansion, or operation of a gas or hazardous liquid pipeline facility or liquefied natural gas pipeline facility to pay the costs incurred by the Secretary relating to a facility design safety review.

SEC. 182. The Secretary is directed to initiate a rulemaking or alternative risk-based compliance regime for the siting of small-scale liquefaction facilities that generate and package liquefied natural gas for use as a transportation fuel for domestic delivery via non-pipeline means. The rulemaking or alternative risk-based compliance regime should incorporate the 2013 National Fire Protection Association Standard 59A and industry best practices while ensuring appropriate public safety protections.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Inspector General to carry out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, $86,223,000: *Provided*, That the Inspector General shall have all necessary authority, in carrying out the duties specified in the Inspector General Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App. 3), to investigate allegations of

fraud, including false statements to the government (18 U.S.C. 1001), by any person or entity that is subject to regulation by the Department: *Provided further*, That the funds made available under this heading may be used to investigate, pursuant to section 41712 of title 49, United States Code: (1) unfair or deceptive practices and unfair methods of competition by domestic and foreign air carriers and ticket agents; and (2) the compliance of domestic and foreign air carriers with respect to item (1) of this proviso.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Surface Transportation Board, including services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, $31,500,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, not to exceed $1,250,000 from fees established by the Chairman of the Surface Transportation Board shall be credited to this appropriation as offsetting collections and used for necessary and authorized expenses under this heading: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated from the general fund shall be reduced on a dollar-for-dollar basis as such offsetting collections are received during fiscal year 2014, to result in a final appropriation from the general fund estimated at no more than $30,250,000.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SEC. 190. During the current fiscal year, applicable appropriations to the Department of Transportation shall be available for maintenance and operation of aircraft; hire of passenger motor vehicles and aircraft; purchase of liability insurance for motor vehicles operating in foreign countries on official department business; and uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5901–5902).

SEC. 191. Appropriations contained in this Act for the Department of Transportation shall be available for services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem rate equivalent to the rate for an Executive Level IV.

SEC. 192. None of the funds in this Act shall be available for salaries and expenses of more than 110 political and Presidential appointees in the Department of Transportation: *Provided*, That none of the personnel covered by this provision may be assigned on temporary detail outside the Department of Transportation.

SEC. 193. (a) No recipient of funds made available in this Act shall disseminate personal information (as defined in 18 U.S.C. 2725(3)) obtained by a State department of motor vehicles in connection with a motor vehicle record as defined in 18 U.S.C. 2725(1), except as provided in 18 U.S.C. 2721 for a use permitted under 18 U.S.C. 2721.

(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), the Secretary shall not withhold funds provided in this Act for any grantee if a State is in noncompliance with this provision.

SEC. 194. Funds received by the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, and Federal Railroad Administration from States, counties, municipalities, other public authorities, and private sources for expenses incurred for training may be credited respectively to the Federal Highway Administration's ''Federal-Aid Highways'' account, the Federal Transit Administration's ''Technical Assistance and Training'' account, and to the Federal Railroad Administration's ''Safety and Operations'' account, except for State rail safety inspectors participating in training pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 20105.

SEC. 195. None of the funds in this Act to the Department of Transportation may be used to make a grant unless the Secretary of Transportation notifies the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations not less than 3 full business days before any project competitively selected to receive a discretionary grant award, any discretionary grant award, letter of intent, or full funding grant agreement is announced by the department or its modal administrations from:

(1) any discretionary grant program of the Federal Highway Administration including the emergency relief program;

(2) the airport improvement program of the Federal Aviation Administration;

(3) any program of the Federal Railroad Administration;

(4) any program of the Federal Transit Administration other than the formula grants and fixed guideway modernization programs;

(5) any program of the Maritime Administration; or

(6) any funding provided under the headings ''National Infrastructure Investments'' in this Act: *Provided*, That the Secretary gives concurrent notification to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations for any ''quick release'' of funds from the emergency relief program: *Provided further*, That no notification shall involve funds that are not available for obligation.

SEC. 196. Rebates, refunds, incentive payments, minor fees and other funds received by the Department of Transportation from travel management centers, charge card programs, the subleasing of building space, and miscellaneous sources are to be credited to appropriations of the Department of Transportation and allocated to elements of the Department of Transportation using fair and equitable criteria and such funds shall be available until expended.

SEC. 197. Amounts made available in this or any other Act that the Secretary determines represent improper payments by the Department of Transportation to a third-party contractor under a financial assistance award, which are recovered pursuant to law, shall be available—

(1) to reimburse the actual expenses incurred by the Department of Transportation in recovering improper payments; and

(2) to pay contractors for services provided in recovering improper payments or contractor support in the implementation of the Improper Payments Information Act of 2002: *Provided*, That amounts in excess of that required for paragraphs (1) and (2)—

(A) shall be credited to and merged with the appropriation from which the improper payments were made, and shall be available for the purposes and period for which such appropriations are available: *Provided further*, That where specific project or accounting information associated with the improper payment or payments is not readily available, the Secretary may credit an appropriate account, which shall be available for the purposes and period associated with the account so credited; or

(B) if no such appropriation remains available, shall be deposited in the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts: *Provided further*, That prior to the transfer of any such recovery to an appropriations account, the Secretary shall notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations of the amount and reasons for such transfer: *Provided further*, That for purposes of this section, the term ''improper payments'' has the same meaning as that provided in section 2(d)(2) of Public Law 107–300.

SEC. 198. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if any funds provided in or limited by this Act are subject to a reprogramming action that requires notice to be provided to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, transmission of said reprogramming notice shall be provided solely to the Committees on Appropriations, and said reprogramming action shall be approved or denied solely by the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That the Secretary may provide notice to other congressional committees of the action of the Committees on Appropriations on such reprogramming but not sooner than 30 days following the date on which the reprogramming action has been approved or denied by the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

SEC. 199. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act may be used by the Surface Transportation Board of the Department of Transportation to charge or collect any filing fee for rate or practice complaints filed with the Board in an amount in excess of the amount authorized for district court civil suit filing fees under section 1914 of title 28, United States Code.

SEC. 199A. Funds appropriated in this Act to the modal administrations may be obligated for the Office of the Secretary for the costs related to assessments or reimbursable agreements only when such amounts are for the costs of goods and services that are purchased to provide a direct benefit to the applicable modal administration or administrations.

SEC. 199B. The Secretary of Transportation is authorized to carry out a program that establishes uniform standards for developing and supporting agency transit pass and transit benefits authorized under section 7905 of title 5, United States Code, including distribution of transit benefits by various paper and electronic media.

This title may be cited as the ''Department of Transportation Appropriations Act, 2015''.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

For necessary salaries and expenses for Executive Offices, which shall be comprised of the offices of the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Adjudicatory Services, Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations, Public Affairs, Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, and the Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships, $14,700,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed $25,000 of the amount made available under this heading shall be available to the Secretary for official reception and representation expenses as the Secretary may determine.

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT OFFICES

For necessary salaries and expenses for Administrative Support Offices, $519,867,000, of which not to exceed $48,000,000 shall be available for the Office of the Chief Financial Officer; not to exceed $94,640,000 shall be available for the Office of the General Counsel; not to exceed $198,800,000 shall be available for the Office of Administration; not to exceed $58,000,000 shall be available for the Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer; not to exceed $51,135,000 shall be available for the Office of Field Policy and Management; not to exceed $16,330,000 shall be available for the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer; not to exceed $3,202,000 shall be available for the Office of Departmental Equal Employment Opportunity; not to exceed $4,560,000 shall be available for the Office of Strategic Planning and Management; and not to exceed $45,200,000 shall be available for the Office of the Chief Information Officer: *Provided*, That funds provided under this heading may be used for necessary administrative and nonadministrative expenses of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, not otherwise provided for, including purchase of uniforms, or allowances therefore, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901–5902; hire of passenger

motor vehicles; and services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated under this heading may be used for advertising and promotional activities that support the housing mission area: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall provide the Committees on Appropriations quarterly written notification regarding the status of pending congressional reports: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall provide in electronic form all signed reports required by Congress.

PROGRAM OFFICE SALARIES AND EXPENSES

PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of Public and Indian Housing, $205,525,000.

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of Community Planning and Development, $103,300,000.

HOUSING

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of Housing, $386,677,000, of which at least $9,000,000 shall be for the Office of Risk and Regulatory Affairs.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of Policy Development and Research, $22,300,000.

FAIR HOUSING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, $69,700,000.

OFFICE OF LEAD HAZARD CONTROL AND HEALTHY HOMES

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes, $7,075,000.

PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

RENTAL ASSISTANCE DEMONSTRATION

For continuing activities under the heading ''Rental Assistance Demonstration'' in the Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2012 (Public Law 112–55), and in accordance with guidance issued by the Secretary, $10,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That such funds shall only be available to properties converting from assistance under section 9 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g).

TENANT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE

For activities and assistance for the provision of tenant-based rental assistance authorized under the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.) (''the Act'' herein), not otherwise provided for, $15,562,160,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available on October 1, 2014 (in addition to the $4,000,000,000 previously appropriated under this heading that shall be available on October 1, 2014), and $4,000,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available on October 1, 2015: *Provided*, That the amounts made available under this heading are provided as follows:

(1) $17,719,000,000 shall be available for renewals of expiring section 8 tenant-based annual contributions contracts (including renewals of enhanced vouchers under any provision of law authorizing such assistance under section 8(t) of the Act) and including renewal of other special purpose incremental vouchers: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, from amounts provided under this paragraph and any carryover, the Secretary for the calendar year 2015 funding cycle shall provide renewal funding for each public housing agency based on validated voucher management system (VMS) leasing and cost data for the prior calendar year and by applying an inflation factor as established by the Secretary, by notice published in the Federal Register, and by making any necessary adjustments for the costs associated with the first-time renewal of vouchers under this paragraph including tenant protection, HOPE VI, and Choice Neighborhoods vouchers: *Provided further*, That in determining calendar year 2015 funding allocations under this heading for public housing agencies, including agencies participating in the Moving To Work (MTW) demonstration, the Secretary may take into account the anticipated impact of changes in targeting and utility allowances, on public housing agencies' contract renewal needs: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided under this paragraph may be used to fund a total number of unit months under lease which exceeds a public housing agency's authorized level of units under contract, except for public housing agencies participating in the MTW demonstration, which are instead governed by the terms and conditions of their MTW agreements: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall, to the extent necessary to stay within the amount specified under this paragraph (except as otherwise modified under this paragraph), prorate each public housing agency's allocation otherwise established pursuant to this paragraph: *Provided further*, That except as provided in the following provisos, the entire amount specified under this paragraph (except as otherwise modified under this paragraph) shall be obligated to the public housing agencies based on the allocation and pro rata method described above, and the Secretary shall notify public housing agencies of their annual budget by the latter of 60 days after enactment of this Act or March 1, 2015: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may extend the notification period with the prior written approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That public housing agencies participating in the MTW demonstration shall be funded pursuant to their MTW agreements and shall be subject to the same pro rata adjustments under the previous provisos: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may offset public housing agencies' calendar year 2015 allocations based on the excess amounts of public housing agencies' net restricted assets accounts, including HUD held programmatic reserves (in accordance with VMS data in calendar year 2014 that is verifiable and complete), as determined by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That public housing agencies participating in the MTW demonstration shall also be subject to the offset, as determined by the Secretary, excluding amounts subject to the single fund budget authority provisions of their MTW agreements, from the agencies' calendar year 2015 MTW funding allocation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall use any offset referred to in the previous two provisos throughout the calendar year to prevent the termination of rental assistance for families as the result of insufficient funding, as determined by the Secretary, and to avoid or reduce the proration of renewal funding allocations: *Provided further*, That up to $75,000,000 shall be available only: (1) for adjustments in the allocations for public housing agencies, after application for an adjustment by a public housing agency that experienced a significant increase, as determined by the Secretary, in renewal costs of vouchers resulting from unforeseen circumstances or from portability under section 8(r) of the Act; (2) for vouchers that were not in use during the 12-month period in order to be available to meet a commitment pursuant to section 8(o)(13) of the Act; (3) for adjustments for costs associated with HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD–VASH) vouchers; and (4) for public housing agencies that despite taking reasonable cost savings measures, as determined by the Secretary, would otherwise be required to terminate rental assistance for families as a result of insufficient funding: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall allocate amounts under the previous proviso based on need, as determined by the Secretary;

(2) $130,000,000 shall be for section 8 rental assistance for relocation and replacement of housing units that are demolished or disposed of pursuant to section 18 of the Act, conversion of section 23 projects to assistance under section 8, the family unification program under section 8(x) of the Act, relocation of witnesses in connection with efforts to combat crime in public and assisted housing pursuant to a request from a law enforcement or prosecution agency, enhanced vouchers under any provision of law authorizing such assistance under section 8(t) of the Act, HOPE VI and Choice Neighborhood vouchers, mandatory and voluntary conversions, and tenant protection assistance including replacement and relocation assistance or for project-based assistance to prevent the displacement of unassisted elderly tenants currently residing in section 202 properties financed between 1959 and 1974 that are refinanced pursuant to Public Law 106–569, as amended, or under the authority as provided under this Act: *Provided*, That when a public housing development is submitted for demolition or disposition under section 18 of the Act, the Secretary may provide section 8 rental assistance when the units pose an imminent health and safety risk to residents: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may only provide replacement vouchers for units that were occupied within the previous 24 months that cease to be available as assisted housing, subject only to the availability of funds: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this paragraph, $5,000,000 may be available to provide tenant protection assistance, not otherwise provided under this paragraph, to residents residing in low vacancy areas and who may have to pay rents greater than 30 percent of household income, as the result of (1) the maturity of a HUD-insured, HUD-held or section 202 loan that requires the permission of the Secretary prior to loan prepayment; (2) the expiration of a rental assistance contract for which the tenants are not eligible for enhanced voucher or tenant protection assistance under existing law; or (3) the expiration of affordability restrictions accompanying a mortgage or preservation program administered by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That such tenant protection assistance made available under the previous proviso may be provided under the authority of section 8(t) or section 8(o)(13) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(t)): *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall issue guidance to implement the previous provisos, including, but not limited to, requirements for defining eligible at-risk households within 120 days of the enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That any tenant protection voucher made available from amounts under this paragraph shall not be reissued by any public housing agency, except the replacement vouchers as defined by the Secretary by notice, when the initial family that received any such voucher no longer receives such voucher, and the authority for any public housing agency to issue any such voucher shall cease to exist: *Provided further*, That the Secretary, for the purpose under this paragraph, may use unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryovers, remaining from amounts appropriated in prior fiscal years under this heading for voucher assistance for nonelderly disabled families and for disaster assistance made available under Public Law 110–329;

(3) $1,555,000,000 shall be for administrative and other expenses of public housing agencies in administering the section 8 tenant-based rental assistance program, of which up to $10,000,000 shall be available to the Secretary to allocate to public housing agencies that need additional funds to administer their section 8 programs, including fees associated with section 8 tenant protection rental assistance, the administration of disaster related vouchers, Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing vouchers, and other special purpose incremental vouchers: *Provided*, That no less than $1,545,000,000 of the amount provided in this paragraph shall be allocated to public housing agencies for the calendar year 2015 funding cycle based on section 8(q) of the Act (and related Appropriation Act provisions) as in effect immediately before the enactment of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 (Public Law 105–276): *Provided further*, That if the amounts made available under this paragraph are insufficient to pay the amounts determined under the previous proviso, the Secretary may decrease the amounts allocated to agencies by a uniform percentage applicable to all agencies receiving funding under this paragraph or may, to the extent necessary to provide full payment of amounts determined under the previous proviso, utilize unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryovers, remaining from funds appropriated to the Department of Housing and Urban Development under this heading from prior fiscal years, excluding special purpose vouchers, notwithstanding the purposes for which such amounts were appropriated: *Provided further*, That all public housing agencies participating in the MTW demonstration shall be funded pursuant to their MTW agreements, and shall be subject to the same uniform percentage decrease as under the previous proviso: *Provided further*, That amounts provided under this paragraph shall be only for activities related to the provision of tenant-based rental assistance authorized under section 8, including related development activities;

(4) $83,160,000 for the renewal of tenant-based assistance contracts under section 811 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8013), including necessary administrative expenses: *Provided*, That administrative and other expenses of public housing agencies in administering the special purpose vouchers in this paragraph shall be funded under the same terms and be subject to the same pro rata reduction as the percent decrease for administrative and other expenses to public housing agencies under paragraph (3) of this heading;

(5) $75,000,000 for incremental rental voucher assistance for use through a supported housing program administered in conjunction with the Department of Veterans Affairs as authorized under section 8(o)(19) of the United States Housing Act of 1937: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall make such funding available, notwithstanding section 204 (competition provision) of this title, to public housing agencies that partner with eligible VA Medical Centers or other entities as designated by the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, based on geographical need for such assistance as identified by the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, public housing agency administrative performance, and other factors as specified by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development in consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may waive, or specify alternative requirements for (in consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs), any provision of any statute or regulation that the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development administers in connection with the use of funds made available under this paragraph (except for requirements related to fair housing, nondiscrimination, labor standards, and the environment), upon a finding by the Secretary that any such waivers or alternative requirements are necessary for the effective delivery and administration of such voucher assistance: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall set aside an amount provided under this paragraph for a rental assistance and supportive housing demonstration program for Native American veterans that are homeless or at-risk of homelessness living on or near a reservation or other Indian areas: *Provided further*, That such demonstration program shall be modeled after, with necessary and appropriate adjustments for Native American grant recipients and veterans, the rental assistance and supportive housing program funded under this paragraph, including administration in conjunction with the Department of Veterans Affairs and overall implementation of section 8(o)(19) of the Act: *Provided further*, That amounts for rental assistance and associated administrative costs shall be made available by grants to recipients eligible to receive block grants under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. section 4101 et seq.): *Provided further*, That funds shall be awarded based on need, administrative capacity, and any other funding criteria established by the Secretary in a Notice published in the Federal Register after coordination with the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs within 180 days of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That such rental assistance shall be administered by block grant recipients in accordance with program requirements under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996: *Provided further*, That the second and third provisos under this paragraph shall apply to use of funds made available for this demonstration, as appropriate: *Provided further*, That the Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, shall coordinate with block grant recipients and any other appropriate tribal organizations on the design of such demonstration and shall ensure the effective delivery of supportive services to Native American veterans that are homeless or at-risk of homelessness eligible to receive assistance under this demonstration: *Provided further*, That grant recipients shall report to the Secretary, as prescribed by the Secretary, utilization of such rental assistance provided under this demonstration: *Provided further*, That assistance made available under this paragraph shall continue to remain available for homeless veterans upon turn-over; and

(6) The Secretary shall separately track all special purpose vouchers funded under this heading.

HOUSING CERTIFICATE FUND

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

Unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryover, remaining from funds appropriated to the Department of Housing and Urban Development under this heading, the heading ''Annual Contributions for Assisted Housing'' and the heading ''Project-Based Rental Assistance'', for fiscal year 2015 and prior years may be used for renewal of or amendments to section 8 project-based contracts and for performance-based contract administrators, notwithstanding the purposes for which such funds were appropriated: *Provided*, That any obligated balances of contract authority from fiscal year 1974 and prior that have been terminated shall be rescinded: *Provided further*, That amounts heretofore recaptured, or recaptured during the current fiscal year, from section 8 project-based contracts from source years fiscal year 1975 through fiscal year 1987 are hereby rescinded, and an amount of additional new budget authority, equivalent to the amount rescinded is hereby appropriated, to remain available until expended, for the purposes set forth under this heading, in addition to amounts otherwise available.

PUBLIC HOUSING CAPITAL FUND

For the Public Housing Capital Fund Program to carry out capital and management activities for public housing agencies, as authorized under section 9 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g) (the ''Act'') $1,900,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law or regulation, during fiscal year 2015 the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may not delegate to any Department official other than the Deputy Secretary and the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing any authority under paragraph (2) of section 9(j) regarding the extension of the time periods under such section: *Provided further*, That for purposes of such section 9(j), the term ''obligate'' means, with respect to amounts, that the amounts are subject to a binding agreement that will result in outlays, immediately or in the future: *Provided further*, That up to $5,000,000 shall be to support ongoing Public Housing Financial and Physical Assessment activities: *Provided further*, That up to $3,000,000 shall be to support the costs of administrative and judicial receiverships: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading, not to exceed $23,000,000 shall be available for the Secretary to make grants, notwithstanding section 204 of this Act, to public housing agencies for emergency capital needs including safety and security measures necessary to address crime and drug-related activity as well as needs resulting from unforeseen or unpreventable emergencies and natural disasters excluding Presidentially declared emergencies and natural disasters under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) occurring in fiscal year 2015: *Provided further*, That of the amount made available under the previous proviso, not less than $6,000,000 shall be for safety and security measures: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading $45,000,000 shall be for supportive services, service coordinator and congregate services as authorized by section 34 of the Act (42 U.S.C. 1437z–6) and the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4101 et seq.): *Provided further*, That of the total amount made available under this heading, up to $15,000,000 may be used for incentives as part of a Jobs-Plus Pilot initiative modeled after the Jobs-Plus demonstration: *Provided further*, That the funding provided under the previous proviso shall provide competitive grants to partnerships between public housing authorities, local workforce investment boards established under section 117 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, and other agencies and organizations that provide support to help public housing residents obtain employment and increase earnings: *Provided further*, That applicants must demonstrate the ability to provide services to residents, partner with workforce investment boards, and leverage service dollars: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may set aside a portion of the funds provided for the Resident Opportunity and Self-Sufficiency program to support the services element of the Jobs-Plus Pilot initiative: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may allow PHAs to request exemptions from

rent and income limitation requirements under sections 3 and 6 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 as necessary to implement the Jobs-Plus program, on such terms and conditions as the Secretary may approve upon a finding by the Secretary that any such waivers or alternative requirements are necessary for the effective implementation of the Jobs-Plus Pilot initiative as a voluntary program for residents: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall publish by notice in the Federal Register any waivers or alternative requirements pursuant to the preceding proviso no later than 10 days before the effective date of such notice: *Provided further*, That for funds provided under this heading, the limitation in section 9(g)(1)(A) of the Act shall be 30 percent: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may waive the limitation in the previous proviso to allow public housing agencies to fund activities authorized under section 9(e)(1)(C) of the Act: *Provided further*, That from the funds made available under this heading, the Secretary shall provide bonus awards in fiscal year 2015 to public housing agencies that are designated high performers: *Provided further*, That the Department shall notify public housing agencies of their formula allocation within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

PUBLIC HOUSING OPERATING FUND

For 2015 payments to public housing agencies for the operation and management of public housing, as authorized by section 9(e) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g(e)), $4,475,000,000.

CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS INITIATIVE

For competitive grants under the Choice Neighborhoods Initiative (subject to section 24 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437v), unless otherwise specified under this heading), for transformation, rehabilitation, and replacement housing needs of both public and HUD-assisted housing and to transform neighborhoods of poverty into functioning, sustainable mixed income neighborhoods with appropriate services, schools, public assets, transportation and access to jobs, $90,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That grant funds may be used for resident and community services, community development, and affordable housing needs in the community, and for conversion of vacant or foreclosed properties to affordable housing: *Provided further*, That the use of funds made available under this heading shall not be deemed to be public housing notwithstanding section 3(b)(1) of such Act: *Provided further*, That grantees shall commit to an additional period of affordability determined by the Secretary of not fewer than 20 years: *Provided further*, That grantees shall undertake comprehensive local planning with input from residents and the community, and that grantees shall provide a match in State, local, other Federal or private funds: *Provided further*, That grantees may include local governments, tribal entities, public housing authorities, and nonprofits: *Provided further*, That for-profit developers may apply jointly with a public entity: *Provided further*, That for purposes of environmental review, a grantee shall be treated as a public housing agency under section 26 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437x), and grants under this heading shall be subject to the regulations issued by the Secretary to implement such section: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided, not less than $55,000,000 shall be awarded to public housing authorities: *Provided further*, That such grantees shall create partnerships with other local organizations including assisted housing owners, service agencies, and resident organizations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall consult with the Secretaries of Education, Labor, Transportation, Health and Human Services, Agriculture, and Commerce, the Attorney General, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to coordinate and leverage other appropriate Federal resources: *Provided further*, That no more than $5,000,000 of funds made available under this heading may be provided to assist communities in developing comprehensive strategies for implementing this program or implementing other revitalization efforts in conjunction with community notice and input: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall develop and publish guidelines for the use of such competitive funds, including but not limited to eligible activities, program requirements, and performance metrics: *Provided further*, That unobligated balances, including recaptures, remaining from funds appropriated under the heading ''Revitalization of Severely Distressed Public Housing (HOPE VI)'' in fiscal year 2011 and prior fiscal years may be used for purposes under this heading, notwithstanding the purposes for which such amounts were appropriated.

FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY

For the Family Self-Sufficiency program to support family self-sufficiency coordinators under section 23 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, to promote the development of local strategies to coordinate the use of assistance under sections 8(o) and 9 of such Act with public and private resources, and enable eligible families to achieve economic independence and self-sufficiency, $75,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That the Secretary may, by Federal Register notice, waive or specify alternative requirements under sections b(3), b(4), b(5), or c(1) of section 23 of such Act in order to facilitate the operation of a unified self-sufficiency program for individuals receiving assistance under different provisions of the Act, as determined by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That owners of a privately owned multifamily property with a section 8 contract may voluntarily make a Family Self-Sufficiency program available to the assisted tenants of such property in accordance with procedures established by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That such procedures established pursuant to the previous proviso shall permit participating tenants to accrue escrow funds in accordance with section 23(d)(2) and shall allow owners to use funding from residual receipt accounts to hire coordinators for their own Family Self-Sufficiency program: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may carry out a demonstration testing the effectiveness of combining vouchers for homeless youth under the Family Unification Program authorized under section 8(x) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.) (''the Act'' herein) with assistance under the Family Self-Sufficiency program authorized under section 23 of the Act: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may establish alternative requirements to those contained in section 8(x) of the Act to facilitate such a demonstration: *Provided further*, That any public housing agency that has existing Family Unification Program vouchers and an established Family Self-Sufficiency program may participate in such demonstration provided that they can demonstrate (1) an agreement with the public child welfare agency or agencies to serve the target population; (2) capacity to serve the target population; (3) the success of the agency's existing Family Self-Sufficiency program in serving residents; (4) partnerships with local organizations that serve homeless youth; and (5) any other factors established by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall monitor and evaluate the demonstration and report on whether the demonstration helped homeless youth achieve self-sufficiency.

NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANTS

For the Native American Housing Block Grants program, as authorized under title I of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA) (25 U.S.C. 4111 et seq.), $650,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, to determine the amount of the allocation under title I of such Act for each Indian tribe, the Secretary shall apply the formula under section 302 of such Act with the need component based on single-race census data and with the need component based on multi-race census data, and the amount of the allocation for each Indian tribe shall be the greater of the two resulting allocation amounts: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, $4,000,000 shall be contracted for assistance for a national organization representing Native American housing interests for providing training and technical assistance to Indian housing authorities and tribally designated housing entities as authorized under section 703 of NAHASDA (25 U.S.C. 4212); and up to $2,000,000 shall be to support the inspection of Indian housing units, contract expertise, training, and technical assistance in the training, oversight, and management of such Indian housing and tenant-based assistance, including up to $300,000 for related travel: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided under this heading, $2,000,000 shall be made available for the cost of guaranteed notes and other obligations, as authorized by title VI of NAHASDA: *Provided further*, That such costs, including the costs of modifying such notes and other obligations, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended: *Provided further*, That these funds are available to subsidize the total principal amount of any notes and other obligations, any part of which is to be guaranteed, not to exceed $16,530,000: *Provided further*, That the Department will notify grantees of their formula allocation within 60 days of the date of enactment of this Act.

NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANT

For the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant program, as authorized under title VIII of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4111 et seq.), $10,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That of this amount, $300,000 shall be for training and technical assistance activities, including up to $100,000 for related travel by Hawaii-based employees of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

INDIAN HOUSING LOAN GUARANTEE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of guaranteed loans, as authorized by section 184 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 1715z–13a), $6,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such costs, including the costs of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That these funds are available to subsidize total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, up to $714,290,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That up to $750,000 of this amount may be for administrative contract expenses including management processes and systems to carry out the loan guarantee program.

NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOUSING LOAN GUARANTEE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of guaranteed loans, as authorized by section 184A of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 1715z–13b) and for such costs for loans used for refinancing, $100,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such costs, including the costs of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That these funds are available to subsidize total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, up to $16,130,000, to remain available until expended.

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS

For carrying out the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS program, as authorized by the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act (42 U.S.C. 12901 et seq.), $330,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017, except that amounts allocated pursuant to section 854(c)(3) of such Act shall remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall renew all expiring contracts for permanent supportive housing that initially were funded under section 854(c)(3) of such Act from funds made available under this heading in fiscal year 2010 and prior fiscal years that meet all program requirements before awarding funds for new contracts under such section: *Provided further*, That the Department shall notify grantees of their formula allocation within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND

For assistance to units of State and local government, and to other entities, for economic and community development activities, and for other purposes, $3,090,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017, unless otherwise specified: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided, $3,020,000,000 is for carrying out the community development block grant program under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (the ''Act'' herein) (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.): *Provided further*, That unless explicitly provided for under this heading, not to exceed 20 percent of any grant made with funds appropriated under this heading shall be expended for planning and management development and administration: *Provided further*, That a metropolitan city, urban county, unit of general local government, or Indian tribe, or insular area that directly or indirectly receives funds under this heading may not sell, trade, or otherwise transfer all or any portion of such funds to another such entity in exchange for any other funds, credits or non-Federal considerations, but must use such funds for activities eligible under title I of the Act: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 105(e)(1) of the Act, no funds provided under this heading may be provided to a for-profit entity for an economic development project under section 105(a)(17) unless such project has been evaluated and selected in accordance with guidelines required under subparagraph (e)(2): *Provided further*, That the Department shall notify grantees of their formula allocation within 60 days of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That $70,000,000 shall be for grants to Indian tribes notwithstanding section 106(a)(1) of such Act, of which, notwithstanding any other provision of law (including section 204 of this Act), up to $3,960,000 may be used for emergencies that constitute imminent threats to health and safety: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under the previous proviso, $10,000,000 shall be for grants for mold remediation and prevention that shall be awarded through one national competition to Native American tribes with the greatest need.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT LOAN GUARANTEES PROGRAM ACCOUNT

Subject to section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, during fiscal year 2015, commitments to guarantee loans under section 108 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5308), any part of which is guaranteed, shall not exceed a total principal amount of $500,000,000: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall collect fees from borrowers to result in a cost of zero for guaranteeing such loans, and any such fees shall be collected in accordance with section 502(7) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM

For the HOME investment partnerships program, as authorized under title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, as amended, $950,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That notwithstanding the amount made available under this heading, the threshold reduction requirements in sections 216(10) and 217(b)(4) of such Act shall not apply to allocations of such amount: *Provided further*, That the requirements under provisos 2 through 6 under this heading for fiscal year 2012 and such requirements applicable pursuant to the ''Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013'', shall not apply to any project to which funds were committed on or after August 23, 2013, but such projects shall instead be governed by the Final Rule titled ''Home Investment Partnerships Program; Improving Performance and Accountability; Updating Property Standards'' which became effective on such date: *Provided further*, That the Department shall notify grantees of their formula allocation within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

SELF-HELP AND ASSISTED HOMEOWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM

For the Self-Help and Assisted Homeownership Opportunity Program, as authorized under section 11 of the Housing Opportunity Program Extension Act of 1996, as amended, $50,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided under this heading, $10,000,000 shall be made available to the Self-Help and Assisted Homeownership Opportunity Program as authorized under section 11 of the Housing Opportunity Program Extension Act of 1996, as amended: *Provided further*, That $35,000,000 shall be made available for the second, third, and fourth capacity building activities authorized under section 4(a) of the HUD Demonstration Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. 9816 note), of which not less than $5,000,000 shall be made available for rural capacity-building activities: *Provided further*, That $5,000,000 shall be made available for capacity building by national rural housing organizations with experience assessing national rural conditions and providing financing, training, technical assistance, information, and research to local nonprofits, local governments and Indian Tribes serving high need rural communities.

HOMELESS ASSISTANCE GRANTS

For the emergency solutions grants program as authorized under subtitle B of title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended; the continuum of care program as authorized under subtitle C of title IV of such Act; and the rural housing stability assistance program as authorized under subtitle D of title IV of such Act, $2,145,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That any rental assistance amounts that are recaptured under such continuum of care program shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That not less than $250,000,000 of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for such emergency solutions grants program: *Provided further*, That not less than $1,848,000,000 of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for such continuum of care and rural housing stability assistance programs: *Provided further*, That up to $7,000,000 of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for the national homeless data analysis project: *Provided further*, That all funds awarded for supportive services under the continuum of care program and the rural housing stability assistance program shall be matched by not less than 25 percent in cash or in kind by each grantee: *Provided further*, That a grantee may use State and local funds from any source to satisfy match requirements applicable to funds made available under this heading, so long as the funds are used in accordance with their authorized purpose: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may renew on an annual basis expiring contracts or amendments to contracts funded under the continuum of care program if the program is determined to be needed under the applicable continuum of care and meets appropriate program requirements, performance measures, and financial standards, as determined by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That all awards of assistance under this heading shall be required to coordinate and integrate homeless programs with other mainstream health, social services, and employment programs for which homeless populations may be eligible: *Provided further*, That with respect to funds provided under this heading for the continuum of care program for fiscal years 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015, provision of permanent housing rental assistance may be administered by private nonprofit organizations: *Provided further*, That the Department shall notify grantees of their formula allocation from amounts allocated (which may represent initial or final amounts allocated) for the emergency solutions grant program within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

HOUSING PROGRAMS

PROJECT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE

For activities and assistance for the provision of project-based subsidy contracts under the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.) (''the Act''), not otherwise provided for, $9,346,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available on October 1, 2014 (in addition to the $400,000,000 previously appropriated under this heading that shall be available October 1, 2014), and $400,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available on October 1, 2015: *Provided*, That the amounts made available under this heading shall be available for expiring or terminating section 8 project-based subsidy contracts (including section 8 moderate rehabilitation contracts), for amendments to section 8 project-based subsidy contracts (including section 8 moderate rehabilitation contracts), for contracts entered into pursuant to section 441 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11401), for renewal of senior preservation rental assistance contracts, as authorized by section 811(e) of the American Housing and Economic Opportunity Act of 2000, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1701q note), for renewal of section 8 contracts for units in projects that are subject to approved plans of action under the Emergency Low Income Housing Preservation Act of 1987 or the Low-Income Housing Preservation and Resident Homeownership Act of 1990, and for administrative and other expenses associated with project-based activities and assistance funded under this paragraph: *Provided further*,

That of the total amounts provided under this heading, not to exceed $210,000,000 shall be available for performance-based contract administrators for section 8 project-based assistance, for carrying out 42 U.S.C. 1437(f): *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may also use such amounts in the previous proviso for performance-based contract administrators for the administration of: interest reduction payments pursuant to section 236(a) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–1(a)); rent supplement payments pursuant to section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 (12 U.S.C. 1701s); section 236(f)(2) rental assistance payments (12 U.S.C. 1715z–1(f)(2)); project rental assistance contracts for the elderly under section 202(c)(2) of the Housing Act of 1959 (12 U.S.C. 1701q); project rental assistance contracts for supportive housing for persons with disabilities under section 811(d)(2) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8013(d)(2)); project assistance contracts pursuant to section 202(h) of the Housing Act of 1959 (Public Law 86–372; 73 Stat. 667); and loans under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 (Public Law 86–372; 73 Stat. 667): *Provided further*, That amounts recaptured under this heading, the heading ''Annual Contributions for Assisted Housing'', or the heading ''Housing Certificate Fund'', may be used for renewals of or amendments to section 8 project-based contracts or for performance-based contract administrators, notwithstanding the purposes for which such amounts were appropriated: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, upon the request of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, project funds that are held in residual receipts accounts for any project subject to a section 8 project-based Housing Assistance Payments contract that authorizes HUD or a Housing Finance Agency to require that surplus project funds be deposited in an interest-bearing residual receipts account and that are in excess of an amount to be determined by the Secretary, shall be remitted to the Department and deposited in this account, to be available until expended: *Provided further*, That amounts deposited pursuant to the previous proviso shall be available in addition to the amount otherwise provided by this heading for uses authorized under this heading.

HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY

For amendments to capital advance contracts for housing for the elderly, as authorized by section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959, as amended, and for project rental assistance for the elderly under section 202(c)(2) of such Act, including amendments to contracts for such assistance and renewal of expiring contracts for such assistance for up to a 1-year term, and for senior preservation rental assistance contracts, as authorized by section 811(e) of the American Housing and Economic Opportunity Act of 2000, as amended, and for supportive services associated with the housing, $420,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That of the amount provided under this heading, up to $70,000,000 shall be for service coordinators and the continuation of existing congregate service grants for residents of assisted housing projects: *Provided further*, That amounts under this heading shall be available for Real Estate Assessment Center inspections and inspection-related activities associated with section 202 projects: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may waive the provisions of section 202 governing the terms and conditions of project rental assistance, except that the initial contract term for such assistance shall not exceed 5 years in duration: *Provided further*, That upon request of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, project funds that are held in residual receipts accounts for any project subject to a section 202 project rental assistance contract, and that upon termination of such contract are in excess of an amount to be determined by the Secretary, shall be remitted to the Department and deposited in this account, to be available until September 30, 2018.

HOUSING FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

For amendments to capital advance contracts for supportive housing for persons with disabilities, as authorized by section 811 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8013), for project rental assistance for supportive housing for persons with disabilities under section 811(d)(2) of such Act and for project assistance contracts pursuant to section 202(h) of the Housing Act of 1959 (Public Law 86–372; 73 Stat. 667), including amendments to contracts for such assistance and renewal of expiring contracts for such assistance for up to a 1-year term, for project rental assistance to State housing finance agencies and other appropriate entities as authorized under section 811(b)(3) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Housing Act, and for supportive services associated with the housing for persons with disabilities as authorized by section 811(b)(1) of such Act, $135,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That amounts made available under this heading shall be available for Real Estate Assessment Center inspections and inspection-related activities associated with section 811 projects: *Provided further*, That, in this fiscal year, upon the request of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, project funds that are held in residual receipts accounts for any project subject to a section 811 project rental assistance contract and that upon termination of such contract are in excess of an amount to be determined by the Secretary shall be remitted to the Department and deposited in this account, to be available until September 30, 2018: *Provided further*, That amounts deposited in this account pursuant to the previous proviso shall be available in addition to the amounts otherwise provided by this heading for the purposes authorized under this heading: *Provided further*, That unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryover, remaining from funds transferred to or appropriated under this heading may be used for the current purposes authorized under this heading notwithstanding the purposes for which such funds originally were appropriated.

HOUSING COUNSELING ASSISTANCE

For contracts, grants, and other assistance excluding loans, as authorized under section 106 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, $49,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, including up to $4,500,000 for administrative contract services: *Provided*, That grants made available from amounts provided under this heading shall be awarded within 180 days of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That funds shall be used for providing counseling and advice to tenants and homeowners, both current and prospective, with respect to property maintenance, financial management/literacy, and such other matters as may be appropriate to assist them in improving their housing conditions, meeting their financial needs, and fulfilling the responsibilities of tenancy or homeownership; for program administration; and for housing counselor training.

RENTAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE

For amendments to contracts under section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 (12 U.S.C. 1701s) and section 236(f)(2) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–1) in State-aided, noninsured rental housing projects, $28,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amount, together with unobligated balances from recaptured amounts appropriated prior to fiscal year 2006 from terminated contracts under such sections of law, and any unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryover, remaining from funds appropriated under this heading after fiscal year 2005, shall also be available for extensions of up to one year for expiring contracts under such sections of law.

PAYMENT TO MANUFACTURED HOUSING FEES TRUST FUND

For necessary expenses as authorized by the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5401 et seq.), up to $10,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which $10,000,000 is to be derived from the Manufactured Housing Fees Trust Fund: *Provided*, That not to exceed the total amount appropriated under this heading shall be available from the general fund of the Treasury to the extent necessary to incur obligations and make expenditures pending the receipt of collections to the Fund pursuant to section 620 of such Act: *Provided further*, That the amount made available under this heading from the general fund shall be reduced as such collections are received during fiscal year 2015 so as to result in a final fiscal year 2015 appropriation from the general fund estimated at not more than zero, and fees pursuant to such section 620 shall be modified as necessary to ensure such a final fiscal year 2015 appropriation: *Provided further*, That for the dispute resolution and installation programs, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may assess and collect fees from any program participant: *Provided further*, That such collections shall be deposited into the Fund, and the Secretary, as provided herein, may use such collections, as well as fees collected under section 620, for necessary expenses of such Act: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding the requirements of section 620 of such Act, the Secretary may carry out responsibilities of the Secretary under such Act through the use of approved service providers that are paid directly by the recipients of their services.

FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION

MUTUAL MORTGAGE INSURANCE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

New commitments to guarantee single family loans insured under the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund shall not exceed $400,000,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That during fiscal year 2015, obligations to make direct loans to carry out the purposes of section 204(g) of the National Housing Act, as amended, shall not exceed $20,000,000: *Provided further*, That the foregoing amount in the previous proviso shall be for loans to nonprofit and governmental entities in connection with sales of single family real properties owned by the Secretary and formerly insured under the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund: *Provided further*, That for administrative contract expenses of the Federal Housing Administration, $145,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That to the extent guaranteed loan commitments exceed $200,000,000,000 on or before April 1, 2015, an additional $1,400 for administrative contract expenses shall be available for each $1,000,000 in additional guaranteed loan commitments (including a pro rata amount for any amount below $1,000,000), but in no case shall funds made available by this proviso exceed $30,000,000: *Provided further*, That receipts from administrative support fees collected pursuant to

section 202 of the National Housing Act, as amended by section 240 of this title, shall be credited as offsetting collections to this account.

GENERAL AND SPECIAL RISK PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING RESCISSION)

New commitments to guarantee loans insured under the General and Special Risk Insurance Funds, as authorized by sections 238 and 519 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–3 and 1735c), shall not exceed $30,000,000,000 in total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided,* That during fiscal year 2015, gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans, as authorized by sections 204(g), 207(l), 238, and 519(a) of the National Housing Act, shall not exceed $20,000,000, which shall be for loans to nonprofit and governmental entities in connection with the sale of single family real properties owned by the Secretary and formerly insured under such Act: *Provided further*, That $10,000,000 previously provided under this heading is hereby permanently rescinded.

GOVERNMENT NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION

GUARANTEES OF MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

New commitments to issue guarantees to carry out the purposes of section 306 of the National Housing Act, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1721(g)), shall not exceed $500,000,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided,* That $24,000,000 shall be available for necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of Government National Mortgage Association: *Provided further*, That to the extent that guaranteed loan commitments will and do exceed $155,000,000,000 on or before April 1, 2015, an additional $100 for necessary salaries and expenses shall be available until expended for each $1,000,000 in additional guaranteed loan commitments (including a pro rata amount for any amount below $1,000,000), but in no case shall funds made available by this proviso exceed $3,000,000: *Provided further*, That receipts from Commitment and Multiclass fees collected pursuant to title III of the National Housing Act, as amended, shall be credited as offsetting collections to this account.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH

RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

For contracts, grants, and necessary expenses of programs of research and studies relating to housing and urban problems, not otherwise provided for, as authorized by title V of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970 (12 U.S.C. 1701z–1 et seq.), including carrying out the functions of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development under section 1(a)(1)(i) of Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1968, $46,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided,* That with respect to amounts made available under this heading, notwithstanding section 204 of this title, the Secretary may enter into cooperative agreements funded with philanthropic entities, other Federal agencies, or State or local governments and their agencies for research projects: *Provided further*, That with respect to the previous proviso, such partners to the cooperative agreements must contribute at least a 50 percent match toward the cost of the project: *Provided further*, That for non-competitive agreements entered into in accordance with the previous two provisos, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall comply with section 2(b) of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–282, 31 U.S.C. note) in lieu of compliance with section 102(a)(4)(C) with respect to documentation of award decisions.

FAIR HOUSING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

FAIR HOUSING ACTIVITIES

For contracts, grants, and other assistance, not otherwise provided for, as authorized by title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended by the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988, and section 561 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987, as amended, $66,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, of which $40,600,000 shall be to carry out activities pursuant to such section 561: *Provided*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, the Secretary may assess and collect fees to cover the costs of the Fair Housing Training Academy, and may use such funds to provide such training: *Provided further*, That no funds made available under this heading shall be used to lobby the executive or legislative branches of the Federal Government in connection with a specific contract, grant, or loan: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, $300,000 shall be available to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for the creation and promotion of translated materials and other programs that support the assistance of persons with limited English proficiency in utilizing the services provided by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

OFFICE OF LEAD HAZARD CONTROL AND HEALTHY HOMES

LEAD HAZARD REDUCTION

For the Lead Hazard Reduction Program, as authorized by section 1011 of the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992, $110,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided,* That up to $15,000,000 of that amount shall be for the Healthy Homes Initiative, pursuant to sections 501 and 502 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970 that shall include research, studies, testing, and demonstration efforts, including education and outreach concerning lead-based paint poisoning and other housing-related diseases and hazards: *Provided further,* That for purposes of environmental review, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and other provisions of the law that further the purposes of such Act, a grant under the Healthy Homes Initiative, or the Lead Technical Studies program under this heading or under prior appropriations Acts for such purposes under this heading, shall be considered to be funds for a special project for purposes of section 305(c) of the Multifamily Housing Property Disposition Reform Act of 1994: *Provided further*, That of the total amount made available under this heading, $45,000,000 shall be made available on a competitive basis for areas with the highest lead paint abatement needs: *Provided further*, That each recipient of funds provided under the third proviso shall make a matching contribution in an amount not less than 25 percent: *Provided further*, That each applicant shall certify adequate capacity that is acceptable to the Secretary to carry out the proposed use of funds pursuant to a notice of funding availability: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this heading in this or prior appropriations Acts, and that still remain available, may be used for any purpose under this heading notwithstanding the purpose for which such amounts were appropriated if a program competition is undersubscribed and there are other program competitions under this heading that are oversubscribed.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FUND

For the development of, modifications to, and infrastructure for Department-wide and program-specific information technology systems, for the continuing operation and maintenance of both Department-wide and program-specific information systems, and for program-related maintenance activities, $250,000,000, which shall remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That any amounts transferred to this Fund under this Act shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That any amounts transferred to this Fund from amounts appropriated by previously enacted appropriations Acts may be used for the purposes specified under this Fund, in addition to any other information technology purposes for which such amounts were appropriated: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, the amount, as determined by the Secretary, to be used for Development, Modernization, and Enhancement, including development and deployment of a Next Generation Management System and development and deployment of modernized Federal Housing Administration systems, may not be obligated, except for 25 percent of such amount, until the Secretary submits to the Committees on Appropriations and the Comptroller General of the United States a plan for expenditure that—(A) provides for all information technology investments: (i) the cost and schedule baselines with explanations for each associated variance, (ii) the status of functional and performance capabilities delivered or planned to be delivered, and (iii) mitigation strategies to address identified risks; (B) outlines activities to ensure strategic, consistent, and effective application of information technology management controls: (i) enterprise architecture, (ii) project management, (iii) investment management, and (iv) human capital management.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, $129,000,000: *Provided*, That the Inspector General shall have independent authority over all personnel issues within this office.

TRANSFORMATION INITIATIVE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Of the amounts made available in this Act under each of the following headings under this title, the Secretary may transfer to, and merge with, this account up to 0.5 percent from each such account, and such transferred amounts shall be available until September 30, 2017, for (1) research, evaluation, and program metrics; (2) program demonstrations; and (3) technical assistance and capacity building: ''Choice Neighborhoods Initiative'', ''Community Development Fund'', ''Fair Housing Activities'', ''Family Self-Sufficiency'', ''HOME Investment Partnerships Program'', ''Self-Help and Assisted Homeownership Opportunity Program'', ''Housing Counseling Assistance'', ''Housing for Persons with Disabilities'', ''Housing for the Elderly'', ''Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS'', ''Lead Hazard Reduction'', ''Mutual Mortgage Insurance Program Account'', ''Native American Housing Block Grants'', ''Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant'', ''Project-Based Rental Assistance'', ''Public Housing Capital Fund'', ''Public Housing Operating Fund'', ''Rental Assistance Demonstration'', ''Rental Housing Assistance'', and ''Tenant-Based Rental Assistance'': *Provided*, That the Secretary may not transfer more than $40,000,000 to this account under the authority provided in the previous proviso: *Provided further*, That any such amounts, or portion thereof, transferred to this account, may be transferred back to be merged with any such other account and to be available for the same purpose and same time period as provided under this Act: *Provided further*, That with respect to amounts

made available under this heading for research, evaluation and program metrics or program demonstrations, notwithstanding section 204 of this title, the Secretary may enter into cooperative agreements funded with philanthropic entities, other Federal agencies, or State or local governments and their agencies for research projects: *Provided further*, That with respect to the previous proviso, such partners to the cooperative agreements must contribute at least a 50 percent match toward the cost of the project.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

SEC. 201. Fifty percent of the amounts of budget authority, or in lieu thereof 50 percent of the cash amounts associated with such budget authority, that are recaptured from projects described in section 1012(a) of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Amendments Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 1437 note) shall be rescinded or in the case of cash, shall be remitted to the Treasury, and such amounts of budget authority or cash recaptured and not rescinded or remitted to the Treasury shall be used by State housing finance agencies or local governments or local housing agencies with projects approved by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for which settlement occurred after January 1, 1992, in accordance with such section. Notwithstanding the previous sentence, the Secretary may award up to 15 percent of the budget authority or cash recaptured and not rescinded or remitted to the Treasury to provide project owners with incentives to refinance their project at a lower interest rate.

SEC. 202. None of the amounts made available under this Act may be used during fiscal year 2015 to investigate or prosecute under the Fair Housing Act any otherwise lawful activity engaged in by one or more persons, including the filing or maintaining of a nonfrivolous legal action, that is engaged in solely for the purpose of achieving or preventing action by a Government official or entity, or a court of competent jurisdiction.

SEC. 203. Sections 203 and 209 of division C of Public Law 112–55 (125 Stat. 693–694) shall apply during fiscal year 2015 as if such sections were included in this title, except that during such fiscal year such sections shall be applied by substituting ''fiscal year 2015'' for ''fiscal year 2011'' and ''fiscal year 2012'' each place such terms appear.

SEC. 204. Except as otherwise explicitly provided in law, any grant, cooperative agreement or other assistance made pursuant to title II of this Act shall be made on a competitive basis and in accordance with section 102 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989 (42 U.S.C. 3545).

SEC. 205. Funds of the Department of Housing and Urban Development subject to the Government Corporation Control Act or section 402 of the Housing Act of 1950 shall be available, without regard to the limitations on administrative expenses, for legal services on a contract or fee basis, and for utilizing and making payment for services and facilities of the Federal National Mortgage Association, Government National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Federal Financing Bank, Federal Reserve banks or any member thereof, Federal Home Loan banks, and any insured bank within the meaning of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Act, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1811–1).

SEC. 206. Unless otherwise provided for in this Act or through a reprogramming of funds, no part of any appropriation for the Department of Housing and Urban Development shall be available for any program, project or activity in excess of amounts set forth in the budget estimates submitted to Congress.

SEC. 207. Corporations and agencies of the Department of Housing and Urban Development which are subject to the Government Corporation Control Act are hereby authorized to make such expenditures, within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available to each such corporation or agency and in accordance with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 104 of such Act as may be necessary in carrying out the programs set forth in the budget for 2015 for such corporation or agency except as hereinafter provided: *Provided*, That collections of these corporations and agencies may be used for new loan or mortgage purchase commitments only to the extent expressly provided for in this Act (unless such loans are in support of other forms of assistance provided for in this or prior appropriations Acts), except that this proviso shall not apply to the mortgage insurance or guaranty operations of these corporations, or where loans or mortgage purchases are necessary to protect the financial interest of the United States Government.

SEC. 208. The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall provide quarterly reports to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations regarding all uncommitted, unobligated, recaptured and excess funds in each program and activity within the jurisdiction of the Department and shall submit additional, updated budget information to these Committees upon request.

SEC. 209. The President's formal budget request for fiscal year 2016, as well as the Department of Housing and Urban Development's congressional budget justifications to be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall use the identical account and sub-account structure provided under this Act.

SEC. 210. A public housing agency or such other entity that administers Federal housing assistance for the Housing Authority of the county of Los Angeles, California, and the States of Alaska, Iowa, and Mississippi shall not be required to include a resident of public housing or a recipient of assistance provided under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 on the board of directors or a similar governing board of such agency or entity as required under section (2)(b) of such Act. Each public housing agency or other entity that administers Federal housing assistance under section 8 for the Housing Authority of the county of Los Angeles, California and the States of Alaska, Iowa and Mississippi that chooses not to include a resident of public housing or a recipient of section 8 assistance on the board of directors or a similar governing board shall establish an advisory board of not less than six residents of public housing or recipients of section 8 assistance to provide advice and comment to the public housing agency or other administering entity on issues related to public housing and section 8. Such advisory board shall meet not less than quarterly.

SEC. 211. No funds provided under this title may be used for an audit of the Government National Mortgage Association that makes applicable requirements under the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 (2 U.S.C. 661 et seq.).

SEC. 212. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, subject to the conditions listed under this section, for fiscal years 2015 and 2016, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may authorize the transfer of some or all project-based assistance, debt held or insured by the Secretary and statutorily required low-income and very low-income use restrictions if any, associated with one or more multifamily housing project or projects to another multifamily housing project or projects.

(b) PHASED TRANSFERS.—Transfers of project-based assistance under this section may be done in phases to accommodate the financing and other requirements related to rehabilitating or constructing the project or projects to which the assistance is transferred, to ensure that such project or projects meet the standards under subsection (c).

(c) The transfer authorized in subsection (a) is subject to the following conditions:

(1) NUMBER AND BEDROOM SIZE OF UNITS.—

(A) For occupied units in the transferring project: the number of low-income and very low-income units and the configuration (i.e., bedroom size) provided by the transferring project shall be no less than when transferred to the receiving project or projects and the net dollar amount of Federal assistance provided to the transferring project shall remain the same in the receiving project or projects.

(B) For unoccupied units in the transferring project: the Secretary may authorize a reduction in the number of dwelling units in the receiving project or projects to allow for a reconfiguration of bedroom sizes to meet current market demands, as determined by the Secretary and provided there is no increase in the project-based assistance budget authority.

(2) The transferring project shall, as determined by the Secretary, be either physically obsolete or economically nonviable.

(3) The receiving project or projects shall meet or exceed applicable physical standards established by the Secretary.

(4) The owner or mortgagor of the transferring project shall notify and consult with the tenants residing in the transferring project and provide a certification of approval by all appropriate local governmental officials.

(5) The tenants of the transferring project who remain eligible for assistance to be provided by the receiving project or projects shall not be required to vacate their units in the transferring project or projects until new units in the receiving project are available for occupancy.

(6) The Secretary determines that this transfer is in the best interest of the tenants.

(7) If either the transferring project or the receiving project or projects meets the condition specified in subsection (d)(2)(A), any lien on the receiving project resulting from additional financing obtained by the owner shall be subordinate to any FHA-insured mortgage lien transferred to, or placed on, such project by the Secretary, except that the Secretary may waive this requirement upon determination that such a waiver is necessary to facilitate the financing of acquisition, construction, and/or rehabilitation of the receiving project or projects.

(8) If the transferring project meets the requirements of subsection (d)(2), the owner or mortgagor of the receiving project or projects shall execute and record either a continuation of the existing use agreement or a new use agreement for the project where, in either case, any use restrictions in such agreement are of no lesser duration than the existing use restrictions.

(9) The transfer does not increase the cost (as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended) of any FHA-insured mortgage, except to the extent that appropriations are provided in advance for the amount of any such increased cost.

(d) For purposes of this section—

(1) the terms ''low-income'' and ''very low-income'' shall have the meanings provided

by the statute and/or regulations governing the program under which the project is insured or assisted;

(2) the term ''multifamily housing project'' means housing that meets one of the following conditions—

(A) housing that is subject to a mortgage insured under the National Housing Act;

(B) housing that has project-based assistance attached to the structure including projects undergoing mark to market debt restructuring under the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Housing Act;

(C) housing that is assisted under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959, as amended by section 801 of the Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act;

(D) housing that is assisted under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959, as such section existed before the enactment of the Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act;

(E) housing that is assisted under section 811 of the Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act; or

(F) housing or vacant land that is subject to a use agreement;

(3) the term ''project-based assistance'' means—

(A) assistance provided under section 8(b) of the United States Housing Act of 1937;

(B) assistance for housing constructed or substantially rehabilitated pursuant to assistance provided under section 8(b)(2) of such Act (as such section existed immediately before October 1, 1983);

(C) rent supplement payments under section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965;

(D) interest reduction payments under section 236 and/or additional assistance payments under section 236(f)(2) of the National Housing Act;

(E) assistance payments made under section 202(c)(2) of the Housing Act of 1959; and

(F) assistance payments made under section 811(d)(2) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act;

(4) the term ''receiving project or projects'' means the multifamily housing project or projects to which some or all of the project-based assistance, debt, and statutorily required low-income and very low-income use restrictions are to be transferred;

(5) the term ''transferring project'' means the multifamily housing project which is transferring some or all of the project-based assistance, debt, and the statutorily required low-income and very low-income use restrictions to the receiving project or projects; and

(6) the term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

(e) PUBLIC NOTICE AND RESEARCH REPORT.—

(1) The Secretary shall publish by notice in the Federal Register the terms and conditions, including criteria for HUD approval, of transfers pursuant to this section no later than 30 days before the effective date of such notice.

(2) The Secretary shall conduct an evaluation of the transfer authority under this section, including the effect of such transfers on the operational efficiency, contract rents, physical and financial conditions, and long-term preservation of the affected properties.

SEC. 213. (a) No assistance shall be provided under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f) to any individual who—

(1) is enrolled as a student at an institution of higher education (as defined under section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002));

(2) is under 24 years of age;

(3) is not a veteran;

(4) is unmarried;

(5) does not have a dependent child;

(6) is not a person with disabilities, as such term is defined in section 3(b)(3)(E) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(3)(E)) and was not receiving assistance under such section 8 as of November 30, 2005; and

(7) is not otherwise individually eligible, or has parents who, individually or jointly, are not eligible, to receive assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f).

(b) For purposes of determining the eligibility of a person to receive assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f), any financial assistance (in excess of amounts received for tuition and any other required fees and charges) that an individual receives under the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.), from private sources, or an institution of higher education (as defined under the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002)), shall be considered income to that individual, except for a person over the age of 23 with dependent children.

SEC. 214. The funds made available for Native Alaskans under the heading ''Native American Housing Block Grants'' in title II of this Act shall be allocated to the same Native Alaskan housing block grant recipients that received funds in fiscal year 2005.

SEC. 215. Notwithstanding the limitation in the first sentence of section 255(g) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–20(g)), the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may, until September 30, 2015, insure and enter into commitments to insure mortgages under such section 255.

SEC. 216. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in fiscal year 2015, in managing and disposing of any multifamily property that is owned or has a mortgage held by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and during the process of foreclosure on any property with a contract for rental assistance payments under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 or other Federal programs, the Secretary shall maintain any rental assistance payments under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 and other programs that are attached to any dwelling units in the property. To the extent the Secretary determines, in consultation with the tenants and the local government, that such a multifamily property owned or held by the Secretary is not feasible for continued rental assistance payments under such section 8 or other programs, based on consideration of (1) the costs of rehabilitating and operating the property and all available Federal, State, and local resources, including rent adjustments under section 524 of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 (''MAHRAA'') and (2) environmental conditions that cannot be remedied in a cost-effective fashion, the Secretary may, in consultation with the tenants of that property, contract for project-based rental assistance payments with an owner or owners of other existing housing properties, or provide other rental assistance. The Secretary shall also take appropriate steps to ensure that project-based contracts remain in effect prior to foreclosure, subject to the exercise of contractual abatement remedies to assist relocation of tenants for imminent major threats to health and safety after written notice to and informed consent of the affected tenants and use of other available remedies, such as partial abatements or receivership. After disposition of any multifamily property described under this section, the contract and allowable rent levels on such properties shall be subject to the requirements under section 524 of MAHRAA.

SEC. 217. Section 108 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5308) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a) by inserting ''States on behalf of non-entitlement communities,'' after ''issued by eligible public entities,'';

(2) by striking subsection (k) and inserting the following:

''(k) The Secretary shall monitor the use by eligible public entities and States of commitment amounts authorized in appropriation Acts for any fiscal year. If the Secretary finds that 50 percent of the annual commitment amount has been committed, the Secretary may impose a limitation on the amount of guarantees any one entity may receive in any fiscal year of $35,000,000 for units of general local government receiving grants under section 106(b) or States receiving grants under section 106(d) and $7,000,000 for units of general local government receiving grants under section 106(d); or request the enactment of legislation increasing the annual commitment authority for guarantees under this section.''; and

(3) by striking subsection (m) and inserting the following new subsection:

''(m) DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN NON-ENTITLEMENT AREAS.—Any State receiving a guarantee or commitment on behalf of non-entitlement areas shall distribute all funds that are subject to such guarantee to the units of general local government in non-entitlement areas that received the commitment.''.

SEC. 218. Public housing agencies that own and operate 400 or fewer public housing units may elect to be exempt from any asset management requirement imposed by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development in connection with the operating fund rule: *Provided*, That an agency seeking a discontinuance of a reduction of subsidy under the operating fund formula shall not be exempt from asset management requirements.

SEC. 219. With respect to the use of amounts provided in this Act and in future Acts for the operation, capital improvement and management of public housing as authorized by sections 9(d) and 9(e) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g(d) and (e)), the Secretary shall not impose any requirement or guideline relating to asset management that restricts or limits in any way the use of capital funds for central office costs pursuant to section 9(g)(1) or 9(g)(2) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g(g)(1), (2)): *Provided*, That a public housing agency may not use capital funds authorized under section 9(d) for activities that are eligible under section 9(e) for assistance with amounts from the operating fund in excess of the amounts permitted under section 9(g)(1) or 9(g)(2), unless otherwise specified under this title.

SEC. 220. No official or employee of the Department of Housing and Urban Development shall be designated as an allotment holder unless the Office of the Chief Financial Officer has determined that such allotment holder has implemented an adequate system of funds control and has received training in funds control procedures and directives. The Chief Financial Officer shall ensure that there is a trained allotment holder for each HUD sub-office under the accounts ''Executive Offices'' and ''Administrative Support Offices,'' as well as each account receiving appropriations for ''Program Office Salaries and Expenses'', ''Government National Mortgage Association—Guarantees of Mortgage-Backed Securities Loan Guarantee Program Account'', and ''Office of Inspector General'' within the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

SEC. 221. The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall report annually to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on the status of all section 8

project-based housing, including the number of all project-based units by region as well as an analysis of all federally subsidized housing being refinanced under the Mark-to-Market program. The Secretary shall identify all existing units maintained by region as section 8 project-based units, all project-based units that have opted out or have otherwise been eliminated, and the reasons these units opted out or otherwise were lost as section 8 project-based units.

SEC. 222. The Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development shall, for fiscal year 2015 and subsequent fiscal years, notify the public through the Federal Register and other means, as determined appropriate, of the issuance of a notice of the availability of assistance or notice of funding availability (NOFA) for any program or discretionary fund administered by the Secretary that is to be competitively awarded. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for fiscal year 2015 and subsequent fiscal years, the Secretary may make the NOFA available only on the Internet at the appropriate Government Web site or through other electronic media, as determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 223. Payment of attorney fees in program-related litigation must be paid from the individual program office and Office of General Counsel personnel funding. The annual budget submissions for program offices and Office of General Counsel personnel funding must include program-related litigation costs for attorney fees as a separate line item request.

SEC. 224. The Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to transfer up to 5 percent or $5,000,000, whichever is less, of the funds appropriated for any office funded under the heading ''Administrative Support Offices'' to any other office funded under such heading: *Provided*, That no appropriation for any office funded under the heading ''Administrative Support Offices'' shall be increased or decreased by more than 5 percent or $5,000,000, whichever is less, without prior written approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary is authorized to transfer up to 5 percent or $5,000,000, whichever is less, of the funds appropriated for any account funded under the general heading ''Program Office Salaries and Expenses'' to any other account funded under such heading: *Provided further*, That no appropriation for any account funded under the general heading ''Program Office Salaries and Expenses'' shall be increased or decreased by more than 5 percent or $5,000,000, whichever is less, without prior written approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may transfer funds made available for salaries and expenses between any office funded under the heading ''Administrative Support Offices'' and any account funded under the general heading ''Program Office Salaries and Expenses'', but only with the prior written approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

SEC. 225. The Disaster Housing Assistance Programs, administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, shall be considered a ''program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development'' under section 904 of the McKinney Act for the purpose of income verifications and matching.

SEC. 226. (a) The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall take the required actions under subsection (b) when a multifamily housing project with a section 8 contract or contract for similar project-based assistance:

(1) receives a Real Estate Assessment Center (REAC) score of 30 or less; or

(2) receives a REAC score between 31 and 59 and:

(A) fails to certify in writing to HUD within 60 days that all deficiencies have been corrected; or

(B) receives consecutive scores of less than 60 on REAC inspections.

Such requirements shall apply to insured and noninsured projects with assistance attached to the units under section 8 of the united States housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f), but do not apply to such units assisted under section 8(o)(13) (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(13)) or to public housing units assisted with capital or operating funds under section 9 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g).

(b) The Secretary shall take the following required actions as authorized under subsection (a)—

(1) The Secretary shall notify the owner and provide an opportunity for response within 30 days. If the violations remain, the Secretary shall develop a Compliance, Disposition and Enforcement Plan within 60 days, with a specified timetable for correcting all deficiencies. The Secretary shall provide notice of the Plan to the owner, tenants, the local government, any mortgagees, and any contract administrator.

(2) At the end of the term of the Compliance, Disposition and Enforcement Plan, if the owner fails to fully comply with such plan, the Secretary may require immediate replacement of project management with a management agent approved by the Secretary, and shall take one or more of the following actions, and provide additional notice of those actions to the owner and the parties specified above:

(A) impose civil money penalties;

(B) abate the section 8 contract, including partial abatement, as determined by the Secretary, until all deficiencies have been corrected;

(C) pursue transfer of the project to an owner, approved by the Secretary under established procedures, which will be obligated to promptly make all required repairs and to accept renewal of the assistance contract as long as such renewal is offered; or

(D) seek judicial appointment of a receiver to manage the property and cure all project deficiencies or seek a judicial order of specific performance requiring the owner to cure all project deficiencies.

(c) The Secretary shall also take appropriate steps to ensure that project-based contracts remain in effect, subject to the exercise of contractual abatement remedies to assist relocation of tenants for imminent major threats to health and safety after written notice to and informed consent of the affected tenants and use of other remedies set forth above. To the extent the Secretary determines, in consultation with the tenants and the local government, that the property is not feasible for continued rental assistance payments under such section 8 or other programs, based on consideration of (1) the costs of rehabilitating and operating the property and all available Federal, State, and local resources, including rent adjustments under section 524 of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 (''MAHRAA'') and (2) environmental conditions that cannot be remedied in a cost-effective fashion, the Secretary may, in consultation with the tenants of that property, contract for project-based rental assistance payments with an owner or owners of other existing housing properties, or provide other rental assistance. The Secretary shall report semi-annually on all properties covered by this section that are assessed through the Real Estate Assessment Center and have physical inspection scores of less than 30 or have consecutive physical inspection scores of less than 60. The report shall include:

(1) The enforcement actions being taken to address such conditions, including imposition of civil money penalties and termination of subsidies, and identify properties that have such conditions multiple times; and

(2) Actions that the Department of Housing and Urban Development is taking to protect tenants of such identified properties.

SEC. 227. None of the funds made available by this Act, or any other Act, for purposes authorized under section 8 (only with respect to the tenant-based rental assistance program) and section 9 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.), may be used by any public housing agency for any amount of salary, including bonuses, for the chief executive officer of which, or any other official or employee of which, that exceeds the annual rate of basic pay payable for a position at level IV of the Executive Schedule at any time during any public housing agency fiscal year 2015.

SEC. 228. Section 24 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437v) is amended—

(1) in subsection (m)(1), by striking ''fiscal year'' and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting ''fiscal year 2015.''; and

(2) in subsection (o), by striking ''September'' and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting ''September 30, 2015.''.

SEC. 229. Of the amounts made available for salaries and expenses under all accounts under this title (except for the Office of Inspector General account), a total of up to $10,000,000 may be transferred to and merged with amounts made available in the ''Information Technology Fund'' account under this title.

SEC. 230. None of the funds in this Act may be available for the doctoral dissertation research grant program at the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

SEC. 231. The language under the heading Rental Assistance Demonstration in the Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2012 (Public Law 112–55), is amended—

(1) by striking ''(except for funds allocated under such section for single room occupancy dwellings as authorized by title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act)'' in both places it appears;

(2) in the second proviso, by striking ''2015'' and inserting ''2018'';

(3) in the third proviso, after ''associated with such conversion'', by inserting ''in excess of amounts made available under this heading'';

(4) in the fourth proviso, by striking ''60,000'' and inserting ''185,000'';

(5) in the penultimate proviso, by—

(A) striking ''December 31, 2014'' and inserting ''2016'';

(B) striking ''and agreement of the administering public housing agency''; and

(C) inserting ''a long-term project-based subsidy contract under section 8 of the Act, which shall have a term of no less than 20 years, with rent adjustments only by an operating cost factor established by the Secretary, which shall be eligible for renewal under section 524 of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note), or, subject to agreement of the administering public housing agency, to assistance under'' following ''vouchers to assistance under'';

(6) by inserting the following provisos before the final proviso: ''*Provided further*, That amounts made available under the heading

'Rental Housing Assistance' during the period of conversion under the previous proviso, which may extend beyond fiscal year 2016 as necessary to allow processing of all timely applications, shall be available for project-based subsidy contracts entered into pursuant to the previous proviso: *Provided further*, That amounts, including contract authority, recaptured from contracts following a conversion under the previous two provisos are hereby rescinded and an amount of additional new budget authority, equivalent to the amount rescinded is hereby appropriated, to remain available until expended for such conversions: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may transfer amounts made available under the heading 'Rental Housing Assistance', amounts made available for tenant protection vouchers under the heading 'Tenant-Based Rental Assistance' and specifically associated with any such conversions, and amounts made available under the previous proviso as needed to the account under the 'Project-Based Rental Assistance' heading to facilitate conversion under the three previous provisos and any increase in cost for 'Project-Based Rental Assistance' associated with such conversion shall be equal to amounts so transferred:''; and

(7) in the final proviso, by—

(A) striking ''with respect to the previous proviso'' and inserting ''with respect to the previous four provisos''; and

(B) striking ''impact of the previous proviso'' and inserting ''impact of the fiscal year 2012 and 2013 conversion of tenant protection vouchers to assistance under section 8(o)(13) of the Act''.

SEC. 232. None of the funds in this Act provided to the Department of Housing and Urban Development may be used to make a grant award unless the Secretary notifies the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations not less than 3 full business days before any project, State, locality, housing authority, tribe, nonprofit organization, or other entity selected to receive a grant award is announced by the Department or its offices.

SEC. 233. Section 579 of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act (MAHRA) of 1997 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note) is amended by striking ''October 1, 2015'' each place it appears and inserting in lieu thereof ''October 1, 2018''.

SEC. 234. Section 9 of the United States Housing Act or 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g) is amended by—

(a) Inserting at the end of subjection (j)—

''(7) TREATMENT OF REPLACEMENT RESERVE.—The requirements of this subsection shall not apply to funds held in replacement reserves established in subsection (9)(n).''; and

(b) Inserting at the end of subsection (m)—

''(n) ESTABLISHMENT OF REPLACEMENT RESERVES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Public Housing authorities shall be permitted to establish a Replacement Reserve to fund any of the capital activities listed in subparagraph (d)(1).

''(2) SOURCE AND AMOUNT OF FUNDS FOR REPLACEMENT RESERVE.—At any time, a public housing authority may deposit funds from that agency's Capital Fund into a Replacement Reserve subject to the following:

''(A) At the discretion of the Secretary, PHAs may be allowed to transfer and hold in a Replacement Reserve, funds originating from additional sources.

''(B) No minimum transfer of funds to a Replacement Reserve shall be required.

''(C) At any time, a public housing authority may not hold in a Replacement Reserve more than the amount the public housing authority has determined necessary to satisfy the anticipated capital needs of properties in its portfolio assisted under 42 U.S.C. 1437g as outlined in its Capital Fund 5 Year Action Plan, or a comparable plan, as determined by the Secretary.

''(D) The Secretary may establish by regulation a maximum replacement reserve level or levels that are below amounts determined under subparagraph (C), which may be based upon the size of the portfolio assisted under 42 U.S.C. 1437g or other factors.

''(3) In first establishing a replacement reserve, the Secretary may allow public housing agencies to transfer more than 20 percent of its operating funds into its replacement reserve.

''(4) EXPENDITURE.—Funds in a Replacement Reserve may be used for purposes authorized by subparagraph (d)(1) and contained in its Capital Fund 5 Year Action Plan.

''(5) MANAGEMENT AND REPORT.—The Secretary shall establish appropriate accounting and reporting requirements to ensure that public housing agencies are spending funding on eligible projects and that funding in the reserve is connected to capital needs.''.

