

their sons die in Vietnam without there being a winning strategy, McCarthy challenged Lyndon Johnson for the Presidential nomination in 1968.

In a party that struggled to justify its failed foreign policies, McCarthy garnered a substantial percentage of the New Hampshire primary, causing a severe blow to then-President Johnson's prospects as well as opening a door for Robert Kennedy, a young Senator from New York, to challenge the sitting President. Johnson ended his campaign within the same month.

Although Nixon won the election, McCarthy had done the groundwork to inject public opinion into the national election process. Eugene McCarthy revived the idea that those who were truly committed to self-government could participate and impact the process to correct injustice and improve citizens' lives in Minnesota and around the country.

McCarthy served as a Representative and Senator from our great State from 1949 to 1971. When McCarthy left the Senate, he returned to his life as a reluctant Minnesota leader, prolific poet, and educator. He authored over 20 books on public policy, political theory, and economics, including memories from growing up in Minnesota.

McCarthy continued to strongly influence Minnesota's politics; yet, he never clung to a party line. McCarthy was publicly critical of Jimmy Carter, and he supported Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative.

Eugene McCarthy's father, a postmaster himself and a proud Republican, once said: Gene is a good boy, but he's in the wrong party.

In Minnesota, we pride ourselves on being able to disagree without necessarily being disagreeable. We pride ourselves on working together from different perspectives, politically and otherwise, toward common goals. Personally, I don't like the term "bipartisan," but not for the reason you may think.

You see, I think the instant we refer to something as "bipartisan" we immediately make an issue about our different points of view instead of about the fact that we all want, essentially, the same things.

For instance, we all want clean air, clean water, good schools, good jobs, safe communities, and a better life for our children than we have enjoyed. The list goes on and on.

Again, for the most part, we all want the same things. Sometimes we just have different perspectives on how to best achieve the things we all want.

Senator McCarthy was not afraid to do the right thing for the right reason even if that meant working with someone who did not have the same political affiliation or religious views.

In my book, that is not just called independence. That is called leadership. Naming a post office after Eugene McCarthy is a worthy dedication for a man who shook the foundation of the political establishment at a national level.

I thank Chairman CHAFFETZ and the committee for their work to officially honor this great Minnesotan, Eugene McCarthy.

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

Today we have named post offices after some great individuals—public servants, members of our military, politicians, community leaders—and we have done it in the name of respecting their legacies and in honoring them so that their families are honored as well.

I just want to go through the names again: Ross McGinnis, Adam Brown, Roger Fussell, Gregory Barney, Garrett Gamble, Caleb Nelson, William Lacey, Louis Van Iersel, Louis Langlais, and Eugene McCarthy.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of H.R. 4425 and say, as it has been said earlier, that post offices are gathering places in our communities. I gave 30 years of service to the United States Postal Service at various levels of service.

I know that the Postal Service is a place at which people trust their mail will be handled, for the commerce of our country rests in those post offices, and in small rural communities, it is the community center.

Today we have done a great thing, and we have done it bipartisanly. I hear that word, and I sigh a breath of relief in knowing that this body—the Members of Congress—can come together. We have come together to recognize people not because of their parties, but because they are Americans and they have served this great country.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished Congresswoman LAWRENCE for her service, for her time, and for her work this evening.

I urge adoption of the bill.

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. WALKER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4425.

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.

FEDERAL ASSETS SALE AND TRANSFER ACT OF 2016

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4465) to decrease the deficit by consolidating and selling Federal buildings and other civilian real property, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4465

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 "Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Purposes.
- Sec. 3. Definitions.
- Sec. 4. Board.
- Sec. 5. Board meetings.
- Sec. 6. Compensation and travel expenses.
- Sec. 7. Executive Director.
- Sec. 8. Staff.
- Sec. 9. Contracting authority.
- Sec. 10. Termination.
- Sec. 11. Development of recommendations to Board.
- Sec. 12. Board duties.
- Sec. 13. Review by OMB.
- Sec. 14. Implementation of Board recommendations.
- Sec. 15. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 16. Funding.
- Sec. 17. Congressional approval of proposed projects.
- Sec. 18. Preclusion of judicial review.
- Sec. 19. Implementation review by GAO.
- Sec. 20. Agency retention of proceeds.
- Sec. 21. Federal real property database.
- Sec. 22. Streamlining McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.
- Sec. 23. Additional property.
- Sec. 24. Sale of 12th and Independence.
- Sec. 25. Sale of Cotton Annex.

SEC. 2. PURPOSES.

The purpose of this Act is to reduce the costs of Federal real estate by—

- (1) consolidating the footprint of Federal buildings and facilities;
- (2) maximizing the utilization rate of Federal buildings and facilities;
- (3) reducing the reliance on leased space;
- (4) selling or redeveloping high value assets that are underutilized to obtain the highest and best value for the taxpayer and maximize the return to the taxpayer;
- (5) reducing the operating and maintenance costs of Federal civilian real properties;
- (6) reducing redundancy, overlap, and costs associated with field offices;
- (7) creating incentives for Federal agencies to achieve greater efficiency in their inventories of civilian real property;
- (8) facilitating and expediting the sale or disposal of unneeded Federal civilian real properties;
- (9) improving the efficiency of real property transfers for the provision of services to the homeless; and
- (10) assisting Federal agencies in achieving the Government's sustainability goals by reducing excess space, inventory, and energy consumption, as well as by leveraging new technologies.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act, unless otherwise expressly stated, the following definitions apply:

- (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term "Administrator" means the Administrator of General Services.
- (2) BOARD.—The term "Board" means the Public Buildings Reform Board established by section 4.
- (3) CERCLA.—The term "CERCLA" means the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.).
- (4) FEDERAL AGENCY.—The term "Federal agency" means an executive department or independent establishment in the executive branch of the Government, and a wholly owned Government corporation.

(5) FEDERAL CIVILIAN REAL PROPERTY AND CIVILIAN REAL PROPERTY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The terms “Federal civilian real property” and “civilian real property” refer to Federal real property assets, including public buildings as defined in section 3301(a) of title 40, United States Code, occupied and improved grounds, leased space, or other physical structures under the custody and control of any Federal agency.

(B) EXCLUSIONS.—Subparagraph (A) shall not be construed as including any of the following types of property:

(i) Properties that are on military installations (including any fort, camp, post, naval training station, airfield proving ground, military supply depot, military school, or any similar facility of the Department of Defense).

(ii) A base, camp, post, station, yard, center, or homeport facility for any ship or activity under the jurisdiction of the Coast Guard.

(iii) Properties that are excluded for reasons of national security by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

(iv) Properties that are excepted from the definition of the term “property” under section 102 of title 40, United States Code.

(v) Indian and Native Alaskan properties, including—

(I) any property within the limits of an Indian reservation to which the United States owns title for the benefit of an Indian tribe; and

(II) any property title that is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of an Indian tribe or individual or held by an Indian tribe or individual subject to restriction by the United States against alienation.

(vi) Properties operated and maintained by the Tennessee Valley Authority pursuant to the Tennessee Valley Authority Act of 1933 (16 U.S.C. 831 et seq.).

(vii) Postal properties owned by the United States Postal Service.

(viii) Properties used in connection with Federal programs for agricultural, recreational, or conservation purposes, including research in connection with the programs.

(ix) Properties used in connection with river, harbor, flood control, reclamation, or power projects.

(x) Properties located outside the United States operated or maintained by the Department of State or the United States Agency for International Development.

(6) FIELD OFFICE.—The term “field office” means any Federal office that is not the headquarters office location for the Federal agency.

