

Calendar No. 506

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION**H. R. 8580**

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 11, 2024

Received

SEPTEMBER 12, 2024

Read twice and placed on the calendar

AN ACT

Making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 *That the following sums are appropriated, out of any*
4 *money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for*
5 *military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs,*
6 *and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September*
7 *30, 2025, and for other purposes, namely:*

1 TITLE I
2 DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
3 MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY
4 For acquisition, construction, installation, and equip-
5 ment of temporary or permanent public works, military
6 installations, facilities, and real property for the Army as
7 currently authorized by law, including personnel in the
8 Army Corps of Engineers and other personal services nec-
9 essary for the purposes of this appropriation, and for con-
10 struction and operation of facilities in support of the func-
11 tions of the Commander in Chief, \$2,217,757,000, to re-
12 main available until September 30, 2029: *Provided*, That,
13 of this amount, not to exceed \$334,738,000 shall be avail-
14 able for study, planning, design, architect and engineer
15 services, and host nation support, as authorized by law,
16 unless the Secretary of the Army determines that addi-
17 tional obligations are necessary for such purposes and no-
18 tifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses
19 of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor:
20 *Provided further*, That of the amount made available
21 under this heading, \$87,100,000 shall be for the projects
22 and activities, and in the amounts, specified in the table
23 under the heading “Military Construction, Army” in the
24 report accompanying this Act, in addition to amounts oth-
25 erwise available for such purposes.

1 MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

2 For acquisition, construction, installation, and equip-
3 ment of temporary or permanent public works, naval in-
4 stallations, facilities, and real property for the Navy and
5 Marine Corps as currently authorized by law, including
6 personnel in the Naval Facilities Engineering Command
7 and other personal services necessary for the purposes of
8 this appropriation, \$4,332,414,000, to remain available
9 until September 30, 2029: *Provided*, That, of this amount,
10 not to exceed \$877,946,000 shall be available for study,
11 planning, design, and architect and engineer services, as
12 authorized by law, unless the Secretary of the Navy deter-
13 mines that additional obligations are necessary for such
14 purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations
15 of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the
16 reasons therefor: *Provided further*, That of the amount
17 made available under this heading, \$70,480,000 shall be
18 for the projects and activities, and in the amounts, speci-
19 fied in the table under the heading “Military Construction,
20 Navy and Marine Corps” in the report accompanying this
21 Act, in addition to amounts otherwise available for such
22 purposes.

23 MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

24 For acquisition, construction, installation, and equip-
25 ment of temporary or permanent public works, military

1 installations, facilities, and real property for the Air Force
2 as currently authorized by law, \$3,268,276,000, to remain
3 available until September 30, 2029: *Provided*, That, of this
4 amount, not to exceed \$459,926,000 shall be available for
5 study, planning, design, and architect and engineer serv-
6 ices, as authorized by law, unless the Secretary of the Air
7 Force determines that additional obligations are necessary
8 for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appro-
9 priations of both Houses of Congress of the determination
10 and the reasons therefor: *Provided further*, That of the
11 amount made available under this heading, \$299,000,000
12 shall be for the projects and activities, and in the amounts,
13 specified in the table under the heading “Military Con-
14 struction, Air Force” in the report accompanying this Act,
15 in addition to amounts otherwise available for such pur-
16 poses.

17 MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE

18 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

19 For acquisition, construction, installation, and equip-
20 ment of temporary or permanent public works, installa-
21 tions, facilities, and real property for activities and agen-
22 cies of the Department of Defense (other than the military
23 departments), as currently authorized by law,
24 \$3,500,083,000 (increased by \$200,000,000) (reduced by
25 \$200,000,000), to remain available until September 30,

1 2029: *Provided*, That such amounts of this appropriation
2 as may be determined by the Secretary of Defense may
3 be transferred to such appropriations of the Department
4 of Defense available for military construction or family
5 housing as the Secretary may designate, to be merged with
6 and to be available for the same purposes, and for the
7 same time period, as the appropriation or fund to which
8 transferred: *Provided further*, That, of the amount, not to
9 exceed \$395,131,000 shall be available for study, plan-
10 ning, design, and architect and engineer services, as au-
11 thorized by law, unless the Secretary of Defense deter-
12 mines that additional obligations are necessary for such
13 purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations
14 of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the
15 reasons therefor: *Provided further*, That of the amount
16 made available under this heading, \$47,920,000 shall be
17 for the projects and activities, and in the amounts, speci-
18 fied in the table under the heading “Military Construction,
19 Defense-Wide” in the report accompanying this Act, in ad-
20 dition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes.

21 MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

22 For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilita-
23 tion, and conversion of facilities for the training and ad-
24 ministration of the Army National Guard, and contribu-
25 tions therefor, as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10,

1 United States Code, and Military Construction Authoriza-
2 tion Acts, \$367,129,000, to remain available until Sep-
3 tember 30, 2029: *Provided*, That, of the amount, not to
4 exceed \$30,529,000 shall be available for study, planning,
5 design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized
6 by law, unless the Director of the Army National Guard
7 determines that additional obligations are necessary for
8 such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropria-
9 tions of both Houses of Congress of the determination and
10 the reasons therefor.

11 MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

12 For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilita-
13 tion, and conversion of facilities for the training and ad-
14 ministration of the Air National Guard, and contributions
15 therefor, as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United
16 States Code, and Military Construction Authorization
17 Acts, \$195,792,000, to remain available until September
18 30, 2029: *Provided*, That, of the amount, not to exceed
19 \$15,792,000 shall be available for study, planning, design,
20 and architect and engineer services, as authorized by law,
21 unless the Director of the Air National Guard determines
22 that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes
23 and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both
24 Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons
25 therefor.

1 MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY RESERVE

2 For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilita-
3 tion, and conversion of facilities for the training and ad-
4 ministration of the Army Reserve as authorized by chapter
5 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Con-
6 struction Authorization Acts, \$265,032,000, to remain
7 available until September 30, 2029: *Provided*, That, of the
8 amount, not to exceed \$41,508,000 shall be available for
9 study, planning, design, and architect and engineer serv-
10 ices, as authorized by law, unless the Chief of the Army
11 Reserve determines that additional obligations are nec-
12 essary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on
13 Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the deter-
14 mination and the reasons therefor: *Provided further*, That
15 of the amount made available under this heading,
16 \$5,000,000 shall be for the projects and activities, and in
17 the amounts, specified in the table under the heading
18 “Military Construction, Army Reserve” in the report ac-
19 companying this Act, in addition to amounts otherwise
20 available for such purposes.

21 MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY RESERVE

22 For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilita-
23 tion, and conversion of facilities for the training and ad-
24 ministration of the reserve components of the Navy and
25 Marine Corps as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10,

1 United States Code, and Military Construction Authoriza-
2 tion Acts, \$67,329,000, to remain available until Sep-
3 tember 30, 2029: *Provided*, That, of the amount, not to
4 exceed \$3,219,000 shall be available for study, planning,
5 design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized
6 by law, unless the Secretary of the Navy determines that
7 additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and
8 notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses
9 of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor:
10 *Provided further*, That, of the amount made available
11 under this heading, \$37,500,000 shall be for the projects
12 and activities, and in the amounts, specified in the table
13 under the heading “Military Construction, Navy Reserve”
14 in the report accompanying this Act, in addition to
15 amounts otherwise available for such purposes.

16 MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE RESERVE

17 For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilita-
18 tion, and conversion of facilities for the training and ad-
19 ministration of the Air Force Reserve as authorized by
20 chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military
21 Construction Authorization Acts, \$50,499,000, to remain
22 available until September 30, 2029: *Provided*, That, of the
23 amount, not to exceed \$3,798,000 shall be available for
24 study, planning, design, and architect and engineer serv-
25 ices, as authorized by law, unless the Chief of the Air

1 Force Reserve determines that additional obligations are
2 necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees
3 on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the de-
4 termination and the reasons therefor.

5 NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION
6 SECURITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM

7 For the United States share of the cost of the North
8 Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Pro-
9 gram for the acquisition and construction of military fa-
10 cilities and installations (including international military
11 headquarters) and for related expenses for the collective
12 defense of the North Atlantic Treaty Area as authorized
13 by section 2806 of title 10, United States Code, and Mili-
14 tary Construction Authorization Acts, \$433,864,000, to
15 remain available until expended.

16 DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE ACCOUNT

17 For deposit into the Department of Defense Base
18 Closure Account, established by section 2906(a) of the De-
19 fense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (10
20 U.S.C. 2687 note), \$547,961,000 (reduced by
21 \$10,000,000) (increased by \$10,000,000), to remain avail-
22 able until expended.