SEC. 235. Section 9(g)(1) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g(g)) is amended by—

(1) inserting ''(A)'' immediately after the paragraph designation;

(2) by striking the period and inserting the following at the end: ''; and''; and

(3) insert the following new paragraph:

''(B) FLEXIBILITY FOR OPERATING FUND AMOUNTS.—Of any amounts appropriated for fiscal year 2015 or any fiscal year thereafter that are allocated for fiscal year 2015 or any fiscal year thereafter from the Operating Fund for any public housing agency, the agency may use not more than 20 percent for activities that are eligible under subsection (d) for assistance with amounts from the Capital Fund, but only if the public housing plan for the agency provides for such use.''.

SEC. 236. (a) Subsection (b) of section 225 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 12755) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''Such 30-day waiting period is not required if the grounds for the termination or refusal to renew involve a direct threat to the safety of the tenants or employees of the housing, or an imminent and serious threat to the property (and the termination or refusal to renew is in accordance with the requirements of State or local law).''.

(b) Section 104(6) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 12704) is amended by adding at the end of the undesignated matter after subparagraph (D) the following sentence: ''In the case of an organization funded by the State under title II of this Act, the organization may serve all counties within the State.''.

SEC. 237. (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (referred to in this section as the ''Secretary'') shall establish a demonstration program under which, during the period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, and ending on September 30, 2017, the Secretary may enter into budget-neutral, performance-based agreements that result in a reduction in energy or water costs with such entities as the Secretary determines to be appropriate under which the entities shall carry out projects for energy or water conservation improvements at not more than 20,000 residential units in multifamily buildings participating in—

(1) the project-based rental assistance program under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f), other than assistance provided under section 8(o) of that Act;

(2) the supportive housing for the elderly program under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 (12 U.S.C. 1701q); or

(3) the supportive housing for persons with disabilities program under section 811(d)(2) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8013(d)(2)).

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) PAYMENTS CONTINGENT ON SAVINGS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide to an entity a payment under an agreement under this section only during applicable years for which an energy or water cost savings is achieved with respect to the applicable multifamily portfolio of properties, as determined by the Secretary, in accordance with subparagraph (B).

(B) PAYMENT METHODOLOGY.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Each agreement under this section shall include a pay-for-success provision—

(I) that will serve as a payment threshold for the term of the agreement; and

(II) pursuant to which the Department of Housing and Urban Development shall share a percentage of the savings at a level determined by the Secretary that is sufficient to cover the administrative costs of carrying out this section.

(ii) LIMITATIONS.—A payment made by the Secretary under an agreement under this section shall—

(I) be contingent on documented utility savings; and

(II) not exceed the utility savings achieved by the date of the payment, and not previously paid, as a result of the improvements made under the agreement.

(C) THIRD PARTY VERIFICATION.—Savings payments made by the Secretary under this section shall be based on a measurement and verification protocol that includes at least—

(i) establishment of a weather-normalized and occupancy-normalized utility consumption baseline established preretrofit;

(ii) annual third party confirmation of actual utility consumption and cost for owner-paid utilities;

(iii) annual third party validation of the tenant utility allowances in effect during the applicable year and vacancy rates for each unit type; and

(iv) annual third party determination of savings to the Secretary.

(2) TERM.—The term of an agreement under this section shall be not longer than 12 years.

(3) ENTITY ELIGIBILITY.—The Secretary shall—

(A) establish a competitive process for entering into agreements under this section; and

(B) enter into such agreements only with entities that demonstrate significant experience relating to—

(i) financing and operating properties receiving assistance under a program described in subsection (a);

(ii) oversight of energy and water conservation programs, including oversight of contractors; and

(iii) raising capital for energy and water conservation improvements from charitable organizations or private investors.

(4) GEOGRAPHICAL DIVERSITY.—Each agreement entered into under this section shall provide for the inclusion of properties with the greatest feasible regional and State variance.

(c) PLAN AND REPORTS.—

(1) PLAN.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a detailed plan for the implementation of this section.

(2) REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall—

(A) conduct an evaluation of the program under this section; and

(B) submit to Congress a report describing each evaluation conducted under subparagraph (A).

(d) FUNDING.—For each fiscal year during which an agreement under this section is in effect, the Secretary may use to carry out this section any funds appropriated to the Secretary for the renewal of contracts under a program described in subsection (a).

SEC. 238. Section 11 of the Housing Opportunity Program Extension Act of 1996 (42 U.S.C. 12805 note) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1) after ''new dwellings'' insert ''or the rehabilitation of existing dwellings'';

(2) in subsection (b)(2) after ''new'' insert ''or rehabilitated'';

(3) in subsection (d)(1) after ''dwellings'' insert ''or rehabilitating existing dwellings to make them decent, safe and sanitary'';

(4) in subsection (d)(2) by inserting at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(C) PLANNING, ADMINISTRATION, AND MANAGEMENT.—Planning, administration, and management of grant programs and activities, provided that such expenses do not exceed 20 percent of any grant made under this section.'';

(5) in subsection (i)(5) by—

(A) striking ''24'' and inserting ''36''; and

(B) striking ''except that'' and all that follows through ''such grant amounts'';

(6) in subsection (j) by—

(A) inserting after the heading ''(1) REDISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.—'';

(B) striking ''24'' and inserting ''36'';

(C) striking ''(or, in the case'' and all that follows through ''within 36 months)''; and

(D) inserting at the end the following new paragraph:

''(2) DEADLINE FOR COMPLETION AND CONVEYANCE.—The Secretary shall establish a deadline (which may be extended for good cause as determined by the Secretary) by which time all units that have been assisted with grant funds under this section must be completed and conveyed.''.

(7) by striking subsection (q).

SEC. 239. Section 184(h)(1)(B) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 1715z–13a(h)(1)(B)) is amended by inserting after the first sentence the following: ''Exhausting all reasonable possibilities of collection by the holder of the guarantee shall include a good faith consideration of loan modification as well as meeting standards for servicing loans in default, as determined by the Secretary.''.

SEC. 240. Section 202 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1708) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(i) ADMINISTRATION.—Notwithstanding any provision of law, and in addition to any other fees charged in connection with the provision of insurance under this title, in each fiscal year the Secretary may charge and collect a fee not to exceed 4 basis points of the original principal balance of mortgages originated by the mortgagee that were insured under this title during the previous fiscal year. Such fee collected from each mortgagee shall be used as offsetting collections for part of the administrative contract expenses funding and any necessary salaries and expenses funding provided under the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Program Account under this title. The Secretary may establish the amount of such fee through regulations, notice, Mortgagee Letter, or other administrative issuance.''.

SEC. 241. Paragraph (1) of section 8(c) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437) is amended—

(1) by inserting ''(A)'' after the paragraph designation;

(2) by striking the fourth, seventh, eighth, and ninth sentences; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) PUBLICATION OF FAIR MARKET RENTALS.—Not less than annually:

''(i) The Secretary shall publish a notice in the Federal Register that proposed fair market rentals for an area have been published on the site of the Department on the Internet and in any other manner specified by the Secretary. Such notice shall describe proposed material changes in the methodology for estimating fair market rentals and shall provide reasonable time for public comment.

''(ii) The Secretary shall publish a notice in the Federal Register that final fair market rentals have been published on the site of the Department on the internet and in any other manner specified by the Secretary. Such notice shall include the final decisions regarding proposed substantial methodological changes for estimating fair market rentals and responses to public comments.''.

SEC. 242. Of the unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryover, remaining from funds appropriated to the Department of Housing and Urban Development under the heading ''Brownfields Redevelopment'', $2,913,000 is hereby permanently rescinded: *Provided*, That of the unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryover, remaining from funds appropriated to the Department of Housing and Urban Development under the heading ''Rural Housing and Economic Development'', $2,300,000 is hereby permanently rescinded: *Provided further*, That all unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryover, remaining from funds appropriated to the Department of Housing and Urban Development under the heading ''Drug Elimination Grants for Low Income Housing'' are hereby permanently rescinded: *Provided further*, That all unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryover, remaining from funds appropriated to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for Youthbuild program activities authorized by subtitle D of title IV of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act are hereby permanently rescinded.

SEC. 243. Such sums as may be necessary to implement the Homeowners Armed With Knowledge pilot shall be absorbed within the levels appropriated in this act.

SEC. 244. Section 106 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701x) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(j) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—For purposes of this section, the Secretary may enter into multiyear agreements as is appropriate, subject to the availability of annual appropriations.''.

SEC. 245. Section 526 (12 U.S.C. 1735f–4) of the National Housing Act is amended by inserting at the end of subsection (b)—

''(c) The Secretary may establish an exception to any minimum property standard established under this section in order to address alternative water systems, including cisterns, which meet requirements of State and local building codes that ensure health and safety standards.''

SEC. 246. Notwithstanding section 106(c)(4) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, the Secretary additionally shall provide assistance pursuant to such section to any State for use by any nonentitlement area of any such State in which there was a major disaster declared by the President under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act in 2014: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall issue a notice with respect to any such assistance for States within 45 days of enactment of this Act.

This title may be cited as the ''Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2015''.

TITLE III

RELATED AGENCIES

ACCESS BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Access Board, as authorized by section 502 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, $7,548,000: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, there may be credited to this appropriation funds received for publications and training expenses.

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Federal Maritime Commission as authorized by section 201(d) of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended (46 U.S.C. 307), including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; hire of passenger motor vehicles as authorized by 31 U.S.C. 1343(b); and uniforms or allowances therefore, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901–5902, $25,660,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed $2,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Federal Maritime Commission is authorized to collect user fees in this fiscal year and may retain up to $300,000 per fiscal year of such fees for necessary and authorized expenses under this heading.

NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General for the National Railroad Passenger Corporation to carry out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, $23,499,000: *Provided*, That the Inspector General shall have all necessary authority, in carrying out the duties specified in the Inspector General Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App. 3), to investigate allegations of fraud, including false statements to the government (18 U.S.C. 1001), by any person or entity that is subject to regulation by the National Railroad Passenger Corporation: *Provided further*, That the Inspector General may enter into contracts and other arrangements for audits, studies, analyses, and other services with public agencies and with private persons, subject to the applicable laws and regulations that govern the obtaining of such services within the National Railroad Passenger Corporation: *Provided further*, That the Inspector General may select, appoint, and employ such officers and employees as may be necessary for carrying out the functions, powers, and duties of the Office of Inspector General, subject to the applicable laws and regulations that govern such selections, appointments, and employment within Amtrak: *Provided further*, That concurrent with the President's budget request for fiscal year 2016, the Inspector General shall submit to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations a budget request for fiscal year 2016 in similar format and substance to those submitted by executive agencies of the Federal Government.

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the National Transportation Safety Board, including hire of passenger motor vehicles and aircraft; services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem rate equivalent to the rate for a GS–15; uniforms, or allowances therefor, as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5901–5902), $103,981,000, of which not to exceed $2,000 may be used for official reception and representation expenses. The amounts made available to the National Transportation Safety Board in this Act include amounts necessary to make

lease payments on an obligation incurred in fiscal year 2001 for a capital lease.

NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION

PAYMENT TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION

For payment to the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation for use in neighborhood reinvestment activities, as authorized by the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation Act (42 U.S.C. 8101–8107), $136,600,000, of which $5,000,000 shall be for a multi-family rental housing program: *Provided*, That in addition, $50,000,000 shall be made available until expended to the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation for mortgage foreclosure mitigation activities, under the following terms and conditions:

(1) The Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation (''NRC'') shall make grants to counseling intermediaries approved by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) (with match to be determined by the NRC based on affordability and the economic conditions of an area; a match also may be waived by the NRC based on the aforementioned conditions) to provide mortgage foreclosure mitigation assistance primarily to States and areas with high rates of defaults and foreclosures to help eliminate the default and foreclosure of mortgages of owner-occupied single-family homes that are at risk of such foreclosure. Other than areas with high rates of defaults and foreclosures, grants may also be provided to approved counseling intermediaries based on a geographic analysis of the United States by the NRC which determines where there is a prevalence of mortgages that are risky and likely to fail, including any trends for mortgages that are likely to default and face foreclosure. A State Housing Finance Agency may also be eligible where the State Housing Finance Agency meets all the requirements under this paragraph. A HUD-approved counseling intermediary shall meet certain mortgage foreclosure mitigation assistance counseling requirements, as determined by the NRC, and shall be approved by HUD or the NRC as meeting these requirements.

(2) Mortgage foreclosure mitigation assistance shall only be made available to homeowners of owner-occupied homes with mortgages in default or in danger of default. These mortgages shall likely be subject to a foreclosure action and homeowners will be provided such assistance that shall consist of activities that are likely to prevent foreclosures and result in the long-term affordability of the mortgage retained pursuant to such activity or another positive outcome for the homeowner. No funds made available under this paragraph may be provided directly to lenders or homeowners to discharge outstanding mortgage balances or for any other direct debt reduction payments.

(3) The use of mortgage foreclosure mitigation assistance by approved counseling intermediaries and State Housing Finance Agencies shall involve a reasonable analysis of the borrower's financial situation, an evaluation of the current value of the property that is subject to the mortgage, counseling regarding the assumption of the mortgage by another non-Federal party, counseling regarding the possible purchase of the mortgage by a non-Federal third party, counseling and advice of all likely restructuring and refinancing strategies or the approval of a work-out strategy by all interested parties.

(4) NRC may provide up to 15 percent of the total funds under this paragraph to its own charter members with expertise in foreclosure prevention counseling, subject to a certification by the NRC that the procedures for selection do not consist of any procedures or activities that could be construed as a conflict of interest or have the appearance of impropriety.

(5) HUD-approved counseling entities and State Housing Finance Agencies receiving funds under this paragraph shall have demonstrated experience in successfully working with financial institutions as well as borrowers facing default, delinquency, and foreclosure, as well as documented counseling capacity, outreach capacity, past successful performance and positive outcomes with documented counseling plans (including post mortgage foreclosure mitigation counseling), loan workout agreements, and loan modification agreements. NRC may use other criteria to demonstrate capacity in underserved areas.

(6) Of the total amount made available under this paragraph, up to $2,500,000 may be made available to build the mortgage foreclosure and default mitigation counseling capacity of counseling intermediaries through NRC training courses with HUD-approved counseling intermediaries and their partners, except that private financial institutions that participate in NRC training shall pay market rates for such training.

(7) Of the total amount made available under this paragraph, up to 5 percent may be used for associated administrative expenses for the NRC to carry out activities provided under this section.

(8) Mortgage foreclosure mitigation assistance grants may include a budget for outreach and advertising, and training, as determined by the NRC.

(9) The NRC shall continue to report bi-annually to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations as well as the Senate Banking Committee and House Financial Services Committee on its efforts to mitigate mortgage default.

UNITED STATES INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

OPERATING EXPENSES

For necessary expenses (including payment of salaries, authorized travel, hire of passenger motor vehicles, the rental of conference rooms, and the employment of experts and consultants under section 3109 of title 5, United States Code) of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness in carrying out the functions pursuant to title II of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended, $3,530,000. Title II of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11319) is amended by striking section 209 and in section 204(a) by striking ''level V'' and inserting ''level IV''.

TITLE IV

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS ACT

SEC. 401. None of the funds in this Act shall be used for the planning or execution of any program to pay the expenses of, or otherwise compensate, non-Federal parties intervening in regulatory or adjudicatory proceedings funded in this Act.

SEC. 402. None of the funds appropriated in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year, nor may any be transferred to other appropriations, unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 403. The expenditure of any appropriation under this Act for any consulting service through a procurement contract pursuant to section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except where otherwise provided under existing law, or under existing Executive order issued pursuant to existing law.

SEC. 404. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be obligated or expended for any employee training that—

(1) does not meet identified needs for knowledge, skills, and abilities bearing directly upon the performance of official duties;

(2) contains elements likely to induce high levels of emotional response or psychological stress in some participants;

(3) does not require prior employee notification of the content and methods to be used in the training and written end of course evaluation;

(4) contains any methods or content associated with religious or quasi-religious belief systems or ''new age'' belief systems as defined in Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Notice N–915.022, dated September 2, 1988; or

(5) is offensive to, or designed to change, participants' personal values or lifestyle outside the workplace.

(b) Nothing in this section shall prohibit, restrict, or otherwise preclude an agency from conducting training bearing directly upon the performance of official duties.

SEC. 405. Except as otherwise provided in this Act, none of the funds provided in this Act, provided by previous appropriations Acts to the agencies or entities funded in this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2015, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury derived by the collection of fees and available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that:

(1) creates a new program;

(2) eliminates a program, project, or activity;

(3) increases funds or personnel for any program, project, or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted by the Congress;

(4) proposes to use funds directed for a specific activity by either the House or Senate Committees on Appropriations for a different purpose;

(5) augments existing programs, projects, or activities in excess of $5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less;

(6) reduces existing programs, projects, or activities by $5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less; or

(7) creates, reorganizes, or restructures a branch, division, office, bureau, board, commission, agency, administration, or department different from the budget justifications submitted to the Committees on Appropriations or the table accompanying the explanatory statement accompanying this Act, whichever is more detailed, unless prior approval is received from the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, each agency funded by this Act shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and of the House of Representatives to establish the baseline for application of reprogramming and transfer authorities for the current fiscal year: *Provided further*, That the report shall include:

(A) a table for each appropriation with a separate column to display the prior year enacted level, the President's budget request, adjustments made by Congress, adjustments due to enacted rescissions, if appropriate, and the fiscal year enacted level;

(B) a delineation in the table for each appropriation and its respective prior year enacted level by object class and program, project, and activity as detailed in the budget appendix for the respective appropriation; and

(C) an identification of items of special congressional interest: *Provided further*, That the amount appropriated or limited for salaries and expenses for an agency shall be reduced by $100,000 per day for each day after the required date that the report has not been submitted to the Congress.

SEC. 406. Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, not to exceed 50 percent of

unobligated balances remaining available at the end of fiscal year 2015 from appropriations made available for salaries and expenses for fiscal year 2015 in this Act, shall remain available through September 30, 2016, for each such account for the purposes authorized: *Provided*, That a request shall be submitted to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations for approval prior to the expenditure of such funds: *Provided further*, That these requests shall be made in compliance with reprogramming guidelines under section 405 of this Act.

SEC. 407. No funds in this Act may be used to support any Federal, State, or local projects that seek to use the power of eminent domain, unless eminent domain is employed only for a public use: *Provided*, That for purposes of this section, public use shall not be construed to include economic development that primarily benefits private entities: *Provided further*, That any use of funds for mass transit, railroad, airport, seaport or highway projects, as well as utility projects which benefit or serve the general public (including energy-related, communication-related, water-related and wastewater-related infrastructure), other structures designated for use by the general public or which have other common-carrier or public-utility functions that serve the general public and are subject to regulation and oversight by the government, and projects for the removal of an immediate threat to public health and safety or brownsfields as defined in the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownsfield Revitalization Act (Public Law 107–118) shall be considered a public use for purposes of eminent domain.

SEC. 408. All Federal agencies and departments that are funded under this Act shall issue a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on all sole-source contracts in effect during the preceding fiscal year by no later than March 30, 2015. Such report shall include the contractor, the amount of the contract and the rationale for using a sole-source contract.

SEC. 409. None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriations Act.

SEC. 410. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be available to pay the salary for any person filling a position, other than a temporary position, formerly held by an employee who has left to enter the Armed Forces of the United States and has satisfactorily completed his or her period of active military or naval service, and has within 90 days after his or her release from such service or from hospitalization continuing after discharge for a period of not more than 1 year, made application for restoration to his or her former position and has been certified by the Office of Personnel Management as still qualified to perform the duties of his or her former position and has not been restored thereto.

SEC. 411. No funds appropriated pursuant to this Act may be expended by an entity unless the entity agrees that in expending the assistance the entity will comply with sections 2 through 4 of the Buy American Act (41 U.S.C. 10a–10c).

SEC. 412. No funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act shall be made available to any person or entity that has been convicted of violating the Buy American Act (41 U.S.C. 10a–10c).

SEC. 413. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for first-class airline accommodations in contravention of sections 301–10.122 and 301–10.123 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 414. None of the funds made available under this Act or any prior Act may be provided to the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN), or any of its affiliates, subsidiaries, or allied organizations.

SEC. 415. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to enter into a contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, make a grant to, or provide a loan or loan guarantee to any corporation that was convicted of a felony criminal violation under any Federal law within the preceding 24 months, where the awarding agency is aware of the conviction, unless the agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and has made a determination that this further action is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government.

SEC. 416. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to enter into a contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, make a grant to, or provide a loan or loan guarantee to, any corporation with any unpaid Federal tax liability that has been assessed, for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted or have lapsed, and that is not being paid in a timely manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting the tax liability, where the awarding agency is aware of the unpaid tax liability, unless the agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and has made a determination that this further action is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government.

SEC. 417. It is the sense of the Congress that the Congress should not pass any legislation that authorizes spending cuts that would increase poverty in the United States.

SEC. 418. All agencies and departments funded by the Act shall send to Congress at the end of the fiscal year a report containing a complete inventory of the total number of vehicles owned, leased, permanently retired, and purchased during fiscal year 2015, as well as the total cost of the vehicle fleet, including maintenance, fuel, storage, purchasing, and leasing.

SEC. 419. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to pay for the painting of a portrait of an officer or employee of the Federal Government, including the head of an Executive branch agency, as defined in section 133 of title 41, U.S.C.

SEC. 420. (a) The head of any Executive branch department, agency, board, commission, or office funded by this Act shall submit annual reports to the Inspector General or senior ethics official for any entity without an Inspector General, regarding the costs and contracting procedures related to each conference held by any such department, agency, board, commission, or office during fiscal year 2015 for which the cost to the United States Government was more than $100,000.

(b) Each report submitted shall include, for each conference described in subsection (a) held during the applicable period—

(1) a description of its purpose;

(2) the number of participants attending;

(3) a detailed statement of the costs to the United States Government, including—

(A) the cost of any food or beverages;

(B) the cost of any audio-visual services;

(C) the cost of employee or contractor travel to and from the conference; and

(D) a discussion of the methodology used to determine which costs relate to the conference; and

(4) a description of the contracting procedures used including—

(A) whether contracts were awarded on a competitive basis; and

(B) a discussion of any cost comparison conducted by the departmental component or office in evaluating potential contractors for the conference.

(c) Within 15 days of the date of a conference held by any Executive branch department, agency, board, commission, or office funded by this Act during fiscal year 2015 for which the cost to the United States Government was more than $20,000, the head of any such department, agency, board, commission, or office shall notify the Inspector General or senior ethics official for any entity without an Inspector General, of the date, location, and number of employees attending such conference.

(d) A grant or contract funded by amounts appropriated by this Act to an Executive branch agency may not be used for the purpose of defraying the costs of a conference described in subsection (c) that is not directly and programmatically related to the purpose for which the grant or contract was awarded, such as a conference held in connection with planning, training, assessment, review, or other routine purposes related to a project funded by the grant or contract.

(e) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for travel and conference activities that are not in compliance with Office of Management and Budget Memorandum M–12–12 dated May 11, 2012.

SEC. 421. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to send or otherwise pay for the attendance of more than 50 employees of a single agency or department of the United States Government, who are stationed in the United States, at any single international conference unless the relevant Secretary reports to the Committees on Appropriations at least 5 days in advance that such attendance is important to the national interest: *Provided*, That for purposes of this section the term ''international conference'' shall mean a conference occurring outside of the United States attended by representatives of the United States Government and of foreign governments, international organizations, or nongovernmental organizations.

SEC. 422. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act and except as provided in subsection (b), any report required to be submitted by a Federal agency to the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate or the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives under this Act shall be posted on the public Web site of that agency 30 days following its receipt by the committee.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to a report if—

(1) the public posting of the report compromises national security; or

(2) the report contains proprietary information.

SEC. 423. Each department funded by this Act shall submit a report by March 1st providing a detailed summary of advertising by the department in the prior fiscal year, including the total amount spent. The report shall also include:

(1) a description of the purpose and intent of the advertising (such as promoting awareness of a program, promoting services or participation, or public relations to improve the attitudes about a program or agency);

(2) a breakdown of the costs of advertising by medium, including on-line (with a specific total for social media), brochures, billboards, sponsorships (including the list of all sponsorships), television, mail, and newspaper; and

(3) the cost of development, production, and staffing, including the amount spent on the salaries of department employees and payments to contractors and consultants.

SEC. 424. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to make bonus awards to contractors for work on projects that are behind schedule or over budget.

SEC. 425. None of the funds in this Act may be used for premium travel by an agency that did not provide a report on premium travel to GSA in the prior fiscal year.

SEC. 426. Each department funded by this Act shall submit a report by March 2, 2015, detailing its efforts to address the duplication identified in the annual reports on duplication issued by the Government Accountability Office, along with legal barriers preventing the department's ability to further reduce duplication.

SEC. 427. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to purchase a light bulb for an office building unless the light bulb has, to the extent practicable, an Energy Star or Federal Energy Management Program designation.

SEC. 428. Any Federal agency or department that is funded under this Act shall respond to any recommendation made to such agency or department by the Government Accountability Office in a timely manner.

This Act may be cited as the ''Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015''.

DIVISION C—AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES

The following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I

AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS

PRODUCTION, PROCESSING AND MARKETING

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Secretary, $46,466,000, of which not to exceed $5,086,000 shall be available for the immediate Office of the Secretary; not to exceed $502,000 shall be available for the Office of Tribal Relations; not to exceed $1,507,000 shall be available for the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Coordination; not to exceed $1,217,000 shall be available for the Office of Advocacy and Outreach; not to exceed $26,120,000 shall be available for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration, of which $25,311,000 shall be available for Departmental Administration to provide for necessary expenses for management support services to offices of the Department and for general administration, security, repairs and alterations, and other miscellaneous supplies and expenses not otherwise provided for and necessary for the practical and efficient work of the Department; not to exceed $3,897,000 shall be available for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations to carry out the programs funded by this Act, including programs involving intergovernmental affairs and liaison within the executive branch; and not to exceed $8,137,000 shall be available for the Office of Communications: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to transfer funds appropriated for any office of the Office of the Secretary to any other office of the Office of the Secretary: *Provided further*, That no appropriation for any office shall be increased or decreased by more than 5 percent: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $11,000 of the amount made available under this paragraph for the immediate Office of the Secretary shall be available for official reception and representation expenses, not otherwise provided for, as determined by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That the amount made available under this heading for Departmental Administration shall be reimbursed from applicable appropriations in this Act for travel expenses incident to the holding of hearings as required by 5 U.S.C. 551–558: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading for the Office of Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations may be transferred to agencies of the Department of Agriculture funded by this Act to maintain personnel at the agency level: *Provided further*, That no funds made available under this heading for the Office of Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations may be obligated after 30 days from the date of enactment of this Act, unless the Secretary has notified the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on the allocation of these funds by USDA agency: *Provided further*, That no funds made available by this appropriation may be obligated for FAIR Act or Circular A–76 activities until the Secretary has submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives a report on the Department's contracting out policies, including agency budgets for contracting out.

EXECUTIVE OPERATIONS

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ECONOMIST

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Economist, $16,854,000, of which $4,000,000 shall be for grants or cooperative agreements for policy research under 7 U.S.C. 3155 and shall be obligated within 90 days of the enactment of this Act.

NATIONAL APPEALS DIVISION

For necessary expenses of the National Appeals Division, $13,430,000.

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND PROGRAM ANALYSIS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Budget and Program Analysis, $9,305,000.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Information Officer, $45,199,000, of which not less than $28,000,000 is for cybersecurity requirements of the Department.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, $6,080,000.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, $898,000.

OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Civil Rights, $24,236,000.

AGRICULTURE BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For payment of space rental and related costs pursuant to Public Law 92–313, including authorities pursuant to the 1984 delegation of authority from the Administrator of General Services to the Department of Agriculture under 40 U.S.C. 121, for programs and activities of the Department which are included in this Act, and for alterations and other actions needed for the Department and its agencies to consolidate unneeded space into configurations suitable for release to the Administrator of General Services, and for the operation, maintenance, improvement, and repair of Agriculture buildings and facilities, and for related costs, $64,844,000, to remain available until expended, for buildings operations and maintenance expenses: *Provided*, That the Secretary may use unobligated prior year balances of an agency or office that are no longer available for new obligation to cover shortfalls incurred in prior year rental payments for such agency or office.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Department of Agriculture, to comply with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.) and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.), $3,600,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That appropriations and funds available herein to the Department for Hazardous Materials Management may be transferred to any agency of the Department for its use in meeting all requirements pursuant to the above Acts on Federal and non-Federal lands.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General, including employment pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978, $97,240,000, including such sums as may be necessary for contracting and other arrangements with public agencies and private persons pursuant to section 6(a)(9) of the Inspector General Act of 1978, and including not to exceed $125,000 for certain confidential operational expenses, including the payment of informants, to be expended under the direction of the Inspector General pursuant to Public Law 95–452 and section 1337 of Public Law 97–98.

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

For necessary expenses of the Office of the General Counsel, $47,567,000.

OFFICE OF ETHICS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Ethics, $3,867,000.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR RESEARCH, EDUCATION AND ECONOMICS

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics, $898,000.

ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

For necessary expenses of the Economic Research Service, $85,373,000.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

For necessary expenses of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, $178,154,000, of which up to $48,044,000 shall be available until expended for the Census of Agriculture: *Provided*, That amounts be made available for the Census of Agriculture may be used to conduct the Current Industrial Report surveys subject to 7 U.S.C. 2204 g(d) and (f).

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Agricultural Research Service and for acquisition of lands by donation, exchange, or purchase at a nominal cost not to exceed $100, and for land exchanges where the lands exchanged shall be of equal value or shall be equalized by a payment of money to the grantor which shall not exceed 25 percent of the total value of the land or interests transferred out of Federal ownership, $1,139,673,000: *Provided*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for the operation and maintenance of aircraft and the purchase of not to exceed one for replacement only: *Provided further*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2250 for the construction, alteration, and repair of buildings and improvements, but unless otherwise provided, the cost of constructing any one building shall not exceed $375,000, except for headhouses or greenhouses which shall each be limited to $1,200,000, and except for 10 buildings to be constructed or improved at a cost not to exceed $750,000 each, and the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building or $375,000, whichever is greater: *Provided further*, That the limitations on alterations contained in this Act shall not apply to modernization or replacement of existing facilities at Beltsville, Maryland: *Provided further*,

That appropriations hereunder shall be available for granting easements at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center: *Provided further*, That the foregoing limitations shall not apply to replacement of buildings needed to carry out the Act of April 24, 1948 (21 U.S.C. 113a): *Provided further*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for granting easements at any Agricultural Research Service location for the construction of a research facility by a non-Federal entity for use by, and acceptable to, the Agricultural Research Service and a condition of the easements shall be that upon completion the facility shall be accepted by the Secretary, subject to the availability of funds herein, if the Secretary finds that acceptance of the facility is in the interest of the United States: *Provided further*, That funds may be received from any State, other political subdivision, organization, or individual for the purpose of establishing or operating any research facility or research project of the Agricultural Research Service, as authorized by law.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

For payments to agricultural experiment stations, for cooperative forestry and other research, for facilities, and for other expenses and notwithstanding section 1492 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3371) and section 7128(c) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 3371 note), $787,545,000, which shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled ''National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Research and Education Activities'' in the report accompanying this Act: *Provided*, That funds for research grants for 1994 institutions, education grants for 1890 institutions, capacity building for non-land-grant colleges of agriculture, the agriculture and food research initiative, Critical Agricultural Materials Act, veterinary medicine loan repayment, multicultural scholars, graduate fellowship and institution challenge grants, and grants management systems shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That each institution eligible to receive funds under the Evans-Allen program receives no less than $1,000,000: *Provided further*, That funds for education grants for Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-serving institutions be made available to individual eligible institutions or consortia of eligible institutions with funds awarded equally to each of the States of Alaska and Hawaii: *Provided further*, That funds for education grants for 1890 institutions shall be made available to institutions eligible to receive funds under 7 U.S.C. 3221 and 3222.

HISPANIC-SERVING AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES ENDOWMENT FUND

For the Hispanic-Serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities Endowment Fund under section 1456(b) (7 U.S.C. 3243(b)) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching Policy Act of 1977, $10,000,000, to remain available until expended.

NATIVE AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS ENDOWMENT FUND

For the Native American Institutions Endowment Fund authorized by Public Law 103–382 (7 U.S.C. 301 note), $11,880,000, to remain available until expended.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

For payments to States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, Micronesia, the Northern Marianas, and American Samoa and notwithstanding section 1492 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3371) and section 7128(c) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 3371 note), $472,686,000, which shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled ''National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Extension Activities'' in the report accompanying this Act: *Provided*, That funds for facility improvements at 1890 institutions shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That institutions eligible to receive funds under 7 U.S.C. 3221 for cooperative extension receive no less than $1,000,000: *Provided further*, That funds for cooperative extension under sections 3(b) and (c) of the Smith-Lever Act (7 U.S.C. 343(b) and (c)) and section 208(c) of Public Law 93–471 shall be available for retirement and employees' compensation costs for extension agents.

INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES

For the integrated research, education, and extension grants programs, including necessary administrative expenses and notwithstanding section 1492 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3371) and section 7128(c) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 3371 note), $32,217,000, which shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled ''National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Integrated Activities'' in the report accompanying this Act: *Provided*, That funds for the Food and Agriculture Defense Initiative shall remain available until September 30, 2016.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR MARKETING AND REGULATORY PROGRAMS

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs, $898,000.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, including up to $30,000 for representation allowances and for expenses pursuant to the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4085), $872,414,000, of which $485,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available for the control of outbreaks of insects, plant diseases, animal diseases and for control of pest animals and birds (''contingency fund'') to the extent necessary to meet emergency conditions; of which $11,575,000, to remain available until expended, shall be used for the cotton pests program for cost share purposes or for debt retirement for active eradication zones; of which $35,401,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for Animal Health Technical Services; of which $705,000 shall be for activities under the authority of the Horse Protection Act of 1970, as amended (15 U.S.C. 1831); of which $52,529,000, to remain available until expended, shall be used to support avian health; of which $4,251,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for information technology infrastructure; of which $152,667,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for specialty crop pests; of which, $8,883,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for field crop and rangeland ecosystem pests; of which $54,304,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for tree and wood pests; of which $3,723,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the National Veterinary Stockpile; of which up to $1,500,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the scrapie program for indemnities; of which $1,500,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the wildlife damage management program for aviation safety: *Provided*, That of amounts available under this heading for wildlife services methods development, $1,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That of amounts available under this heading for the screwworm program, $4,990,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That no funds shall be used to formulate or administer a brucellosis eradication program for the current fiscal year that does not require minimum matching by the States of at least 40 percent: *Provided further*, That this appropriation shall be available for the operation and maintenance of aircraft and the purchase of not to exceed four, of which two shall be for replacement only: *Provided further*, That in addition, in emergencies which threaten any segment of the agricultural production industry of this country, the Secretary may transfer from other appropriations or funds available to the agencies or corporations of the Department such sums as may be deemed necessary, to be available only in such emergencies for the arrest and eradication of contagious or infectious disease or pests of animals, poultry, or plants, and for expenses in accordance with sections 10411 and 10417 of the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8310 and 8316) and sections 431 and 442 of the Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7751 and 7772), and any unexpended balances of funds transferred for such emergency purposes in the preceding fiscal year shall be merged with such transferred amounts: *Provided further*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the repair and alteration of leased buildings and improvements, but unless otherwise provided the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

In fiscal year 2015, the agency is authorized to collect fees to cover the total costs of providing technical assistance, goods, or services requested by States, other political subdivisions, domestic and international organizations, foreign governments, or individuals, provided that such fees are structured such that any entity's liability for such fees is reasonably based on the technical assistance, goods, or services provided to the entity by the agency, and such fees shall be reimbursed to this account, to remain available until expended, without further appropriation, for providing such assistance, goods, or services.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For plans, construction, repair, preventive maintenance, environmental support, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 2250, and acquisition of land as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 428a, $3,175,000, to remain available until expended.

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

MARKETING SERVICES

For necessary expenses of the Agricultural Marketing Service, $81,634,000: *Provided*, That this appropriation shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the alteration and repair of buildings and improvements, but the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

Fees may be collected for the cost of standardization activities, as established by regulation pursuant to law (31 U.S.C. 9701).

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Not to exceed $60,709,000 (from fees collected) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year for administrative expenses: *Provided*, That if crop size is understated and/or other uncontrollable events occur, the agency may exceed this limitation by up to 10 percent with notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

FUNDS FOR STRENGTHENING MARKETS, INCOME, AND SUPPLY (SECTION 32)

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Funds available under section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 612c), shall be used only for commodity program expenses as authorized therein, and other related operating expenses, except for: (1) transfers to the Department of Commerce as authorized by the Fish and Wildlife Act of August 8, 1956; (2) transfers otherwise provided in this Act; and (3) not more than $20,317,000 for formulation and administration of marketing agreements and orders pursuant to the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 and the Agricultural Act of 1961.