(7) HUD.—The term “HUD” means the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

(8) OMB.—The term “OMB” means the Office of Management and Budget.

(9) VALUE OF TRANSACTIONS.—The term “value of transactions” means the sum of the estimated proceeds and estimated costs, based on the accounting system developed or identified under section 12(e), associated with the transactions included in Board recommendations.

SEC. 4. BOARD.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established an independent board to be known as the Public Buildings Reform Board.

(b) DUTIES.—The Board shall carry out the duties as specified in this Act.

(c) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Board shall be composed of a Chairperson appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and 6 members appointed by the President.

(2) APPOINTMENTS.—In selecting individuals for appointments to the Board, the President shall consult with—

(A) the Speaker of the House of Representatives concerning the appointment of 2 members;

(B) the majority leader of the Senate concerning the appointment of 2 members;

(C) the minority leader of the House of Representatives concerning the appointment of 1 member; and

(D) the minority leader of the Senate concerning the appointment of 1 member.

(3) TERMS.—The term for each member of the Board shall be 6 years.

(4) VACANCIES.—Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

(5) QUALIFICATIONS.—In selecting individuals for appointment to the Board, the President shall ensure that the Board contains individuals with expertise representative of the following:

(A) Commercial real estate and redevelopment.

(B) Space optimization and utilization.

(C) Community development, including transportation and planning.

SEC. 5. BOARD MEETINGS.

(a) OPEN MEETINGS.—Each meeting of the Board, other than meetings in which classified information is to be discussed, shall be open to the public. Any open meeting shall be announced in the Federal Register and the Federal Web site established by the Board at least 14 calendar days in advance of a meeting. For all public meetings, the Board shall release an agenda and a listing of materials relevant to the topics to be discussed.

(b) QUORUM AND MEETINGS.—Five Board members shall constitute a quorum for the purposes of conducting business and 3 or more Board members shall constitute a meeting of the Board.

(c) TRANSPARENCY OF INFORMATION.—All the proceedings, information, and deliberations of the Board shall be open, upon request, to the Chairperson and ranking minority party member, and their respective subcommittee Chairperson and subcommittee ranking minority party member, of—

(1) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives;

(2) the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives;

(3) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

(4) the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate; and

(5) the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(d) GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE.—All proceedings, information, and deliberations of the Board shall be open, upon request, to the Comptroller General of the United States.

SEC. 6. COMPENSATION AND TRAVEL EXPENSES.

(a) COMPENSATION.—

(1) RATE OF PAY FOR MEMBERS.—Each member, other than the Chairperson, shall be paid at a rate equal to the daily equivalent of the minimum annual rate of basic pay payable for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, for each day (including travel time) during which the member is engaged in the actual performance of duties vested in the Board.

(2) RATE OF PAY FOR CHAIRPERSON.—The Chairperson shall be paid for each day referred to in paragraph (1) at a rate equal to the daily equivalent of the minimum annual rate of basic pay payable for level III of the

Executive Schedule under section 5314 of title 5, United States Code.

(b) TRAVEL.—Members shall receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with sections 5702 and 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

SEC. 7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.

(a) APPOINTMENT.—The Board shall appoint an Executive Director, who may be appointed without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service.

(b) RATE OF PAY.—The Executive Director shall be paid at the rate of basic pay payable for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code.

SEC. 8. STAFF.

(a) ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL.—Subject to subsection (b), the Executive Director may request additional personnel detailed from Federal agencies.

(b) REQUESTS FOR DETAIL EMPLOYEES.—Upon request of the Executive Director and approval of the Board and the Director of OMB, the head of any Federal agency shall detail the requested personnel of that agency to the Board to assist the Board in carrying out its duties under this Act.

(c) QUALIFICATIONS.—Appointments shall be made with consideration of a balance of expertise consistent with the qualifications of representatives described in section 4(c)(5).

SEC. 9. CONTRACTING AUTHORITY.

(a) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—The Board, to the extent practicable and subject to appropriations Acts, shall use contracts, including nonappropriated contracts, entered into by the Administrator for services necessary to carry out the duties of the Board.

(b) OFFICE SPACE.—The Administrator, in consultation with the Board, shall identify and provide, without charge, suitable office space within the existing Federal space inventory to house the operations of the Board.

(c) PERSONAL PROPERTY.—The Board shall use personal property already in the custody and control of the Administrator.

SEC. 10. TERMINATION.

The Board shall cease operations and terminate 6 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 11. DEVELOPMENT OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO BOARD.

(a) SUBMISSIONS OF AGENCY INFORMATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and not later than 120 days after the first day of each fiscal year thereafter until the termination of the Board, the head of each Federal agency shall submit to the Administrator and the Director of OMB the following:

(1) CURRENT DATA.—Current data of all Federal civilian real properties owned, leased, or controlled by the agency, including all relevant information prescribed by the Administrator and the Director of OMB, including data related to the age and condition of the property, operating costs, history of capital expenditures, sustainability metrics, number of Federal employees and functions housed in the respective property, and square footage (including gross, rentable, and usable).

(2) AGENCY RECOMMENDATIONS.—Recommendations of the agency on the following:

(A) Federal civilian real properties that can be sold for proceeds or otherwise disposed of, reported as excess, declared surplus, outleased, or otherwise no longer meeting the needs of the agency, excluding leasebacks or other such exchange agreements where the property continues to be used by the agency.

(B) Federal civilian real properties that can be transferred, exchanged, consolidated, co-located, reconfigured, or redeveloped, so as to reduce the civilian real property inventory, reduce the operating costs of the Government, and create the highest value and return for the taxpayer.

(C) Operational efficiencies that the Government can realize in its operation and maintenance of Federal civilian real properties.

(b) STANDARDS AND CRITERIA.—

(1) DEVELOPMENT OF STANDARDS AND CRITERIA.—Not later than 60 days after the deadline for submissions of agency recommendations under subsection (a), the Director of OMB, in consultation with the Administrator, shall—

(A) review the agency recommendations;

(B) develop consistent standards and criteria against which the agency recommendations will be reviewed; and

(C) submit to the Board the recommendations developed pursuant to paragraph (2).

(2) RECOMMENDATIONS TO BOARD.—The Director of OMB and the Administrator shall jointly develop recommendations to the Board based on the standards and criteria developed under paragraph (1).

(3) FACTORS.—In developing the standards and criteria under paragraph (1), the Director of OMB, in consultation with the Administrator, shall incorporate the following factors:

(A) The extent to which the civilian real property could be sold (including property that is no longer meeting the needs of the Government), redeveloped, outleased, or otherwise used to produce the highest and best value and return for the taxpayer.

(B) The extent to which the operating and maintenance costs are reduced through consolidating, co-locating, and reconfiguring space, and through realizing other operational efficiencies.

(C) The extent to which the utilization rate is being maximized and is consistent with non-governmental industry standards for the given function or operation.

(D) The extent and timing of potential costs and savings, including the number of years, beginning with the date of completion of the proposed recommendation.

(E) The extent to which reliance on leasing for long-term space needs is reduced.

(F) The extent to which a civilian real property aligns with the current mission of the Federal agency.

(G) The extent to which there are opportunities to consolidate similar operations across multiple agencies or within agencies.

(H) The economic impact on existing communities in the vicinity of the civilian real property.

(I) The extent to which energy consumption is reduced.

(J) The extent to which public access to agency services is maintained or enhanced.

(c) SPECIAL RULE FOR UTILIZATION RATES.—Standards developed by the Director of OMB pursuant to subsection (b) shall incorporate and apply clear standard utilization rates to the extent that such standard rates increase efficiency and provide performance data. The utilization rates shall be consistent throughout each applicable category of space and with nongovernment space utilization rates. To the extent the space utilization rate of a given agency exceeds the utilization rates to be applied under this subsection, the Director of OMB may recommend realignment, co-location, consolidation, or other type of action to improve space utilization.