23 FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

24 For expenses of family housing for the Army for con-
25 struction, including acquisition, replacement, addition, ex-

1 pansion, extension, and alteration, as authorized by law,
2 \$276,647,000, to remain available until September 30,
3 2029.

4 FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE,
5 ARMY

6 For expenses of family housing for the Army for op-
7 eration and maintenance, including debt payment, leasing,
8 minor construction, principal and interest charges, and in-
9 surance premiums, as authorized by law, \$485,611,000
10 (reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000).

11 FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE
12 CORPS

13 For expenses of family housing for the Navy and Ma-
14 rine Corps for construction, including acquisition, replace-
15 ment, addition, expansion, extension, and alteration, as
16 authorized by law, \$245,742,000, to remain available until
17 September 30, 2029.

18 FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE,
19 NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

20 For expenses of family housing for the Navy and Ma-
21 rine Corps for operation and maintenance, including debt
22 payment, leasing, minor construction, principal and inter-
23 est charges, and insurance premiums, as authorized by
24 law, \$387,217,000.

1 FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

2 For expenses of family housing for the Air Force for
3 construction, including acquisition, replacement, addition,
4 expansion, extension, and alteration, as authorized by law,
5 \$221,549,000, to remain available until September 30,
6 2029.

7 FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR
8 FORCE

9 For expenses of family housing for the Air Force for
10 operation and maintenance, including debt payment, leas-
11 ing, minor construction, principal and interest charges,
12 and insurance premiums, as authorized by law,
13 \$336,250,000 (reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by
14 \$1,000,000).

15 FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE,
16 DEFENSE-WIDE

17 For expenses of family housing for the activities and
18 agencies of the Department of Defense (other than the
19 military departments) for operation and maintenance,
20 leasing, and minor construction, as authorized by law,
21 \$52,156,000.

22 DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

23 FAMILY HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUND

24 For the Department of Defense Family Housing Im-
25 provement Fund, \$8,195,000, to remain available until ex-

1 pending, for family housing initiatives undertaken pursu-
2 ant to section 2883 of title 10, United States Code, pro-
3 viding alternative means of acquiring and improving mili-
4 tary family housing and supporting facilities.

5 DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

6 MILITARY UNACCOMPANIED HOUSING IMPROVEMENT

7 FUND

8 For the Department of Defense Military Unaccom-
9 panied Housing Improvement Fund, \$497,000, to remain
10 available until expended, for unaccompanied housing ini-
11 tiatives undertaken pursuant to section 2883 of title 10,
12 United States Code, providing alternative means of acquir-
13 ing and improving military unaccompanied housing and
14 supporting facilities.

15 ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

16 SECTION 101. None of the funds made available in
17 this title shall be expended for payments under a cost-
18 plus-a-fixed-fee contract for construction, where cost esti-
19 mates exceed \$25,000, to be performed within the United
20 States, except Alaska, without the specific approval in
21 writing of the Secretary of Defense setting forth the rea-
22 sons therefor.

23 SEC. 102. Funds made available in this title for con-
24 struction shall be available for hire of passenger motor ve-
25 hicles.

1 SEC. 103. Funds made available in this title for con-
2 struction may be used for advances to the Federal High-
3 way Administration, Department of Transportation, for
4 the construction of access roads as authorized by section
5 210 of title 23, United States Code, when projects author-
6 ized therein are certified as important to the national de-
7 fense by the Secretary of Defense.

8 SEC. 104. None of the funds made available in this
9 title may be used to begin construction of new bases in
10 the United States for which specific appropriations have
11 not been made.

12 SEC. 105. None of the funds made available in this
13 title shall be used for purchase of land or land easements
14 in excess of 100 percent of the value as determined by
15 the Army Corps of Engineers or the Naval Facilities Engi-
16 neering Command, except: (1) where there is a determina-
17 tion of value by a Federal court; (2) purchases negotiated
18 by the Attorney General or the designee of the Attorney
19 General; (3) where the estimated value is less than
20 \$25,000; or (4) as otherwise determined by the Secretary
21 of Defense to be in the public interest.

22 SEC. 106. None of the funds made available in this
23 title shall be used to: (1) acquire land; (2) provide for site
24 preparation; or (3) install utilities for any family housing,
25 except housing for which funds have been made available

1 in annual Acts making appropriations for military con-
2 struction.

3 SEC. 107. None of the funds made available in this
4 title for minor construction may be used to transfer or
5 relocate any activity from one base or installation to an-
6 other, without prior notification to the Committees on Ap-
7 propriations of both Houses of Congress.

8 SEC. 108. None of the funds made available in this
9 title may be used for the procurement of steel for any con-
10 struction project or activity for which American steel pro-
11 ducers, fabricators, and manufacturers have been denied
12 the opportunity to compete for such steel procurement.

13 SEC. 109. None of the funds available to the Depart-
14 ment of Defense for military construction or family hous-
15 ing during the current fiscal year may be used to pay real
16 property taxes in any foreign nation.

17 SEC. 110. None of the funds made available in this
18 title may be used to initiate a new installation overseas
19 without prior notification to the Committees on Appro-
20 priations of both Houses of Congress.

21 SEC. 111. None of the funds made available in this
22 title may be obligated for architect and engineer contracts
23 estimated by the Government to exceed \$500,000 for
24 projects to be accomplished in Japan, in any North Atlan-
25 tic Treaty Organization member country, or in countries

1 bordering the Arabian Gulf, unless such contracts are
2 awarded to United States firms or United States firms
3 in joint venture with host nation firms.

4 SEC. 112. None of the funds made available in this
5 title for military construction in the United States terri-
6 tories and possessions in the Pacific and on Kwajalein
7 Atoll, or in countries bordering the Arabian Gulf, may be
8 used to award any contract estimated by the Government
9 to exceed \$1,000,000 to a foreign contractor: *Provided*,
10 That this section shall not be applicable to contract
11 awards for which the lowest responsive and responsible bid
12 of a United States contractor exceeds the lowest respon-
13 sive and responsible bid of a foreign contractor by greater
14 than 20 percent: *Provided further*, That this section shall
15 not apply to contract awards for military construction on
16 Kwajalein Atoll for which the lowest responsive and re-
17 sponsible bid is submitted by a Marshallese contractor.

18 SEC. 113. The Secretary of Defense shall inform the
19 appropriate committees of both Houses of Congress, in-
20 cluding the Committees on Appropriations, of plans and
21 scope of any proposed military exercise involving United
22 States personnel 30 days prior to its occurring, if amounts
23 expended for construction, either temporary or permanent,
24 are anticipated to exceed \$100,000.

1 SEC. 114. Funds appropriated to the Department of
2 Defense for construction in prior years shall be available
3 for construction authorized for each such military depart-
4 ment by the authorizations enacted into law during the
5 current session of Congress.

6 SEC. 115. For military construction or family housing
7 projects that are being completed with funds otherwise ex-
8 pired or lapsed for obligation, expired or lapsed funds may
9 be used to pay the cost of associated supervision, inspec-
10 tion, overhead, engineering and design on those projects
11 and on subsequent claims, if any.

12 SEC. 116. Notwithstanding any other provision of
13 law, any funds made available to a military department
14 or defense agency for the construction of military projects
15 may be obligated for a military construction project or
16 contract, or for any portion of such a project or contract,
17 at any time before the end of the fourth fiscal year after
18 the fiscal year for which funds for such project were made
19 available, if the funds obligated for such project: (1) are
20 obligated from funds available for military construction
21 projects; and (2) do not exceed the amount appropriated
22 for such project, plus any amount by which the cost of
23 such project is increased pursuant to law.

1 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

2 SEC. 117. Subject to 30 days prior notification, or
3 14 days for a notification provided in an electronic me-
4 dium pursuant to sections 480 and 2883 of title 10,
5 United States Code, to the Committees on Appropriations
6 of both Houses of Congress, such additional amounts as
7 may be determined by the Secretary of Defense may be
8 transferred to: (1) the Department of Defense Family
9 Housing Improvement Fund from amounts appropriated
10 for construction in “Family Housing” accounts, to be
11 merged with and to be available for the same purposes
12 and for the same period of time as amounts appropriated
13 directly to the Fund; or (2) the Department of Defense
14 Military Unaccompanied Housing Improvement Fund
15 from amounts appropriated for construction of military
16 unaccompanied housing in “Military Construction” ac-
17 counts, to be merged with and to be available for the same
18 purposes and for the same period of time as amounts ap-
19 propriated directly to the Fund: *Provided*, That appropria-
20 tions made available to the Funds shall be available to
21 cover the costs, as defined in section 502(5) of the Con-
22 gressional Budget Act of 1974, of direct loans or loan
23 guarantees issued by the Department of Defense pursuant
24 to the provisions of subchapter IV of chapter 169 of title
25 10, United States Code, pertaining to alternative means

1 of acquiring and improving military family housing, mili-
2 tary unaccompanied housing, and supporting facilities.