PAYMENTS TO STATES AND POSSESSIONS

For payments to departments of agriculture, bureaus and departments of markets, and similar agencies for marketing activities under section 204(b) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1623(b)), $1,363,000.

GRAIN INSPECTION, PACKERS AND STOCKYARDS ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, $44,017,000: *Provided*, That this appropriation shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the alteration and repair of buildings and improvements, but the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

LIMITATION ON INSPECTION AND WEIGHING SERVICES EXPENSES

Not to exceed $50,000,000 (from fees collected) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year for inspection and weighing services: *Provided*, That if grain export activities require additional supervision and oversight, or other uncontrollable factors occur, this limitation may be exceeded by up to 10 percent with notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOOD SAFETY

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety, $816,000.

FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE

For necessary expenses to carry out services authorized by the Federal Meat Inspection Act, the Poultry Products Inspection Act, and the Egg Products Inspection Act, including not to exceed $50,000 for representation allowances and for expenses pursuant to section 8 of the Act approved August 3, 1956 (7 U.S.C. 1766), $1,022,770,000; and in addition, $1,000,000 may be credited to this account from fees collected for the cost of laboratory accreditation as authorized by section 1327 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 138f): *Provided*, That funds provided for the Public Health Data Communication Infrastructure system shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That no fewer than 148 full-time equivalent positions shall be employed during fiscal year 2015 for purposes dedicated solely to inspections and enforcement related to the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act: *Provided further*, That the Food Safety and Inspection Service shall continue implementation of section 11016 of Public Law 110–246 as further clarified by the amendments made in section 12106 of Public Law 113–79: *Provided further*, That this appropriation shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the alteration and repair of buildings and improvements, but the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FARM AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services, $898,000.

FARM SERVICE AGENCY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Farm Service Agency, $1,182,544,000, of which $32,500,000 shall be for Modernize and Innovate the Delivery of Agricultural Systems: *Provided*, That the Secretary is authorized to use the services, facilities, and authorities (but not the funds) of the Commodity Credit Corporation to make program payments for all programs administered by the Agency: *Provided further*, That other funds made available to the Agency for authorized activities may be advanced to and merged with this account: *Provided further*, That funds made available to county committees shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That none of the funds available to the Farm Service Agency shall be used to close Farm Service Agency county offices: *Provided further*, That none of the funds available to the Farm Service Agency shall be used to relocate county based employees without prior notification and approval of the Committee on Appropriations.

STATE MEDIATION GRANTS

For grants pursuant to section 502(b) of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987, as amended (7 U.S.C. 5101–5106), $3,404,000.

GRASSROOTS SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to carry out wellhead or groundwater protection activities under section 1240O of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839bb–2), $6,500,000, to remain available until expended.

DAIRY INDEMNITY PROGRAM

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses involved in making indemnity payments to dairy farmers and manufacturers of dairy products under a dairy indemnity program, such sums as may be necessary, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such program is carried out by the Secretary in the same manner as the dairy indemnity program described in the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001 (Public Law 106–387, 114 Stat. 1549A–12).

AGRICULTURAL CREDIT INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For gross obligations for the principal amount of direct and guaranteed farm ownership (7 U.S.C. 1922 et seq.) and operating (7 U.S.C. 1941 et seq.) loans, emergency loans (7 U.S.C. 1961 et seq.), Indian tribe land acquisition loans (25 U.S.C. 488), boll weevil loans (7 U.S.C. 1989), guaranteed conservation loans (7 U.S.C. 1924 et seq.), and Indian highly fractionated land loans (25 U.S.C. 488) to be available from funds in the Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund, as follows: $2,000,000,000 for guaranteed farm ownership loans and $1,500,000,000 for farm ownership direct loans; $1,393,443,000 for unsubsidized guaranteed operating loans and $1,252,004,000 for direct operating loans; emergency loans, $34,667,000; Indian tribe land acquisition loans, $2,000,000; guaranteed conservation loans, $150,000,000; Indian highly fractionated land loans, $10,000,000; and for boll weevil eradication program loans, $60,000,000: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall deem the pink bollworm to be a boll weevil for the purpose of boll weevil eradication program loans.

For the cost of direct and guaranteed loans and grants, including the cost of modifying loans as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as follows: farm operating loans, $63,101,000 for direct operating loans, $14,770,000 for unsubsidized guaranteed operating loans, emergency loans, $856,000, to remain available until expended; and for individual development account grants, $2,500,000: *Provided*, That for the purposes of prioritizing applications of qualified entities for individual development account grants the Secretary shall provide the same priority for applicants that have a track record serving veterans as those that serve socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, $314,918,000, of which $306,998,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for ''Farm Service Agency, Salaries and Expenses''.

Funds appropriated by this Act to the Agricultural Credit Insurance Program Account for farm ownership, operating and conservation direct loans and guaranteed loans may be transferred among these programs: *Provided*, That the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress are notified at least 15 days in advance of any transfer.

RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY

For necessary expenses of the Risk Management Agency, $76,779,000: *Provided*, That the funds made available under section 522(e) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1522(e)) may be used for the Common Information Management System: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $1,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 1506(i).

CORPORATIONS

The following corporations and agencies are hereby authorized to make expenditures, within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available to each such corporation or agency and in accord with law, and to make contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 104 of the Government Corporation Control Act as may be necessary in carrying out the programs set forth in the budget for the current fiscal year for such corporation or agency, except as hereinafter provided.

FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION FUND

For payments as authorized by section 516 of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1516), such sums as may be necessary, to remain available until expended.

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION FUND

REIMBURSEMENT FOR NET REALIZED LOSSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For the current fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for net realized losses sustained, but not previously reimbursed, pursuant to section 2 of the Act of August 17, 1961 (15 U.S.C. 713a–11): *Provided*, That of the funds available to the Commodity Credit Corporation under section 11 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714i) for the conduct of its business with the Foreign Agricultural Service, up to $5,000,000 may be transferred to and used by the Foreign Agricultural Service for information resource management activities of the Foreign Agricultural Service that are not related to Commodity Credit Corporation business.

HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT

(LIMITATION ON EXPENSES)

For the current fiscal year, the Commodity Credit Corporation shall not expend more than $5,000,000 for site investigation and

cleanup expenses, and operations and maintenance expenses to comply with the requirement of section 107(g) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9607(g)), and section 6001 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. 6961).

TITLE II

CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, $898,000.

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

CONSERVATION OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses for carrying out the provisions of the Act of April 27, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 590a–f), including preparation of conservation plans and establishment of measures to conserve soil and water (including farm irrigation and land drainage and such special measures for soil and water management as may be necessary to prevent floods and the siltation of reservoirs and to control agricultural related pollutants); operation of conservation plant materials centers; classification and mapping of soil; dissemination of information; acquisition of lands, water, and interests therein for use in the plant materials program by donation, exchange, or purchase at a nominal cost not to exceed $100 pursuant to the Act of August 3, 1956 (7 U.S.C. 428a); purchase and erection or alteration or improvement of permanent and temporary buildings; and operation and maintenance of aircraft, $849,295,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2250 for construction and improvement of buildings and public improvements at plant materials centers, except that the cost of alterations and improvements to other buildings and other public improvements shall not exceed $250,000: *Provided further*, That when buildings or other structures are erected on non-Federal land, that the right to use such land is obtained as provided in 7 U.S.C. 2250a: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, $5,600,000, shall remain available until expended for the authorities under 16 U.S.C. 1001–1005 and 1007–1009 for authorized ongoing watershed projects with a primary purpose of providing water to rural communities.

TITLE III

RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Rural Development, $898,000.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for carrying out the administration and implementation of programs in the Rural Development mission area, including activities with institutions concerning the development and operation of agricultural cooperatives; and for cooperative agreements; $228,898,000: *Provided*, That no less than $15,000,000 shall be for the Comprehensive Loan Accounting System: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated under this heading may be used for advertising and promotional activities that support the Rural Development mission area: *Provided further*, That any balances available from prior years for the Rural Utilities Service, Rural Housing Service, and the Rural Business—Cooperative Service salaries and expenses accounts shall be transferred to and merged with this appropriation.

RURAL HOUSING SERVICE

RURAL HOUSING INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For gross obligations for the principal amount of direct and guaranteed loans as authorized by title V of the Housing Act of 1949, to be available from funds in the rural housing insurance fund, as follows: $900,000,000 shall be for direct loans and $24,000,000,000 shall be for unsubsidized guaranteed loans; $26,279,000 for section 504 housing repair loans; $28,432,000 for section 515 rental housing; $150,000,000 for section 538 guaranteed multi-family housing loans; $10,000,000 for credit sales of single family housing acquired property; $5,000,000 for section 523 self-help housing land development loans; and $5,000,000 for section 524 site development loans.

For the cost of direct and guaranteed loans, including the cost of modifying loans, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as follows: section 502 loans, $66,420,000 shall be for direct loans; section 504 housing repair loans, $3,687,000; and repair, rehabilitation, and new construction of section 515 rental housing, $9,812,000: *Provided*, That to support the loan program level for section 538 guaranteed loans made available under this heading the Secretary may charge or adjust any fees to cover the projected cost of such loan guarantees pursuant to the provisions of the Credit Reform Act of 1990 (2 U.S.C. 661 et seq.), and the interest on such loans may not be subsidized: *Provided further*, That applicants in communities that have a current rural area waiver under section 541 of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1490q) shall be treated as living in a rural area for purposes of section 502 guaranteed loans provided under this heading: *Provided further*, That of the amounts available under this paragraph for section 502 direct loans, no less than $5,000,000 shall be available for direct loans for individuals whose homes will be built pursuant to a program funded with a mutual and self-help housing grant authorized by section 523 of the Housing Act of 1949 until June 1, 2015.

In addition, for the cost of direct loans, grants, and contracts, as authorized by 42 U.S.C. 1484 and 1486, $16,017,000, to remain available until expended, for direct farm labor housing loans and domestic farm labor housing grants and contracts: *Provided*, That any balances available for the Farm Labor Program Account shall be transferred to and merged with this account.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, $415,100,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for ''Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses''.

RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

For rental assistance agreements entered into or renewed pursuant to the authority under section 521(a)(2) or agreements entered into in lieu of debt forgiveness or payments for eligible households as authorized by section 502(c)(5)(D) of the Housing Act of 1949, $1,093,500,000; and, in addition, such sums as may be necessary, as authorized by section 521(c) of the Act, to liquidate debt incurred prior to fiscal year 1992 to carry out the rental assistance program under section 521(a)(2) of the Act: *Provided*, That rental assistance agreements entered into or renewed during the current fiscal year shall be funded for a 1-year period: *Provided further*, That rental assistance contracts will not be renewed within the 12-month contract period: *Provided further*, That any unexpended balances remaining at the end of such 1-year agreements may be transferred and used for the purposes of any debt reduction; maintenance, repair, or rehabilitation of any existing projects; preservation; and rental assistance activities authorized under title V of the Act: *Provided further*, That rental assistance provided under agreements entered into prior to fiscal year 2015 for a farm labor multi-family housing project financed under section 514 or 516 of the Act may not be recaptured for use in another project until such assistance has remained unused for a period of 12 consecutive months, if such project has a waiting list of tenants seeking such assistance or the project has rental assistance eligible tenants who are not receiving such assistance: *Provided further*, That such recaptured rental assistance shall, to the extent practicable, be applied to another farm labor multi-family housing project financed under section 514 or 516 of the Act.

MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING REVITALIZATION PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the rural housing voucher program as authorized under section 542 of the Housing Act of 1949, but notwithstanding subsection (b) of such section, and for additional costs to conduct a demonstration program for the preservation and revitalization of multi-family rental housing properties described in this paragraph, $28,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the funds made available under this heading, $8,000,000, shall be available for rural housing vouchers to any low-income household (including those not receiving rental assistance) residing in a property financed with a section 515 loan which has been prepaid after September 30, 2005: *Provided further*, That the amount of such voucher shall be the difference between comparable market rent for the section 515 unit and the tenant paid rent for such unit: *Provided further*, That funds made available for such vouchers shall be subject to the availability of annual appropriations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, administer such vouchers with current regulations and administrative guidance applicable to section 8 housing vouchers administered by the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development: *Provided further*, That if the Secretary determines that the amount made available for vouchers in this or any other Act is not needed for vouchers, the Secretary may use such funds for the demonstration program for the preservation and revitalization of multi-family rental housing properties described in this paragraph: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, $20,000,000 shall be available for a demonstration program for the preservation and revitalization of the sections 514, 515, and 516 multi-family rental housing properties to restructure existing USDA multi-family housing loans, as the Secretary deems appropriate, expressly for the purposes of ensuring the project has sufficient resources to preserve the project for the purpose of providing safe and affordable housing for low-income residents and farm laborers including reducing or eliminating interest; deferring loan payments, subordinating, reducing or reamortizing loan debt; and other financial assistance including advances, payments and incentives (including the ability of owners to obtain reasonable returns on investment) required by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall as part of the preservation and revitalization agreement obtain a restrictive use agreement consistent with the terms of the restructuring: *Provided further*, That if the Secretary determines that additional funds for vouchers described in this paragraph are needed, funds for the preservation and revitalization demonstration

program may be used for such vouchers: *Provided further*, That if Congress enacts legislation to permanently authorize a multi-family rental housing loan restructuring program similar to the demonstration program described herein, the Secretary may use funds made available for the demonstration program under this heading to carry out such legislation with the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided further*, That in addition to any other available funds, the Secretary may expend not more than $1,000,000 total, from the program funds made available under this heading, for administrative expenses for activities funded under this heading.

MUTUAL AND SELF-HELP HOUSING GRANTS

For grants and contracts pursuant to section 523(b)(1)(A) of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1490c), $25,000,000, to remain available until expended.

RURAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE GRANTS

For grants for very low-income housing repair and rural housing preservation made by the Rural Housing Service, as authorized by 42 U.S.C. 1474, and 1490m, $32,239,000, to remain available until expended.

RURAL COMMUNITY FACILITIES PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For gross obligations for the principal amount of direct and guaranteed loans as authorized by section 306 and described in section 381E(d)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, $2,200,000,000 for direct loans and $75,000,000 for guaranteed loans.

For the cost of guaranteed loans, including the cost of modifying loans, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, $3,585,000, to remain available until expended.

For the cost of grants for rural community facilities programs as authorized by section 306 and described in section 381E(d)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, $28,745,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That $5,967,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be available for a Rural Community Development Initiative: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be used solely to develop the capacity and ability of private, nonprofit community-based housing and community development organizations, low-income rural communities, and Federally Recognized Native American Tribes to undertake projects to improve housing, community facilities, community and economic development projects in rural areas: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be made available to qualified private, nonprofit and public intermediary organizations proposing to carry out a program of financial and technical assistance: *Provided further*, That such intermediary organizations shall provide matching funds from other sources, including Federal funds for related activities, in an amount not less than funds provided: *Provided further*, That $5,778,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be to provide grants for facilities in rural communities with extreme unemployment and severe economic depression (Public Law 106–387), with up to 5 percent for administration and capacity building in the State rural development offices: *Provided further*, That $4,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be available for community facilities grants to tribal colleges, as authorized by section 306(a)(19) of such Act: *Provided further*, That sections 381E–H and 381N of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act are not applicable to the funds made available under this heading.

RURAL BUSINESS—COOPERATIVE SERVICE

RURAL BUSINESS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For the cost of loan guarantees and grants, for the rural business development programs authorized by section 310B and described in subsections (a), (c), (f) and (g) of section 310B of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, $78,527,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading, not to exceed $500,000 shall be made available for a grant to a qualified national organization to provide technical assistance for rural transportation in order to promote economic development and $3,000,000 shall be for grants to the Delta Regional Authority (7 U.S.C. 2009aa et seq.) for any Rural Community Advancement Program purpose as described in section 381E(d) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, of which not more than 5 percent may be used for administrative expenses: *Provided further*, That $4,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be for business grants to benefit Federally Recognized Native American Tribes, including $250,000 for a grant to a qualified national organization to provide technical assistance for rural transportation in order to promote economic development: *Provided further*, That sections 381E–H and 381N of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act are not applicable to funds made available under this heading.

INTERMEDIARY RELENDING PROGRAM FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the principal amount of direct loans, as authorized by the Intermediary Relending Program Fund (7 U.S.C. 1936b), $18,889,000.

For the cost of direct loans, $5,818,000, as authorized by the Intermediary Relending Program Fund (7 U.S.C. 1936b), of which $531,000 shall be available through June 30, 2015, for Federally Recognized Native American Tribes; and of which $1,078,000 shall be available through June 30, 2015, for Mississippi Delta Region counties (as determined in accordance with Public Law 100–460): *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the direct loan programs, $4,439,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for ''Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses''.

RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For the principal amount of direct loans, as authorized under section 313 of the Rural Electrification Act, for the purpose of promoting rural economic development and job creation projects, $33,077,000.

Of the funds derived from interest on the cushion of credit payments, as authorized by section 313 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, $158,000,000 shall not be obligated and $158,000,000 are rescinded.

RURAL COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

For rural cooperative development grants authorized under section 310B(e) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932), $26,050,000, of which $2,250,000 shall be for cooperative agreements for the appropriate technology transfer for rural areas program: *Provided*, That not to exceed $3,000,000 shall be for grants for cooperative development centers, individual cooperatives, or groups of cooperatives that serve socially disadvantaged groups and a majority of the boards of directors or governing boards of which are comprised of individuals who are members of socially disadvantaged groups; and of which $15,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for value-added agricultural product market development grants, as authorized by section 231 of the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 (7 U.S.C. 1632a).

RURAL ENERGY FOR AMERICA PROGRAM

For the cost of a program of loan guarantees, under the same terms and conditions as authorized by section 9007 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8107), $1,350,000: *Provided*, That the cost of loan guarantees, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE

RURAL WATER AND WASTE DISPOSAL PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For the cost of direct loans, loan guarantees, and grants for the rural water, waste water, waste disposal, and solid waste management programs authorized by sections 306, 306A, 306C, 306D, 306E, and 310B and described in sections 306C(a)(2), 306D, 306E, and 381E(d)(2) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, $463,230,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed $1,000,000 shall be available for the rural utilities program described in section 306(a)(2)(B) of such Act, and of which not to exceed $993,000 shall be available for the rural utilities program described in section 306E of such Act: *Provided*, That $66,500,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be for loans and grants including water and waste disposal systems grants authorized by 306C(a)(2)(B) and 306D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, Federally recognized Native American Tribes authorized by 306C(a)(1), and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (of the State of Hawaii): *Provided further*, That funding provided for section 306D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act may be provided to a consortium formed pursuant to section 325 of Public Law 105–83: *Provided further*, That not more than 2 percent of the funding provided for section 306D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act may be used by the State of Alaska for training and technical assistance programs and not more than 2 percent of the funding provided for section 306D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act may be used by a consortium formed pursuant to section 325 of Public Law 105–83 for training and technical assistance programs: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $19,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be for technical assistance grants for rural water and waste systems pursuant to section 306(a)(14) of such Act, unless the Secretary makes a determination of extreme need, of which $6,000,000 shall be made available for a grant to a qualified non-profit multi-state regional technical assistance organization, with experience in working with small communities on water and waste water problems, the principal purpose of such grant shall be to assist rural communities with populations of 3,300 or less, in improving the planning, financing, development, operation, and management of water and waste water systems, and of which not less than $800,000 shall be for a qualified national Native American organization to provide technical assistance for rural water systems for tribal communities: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $15,919,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be for contracting with qualified national organizations for a circuit rider program to provide technical assistance for rural water systems: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $4,000,000 shall be

for solid waste management grants: *Provided further*, That $10,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be transferred to, and merged with, the Rural Utilities Service, High Energy Cost Grants Account to provide grants authorized under section 19 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 918a): *Provided further*, That any prior year balances for high-energy cost grants authorized by section 19 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 918a) shall be transferred to and merged with the Rural Utilities Service, High Energy Cost Grants Account: *Provided further*, That sections 381E–H and 381N of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act are not applicable to the funds made available under this heading.

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The principal amount of direct and guaranteed loans as authorized by sections 305 and 306 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 935 and 936) shall be made as follows: loans made pursuant to section 306 of that Act, rural electric, $5,000,000,000; guaranteed underwriting loans pursuant to section 313A, $500,000,000; 5 percent rural telecommunications loans, cost of money rural telecommunications loans, and for loans made pursuant to section 306 of that Act, rural telecommunications loans, $690,000,000: *Provided*, That up to $2,000,000,000 shall be used for the construction, acquisition, or improvement of fossil-fueled electric generating plants (whether new or existing) that utilize carbon sequestration systems.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, $34,478,000, which shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for ''Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses''.

DISTANCE LEARNING, TELEMEDICINE, AND BROADBAND PROGRAM

For the principal amount of broadband telecommunication loans, $34,430,000.

For grants for telemedicine and distance learning services in rural areas, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 950aaa et seq., $24,323,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That $3,000,000 shall be made available for grants authorized by 379G of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act: *Provided further*, That funding provided under this heading for grants under 379G of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act may only be provided to entities that meet all of the eligibility criteria for a consortium as established by this section.

For the cost of broadband loans, as authorized by section 601 of the Rural Electrification Act, $6,435,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the cost of direct loans shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

In addition, $10,372,000, to remain available until expended, for a grant program to finance broadband transmission in rural areas eligible for Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program benefits authorized by 7 U.S.C. 950aaa.

TITLE IV

DOMESTIC FOOD PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOOD, NUTRITION AND CONSUMER SERVICES

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services, $816,000.

FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE

CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.), except section 21, and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.), except sections 17 and 21; $20,497,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2016, of which such sums as are made available under section 14222(b)(1) of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–246), as amended by this Act, shall be merged with and available for the same time period and purposes as provided herein: *Provided*, That of the total amount available, $17,004,000 shall be available to carry out section 19 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.): *Provided further*, That of the total amount available, $25,000,000 shall be available to provide competitive grants to State agencies for subgrants to local educational agencies and schools to purchase the equipment needed to serve healthier meals, improve food safety, and to help support the establishment, maintenance, or expansion of the school breakfast program.

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC)

For necessary expenses to carry out the special supplemental nutrition program as authorized by section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786), $6,623,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2016, of which such sums as are necessary to increase the contingency reserve to $150,000,000 shall be placed in reserve, to remain available until expended, to be allocated as the Secretary deemed necessary, notwithstanding section 17(i) of such Act, to support participation should cost or participation exceed budget estimates: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 17(h)(10) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(h)(10)), not less than $60,000,000 shall be used for breastfeeding peer counselors and other related activities, $14,000,000 shall be used for infrastructure, and $30,000,000 shall be used for management information systems: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided in this account shall be available for the purchase of infant formula except in accordance with the cost containment and competitive bidding requirements specified in section 17 of such Act: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided shall be available for activities that are not fully reimbursed by other Federal Government departments or agencies unless authorized by section 17 of such Act: *Provided further*, That upon termination of a federally-mandated vendor moratorium and subject to terms and conditions established by the Secretary, the Secretary may waive the requirement of 7 CFR 246.12(g)(6) at the request of a State agency.

SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to carry out the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.), $82,251,387,000, of which $3,000,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2017, shall be placed in reserve for use only in such amounts and at such times as may become necessary to carry out program operations: *Provided*, That funds available for the contingency reserve under the heading ''Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program'' of Division A of Public Law 113–76 shall be available until September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That funds provided herein shall be expended in accordance with section 16 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, $998,000 may be used to provide nutrition education services to State agencies and Federally recognized tribes participating in the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations: *Provided further*, That this appropriation shall be subject to any work registration or workfare requirements as may be required by law: *Provided further*, That funds made available for Employment and Training under this heading shall remain available through September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading for a study on Indian tribal administration of nutrition programs, as provided in title IV of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–79), and a study of the removal of cash benefits in Puerto Rico, as provided in title IV of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–79) shall be available until expended: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading for section 28(d)(1) (nutrition education and obesity grants) and section 27(a) (The Emergency Food Assistance Program) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 shall remain available through September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading for employment and training pilot projects, as provided in title IV of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–79), shall remain available through September 30, 2018: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading may be used to enter into contracts and employ staff to conduct studies, evaluations, or to conduct activities related to program integrity provided that such activities are authorized by the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008.

COMMODITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to carry out disaster assistance and the Commodity Supplemental Food Program as authorized by section 4(a) of the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 (7 U.S.C. 612c note); the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983; special assistance for the nuclear affected islands, as authorized by section 103(f)(2) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (Public Law 108–188); and the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, as authorized by section 17(m) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, $275,701,000, to remain available through September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That none of these funds shall be available to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for commodities donated to the program: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, effective with funds made available in fiscal year 2015 to support the Seniors Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, as authorized by section 4402 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, such funds shall remain available through September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under section 27(a) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2036(a)), the Secretary may use up to 10 percent for costs associated with the distribution of commodities.

NUTRITION PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION

For necessary administrative expenses of the Food and Nutrition Service for carrying out any domestic nutrition assistance program, $155,000,000, of which $2,800,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for ''Food and Nutrition Service, Commodity Assistance Program'' to begin service in six additional States that have plans approved by the Department for the commodity supplemental food program but are not currently participating: *Provided*, That of the funds provided herein, $2,000,000 shall be used for the purposes of section 4404 of Public Law 107–171, as amended by section 4401 of Public Law 110–246.

TITLE V

FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND RELATED PROGRAMS

FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Foreign Agricultural Service, including not to exceed

$158,000 for representation allowances and for expenses pursuant to section 8 of the Act approved August 3, 1956 (7 U.S.C. 1766), $182,797,000, of which no more than 6 percent will remain available until September 30, 2016, for overseas operations to include the payment of locally employed staff: *Provided*, That the Service may utilize advances of funds, or reimburse this appropriation for expenditures made on behalf of Federal agencies, public and private organizations and institutions under agreements executed pursuant to the agricultural food production assistance programs (7 U.S.C. 1737) and the foreign assistance programs of the United States Agency for International Development: *Provided further*, That funds made available for middle-income country training programs, funds made available for the Borlaug International Agricultural Science and Technology Fellowship program, and up to $2,000,000 of the Foreign Agricultural Service appropriation solely for the purpose of offsetting fluctuations in international currency exchange rates, subject to documentation by the Foreign Agricultural Service, shall remain available until expended.

FOOD FOR PEACE TITLE I DIRECT CREDIT AND FOOD FOR PROGRESS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For administrative expenses to carry out the credit program of title I, Food for Peace Act (Public Law 83–480) and the Food for Progress Act of 1985, $2,528,000, shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for ''Farm Service Agency, Salaries and Expenses'': *Provided*, That of the unobligated balances provided pursuant to Title I of the Food for Peace Act, $13,000,000 are hereby permanently rescinded: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

FOOD FOR PEACE TITLE II GRANTS

For expenses during the current fiscal year, not otherwise recoverable, and unrecovered prior years' costs, including interest thereon, under the Food for Peace Act (Public Law 83–480, as amended), for commodities supplied in connection with dispositions abroad under title II of said Act, $1,466,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That for purposes of funds appropriated under this heading, in addition to amounts made available under section 202(e)(1) of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1722(e)(1)), of the total amount provided under this heading, $35,000,000 shall be made available to eligible organizations in accordance with section 202(e)(1) of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1722(e)(1)).

MCGOVERN-DOLE INTERNATIONAL FOOD FOR EDUCATION AND CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM GRANTS

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 3107 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 1736o–1), $185,126,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Commodity Credit Corporation is authorized to provide the services, facilities, and authorities for the purpose of implementing such section, subject to reimbursement from amounts provided herein.

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION EXPORT (LOANS) CREDIT GUARANTEE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For administrative expenses to carry out the Commodity Credit Corporation's export guarantee program, GSM 102 and GSM 103, $6,748,000; to cover common overhead expenses as permitted by section 11 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act and in conformity with the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990, of which $6,394,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for ''Foreign Agricultural Service, Salaries and Expenses'', and of which $354,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for ''Farm Service Agency, Salaries and Expenses''.

TITLE VI

RELATED AGENCY AND FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Food and Drug Administration, including hire and purchase of passenger motor vehicles; for payment of space rental and related costs pursuant to Public Law 92–313 for programs and activities of the Food and Drug Administration which are included in this Act; for rental of special purpose space in the District of Columbia or elsewhere; for miscellaneous and emergency expenses of enforcement activities, authorized and approved by the Secretary and to be accounted for solely on the Secretary's certificate, not to exceed $25,000; and notwithstanding section 521 of Public Law 107–188; $4,443,356,000: *Provided*, That of the amount provided under this heading, $798,000,000 shall be derived from prescription drug user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379h, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; $128,282,000 shall be derived from medical device user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; $312,116,000 shall be derived from human generic drug user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j–42, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; $21,014,000 shall be derived from biosimilar biological product user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j–52, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; $22,464,000 shall be derived from animal drug user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j–12, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; $6,944,000 shall be derived from animal generic drug user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j–21, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; $566,000,000 shall be derived from tobacco product user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 387s, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That in addition and notwithstanding any other provision under this heading, amounts collected for prescription drug user fees, medical device user fees, human generic drug user fees, biosimilar biological product user fees, animal drug user fees, and animal generic drug user fees that exceed the respective fiscal year 2015 limitations are appropriated and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That fees derived from prescription drug, medical device, human generic drug, biosimilar biological product, animal drug, and animal generic drug assessments for fiscal year 2015, including any such fees collected prior to fiscal year 2015 but credited for fiscal year 2015, shall be subject to the fiscal year 2015 limitations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may accept payment during fiscal year 2015 of user fees specified under this heading and authorized for fiscal year 2016, prior to the due date for such fees, and that amounts of such fees assessed for fiscal year 2016 for which the Secretary accepts payment in fiscal year 2015 shall not be included in amounts under this heading: *Provided further*, That none of these funds shall be used to develop, establish, or operate any program of user fees authorized by 31 U.S.C. 9701: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated: (1) $903,403,000 shall be for the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition and related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (2) $1,339,884,000 shall be for the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research and related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (3) $342,639,000 shall be for the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research and for related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (4) $174,976,000 shall be for the Center for Veterinary Medicine and for related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (5) $417,660,000 shall be for the Center for Devices and Radiological Health and for related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (6) $63,331,000 shall be for the National Center for Toxicological Research; (7) $531,527,000 shall be for the Center for Tobacco Products and for related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (8) not to exceed $163,432,000 shall be for Rent and Related activities, of which $47,116,000 is for White Oak Consolidation, other than the amounts paid to the General Services Administration for rent; (9) not to exceed $228,128,000 shall be for payments to the General Services Administration for rent; (10) not less than $150,000 shall be used to implement a requirement that the labeling of genetically engineered salmon offered for sale to consumers indicate that such salmon is genetically engineered; and (11) $278,376,000 shall be for other activities, including the Office of the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, the Office of Foods and Veterinary Medicine, the Office of Medical and Tobacco Products, the Office of Global and Regulatory Policy, the Office of Operations, the Office of the Chief Scientist, and central services for these offices: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $25,000 of this amount shall be for official reception and representation expenses, not otherwise provided for, as determined by the Commissioner: *Provided further*, That of the amounts that are made available under this heading for ''other activities'', and that are not derived from user fees, $1,500,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for ''Department of Health and Human Services—Office of Inspector General'' for oversight of the programs and operations of the Food and Drug Administration and shall be in addition to funds otherwise made available for oversight of the Food and Drug Administration: *Provided further*, That funds may be transferred from one specified activity to another with the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

In addition, mammography user fees authorized by 42 U.S.C. 263b, export certification user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 381, priority review user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 360n, food and feed recall fees, food reinspection fees, and voluntary qualified importer program fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j–31, outsourcing facility fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j–62, prescription drug wholesale distributer licensing and inspection fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 353(e)(3), and third-party logistics provider licensing and inspection fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 360eee–3(c)(1), shall be credited to this account, to remain available until expended.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For plans, construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities of or used by the Food and Drug Administration, where not otherwise provided, $8,788,000, to remain available until expended.

INDEPENDENT AGENCY

FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Not to exceed $65,100,000 (from assessments collected from farm credit institutions, including the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year for administrative expenses as authorized under 12 U.S.C. 2249: *Provided*, That this limitation shall not apply to expenses associated with receiverships: *Provided further*, That the agency may exceed this limitation by up to 10 percent with notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

TITLE VII

GENERAL PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS AND TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 701. Within the unit limit of cost fixed by law, appropriations and authorizations made for the Department of Agriculture for the current fiscal year under this Act shall be available for the purchase, in addition to those specifically provided for, of not to exceed 71 passenger motor vehicles of which 68 shall be for replacement only, and for the hire of such vehicles: *Provided*, That notwithstanding this section, the only purchase of new passenger vehicles shall be for those determined by the Secretary to be necessary for transportation safety, to reduce operational costs, and for the protection of life, property, and public safety.

SEC. 702. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture may transfer unobligated balances of discretionary funds appropriated by this Act or any other available unobligated discretionary balances that are remaining available of the Department of Agriculture to the Working Capital Fund for the acquisition of plant and capital equipment necessary for the delivery of financial, administrative, and information technology services of primary benefit to the agencies of the Department of Agriculture, such transferred funds to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That none of the funds made available by this Act or any other Act shall be transferred to the Working Capital Fund without the prior approval of the agency administrator: *Provided further*, That none of the funds transferred to the Working Capital Fund pursuant to this section shall be available for obligation without written notification to and the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated by this Act or made available to the Department's Working Capital Fund shall be available for obligation or expenditure to make any changes to the Department's National Finance Center without written notification to and prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress as required by section 721 of this Act: *Provided further*, That of annual income amounts in the Working Capital Fund of the Department of Agriculture allocated for the National Finance Center, the Secretary may reserve not more than 4 percent for the replacement or acquisition of capital equipment, including equipment for the improvement and implementation of a financial management plan, information technology, and other systems of the National Finance Center or to pay any unforeseen, extraordinary cost of the National Finance Center: *Provided further*, That none of the amounts reserved shall be available for obligation unless the Secretary submits written notification of the obligation to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided further*, That the limitation on the obligation of funds pending notification to Congressional Committees shall not apply to any obligation that, as determined by the Secretary, is necessary to respond to a declared state of emergency that significantly impacts the operations of the National Finance Center; or to evacuate employees of the National Finance Center to a safe haven to continue operations of the National Finance Center.

SEC. 703. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 704. No funds appropriated by this Act may be used to pay negotiated indirect cost rates on cooperative agreements or similar arrangements between the United States Department of Agriculture and nonprofit institutions in excess of 10 percent of the total direct cost of the agreement when the purpose of such cooperative arrangements is to carry out programs of mutual interest between the two parties. This does not preclude appropriate payment of indirect costs on grants and contracts with such institutions when such indirect costs are computed on a similar basis for all agencies for which appropriations are provided in this Act.

SEC. 705. Appropriations to the Department of Agriculture for the cost of direct and guaranteed loans made available in the current fiscal year shall remain available until expended to disburse obligations made in the current fiscal year for the following accounts: the Rural Development Loan Fund program account, the Rural Electrification and Telecommunication Loans program account, and the Rural Housing Insurance Fund program account.

SEC. 706. None of the funds made available to the Department of Agriculture by this Act may be used to acquire new information technology systems or significant upgrades, as determined by the Office of the Chief Information Officer, without the approval of the Chief Information Officer and the concurrence of the Executive Information Technology Investment Review Board: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be transferred to the Office of the Chief Information Officer without written notification to and the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided further*, That none of the funds available to the Department of Agriculture for information technology shall be obligated for projects over $25,000 prior to receipt of written approval by the Chief Information Officer.

SEC. 707. Funds made available under section 1240I and section 1241(a) of the Food Security Act of 1985 and section 524(b) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1524(b)) in the current fiscal year shall remain available until expended to disburse obligations made in the current fiscal year.

SEC. 708. Hereafter, notwithstanding any other provision of law, any former RUS borrower that has repaid or prepaid an insured, direct or guaranteed loan under the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, or any not-for-profit utility that is eligible to receive an insured or direct loan under such Act, shall be eligible for assistance under section 313(b)(2)(B) of such Act in the same manner as a borrower under such Act.

SEC. 709. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out section 307(b) of division C of the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1999 (Public Law 105–277; 112 Stat. 2681–640) in excess of $4,000,000.

SEC. 710. Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, unobligated balances from appropriations made available for salaries and expenses in this Act for the Farm Service Agency and the Rural Development mission area, shall remain available through September 30, 2016, for information technology expenses.

SEC. 711. The Secretary of Agriculture may authorize a State agency to use funds provided in this Act to exceed the maximum amount of liquid infant formula specified in 7 CFR 246.10 when issuing liquid infant formula to participants.