(d) SUBMISSION TO BOARD.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of OMB shall submit the standards, criteria, and recommendations developed pursuant to subsection (b) to the Board with all supporting

information, data, analyses, and documentation.

(2) PUBLICATION.—The standards, criteria, and recommendations developed pursuant to subsection (b) shall be published in the Federal Register and transmitted to the committees listed in section 5(c) and to the Comptroller General of the United States.

(3) ACCESS TO INFORMATION.—The Board shall also have access to all information pertaining to the recommendations developed pursuant to subsection (b), including supporting information, data, analyses, and documentation submitted pursuant to subsection (a). Upon request, a Federal agency shall provide to the Board any additional information pertaining to the civilian real properties under the custody, control, or administrative jurisdiction of the Federal agency. The Board shall notify the committees listed in section 5(c) of any failure by an agency to comply with a request of the Board.

SEC. 12. BOARD DUTIES.

(a) IDENTIFICATION OF PROPERTY REDUCTION OPPORTUNITIES.—The Board shall identify opportunities for the Government to reduce significantly its inventory of civilian real property and reduce costs to the Government.

(b) IDENTIFICATION OF HIGH VALUE ASSETS.—

(1) IDENTIFICATION OF CERTAIN PROPERTIES.—Not later than 180 days after Board members are appointed pursuant to section 4, the Board shall—

(A) identify not fewer than 5 Federal civilian real properties that are not on the list of surplus or excess as of such date with a total fair market value of not less than \$500,000,000 and not more than \$750,000,000; and

(B) transmit the list of the Federal civilian real properties to the Director of OMB and Congress as Board recommendations and subject to the approval process described in section 13.

(2) INFORMATION AND DATA.—In order to meet the goal established under paragraph (1), each Federal agency shall provide, upon request, any and all information and data regarding its civilian real properties to the Board. The Board shall notify the committees listed in section 5(c) of any failure by an agency to comply with a request of the Board.

(3) FACTORS.—In identifying properties pursuant to paragraph (1), the Board shall consider the factors listed in section 11(b)(3).

(4) LEASEBACK RESTRICTIONS.—None of the existing improvements on properties sold under this subsection may be leased back to the Government.

(5) REPORT OF EXCESS.—Not later than 60 days after the approval of Board recommendations pursuant to paragraph (1), Federal agencies with custody, control, or administrative jurisdiction over the identified properties shall submit a Report of Excess to the General Services Administration.

(6) SALE.—

(A) INITIATION OF SALE.—Not later than 120 days after the acceptance by the Administrator of the Report of Excess and notwithstanding any other provision of law (including section 501 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11411), but except as provided in section 14(g)), the General Services Administration shall initiate the sale of the civilian real properties described in paragraph (1).

(B) COMPLETION OF SALE.—Not later than 1 year after the acceptance of the Report of Excess, the Administrator shall sell the civilian real properties at fair market value at highest and best use, unless the Director of OMB determines it is in the financial interest of the Government to execute a sale more

than a year after the acceptance of the Report of Excess, but not greater than two years after the acceptance of the Report of Excess.

(c) ANALYSIS OF INVENTORY.—The Board shall perform an independent analysis of the inventory of Federal civilian real property and the recommendations submitted pursuant to section 11. The Board shall not be bound or limited by the recommendations submitted pursuant to section 11. If, in the opinion of the Board, an agency fails to provide needed information, data, or adequate recommendations that meet the standards and criteria, the Board shall develop such recommendations as the Board considers appropriate based on existing data contained in the Federal Real Property Profile or other relevant information.

(d) INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS.—

(1) RECEIPT.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Board may receive and consider proposals, information, and other data submitted by State and local officials and the private sector.

(2) CONSULTATION.—The Board shall consult with State and local officials on information, proposals, and other data that the officials submit to the Board.

(3) AVAILABILITY.—Information submitted to the Board shall be made publicly available.

(e) ACCOUNTING SYSTEM.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Board shall identify or develop and implement a system of accounting to be used to independently evaluate the costs of and returns on the recommendations. Such accounting system shall be applied in developing the Board's recommendations and determining the highest return to the taxpayer. In applying the accounting system, the Board shall set a standard performance period of not less than 15 years.

(f) PUBLIC HEARING.—The Board shall conduct public hearings. All testimony before the Board at a public hearing under this subsection shall be presented under oath.

(g) REPORTING OF INFORMATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the schedule and limitations specified in paragraph (2), the Board shall transmit to the Director of OMB, and publicly post on a Federal Web site maintained by the Board, reports containing the Board's findings, conclusions, and recommendations for—

(A) the consolidation, exchange, co-location, reconfiguration, lease reductions, sale, outlease, and redevelopment of Federal civilian real properties; and

(B) other operational efficiencies that can be realized in the Government's operation and maintenance of such properties.

(2) SCHEDULE AND LIMITATIONS.—

(A) FIRST ROUND.—Not later than 2 years after the date of transmittal of the list of properties recommended pursuant to subsection (b), the Board shall transmit to the Director of OMB the first report required under paragraph (1). The total value of transactions contained in the first report may not exceed \$2,500,000,000.

(B) SECOND ROUND.—Not earlier than 3 years after the date of transmittal of the first report, the Board shall transmit to the Director of OMB the second report required under paragraph (1). The total value of transactions contained in the second report may not exceed \$4,750,000,000.

(3) CONSENSUS IN MAJORITY.—The Board shall seek to develop consensus recommendations, but if a consensus cannot be obtained, the Board may include in the reports required under this subsection recommendations that are supported by a majority of the Board.

(h) FEDERAL WEB SITE.—The Board shall establish and maintain a Federal Web site

for the purposes of making relevant information publicly available.

(i) REVIEW BY GAO.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall transmit to Congress and the Board a report containing a detailed analysis of the recommendations and selection process.

SEC. 13. REVIEW BY OMB.

(a) REVIEW OF RECOMMENDATIONS.—Upon receipt of the Board's recommendations pursuant to subsections (b) and (g) of section 12, the Director of OMB shall conduct a review of the recommendations.

(b) REPORT TO BOARD AND CONGRESS.—Not later than 30 days after the receipt of the Board's recommendations, the Director of OMB shall transmit to the Board and Congress a report that sets forth the Director of OMB's approval or disapproval of the Board's recommendations.

(c) APPROVAL AND DISAPPROVAL.—

(1) APPROVAL.—If the Director of OMB approves the Board's recommendations, the Director of OMB shall transmit a copy of the recommendations to Congress, together with a certification of such approval.

(2) DISAPPROVAL.—If the Director of OMB disapproves the Board's recommendations, in whole or in part, the Director of OMB shall transmit a copy of the recommendations to Congress and the reasons for disapproval of the recommendations to the Board and Congress.

(3) REVISED RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than 30 days after the receipt of reasons for disapproval under paragraph (2), the Board shall transmit to the Director of OMB revised recommendations for approval.

(4) APPROVAL OF REVISED RECOMMENDATIONS.—If the Director of OMB approves the revised recommendations received under paragraph (3), the Director of OMB shall transmit a copy of the revised recommendations to Congress, together with a certification of such approval.

(d) TERMINATION OF PROCESS FOR GIVEN ROUND.—If the Director of OMB does not transmit to Congress an approval and certification described in paragraph (1) or (4) of subsection (c) on or before the 30th day following the receipt of the Board's recommendations or revised recommendations, as the case may be, the process shall terminate until the following round, as described in section 12.