3 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

4 SEC. 118. In addition to any other transfer authority
5 available to the Department of Defense, amounts may be
6 transferred from the Department of Defense Base Closure
7 Account to the fund established by section 1013(d) of the
8 Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act
9 of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 3374) to pay for expenses associated
10 with the Homeowners Assistance Program incurred under
11 42 U.S.C. 3374(a)(1)(A). Any amounts transferred shall
12 be merged with and be available for the same purposes
13 and for the same time period as the fund to which trans-
14 ferred.

15 SEC. 119. Notwithstanding any other provision of
16 law, funds made available in this title for operation and
17 maintenance of family housing shall be the exclusive
18 source of funds for repair and maintenance of all family
19 housing units, including general or flag officer quarters:
20 *Provided*, That not more than \$20,000 per unit may be
21 spent annually for the maintenance and repair of any gen-
22 eral or flag officer quarters without 30 days prior notifica-
23 tion, or 14 days for a notification provided in an electronic
24 medium pursuant to sections 480 and 2883 of title 10,
25 United States Code, to the Committees on Appropriations

1 of both Houses of Congress, except that an after-the-fact
2 notification shall be submitted if the limitation is exceeded
3 solely due to costs associated with environmental remedi-
4 ation that could not be reasonably anticipated at the time
5 of the budget submission: *Provided further*, That the
6 Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) is to report an-
7 nually to the Committees on Appropriations of both
8 Houses of Congress all operation and maintenance ex-
9 penditures for each individual general or flag officer quar-
10 ters for the prior fiscal year.

11 SEC. 120. Amounts contained in the Ford Island Im-
12 provement Account established by subsection (h) of sec-
13 tion 2814 of title 10, United States Code, are appro-
14 priated and shall be available until expended for the pur-
15 poses specified in subsection (i)(1) of such section or until
16 transferred pursuant to subsection (i)(3) of such section.

17 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

18 SEC. 121. During the 5-year period after appropria-
19 tions available in this Act to the Department of Defense
20 for military construction and family housing operation and
21 maintenance and construction have expired for obligation,
22 upon a determination that such appropriations will not be
23 necessary for the liquidation of obligations or for making
24 authorized adjustments to such appropriations for obliga-
25 tions incurred during the period of availability of such ap-

1 appropriations, unobligated balances of such appropriations
2 may be transferred into the appropriation “Foreign Cur-
3 rency Fluctuations, Construction, Defense”, to be merged
4 with and to be available for the same time period and for
5 the same purposes as the appropriation to which trans-
6 ferred.

7 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

8 SEC. 122. Amounts appropriated or otherwise made
9 available in an account funded under the headings in this
10 title may be transferred among projects and activities
11 within the account in accordance with the reprogramming
12 guidelines for military construction and family housing
13 construction contained in Department of Defense Finan-
14 cial Management Regulation 7000.14–R, Volume 3, Chap-
15 ter 7, of March 2021, as in effect on the date of enactment
16 of this Act.

17 SEC. 123. None of the funds made available in this
18 title may be obligated or expended for planning and design
19 and construction of projects at Arlington National Ceme-
20 tery.

21 SEC. 124. For an additional amount for the accounts
22 and in the amounts specified, to remain available until
23 September 30, 2029:

24 “Military Construction, Army”, \$167,000,000;

1 “Military Construction, Navy and Marine
2 Corps”, \$45,000,000;

3 “Military Construction, Air Force”,
4 \$68,000,000;

5 “Military Construction, Army National Guard”,
6 \$44,000,000; and

7 “Military Construction, Air National Guard”,
8 \$33,000,000.

9 *Provided*, That such funds may only be obligated to carry
10 out construction and cost to complete projects identified
11 in the respective military department’s unfunded priority
12 list for fiscal year 2025 submitted to Congress: *Provided*
13 *further*, That such projects are subject to authorization
14 prior to obligation and expenditure of funds to carry out
15 construction: *Provided further*, That not later than 60
16 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the mili-
17 tary department concerned, or their designee, shall submit
18 to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of
19 Congress an expenditure plan for funds provided under
20 this section.

21 SEC. 125. All amounts appropriated to the “Depart-
22 ment of Defense—Military Construction, Army”, “De-
23 partment of Defense—Military Construction, Navy and
24 Marine Corps”, “Department of Defense—Military Con-
25 struction, Air Force”, and “Department of Defense—Mili-

1 tary Construction, Defense-Wide” accounts pursuant to
2 the authorization of appropriations in a National Defense
3 Authorization Act specified for fiscal year 2025 in the
4 funding table in section 4601 of that Act shall be imme-
5 diately available and allotted to contract for the full scope
6 of authorized projects.

7 SEC. 126. Notwithstanding section 116 of this Act,
8 funds made available in this Act or any available unobli-
9 gated balances from prior appropriations Acts may be obli-
10 gated before October 1, 2026, for fiscal year 2018, 2019,
11 and 2020 military construction projects for which project
12 authorization has not lapsed or for which authorization
13 is extended for fiscal year 2025 by a National Defense
14 Authorization Act: *Provided*, That no amounts may be ob-
15 ligated pursuant to this section from amounts that were
16 designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement
17 pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the
18 Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of
19 1985.

20 SEC. 127. For the purposes of this Act, the term
21 “congressional defense committees” means the Commit-
22 tees on Armed Services of the House of Representatives
23 and the Senate, the Subcommittee on Military Construc-
24 tion and Veterans Affairs of the Committee on Appropria-
25 tions of the Senate, and the Subcommittee on Military

1 Construction and Veterans Affairs of the Committee on
2 Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

3 SEC. 128. For an additional amount for the accounts
4 and in the amounts specified for planning and design and
5 for construction improvements to Department of Defense
6 laboratory facilities, to remain available until September
7 30, 2029:

8 Military Construction, Army, \$15,000,000;

9 “Military Construction, Navy and Marine
10 Corps”, \$15,000,000; and

11 “Military Construction, Air Force”,
12 \$15,000,000:

13 *Provided*, That not later than 60 days after enactment of
14 this Act, the Secretary of the military department con-
15 cerned, or their designee, shall submit to the Committees
16 on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress an expendi-
17 ture plan for funds provided under this section: *Provided*
18 *further*, That the Secretary of the military department
19 concerned may not obligate or expend any funds prior to
20 approval by the Committees on Appropriations of both
21 Houses of Congress of the expenditure plan required by
22 this section.

23 SEC. 129. For an additional amount for “Military
24 Construction, Air Force”, \$100,000,000, to remain avail-
25 able until September 30, 2029, for expenses incurred as

1 a result of natural disasters: *Provided*, That not later than
2 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
3 Secretary of the Air Force, or their designee, shall submit
4 to the Committees on Appropriations of both House of
5 Congress an expenditure plan for funds provided under
6 this section.

7 SEC. 130. For an additional amount for the accounts
8 and in the amounts specified for planning and design, for
9 child development centers, to remain available until Sep-
10 tember 30, 2029:

11 “Military Construction, Army”, \$25,000,000;
12 “Military Construction, Navy and Marine
13 Corps”, \$25,000,000; and
14 “Military Construction, Air Force”,
15 \$25,000,000:

16 *Provided*, That not later than 60 days after the date of
17 enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the military de-
18 partment concerned, or their designee, shall submit to the
19 Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress
20 an expenditure plan for funds provided under this section.

21 SEC. 131. For an additional amount for the accounts
22 and amounts specified for planning and design, for bar-
23 racks, to remain available until September 30, 2029:

24 “Military Construction Army”, \$25,000,000;

1 “Military Construction, Navy and Marine
2 Corps”, \$25,000,000; and

3 “Military Construction, Air Force”,
4 \$25,000,000:

5 *Provided*, That not later than 60 days after the date of
6 enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the military de-
7 partment concerned, or their designee, shall submit to the
8 Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress
9 an expenditure plan for funds provided under this section.