SEC. 712. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used for first-class travel by the employees of agencies funded by this Act in contravention of sections 301–10.122 through 301–10.124 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 713. In the case of each program established or amended by the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–79), other than by title I or subtitle A of title III of such Act, or programs for which indefinite amounts were provided in that Act, that is authorized or required to be carried out using funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation—

(1) such funds shall be available for salaries and related administrative expenses, including technical assistance, associated with the implementation of the program, without regard to the limitation on the total amount of allotments and fund transfers contained in section 11 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714i); and

(2) the use of such funds for such purpose shall not be considered to be a fund transfer or allotment for purposes of applying the limitation on the total amount of allotments and fund transfers contained in such section.

SEC. 714. None of the funds made available in fiscal year 2015 or preceding fiscal years for programs authorized under the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1691 et seq.) in excess of $20,000,000 shall be used to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for the release of eligible commodities under section 302(f)(2)(A) of the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust Act (7 U.S.C. 1736f–1): *Provided*, That any such funds made available to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation shall only be used pursuant to section 302(b)(2)(B)(i) of the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust Act.

SEC. 715. Of the funds made available by this Act, not more than $2,000,000 shall be used to cover necessary expenses of activities related to all advisory committees, panels, commissions, and task forces of the Department of Agriculture, except for panels used to comply with negotiated rule makings and panels used to evaluate competitively awarded grants.

SEC. 716. None of the funds in this Act shall be available to pay indirect costs charged against any agricultural research, education, or extension grant awards issued by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture that exceed 30 percent of total Federal funds provided under each award: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 1462 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3310), funds provided by this Act for grants awarded competitively by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture shall be available to pay full allowable indirect costs for each grant awarded under section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638).

SEC. 717. For loans and loan guarantees that do not require budget authority and the program level has been established in this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture may increase the program level for such loans and loan guarantees by not more than 25 percent: *Provided*, That prior to the Secretary implementing such an increase, the Secretary notifies, in writing, the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 15 days in advance.

SEC. 718. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out the following:

(1) The Watershed Rehabilitation program authorized by section 14(h)(1) of the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (16 U.S.C. 1012(h)(1));

(2) The Environmental Quality Incentives Program as authorized by sections 1240–1240H of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–3839aa–8) in excess of $1,350,000,000. Of the funds available under section 1241(a)(5)(B) of such Act, $136,000,000 are hereby permanently cancelled.

SEC. 719. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out a program under subsection (b)(2)(A)(vii) of section 14222 of Public Law 110–246 in excess of $959,000,000, as follows: Child Nutrition Programs Entitlement Commodities—$465,000,000; State Option Contracts—$5,000,000; Removal of Defective Commodities—$2,500,000: *Provided*, That none of the funds made available in this Act or any other Act shall be used for salaries and expenses to carry out in this fiscal year section 19(i)(1)(E) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, as amended, except in an amount that excludes the transfer of $122,000,000 of the funds to be transferred under subsection (c) of section 14222 of Public Law 110–246, until October 1, 2015: *Provided further*, That $122,000,000 made available on October 1, 2015, to carry out section 19(i)(1)(E) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, as amended, shall be excluded from the limitation described in subsection (b)(2)(A)(viii) of section 14222 of Public Law 110–246: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries or expenses of any employee of the Department of Agriculture or officer of the Commodity Credit Corporation to carry out clause 3 of section 32 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1935 (Public Law 74–320, 7 U.S.C. 612c, as amended), or for any surplus removal activities or price support activities under section 5 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act: *Provided further*, That of the available unobligated balances under (b)(2)(A)(vii) of section 14222 of Public Law 110–246, $203,000,000 are hereby rescinded.

SEC. 720. None of the funds appropriated by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel who prepare or submit appropriations language as part of the President's budget submission to the Congress of the United States for programs under the jurisdiction of the Appropriations Subcommittees on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies that assumes revenues or reflects a reduction from the previous year due to user fees proposals that have not been enacted into law prior to the submission of the budget unless such budget submission identifies which additional spending reductions should occur in the event the user fees proposals are not enacted prior to the date of the convening of a committee of conference for the fiscal year 2016 appropriations Act.

SEC. 721. (a) None of the funds provided by this Act, or provided by previous Appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in the current fiscal year, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming, transfer of funds, or reimbursements as authorized by the Economy Act, or in the case of the Department of Agriculture, through use of the authority provided by section 702(b) of the Department of Agriculture Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2257) or section 8 of Public Law 89–106 (7 U.S.C. 2263), that—

(1) creates new programs;

(2) eliminates a program, project, or activity;

(3) increases funds or personnel by any means for any project or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted;

(4) relocates an office or employees;

(5) reorganizes offices, programs, or activities; or

(6) contracts out or privatizes any functions or activities presently performed by Federal employees;

unless the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of Health and Human Services (as the case may be) notifies, in writing, the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 30 days in advance of the reprogramming of such funds or the use of such authority.

(b) None of the funds provided by this Act, or provided by previous Appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in the current fiscal year, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure for activities, programs, or projects through a reprogramming or use of the authorities referred to in subsection (a) involving funds in excess of $500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, that—

(1) augments existing programs, projects, or activities;

(2) reduces by 10 percent funding for any existing program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel by 10 percent as approved by Congress; or

(3) results from any general savings from a reduction in personnel which would result in a change in existing programs, activities, or projects as approved by Congress; unless the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of Health and Human Services (as the case may be) notifies, in writing, the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 30 days in advance of the reprogramming or transfer of such funds or the use of such authority.

(c) The Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall notify in writing the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress before implementing any program or activity not carried out during the previous fiscal year unless the program or activity is funded by this Act or specifically funded by any other Act.

(d) As described in this section, no funds may be used for any activities unless the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of Health and Human Services receives from the Committee on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress written or electronic mail confirmation of receipt of the notification as required in this section.

SEC. 722. Notwithstanding section 310B(g)(5) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932(g)(5)), the Secretary may assess a one-time fee for any guaranteed business and industry loan in an amount that does not exceed 3 percent of the guaranteed principal portion of the loan.

SEC. 723. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the Department of Agriculture, the Food and Drug Administration, or the Farm Credit Administration shall be used to transmit or otherwise make available to any non-Department of Agriculture, non-Department of Health and Human Services, or non-Farm Credit Administration employee questions or responses to questions that are a result of information requested for the appropriations hearing process.

SEC. 724. Unless otherwise authorized by existing law, none of the funds provided in this Act, may be used by an executive branch agency to produce any prepackaged news story intended for broadcast or distribution in the United States unless the story includes a clear notification within the text or audio of the prepackaged news story that the prepackaged news story was prepared or funded by that executive branch agency.

SEC. 725. No employee of the Department of Agriculture may be detailed or assigned from an agency or office funded by this Act or any other Act to any other agency or office of the Department for more than 30 days unless the individual's employing agency or office is fully reimbursed by the receiving agency or office for the salary and expenses of the employee for the period of assignment.

SEC. 726. There is hereby appropriated $1,996,000 to carry out section 1621 of Public Law 110–246.

SEC. 727. There is hereby appropriated $600,000 for the purposes of section 727 of division A of Public Law 112–55.

SEC. 728. Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, and the Chairman of the Farm Credit Administration shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a detailed spending plan by program, project, and activity for the funds made available under this Act, as outlined under the heading ''Program, Project, and Activity'' in the report accompanying this Act.

SEC. 729. Hereafter, the Secretary may charge a fee for lenders to access Department loan guarantee systems in connection with such lenders' participation in loan guarantee programs of the Rural Housing Service: *Provided*, That the funds collected from such fees shall be made available to the Secretary without further appropriation and such funds shall be deposited into the Rural Development Salaries and Expense Account and shall remain available until expended for obligation and expenditure by the Secretary for administrative expenses of the Rural Housing Service Loan Guarantee Program in addition to other available funds: *Provided further*, That such fees collected shall not exceed $50 per loan.

SEC. 730. In addition to amounts otherwise made available by this Act and notwithstanding the last sentence of 16 U.S.C. 1310, there is appropriated $4,000,000, to remain available until expended, to implement nonrenewable agreements on eligible lands, including flooded agricultural lands, as determined by the Secretary, under the Water Bank Act (16 U.S.C. 1301–1311).

SEC. 731. (a) The Secretary of Agriculture and the Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration shall submit annual reports to the Inspector General or senior ethics official for any entity without an Inspector General, regarding the costs and contracting procedures related to each conference held by any such Department, agency, board, commission, or office during fiscal year 2015 for which the cost to the United States Government was more than $100,000.

(b) Each report submitted shall include, for each conference described in subsection (a) held during the applicable period—

(1) a description of its purpose;

(2) the number of participants attending;

(3) a detailed statement of the costs to the United States Government, including—

(A) the cost of any food or beverages;

(B) the cost of any audio-visual services;

(C) the cost of employee or contractor travel to and from the conference; and

(D) a discussion of the methodology used to determine which costs relate to the conference; and

(4) a description of the contracting procedures used including—

(A) whether contracts were awarded on a competitive basis; and

(B) a discussion of any cost comparison conducted by the departmental component or office in evaluating potential contractors for the conference.

(c) Within 15 days of the date of a conference held by any executive branch department, agency, board, commission, or office funded by this Act during fiscal year 2015 for which the cost to the United States Government was more than $20,000, the head of any such Department, agency, board, commission, or office shall notify the Inspector General or senior ethics official for any entity without an Inspector General, of the date, location, and number of employees attending such conference.

(d) A grant or contract funded by amounts appropriated by this Act to an executive branch agency may not be used for the purpose of defraying the costs of a conference described in subsection (c) that is not directly and programmatically related to the purpose for which the grant or contract was awarded, such as a conference held in connection with planning, training, assessment, review, or other routine purposes related to a project funded by the grant or contract.

(e) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for travel and conference activities that are not in compliance with Office of Management and Budget Memorandum M–12–12 dated May 11, 2012.

SEC. 732. (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services, on behalf of the United States may hereafter, whenever the Secretary deems desirable, relinquish to the State of Arkansas all or part of the jurisdiction of the United States over the lands and properties encompassing the Jefferson Labs campus in the State of Arkansas that are under the supervision or control of the Secretary.

(b) TERMS.—Relinquishment of jurisdiction under this section may be accomplished, under terms and conditions that the Secretary deems advisable—

(1) by filing with the Governor of the State of Arkansas a notice of relinquishment to take effect upon acceptance thereof; or

(2) as the laws of such State may otherwise provide.

(c) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ''Jefferson Labs campus'' means the lands and properties of the National Center for Toxicological Research and the Arkansas Regional Laboratory.

(d) AGREEMENT REGARDING JEFFERSON COUNTY TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH AND COMMERCIALIZATION CENTER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may hereafter enter into an agreement with the State of Arkansas or an agency of such State or a public or private entity with respect to the establishment or operation of a technology research and commercialization center in Jefferson County, Arkansas, proximate to the Jefferson Labs campus.

(2) RECEIPT AND EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS.—Pursuant to such agreement, the Secretary may hereafter receive and retain funds from such entity and use such funds, in addition to such other funds as are made available by this act or future acts for the operation of the National Center for Toxicological Research, for the purposes listed in paragraph (3). Funds received from such entity shall be deemed to be appropriated for such purposes and shall remain available until expended.

(3) PURPOSES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Funds described by paragraph (2) shall be available to defray—

(i) the costs of creating, upgrading, and maintaining connections between such center and roads, communications facilities, and utilities that are on the Jefferson Labs campus; and

(ii) the costs of upgrades, relocation, repair, and new constructions of roads, communications facilities, and utilities on such campus as may be necessary for such agreement.

(B) OTHER ACTS.—For purposes of this and any subsequent Act, the operation of the National Center for Toxicological Research shall be deemed to include the purposes listed in subparagraph (A).

SEC. 733. The Secretary shall set aside for Rural Economic Area Partnership (REAP) Zones, until August 15, 2015, an amount of funds made available in title III as follows: (a) with respect to funds under the headings of Rural Housing Insurance Fund Program Account, Mutual and Self-Help Housing Grants, Rural Community Facilities Program Account, Rural Development Loan Fund Program Account, and Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program Account the set aside shall equal the amount obligated in REAP Zones with respect to funds provided under such headings during the 2008 fiscal year; and (b) with respect to funds under the headings of Rural Business Program Account, and Rural Housing Assistance Grants the set aside shall equal the amount obligated in REAP Zones with respect to funds provided under such headings in the most recent fiscal year funds were obligated under the heading.

SEC. 734. In response to an eligible community where the drinking water supplies are inadequate due to a natural disaster, as determined by the Secretary, including drought or severe weather, the Secretary may provide potable water through the Emergency Community Water Assistance Grant Program for an additional period of time not to exceed 120 days beyond the established period provided under the Program in order to protect public health.

SEC. 735. Hereafter, none of the funds appropriated by this or any other Act may be used to carry out section 401 of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 679a) or section 30 of the Poultry Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 471).

SEC. 736. The Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary's designees are hereby granted the same access to information and subject to the same requirements applicable to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development as provided in section 453(j) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 653(j)) and section 6103(l)(7)(D)(ix) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 6103(l)(7)(D)(ix)) to verify the income for individuals participating in sections 502, 504, or 521 of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1472, 1474, and 1490a).

SEC. 737. There is hereby established in the Treasury of the United States a fund to be known as the ''Nonrecurring expenses fund'' (the Fund): *Provided*, That unobligated balances of expired discretionary funds appropriated in this or any succeeding fiscal year from the General Fund of the Treasury to the Department of Agriculture (except the Forest Service) by this or any other Act may be transferred (not later than the end of the fifth fiscal year after the last fiscal year for which such funds are available for the purposes for which appropriated) into the Fund: *Provided further*, That amounts deposited in the Fund shall be available until expended, and in addition to such other funds as may be available for such purposes, for capital acquisition necessary for the operation of the Department of Agriculture, including facilities infrastructure and information technology infrastructure, subject to approval by the Office of Management and Budget: *Provided further*, That amounts in the Fund may be obligated only after the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 15 days in advance of the planned use of funds.

SEC. 738. There is hereby appropriated for the ''Emergency Watershed Protection Program'', $109,978,000, to remain available until expended; for the ''Emergency Forestry Restoration Program'', $15,000,000, to remain available until expended; and for the ''Emergency Conservation Program'', $11,755,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That $85,000,000 made available for the ''Emergency Watershed Protection Program'' and $15,000,000 made available for the ''Emergency Forestry Restoration Program'' under this section are for necessary expenses resulting from a major disaster declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.), and are designated by the Congress as being for disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 739. The Secretary, within 180 days of enactment, shall conduct a pre-hearing, public information session patterned on Part 900 of the CFR to consider proposals developed within the Department or submitted by interested persons of alternatives to end product pricing formulae: *Provided*, That following this pre-hearing process, the Secretary retains discretion over whether to proceed to a full, formal hearing: *Provided further*, That should the Secretary decide at the conclusion of the pre-hearing process not to proceed to a formal hearing, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Committee within 60 days of that decision setting forth in detail the rationale for that decision.

SEC. 740. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to pay for the painting of a portrait of an officer or employee of the Federal Government, including the President, the Vice President, a Member of Congress (including a Delegate or a Resident Commissioner to Congress), the head of an executive branch agency (as defined in section 133 of title 41, United States Code), or the head of an office of the legislative branch.

SEC. 741. The Secretary shall report to the Committee on rural housing loans provided under section 502 of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1472), for each of the five preceding years, including:

(1) the total number of loans provided by the Secretary that are equal to or more than $500,000;

(2) the total number of guarantees provided by the Secretary on loans with an original principal obligation that is equal to or more than $500,000;

(3) the location, including the city and State, of each property for which the Secretary provided such a loan or loan guarantee; and

(4) the number of loans and loan guarantees that have resulted in losses to the Secretary as a result of defaults, and the total amount of such losses.

SEC. 742. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for other than coach-class transportation accommodations (within the meaning given that term under the Federal Travel Regulation) by an agency that fails to submit the report relating to the use of other than coach-class transportation accommodations by the agency required under subpart B of part 300–70 of the Federal Travel Regulation for fiscal year 2015.

SEC. 743. Of the unobligated balances provided pursuant to section 12033 and section

15101 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, $125,000,000 are hereby rescinded.

SEC. 744. (a) The Senate finds that—

(1) October 20, 2014, marks the twentieth anniversary of the signing into law of the Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 301 note; Public Law 103–382), which granted Federal land-grant status to Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) known as the 1994 land-grant institutions;

(2) the Equity in Educational Land Grant Status Act of 1994 addresses the essential need for Native Americans to explore and adopt new and evolving technologies for managing tribal land, with the hope of continued improvement of reservation land;

(3) the extension programs of the 1994 land-grant institutions strengthen communities through outreach programs designed to bolster economic development, community resources, family and youth development, natural resources development, agriculture, and health and nutrition education;

(4) the 1994 land-grant institutions are helping to address the epidemic rates of diabetes and cardiovascular disease that plague Indian reservations through the promotion of healthful food systems and food science and nutrition education programs; and

(5) the mission and successes of the 1994 land-grant institutions deserve national recognition.

(b) It is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the outstanding contributions of the 1994 land-grant institutions to the work of the great land-grant system of the United States should be recognized;

(2) expanded collaboration and cooperation within the land-grant system is encouraged to advance and sustain academic and community programs that serve all people of the United States; and

(3) the people of the United States are encouraged to observe and celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the signing into law of the Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 301 note; Public Law 103–382), including efforts to advance the growth and sustainability of the 1994 land-grant institutions and communities served by those institutions.

SEC. 745. (a) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to exclude or restrict, or to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to exclude or restrict, the eligibility of any variety of fresh, whole, or cut vegetables, except for vegetables with added sugars, fats, or oils, from being provided under the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children under section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786).

(b) Within 90 days of enactment of this Act the Secretary shall commence the next scheduled regular review of the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children food package, including the nutrient value of all fresh fruits and vegetables.

(c) If the review in subsection (b) recommends that a fresh fruit or vegetable shall be eligible for purchase under the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, none of the funds made available under this or any other subsequent Act may be used to exclude or restrict the eligibility of that variety of fresh fruit or vegetable, except for a fruit or vegetable with added sugars, fats, or oils, from being provided under the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children under section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786).

(d) If the review in subsection (b) recommends that any fresh fruit or vegetable shall not be available for purchase under the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, subsection (a) shall expire upon the publication of the regularly scheduled review in the Federal Register.

(e) The Secretary shall explain the results of the review conducted under subsection (b) in a report to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry and the House Committee on Education and Workforce, and the Committees on Appropriations in both Houses of Congress within 120 days after completion.

SEC. 746. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to pay the salaries or expenses of personnel—

(1) to inspect horses under section 3 of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 603);

(2) to inspect horses under section 903 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 1901 note; Public Law 104–127); or

(3) to implement or enforce section 352.19 of title 9, Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation).

SEC. 747. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act shall be used to implement, or to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to implement, any regulations under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.), the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.), the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–296), or any other law that would require a reduction in the quantity of sodium contained in federally reimbursed meals and snacks below Target 1 (as described in section 220.8(f)(3) of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations)) until scientific research supports the reduction for children.

(b)(1) Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall submit to Congress a report that assesses whether there is an acceptable range of whole grain products currently available to allow schools to plan menus that are compliant with the whole grain requirements in effect as of July 1, 2014, as described in section 210.10 of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act).

(2) If under paragraph (1), the Secretary determines a whole grain product to be of insufficient quantity or unacceptable quality, the Secretary shall identify alternative products that would be considered to meet the requirements until such time as the Secretary determines that whole grain products are of sufficient quantity and quality.

(c)(1) Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall submit to Congress a report that contains a comprehensive plan to provide enhanced training and technical assistance to schools, school food authorities, and State agencies to meet the requirements of the final rule entitled ''Nutrition Standards in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs'' (77 Fed. Reg. 4088; January 26, 2012).

(2) The plan shall include strategies to help schools reduce plate waste and maintain or improve participation in the school lunch program established under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.) and the school breakfast program established by section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1773).

This Act may be cited as the ''Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015''.

SA 3245. Mr. LEVIN (for himself and Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4660, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLE DEVELOPMENT.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the ''Alternative Fuel Vehicle Development Act''.

(b) ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLES.—

(1) MAXIMUM FUEL ECONOMY INCREASE FOR ALTERNATIVE FUEL AUTOMOBILES.—Section 32906(a) of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking ''(except an electric automobile)'' and inserting ''(except an electric automobile or, beginning with model year 2016, an alternative fueled automobile that does not use a fuel described in subparagraph (A), (B), (C), or (D) of section 32901(a)(1))''.

(2) MINIMUM DRIVING RANGES FOR DUAL FUELED PASSENGER AUTOMOBILES.—Section 32901(c)(2) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by inserting '', except that beginning with model year 2016, alternative fueled automobiles that do not use a fuel described in subparagraph (A), (B), (C), or (D) of subsection (a)(1) shall have a minimum driving range of 150 miles'' after ''at least 200 miles''; and

(B) in subparagraph (C), by adding at the end the following: ''Beginning with model year 2016, if the Secretary prescribes a minimum driving range of 150 miles for alternative fueled automobiles that do not use a fuel described in subparagraph (A), (B), (C), or (D) of subsection (a)(1), subparagraph (A) shall not apply to dual fueled automobiles (except electric automobiles).''.

(3) MANUFACTURING PROVISION FOR ALTERNATIVE FUEL AUTOMOBILES.—Section 32905(d) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively;

(B) by striking ''For any model'' and inserting the following:

''(1) MODEL YEARS 1993 THROUGH 2015.—For any model'';

(C) in paragraph (1), as redesignated, by striking ''2019'' and inserting ''2015''; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) MODEL YEARS AFTER 2015.—For any model of gaseous fuel dual fueled automobile manufactured by a manufacturer after model year 2015, the Administrator shall calculate fuel economy as a weighted harmonic average of the fuel economy on gaseous fuel as measured under subsection (c) and the fuel economy on gasoline or diesel fuel as measured under section 32904(c). The Administrator shall apply the utility factors set forth in the table under section 600.510–12(c)(2)(vii)(A) of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations.

''(3) MODEL YEARS AFTER 2016.—Beginning with model year 2017, the manufacturer may elect to utilize the utility factors set forth under subsection (e)(1) for the purposes of calculating fuel economy under paragraph (2).''.

(4) ELECTRIC DUAL FUELED AUTOMOBILES.—Section 32905 of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by redesignating subsections (e) and (f) as subsections (f) and (g), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after subsection (d) the following:

''(e) ELECTRIC DUAL FUELED AUTOMOBILES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—At the request of the manufacturer, the Administrator may measure the fuel economy for any model of dual fueled automobile manufactured after model

year 2015 that is capable of operating on electricity in addition to gasoline or diesel fuel, obtains its electricity from a source external to the vehicle, and meets the minimum driving range requirements established by the Secretary for dual fueled electric automobiles, by dividing 1.0 by the sum of—

''(A) the percentage utilization of the model on gasoline or diesel fuel, as determined by a formula based on the model's alternative fuel range, divided by the fuel economy measured under section 32904(c); and

''(B) the percentage utilization of the model on electricity, as determined by a formula based on the model's alternative fuel range, divided by the fuel economy measured under section 32904(a)(2).

''(2) ALTERNATIVE UTILIZATION.—The Administrator may adapt the utility factor established under paragraph (1) for alternative fueled automobiles that do not use a fuel described in subparagraph (A), (B), (C), or (D) of section 32901(a)(1).

''(3) ALTERNATIVE CALCULATION.—If the manufacturer does not request that the Administrator calculate the manufacturing incentive for its electric dual fueled automobiles in accordance with paragraph (1), the Administrator shall calculate such incentive for such automobiles manufactured by such manufacturer after model year 2015 in accordance with subsection (b).''.

(5) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 32906(b) of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking ''section 32905(e)'' and inserting ''section 32905(f)''.

(c) HIGH OCCUPANCY VEHICLE FACILITIES.—Section 166 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (b)(5), by amending subparagraph (A) to read as follows:

''(A) INHERENTLY LOW-EMISSION VEHICLES.—If a State agency establishes procedures for enforcing the restrictions on the use of a HOV facility by vehicles listed in clauses (i) and (ii), the State agency may allow the use of the HOV facility by—

''(i) alternative fuel vehicles; and

''(ii) new qualified plug-in electric drive motor vehicles (as defined in section 30D(d)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986).''; and

(2) in subparagraph (f)(1), by inserting ''solely'' before ''operating''.

(d) STUDY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Energy, after consultation with the Secretary of Transportation, shall submit a report to Congress that—

(1) describes options to incentivize the development of public compressed natural gas fueling stations; and

(2) analyzes a variety of possible financing tools, which could include—

(A) Federal grants and credit assistance;

(B) public-private partnerships; and

(C) membership-based cooperatives.

SA 3246. Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. BLUNT, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3244 submitted by Ms. MIKULSKI and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4660, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 18, line 6, strike ''$56,000,000'' and insert ''$55,000,000''.

On page 23, line 16, strike ''$115,000,000'' and insert ''$110,000,000''.

On page 45, line 20, strike ''$1,149,500,000'' and insert ''$1,155,500,000''.

On page 50, line 15, strike ''$6,000,000'' and insert ''$12,000,000''.

SA 3247. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3244 submitted by Ms. MIKULSKI and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4660, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 387, after line 23, add the following:

SEC. 7____. Not later than March 15, 2015, the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Administrator of the Risk Management Agency, shall submit to the Committees on Agriculture and Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry and Appropriations of the Senate a report that includes—

(1) an evaluation conducted on a national and regional basis, including regions that predominantly produce specialty crops as compared to regions that predominantly produce agricultural commodities, of the costs of delivery for the Federal crop insurance program; and

(2) an assessment of how those costs relate to administrative and operating expense payments made to approved insurance providers as of the date of the report.

SA 3248. Mr. MARKEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4660, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In title I of division _____, insert after section 119F the following:

SEC. 119G. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this title may be obligated or expended to implement a final rule to allow for civil operation of small unmanned aircraft systems in the national airspace system under section 332(b)(1) of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012 (Public Law 112–95; 49 U.S.C. 40101 note) unless—

(1) the final rule includes procedures to ensure that—

(A) the integration of unmanned aircraft systems into the national airspace system is done in compliance with the privacy principles; and

(B) a certificate, license, or other grant of authority to operate an unmanned aircraft system in the national airspace system will not be approved, issued, or awarded unless the application for the certificate, licenses, or other grant of authority includes—

(i) a data collection statement described in subsection (b) that provides reasonable assurance that the applicant will operate the unmanned aircraft system in accordance with the privacy principles; and

(ii) in the case of such an unmanned aircraft system that is to be operated by a law enforcement agency or a law enforcement agency contractor or subcontractor, a data minimization statement described in subsection (c) that provides reasonable assurance that the applicant will operate the unmanned aircraft system in accordance with the privacy principles; and

(2) the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration makes available on the public Internet website of the Federal Aviation Administration in a searchable format—

(A) the approved certificate, license, or other grant of authority for each unmanned aircraft system awarded a certificate, license, or other grant of authority to operate in the national airspace system, including any such certificate, license, or other grant of authority awarded before the date of the enactment of this Act;

(B) information detailing where, when, and for what period each unmanned aircraft system will be operated; and

(C) information detailing any data security breach that occurs with regard to information collected by an unmanned aircraft system.

(b) A data collection statement described in this subsection is a statement that includes, with respect to an unmanned aircraft system, information identifying—

(1) the individuals or entities that will have the power to use the unmanned aircraft system;

(2) the specific locations in which the unmanned aircraft system will operate;

(3) the maximum period for which the unmanned aircraft system will operate in each flight;

(4) whether the unmanned aircraft system will collect information or data about individuals or groups of individuals, and if so—

(A) the circumstances under which the system will be used; and

(B) the specific kinds of information or data the system will collect about individuals or groups of individuals and how such information or data, as well as conclusions drawn from such information or data, will be used, disclosed, and otherwise handled, including—

(i) how the collection or retention of such information or data that is unrelated to the specified use will be minimized;

(ii) whether such information or data might be sold, leased, or otherwise provided to third parties, and if so, under what circumstances it might be so sold or leased;

(iii) the period for which such information or data will be retained; and

(iv) when and how such information or data, including information or data no longer relevant to the specified use, will be destroyed;

(5) the possible impact the operation of the unmanned aircraft system may have upon the privacy of individuals;

(6) the specific steps that will be taken to mitigate any possible impact identified under paragraph (5), including steps to protect against unauthorized disclosure of any information or data described in paragraph (4), such as the use of encryption methods and other security features that will be used;

(7) a telephone number or electronic mail address that an individual with complaints about the operation of the unmanned aircraft system may use to report such complaints and to request confirmation that personally identifiable data relating to such individual has been collected;

(8) in a case in which personally identifiable data relating to an individual has been collected, a reasonable process for the individual to request to obtain such data in a timely and an intelligible manner;

(9) in a case in which a request described in paragraph (8) is denied, a process by which the individual may obtain the reasons for the denial and challenge the denial; and

(10) in a case in which personally identifiable data relating to an individual has been collected, a process by which the individual may challenge the accuracy of such data and, if the challenge is successful, have such data erased or amended.

(c) A data minimization statement described in this subsection is a statement that details, with respect to an unmanned aircraft system operated by a law enforcement agency, contractor, or subcontractor described in subsection (a)(1)(B)(ii), the applicable—

(1) policies adopted by the agency, contractor, or subcontractor, as the case may be, that—

(A) minimize the collection by the unmanned aircraft system of information and data unrelated to the investigation of a crime under a warrant;

(B) require the destruction of such information and data, as well as of information and data collected by the unmanned aircraft system that is no longer relevant to the investigation of a crime under a warrant or to an ongoing criminal proceeding; and

(C) establish procedures for the method of such destruction; and

(2) audit and oversight procedures adopted by the agency, contractor, or subcontractor, as the case may be, that will ensure that the agency, contractor, or subcontractor, as the case may be, uses the unmanned aircraft system in accordance with the parameters outlined in the data collection statement and the statement required by this subsection.

(d) In this section, the term ''privacy principles'' means the principles described in Part Two of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development guidelines entitled ''Annex to the Recommendation of the Council of 23rd September 1980: Guidelines Governing The Protection Of Privacy And Transborder Flows Of Personal Data'', adopted by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development on September 23, 1980.

SA 3249. Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. BENNET) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4660, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) The number of public housing agencies authorized to participate in the Moving-to-Work demonstration program authorized under section 204 of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996 (Public Law 104-134; 42 U.S.C. 1437f note; 110 Stat. 1321) is increased by 10 over the number of agencies authorized to participate in such program as of the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) A public housing agency may be selected for participation pursuant to subsection (a) in the demonstration program referred to in such subsection only if the agency administers, in the aggregate, 8,500 or more public housing dwelling units and housing choice vouchers under section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)).

(c) A public housing agency selected for participation pursuant to subsection (a) in the demonstration program referred to in such subsection shall not be provided any funding under section 8 or 9 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f, 1437g) in addition to the funding that such agency otherwise would receive absent such participation.

(d) (1) In addition to other reporting requirements, each public housing agency participating in the demonstration program referred to in subsection (a) (whether pursuant to such subsection or otherwise) shall report financial data to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to ensure the effects of policy changes in the demonstration program carried out by each agency can be measured.

(2) The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall specify how each public housing agency shall report financial data under paragraph (1).

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on June 17, 2014, at 10 a.m., in room SR–328A of the Russell Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled ''Grow it Here, Make it Here: Creating Jobs through Bio Based Manufacturing.''

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

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on June 17, 2014, at 10 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on June 17, 2014, at 10 a.m. in room SR–253 of the Russell Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled, ''Protecting Consumers from False and Deceptive Advertising of Weight-Loss Products''.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on June 17, 2014, at 3 p.m.

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

PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on June 17, 2014, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled ''Conflicts of Interest, Investor Loss of Confidence, and High Speed Trading in U.S. Stock Markets.''

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on June 17, 2014, at 2:30 p.m.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SEAPOWER

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Seapower of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on June 17, 2014, at 2:30 p.m.

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

HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOM AND HYPOXIA RESEARCH AND CONTROL AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2014

Mr. REID. I ask the Chair to lay before the Senate a message from the House to accompany S. 1254.

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate a message from the House as follows:

S. 1254

Resolved, That the bill from the Senate (S. 1254) entitled ''An Act to amend the Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998, and for other purposes.'', do pass with an amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Amendments Act of 2014''.

SEC. 2. REFERENCES TO THE HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOM AND HYPOXIA RESEARCH AND CONTROL ACT OF 1998.

Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998 (16 U.S.C. 1451 note).

Mr. REID. I move to concur in the House amendment and ask unanimous consent that the motion be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

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

AMERICAN EAGLE DAY

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to S. Res. 477, submitted earlier today.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 477) designating June 20, 2014, as ''American Eagle Day'', and celebrating the recovery and restoration of the bald eagle, the national symbol of the United States.

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid on the table, with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 477) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2014

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 18, 2014; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that following any leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 4660, postcloture; and that all time during adjournment count postcloture on the motion to proceed to H.R. 4660.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Madam President, we hope to begin consideration of the appropriations bill during tomorrow's session. Senators will be notified when votes are scheduled.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. REID. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:55 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, June 18, 2014, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nomination received by the Senate:

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be general

GEN. JOHN F. CAMPBELL

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate June 17, 2014:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

PETER JOSEPH KADZIK, OF NEW YORK, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL.

THE JUDICIARY

SALVADOR MENDOZA, JR., OF WASHINGTON, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON.

STACI MICHELLE YANDLE, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS.

DARRIN P. GAYLES, OF FLORIDA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA.

WITHDRAWAL

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on June 16, 2014 withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nomination:

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF COLONEL ROBERT W. STANLEY II, TO BE BRIGADIER GENERAL, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON JANUARY 7, 2014.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

REMEMBERING ANTONETTE ''TONI'' LANDOLFI

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor the exemplary life of Antonette ''Toni'' Landolfi, 85, of Niles, who passed away peacefully earlier this year with her son and daughter by her side.

She was a member of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church in Niles, a founder of the Tri-County Association of Nursing Home Social Workers, past President of the American Committee on Italian Migration, and an active member of the local Democratic Party, among many other community organizations.

Toni was honored numerous times for her outstanding service, including her work with the Diocese of Youngstown. For her work in Democratic politics she received the Joseph A. Marino Democrat of the Year Award. She was recognized for her community activism by the Ohio House of Representatives for her dedication to Shepherd of the Valley and she received the Carmen DeChristofaro Service Award for all she did to better the lives of the people of Niles.

Toni enjoyed entertaining and hosting gatherings at her home and backyard pool where she took great pleasure in feeding and serving all who visited.

Preceded in death by her husband Gregory A. Landolfi, Toni will be deeply missed by her daughter Jennie Louise Landolfi of Niles, her son Attorney John Louis Landolfi, his wife Christina and her three grandsons, Johnny, Dante and Marco Landolfi of Columbus, her siblings Pete Cervone of Austintown, Pat Bonanno and Rose (Dominic) Sarno of Niles, her sisters-in-law Rose Raschilla of Youngstown and Mary Jane (Jim) Botsko of Gallatin, TN, many nieces and nephews and her beloved neighbors.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pride to honor the life of Toni Landolfi. I will always remember the tremendous support she provided to me throughout my career. She had class and lived with a deep and abiding faith and an amazing Grace. I extend my most sincere condolences to Toni's entire family. Her contributions to this community will not be forgotten. Northeast Ohio is a better place because of her service and her life.

IN MEMORY OF RON FLORIAN

HON. TOM McCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of former Mayor of Truckee, California, Ron Florian.

Mayor Florian's career as a public servant was forged out of love for his community. He was born in Sacramento and moved to Truckee in 1992 to follow in his father's footsteps as a grocer. Mayor Florian's work as President of the Truckee Rotary is worthy of note; through his membership in the Rotary Club, Ron gained access to a new way to serve those around him. While he cared deeply about these activities, they did not define him. Ron was a man characterized by an energetic spirit, quick wit, and a boundless capacity for generosity.

Ron Florian took his commitment to service further when he served two terms on the Truckee Town Council and two terms as Mayor. During his time on the Council, Ron proved instrumental in establishing the Truckee Police Department and constructing the Highway 267 Bypass. He consistently worked to make Truckee safer, stronger, and more united. Ron understood what it means to be a part of a community bigger than oneself.

Mayor Florian enjoyed doing the people's work and loved working side by side with the citizens of Truckee. Even in the instance that he and his colleagues disagreed, Ron considered them friends rather than adversaries. While he received numerous accolades, Ron consistently attributed the accomplishments to his staff, who he believed deserved credit for all the heavy lifting. He loved and valued them, just as he loved and valued the town they all served together. Ron's grace, wit, and sense of humor will surely be missed.

Ron and his lovely wife, Patti, fulfilled their dream of owning a business together when Florian's Fine Wines & Specialty Foods opened its doors in 1999. Through his business, Ron continued to serve and unite the town of Truckee, with Florian's becoming a local meeting place.