SEC. 14. IMPLEMENTATION OF BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS.

(a) DEADLINES.—

(1) PREPARATION.—Federal agencies shall—
(A) not later than 60 days after the Director of OMB transmits the Board's recommendations to Congress pursuant to paragraph (1) or (4) of section 13(c), immediately begin preparations to carry out the Board's recommendations; and

(B) not later than 2 years after such transmittal, initiate all activities necessary to carry out the Board's recommendations.

(2) COMPLETION.—Not later than 6 years after the Director of OMB transmits the Board's recommendations to Congress pursuant to paragraph (1) or (4) of section 13(c), Federal agencies shall complete all recommended actions. All actions shall be economically beneficial, cost neutral, or otherwise favorable to the Government.

(3) EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES.—For actions that will take longer than the 6-year period described in paragraph (2) due to extenuating circumstances, Federal agencies shall notify the Director of OMB and Congress, as soon as the extenuating circumstance presents itself, with an estimated time to complete the relevant action.

(b) ACTIONS OF FEDERAL AGENCIES RELATED TO CIVILIAN REAL PROPERTIES.—In taking actions related to any civilian real property

under this Act, Federal agencies may take, pursuant to subsection (c), all such necessary and proper actions, including—

(1) acquiring land, constructing replacement facilities, performing such other activities, and conducting advance planning and design as may be required to transfer functions from a Federal asset or property to another Federal civilian property;

(2) reimbursing other Federal agencies for actions performed at the request of the Board; and

(3) taking such actions as are practicable to maximize the value of Federal civilian real property to be sold by clarifying zoning and other limitations on use of such property.

(c) ACTIONS OF FEDERAL AGENCIES TO IMPLEMENT BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS.—

(1) USE OF EXISTING LEGAL AUTHORITIES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), when acting on a recommendation of the Board, a Federal agency shall—

(i) in consultation with the Administrator, continue to act within the Federal agency's existing legal authorities, including legal authorities delegated to the Federal agency by the Administrator; or

(ii) work in partnership with the Administrator to carry out such actions.

(B) NECESSARY AND PROPER ACTIONS.—The Administrator may take such necessary and proper actions, including the sale, conveyance, or exchange of civilian real property, as required to implement the Board's recommendations in the time period required under subsection (a).

(2) EXPERTS.—A Federal agency may enter into no cost, nonappropriated contracts for expert commercial real estate services to carry out the Federal agency's responsibilities pursuant to the recommendations.

(d) DISCRETION OF ADMINISTRATOR REGARDING TRANSACTIONS.—For any transaction identified, recommended, or commenced as a result of this Act, any otherwise required legal priority given to, or requirement to enter into, a transaction to convey a Federal civilian real property for less than fair market value, for no consideration at all, or in a transaction that mandates the exclusion of other market participants, shall be at the discretion of the Administrator.

(e) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.—Any recommendation or commencement of a sale, disposal, consolidation, reconfiguration, collocation, or realignment of civilian real property under this Act shall not be subject to—

(1) section 545(b)(8) of title 40, United States Code;

(2) sections 550, 553, and 554 of title 40, United States Code;

(3) any other provision of law authorizing the transfer of certain real property for wildlife, or other purposes" (16 U.S.C. 667b);

(4) section 47151 of title 49, United States Code;

(5) sections 107 and 317 of title 23, United States Code;

(6) section 1304(b) of title 40, United States Code;

(7) section 13(d) of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 (50 U.S.C. App. 1622(d));

(8) any other provision of law authorizing the conveyance of real property owned by the Government for no consideration; and

(9) any congressional notification requirement other than that in section 545 of title 40, United States Code.

(f) PUBLIC BENEFIT.—

(1) SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION TO HUD.—The Director of OMB shall submit to the Secretary of HUD, on the same day the Director of OMB submits the Board's recommendations to Congress pursuant to para-

graphs (1) and (4) of section 13(c), all known information on Federal civilian real properties that are included in the recommendations (except those recommended under section 12(b)).

(2) HUD TO REPORT TO BOARD.—Not later than 30 days after the submission of information on Federal properties under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall identify any suitable civilian real properties for use as a property benefiting the mission of assistance to the homeless for the purposes of further screening pursuant to section 501 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11411).

(3) ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY.—Following the review under paragraph (2), with respect to a civilian real property that is not identified by the Secretary as suitable for use as a property benefiting the mission of assistance to the homeless and that has been recommended for sale by the Board, the Director of OMB may exclude the property from the Board's recommendations if the Director determines that the property is suitable for use as a public park or recreation area by a State or local government and it is in the best interest of taxpayers.

(g) ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS.—

(1) TRANSFERS OF REAL PROPERTY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—When implementing the recommended actions for civilian real properties that have been identified in the Board's report, as specified in section 12(g), and subject to paragraph (2) and in compliance with CERCLA, including section 120(h) of CERCLA (42 U.S.C. 9620(h)), Federal agencies may enter into an agreement to transfer by deed, pursuant to section 120(h)(3) of that Act (42 U.S.C. 9620(h)(3)), civilian real property with any person.

(B) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The head of the disposing agency may require any additional terms and conditions in connection with an agreement authorized by subparagraph (A) as the head of the disposing agency considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States. Such additional terms and conditions shall not affect or diminish any rights or obligations of the Federal agencies under section 120(h) of CERCLA (including, without limitation, the requirements of subsections (h)(3)(A) and (h)(3)(C)(iv) of that section).

(2) CERTIFICATION CONCERNING COSTS.—A transfer of Federal civilian real property may be made under paragraph (1) only if the head of the disposing agency certifies to the Board and Congress that—

(A) the costs of all environmental restoration, waste management, and environmental compliance activities otherwise to be paid by the disposing agency with respect to the property are equal to or greater than the fair market value of the property to be transferred, as determined by the head of the disposing agency; or

(B) if such costs are lower than the fair market value of the property, the recipient of the property agrees to pay the difference between the fair market value and such costs.

(3) PAYMENTS TO RECIPIENTS.—In the case of a civilian real property covered by a certification under paragraph (2)(A), the disposing agency may pay the recipient of such property an amount equal to the lesser of—

(A) the amount by which the costs incurred by the recipient of such property for all environmental restoration, waste management, and environmental compliance activities with respect to such property exceed the fair market value of such property as specified in such certification; or

(B) the amount by which the costs (as determined by the head of the disposing agency) that would otherwise have been incurred by the Secretary for such restoration, waste

management, and environmental compliance activities with respect to such property exceed the fair market value of such property as so specified.

(4) INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED TO RECIPIENTS.—As part of an agreement under paragraph (1), the head of the disposing agency shall disclose, in accordance with applicable law, to the person to whom the civilian real property will be transferred information possessed by the disposing agency regarding the environmental restoration, waste management, and environmental compliance activities that relate to the property. The head of the disposing agency shall provide such information before entering into the agreement.

(5) CONSIDERATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION IN GRANTING TIME EXTENSIONS.—For the purposes of granting time extensions under subsection (a), the Director of OMB shall give the need for significant environmental remediation to a civilian real property more weight than any other factor in determining whether to grant an extension to implement a Board recommendation.

(6) LIMITATION ON STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act may be construed to modify, alter, or amend CERCLA, the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, or the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.).

SEC. 15. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act an initial appropriation of—

- (1) \$2,000,000 for salaries and expenses of the Board; and
- (2) \$40,000,000 to be deposited into the Asset Proceeds and Space Management Fund for activities related to the implementation of the Board's recommendations.

SEC. 16. FUNDING.