10 SEC. 132. For an additional amount for the accounts
11 and in the amounts specified for unspecified minor con-
12 struction for demolition, to remain available until Sep-
13 tember 30, 2029:

14 “Military Construction, Army”, \$15,000,000;

15 “Military Construction, Navy and Marine
16 Corps”, \$15,000,000 (reduced by \$1,000,000) (in-
17 creased by \$1,000,000);

18 “Military Construction, Air Force”,
19 \$15,000,000;

20 *Provided*, That not later than 60 days after the date of
21 enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the military de-
22 partment concerned, or their designee, shall submit to the
23 Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress
24 an expenditure plan for funds provided under this section:

25 *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the military de-

1 partment concerned may not obligate or expend any funds
2 prior to approval by the Committees on Appropriations of
3 both Houses of Congress of the expenditure plan required
4 by this section.

5 SEC. 133. None of the funds made available by this
6 Act may be used to carry out the closure or realignment
7 of the United States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay,
8 Cuba.

1 TITLE II
2 DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
3 VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION
4 COMPENSATION AND PENSIONS
5 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

6 For the payment of compensation benefits to or on
7 behalf of veterans and a pilot program for disability ex-
8 aminations as authorized by section 107 and chapters 11,
9 13, 18, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United States Code;
10 pension benefits to or on behalf of veterans as authorized
11 by chapters 15, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United
12 States Code; and burial benefits, the Reinstated Entitle-
13 ment Program for Survivors, emergency and other offi-
14 cers' retirement pay, adjusted-service credits and certifi-
15 cates, payment of premiums due on commercial life insur-
16 ance policies guaranteed under the provisions of title IV
17 of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. App.
18 541 et seq.) and for other benefits as authorized by sec-
19 tions 107, 1312, 1977, and 2106, and chapters 23, 51,
20 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United States Code,
21 \$9,820,699,000, which shall be in addition to funds pre-
22 viously appropriated under this heading that become avail-
23 able on October 1, 2024, to remain available until ex-
24 pended; and, in addition, \$204,481,753,000 (increased by
25 \$1,000,000), which shall become available on October 1,

1 2025, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That
2 not to exceed \$22,816,224 of the amount made available
3 for fiscal year 2026 under this heading shall be reim-
4 bursed to “General Operating Expenses, Veterans Bene-
5 fits Administration”, and “Information Technology Sys-
6 tems” for necessary expenses in implementing the provi-
7 sions of chapters 51, 53, and 55 of title 38, United States
8 Code, the funding source for which is specifically provided
9 as the “Compensation and Pensions” appropriation: *Pro-*
10 *vided further*, That such sums as may be earned on an
11 actual qualifying patient basis, shall be reimbursed to
12 “Medical Care Collections Fund” to augment the funding
13 of individual medical facilities for nursing home care pro-
14 vided to pensioners as authorized.

15 READJUSTMENT BENEFITS

16 For the payment of readjustment and rehabilitation
17 benefits to or on behalf of veterans as authorized by chap-
18 ters 21, 30, 31, 33, 34, 35, 36, 39, 41, 51, 53, 55, and
19 61 of title 38, United States Code, \$2,657,656,000, which
20 shall be in addition to funds previously appropriated under
21 this heading that became available on October 1, 2024,
22 to remain available until expended; and in addition,
23 \$17,614,235,000, which shall become available on October
24 1, 2025, to remain available until expended: *Provided*,
25 That expenses for rehabilitation program services and as-

1 sistance which the Secretary is authorized to provide
2 under subsection (a) of section 3104 of title 38, United
3 States Code, other than under paragraphs (1), (2), (5),
4 and (11) of that subsection, shall be charged to this ac-
5 count.

6 VETERANS INSURANCE AND INDEMNITIES

7 For military and naval insurance, national service life
8 insurance, servicemen's indemnities, service-disabled vet-
9 erans insurance, and veterans mortgage life insurance as
10 authorized by chapters 19 and 21 of title 38, United
11 States Code, \$131,518,000, which shall become available
12 on October 1, 2025, to remain available until expended.

13 VETERANS HOUSING BENEFIT PROGRAM FUND

14 For the cost of direct and guaranteed loans, such
15 sums as may be necessary to carry out the program, as
16 authorized by subchapters I through III of chapter 37 of
17 title 38, United States Code: *Provided*, That such costs,
18 including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as de-
19 fined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of
20 1974: *Provided further*, That, during fiscal year 2025,
21 within the resources available, not to exceed \$500,000 in
22 gross obligations for direct loans are authorized for spe-
23 cially adapted housing loans.

1 In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out
2 the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$319,596,460
3 (reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000).

4 VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

5 For the cost of direct loans, \$64,431, as authorized
6 by chapter 31 of title 38, United States Code: *Provided*,
7 That such costs, including the cost of modifying such
8 loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congres-
9 sional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That funds
10 made available under this heading are available to sub-
11 sidize gross obligations for the principal amount of direct
12 loans not to exceed \$1,563,660.

13 In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to
14 carry out the direct loan program, \$493,868, which may
15 be paid to the appropriation for “General Operating Ex-
16 penses, Veterans Benefits Administration”.

17 NATIVE AMERICAN VETERAN HOUSING LOAN PROGRAM
18 ACCOUNT

19 For the principal amount of direct loans as author-
20 ized by subchapter V of chapter 37 of title 38, United
21 States Code, \$75,000,000, to remain available until ex-
22 pended.

23 In addition for administrative expenses necessary to
24 carry out the direct loan program, \$5,845,241.

1 GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES, VETERANS BENEFITS
2 ADMINISTRATION

3 For necessary operating expenses of the Veterans
4 Benefits Administration, not otherwise provided for, in-
5 cluding hire of passenger motor vehicles, reimbursement
6 of the General Services Administration for security guard
7 services, and reimbursement of the Department of De-
8 fense for the cost of overseas employee mail,
9 \$4,035,000,000 (reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by
10 \$1,000,000) (reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by
11 \$1,000,000): *Provided*, That expenses for services and as-
12 sistance authorized under paragraphs (1), (2), (5), and
13 (11) of section 3104(a) of title 38, United States Code,
14 that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs determines are nec-
15 essary to enable entitled veterans: (1) to the maximum ex-
16 tent feasible, to become employable and to obtain and
17 maintain suitable employment; or (2) to achieve maximum
18 independence in daily living, shall be charged to this ac-
19 count: *Provided further*, That, of the funds made available
20 under this heading, not to exceed 10 percent shall remain
21 available until September 30, 2026.

22 VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION
23 MEDICAL SERVICES

24 For necessary expenses for furnishing, as authorized
25 by law, inpatient and outpatient care and treatment to

1 beneficiaries of the Department of Veterans Affairs and
2 veterans described in section 1705(a) of title 38, United
3 States Code, including care and treatment in facilities not
4 under the jurisdiction of the Department, and including
5 medical supplies and equipment, bioengineering services,
6 food services, and salaries and expenses of healthcare em-
7 ployees hired under title 38, United States Code, assist-
8 ance and support services for caregivers as authorized by
9 section 1720G of title 38, United States Code, loan repay-
10 ments authorized by section 604 of the Caregivers and
11 Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010 (Public
12 Law 111–163; 124 Stat. 1174; 38 U.S.C. 7681 note),
13 monthly assistance allowances authorized by section
14 322(d) of title 38, United States Code, grants authorized
15 by section 521A of title 38, United States Code, and ad-
16 ministrative expenses necessary to carry out sections
17 322(d) and 521A of title 38, United States Code, and hos-
18 pital care and medical services authorized by section 1787
19 of title 38, United States Code; \$75,039,000,000 (reduced
20 by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000) (reduced by
21 \$10,000,000) (increased by \$10,000,000) (reduced by
22 \$5,000,000) (increased by \$5,000,000) (reduced by
23 \$20,000,000) (increased by \$20,000,000) (reduced by
24 \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000) (reduced by
25 \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000) (increased by

1 \$10,000,000) (reduced by \$10,000,000) (reduced by
2 \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000) (reduced by
3 \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000) (reduced by
4 \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000), plus reimburse-
5 ments, shall become available on October 1, 2025, and
6 shall remain available until September 30, 2026: *Provided*,
7 That, of the amount made available on October 1, 2025,
8 under this heading, \$2,000,000,000 (increased by
9 \$1,000,000) (reduced by \$1,000,000) shall remain avail-
10 able until September 30, 2027: *Provided further*, That,
11 notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary
12 of Veterans Affairs shall establish a priority for the provi-
13 sion of medical treatment for veterans who have service-
14 connected disabilities, lower income, or have special needs:
15 *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provi-
16 sion of law, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall give
17 priority funding for the provision of basic medical benefits
18 to veterans in enrollment priority groups 1 through 6: *Pro-*
19 *vided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision
20 of law, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may authorize
21 the dispensing of prescription drugs from Veterans Health
22 Administration facilities to enrolled veterans with privately
23 written prescriptions based on requirements established by
24 the Secretary: *Provided further*, That the implementation
25 of the program described in the previous proviso shall

1 incur no additional cost to the Department of Veterans
2 Affairs: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Veterans
3 Affairs shall ensure that sufficient amounts appropriated
4 under this heading for medical supplies and equipment are
5 available for the acquisition of prosthetics designed specifi-
6 cally for female veterans: *Provided further*, That nothing
7 in section 2044(e)(1) of title 38, United States Code, may
8 be construed as limiting amounts that may be made avail-
9 able under this heading for fiscal years 2024 and 2025
10 in this or prior Acts.