One of Ron's greatest gifts was his commitment to shaping the next generation. Ron's legacy lives on in the lives that he touched, and it is my privilege to rise in recognition of his many achievements and contributions to Truckee.

HONORING SPC WALTER WINN, WOUNDED WARRIOR OF THE YEAR

HON. RENEE L. ELLMERS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mrs. ELLMERS. Mr. Speaker, today it is my honor and privilege to recognize a true American hero, SPC Walter Winn. SPC Winn was recently recognized as the first ever Wounded Warrior of the Year for his work with the Warrior Transition Battalion at Fort Bragg. SPC Winn entered the WTB program during Operation Enduring Freedom from the heralded 82nd Airborne and 1st Theatre Support Command.

SPC Winn was nominated by officials at Womack Army Medical Center at Fort Bragg for his ''dedication, service, integrity, leadership and his inspiration to all Wounded Warriors who have served this great country.''

Out of 3,500 candidates, SPC Winn was chosen for his exemplary perseverance and determination. SPC Winn pressed on in the face of adversity, and as a result, he received high marks in the Warrior Transition Unit.

Mr. Winn is an inspiration to countless veterans and active-duty soldiers at Ft. Bragg and around the country. His commanders have noted that SPC Winn's compassion and hard work is contagious around the WTB. Mr. Speaker, I am honored and proud to recognize SPC Walter Winn, the Wounded Warrior of the Year.

PREECLAMPSIA AWARENESS MONTH

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, last month we recognized May as Preeclampsia Awareness Month.

A life-threatening disorder that can occur during pregnancy or the postpartum period, preeclampsia is one of the leading causes of maternal mortality and morbidity, affecting hundreds of women and babies each day.

Preeclampsia is a rapid rise in blood pressure that can lead to seizure, stroke, organ failure or death.

And while all pregnant women are at risk, all too often the symptoms are dismissed as typical pregnancy complaints.

One way to save the baby from preeclampsia complications is through delivery, which is oftentimes conducted prior to a pregnancy being full term in the context of an emergency situation. Pre-term birth can lead to significant and costly health challenges for a baby.

Moreover, there is a strong relationship between preeclampsia and future cardiovascular disease.

Women who develop preeclampsia during pregnancy are four times more likely to develop hypertension later in life and are twice as likely to develop heart disease, stroke, and blood clots.

In this way, preeclampsia during pregnancy can have ramifications throughout a woman's adult life.

That is why awareness building, as well as research and prevention, are so important. I urge my colleague to work together to ensure that by next May we have done all we can to support these important efforts.

RECOGNIZING DEPUTY MICHAEL JACOBI AND DEPUTY MATTHEW SWOPE, RECIPIENTS OF THE POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN POLICE OFFICERS OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. DAN BENISHEK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two deputies of the Crawford County Sheriff's Office, Deputy Michael Jacobi and Deputy Matthew Swope on the distinction of earning the Police Officers Association of Michigan's Police Officers of the Year Award. Deputy Jacobi and Deputy Swope are two of five officers to be honored by the Police Officers Association of Michigan for 2014. On behalf of all residents of Northern Michigan, we are honored to have two officers such as Deputy Jacobi and Deputy Swope to be serving and earn this distinction.

On the night of Jan. 16–17, a woman was abducted at gunpoint from the campus of Central Michigan University in Mount Pleasant and forced to the home of a male suspect, later identified as recently-paroled Eric Lee Ramsey, who bound her and sexually assaulted her. He returned her to the car and began driving, stating that he intended to murder her. The woman managed to open the door and jump out of the moving vehicle, taking refuge in a nearby home. The suspect poured gasoline on the home and attempted to set it ablaze before fleeing the scene.

The police were notified, and several hours later the suspect rammed a state police cruiser. After being pursued by more state troopers, Ramsey was able to flee and take control of a large flatbed truck. The word was put out to be on watch for the vehicle, and Crawford County Deputy Michael Jacobi turned around to give pursuit after passing by in the opposite direction. Jacobi became the only officer on his trail after the suspect rammed an additional state police cruiser, disabling it and injuring the officers inside.

Seeing a roadblock, Ramsey turned the vehicle around while Jacobi checked on the status of the injured officers, and crashed head-on into Jacobi's cruiser. He repeatedly backed up and continued ramming the patrol car until the vehicles became jammed together. At this point Jacobi took hold of his M–16 rifle, which he set to full automatic, and fired a burst, holding the gun over his head. However, the gun jammed, and Ramsey exited his vehicle. It was then that Jacobi saw Ramsey holding what he believed to be a firearm. He dropped his jammed M–16 and drew his Glock pistol. During this time, Deputy Matthew Swope arrived on the scene, and Ramsey moved out of sight of Jacobi. Swope placed his vehicle between the truck and Jacobi, a brave action which provided protection to his exposed partner while risking his own safety.

Ramsey then began trying to free his vehicle, and Deputy Jacobi approached the cab. Through the window, he could see that the suspect was pointing the gun at him. Jacobi determined that his partner and himself were in imminent danger, and fired into the vehicle several times. There was no response or movement from within the truck, leading the deputies to secure Ramsey. They found that the suspect was deceased, and had been brandishing an air-pistol designed to look like a firearm.

Eric Lee Ramsey, after sexually assaulting and attempting to murder a woman, fleeing police and exposing many on the road to extreme danger, and threatening officers with bodily harm, was subdued due to the bravery and service of officers Matthew Swope and Michael Jacobi, who put themselves at great personal risk to protect the public and each other.

For this action in which they put themselves at great risk, they are honored by the Police Officers Association of Michigan and earned the 2014 Police Officers of the Year Award. This is their second time being honored for their dedication, after receiving this award in 2013 for previous actions of bravery. I wish to commend Deputy Jacobi and Deputy Swope for their heroism and well deserved honor of earning the Police Officers Association of Michigan's Police Officers of the Year Award, the second time they have been honored by the Police Officers Association of Michigan for going above and beyond the call of duty. Furthermore, I salute all Michigan law enforcement officials from Isle Royale to Monroe County and Gogebic County to Port Huron in the work they do every day to protect the residents of our state.

HONORING THE HISTORY OF THE BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the history of the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church. As told by the church itself:

''Bethel African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church, under the leadership of Pastor Godfrey R. Patterson who joined in fall 2013, is one of the first African American congregations in the Sacramento Valley in the state of California, and until 1946, Bethel A.M.E. Church was the only African American congregation in Yuba County, California. The Church was organized in 1854, in a home located on California Alley, between Sixth and Seventh Streets, and the address was later changed to 113 Fifth Street—Marysville, California. The Reverend D.P. Stokes was the organizing Pastor, and the first Trustees were: G.A. Cantine, D.W. Sands, and Samuel Rinzel.

The physical building of the church was built in 1863, next door to the home which became the parsonage, and the deed for the land was made to the Trustees at that time: Mr. J. Watkins; P. Churchill; P. Powers; S.W. Williams; Charles Bush; B. Brooks; and J.C. Cork. During the 1864–1865 A.M.E. Church Annual Conference, held at Bethel A.M.E. Church in San Francisco, California, Bethel A.M.E. church was recognized and received into the A.M.E. Church connection; the congregation consisted of twenty-three (23) members.

On July 2, 1921, the church was destroyed by fire along with most of the lower parts of Marysville. The physical structure of the church was rebuilt in the same location of which it stands today at 115 Fifth Street.

The early Pastors, from 1857 to 1879, were circuit ministers. Many Pastors followed from 1880 to 1970; and in 1970, Reverend Winn, assisted by the ''Men'' of Bethel, personally remodeled the physical building, and paneled walls in the downstairs kitchen area, as well as remodeled the parsonage. Also, very instrumental in the renovation was the late Waymon Sales, a doer of the Word.

Reverend Charles DeWitt followed reverend Winn, and was followed by Rev. Joseph Forbes who initiated and directed many education and community service projects always in the best interest of both, the Church and the Community.

Pastors of more recent history are: Reverend E.D. Farris (1978–1980); Norris Williams (1980–1985). Reverend LaGrant Moore, now a Presiding elder in the Southern California Conference of the 5th Episcopal district, served from 1985–1987; followed by reverend Percy Leaks (1987).

In 1987, reverend Willie L. Adams was appointed and served until 1992; under his administration, the physical structure of Bethel A.M.E. Church took on a new look; the old parsonage was demolished, and the sanctuary and pulpit areas were enlarged; the upstairs area was reconstructed into a balcony; This construction was made possible through the hard work of ''Buckley Construction'' and several members of the congregation.

Reverend David Reginald Allen, Sr. served from 1992 to 1994; and Reverend David Wayne Coston, Sr. served from 1994 to 1999. In 1999, reverend Dante L. Rome was appointed to Bethel, and served until April 2007; in July 2004, under the leadership of Rev. Rome, an additional 20 feet was added to the north end of the building, along with a beautiful ''stained-glass'' window displaying the A.M.E. Church Denomination's symbol of the ''cross with the Anvil'' depicting the initial pulpit used by our founder, Richard Allen, in a blacksmith shop. Also a baptismal pool was added, and the kitchen and downstairs restrooms were remodeled.

Pastor, Reverend Freda Cash was the first female Pastor who was appointed to the Bethel A.M.E. Church at the Fifth District's Mid-Year Conference in April 2007. Under her leadership a new front entrance was constructed in June 2008. Windows forming a cross on two sides of the structure have engraved on each glass block names of members of the congregation, and family members who have been called from ''labor to reward.'' The new entrance way has been dedicated in honor of a faithful servant, Brother Murphy Buckley.

Also, under Reverend Cash's administration, an ''evangelism'' team, under the direction of our assistant minister, Rev. Joyce Gardner and Steward, Bro. Paul Lethridge, has been established. Once a month this team reaches out into the community at the Veteran's Park on 5th Street in Marysville, feeding physically and spiritually. And, under the direction of our Evangelist, Terry Hammonds; a homeless ministry that assisted persons in the ''Riverbottom'' with food, clothing, and other items that assist them during the winter months, has been established.

Lastly, but not least, from the reactivation of our 7:30 a.m. morning ''Worship and Testimony'' service, the ''Early Morning Disciples Alliance'' (EMDA) has been established. This group of ''early risers'' has assisted the church greatly with community outreach activities that bring churches of different denominations together for worship and fellowship.''

CONGRATULATING THE WINNERS OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS OF HERNDON'S 10TH ANNUAL TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS COMPETITION AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate the participants and winners from the Council for the Arts of Herndon's Tenth Annual Technology and the Arts Competition.

The Technology and the Arts program grew out of a desire to offer computer savvy teens a way to showcase their abilities in an artistic format. The innovative program challenges students in all Fairfax and Arlington county high schools to create works of animation, digital art, digital music, and digital photography by blending technology and artistry into one cutting-edge masterpiece. Students submit entries at their schools, and teachers select which works will be entered into the contest. Works are judged by professionals and experts in the field, and awards are given in each category. Additionally, this program also showcases how creativity extends beyond the arts into a crucial component of our local and national economies. Technology has been the driving force behind Fairfax County's economic expansion for the past two decades. Knowledge-based enterprises directly employ more than 140,000 people in Fairfax County and some of the world's leading technology firms are headquartered here. America remains the world's leader in technology innovation primarily because of the creativity and ingenuity of these companies. This event is not just about art, it is also about laying the foundation for America's competitiveness in a global market place.

I am pleased to congratulate the following winners of the 2014 Technology and the Arts Competition:

Arts Council of Fairfax Uphoff Scholarship Award: Frankenstein, Adrian Caballero of Falls Church High School

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

First Prize: Freedom, Chris Aguila of South Lakes High School

Second Prize: Mold Me, Madison Schultz, South County High School

Third Prize: History of a Gaze (Self Portrait), Anna Smith, Centreville High School

Digital Photography Honorable Mentions:

Manipulated, Sue Minh Jung, Centreville High School

Bundle, Margaret Hollingsworth, Oakton High School

Monday's Mist, Gabrielle Bomberg, West Potomac High School

Things to Pack, Sarah Wasinger, Fairfax High School

DIGITAL ART

First Prize: Eye See You, Logan Darr, W.T. Woodson High School

Second Prize: Washington DC, Cheyenne Price Oakton High School

Third Prize: Welcome to the New World, Angela He, Oakton High School

Digital Art Honorable Mentions:

Apparition, Tony Lunsford, Mt. Vernon High School

Conformity, Jesse Sands, Lake Braddock Secondary

ANIMATION

First Prize: Mind Games, Max Johnson, Falls Church High School

Second Prize: I Draw, Adrian Caballero, Lake Braddock Secondary School

Third Prize: The Fast and the Felines, Wesley Rogers, Falls Church High School

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating this year's winners and thanking the Council for the Arts of Herndon for promoting creativity and innovation.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MINNETONKA GIRLS STATE TRACK CHAMPIONS

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Minnetonka Girls State Track team on winning their second consecutive high school state championship.

Last June, the Minnetonka Skippers overcame the odds and defeated the favored team for the State Title. The girls knew a repeat wouldn't be easy with many strong contenders such as Cretin-Derham Hall, Lakeville South, Alexandria, and Prior Lake. But they remained focused on their goal and came out on top once again.

Seniors Elizabeth Endy, who won the 800 meter title and contributed to the 4x800 gold medal and 4x400 silver medal and Senior Mia Barron, who set all-time state high school records in both the long jump and triple jump events at the State Tournament. Their leadership and athleticism will be missed at Minnetonka next year.

The team sailed to victory due to the energy and vigor of the athletes throughout the season as well as at the State Tournament, where many strong performances had a hand in the win. The team emerged mid-season with strength in middle distance, relays and jumps. Key to the Skippers success is head Coach Reimer-Morgan, who has coached track at the school for 30 years.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the dedication of both Coach Reimer-Morgan and the members of the Girls Skipper Track Team. Winning a State Title is no easy feat, especially defending the title for a consecutive second year. This win is a testament to the power of teamwork and perseverance of the student athletes.

Once again, congratulations to the Minnetonka Girls Track Team on becoming state champions.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall 308 on the Democrat Motion to Recommit for H.R. 4457 to Amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend increased expensing limitations, and for other purposes—I was away from the floor handling issues for a constituent of my district and I intended to vote "no."

RECOGNIZING CONSTITUENT MICHAEL J. PARSONS, DEPARTING CHAIRMAN OF NAFCU'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

HON. RICHARD L. HANNA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Michael J. Parsons, President and CEO of First Source Federal Credit Union, in New Hartford, NY, as he completes his tenure as Chairman of the Board at the National Association of Federal Credit Unions (NAFCU). First elected to the Board in 2006, Mike has been a devoted and effective leader in the credit union industry. Having known Mike for many years, I have always been able to turn to him for his expert analysis with respect to any credit union issue being debated in Congress.

Given the regulatory landscape facing the credit union industry in recent years, Mike's responsibilities as Chairman have been particularly daunting. Still, he has done an incredible job balancing his time as Chairman of the NAFCU Board and his responsibilities at First Source Federal Credit Union. Mike has over thirty-eight years' experience in the financial services industry, with 20 years at First Source Federal Credit Union, having served as President and CEO since 1999.

In addition to helping the credit union industry navigate the new Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, Mike has also been proactive in educating lawmakers in Congress, the National Credit Union Administration, and White House officials on a number of issues impacting credit unions including: regulatory relief, housing finance reform, and lending standards.

In addition to his career accolades, Mike has gone above and beyond giving back to his local community as a trustee at Utica College, and a Board Member of Mohawk Valley Economic Development, and Utica Industrial Development Corporation.

RECOGNIZING THE 2014 PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS FROM THE PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND RESCUE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding group of men and women in Northern Virginia. These individuals have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and have been awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Prince William County Chamber of Commerce.

The Valor Awards recognize remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety agencies and their commitment to the community. Our public safety and law enforcement personnel put their lives on the line every day to keep our families and neighborhoods safe. This year's ceremony will recognize 25 individuals, one investigative team, and one Operational Task

Force in a variety of categories including, the Silver or Bronze Valor Award, the Merit Valor Award, and the Investigative Merit Award.

Three members of the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue are being honored this year for their exceptional service. It is with great pride that I submit the names of the following award recipients:

2014 Bronze Valor Award: Captain Jason Reese and Captain Brian Ferguson.

2014 Merit Valor Award: Captain Tom Clark.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2014 Valor Award Recipients, and thank each of the men and women who serve in the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of Prince William County, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 294, on June 10, 2014, I inadvertently voted "aye" on the amendment to H.R. 4745 offered by Mr. SESSIONS of Texas. My intention was to vote "no."

HONORING RONDA R. CLAYTON, RN, BSN

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ronda R. Clayton, the 2011 recipient of the New Mexico Center for Nursing Excellence's Rural Practice Nurse of the Year Award.

In 1991, Ronda completed her Bachelor of Science and began her honorable career as a healthcare practitioner in New Mexico. For over 20 years, Ronda has dedicated this time to serving the people of Artesia, New Mexico through her tireless work at Artesia General Hospital, a small, 49-bed, rural hospital.

Serving as a healthcare provider in a rural community invariably means becoming a "jack of all trades" and Ronda exemplifies this characteristic every day she walks through the Artesia General Hospital doors. As the Director of Pharmacy she provides clinical expertise in pharmacy to hospital nurses and medical staff, she develops strategies to move the Department's skill base and technology forward, and she works with patients in the Intensive Care Unit, following up on patients long after they are discharged from the hospital.

With a singular commitment to patient-focused care Ronda took the initiative to develop a program in which patient medication, laboratory and microbiology values, and diagnosis are assessed repeatedly to ensure efficiency. Ronda is everything to everyone—as a co-worker she shows genuine interest in staff development, as a practitioner she takes extra measures to ensure patients, physicians, and staff are well taken care of, and as a respected member of her hospital, she values the opinions of others and looks for ways to contribute back to her community.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my appreciation to Nurse Clayton for spending so much of her career inspiring young nurses and other healthcare professionals to continue serving rural communities with the same level of passion and commitment that she has shown throughout her years. Ronda is an exemplary New Mexico healthcare success story, and serves as a role model for future generations of healthcare professionals. Ronda's receipt of the Rural Practice Nurse of the Year Award was not only well-deserved, but long overdue.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF CAPTAIN LUIS ALBERTO BENEVIDES

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Captain Luis Alberto Benevides for 30 years of military service in the United States Navy. His commitment and service to our great nation deserve to be commended.

In 1980, Mr. Benevides graduated from Livingston High School in Livingston, California. After graduation, he attended Thomas A. Edison State College in New Jersey and graduated in 1986 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology.

Mr. Benevides began his active duty career in 1983 as a U.S. Army Medical Laboratory Technician. In 1987, Mr. Benevides was commissioned as a Surface Warfare Officer in the U.S. Navy. His first assignment as an Ensign was onboard the USS *Implicit,* where he served as the Operations Officer.

In 1988, Mr. Benevides transferred to the USS *Conquest* where he served as the Operations Officer and performed Mine Hunting and Clearance Operations in the Arabian Gulf during the Iran-Iraq War. Soon after returning from the Arabian Gulf, he attained his Surface Warfare Qualification and was subsequently assigned as a Linguist Project Officer.

Mr. Benevides transferred to the Medical Service Corps as a Radiation Health Officer in 1990 and served in Maryland and Hawaii. In 1996, he was selected to assume duties as the Clinic Director of the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Branch Clinic and served as the mammography physicist for Hawaii, Japan, and Guam.

While serving the U.S. Navy, Mr. Benevides continued his education and graduated from Georgetown University with a Master's of Science in Radiation Science, and Central Michigan University with a Master's of Science in Health Care Administration.

While on assignment in Hawaii, Mr. Benevides held a professorship at Hawaii Pacific University, where he instructed classes in biology and mathematics. In 2005, after obtaining a Doctorate of Philosophy in Nuclear Engineering Sciences from the University of Florida, Mr. Benevides served as a science advisor and technical manager at the Naval Dosimetry Center in Bethesda, Maryland.

In 2009, Mr. Benevides became the Director for Radiological Controls at Naval Sea Systems Command. His duties included oversight and management of all the research as well as industrial and operational uses of radiation sources in the Navy and Marine Corps. After the March 2011 Fukushima Dai-Ichi nuclear accident, his responsibilities were expanded to include consequence management of 30 ships and over 200 aircraft that may have been contaminated. He also provided humanitarian and disaster relief to the citizens of Japan following the earthquake and tsunami.

Throughout his many years of service, Mr. Benevides has been honored with numerous military awards, including Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with Gold Star, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal with bronze star, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, and Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Captain Luis Alberto Benevides for his many years of service to the U.S. Navy. He is a source of pride for our Central Valley and the entire nation.

NATIONAL MEN'S HEALTH WEEK

HON. JOHN C. CARNEY, JR.

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. CARNEY. Mr. Speaker, as co-chair of the Congressional Men's Health Caucus I am pleased to celebrate National Men's Health Week. This year marks the 20th anniversary of National Men's Health Week, which was started by Congress and signed into law by President Clinton in 1994.

National Men's Health Week was legislation sponsored by Senator Bob Dole and Congressman Bill Richardson and is celebrated each year during the week that ends on Father's Day. Recognizing that many health problems that affect men can be prevented, the week was designed to encourage men, boys and their families to develop positive health habits, engage in preventive behaviors, lead healthy lifestyles, and seek timely medical advice and care. As co-chair of the Congressional Men's Health Caucus, I am proud to celebrate this week and help raise awareness of health issues that affect men, boys, and their families.

I've seen first-hand the importance of health education and awareness for men in particular. As a member of the Delaware Cancer Consortium, a statewide organization dedicated to reducing the impact of cancer in my state, I helped to implement a successful colorectal cancer screening program that dramatically increased screening rates for Delaware men. Colorectal cancer is the third most common cancer affecting men; however, Delaware's screening program has helped reduce the rate of colorectal cancer by 41 percent among Delawareans and allowed Delaware to become the first state to eliminate disparities in colorectal cancer screening between Caucasian and African American men. But there is still progress to be made. We need to do a better job addressing the disparity in mortality rates of African American men with prostate cancer, providing early screening for lung cancer, and continuing our commitment to research.

As we celebrate the 20th anniversary of National Men's Health Week, we are reminded of how far our country has come in improving the health and well-being of men and boys, but there is still a lot of work left to be done. We also recognize the importance of these efforts as a way of reducing overall health care costs as part of a plan to address the country's fiscal challenges. Mr. Speaker, this week, along with the entire month of June, Men's Health Month, provides an excellent opportunity to focus on ways that we and our loved ones can live healthier, longer lives.

RECOGNIZING THE 2014 PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS FROM THE PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding group of men and women in Northern Virginia. These individuals have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and have been awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Prince William County Chamber of Commerce.

The Valor Awards recognize remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety agencies and their commitment to the community. Our public safety and law enforcement personnel put their lives on the line every day to keep our families and neighborhoods safe. This year's ceremony will recognize 25 individuals, one investigative team, and one Operational Task Force in a variety of categories including, the Silver or Bronze Valor Award, the Merit Valor Award, and the Investigative Merit Award.

Five officers and one Narcotics Task Force from the Prince William County Police Department are being honored this year for their exceptional service. It is with great pride that I submit the names of the following award recipients:

2014 Investigative Merit Award: Narcotics Task Force (Operation Blue Dragon) and Officer Daniel Sekely.

2014 Bronze Valor Award: Lieutenant Carlos Robles and Officer Patrick Balchunas.

2014 Merit Valor Award: Officer Aaron Lintz and Officer Steven Mattos, Jr.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2014 Valor Award Recipients, and thank each of the men and women who serve in the Prince William County Police Department. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of Prince William County, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

IN HONOR OF GUADALUPE LOPEZ

HON. ANN KIRKPATRICK

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize the life and service of Guadalupe Lopez: veteran of the 158th Infantry Regiment of the Arizona National Guard, recipient of the Silver Star Medal, and my constituent.

Mr. Lopez served his country bravely during World War II in the 158th Infantry Regiment of the Arizona National Guard, better known as the "Bushmasters". The Bushmasters, whose nickname comes from a deadly jungle snake, have a distinguished history that stretches over a hundred years, both in Arizona and throughout the world. They are known for their expertise in jungle warfare and skill in knife fighting and hand-to-hand combat techniques. General MacArthur himself extolled the Bushmasters: "No greater fighting combat team has ever deployed for battle".

Mr. Lopez was drafted in 1940, and in 1941 was sent to Panama for jungle training and to protect the Panama Canal. Between 1942–1945, his company regiment was sent to battle in Australia, the Netherlands, New Guinea, and the Philippines. Mr. Lopez was released from service in 1945, after his brother was killed in the war.

Mr. Lopez is an American hero, and we are proud to call him an Arizonan.

Cuidado, Mr. Lopez.

ONEGIFT INCORPORATED OF MORRISTOWN 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor OneGift Inc., located in the Town of Morristown, County of Morris, New Jersey, as it celebrates its 25th Anniversary.

OneGift was founded in 1988 by Leigh S. Porges and Anne DeLaney, and is dedicated to the memory of their mothers, Carol G. Simon and Ruth Ann DeLaney. The nonprofit organization helps adults who have been diagnosed with cancer to fulfill wishes that they might not be able to achieve on their own. Dedicated volunteers encourage positive thinking and help cancer patients focus their energy on getting better. They work closely with patients, families, and friends to create a memorable, worry-free experience for those who could not otherwise afford it.

Over the last 25 years, OneGift has created over 3500 experiences for adult cancer patients, their families, and their friends. The types of wish requests that OneGift receives vary greatly. Some ask for a vacation to a place they have never been, or a place they have not seen in years. Others ask for a family reunion or a trip into New York City to see their favorite Broadway play. Whatever the wish is, OneGift strives to make that wish into a reality.

OneGift has helped many cancer patients across New Jersey. OneGift caters to eight area hospitals: Clara Maass Medical Center, Morristown Hospital, Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, Overlook Hospital, Saint Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston, St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center, Somerset Medical Center, and Trinitas Regional Medical Center.

OneGift's volunteers work long and hard to make sure that every detail of the wish is addressed so that the patients won't have any worry or stress. All donations go straight to helping a patient receive the best trip or experience possible.

As it celebrates its 25th Anniversary, OneGift Inc. continues to help adult cancer patients fulfill their wishes as they endure their battle with cancer.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating OneGift, its staff, and volunteers, as they celebrate their 25th Anniversary.

RECOGNIZING FOSTER FARMS

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleagues, Mr. DENHAM and Mr. VALADAO to honor Foster Farms, a poultry company with 75 years of business experience in California's Central Valley. Foster Farms is not only a significant employer in the community but also a national leader in high quality poultry production.

Foster Farms was founded in 1939 by Max and Verda Foster, a couple who dreamed of selling better, safer farm products to consumers. By taking out a small loan the young couple invested in an 80-acre farm near Modesto, California, and their business quickly grew. The Foster's commitment to raising high quality poultry led to their purchase of a feed mill in 1950. By 1959, Max and Verda added a processing plant in nearby Livingston.

The expansion of Foster Farms continued into the 1960s when the company consolidated its corporate headquarters in the small Central California town of Livingston, where it still resides today. Increasing demand for fresh poultry led Foster Farms to continue its expansion into southern California. By 1973, consumers across the state from Del Norte County to San Diego could access Foster Farms' high quality fresh poultry.

Today, Foster Farms poultry operation employs more than 12,000 hardworking Americans. The company has sales in excess of $2 billion, and their profits have made possible significant financial contributions to agricultural education in the State of California. Foster Farms has given grants to UC Davis, Fresno State, and California Polytechnic State University. Foster Farms' efforts have been recognized throughout the State's educational system. The company's Chief Executive Officer, Ron Foster, was awarded the Distinguished Service Award for 15 years of leadership as an educational advisor, fundraiser, benefactor, and collaborator.

Since 2005, Foster Farms has consistently received the highest animal welfare ratings from various independent auditors. In 2013, Foster Farms became the first major poultry producer to be certified by the American Humane Association, which is the nation's first national humane organization for children and animals. The company continued to demonstrate their appreciation for high quality chicken through their "Say No to Plumping" campaign, which began in 2009. Thanks in large part to Foster Farms, plumping is no longer found in retailers on the West Coast.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join Mr. DENHAM, Mr. VALADAO,

and myself in recognizing Foster Farms for 75 successful years in business.

COMMENDING THE HONORABLE TONY A. DEBRUM OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend my good friend, the Honorable Tony A. deBrum, who has served the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) with distinction and honor as Senator, Minister in Assistance to the President (Vice-President), Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Health and Environment, and in other notable capacities.

Senator Tony deBrum was born in 1945 and grew up on Likiep atoll at the height of the U.S. nuclear testing program in the RMI. From 1946–1958, the U.S. exploded 67 nuclear bombs in the Marshall Islands and, in 1954, detonated the Bravo shot on Bikini atoll. Acknowledged as the greatest nuclear explosion ever detonated, the Bravo shot vaporized 6 islands and created a mushroom cloud 25 miles in diameter.

In his own words, the Honorable Tony deBrum, states:

I am a nuclear witness and my memories from Likiep atoll in the northern Marshalls are strong. I lived there as a young boy for the entire 12 years of the nuclear testing program, and when I was 9 years old, I remember vividly the white flash of the Bravo detonation on Bikini atoll, 6 decades ago in 1954, and one thousand times more powerful than Hiroshima—an event that truly shocked the international community into action.

It was in the morning, and my grandfather and I were out fishing. He was throwing net and I was carrying a basket behind him when Bravo went off. Unlike previous ones, Bravo went off with a very bright flash, almost a blinding flash; bear in mind we are almost 200 miles away from ground zero. No sound, just a flash and then a force, the shock wave. I like to describe it as if you are under a glass bowl and someone poured blood over it. Everything turned red: sky, the ocean, the fish, and my grandfather's net.

People in Rongelap nowadays claim they saw the sun rising from the West. I saw the sun rising from the middle of the sky, I mean I don't even know what direction it came from but it just covered it, it was really scary. We lived in thatch houses at that time, my grandfather and I had our own thatch house and every gecko and animal that lived in the thatch fell dead not more than a couple of days after. The military came in, sent boats ashore to run us through Geiger counters and other stuff; everybody in the village was required to go through that.

Shaped by what he witnessed, Tony deBrum determined to become an activist.

I think that's the point that my brain was taught that. I did not consciously say at the time, I am going to now be a crusader. Just a few weeks after that, my grandfather and I went to Kwajalein, where they had evacuated the people of Rongelap, where they were staying in big large green tents being treated for their nuclear burns and exposure. All the while, incidentally, the United States government was announcing that everything was OK, that there was nothing to be worried about.

Unconvinced, Tony deBrum not only became one of the first Marshall Islanders to graduate from college but he worked for 17 years to negotiate his country's independence from the United States. As an eyewitness to nuclear explosions, he also became one of the world's leading advocates for nuclear disarmament calling upon the parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) to stop the spread of nuclear weapons and pursue the peace and security of a world without them. In 2012, Tony deBrum was awarded the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation's Distinguished Peace Leadership Award. Previous recipients include Archbishop Desmond Tutu, His Holiness the XIV Dalai Lama, King Hussein of Jordan, and Jacques Cousteau.

In April 2014, the Republic of the Marshall Islands filed the Nuclear Zero Lawsuits—unprecedented lawsuits against all nine countries that possess nuclear weapons for their failure to negotiate in good faith for nuclear disarmament as required by the NPT. The landmark cases signed by RMI Foreign Minister Tony deBrum are now pending before the International Court of Justice in The Hague and the U.S. Federal District Court in San Francisco. As a Pacific Islander and as the Ranking Member of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, I applaud the RMI and especially Tony deBrum for taking a stand against the nuclear weapon giants. "No nation should ever suffer as we have," Foreign Minister Tony deBrum has stated, and I agree.

I also agree that we should spur greater commitments in international climate change negotiations, and I commend Foreign Minister Tony deBrum for galvanizing more urgent and concrete action on climate change. As an architect of the Majuro Declaration for Climate Leadership, Foreign Minister Tony deBrum has been unrelenting in vocalizing his concerns. In 2013, he addressed the United Nations Security Council on the threat posed by climate change to the long-term viability and survival of the Marshall Islands. During climate talks at the United Nations, he stated that "we are not just trying to save our islands, we are trying to save the entire world."

I declare my sincere and heartfelt commitment to a nuclear-free world and a world committed to putting climate at the top of its diplomatic agenda. In so doing, I honor Tony deBrum as a leader, activist, friend and brother by placing his name and work in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for historical purposes.

RECOGNIZING THE 2014 PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS FROM THE CITY OF MANASSAS POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding group of men and women in Northern Virginia. These individuals have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and have been awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Prince William County Chamber of Commerce.

The Valor Awards recognize remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety agencies and their commitment to the community. Our public safety and law enforcement personnel put their lives on the line every day to keep our families and neighborhoods safe. This year's ceremony will recognize 25 individuals, one investigative team, and one Operational Task Force in a variety of categories including, the Silver or Bronze Valor Award, the Merit Valor Award, and the Investigative Merit Award.

Two members of the City of Manassas Police Department are being honored this year for their exceptional service. It is with great pride that I submit the names of the following award recipients:

2014 Merit Valor Award: Officer Trey Cram and Police Officer First Class Brett Stumpf.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2014 Valor Award Recipients, and thank each of the men and women who served in the City of Manassas Police Department. Their efforts, made on behalf of citizens of Prince William County, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

A TRIBUTE TO ANDREW JOON-HAO TAN FOR HIS WINNING ESSAY DEMOCRACY: COHESION BETWEEN PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Andrew Joon-hao Tan, a student at La Entrada Middle School in Menlo Park, California, for his First Place Award in the 2013 Making Democracy Work Student Essay Contest held by the United States Capitol Historical Society. His extraordinary essay, entitled Democracy: Cohesion Between People and Government, follows.

''What political power could ever carry on the vast multitude of lesser undertakings which the American citizens perform every day, with the assistance of the principle of association,'' wrote French philosopher Alexis de Tocqueville when he visited the United States to observe American government. Tocqueville evaluates the American governance and decides that for democracy to be effective in America, citizens and organizations must actively participate in the government. After the American Revolution, representatives from each state met together to write the Constitution, an American standard for how democracy would function. Recently, however, the government has been less productive than in the past. Some have begun to question if democracy can remain an effective form of government in the current era. Democracy has the potential to be a flourishing style of government, but is predicated on the protection of individuals' rights and liberties, people's access to education and information, and actively participating citizens, all of which, they claim, are resting on shaky grounds.

First and foremost, individual liberties must be guaranteed to everyone in a democracy. This provides protection to minority groups whose rights may otherwise be construed upon. Civil liberties can be encroached upon during times of national crises. A recent example of this is the Patriot

Act, which was enacted after the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. Even though reining in civil liberties seemed appropriate for national security reasons in the immediate aftermath, there have been unintended consequences whereby our basic civil rights have been infringed. The debate over the role of the National Security Agency is currently being adjudicated in federal courts because many people feel that their fourth amendment rights are being violated. The expansion and retraction of our rights must continually be examined, and the government must provide enforcement of these rights to all citizens to create a bond of trust between the people and the government.

Secondly, education should be available to all citizens, policies must be transparent, information should be widely accessible, and diverse points of views should be encouraged. When citizens in a democracy are educated, democracy functions much more effectively. Across countries, education and democracy are highly correlated. In other words, those who receive poor education are less likely to be politically active. Also, less educated people are more vulnerable to propaganda and false information, leaving them susceptible to vote based on the influence of others. Citizens also deserve access to uncensored information. In regimes where information is tightly controlled, citizens are restricted from developing their own opinions and this limits their capacity to fully engage in the political process. It is the government's responsibility to provide basic education and ensure freedom of the press so that citizens are engaged and empowered to play a part in a successful democracy.

Finally, citizens must fulfill their civic duties in a democracy. These include voting and jury duty but can also be as simple as staying updated on current issues and obeying the law. Unfortunately, many of these simple duties are commonly overlooked. Even in the last presidential election in 2012, where there was a record voter turnout only about 60% of registered voters voted. Thus, the voice of around 40% of people was not heard in the ballot. Similarly, fulfilling civic responsibilities is necessary for democracy to work well. For example, jury duty has been difficult to implement. According to Sun Sentinel, in South Florida about two of every three people skip jury duty with or without being exempted. Jurors in South Florida have only a 41% response rate and 3,000 people must be requested to fill 1,000 jury spots because of the high rejection rate. This may be an extreme case, but the lack of commitment to civic responsibility is not unique to Florida. Complacency in civic involvement ultimately leads to erosion of democracy and make our system stale and unsustainable.

The ''lesser undertakings which the American citizens perform every day'' are essential in a democracy because government cannot fulfill all the needs of citizens. In a successful democracy individual rights and liberties must be applied impartially, education and current information must be readily available, and the citizens must do their part to allow the law to be applied fairly. America has survived and struggled through adversities to become one of the longest living democracies in the world because of its strong commitment to the Constitution, impartial application of the law and unrestricted information from varying political opinions. Democracy is an active and dynamic process, and flourishes with self-examination and engagement of its citizens, but languishes with complacency.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House to join me today in honoring Andrew Tan, an extraordinary young man, for his deep understanding of the rights and responsibilities of citizens in our nation, and for his ability to write about it in a cogent, understandable and inspiring style. He is an inspiration to all of us and he is an eloquent statement about the youth of our nation.