(a) SALARIES AND EXPENSES ACCOUNT.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the Treasury of the United States an account to be known as the "Public Buildings Reform Board Salaries and Expenses Account" (in this subsection referred to as the "Account").

(2) NECESSARY PAYMENTS.—There shall be deposited into the Account such amounts, as are provided in appropriations Acts, for those necessary payments for salaries and expenses to accomplish the administrative needs of the Board.

(b) ASSET PROCEEDS AND SPACE MANAGEMENT FUND.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established within the Federal Buildings Fund established under section 592 of title 40, United States Code, an account to be known as the Public Buildings Reform Board—Asset Proceeds and Space Management Fund (in this subsection referred to as the "Fund").

(2) USE OF AMOUNTS.—Amounts in the Fund shall be used solely for the purposes of carrying out actions pursuant to the Board recommendations approved under section 13.

(3) DEPOSITS.—The following amounts shall be deposited into the Fund and made available for obligation or expenditure only as provided in advance in appropriations Acts (subject to section 3307 of title 40, United States Code, to the extent an appropriation normally covered by that section exceeds \$20,000,000) for the purposes specified:

(A) Such amounts as are provided in appropriations Acts, to remain available until expended, for the consolidation, co-location, exchange, redevelopment, reconfiguration of space, disposal, and other actions recommended by the Board for Federal agencies.

(B) Amounts received from the sale of any civilian real property action taken pursuant to a recommendation of the Board.

(4) USE OF AMOUNTS TO COVER COSTS.—As provided in appropriations Acts, amounts in the Fund may be made available to cover necessary costs associated with implementing the recommendations pursuant to section 14, including costs associated with—

- (A) sales transactions;
- (B) acquiring land, construction, constructing replacement facilities, and conducting advance planning and design as may be required to transfer functions from a Federal asset or property to another Federal civilian property;
- (C) co-location, redevelopment, disposal, and reconfiguration of space; and
- (D) other actions recommended by the Board for Federal agencies.

(c) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT FOR BUDGET CONTENTS.—The President shall transmit along with the President's budget submitted pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, an estimate of proceeds that are the result of the Board's recommendations and the obligations and expenditures needed to support such recommendations.

SEC. 17. CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF PROPOSED PROJECTS.

Section 3307(b) of title 40, United States Code, is amended—

- (1) by striking "and" at the end of paragraph (6);
- (2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (7) and inserting "and"; and
- (3) by adding at the end the following:

"(8) a statement of how the proposed project is consistent with the standards and criteria developed under section 11(b) of the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016."

SEC. 18. PRECLUSION OF JUDICIAL REVIEW.

The following actions shall not be subject to judicial review:

- (1) Actions taken pursuant to sections 12 and 13.
- (2) Actions of the Board.

SEC. 19. IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW BY GAO.

Upon transmittal of the Board's recommendations from the Director of OMB to Congress under section 13, the Comptroller General of the United States at least annually shall monitor and review the implementation activities of Federal agencies pursuant to section 14, and report to Congress any findings and recommendations.

SEC. 20. AGENCY RETENTION OF PROCEEDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 571 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by striking subsections (a) and (b) and inserting the following:

"(a) PROCEEDS FROM TRANSFER OR SALE OF REAL PROPERTY.—

"(1) DEPOSIT OF NET PROCEEDS.—Net proceeds described in subsection (c) shall be deposited into the appropriate real property account of the agency that had custody and accountability for the real property at the time the real property is determined to be excess.

"(2) EXPENDITURE OF NET PROCEEDS.—The net proceeds deposited pursuant to paragraph (1) may only be expended, as authorized in annual appropriations Acts, for activities described in sections 543 and 545, including paying costs incurred by the General Services Administration for any disposal-related activity authorized by this chapter.

"(3) DEFICIT REDUCTION.—Any net proceeds described in subsection (c) from the sale, lease, or other disposition of surplus real property that are not expended under paragraph (2) shall be used for deficit reduction. Any net proceeds not obligated within 3 years after the date of deposit and not expended within 5 years after such date shall be deposited as miscellaneous receipts in the Treasury.

"(b) EFFECT ON OTHER SECTIONS.—Nothing in this section is intended to affect section 572(b), 573, or 574.

"(c) NET PROCEEDS.—The net proceeds described in this subsection are proceeds under this chapter, less expenses of the transfer or disposition as provided in section 572(a), from a—

- "(1) transfer of excess real property to a Federal agency for agency use; or
- "(2) sale, lease, or other disposition of surplus real property."

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The provisions of this section, including the amendments made by this section, shall take effect upon the termination of the Board pursuant to section 10 and shall not apply to proceeds from transactions conducted under section 14.

SEC. 21. FEDERAL REAL PROPERTY DATABASE.

(a) DATABASE REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator of General Services shall publish a single, comprehensive, and descriptive database of all Federal real property under the custody and control of all executive agencies, other than Federal real property excluded for reasons of national security, in accordance with subsection (b).

(b) REQUIRED INFORMATION FOR DATABASE.—The Administrator shall collect from the head of each executive agency descriptive information, except for classified information, of the nature, use, and extent of the Federal real property of each such agency, including the following:

(1) The geographic location of each Federal real property of each such agency, including the address and description for each such property.

(2) The total size of each Federal real property of each such agency, including square footage and acreage of each such property.

(3) Whether the Federal real property is currently, or will in the future be, needed to support agency's mission or function.

(4) The utilization of each Federal real property for each such agency, including whether such property is excess, surplus, underutilized, or unutilized.

(5) The number of days each Federal real property is designated as excess, surplus, underutilized, or unutilized.

(6) The annual operating costs of each Federal real property.

(7) The replacement value of each Federal real property.

(c) ACCESS TO DATABASE.—

(1) FEDERAL AGENCIES.—The Administrator, in consultation with the Director of OMB, shall make the database established and maintained under this section available to other Federal agencies.

(2) PUBLIC ACCESS.—To the extent consistent with national security and procurement laws, the database shall be accessible by the public at no cost through the Web site of the General Services Administration.

(d) TRANSPARENCY OF DATABASE.—To the extent practicable, the Administrator shall ensure that the database—

- (1) uses an open, machine-readable format;
- (2) permits users to search and sort Federal real property data; and

(3) includes a means to download a large amount of Federal real property data and a selection of such data retrieved using a search.

(e) APPLICABILITY.—Nothing in this section may be construed to require an agency to make available to the public information that is exempt from disclosure pursuant to section 552(b) of title 5, United States Code.

SEC. 22. STREAMLINING MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT.

Section 501 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11411) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(2)—
 (A) by striking “(2)(A)” and inserting “(2)”;

(B) by redesignating clauses (i) and (ii) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively;

(C) in subparagraph (A) (as so redesignated) by striking “and” at the end;

(D) in subparagraph (B) (as so redesignated) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(E) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) in the case of surplus property, the provision of permanent housing with or without supportive services is an eligible use to assist the homeless under this section.”;

(2) in subsection (c)(1)(A) by striking “in the Federal Register” and inserting “on the Web site of the Department of Housing and Urban Development or the General Services Administration”;

(3) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (1) by striking “period of 60 days” and inserting “period of 30 days”;

(B) in paragraphs (2) and (4) by striking “60-day period” and inserting “30-day period”;

(C) in paragraph (3) by adding at the end the following: “If no such review of the determination is requested within the 20-day period, such property will not be included in subsequent publications unless the landholding agency makes changes to the property (e.g. improvements) that may change the unsuitable determination and the Secretary subsequently determines the property is suitable.”;

(4) in subsection (e)—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking “(2)” and inserting “(2)(A)”;

(ii) in subparagraph (A) (as so designated)—

(I) by striking “90 days” and inserting “75 days”;

(II) by striking “a complete application” and inserting “an initial application”;

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) An initial application shall set forth—

“(i) the services that will be offered;

“(ii) the need for the services; and

“(iii) the experience of the applicant that demonstrates the ability to provide the services.”;

(B) in paragraph (3) by striking “25 days after receipt of a completed application” and inserting “10 days after receipt of an initial application”;

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) If the Secretary of Health and Human Services approves an initial application, the applicant has 45 days in which to provide a final application that sets forth a reasonable plan to finance the approved program.