11 MEDICAL COMMUNITY CARE

12 For necessary expenses for furnishing health care to
13 individuals pursuant to chapter 17 of title 38, United
14 States Code, at non-Department facilities,
15 \$34,000,000,000 (reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by
16 \$1,000,000) (reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by
17 \$1,000,000), plus reimbursements, shall become available
18 on October 1, 2025, and shall remain available until Sep-
19 tember 30, 2026: *Provided*, That, of the amount made
20 available on October 1, 2025, under this heading,
21 \$2,000,000,000 shall remain available until September 30,
22 2027.

23 MEDICAL SUPPORT AND COMPLIANCE

24 For necessary expenses in the administration of the
25 medical, hospital, nursing home, domiciliary, construction,

1 supply, and research activities, as authorized by law; ad-
2 ministrative expenses in support of capital policy activi-
3 ties; and administrative and legal expenses of the Depart-
4 ment for collecting and recovering amounts owed the De-
5 partment as authorized under chapter 17 of title 38,
6 United States Code, and the Federal Medical Care Recov-
7 ery Act (42 U.S.C. 2651 et seq.), \$12,700,000,000, plus
8 reimbursements, shall become available on October 1,
9 2025, and shall remain available until September 30,
10 2026: *Provided*, That, of the amount made available on
11 October 1, 2025, under this heading, \$350,000,000 shall
12 remain available until September 30, 2027.

13 MEDICAL FACILITIES

14 For necessary expenses for the maintenance and op-
15 eration of hospitals, nursing homes, domiciliary facilities,
16 and other necessary facilities of the Veterans Health Ad-
17 ministration; for administrative expenses in support of
18 planning, design, project management, real property ac-
19 quisition and disposition, construction, and renovation of
20 any facility under the jurisdiction or for the use of the
21 Department; for oversight, engineering, and architectural
22 activities not charged to project costs; for repairing, alter-
23 ing, improving, or providing facilities in the several hos-
24 pitals and homes under the jurisdiction of the Depart-
25 ment, not otherwise provided for, either by contract or by

1 the hire of temporary employees and purchase of mate-
2 rials; for leases of facilities; and for laundry services;
3 \$9,700,000,000 (reduced by \$10,000,000) (increased by
4 \$10,000,000) (increased by \$3,250,000) (reduced by
5 \$3,250,000), plus reimbursements, shall become available
6 on October 1, 2025, and shall remain available until Sep-
7 tember 30, 2026: *Provided*, That, of the amount made
8 available on October 1, 2025, under this heading,
9 \$500,000,000 shall remain available until September 30,
10 2027.

11 MEDICAL AND PROSTHETIC RESEARCH

12 For necessary expenses in carrying out programs of
13 medical and prosthetic research and development as au-
14 thorized by chapter 73 of title 38, United States Code,
15 \$923,514,000 (increased by \$2,000,000) (reduced by
16 \$5,000,000) (increased by \$5,000,000) (reduced by
17 \$20,000,000) (increased by \$20,000,000) (reduced by
18 \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000), plus reimburse-
19 ments, shall remain available until September 30, 2026:
20 *Provided*, That the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall en-
21 sure that sufficient amounts appropriated under this
22 heading are available for prosthetic research specifically
23 for female veterans, and for toxic exposure research.

1 NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION

2 For necessary expenses of the National Cemetery Ad-
3 ministration for operations and maintenance, not other-
4 wise provided for, including uniforms or allowances there-
5 for; cemeterial expenses as authorized by law; purchase
6 of one passenger motor vehicle for use in cemeterial oper-
7 ations; hire of passenger motor vehicles; and repair, alter-
8 ation or improvement of facilities under the jurisdiction
9 of the National Cemetery Administration, \$495,000,000,
10 of which not to exceed 10 percent shall remain available
11 until September 30, 2026.

12 DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

13 GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

14 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

15 For necessary operating expenses of the Department
16 of Veterans Affairs, not otherwise provided for, including
17 administrative expenses in support of Department-wide
18 capital planning, management and policy activities, uni-
19 forms, or allowances therefor; not to exceed \$25,000 for
20 official reception and representation expenses; hire of pas-
21 senger motor vehicles; and reimbursement of the General
22 Services Administration for security guard services,
23 \$457,000,000 (reduced by \$2,000,000) (reduced by
24 \$3,000,000) (reduced by \$2,000,000) (reduced by
25 \$3,500,000) (reduced by \$3,500,000) (reduced by

1 \$1,000,000), of which not to exceed 10 percent shall re-
2 main available until September 30, 2026: *Provided*, That
3 funds provided under this heading may be transferred to
4 “General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Adminis-
5 tration”.

6 BOARD OF VETERANS APPEALS

7 For necessary operating expenses of the Board of
8 Veterans Appeals, \$267,000,000 (increased by
9 \$2,000,000) (reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by
10 \$1,000,000) of which not to exceed 10 percent shall re-
11 main available until September 30, 2026.

12 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS

13 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

14 For necessary expenses for information technology
15 systems and telecommunications support, including devel-
16 opmental information systems and operational information
17 systems; for pay and associated costs; and for the capital
18 asset acquisition of information technology systems, in-
19 cluding management and related contractual costs of said
20 acquisitions, including contractual costs associated with
21 operations authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United
22 States Code, \$6,231,680,000 (reduced by \$2,000,000) (re-
23 duced by \$10,000,000) (increased by \$10,000,000), plus
24 reimbursements: *Provided*, That \$1,686,245,270 (reduced
25 by \$2,000,000) shall be for pay and associated costs, of

1 which not to exceed 3 percent shall remain available until
2 September 30, 2026: *Provided further*, That
3 \$4,544,475,000 shall be for operations and maintenance,
4 of which not to exceed 5 percent shall remain available
5 until September 30, 2026, and of which \$118,900,000
6 shall remain available until September 30, 2028, for the
7 purpose of facility activations related to projects funded
8 by the “Construction, Major Projects”, “Construction,
9 Minor Projects”, “Medical Facilities”, “National Ceme-
10 tery Administration”, “General Operating Expenses, Vet-
11 erans Benefit Administration”, and “General Administra-
12 tion” accounts: *Provided further*, That \$960,000 shall be
13 for information technology systems development, and shall
14 remain available until September 30, 2026: *Provided fur-*
15 *ther*, That amounts made available for salaries and ex-
16 penses, operations and maintenance, and information
17 technology systems development may be transferred
18 among the three subaccounts after the Secretary of Vet-
19 erans Affairs requests from the Committees on Appropria-
20 tions of both Houses of Congress the authority to make
21 the transfer and an approval is issued: *Provided further*,
22 That amounts made available for the “Information Tech-
23 nology Systems” account for development may be trans-
24 ferred among projects or to newly defined projects: *Pro-*
25 *vided further*, That no project may be increased or de-

1 creased by more than \$3,000,000 of cost prior to submit-
2 ting a request to the Committees on Appropriations of
3 both Houses of Congress to make the transfer and an ap-
4 proval is issued, or absent a response, a period of 30 days
5 has elapsed: *Provided further*, That the funds made avail-
6 able under this heading for information technology sys-
7 tems development shall be for the projects, and in the
8 amounts, specified in the table entitled “Information
9 Technology Development Projects” under this heading in
10 the report accompanying this Act.