RECOGNIZING CITIZENS STATE BANK NORWOOD YOUNG AMERICA ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize 100 years of business by the Citizens State Bank Norwood Young America in Minnesota.

In 1914, Peter Effertz opened the bank on 214 Elm Street where it remained for its first seventy years. Albert Kehrer acquired the bank in 1930 followed by Donald Kehrer beginning in 1952. Later, during the time when Clinton Kurtz and Leonard Lano owned the bank (1979–1999), it was moved to its present location on US Highway 212. The bank is now under the ownership of Paul Pieschel who continues to lead it with the original philosophy of wanting to make a difference in the everyday lives of the people it serves.

Over the last 100 years, this community bank has worked hard to meet the needs of its customers—from a place to tie off a horse or park a Model T Ford to on-line banking and ATMs. Their motto is ''Person to person. Neighbor to neighbor. Yesterday, today and tomorrow.'' and they take pride in going above and beyond what their customers expect.

The stability of both its ownership and leadership, and the sincere interest the employees have in each unique customer situation has provided genuine person-to-person connections with their customers for 100 years. As their recent newsletter states, ''Our long-term philosophy creates trust and motivates our customers to refer their neighbors and friends to the bank.''

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body join with me in honoring Citizens State Bank Norwood Young America upon reaching this noteworthy centennial milestone and to wish them continued success in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF CAMPHILL SOLTANE

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Camphill Soltane of Chester County, Pennsylvania on its 25th anniversary of exemplary service in providing educational, vocational, and residential services for young adults with developmental disabilities. This is a great milestone and a considerable accomplishment and I take great pleasure in being able to honor the men and women of Camphill Soltane for their dedication and outstanding service.

For 25 years, the men and women of Camphill Soltane have dedicated themselves to enabling young adults and adults with special needs to identify and pursue their interests, exercise their talents, and develop their skills that they may enjoy a rich and satisfying life and make valued contributions to the world. A member of the international Camphill Movement, which began in Scotland 70 years ago, Camphill Soltane continues the Movement's tradition of approaching the individual with special needs as a valued member of society worthy of love, dignity, and the opportunity to realize goals and dreams.

Camphill Soltane's varied residential settings on its 52 acre Glenmoore site, and affiliated houses in Phoenixville, provide opportunities for individuals with special needs to live as independently as possible within a supportive community environment. For the last quarter century, this groundbreaking model has served to foster relationships based on mutual respect while encouraging the ongoing development of life and social skills.

Mr. Speaker, in light of its 25 years of outstanding service, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Camphill Soltane for its invaluable contributions to the quality of life of the citizens of Chester County, Pennsylvania.

RECOGNIZING THE 2014 PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS FROM THE TEAM INVESTIGATING THE CASE OF ARSON AT MOUNT PLEASANT BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding group of men and women in Northern Virginia. These individuals have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and have been awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Prince William County Chamber of Commerce.

The Valor Awards recognize remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety agencies and their commitment to the community. Our public safety and law enforcement personnel put their lives on the line every day to keep our families and neighborhoods safe. This year's ceremony will recognize 25 individuals, one investigative team, and one Operational Task Force in a variety of categories including, the Silver or Bronze Valor Award, the Merit Valor Award, and the Investigative Merit Award.

The 12 members of the team investigating a case of arson at Mount Pleasant Baptist Church are being honored this year for their exceptional service. It is with great pride that I submit the names of the following award recipients:

2014 Investigative Merit Award: Lt. Dave Cooper, Lt. Brad Miller, and Lt. Angel Tyson of the Fire Marshal's Office; Supervising Special Agent Steve Avato, Special Agent Chad Campanell, and Special Agent Paul Parisi of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives; Detective Saemi Kitchens, Detective Maria Cervantes, Crime Analyst Supervisor Dawn Locke-Trillhaase and Detective Jason Callahan of the Prince William County Police Department; Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Claiborne T.

Richardson II; and Special Agent Keith Palli of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2014 Valor Award Recipients, and thank each of the men and women who served on the team investigating a case of arson at Mount Pleasant Baptist Church. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of Prince William County, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was $10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is $17,536,123,426,853.10. We've added $6,909,246,377,940.02 to our debt in 5 years. This is over $6.9 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

CONGRATULATING WESLEYAN, WEST STOKES AND WESTCHESTER ON THEIR CHAMPIONSHIPS

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, in sports, winning a championship is an incredible accomplishment. I am proud to announce that Wesleyan Christian Academy, West Stokes High, and Westchester Country Day all recently won state titles. All of these schools are either in the Sixth District of North Carolina or our constituents attend these fine institutions.

The softball team at Wesleyan Christian Academy recently won the North Carolina Independent Schools Athletic Association 3A softball championship for the first time in the school's history. The Lady Trojans credit their success to the strong bond the team formed after a fellow teammate experienced a critical medical condition. Players Taylor Bisbee and Taylor Travis received the American Red Cross Certificate of Merit Award for their courageous acts towards their teammate in need.

The West Stokes girls' soccer team defeated Washington 2–0 to bring home the North Carolina High School Athletic Association 2A state title. The Lady Wildcats believe it was their refuse-to-lose attitude that helped them capture the soccer program's first state title: Team captains Taylor Hooper and Tori Van Meter received individual honors. Hooper was named the championship's Most Valuable Player, while Van Meter received the NCHSAA Sportsmanship Award.

Westchester Country Day recently won the North Carolina Independent Schools Athletic Association 2A state championships for baseball and golf. This is the third straight year the baseball team has brought home a state title and is the third in four years for the golf team.

On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we congratulate Wesleyan Christian Academy, West Stokes High, and Westchester Country Day for winning state championships.

CONGRATULATIONS TO WAYZATA TROJANS BOYS TENNIS TEAM

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Wayzata Boys Tennis Team on their outstanding accomplishment of winning their second consecutive Minnesota State Championship.

Even though they lost 6 starters from last year's team, under the direction of Head Coach Jeff Prondzinski the team found a way to regain their winning form.

The team spent the better part of the season mixing and matching players, hoping to find the perfect combination. The long winter kept the team inside and postponed many matches throughout the season. But regardless of the unfortunate circumstances, the Trojans remained dedicated and focused, putting forth extra effort in their free time to improve.

The road to the championship was intense, as Wayzata battled tough competitors to qualify. Among the standout Trojan athletes is Sophomore Nick Beaty, who got the team off to a great start by winning the singles championship. The Trojan momentum continued with victories from Sam Theisen at No. 3 Singles and four additional wins to seal the championship.

Mr. Speaker, This year's well-deserved title carries a little more weight in the player's eyes due to the rocky road that was successfully navigated to get there. It is a testament to the team's perseverance and enthusiasm to overcome many obstacles and accomplish their goal of being the best boys tennis team in the State of Minnesota.

Congratulations again to the Trojan Boys Tennis team, Coach Prondzinski, and all of the parents, teachers and fans who have supported these athletes along the way.

RECOGNIZING THE 2014 PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS FROM THE VIRGINIA STATE POLICE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding group of men and women in Northern Virginia. These individuals have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and have been awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Prince William County Chamber of Commerce.

The Valor Awards recognize remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety agencies and their commitment to the community. Our public safety and law enforcement personnel put their lives on the line every day to keep our families and neighborhoods safe. This year's ceremony will recognize 25 individuals, one investigative team, and one Operational Task Force in a variety of categories including, the Silver or Bronze Valor Award, the Merit Valor Award, and the Investigative Merit Award.

Two members of Virginia State Police are being honored this year for their exceptional service. It is with great pride that I submit the names of the following award recipients:

2014 Silver Valor Award: Trooper Charles A. Lanfranchi and Trooper Brandon West.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2014 Valor Award Recipients, and thank each of the men and women who serve in the Virginia State Police. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of Prince William County and the Commonwealth of Virginia, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING ROBERT F. ECKLOND

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and honor Mr. Robert F. Ecklond, a veteran of both World War II and the Korean War. Mr. Ecklond originally enlisted in the United States Navy as a Seaman Apprentice, completing Boot Camp in Sampson, New York and advanced technical training at the Construction Training Center in Davisville, Rhode Island. He served in the Pacific Theater during World War II with the 20th Special Naval Construction Battalion Seabees. Mr. Ecklond was present at Red Hill Seabee Camp in Hawaii during V–J Day on September 2, 1945. He was honorably discharged in September 1946, having attained the rank of Petty Officer 3rd Class.

Following his discharge, Mr. Ecklond showed his continued dedication to the U.S. Armed Forces by joining the United States Naval Reserve. When he was called to serve during the Korean War, Mr. Ecklond honored his country by returning to active duty, serving in Korea from April 1950 to July 1953.

This year on Memorial Day, Robert Ecklond was celebrated by the Honor Flight Network, a non-profit organization that seeks to honor America's veterans for the sacrifices they made for our country. As part of this recognition, Mr. Ecklond was flown from Florida to Washington, DC, affording him the opportunity to visit and reflect at the National World War II Memorial.

I am proud to recognize and honor Mr. Ecklond and remember those who have given so much to serve our country. Their dedication, courage, and sacrifice allowed America to remain safe and free. I ask my colleagues will join me in commending Robert Ecklond for his long-standing service to the United States.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF BEACH BLANKET BABYLON

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the world's longest running musical revue that is politically incorrect, brilliant and hilarious. Beach Blanket Babylon has drawn sold-out audiences in its hometown San Francisco for 40 years and isn't showing any signs of slowing down or getting old. The New York Times is right to call Beach Blanket Babylon "no less a part of San Francisco than the Golden Gate Bridge or Coit Tower."

Every performance of Beach Blanket Babylon takes the audience on a fast-paced journey around the world with Snow White on her search for Prince Charming. She encounters an always-changing cast of characters from politics and pop culture. Everybody who is anybody has been on stage: President Barack Obama, the Queen of England, Lady Gaga, Tina Turner, Prince, Hillary Clinton, Justin Bieber, Elvis and da Mayor Willie Brown have all endured sarcastic interpretations of current events.

I fell in love with the show the first time I saw it, in part, of course, because of the outrageous hats. These creations range from a giant heart made of red curls to the Skyline of San Francisco with a growing Transamerica Pyramid to a five tier wedding cake. Balancing those heavy and top-heavy sculptures is no easy task for the performers. They wear braces on their hips and shoulders to distribute the weight. The mechanical hats are so heavy that they are attached to stands that roll on the stage and are hidden in the costumes of the performers.

I was told by a secret source that auditions for Beach Blanket Babylon are "the craziest thing ever." They start out innocent enough: sing a song, say for example Stand by Your Man. Next thing you know, you'll be asked to sing it with a French bulldog accent or the personality of the Wicked Witch from the Wizard of Oz.

The late Steve Silver, with his sense for the absurd and whimsical imagination, was the genius who gave birth to Beach Blanket Babylon in 1974. The show grew out of street performances in North Beach, the famous Italian neighborhood of San Francisco. Since Silver's passing in 1995, his widow Jo Schuman Silver has produced the show and continued his vision and legacy.

In 1983, Beach Blanket Babylon did a command performance for the Queen of England and Prince Phillip at Davies Symphony Hall. In 1988, the de Young Museum presented an exhibition of 15 years of Beach Blanket Babylon hats and costumes. On the 20th anniversary, BBB performed at the San Francisco War Memorial Opera House and today, on the 40th anniversary, BBB is giving a special performance at San Francisco City Hall featuring current Mayor Ed Lee, former Mayor Willie Brown, former Secretary of State George Schultz and his wife Charlotte Schultz as Wonder Woman.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor the 40th anniversary of Beach Blanket Babylon, a San Francisco institution that has sharpened the minds and provided hearty belly laughs for over 6 million fans during 15,000 performances. I have enjoyed the show more than a dozen times and will continue to be a regular at this unique San Francisco theater experience. May it last for at least another 40 years!

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LOS BANOS DIVINO ESPÍRITO SANTO

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Los Banos Portuguese Divino Espírito Santo (Los Banos Portuguese DES) organization on their 100th anniversary.

The story of the Los Banos Portuguese DES Association began more than 700 years ago with the birth of a royal princess. Queen Saint Isabel was born in Aragon, Spain, in 1271. According to legend, a famine seized Portugal in 1292, and she donated generously to her people. Moved by the example of their queen, the Portuguese nobles asked permission to create a festival in honor of these generous acts. Every year on Pentecost Sunday, the Portuguese people collect donations to feed the community. The festa made its way from Western Europe to the Azores and eventually the United States on the proverbial backs of Portuguese Azorean immigrants. The festa is still celebrated today.

In 1904, Azorean Portuguese immigrants founded the Los Banos chapter of the organization which honors Queen Saint Isabel's example—the Irmandeade do Divino Espírito Santo 64. The organization was incorporated and later changed its name to Los Banos Portuguese DES Association. The Los Banos Portuguese DES Festa was incorporated in 1914. The festa was originally celebrated in a building that was a community center built in the early 20th century. Several individuals were largely responsible for the rebuilding of the community center and its subsequent revival into a Portuguese Hall.

In 1934, the Los Banos DES purchased the property where the current hall stands today. Several families were involved with building the hall, most notably the Fagundes, Freitas, Parreira, Rosa and Silva families. The community celebrated its first festa there in 1937.

From the 1930s to the 60s the DES Hall was the central venue for many weddings, parties, and church bazaars, as it was the only completed community center in Los Banos for many years. The Los Banos Dairyman's Association held their meetings there until the late 1960s and wrote the minutes of the meetings in Portuguese until 1949. Free food would always be served to the community on days of celebration.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleague to join me in recognizing the Los Banos Portuguese Divino Espírito Santo in celebration of the 100th Annual Festa. This community's rich heritage, with its commitment to the ideals of their patron Queen Saint Isabel, has continued for one hundred years.

RECOGNIZING MS. CHRISTINE ZINSER AND HER EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF OUR COMMUNITY SALUTES OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Christine Zinser, a constituent of the 11th Congressional District of Virginia, and to commend her for being the driving force behind Our Community Salutes of Northern Virginia.

In 2011, Ms. Zinser's son Philipp was preparing to graduate from Robinson Secondary School and had made the decision to enlist in the United States Marine Corps. She approached the school to request that her son, and other seniors who had decided to enlist, be recognized during the graduation ceremony or any other end of year award event. Unfortunately, the school denied her request even though other students would be recognized for various accomplishments.

Ms. Zinser, along with another parent, Carolyn Kellam, decided to take matters into their own hands. If the school would not recognize their children, they would organize an event to do so. They contacted Braddock District Supervisor John Cook who readily agreed to allow the event to be held in his office. Ms. Zinser then contacted my office to see if she could count on my support and I enthusiastically agreed. Together we held a ceremony on June 9, 2011 in honor of the young men and women who had chosen to enlist in our Armed Forces upon graduation from Robinson Secondary School.

Following that first ceremony, Ms. Zinser doubled her efforts to include enlistees from the entire Northern Virginia region. She continued to lobby the school system, and due directly to her unwavering efforts, many schools now recognize the students who have decided to enlist, including her son's former high school. She partnered with an organization called Our Community Salutes and formed the first parent-established chapter of that organization. Ms. Zinser also assisted with establishing chapters in Fredericksburg, Virginia, and Washington, D.C.

Ms. Zinser has been featured on television and in newspapers raising awareness and support for our young men and women. In February, 2012, Ms. Zinser was quoted as saying: "I really feel like these kids are a forgotten spoke in the wheel of recognizing our military families. We laud those returning from war, mourn those who have fallen, show unflinching support for the families of active duty military personnel, compassion for those who sustain injuries and immense respect for our veterans. But the young men and women who choose to serve, especially when our nation is at war, go unrecognized."

This year marks the 4th Annual Our Community Salutes ceremony during which we will honor 129 local high school students who have decided to serve our country in uniform. These students will join the 1% of our population who have enlisted, knowing that they may be putting themselves in harm's way to protect and defend our country. It is my honor to join Christine again, as I have each year, and be among the first to say to these young men and women: "Thank you."

Ms. Zinser's son Philipp still serves in the U.S. Marine Corps. He is stationed at Camp Pendleton and is currently deployed to Afghanistan, where he will serve for the foreseeable future. His leadership and professionalism have been recognized, and he has attained the rank of Corporal. I thank him for his service, and pray that he stays safe while serving in a dangerous arena.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Christine Zinser and in commending her for her tireless efforts to appropriately honor the young people in our community who choose to serve. I also would like to thank Christine's partner, Sandra Coffman, for her unyielding support and dedication. Their commitment to Our Community Salutes and to our young warriors will leave a lasting legacy and is worthy of our highest praise.

HIGHWAY 15'S JOINT PORT OF ENTRY PROJECT

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize an important transportation project that is currently under construction in my district, the Eighth District of California on Interstate 15 near the Nevada border. The Joint Port of Entry Project, on Interstate 15, is a vital step towards improving the safety and reliability of California's highways while also creating nearly 2,000 jobs. Planning for this project spans more than twenty years.

The first phase of this project will construct the California Highway Patrol Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Facility. This advanced design facility will help protect our roadway infrastructure from overweight vehicles entering California, which leads to the deteriorating lifespan of our highways. The second phase of this project will construct the California Department of Food and Agriculture Inspection Station.

I applaud the California Department of Transportation, California Department of Food and Agriculture, California Highway Patrol, California Department of General Services, and the California Department of Finance for their coordinated efforts to bring this project to fruition.

In this final phase of construction, I also wish to recognize the Director of the Department of Transportation, Malcolm Dougherty, P.E., and District Eighth Director Basem E. Muallem, P.E, for their outstanding leadership.

IN TRIBUTE TO DEPUTY CHIEF JIM TOOMEY

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Jim Toomey of Tolland, Connecticut who a few weeks ago stepped aside from a distinguished 42 year career as a Tolland Volunteer Firefighter. When Jim entered the department in 1972, little did he know the role and operations of a small rural fire department in eastern Connecticut would evolve into a far more demanding mission by the end of his career.

In 1972, Tolland was a small rural community with a small force that focused on the traditional mission of fighting fires. In the years following as Tolland grew and the fire department, in turn, assumed more responsibilities, Jim joined the Dive Team, became an EMT, and after 9/11 integrated new Department of Homeland Security requirements for first responders.

In 2005, Jim became Deputy Chief and served with distinction until his retirement this year. A few weeks ago, an overflow crowd assembled to celebrate Jim's retirement at Maneeley's Banquet Center in South Windsor and to shower Jim and his wife Karen, their children and grandchildren with the well-deserved accolades of his amazing career. As someone who worked with Karen in my law practice for 27 years, I saw up close the long hours he devoted to the department and the sacrifice he and his family made to serve his town so diligently and competently.

I ask my colleagues in the House to join me and his fellow citizens in thanking Jim for the outstanding example of public service he set, and for all of the people and property he protected and rescued for 42 long years.

HONORING CAFÉ LUSH

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Café Lush, and owners Tom Doherty and Sandy Gregory, on the 3rd anniversary of their distinguished local Albuquerque establishment.

Since opening in 2011, Café Lush has developed into a thriving business and popular hotspot for locals. Located in downtown Albuquerque, Café Lush features an exceptional menu that carries nutrient dense organic food and fresh seasonal produce that promotes happy, healthy, and sustainable lifestyles.

The beautiful street corner café, with its vibrant outdoor patio was not always a distinct feature in the neighborhood. In fact, before the establishment of Café Lush many restaurants unsuccessfully tried to establish themselves in the area. The location became known as a frequent site for new restaurants that would eventually close, or go out of business.

Despite this historical precedent, and a struggling economy, Café Lush launched a business model that appealed to the growing demand for locally grown healthy foods. Café Lush's fresh new take on organic ingredients with a New Mexico twist reverberated throughout the community and today the café continues to be wildly successful.

Café Lush's vision and accomplishments are an inspiration for future generations of entrepreneurs and small business owners, and demonstrate the ability of one business to change an entire neighborhood. Located next to two schools, a place of worship, and just a short walk away from the heart of downtown Albuquerque, Café Lush has reinvigorated the area and brought renewed energy to Albuquerque's scenic landscape.

I have no doubt that Café Lush will continue to have great success. Their quality food, great customer service, and beautiful outdoor patio are what continue to make me a frequent customer. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Café Lush on these accomplishments, their 3rd anniversary and the many more to come.

RECOGNIZING THE 2014 PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY VALOR AWARD RECIPIENT FROM THE OCCOQUAN WOODBRIDGE LORTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding group of men and women in Northern Virginia. These individuals have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and have been awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Prince William County Chamber of Commerce.

The Valor Awards recognize remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety agencies and their commitment to the community. Our public safety and law enforcement personnel put their lives on the line every day to keep our families and neighborhoods safe. This year's ceremony will recognize 25 individuals, one investigative team, and one Operational Task Force in a variety of categories including, the Silver or Bronze Valor Award, the Merit Valor Award, and the Investigative Merit Award.

One member of the Occoquan Woodbridge Lorton Volunteer Fire Department is being honored this year for his exceptional service. It is with great pride that I submit the name of the following award recipient:

2014 Silver Medal of Valor: Assistant Chief Steven R. Godin.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2014 Valor Award Recipient, and thank each of the men and women who serve in the Occoquan Woodbridge Lorton Volunteer Fire Department. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of Prince William County, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LEXINGTON ARTS & SCIENCE CENTER

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Living Arts and Science Center of Lexington, Kentucky on the groundbreaking of their new facility, the "Lucille Caudill Little Discovery Center."

The Living Arts & Science Center, LASC, was created as a not-for-profit organization in 1968 to provide opportunities for exploration and education in the arts and sciences. Since then, the LASC has become a stimulating force and creative resource for Central Kentuckians. Through dynamic arts and science programming, the LASC has fostered exploration and inspired creativity among children

and adults, schools, and organizations around the region. With the addition of the ''Lucille Caudill Little Discovery Center,'' the LASC will now be able to offer even more hands-on learning opportunities with additional science and art classrooms, as well as a Digital Art Studio and a Clay Studio.

The Living Arts & Science Center is especially important to me as it has hosted my annual Congressional Art Competition for the past two years. I am proud to see this organization expand to offer more programs and activities centered on arts and science. I commend them for their dedication to education and community outreach, and know this expansion will further enhance the Sixth District members' understanding and appreciation for the arts and sciences.

CONGRATULATING COMMANDER BION STEWART—A TRUE COAST GUARDSMAN

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service, dedication and professionalism of Commander, CDR, Bion Stewart, who has served as the U.S. Coast Guard Liaison to the House of Representatives from August 2011 to July 2014. CDR Stewart is a consummate professional and exemplifies the Coast Guard's Corps Values of Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty. Over the last three years CDR Stewart's supreme knowledge of Coast Guard operations and strategic priorities has been invaluable to the Members of the Coast Guard's oversight Committees as we make critical decisions in an austere budget environment.

CDR Stewart worked with Committee staff and Coast Guard leadership to prepare for crucial operations, acquisitions, and policy hearings, and was integral in supporting our Subcommittee's efforts in the passage of the Coast Guard Authorization Acts of 2012 and 2014. CDR Stewart's superior expertise in Coast Guard acquisitions and budget priorities was an invaluable resource as the Congress supported the Coast Guard's vital recapitalization and modernization efforts during the 111th, 112th, and 113th Congresses.

As the only former Coast Guardsman in Congress, and as a Member of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Subcommittee, I am honored to represent the fine men and women of the United States Coast Guard who serve our Nation with distinction. The men and women who serve as Congressional Liaisons take on a monumentally difficult but crucially important challenge; one which is as important to the success of the Coast Guard as the cutter and aircraft crews who protect our waterways every day. I would like to thank CDR Stewart for his dedication and service in this challenging position.

He has been a tremendous help to my staff and me. I want to congratulate him on his upcoming promotion to Captain, and wish him fair winds and following seas as he continues his outstanding service to our Nation.

RECOGNIZING MCDONALDS MEATS UPON 100 YEARS OF BUSINESS

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize McDonalds Meats of Clear Lake, Minnesota, as it celebrates 100 years of business.

When Mr. John Leo McDonald purchased a meat market in Clear Lake, Minnesota in 1914, little did anyone know how long-lasting this family business would be. Forty years after the business started, John's son Richard took over, meeting the growing demand for business and expanding their facility.

Thirty-five years after that Richard's son, David McDonald, became the head of the family business. Taking on this rich family tradition, David not only expanded the facility for a second time to meet the growing demand for their delicious meats, but he also started experimenting with jerky flavors. Business was booming. David took over full ownership in 1994.

Thirteen years later, Travis and Jennifer McDonald, fourth generation McDonalds, continue the family business, providing excellence in service and delicious meats, leading the business into its 100th year.

Like many family-owned businesses throughout our state, McDonalds Meats provides not only a service; but also a sense of security, family and community. It is this sense of tradition that helps make Minnesota a great place to raise a family.

For 100 years and four generations, this hometown business has provided a rich variety of smoked sausages, jerky, deli meats and cheeses, all from their own smokehouses and sausage kitchen.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body join with me in honoring McDonalds Meats upon reaching this noteworthy centennial milestone. Here's to another century of quality meats.

CONGRATULATING THE 2014 LORDS AND LADIES FAIRFAX, THE RECIPIENT OF THE JAMES M. SCOTT COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARD, AND THE CELEBRATE FAIRFAX! VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a dedicated group of men and women in Northern Virginia. For the past 30 years, each member of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has selected two people from his or her district who have demonstrated outstanding volunteer service, heroism, or other exceptional commitments and accomplishments to our community. Since the program's inception in 1984, more than 570 individuals have been granted the honor of being named a Lord or Lady Fairfax by his or her representative on the Board of Supervisors. The Board also traditionally recognizes these individuals during a reception held in conjunction with the annual Celebrate Fairfax! Festival in June.

This year, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors will recognize those individuals who have made tremendous impacts through their support of our public schools, parks, youth sports leagues, arts community, public safety, and human service programs. It is nearly impossible to fully describe the diversity of accomplishments by the honorees. Their efforts contribute greatly to the quality of life for the residents of Fairfax County and should be commended.

It is my honor to enter the names of the following 2014 Lords and Ladies Fairfax into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

At Large: Lady Mary Keeser and Lord Rohil Bhinge

Braddock District: Lady Monica Jackson and Lord Anthony J. Vellucci

Dranesville District: Lady Lauri Lacorte and Lord Jay Donahue

Hunter Mill District: Lady Baba Foster Freeman and Lord Michael Amouri

Lee District: Lady Tawny Hammond and Lord George F. Towery

Mason District: Lady Terry O'Hara Lavoie and Lord Jan Reitman

Mt. Vernon District: Lady Mary J. Porter and Lord Colonel Gregory D. Gadson

Providence District: Lady Merni Fitzgerald and Lord James M. Scott

Springfield District: Lady Karen Brown and Lord Paul Liberty

Sully District: Lady Lu Ann Maciulla McNabb and Lord Phillip W. Allin

I also commend the following recipients of the James M. Scott Community Spirit Award and the Celebrate Fairfax! Festival Volunteers of the Year Award:

James M. Scott Community Spirit Award: Fairfax Water

Celebrate Fairfax! Festival Volunteers of the Year Award: Galen and Tara Munroe

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our gratitude to these men and women who volunteer their time and energy on behalf of our community. The selfless commitment of these individuals provides enumerable benefits to their fellow residents and serves to strengthen and enrich the Fairfax County community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BILL R. LEMAY

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Bill R. LeMay, who passed away on June 8, 2014, at the age of 81. Bill was a proud resident of California's San Joaquin Valley, and his dedication to the community will never be forgotten.

Bill was born in Oklahoma and moved to Corcoran, California, when he was 13 years old. He had six siblings: Betty, Dorothy, Pearl, Tommy, Johnny, and Susie. From a young age, Bill recognized the importance of hard work. Early on in his career, Bill hauled sheep and cattle by truck during a night shift. He completed twice the amount of work than what was expected, and before receiving his first paycheck, he earned three raises. His tenacity and dedication to always doing his best was something he carried with him throughout his entire life.

In 1952, Bill joined the United States Army during the Korean War and completed basic

training at Fort Ord. After serving two years in the military, Bill married the love of his life, Delores Josephine Pagel. Bill and Delores were married for 59 years.

In 1955, Bill began a lifelong career at Salyers' America. At one point, Salyers was one of the largest farming operations in the United States. Bill was the Farm Superintendent and managed 85,000 acres of land, which included 18 crops ranging from wheat and barley to tomatoes and cotton. Bill worked at Salyers for 45 years, retiring in 2000.

In addition to fighting in the Korean War, Bill fought two long battles close to home that were much more personal. The 1969 and 1983 Tulare Lake Floods fueled a long-standing rivalry between Valley farmers and Mother Nature, and Bill was at the forefront. Valley agriculture always played a very significant role in Bill's life because he understood its impact on the strength of our Nation.

More important than his appreciation for agriculture, Bill's family meant everything to him. Bill and Delores loved their three sons and their spouses: Harold and Kelly, Larry and Valerie, and Todd and Stephen. His pride and joy were his eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Bill will be greatly missed by his family and friends, but they will always have an outstanding role model who they will hold in their hearts forever.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to pay tribute to the life of Bill R. LeMay. His service to our country and dedication to working hard will always be remembered.

CONGRATULATIONS TO HOPKINS ROYALS STATE TRACK CHAMPIONS

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Hopkins Royals Boys Track Team for their success in attaining their very first Minnesota State High School Championship.

The Hopkins Team was by no means an underdog at State, but they weren't the favorite either. The boys exhibited enormous effort and passion throughout the season and at the tournament—an attitude that even coaches from opposing teams noticed.

The Royals were led by three outstanding athletes in Terrance Bowers, Shaheed Hickman, and Joe Klecker, who gained valuable team points in their respective events. However, it was the team effort in the 4x100 relay that secured the title for the Royals.

Head Coach Nick Lovas is proud of each athlete's individual goals, but even more satisfied with their commitment to the team. His passion for teaching students is an example the entire community can celebrate.

Mr. Speaker, this title will go down in Hopkins High history because it is the first Boys Track Championship in the school's 108 years of existence. The boys pushed themselves to their limits, ran faster and jumped farther each week, and ended up victorious. This accomplishment is the result of the hard work and dedication from the athletes and coaches, as well as the endless support from parents, teachers and fans.

Again, I want to congratulate the Hopkins Royals Boys Track Team, on becoming State High School Champions.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF GMU PROFESSOR DONNA STERLING TO SCIENCE EDUCATION

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the tremendous contributions of George Mason University Professor Donna R. Sterling, whose work to improve the research in and development of effective science and math curricula has benefitted elementary and secondary school students across the nation.

Ms. Sterling is a Distinguished Service Professor and Director of the Center for Restructuring Education in Science and Technology at George Mason's College of Education and Human Development. GMU, which is located in the 11th Congressional District in Fairfax, Virginia, is now the Commonwealth's largest public university with 34,000 students, a full-time faculty of more than 1,800, 11 schools, and degrees in 198 fields of study. Over the past 22 years, Ms. Sterling's research has been instrumental in helping to improve science teaching in elementary and secondary schools and higher educational institutions throughout the Commonwealth and across the country, while simultaneously increasing the profile of George Mason University.

She has served as principal investigator for numerous teacher development and research grants and has authored more than 100 articles, books, and reports. Her portfolio includes the award-winning ''New Science Teachers' Support Network'' for provisionally-licensed science teachers and ''Science Camp'' for training pre-service and experienced teachers to conduct problem-based learning with children. Through the years, her research has garnered more than $50 million in funding support from multiple public and private sources, including the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Department of Education, the Virginia Department of Education, ExxonMobil, Northrop Grumman, Boeing, Micron, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the Carnegie Institution of Washington.

A recent project used her research for the basis of the Virginia Initiative for Science Teaching and Achievement (or VISTA). The project received one of the largest Investing in Innovation (or i3) grants from the U.S. Department of Education. It also marked the largest grant in GMU's history and brought together six Virginia universities, the Virginia Department of Education, the Virginia Mathematics and Science Coalition, and private corporate partners to support the improvement of K–12 science education.

In addition to her research work, Ms. Sterling has been an active member of the Virginia Mathematics and Science Coalition, where she has developed policy recommendations and white papers for improving K–12 science education, the development of science leaders, and the preparation of outstanding teacher and student programs.

She earned her Doctor of Education degree in science education from The George Washington University, and she completed her early research and career training under two noted Nobel Prize recipients—Linus Pauling and Melvin Calvin who between them received three Nobel prizes.

She is regarded by her peers as a pioneer in classroom curriculum development to engage young students in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math (or STEM). She also has served as a role model and mentor to generations of graduate students—particularly young women—by inspiring and supporting them as they pursue careers in teaching, research, and leadership roles in the field of STEM education.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the distinguished career of Dr. Donna Sterling and in thanking her for her innovative and lasting contributions to classroom instruction. Her ability to inspire graduate students in scientific discovery—pushing them to question, hypothesize, and verify new knowledge through real experimentation and persistence—have been a hallmark of her passion for science education. She continues to support an ever-expanding network of former students who now are inspiring the next generation of young women and men to unlock the mysteries and wonders of our world through scientific discovery.

RECOGNIZING THE 2014 WAUKEGAN TOWNSHIP MEN OF DISTINCTION LUNCHEON HONOREES

HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize some of the Waukegan community's finest leaders.

In education, business, government, faith and more, these 15 outstanding men embody what is best about Waukegan and demonstrate a deep commitment to strengthening our community.

It is my great pleasure to honor the 2014 Men of Distinction: Dr. Phil Carrigan; Arthuer Craigen; Don Elliott; Ronnel Ewing; Chuck Gutman; Kenneth Mayo; Mayor Steve Pannell; Greg Moisio; Joe Moody; Mayor Wayne Motley; Bill Newby; Martin Perez; Pastor Eugene Roberson; Mayor Leon Rockingham; Jose Rodriguez.

It takes strong leaders with vision and dedication to bring a community together and secure a hopeful, prosperous future for the next generation. With no less than their fullest commitment to the people and the township of Waukegan, these 15 honorees work each and every day to enrich their community.

As true Men of Distinction, this year's honorees deserve the highest praise and greatest respect. I know that this honor will merely inspire them to work even harder to strengthen Waukegan and build an even better, closer community.

HONORING MR. CHARLES McDOWELL LEE, SR.

HON. BRADLEY BYRNE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember a friend and a great Alabamian, Mr. Charles McDowell Lee, Sr.

Mr. Lee, as he was commonly known, served as Secretary of the Alabama State Senate from 1963 to 2011. At the time of his retirement, McDowell Lee was the longest serving secretary of a legislative body in the entire nation. During my time as a state senator, I grew to know Mr. Lee as a brilliant mind and the unequivocal historian of the Alabama Legislature.

Mr. Lee, a native of Clio, Alabama, graduated from Barbour County High School in 1942 and went on to study at Auburn University. He answered the call of duty during World War II, serving in both the European and Pacific theaters. He then returned to Alabama to finish his education at Troy State Teachers College. After graduating, Mr. Lee was elected mayor of his hometown of Clio, earning the recognition as one of the youngest mayors in the nation.

Mr. Lee was elected to the Alabama House of Representatives in 1954, and he went on to serve in that position for eight years, earning the titles of ''Outstanding Freshman'' and ''Best Debater'' by the Alabama Press Association. In 1963, he was selected as Secretary of the Alabama Senate.

He would go on to serve as Secretary of the Senate for 47 years. During that span, Mr. Lee worked with ten different governors and hundreds of state senators. He was known nationally as an expert scholar on parliamentary procedure and received countless state and national awards for his years of public service.

Every morning that the State Senate was in session, a number of other senators and I would gather in Mr. Lee's office to drink coffee and get his input on current events. It was in those candid conversations with Mr. Lee that I truly learned how the State Senate worked and gained a deep appreciation for the unique rules that govern legislative bodies.

In a legislative body where emotions and politics sometimes get the best of us, Mr. Lee provided calm, unbiased leadership and direction. He respected the rules and the institution, and through that each senator quickly grew to respect him.

Mr. Lee passed away on April 17, 2014, at the age of 89. He is survived by his wife, Hazel; his sons Arch, Charles Jr., and Kenneth; his daughters Margaret and Josie Lee; and a number of grandchildren and great grandchildren. I know his family must miss him very much, but they can find peace in the countless individuals' lives that McDowell Lee improved, mentored, and impacted in his lifetime.

Mr. Speaker, I find it only fitting to recognize this great American in this body, the People's House, for his dutiful service to our nation and immense respect for the legislative process.

IN HONOR OF BARBRA MINCH, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE WILLIAM F. RYAN COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join the people of New York's tenth congressional district in saying a fond farewell to President and CEO of the William F. Ryan Community Health Center, Barbra Minch, as she enters her retirement.