“(5) No later than 15 days after receipt of the final application, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall review, make a final determination, and complete all actions on the final application. The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall maintain a public record of all actions taken in response to an application.”;

(5) in subsection (f)(1) by striking “available by” and inserting “available, at the applicant’s discretion, by”.

SEC. 23. ADDITIONAL PROPERTY.

Section 549(c)(3)(B)(vii) of title 40, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“(vii) a museum attended by the public, and, for purposes of determining whether a museum is attended by the public, the Administrator shall consider a museum to be public if the nonprofit educational or public health institution or organization, at minimum, accedes to any request submitted for access during business hours.”;

SEC. 24. SALE OF 12TH AND INDEPENDENCE.

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “property” means the property located in

the District of Columbia, subject to survey and as determined by the Administrator of General Services, generally consisting of Squares 325 and 326 and a portion of Square 351 and generally bounded by 12th Street, Independence Avenue, C Street, and the James Forrestal Building, all in Southwest Washington, District of Columbia, and shall include all associated air rights, improvements thereon, and appurtenances thereto.

(b) SALE.—Not later than December 31, 2018, the Administrator of General Services shall sell the property at fair market value at highest and best use.

(c) NET PROCEEDS.—Any net proceeds received shall be paid into an account in the Federal Buildings Fund established under section 592 of title 40, United States Code. Upon deposit, the net proceeds from the sale may be expended only subject to a specific future appropriation.

SEC. 25. SALE OF COTTON ANNEX.

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “property” means property located in the District of Columbia, subject to survey and as determined by the Administrator, generally consisting of Square 326 south of C Street, all in Southwest Washington, District of Columbia, including the building known as the Cotton Annex.

(b) SALE.—Not later than December 31, 2018, the Administrator of General Services shall sell the property at fair market value at highest and best use.

(c) NET PROCEEDS.—Any net proceeds received shall be paid into an account in the Federal Buildings Fund established under section 592 of title 40, United States Code. Upon deposit, the net proceeds from the sale may be expended only subject to a specific future appropriation.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include any extraneous material on H.R. 4465, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

H.R. 4465, as amended, includes reforms that will reduce the deficit through the consolidation and selling of Federal buildings and improving the management of Federal real property. I am pleased to be a cosponsor of this legislation.

I want to recognize the tireless work of the gentleman and former chair of the Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management Subcommittee, Mr. DENHAM, for his leadership on this issue, along with the chairman of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Mr. CHAFFETZ. This bipartisan legislation incorporates critical provisions crafted by both committees to address decades-old problems related to Federal real property.

H.R. 4465, as amended, establishes a pilot program that includes an inde-

pendent review of the Federal real property inventory and development of recommendations for the disposition of vacant and underutilized properties. We have had hearings highlighting Federal buildings sitting vacant, costing the taxpayer through maintenance costs and unrealized sale proceeds. These buildings are often eyesores in local communities and provide no local tax benefits.

Agencies have been slow in getting rid of unneeded properties. For example, the Old Georgetown Heating Plant, in one of the most expensive areas of D.C., sat vacant for 11 years and was only sold after our committee held a hearing spotlighting the vacant property. The pilot included in this legislation will result in an independent look across agencies at opportunities to sell, redevelop, and consolidate Federal properties.

Following the pilot, H.R. 4465, as amended, would then allow agencies to retain a portion of the disposal proceeds to offset the up-front cost of property disposal.

The legislation will also codify the Federal real property database, providing for better congressional oversight of the real property inventory. If this bill works as intended, we can make significant strides in reducing the cost to the taxpayer and putting underused properties back on local tax rolls for redevelopment.

I urge my colleagues to support passage of this important legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise in support of H.R. 4465, the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016. This bill begins the process of reforming GSA’s public building services.

I would like to, first of all, recognize wholeheartedly my very good friend, whom I had an opportunity to travel with, my colleague from California (Mr. DENHAM) for his work in bringing this bill before the Transportation Committee and now the full House, and also my colleague Chairman BARLETTA.

Today’s legislation, Mr. Speaker, really has the potential to be a valuable tool in right-sizing our Federal footprint. It authorizes an independent board that could provide a source of revenue for the Federal Government to invest in its existing buildings and to better manage its real estate portfolio. The board would make recommendations to dispose of unneeded and underutilized real estate, and it would make recommendations to consolidate Federal real estate functions where appropriate.

H.R. 4465 is consistent with several governmentwide memoranda issued by the President that ordered agencies to reduce and freeze their real estate footprints. These directives represent the administration’s sustained priority of improving the management of Federal real estate. I believe H.R. 4465 dovetails

well with the administration's priorities and begins to address the issue in very meaningful ways.

Both the Transportation Committee and the Government Accountability Office, or GAO, have repeatedly raised concerns about the way Federal real property has been managed. The proposed board would be highly instrumental in reconfiguring, co-locating, and even realigning the Federal real estate portfolio with best practices.

Although I believe the board can serve an important role in disposing of unneeded real estate, I also urge the board to not sell real estate assets in a soft market or sell properties that hamstring the government's ability to house Federal employees in the future. Expert and specialized skill is still very necessary to dispose of underutilized real estate assets while avoiding selling property the government could need in the future. Without this expertise, we could end up with transactions leading to future long-term leasing because of the haphazard disposal of underutilized real estate.

It is very important to note that today's legislation contains several checks and balances. As a result of the concerns expressed on my side of the aisle, there were several changes to the bill while negotiating the final version. Instead of the bill requiring six annual recommendations, as originally proposed, the board will now make three sets of detailed recommendations over 6 years so that Congress can conduct oversight of the board's actions and properly gauge the alignment of the board's goals with congressional priorities.

In addition, the aggregate value of transactions is capped at no more than \$8 billion. Each potential real estate action with a value above \$20 million will require an appropriation that will go through the normal GSA prospectus approval process.

Now, Mr. Speaker, Federal agencies will be required to coordinate construction and alteration projects with GSA. I appreciate that the sponsors of this important legislation were willing to work with us to address these concerns, and we look forward to continuing this great work as it is being implemented.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I support today's legislation. It creates an independent board to make recommendations on how to meet the goal of right-sizing the Federal real estate portfolio and saving taxpayers millions of dollars.

I intend to conduct vigorous oversight of this board and the actions taken by GSA in order to make it a success.

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

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. DENHAM).

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of legislation I have authored to help reduce the size of the Federal footprint.

I first would like to thank Chairman SHUSTER and Chairman BARLETTA for their ongoing support in this effort, as well as Ranking Member DEFAZIO and Ranking Member CARSON for their help also.

This is truly a bipartisan bill. It is a bill that has garnered a lot of support because we have worked with both sides of the aisle, as well as with groups that have a vested interest in making sure that this happens correctly.

I also thank Chairman CHAFFETZ and Ranking Member CUMMINGS of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform for working to bridge the differences between our two committees.