11 VETERANS ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD

12 For activities related to implementation, preparation,
13 development, interface, management, rollout, and mainte-
14 nance of a Veterans Electronic Health Record system, in-
15 cluding contractual costs associated with operations au-
16 thorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code,
17 and salaries and expenses of employees hired under titles
18 5 and 38, United States Code, \$894,000,000, to remain
19 available until September 30, 2026: *Provided*, That the
20 Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Commit-
21 tees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress quar-
22 terly reports detailing obligations, expenditures, and de-
23 ployment implementation by facility, including any
24 changes from the deployment plan or schedule: *Provided*
25 *further*, That the funds provided in this account shall only

1 be available to the Office of the Deputy Secretary, to be
2 administered by that Office: *Provided further*, That 25
3 percent of the funds made available under this heading
4 shall not be available until July 1, 2025, and are contin-
5 gent upon the Secretary of Veterans Affairs—

6 (1) providing the Committees on Appropriations
7 a report detailing the status of outstanding issues
8 impacting the stability and usability of the new elec-
9 tronic health record system, including those that
10 contributed to the October 13, 2022, deployment
11 delay, along with a timeline and measurable metrics
12 to resolve issues, no later than 60 days after enact-
13 ment of this Act;

14 (2) certifying and detailing any changes to the
15 full deployment schedule, no later than 60 days prior
16 to July 1, 2025; and

17 (3) certifying in writing no later than 30 days
18 prior to July 1, 2025, the following—

19 (A) the status of issues included in the re-
20 port referenced in paragraph (1), including
21 issues that have not been closed but have been
22 suitably resolved or mitigated in a manner that
23 will enhance provider productivity and minimize
24 the potential for patient harm; and

1 (B) whether the system is stable, ready,
2 and optimized for further deployment at VA
3 sites.

4 OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

5 For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector
6 General, to include information technology, in carrying out
7 the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5
8 U.S.C. App.), \$296,000,000 (increased by \$2,000,000), of
9 which not to exceed 10 percent shall remain available until
10 September 30, 2026.

11 CONSTRUCTION, MAJOR PROJECTS

12 For constructing, altering, extending, and improving
13 any of the facilities, including parking projects, under the
14 jurisdiction or for the use of the Department of Veterans
15 Affairs, or for any of the purposes set forth in sections
16 316, 2404, 2406 and chapter 81 of title 38, United States
17 Code, not otherwise provided for, including planning, ar-
18 chitectural and engineering services, construction manage-
19 ment services, maintenance or guarantee period services
20 costs associated with equipment guarantees provided
21 under the project, services of claims analysts, offsite utility
22 and storm drainage system construction costs, and site ac-
23 quisition, where the estimated cost of a project is more
24 than the amount set forth in section 8104(a)(3)(A) of title
25 38, United States Code, or where funds for a project were

1 made available in a previous major project appropriation,
2 \$2,069,000,000, of which \$1,265,000,000 shall remain
3 available until September 30, 2029, and of which
4 \$803,700,000 shall remain available until expended: *Pro-*
5 *vided*, That except for advance planning activities, includ-
6 ing needs assessments which may or may not lead to cap-
7 ital investments, and other capital asset management re-
8 lated activities, including portfolio development and man-
9 agement activities, and planning, cost estimating, and de-
10 sign for major medical facility projects and major medical
11 facility leases and investment strategy studies funded
12 through the advance planning fund and the planning and
13 design activities funded through the design fund, staffing
14 expenses, and funds provided for the purchase, security,
15 and maintenance of land for the National Cemetery Ad-
16 ministration and the Veterans Health Administration
17 through the land acquisition line item, none of the funds
18 made available under this heading shall be used for any
19 project that has not been notified to Congress through the
20 budgetary process or that has not been approved by the
21 Congress through statute, joint resolution, or in the ex-
22 planatory statement accompanying such Act and pre-
23 sented to the President at the time of enrollment: *Provided*
24 *further*, That funds provided for the Veterans Health Ad-
25 ministration through the land acquisition line item shall

1 only be for projects included on the five year development
2 plan notified to Congress through the budgetary process:
3 *Provided further*, That such sums as may be necessary
4 shall be available to reimburse the “General Administra-
5 tion” account for payment of salaries and expenses of all
6 Office of Construction and Facilities Management employ-
7 ees to support the full range of capital infrastructure serv-
8 ices provided, including minor construction and leasing
9 services: *Provided further*, That funds made available
10 under this heading for fiscal year 2025, for each approved
11 project shall be obligated: (1) by the awarding of a con-
12 struction documents contract by September 30, 2025; and
13 (2) by the awarding of a construction contract by Sep-
14 tember 30, 2026: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of
15 Veterans Affairs shall promptly submit to the Committees
16 on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a written
17 report on any approved major construction project for
18 which obligations are not incurred within the time limita-
19 tions established above.

20 CONSTRUCTION, MINOR PROJECTS

21 For constructing, altering, extending, and improving
22 any of the facilities, including parking projects, under the
23 jurisdiction or for the use of the Department of Veterans
24 Affairs, including planning and assessments of needs
25 which may lead to capital investments, architectural and

1 engineering services, maintenance or guarantee period
2 services costs associated with equipment guarantees pro-
3 vided under the project, services of claims analysts, offsite
4 utility and storm drainage system construction costs, and
5 site acquisition, or for any of the purposes set forth in
6 sections 316, 2404, 2406 and chapter 81 of title 38,
7 United States Code, not otherwise provided for, where the
8 estimated cost of a project is equal to or less than the
9 amount set forth in section 8104(a)(3)(A) of title 38,
10 United States Code, \$380,453,000, of which
11 \$342,408,000 shall remain available until September 30,
12 2029, and of which \$38,045,000 shall remain available
13 until expended, along with unobligated balances of pre-
14 vious “Construction, Minor Projects” appropriations
15 which are hereby made available for any project where the
16 estimated cost is equal to or less than the amount set forth
17 in such section: *Provided*, That funds made available
18 under this heading shall be for: (1) repairs to any of the
19 nonmedical facilities under the jurisdiction or for the use
20 of the Department which are necessary because of loss or
21 damage caused by any natural disaster or catastrophe;
22 and (2) temporary measures necessary to prevent or to
23 minimize further loss by such causes.

1 GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF STATE EXTENDED CARE
2 FACILITIES

3 For grants to assist States to acquire or construct
4 State nursing home and domiciliary facilities and to re-
5 model, modify, or alter existing hospital, nursing home,
6 and domiciliary facilities in State homes, for furnishing
7 care to veterans as authorized by sections 8131 through
8 8137 of title 38, United States Code, \$156,000,000 (in-
9 creased by \$2,000,000) (reduced by \$15,000,000) (in-
10 creased by \$15,000,000) (reduced by \$1,000,000) (in-
11 creased by \$1,000,000), to remain available until ex-
12 pended.

13 GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF VETERANS CEMETERIES

14 For grants to assist States and tribal organizations
15 in establishing, expanding, or improving veterans ceme-
16 teries as authorized by section 2408 of title 38, United
17 States Code, \$60,000,000 (increased by \$2,000,000) (in-
18 creased by \$2,000,000) (reduced by \$1,000,000) (in-
19 creased by \$1,000,000), to remain available until ex-
20 pended.

21 COST OF WAR TOXIC EXPOSURES FUND

22 For investment in the delivery of veterans' health
23 care associated with exposure to environmental hazards,
24 the expenses incident to the delivery of veterans' health
25 care and benefits associated with exposure to environ-

1 mental hazards, and medical and other research relating
2 to exposure to environmental hazards, as authorized by
3 section 324 of title 38, United States Code, and in addi-
4 tion to the amounts otherwise available for such purposes
5 in the appropriations provided in this or prior Acts,
6 \$22,800,000,000, which shall become available on October
7 1, 2025, and shall remain available until expended.

8 ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

9 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

10 SEC. 201. Any appropriation for fiscal year 2025 for
11 “Compensation and Pensions”, “Readjustment Benefits”,
12 and “Veterans Insurance and Indemnities” may be trans-
13 ferred as necessary to any other of the mentioned appro-
14 priations: *Provided*, That, before a transfer may take
15 place, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall request from
16 the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Con-
17 gress the authority to make the transfer and such Com-
18 mittees issue an approval, or absent a response, a period
19 of 30 days has elapsed.

20 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

21 SEC. 202. Amounts made available for the Depart-
22 ment of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2025, in this or
23 any other Act, under the “Medical Services”, “Medical
24 Community Care”, “Medical Support and Compliance”,
25 and “Medical Facilities” accounts may be transferred

1 among the accounts: *Provided*, That any transfers among
2 the “Medical Services”, “Medical Community Care”, and
3 “Medical Support and Compliance” accounts of 1 percent
4 or less of the total amount appropriated to the account
5 in this or any other Act may take place subject to notifica-
6 tion from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to the Com-
7 mittees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of
8 the amount and purpose of the transfer: *Provided further*,
9 That any transfers among the “Medical Services”, “Med-
10 ical Community Care”, and “Medical Support and Compli-
11 ance” accounts in excess of 1 percent, or exceeding the
12 cumulative 1 percent for the fiscal year, may take place
13 only after the Secretary requests from the Committees on
14 Appropriations of both Houses of Congress the authority
15 to make the transfer and an approval is issued: *Provided*
16 *further*, That any transfers to or from the “Medical Facili-
17 ties” account may take place only after the Secretary re-
18 quests from the Committees on Appropriations of both
19 Houses of Congress the authority to make the transfer
20 and an approval is issued.