After 35 years of service to the community, Barbra leaves behind an incomparable legacy and has been an immeasurable asset to the community as a whole. The Ryan Center's wonderful contributions would not have been possible without her dedicated service.

Barbra E. Minch has lived and worked in the Upper West Side community for over 42 years. As a single parent raising two children, Ms. Minch has been an advocate for affordable housing and quality public schools, a teacher, and an educational administrator. In 1979, Ms. Minch joined the William F. Ryan Community Health Center as an Administrator, and was soon promoted to Deputy Director. In 1995, she was appointed Executive Director by the Board of Directors, and was then appointed President & CEO in 2001. In this role, Ms. Minch provided leadership to 17 sites throughout Manhattan and has represented the Ryan Center in the Community Health Center movement on a federal and statewide scale, contributing unmatchable leadership and philanthropy.

Over the years, I have worked with Barbra on many issues regarding health care on the Upper West Side, in Chelsea and Clinton, and in Lower Manhattan. I have always found her to be irrepressible, creative, energetic, and singularly focused on improving access to quality health care at minimal cost to the low-income people among us. Our community has been blessed by Barbra's energy and dedication for many years, and despite her having trained and put in place a dedicated team to continue her work, we shall sorely miss her continuing contributions.

Ms. Minch has served on the Board of Directors of the Community Health Care Association of New York State (CHCANYS) as First Vice Chair and chaired its Legislative Committee for several years. She is a member of several committees of the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC), including the Legislative Committee, Credentials Committee, Ethics and Grievance Committee, and Membership and Rules Committees. She is also a member of the Health Care Executive Forum, which advances health care leadership and management. Ms. Minch was the first and only Community Health Center representative on the Board of Trustees of the Job Security Fund of the 1199/SEIU Employment Training and Job Security Program. In 1998, Ms. Minch played an integral role in helping to establish the Coalition to Preserve Access to Community-Based Health Care Providers, which set the stage for direct funding to Community Health Centers from New York State.

Ms. Minch has won many awards in recognition of her excellent work and dedication including: The Jeffrey T. Latman Award from CHCANYS; the Palma Award as Health Administrator of the Year from the Latino Coalition for Fair Media; and the distinguished John Gilbert Community Healthcare Award of Excellence from NACHC. Most recently, Ms. Minch was inducted into the NACHC Hall of Fame, one of a small group of community health advocates throughout the nation, and the first New Yorker to receive this prestigious award.

Barbra is undoubtedly deserving of all of her commendations, and I hope to offer her another one by wishing her the most sincere congratulations on behalf of myself and my constituents as she finishes a singular career of public service. I wish her the best of luck in everything the future holds for her. I know she will find many more ways to contribute to the lives of residents throughout New York City and beyond. I ask my colleagues to please join me in recognizing Barbra's efforts.

THE BOULAN PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL INVESTMENT TEAM—RANKING NINTH IN THE SIFMA FOUNDATION'S CAPITOL HILL CHALLENGE

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the Investment Team from Boulan Park Middle School for placing ninth in the country in the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA) Foundation's Capitol Hill Challenge of 2014. The team is comprised of Kevin Li, Rohit Chakravarty, and Jason Song, along with their coach, Mr. Mark Martin.

The students worked diligently on this project. They greatly improved their knowledge of the stock market and the world economic landscape. These students used their own knowledge to earn a 42% return on investment, turning 100,000 dollars into over 142,000 dollars. Additionally, this is the first year in which a middle school team finished in the top 10 nationwide.

I am proud to have sponsored Kevin, Rohit, and Jason. The time and effort they dedicated to this project is beyond impressive. On behalf of the residents of Michigan's 11th Congressional District, I would like to congratulate them on this remarkable achievement.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO EXTEND SECTION 181 OF THE TAX CODE

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise with my colleague from Georgia, Congressman DOUG COLLINS, to introduce legislation to extend section 181 of the tax code to continue to allow for the immediate tax write-off of the first $15 million (or $20 million where the production is made in a distressed community) of production expenditures for qualifying domestic film and television productions. In addition, our bill

would extend section 181 treatment to live theatrical productions.

Section 181 was first enacted in the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 and has been extended several times since. It was added to protect the U.S. television and film industry and to counteract the increasingly aggressive incentives offered by many foreign governments to attract production overseas. The Directors Guild of America noted, at the time that section 181 was passed, ''globalization, rising costs, foreign wage, tax and financing incentives, and technological advances, combined are causing a substantial transformation of what used to be a quintessentially American industry into an increasingly dispersed global industry.''

In enacting section 181, Congress recognized the important and unique contribution our television and film production industries make to providing high-paying jobs and economic benefits in communities across the country. These productions provide good jobs not just for actors, writers and directors, but also for the local carpenters and electricians, the drivers and equipment operators, the caterers and hotel-keepers who provide services to these productions. It is estimated that a major motion picture shooting on location contributes $225,000 every day to the local economy. For example, in 2011, the major studios alone paid over $2.7 billion to over 23,000 vendors in New York State. Moreover, in that same year, filmed production accounted for $7.1 billion in spending and employed 130,000 people in New York City, according to the Boston Consulting Group.

Section 181 of the Internal Revenue Code allows production companies to deduct the cost of qualified U.S. productions immediately rather than capitalizing the costs and deducting them slowly over time. The incentive accelerates the timing of the deduction but it does not change the amount of the deduction. In order to qualify, a film must be domestically-produced, that is, at least 75 percent of the total compensation paid for the production must be for services performed in the U.S. by actors, directors, producers and other production staff personnel. The deduction applies to the first $15 million ($20 million for productions in low income communities or distressed area or isolated area of distress) of a qualified film or television production. The cost of the production above the dollar limitation is capitalized and recovered under the taxpayer's normal method of accounting.

I believe that section 181 remains an appropriately targeted provision, designed to encourage television and film producers to stay here in the United States and keep those jobs in our communities. In the last decades, New York City and in particular my home borough of Queens has seen a resurgent television and film production sector bring new jobs and revenue into the community. Film production jobs in New York grew by nearly 25 percent between 2008 and 2011, at a time when private sector employment was falling. This bill will help to ensure that those jobs stay here in the U.S.

The bill we are introducing today also includes a new feature to extend section 181 benefits to live theatrical productions. As with films, theater not only provides cultural benefits but also provides economic benefits to local communities in the U.S. For example, according to the Broadway League, Broadway contributed $11 billion in 2012–13 to New York City's economy on top of ticket sales and supports 86,000 jobs. And the benefits are not limited to New York. Traveling Broadway shows contributed almost $3.4 billion to the U.S. economy, which helps sustain regional and local theatres, allowing them to offer their cultural events. Live theatre audiences make numerous ancillary purchases, including restaurants, hotels, parking, taxis and souvenirs.

Unfortunately, as with film, other countries are becoming more aggressive in attracting theatrical production overseas. This is important because future income associated with a production, such as licensing fees and royalties, return to the country of the production's origin. Thus, as more original productions move overseas, the U.S. will lose tax revenue associated with those productions. To help prevent this from occurring and to allow investors to recoup their risky investment more quickly, we believe it is important to extend section 181 to theatrical productions.

Finally, it is important to note that, while both film and television production and theatre production are inherently risky capital-intensive businesses, neither industry qualifies for bonus depreciation that covered virtually every other American industry. Section 181 acts similarly to bonus depreciation to allow investors in these uniquely American industries to recoup their investments more rapidly. This can aid the decision to green-light a project or to produce it in the U.S. This will have ripple effects across the economy by generating revenue and jobs for a range of local businesses, such as caterers, hotels, equipment rentals, etc.

This legislation works to protect these important industries and stem the flood of production to non-U.S. locations. Section 181, which expired at the end of 2013, should be extended and expanded as soon as possible in order to encourage domestic investment and keep television, film and theatrical production jobs in the United States.

IN HONOR OF PAUL TOWNS OF ELGIN, SOUTH CAROLINA

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on April 26, 2014, I was honored to attend the Sparkleberry County Fair in Northeast Columbia, South Carolina led by Chairman John Monroe. At this year's Fair, I was present as the Fair Committee recognized Paul Towns for his dedication to the community. Mr. Towns, a veteran of 20 years' service in the United States Army and native of Elgin, South Carolina, was additionally honored for his compassion and generosity to others, his integral role in planning for the Sparkleberry County Fair, and for raising cancer awareness.

A survivor of a 10-year battle with cancer, Paul successfully organized the inaugural Sparkleberry Fair Cancer Awareness 5K on April 19, 2014. This run/walk helped raise funds for the South Carolina Oncology Association's efforts to provide assistance to patients throughout their cancer treatment.

In addition to promoting cancer awareness through the Sparkleberry County Fair, Mr. Towns, his wife Sarah, and their two children put on a Christmas light display with 100 percent of the proceeds raised going directly to benefit Camp Kemo, a summer camp for kids that have been diagnosed with cancer. Guests enjoy an old fashioned light display, hay rides, a freedom tree, his collection of antique tractors, miniature trains, and memorabilia all beautifully decorated with lights while supporting a great cause.

Mr. Towns' passion for promoting cancer awareness, while maintaining a positive attitude, dignity, optimism, and humor in everything he does makes him an integral part of the community.

RECOGNIZING DR. JOSEPH A. ALLUTO

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Joseph A. Alluto for his service as the interim president of The Ohio State University.

Dr. Alluto has served as Ohio State's interim president since July 1, 2013. Prior to this position, Dr. Alluto served as Ohio State's chief executive officer, executive vice president, provost, dean of the Max M. Fisher College of Business, and John W. Berry, Sr. Chair in Business. He also served as the executive dean for the professional colleges at Ohio State where he coordinated the activities of the Colleges of Engineering; Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences; Education and Human Ecology; Law, and Social Work and represented the interests of those colleges in university-wide decision-making bodies.

Prior to his time at Ohio State, Dr. Alluto was the Clarence S. Marsh Professor of Management at the State University of New York at Buffalo, focusing his research on Sino-U.S. joint ventures and the relationships between improvement processes and corporate performance. He also served as dean of the SUNY-Buffalo School of Management for 14 years and as the first international dean for the Dalian University School of Business.

Dr. Alluto is a leading authority on managerial behavior, having coauthored a book on research methods in organizational research and has more than 65 articles in academic journals. He has also been a visible and active advocate for advanced management education and research in China. He pioneered the first Sino-U.S. jointly funded MBA program offered in the People's Republic of China in 1984 and was appointed as advisor to the First Session of Council for the Dalian Behavioral Sciences Association.

Throughout his career, Dr. Alluto has been unwavering in his dedication to education and stayed true to his mission of achieving true eminence at Ohio State. I would like to thank him for his service and wish him well as he returns to the faculty of the Fisher College of Business at The Ohio State University.

CONGRATULATING DELTA AIRLINES ON ITS 85TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Delta Airlines on the 85th anniversary of its founding on June 17, 1929.

Delta is one of our Nation's oldest and largest commercial passenger airlines. From Delta's founder, C.E. Woolman, to its current CEO, Richard Anderson, and with thousands of loyal employees over the years, they have built one of the world's finest airlines. In a difficult and sometimes turbulent industry, Delta has survived many challenges over the past decades.

Originally established as a crop dusting operation, it was later founded in Monroe, Louisiana and has grown to a world-class passenger airline that now boasts more than 80,000 employees and serves nearly 165 million passengers annually. Traveling to more than 300 destinations worldwide and with recent mergers and acquisitions, Delta now holds a position as one of the largest domestic U.S. airlines. Over the years, as one of the first U.S. airlines to carry passengers, Delta's innovation and leadership has led to industry firsts like domestic inflight Wi-Fi and TV broadcasts.

Delta is headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia and serves hundreds of U.S. cities and flies to 59 countries in six continents. In Florida, Delta serves many of our communities and provides employment for thousands of workers. Across the country, several of my family members and friends have retired and some continue to work for Delta. Travelling frequently over the years, I have met hundreds of wonderful people who work very hard to keep Delta customers flying and their company successful in business.

As the former Chairman of the Aviation Subcommittee and the House Transportation Committee, it has been my honor to work with many officials and employees and it is my pleasure to congratulate each of them and the Delta Airlines Family on this occasion. I know my colleagues join me in saluting a great American business and all the fine people at Delta Airlines on this significant milestone.

A TRIBUTE TO TONY GWYNN: A MAN OF UNRIVALED SKILL AND EXEMPLARY CHARACTER

HON. SCOTT H. PETERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. PETERS of California. Mr. Speaker, I, along with my fellow members of the San Diego Delegation including Representative DAVIS, Representative ISSA, Representative HUNTER, and Representative VARGAS, rise today to pay tribute to the life of Mr. Tony Gwynn, a celebrated batting champion in the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame and beloved San Diego Padre. For over 30 years, Tony's enthusiasm for baseball and life itself was a source of goodwill for our national pastime and for all San Diegans. He will be sorely missed by the many people he inspired to play the game and by the many lives he touched on and off the baseball diamond.

Tony Gwynn was a baseball legend. The 15-time All-Star led the Padres to two World Series appearances. In his career, he accumulated 3,141 hits over 20 seasons, earning a career batting average of .338 that is 18th best all-time. He also received a record-tying eight National League batting titles in addition to winning five Gold Glove Awards in recognition of his defensive skills. Gwynn was elected to the Hall of Fame in 2007, his first year of eligibility.

Gwynn's dedication to the sport was only matched by his love for San Diego, earning him the nickname, ''Mr. Padre.'' While Gwynn had the option to play elsewhere, he loyally spent his entire career in San Diego. Following his time as a player in the major leagues, he remained in San Diego to dedicate the remainder of his life to coaching at his alma mater, San Diego State University.

Mr. Speaker, it is with the utmost respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in paying tribute to the life of Tony Gwynn, an outstanding athlete and exemplary citizen, friend, and family man. His love of the game, tireless dedication, genial attitude, and uplifting presence will be missed.

MARKING THE RETIREMENT OF CHUCK LOVELESS

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the distinguished career of a steadfast champion for working men and women, Chuck Loveless. For decades, Chuck has stood as a guardian for working families in America—a tireless leader who has been at the center of some of the most important policy debates and struggles in the last 20 years. He leaves the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees with an enduring legacy of leadership and action, and a long record of battles fought and won for the middle class, the backbone of our democracy.

A native of Pennsylvania, Chuck earned a Master's Degree in political science from the University of California, Berkeley, and a law degree from Georgetown University Law Center. A man of faith and principle, he has poured his heart and soul into a career of advocating for working people.

As Director of Federal Government Affairs for AFSCME, Chuck has always been a steadfast partner in our efforts to build a stronger, fairer, and more prosperous America for all people.

He and AFSCME led the fight against President Bush's proposal to privatize Social Security. He was on the front lines in the budget wars to protect Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security from Republican cuts. And he was an invaluable force in passing the historic Affordable Care Act that is providing newfound health security, and the personal and economic freedom that comes with it to millions of hard-working Americans.

Most recently, Chuck has devoted himself to the nationwide effort to raise the minimum wage, and renew emergency unemployment insurance for the millions of Americans who worked hard, played by the rules, and lost their jobs through no fault of their own.

Yet perhaps most impressive is the personal commitment he has maintained throughout his positions of leadership—from his active involvement in his church to caring for those with AIDS as a volunteer at the Whitman-Walker Clinic.

As he enters the next chapter of his life, I join with many others in thanking him for the many years of energy and determination he has given AFSCME and our nation. We know that his achievements will make a difference in the lives of Americans for generations to come. Congratulations on your long and illustrious tenure at AFSCME, and good luck in all your future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO EXTEND SECTION 181 OF THE TAX CODE

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation with my friend from New York, Congressman CROWLEY, to extend section 181 of the tax code to continue to allow for the immediate tax write-off of the first $15 million (or $20 million where the production is made in a distressed community) of production expenditures for qualifying domestic film and television productions. In addition, our bill would extend section 181 treatment to live theatrical productions. We are joined on this bill today by our colleagues Mr. BOUSTANY (LA), Mr. NEAL (MA), Mr. NUNES (CA), and Ms. SANCHEZ (CA).

Section 181 was first enacted in the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 and has been extended several times since. It was added to protect the U.S. television and film industry and to counteract the increasingly aggressive incentives offered by many foreign governments to attract production overseas. The Directors Guild of America noted, at the time that section 181 was passed, ''globalization, rising costs, foreign wage, tax and financing incentives, and technological advances, combined are causing a substantial transformation of what used to be a quintessentially American industry into an increasingly dispersed global industry.''

Thus, in enacting section 181, Congress recognized the important and unique contribution our television and film production industries make to providing high-paying jobs and economic benefits in communities across the country. These productions provide good jobs not just for actors, writers and directors, but also for the local carpenters and electricians, the drivers and equipment operators, the caterers and hotel-keepers who provide services to these productions. It is estimated that a major motion picture shooting on location contributes $225,000 every day to the local economy. For example, in 2011, the major studios alone paid over $530 million to nearly 4,000 vendors in Georgia.

Section 181 of the Internal Revenue Code allows production companies to deduct the cost of qualified U.S. productions immediately

rather than capitalizing the costs and deducting them slowly over time. The incentive accelerates the timing of the deduction but it does not change the amount of the deduction. In order to qualify, a film must be domestically-produced, that is, at least 75 percent of the total compensation paid for the production must be for services performed in the U.S. by actors, directors, producers and other production staff personnel. The deduction applies to the first $15 million ($20 million for productions in low income communities or distressed area or isolated area of distress) of a qualified film or television production. The cost of the production above the dollar limitation is capitalized and recovered under the taxpayer's normal method of accounting.

I believe that section 181 remains an appropriately targeted provision, designed to encourage television and film producers to stay here in the United States and keep those jobs in our communities. For example, incentivized productions contributed over $800 million annually to Georgia's economic output from 2007 to 2010. In 2012 alone, the entertainment industry spent more than $870 million in Georgia, including new investments in infrastructure as several studios and other industry-related businesses have expanded or relocated in Georgia. This bill will help to ensure that those jobs stay here in the U.S.

The bill I am introducing today also includes a new feature to extend section 181 benefits to live theatrical productions. As with films, theater not only provides cultural benefits but also provides economic benefits to local communities in the U.S. For example, according to the Broadway league, Broadway contributed $11 billion in 2012–13 to New York City's economy on top of ticket sales and supports 86,000 jobs. And the benefits are not limited to New York. Traveling Broadway shows contributed almost $3.4 billion to the U.S. economy, which helps sustain regional and local theatres allowing them to offer their cultural events. Live theatre audiences make numerous ancillary purchases, including restaurants, hotels, parking, taxis and souvenirs.

Unfortunately, as with film, other countries are becoming more aggressive in attracting theatrical production overseas. This is important because future income associated with a production, such as licensing fees and royalties, return to the country of the production's origin. Thus, as more original productions move overseas, the U.S. will lose tax revenue associated with those productions. To help prevent this from occurring and to allow investors to recoup their risky investment more quickly, we believe it is important to extend section 181 to theatrical productions.

Finally, it is important to note that, while both film and television production and theatre production are inherently risky capital-intensive businesses, neither industry qualifies for bonus depreciation that covered virtually every other American industry. Section 181 acts similarly to bonus depreciation to allow investors in these uniquely American industries to recoup their investments more rapidly. This can aid the decision to green-light a project or to produce it in the U.S. This will have ripple effects across the economy by generating revenue and jobs for a range of local businesses, such as caterers, hotels, equipment rentals, etc.

This legislation works to protect these important industries and stem the flood of production to non-U.S. locations. Section 181, which expired at the end of 2013, should be extended and expanded as soon as possible in order to encourage domestic investment and keep television, film and theatrical production jobs in the United States.

CORRECTION

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3691–S3772

Measures Introduced: Eleven bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 2475–2485, and S. Res. 477. **Page S3719**

Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled "Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 2015". (S. Rept. No. 113–193)

Report to accompany S. 1603, to reaffirm that certain land has been taken into trust for the benefit of the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatami Indians. (S. Rept. No. 113–194) **Page S3719**

Measures Passed:

American Eagle Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 477, designating June 20, 2014, as "American Eagle Day", and celebrating the recovery and restoration of the bald eagle, the national symbol of the United States. **Pages S3771–72**

Measures Considered:

Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 4660, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015. **Pages S3691, S3712–15**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 95 yeas to 3 nays (Vote No. 200), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S3712**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, post-cloture, at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, June 18, 2014; and that all time during adjournment count post-cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S3772**

House Messages:

Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Amendments Act: Senate concurred in the amendment of the House of Representatives to S. 1254, to amend the Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998. **Page S3771**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a notification of the designation of Meredith M. Broadbent as Chair and Dean A. Pinkert as Vice Chair of the United States International Trade Commission, effective June 17, 2014; which was referred to the Committee on Finance. (PM–44) **Page S3718**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 92 yeas to 4 nays (Vote No. EX. 195), Salvador Mendoza, Jr., of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Washington. **Pages S3696, S3772**

By 52 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. EX. 196), Staci Michelle Yandle, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Illinois. **Pages S3696–97, S3772**

By a unanimous vote of 98 yeas (Vote No. EX. 197), Darrin P. Gayles, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida. **Pages S3696–97, S3772**

By 55 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. EX. 199), Peter Joseph Kadzik, of New York, to be an Assistant Attorney General. **Pages S3697–S3712, S3772**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 54 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. 198), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S3697**

Nomination Received: Senate received the following nomination:

1 Army nomination in the rank of general. **Page S3772**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Pages S3691, S3719**

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S3719–20

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S3720–24

Additional Statements: Pages S3715–18

Amendments Submitted: Pages S3724–71

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: Page S3719

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S3771

Record Votes: Six record votes were taken today. (Total—200) Pages S3696–97, S3712

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:55 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 18, 2014. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S3772.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BIO BASED MANUFACTURING JOBS

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine creating jobs through bio based manufacturing, after receiving testimony from Scott Vitters, The Coca-Cola Company, Atlanta, Georgia; Ashford Galbreath, Lear Corporation, Southfield, Michigan; Kurtis Miller, Cargill, Incorporated, Hopkins, Minnesota; Adam Monroe, Novozymes, Franklinton, North Carolina; and JD Hankins, Hankins Incorporated, Ripley, Mississippi.

APPROPRIATIONS: ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development approved for full Committee consideration an original bill making appropriations for Energy and Water Development for fiscal year 2015.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED AGENCIES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs approved for full Committee consideration an original bill making appropriations for the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Agencies for fiscal year 2015.

THREATS FACING THE NAVY

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on SeaPower received a closed briefing on the major threats facing Navy forces and the current and projected capabilities of the Navy to meet those threats from Vice Admiral Joseph P. Aucoin, USN, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, Warfare Systems (N9), and Arthur H. Barber III, Deputy Director, Assessment Division (N81B), both of the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, and Joseph E. Enright, USN, Director of Integration and Hard Target Strategies, OPNAV N2/N61, Office of Naval Intelligence, all of the Department of Defense.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Julian Castro, of Texas, to be Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, who was introduced by Senator Cornyn, and Laura S. Wertheimer, of the District of Columbia, to be Inspector General of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

PROTECTING CONSUMERS FROM DECEPTIVE ADVERTISING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, and Insurance concluded a hearing to examine protecting consumers from false and deceptive advertising of weight-loss products, after receiving testimony from Mary Koelbel Engle, Associate Director, Division of Advertising Practices, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission; Mehmet Oz, Columbia University New York Presbyterian Hospital, Cliffside Park, New Jersey; C. Lee Peeler, Council of Better Business Bureaus Advertising Self-Regulatory Council, New York, New York; and Steve Mister, Council for Responsible Nutrition, Robert H. Haralson IV, TrustInAds.org, and Daniel Fabricant, Natural Products Association, all of Washington, DC.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Jonathan Nicholas Stivers, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and Mark William Lippert, of Ohio, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Korea, who was introduced by Senator Leahy, Theodore G. Osius III, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and Joan A. Polaschik, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, all of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

U.S. STOCK MARKETS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

concluded a hearing to examine conflicts of interest, investor loss of confidence, and high speed trading in the United States stock markets, after receiving testimony from Robert Battalio, University of Notre Dame Mendoza College of Business, Notre Dame, Indiana; Bradley Katsuyama, IEX Group, Inc., and Thomas W. Farley, New York Stock Exchange, both of New York, New York; Joe Ratterman, BATS Global Markets, Inc., Lenexa, Kansas; Joseph Brennan, The Vanguard Group, Inc., Malvern, Pennsylvania; and Steven Quirk, TD Ameritrade, Omaha, Nebraska.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 13 public bills, H.R. 4871–4883; 1 private bill, H.R. 4884; and 1 resolution, H. Res. 627 were introduced. **Pages H5397–98**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H5399–H5400**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

Report on the Revised Suballocation of Budget Allocations for Fiscal Year 2015 (H. Rept. 113–474) and

H. Res. 628, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4870) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 3230) making continuing appropriations during a Government shutdown to provide pay and allowances to members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces who perform inactive-duty training during such period (H Rept. 113–475). **Page H5397**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Foxx to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H5369**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:17 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H5371**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Officer Tommy Decker Memorial Post Office Designation Act: H.R. 43, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14 Red River Avenue North in Cold Spring, Minnesota, as the "Officer Tommy Decker Memorial Post Office"; **Pages H5372–73**

Lance Corporal Joshua B. McDaniels and Veterans Memorial Post Office Building Designation Act: H.R. 1391, amended, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 South Oak Street in London, Ohio, as the "Lance Corporal Joshua B. McDaniels and Veterans Memorial Post Office Building"; **Pages H5373–74**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 South Oak Street in London, Ohio, as the "London Fallen Veterans Memorial Post Office'.". **Page H5374**

James R. Burgess Jr. Post Office Building Designation Act: H.R. 1707, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 302 East Green Street in Champaign, Illinois, as the "James R. Burgess Jr. Post Office Building"; **Pages H5374–75**

Sergeant Brett E. Gornewicz Memorial Post Office Designation Act: H.R. 3472, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13127 Broadway Street in Alden, New York, as the "Sergeant Brett E. Gornewicz Memorial Post Office"; **Pages H5375–76**

Thaddeus Stevens Post Office Designation Act: H.R. 1865, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 35 Park Street in Danville, Vermont, as the "Thaddeus Stevens Post Office"; **Page H5376**

National Clandestine Service of the Central Intelligence Agency NCS Officer Gregg David Wenzel Memorial Post Office Designation Act: H.R. 2112, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 787 State Route 17M in Monroe, New York, as the "National Clandestine Service of the Central Intelligence Agency NCS Officer Gregg David Wenzel Memorial Post Office"; **Pages H5376–77**

James "Jim" Kohnen Post Office Designation Act: H.R. 1671, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6937 Village Parkway in Dublin, California, as the "James 'Jim' Kohnen Post Office", by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 398 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 314; **Pages H5377–78, H5390**

Staff Sergeant Joseph D'Augustine Post Office Building Designation Act: H.R. 1458, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1 Walter Hammond Place in Waldwick,

New Jersey, as the "Staff Sergeant Joseph D'Augustine Post Office Building"; **Pages H5378–79**

Directing the Administrator of General Services, on behalf of the Archivist of the United States, to convey certain Federal property located in the State of Alaska to the Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska: H.R. 3786, amended, to direct the Administrator of General Services, on behalf of the Archivist of the United States, to convey certain Federal property located in the State of Alaska to the Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska; **Pages H5379–80**

Albuquerque, New Mexico, Federal Land Conveyance Act of 2014: H.R. 3998, amended, to authorize the Administrator of General Services to convey a parcel of real property in Albuquerque, New Mexico, to the Amy Biehl High School Foundation; **Pages H5380–81**

PFC Floyd K. Lindstrom Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic Designation Act: H.R. 3375, to designate the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs to be constructed at 3141 Centennial Boulevard, Colorado Springs, Colorado, as the "PFC Floyd K. Lindstrom Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic", by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 396 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 313; **Pages H5381–83, H5389–90**

Doris Miller Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center Designation Act: H.R. 4199, to name the Department of Veterans Affairs medical center in Waco, Texas, as the "Doris Miller Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center"; **Pages H5383–84**

Jason Crisp Forest Service Building Designation Act: H.R. 4360, to designate the facility of the United States Forest Service for the Grandfather Ranger District located at 109 Lawing Drive in Nebo, North Carolina, as the "Jason Crisp Forest Service Building"; **Pages H5384–85**

Dr. Cameron McKinley Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Center Designation Act: H.R. 1216, to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs Vet Center in Prescott, Arizona, as the "Dr. Cameron McKinley Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Center"; **Pages H5385–87**

Lyle C. Pearson Community Based Outpatient Clinic Designation Act: H.R. 3682, to designate the community based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs located at 1961 Premier Drive in Mankato, Minnesota, as the "Lyle C. Pearson Community Based Outpatient Clinic"; **Pages H5387–88**

Authorizing the use of the rotunda of the United States Capitol in commemoration of the Shimon Peres Congressional Gold Medal ceremony: S. Con. Res. 37, to authorize the use of the rotunda of the United States Capitol in commemoration of the Shimon Peres Congressional Gold Medal ceremony; and **Pages H5388–89**

Specialist Ryan P. Jayne Post Office Building Designation Act: H.R. 3765, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 198 Baker Street in Corning, New York, as the "Specialist Ryan P. Jayne Post Office Building". **Pages H5391–92**

Recess: The House recessed at 3:31 p.m. and reconvened at 3:41 p.m. **Page H5381**

Recess: The House recessed at 4:34 p.m. and reconvened at 4:48 p.m. **Page H5388**

Recess: The House recessed at 4:56 p.m. and reconvened at 6:31 p.m. **Page H5389**

Privileged Resolution: The House agreed to H. Res. 627, directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to request the Senate to return to the House the bill (H.R. 4412) entitled "An Act to authorize the programs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and for other purposes.". **Pages H5390–91**

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that he has designated Meredith M. Broadbent as Chair and Dean A. Pinkert as Vice Chair of the United States International Trade Commission, effective June 17, 2014—referred to the Committee on Ways and Means. **Page H5379**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H5389–90 and H5390. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 noon and adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State and Foreign Operations and Related Programs held a markup on State and Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations Bill FY 2015. The bill was ordered reported, without amendment to the Full Committee.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT 2015; AND SENATE AMENDMENTS TO VETERANS ACCESS TO CARE THROUGH CHOICE, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2014

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 4870, the "Department of Defense Appropriations Act 2015; and Senate amendments to H.R. 3220, the "Veterans Access to Care through Choice, Accountability, and Transparency Act of 2014". The Committee granted by record vote of 9–3 a modified-open rule for H.R. 4870. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The rule

waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule waives points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 of rule XXI. The rule provides that after general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. During consideration of the bill for amendment: (1) amendments shall be debatable for 10 minutes equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent and shall not be subject to amendment; and (2) no pro forma amendment shall be in order except that the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees may offer up to 10 pro forma amendments each at any point for the purpose of debate. The rule provides that under the Rules of the House the bill shall be read for amendment by paragraph. The rule authorizes the Chair to accord priority in recognition to Members who have pre-printed their amendments in the Congressional Record. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. In section 2, the rule provides for the consideration of the Senate amendments to H.R. 3230. The rule makes in order a single motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs or his designee that the House concur in the Senate title amendment and concur in the Senate amendment to the text with the amendment printed in the Rules Committee report. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the motion; provides that the motion is not subject to a demand for division of the question; and provides that the motion is not subject to a question of consideration. The rule provides that the Senate amendments and the motion shall be considered as read. The rule provides one hour of debate on the motion equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. The rule provides that if the motion is adopted, the chair of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs or his designee is then authorized to move that the House insist on its amendment to the Senate amendment to the text and request a conference with the Senate thereon. Testimony was heard from Chairman Miller (FL); and Representatives Frelinghuysen and Visclosky.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2014

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Defense, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2015 for the Department of Defense, 10 a.m., SD–192.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Securities, Insurance, and Investment, to hold hearings to examine high frequency trading's impact on the economy, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine e-cigarette marketing and potential consequences for youth, 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: business meeting to consider S. 1771, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to adjust the Crooked River boundary, to provide water certainty for the City of Prineville, Oregon, S. 1800, to require the Secretary of the Interior to submit to Congress a report on the efforts of the Bureau of Reclamation to manage its infrastructure assets, S. 1946, to amend the Reclamation Safety of Dams Act of 1978 to modify the authorization of appropriations, S. 1965, to amend the East Bench Irrigation District Water Contract Extension Act to permit the Secretary of the Interior to extend the contract for certain water services, S. 2010, to amend the Water Conservation and Utilization Act to authorize the development of non-Federal hydropower and issuance of leases of power privileges at projects constructed pursuant to the authority of the Water Conservation and Utilization Act, S. 2019, to reauthorize and update certain provisions of the Secure Water Act, H.R. 1963, to amend the Water Conservation and Utilization Act to authorize the development of non-Federal hydropower and issuance of leases of power privileges at projects constructed pursuant to the authority of the Water Conservation and Utilization Act, an original bill entitled, ''To approve the Keystone XL Pipeline'', and the nominations of Suzette M. Kimball, of West Virginia, to be Director of the United States Geological Survey, and Estevan R. Lopez, of New Mexico, to be Commissioner of Reclamation, both of the Department of the Interior, Monica C. Regalbuto, of Illinois, to be Assistant Secretary of Energy for Environmental Management, and Norman C. Bay, of New Mexico, and Cheryl A. LaFleur, of Massachusetts, both to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 10:30 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety, to hold hearings to examine climate change, focusing on the need to act now, 10 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Finance: business meeting to consider the nominations of Henry J. Aaron, of the District of Columbia, Lanhee J. Chen, of California, and Alan L. Cohen, of Virginia, all to be a Member of the Social Security Advisory Board, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine United States policy in Afghanistan and the regional implications of the 2014 transition, 2:15 p.m., SD–419.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the intelligence community, focusing on keeping watch over its contractor workforce; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC–217 following the open session, 10 a.m., SD–342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold hearings to examine S. 1948, to promote the academic achievement of American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian children with the establishment of a Native American language

grant program, and S. 2299, to amend the Native American Programs Act of 1974 to reauthorize a provision to ensure the survival and continuing vitality of Native American languages, 2:30 p.m., SD–628.

Committee on Judiciary: Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Human Rights, business meeting to consider S.J. Res. 19, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections, 2:30 p.m., SD–226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: to hold hearings to examine growing small business exports, growing United States Jobs, 3 p.m., SR–428A.

Special Committee on Aging: to hold hearings to examine the reduction in face-to-face services at the Social Security Administration, 2:15 p.m., SD–562.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, markup on Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Bill FY 2015, 9:15 a.m., 2358–B Rayburn.

Full Committee, markup on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations FY 2015, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled ''The GM Ignition Switch Recall: Investigation Update'', 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''The Semi-Annual Report of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau'', 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled ''Allegations of Discrimination and Retaliation within the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, Part Three'', 2 p.m. 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, markup on H.R. 4653, to reauthorize the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, and for other purposes; H. Res. 503, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the need to bring the South Sudan conflict to a sustainable and lasting end and to promote reconciliation of longstanding and recent grievances to allow for a peaceful society with good governance; and H. Res. 588, concerning the suspension of exit permit issuance by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo for adopted Congolese children seeking to depart the country with their adoptive parents, 1:30 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade; and the Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa, joint subcommittee hearing entitled ''The Bergdahl Exchange: Implications for U.S. National Security and the Fight Against Terrorism'', 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, hearing entitled ''Human Rights Abuses and Crimes Against Humanity in North Korea'', 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''The Critical Role of First Responders: Sharing Lessons Learned from Past Attacks'', 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 3086, the ''Permanent Internet Tax Freedom Act''; and H. R. 4874, the ''Searching for and Cutting Regulations that are Unnecessarily Burdensome Act of 2014'', 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, oversight hearing entitled ''American Energy Jobs: Opportunities for States and Localities'', 2 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Job Creation and Regulatory Affairs, hearing entitled ''Poised to Profit: How ObamaCare Helps Insurance Companies Even If It Fails Patients'', 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 4413, the ''Customer Protection and End User Relief Act'', 3 p.m., H–313, Capitol.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Subcommittee on Research and Technology, hearing entitled ''The Future of Surface Transportation'', 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing entitled ''Maintaining Coast Guard Readiness'', 9:30 a.m., 2253 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Aviation, hearing entitled ''Airport Financing and Development'', 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Non-VA Care: An Integrated Solution for Veteran Access'', 10:15 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on Medicare Payment Advisory Commission's (MedPAC) June Report to Congress, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: to hold hearings to examine empowerment in the workplace, 2 p.m., SH–216.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Wednesday, June 18

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 4660, Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, post-cloture.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, June 18

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Begin consideration of H.R. 4870—Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2015 (Subject to a Rule). Consideration of a motion to concur in the Senate amendments with a further amendment and a motion to go to conference on Senate amendments to H.R. 3230—Pay Our Guard and Reserve Act and a motion to instruct conferees.

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