Given our trillion-dollar deficit and skyrocketing debt, we have to examine every area of government and look for ways to continue to cut spending. This bill has taken 5 years in the making. It was one of the first actions when I, as a chair of this subcommittee, initially, we held a hearing in the Old Post Office in D.C. It was a January morning with freezing temperatures. We went in to show that this vacant building was sitting there and could be revitalized. Now we are going to see that building not only reopen as a hotel and retail space, but it is going to generate millions in profits for the Federal Government.

We continued to hold hearings like this in abandoned buildings all across the country, ones that were neglected, underutilized buildings, just to highlight the failed state of failed property management. We were successful in pressuring GSA in selling the long vacant Georgetown West Heating Plant. That netted \$20 million to the American taxpayer. Sadly, this has got to be done across the entire country.

Every year since 2003, GAO, the Government Accountability Office, has found that the Federal Government fails to manage hundreds of thousands of buildings across the entire country. According to the GAO, the Federal Government continues to maintain too much excess and underutilized property, relies too heavily on costly leased space, and maintains unreliable and misleading real property lists. The GAO agrees and has stated before this committee that legislation like the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act would go a long way toward fixing the problems with Federal real property.

The President has also continued to support reforms to Federal real estate since speaking on it in his 2011 State of the Union. He has included it in his budget since then, and I am also pleased to have secured the commitment of this administration to advance legislation and work with myself and Chairman CHAFFETZ to see real reforms signed into law. Additionally, both Houses of Congress have included this idea in their annual budget documents.

I believe that we have the potential to save billions of dollars in real estate property. To be successful, this board

will need to consolidate the Federal footprint, house more Federal employees in less overall space, reduce our reliance on costly lease space, sell or redevelop high-value assets that are underutilized, and dispose of surplus property much, much quicker. This bill creates an environment that will achieve these goals and creates a reliable and comprehensive real property database so the public can actually see government's progress.

Additionally, as I said, we worked with other groups. One of those was dealing with the McKinney-Vento Act to better facilitate access to unneeded Federal real property to serve our Nation's homeless population. I am proud that these changes have led to the endorsement of this legislation by the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty. I am pleased to work with the Law Center throughout this process and look forward to continuing to work with them to address our Nation's most vulnerable citizens.

Again, this is a good bill. This has been done in a bipartisan fashion, and it is going to save billions of dollars for the taxpayer.

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

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN).

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman BARLETTA for yielding me this time.

I rise in support of both H.R. 4465, the bill by Chairman DENHAM, and H.R. 4487 by Chairman BARLETTA.

We need to realize, Mr. Speaker, that private ownership of property is a very important, even vital, part of our freedom and our prosperity.

Today, the Federal Government owns almost 30 percent of the land in this Nation, and State and local governments and quasi-governmental agencies own almost 20 percent. So today, close to half of the land in this country is under some type of public governmental ownership. But you can never satisfy government's appetite for money or land. They always want more.

I first became interested in this issue when I read in USA Today several years ago that governments keep adding land equal to half the size of the State of New Jersey each year through direct purchases or through indirect purchases through land conservancies. Then I read that the Federal Bureau of Land Management had about 3 million acres they didn't even want.

I first introduced a bill on this subject in 2001, during the 107th Congress, called the Federal Lands Improvement Act. I reintroduced it in the next Congress. Then, in the 110th Congress, I introduced a similar bill with my colleague from the other side, Congressman Dennis Moore of Kansas, called the Federal Real Property Disposal Enhancement Act. In a similar bipartisan

fashion, Senator TOM CARPER of Delaware and Senator Tom Coburn of Oklahoma introduced companion legislation in the Senate.

Several years ago, the Office of Management and Budget had found 21,000 Federal properties that the Federal Government no longer wanted or needed worth, at that time, \$18 billion, and \$9 billion of those were real property assets that the Federal Government wanted to dispose of.

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Jim Nussle, who was the Office of Management and Budget Director at the time, wrote a letter endorsing legislation to do what these bills are attempting to do here tonight.

He said: "To reach this objective, I believe we must improve and streamline the current process that Federal agencies face in disposing of real property assets."

Some extremists never want the government to sell any property, and government at all levels continues to acquire more and more land every year. But we keep shrinking the tax base, Mr. Speaker, at the time that schools and policemen and all these other government employees want and need more funding.

This legislation, we have worked on this through both the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, on which I serve, and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, on which I also serve. I want to commend, again, Chairman BARLETTA and Chairman DENHAM because, with so many needs and so many good things that we can do for the American people, it simply makes no sense to force the government to keep properties that it no longer needs or wants. We can and should put those assets to much better use.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MICA).

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I have to thank the chairman, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA), for taking this measure this far. I want to thank the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. CARSON) also. I have to also thank Mr. DENHAM and others for bringing this legislation forward.

My involvement as a member and former chair of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure was that we had the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management, which the distinguished gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA) chairs and the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. CARSON) is the ranking member. They have taken this proposal that we thought about for sometime, and we heard Mr. DUNCAN's work for years and brought it forward to a great piece of legislation that can save billions of dollars for the taxpayers.

The Federal Government and the American people are, by far, the largest landowners of anyone anywhere.

The American people own more Federal property than anyone. There are some problems, though, and we identified those. When we were in the minority several years back, we had more time to do studies and reports. Mr. Speaker, we produced a report that was called "Sitting on Our Assets: The Federal Government's Misuse of Taxpayer-Owned Assets."

What we did is we went through some of the public buildings and properties that are sitting idle. One highlighted in the report—you can look the report up—is the old post office two blocks from the White House sitting there idle, 400,000 square feet. Half of it is empty. Behind it there is a newer annex. The old building was built in the 1890s. It was half empty, costing the taxpayers \$6 million to \$8 million a year in losses, to underwrite the losses.

It took us two hearings. The first hearing we held was in the empty annex, empty for 15 years. We brought the committee down there. The staff said: Should we do it in the heated part half empty or should we do it in the cold part?

It was 32 degrees outside, 38 degrees inside. We did the hearing in the cold part. We made the bureaucrats shiver.

For a year they still didn't do anything. We got it put up for tender. Guess who won against the competition of the best hotels. Ritz Carlton, Marriott, and all of the other majors, Hilton, they all competed openly. Mr. Trump and his organization won. He is turning that asset that has been sitting idle, costing taxpayers from \$6 million to \$8 million a year in losses, into about a quarter of a million dollars revenue, plus a percentage of some of the profits. Now, that is what you do in turning government properties around. That is one example.

You could go throughout the District. Behind the Ritz Carlton in Georgetown there is a property, a power station. We did a hearing in the empty building there. We got it up for sale. Actually, the "for sale" sign went up the day before the hearing. It sold for \$19 million. It was costing us \$1 million a year to maintain empty.

One of the greatest victories is going to occur on June 3. Since 2008, the Federal courthouse, which is a beautiful, historic building in downtown Miami, empty, costing more than \$1.5 million to keep empty, deteriorating. We held a hearing there in the empty courthouse several years back. Nothing happened. Then I heard from the president of Miami Dade Community College, my alma mater, across the street.

He said: I have written GSA, and we can't get them to do anything.

Well, on June 3, we will transfer that vacant property sitting idle since 2008 to Miami Dade Community College, stemming losses.

These are just a few examples. Up in Mr. HOYER's district, we have got thousands of acres between the two major thoroughfares vacant at the Department of Agriculture.

At Cape Kennedy, we have been private there for 5 years. We took the committee down, and we did a hearing there, 177,000 acres, five times the size of Manhattan. There are another 16,000 acres adjacent with the Air Force, sitting there with 400 buildings, half of them empty. All I need is 400 acres from the Air Force to do a cargo container port, and you could employ 5,000 people. That is what the port director testified.