21 SEC. 203. Appropriations available in this title for
22 salaries and expenses shall be available for services au-
23 thorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code;
24 hire of passenger motor vehicles; lease of a facility or land
25 or both; and uniforms or allowances therefore, as author-

1 ized by sections 5901 through 5902 of title 5, United
2 States Code.

3 SEC. 204. No appropriations in this title (except the
4 appropriations for “Construction, Major Projects”, and
5 “Construction, Minor Projects”) shall be available for the
6 purchase of any site for or toward the construction of any
7 new hospital or home.

8 SEC. 205. No appropriations in this title shall be
9 available for hospitalization or examination of any persons
10 (except beneficiaries entitled to such hospitalization or ex-
11 amination under the laws providing such benefits to vet-
12 erans, and persons receiving such treatment under sec-
13 tions 7901 through 7904 of title 5, United States Code,
14 or the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency
15 Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.)), unless reim-
16 bursement of the cost of such hospitalization or examina-
17 tion is made to the “Medical Services” account at such
18 rates as may be fixed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

19 SEC. 206. Appropriations available in this title for
20 “Compensation and Pensions”, “Readjustment Benefits”,
21 and “Veterans Insurance and Indemnities” shall be avail-
22 able for payment of prior year accrued obligations re-
23 quired to be recorded by law against the corresponding
24 prior year accounts within the last quarter of fiscal year
25 2024.

1 administration of such an insurance program exceeds the
2 amount of surplus earnings accumulated in that program,
3 reimbursement shall be made only to the extent of such
4 surplus earnings: *Provided further*, That the Secretary
5 shall determine the cost of administration for fiscal year
6 2025 which is properly allocable to the provision of each
7 such insurance program and to the provision of any total
8 disability income insurance included in that insurance pro-
9 gram.

10 SEC. 209. Amounts deducted from enhanced-use
11 lease proceeds to reimburse an account for expenses in-
12 curred by that account during a prior fiscal year for pro-
13 viding enhanced-use lease services shall be available until
14 expended.

15 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

16 SEC. 210. Funds available in this title or funds for
17 salaries and other administrative expenses shall also be
18 available to reimburse the Office of Resolution Manage-
19 ment, Diversity and Inclusion, the Office of Employment
20 Discrimination Complaint Adjudication, and the Alter-
21 native Dispute Resolution function within the Office of
22 Human Resources and Administration for all services pro-
23 vided at rates which will recover actual costs but not to
24 exceed \$133,363,000 for the Office of Resolution Manage-
25 ment, Diversity and Inclusion, \$9,606,581 for the Office

1 of Employment Discrimination Complaint Adjudication,
2 and \$7,686,000 for the Alternative Dispute Resolution
3 function within the Office of Human Resources and Ad-
4 ministration: *Provided*, That payments may be made in
5 advance for services to be furnished based on estimated
6 costs: *Provided further*, That amounts received shall be
7 credited to the “General Administration” and “Informa-
8 tion Technology Systems” accounts for use by the office
9 that provided the service.

10 SEC. 211. No funds of the Department of Veterans
11 Affairs shall be available for hospital care, nursing home
12 care, or medical services provided to any person under
13 chapter 17 of title 38, United States Code, for a non-serv-
14 ice-connected disability described in section 1729(a)(2) of
15 such title, unless that person has disclosed to the Sec-
16 retary of Veterans Affairs, in such form as the Secretary
17 may require, current, accurate third-party reimbursement
18 information for purposes of section 1729 of such title: *Pro-*
19 *vided*, That the Secretary may recover, in the same man-
20 ner as any other debt due the United States, the reason-
21 able charges for such care or services from any person who
22 does not make such disclosure as required: *Provided fur-*
23 *ther*, That any amounts so recovered for care or services
24 provided in a prior fiscal year may be obligated by the

1 Secretary during the fiscal year in which amounts are re-
2 ceived.

3 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

4 SEC. 212. Notwithstanding any other provision of
5 law, proceeds or revenues derived from enhanced-use leas-
6 ing activities (including disposal) may be deposited into
7 the “Construction, Major Projects” and “Construction,
8 Minor Projects” accounts and be used for construction
9 (including site acquisition and disposition), alterations,
10 and improvements of any medical facility under the juris-
11 diction or for the use of the Department of Veterans Af-
12 fairs. Such sums as realized are in addition to the amount
13 provided for in “Construction, Major Projects” and “Con-
14 struction, Minor Projects”.

15 SEC. 213. Amounts made available under “Medical
16 Services” are available—

17 (1) for furnishing recreational facilities, sup-
18 plies, and equipment; and

19 (2) for funeral expenses, burial expenses, and
20 other expenses incidental to funerals and burials for
21 beneficiaries receiving care in the Department.

22 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

23 SEC. 214. Such sums as may be deposited into the
24 Medical Care Collections Fund pursuant to section 1729A
25 of title 38, United States Code, may be transferred to the

1 Houses of Congress a report on the financial status of the
2 Department of Veterans Affairs for the preceding quarter:
3 *Provided*, That, at a minimum, the report shall include
4 the direction contained in the paragraph entitled “Quar-
5 terly reporting”, under the heading “General Administra-
6 tion” in the joint explanatory statement accompanying
7 Public Law 114–223.

8 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

9 SEC. 218. Amounts made available under the “Med-
10 ical Services”, “Medical Community Care”, “Medical Sup-
11 port and Compliance”, “Medical Facilities”, “General Op-
12 erating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration”,
13 “Board of Veterans Appeals”, “General Administration”,
14 and “National Cemetery Administration” accounts for fis-
15 cal year 2025 may be transferred to or from the “Informa-
16 tion Technology Systems” account: *Provided*, That such
17 transfers may not result in a more than 10 percent aggre-
18 gate increase in the total amount made available by this
19 Act for the “Information Technology Systems” account:
20 *Provided further*, That, before a transfer may take place,
21 the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall request from the
22 Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress
23 the authority to make the transfer and an approval is
24 issued.

1 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

2 SEC. 219. Of the amounts appropriated to the De-
3 partment of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2025 for
4 “Medical Services”, “Medical Community Care”, “Medical
5 Support and Compliance”, “Medical Facilities”, “Con-
6 struction, Minor Projects”, and “Information Technology
7 Systems”, up to \$594,828,000, plus reimbursements, may
8 be transferred to the Joint Department of Defense—De-
9 partment of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstra-
10 tion Fund, established by section 1704 of the National De-
11 fense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law
12 111–84; 123 Stat. 2571) and may be used for operation
13 of the facilities designated as combined Federal medical
14 facilities as described by section 706 of the Duncan Hun-
15 ter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year
16 2009 (Public Law 110–417; 122 Stat. 4500): *Provided*,
17 That additional funds may be transferred from accounts
18 designated in this section to the Joint Department of De-
19 fense—Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility
20 Demonstration Fund upon written notification by the Sec-
21 retary of Veterans Affairs to the Committees on Appro-
22 priations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided further*,
23 That section 220 of title II of division A of Public Law
24 118–42 is repealed.

1 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

2 SEC. 220. Of the amounts appropriated to the De-
3 partment of Veterans Affairs which become available on
4 October 1, 2025, for “Medical Services”, “Medical Com-
5 munity Care”, “Medical Support and Compliance”, and
6 “Medical Facilities”, up to \$664,625,000, plus reimburse-
7 ments, may be transferred to the Joint Department of De-
8 fense—Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility
9 Demonstration Fund, established by section 1704 of the
10 National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010
11 (Public Law 111–84; 123 Stat. 2571) and may be used
12 for operation of the facilities designated as combined Fed-
13 eral medical facilities as described by section 706 of the
14 Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for
15 Fiscal Year 2009 (Public Law 110–417; 122 Stat. 4500):
16 *Provided*, That additional funds may be transferred from
17 accounts designated in this section to the Joint Depart-
18 ment of Defense—Department of Veterans Affairs Med-
19 ical Facility Demonstration Fund upon written notifica-
20 tion by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to the Commit-
21 tees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

22 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

23 SEC. 221. Such sums as may be deposited into the
24 Medical Care Collections Fund pursuant to section 1729A
25 of title 38, United States Code, for healthcare provided

1 at facilities designated as combined Federal medical facili-
2 ties as described by section 706 of the Duncan Hunter
3 National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009
4 (Public Law 110–417; 122 Stat. 4500) shall also be avail-
5 able: (1) for transfer to the Joint Department of De-
6 fense—Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility
7 Demonstration Fund, established by section 1704 of the
8 National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010
9 (Public Law 111–84; 123 Stat. 2571); and (2) for oper-
10 ations of the facilities designated as combined Federal
11 medical facilities as described by section 706 of the Dun-
12 can Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal
13 Year 2009 (Public Law 110–417; 122 Stat. 4500): *Pro-*
14 *vided*, That, notwithstanding section 1704(b)(3) of the
15 National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010
16 (Public Law 111–84; 123 Stat. 2573), amounts trans-
17 ferred to the Joint Department of Defense—Department
18 of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund
19 shall remain available until expended.