So we have assets across this Nation sitting idle because no bureaucrat has the beanie up here to make that into a producing asset. We haven't even gotten into VA. This doesn't include the Postal Service or DOD. We have thousands of properties, buildings sitting idle. This bill starts the process.

If you owned property, would you give it to the Federal Government to manage?

I always ask groups that. People look at me like I have been smoking marijuana.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman.

Mr. MICA. People look at you like you are dumb.

Would you consider giving your property—any of the Members—to the Federal Government to manage?

No way, Jose; they would not do it. So this bill has people who really know how to deal and manage real estate look at the properties. We don't even have an inventory of these properties, as some of this gets beyond the pale.

But we will get an inventory, we will get a recommendation, and then hopefully do something, make agencies do something. Bureaucrats will do nothing with those properties. They don't think. Their brains are not wired to think. They do nothing smart. They are getting their paycheck. They don't think.

So this is the beginning of getting out of the dumb ages into the smart ages, taking those hard-earned public assets, the poor person out there who is dogging it, trying to put food on the table, gas in the car, kids in school, and the government is sitting on huge Federal assets doing nothing.

Thank you for coming forward with this bill. Let's get it done. Let's get it passed.

Mr. BARLETTA. 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 Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4465, 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.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2576, TSCA MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2015, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 897, REDUCING REGULATORY BURDENS ACT OF 2015

Mr. WOODALL, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 114-590) on the resolution (H. Res. 742) providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 2576) to modernize the Toxic Substances Control Act, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 897) to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to clarify Congressional intent regarding the regulation of the use of pesticides in or near navigable waters, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5055, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

Mr. WOODALL, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 114-591) on the resolution (H. Res. 743) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5055) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS REFORM AND SAVINGS ACT OF 2016

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4487) to reduce costs of Federal real estate, improve building security, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4487

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 "Public Buildings Reform and Savings Act of 2016".

SEC. 2. STREAMLINED LEASING PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) EXECUTION OF LEASES.—The Administrator of General Services shall establish and conduct a pilot program to execute lease agreements pursuant to authority provided under section 585 of title 40, United States Code, using alternative procedures.

(b) ADOPTION.—The Administrator shall prescribe alternative procedures to enter into lease agreements in accordance with section 585 of title 40, United States Code, pursuant to the provisions of this section.

(c) GOALS OF PROCEDURES.—The goals of the alternative procedures are—

(1) reducing the costs to the Federal Government of leased space, including—

(A) executing long-term leases with firm terms of 10 years or more and reducing cost-

ly holdover and short-term lease extensions, including short firm term leases;

(B) improving office space utilization rates of Federal tenants; and

(C) streamlining and simplifying the leasing process to take advantage of real estate markets; and

(2) significantly reducing or eliminating the backlog of expiring leases over the next 5 years.

(d) LEASEHOLD INTERESTS IN REAL PROPERTY.—

(1) SIMPLIFIED PROCEDURES.—Notwithstanding section 3305(b) of title 41, United States Code, but otherwise in accordance with such section, the Administrator shall provide special simplified procedures for acquisitions of leasehold interests in real property at rental rates that do not exceed the simplified lease acquisition threshold, as defined in paragraph (2). The rental rate under a multiyear lease does not exceed the simplified lease acquisition threshold if the average annual amount of the rent payable for the period of the lease does not exceed the simplified lease acquisition threshold.

(2) ACQUISITION THRESHOLD.—For purposes of this section, the simplified lease acquisition threshold is \$500,000.

(e) CONSOLIDATED LEASE PROSPECTUSES.—The Administrator may, when acquiring leasehold interests subject to section 3307 of title 40, United States Code, transmit, pursuant to subsection (b) of such section, to the committees designated in such section for approval a prospectus to acquire leased space, and waive the requirements pursuant to paragraphs (3) and (6) of section 3307(b), subject to the following requirements:

(1) COST PER SQUARE FOOTAGE.—The cost per square footage does not exceed the maximum proposed rental rate designated for the respective geographical area.

(2) SPACE UTILIZATION.—The Administrator ensures the overall space utilization rate is 170 usable square feet per person or better based on actual agency staffing levels when occupied.

(3) LEASE TERM.—The lease term, including the firm term, is not less than 10 years.

(4) GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION.—The geographical location is identified as having a large amount of square footage of Federal office space and lease turnover and will likely result in providing for the ability, on a timely basis, of the agency to consolidate space effectively or meet any requirements for temporary or interim space required for planned consolidations.

(f) CONSOLIDATIONS GENERALLY.—The Administrator may consolidate more than 1 project into a single prospectus submitted pursuant to section 3307(b), title 40, United States Code, if such consolidation will facilitate efficiencies and reductions in overall space and improved utilization rates.

(g) WAIVER AUTHORITY.—The Administrator may—

(1) waive notice and comment rulemaking, if the Administrator determines the waiver is necessary to implement this section expeditiously; and

(2) carry out the alternative procedures under this section as a pilot program.

(h) REPORTS.—

(1) ANNUAL REPORTS.—During the period in which the pilot program is conducted under this section, the Administrator shall submit, annually, to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate a progress report that provides updates on the number and square footage of leases expiring in the 5-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, by agency and region, and which shall include for the expiring leases—

(A) an average of the lease terms, including firm terms, for leases executed; and

(B) the percentage of leases managed in-house or through the use of commercial real estate leasing services.

(2) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after termination of the pilot program, the Administrator shall submit a final report to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate. The final report shall include—

(A) a review and evaluation of the lease agreements executed under the alternative procedures established pursuant to this section in comparison to those agreements not executed pursuant to the alternative procedures;

(B) recommendations on any permanent changes to the General Services Administration's leasing authority; and

(C) a progress evaluation in meeting the goals described in subsection (c).

(i) TERMINATION.—The authorities under this section shall terminate on December 31, 2021.

SEC. 3. EXCHANGE AUTHORITY.

(a) LIMITATION ON EXCHANGE AUTHORITY.—Section 3307(a) of title 40, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting "(including by exchange)" after "acquire"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(4) An appropriation for any costs and expenses associated with administering an acquisition by exchange involving real property or in-kind consideration, including services, with a fair market value of \$2,850,000 or more."

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall not apply to projects in which a procurement has already begun.

SEC. 4. FEDERAL PROTECTIVE SERVICE.

(a) Section 1315 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(h) CONTRACT SECURITY PERSONNEL.—

"(1) AUTHORITIES FOR CONTRACT SECURITY PERSONNEL.—

"(A) CARRYING OF FIREARMS.—The Secretary may authorize contract security personnel engaged in the protection of buildings and grounds that are owned, occupied, or secured by the General Services Administration Public Buildings Service to carry firearms to carry out their official duties.

"(B) DETENTION WITHOUT A WARRANT.—A person authorized to carry a firearm under this subsection may, while in the performance of, and in connection with, official duties, detain an individual without a warrant for any offense against the United States committed in that person's presence or for any felony cognizable under the laws of the United States if that person has reasonable grounds to believe that the individual to be detained has committed or is committing such felony. The detention authority conferred by this paragraph is in addition to any detention authority provided under other laws.

"(2) LIMITATIONS.—The following limitations apply:

"(A) DETENTION.—Contract security personnel authorized to carry firearms under this section may detain an individual only if the individual to be detained is within, or in direct flight from, the area of such offense.

"(B) ENFORCEMENT OF CERTAIN LAWS.—A person granted authority to detain under this section may exercise such authority only to enforce laws regarding any building and grounds and all property located in or on that building and grounds that are owned, occupied, or secured by the General Services Administration Public Buildings Service.