20 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

21 SEC. 222. Of the amounts available in this title for
22 “Medical Services”, “Medical Community Care”, “Medical
23 Support and Compliance”, and “Medical Facilities”, a
24 minimum of \$15,000,000 shall be transferred to the
25 DOD–VA Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund, as au-

1 thORIZED by section 8111(d) of title 38, United States
2 Code, to remain available until expended, for any purpose
3 authorized by section 8111 of title 38, United States Code.

4 SEC. 223. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall no-
5 tify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of
6 Congress of all bid savings in a major construction project
7 that total at least \$5,000,000, or 5 percent of the pro-
8 grammed amount of the project, whichever is less: *Pro-*
9 *vided*, That such notification shall occur within 14 days
10 of a contract identifying the programmed amount: *Pro-*
11 *vided further*, That the Secretary shall notify the Commit-
12 tees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress 14
13 days prior to the obligation of such bid savings and shall
14 describe the anticipated use of such savings.

15 SEC. 224. None of the funds made available for
16 “Construction, Major Projects” may be used for a project
17 in excess of the scope specified for that project in the origi-
18 nal justification data provided to the Congress as part of
19 the request for appropriations unless the Secretary of Vet-
20 erans Affairs receives approval from the Committees on
21 Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

22 SEC. 225. Not later than 30 days after the end of
23 each fiscal quarter, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall
24 submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both
25 Houses of Congress a quarterly report containing perform-

1 ance measures and data from each Veterans Benefits Ad-
2 ministration Regional Office: *Provided*, That, at a min-
3 imum, the report shall include the direction contained in
4 the section entitled “Disability claims backlog”, under the
5 heading “General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits
6 Administration” in the joint explanatory statement accom-
7 panying Public Law 114–223: *Provided further*, That the
8 report shall also include information on the number of ap-
9 peals pending at the Veterans Benefits Administration as
10 well as the Board of Veterans Appeals on a quarterly
11 basis.

12 SEC. 226. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall
13 provide written notification to the Committees on Appro-
14 priations of both Houses of Congress 15 days prior to or-
15 ganizational changes which result in the transfer of 25 or
16 more full-time equivalents from one organizational unit of
17 the Department of Veterans Affairs to another.

18 SEC. 227. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall
19 provide on a quarterly basis to the Committees on Appro-
20 priations of both Houses of Congress notification of any
21 single national outreach and awareness marketing cam-
22 paign in which obligations exceed \$1,000,000.

23 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

24 SEC. 228. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, upon
25 determination that such action is necessary to address

1 needs of the Veterans Health Administration, may trans-
2 fer to the “Medical Services” account any discretionary
3 appropriations made available for fiscal year 2025 in this
4 title (except appropriations made to the “General Oper-
5 ating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration” ac-
6 count) or any discretionary unobligated balances within
7 the Department of Veterans Affairs, including those ap-
8 propriated for fiscal year 2025, that were provided in ad-
9 vance by appropriations Acts: *Provided*, That transfers
10 shall be made only with the approval of the Office of Man-
11 agement and Budget: *Provided further*, That the transfer
12 authority provided in this section is in addition to any
13 other transfer authority provided by law: *Provided further*,
14 That no amounts may be transferred from amounts that
15 were designated by Congress as an emergency requirement
16 pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the
17 Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of
18 1985: *Provided further*, That such authority to transfer
19 may not be used unless for higher priority items, based
20 on emergent healthcare requirements, than those for
21 which originally appropriated and in no case where the
22 item for which funds are requested has been denied by
23 Congress: *Provided further*, That, upon determination that
24 all or part of the funds transferred from an appropriation
25 are not necessary, such amounts may be transferred back

1 to that appropriation and shall be available for the same
2 purposes as originally appropriated: *Provided further*,
3 That before a transfer may take place, the Secretary of
4 Veterans Affairs shall request from the Committees on
5 Appropriations of both Houses of Congress the authority
6 to make the transfer and receive approval of that request.

7 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

8 SEC. 229. Amounts made available for the Depart-
9 ment of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2025, under the
10 “Board of Veterans Appeals” and the “General Operating
11 Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration” accounts
12 may be transferred between such accounts: *Provided*, That
13 before a transfer may take place, the Secretary of Vet-
14 erans Affairs shall request from the Committees on Appro-
15 priations of both Houses of Congress the authority to
16 make the transfer and receive approval of that request.

17 SEC. 230. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may not
18 reprogram funds among major construction projects or
19 programs if such instance of reprogramming will exceed
20 \$7,000,000, unless such reprogramming is approved by
21 the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Con-
22 gress.

23 SEC. 231. (a) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall
24 ensure that the toll-free suicide hotline under section
25 1720F(h) of title 38, United States Code—

1 (1) provides to individuals who contact the hot-
2 line immediate assistance from a trained profes-
3 sional; and

4 (2) adheres to all requirements of the American
5 Association of Suicidology.

6 (b)(1) None of the funds made available by this Act
7 may be used to enforce or otherwise carry out any Execu-
8 tive action that prohibits the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
9 from appointing an individual to occupy a vacant civil
10 service position, or establishing a new civil service position,
11 at the Department of Veterans Affairs with respect to
12 such a position relating to the hotline specified in sub-
13 section (a).

14 (2) In this subsection—

15 (A) the term “civil service” has the meaning
16 given such term in section 2101(1) of title 5, United
17 States Code; and

18 (B) the term “Executive action” includes—

19 (i) any Executive order, Presidential
20 memorandum, or other action by the President;
21 and

22 (ii) any agency policy, order, or other di-
23 rective.

24 (c)(1) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall con-
25 duct a study on the effectiveness of the hotline specified

1 in subsection (a) during the 5-year period beginning on
2 January 1, 2016, based on an analysis of national suicide
3 data and data collected from such hotline.

4 (2) At a minimum, the study required by paragraph
5 (1) shall—

6 (A) determine the number of veterans who con-
7 tact the hotline specified in subsection (a) and who
8 receive follow up services from the hotline or mental
9 health services from the Department of Veterans Af-
10 fairs thereafter;

11 (B) determine the number of veterans who con-
12 tact the hotline who are not referred to, or do not
13 continue receiving, mental health care who commit
14 suicide; and

15 (C) determine the number of veterans described
16 in subparagraph (A) who commit or attempt suicide.

17 SEC. 232. Effective during the period beginning on
18 October 1, 2018, and ending on January 1, 2026, none
19 of the funds made available to the Secretary of Veterans
20 Affairs by this or any other Act may be obligated or ex-
21 pended in contravention of the “Veterans Health Adminis-
22 tration Clinical Preventive Services Guidance Statement
23 on the Veterans Health Administration’s Screening for
24 Breast Cancer Guidance” published on May 10, 2017, as

1 issued by the Veterans Health Administration National
2 Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention.

3 SEC. 233. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision
4 of law, the amounts appropriated or otherwise made avail-
5 able to the Department of Veterans Affairs for the “Med-
6 ical Services” account may be used to provide—

7 (1) fertility counseling and treatment using as-
8 sisted reproductive technology to a covered veteran
9 or the spouse of a covered veteran; or

10 (2) adoption reimbursement to a covered vet-
11 eran.

12 (b) In this section:

13 (1) The term “service-connected” has the
14 meaning given such term in section 101 of title 38,
15 United States Code.

16 (2) The term “covered veteran” means a vet-
17 eran, as such term is defined in section 101 of title
18 38, United States Code, who has a service-connected
19 disability that results in the inability of the veteran
20 to procreate without the use of fertility treatment.

21 (3) The term “assisted reproductive tech-
22 nology” means benefits relating to reproductive as-
23 sistance provided to a member of the Armed Forces
24 who incurs a serious injury or illness on active duty
25 pursuant to section 1074(c)(4)(A) of title 10, United

1 States Code, as described in the memorandum on
2 the subject of “Policy for Assisted Reproductive
3 Services for the Benefit of Seriously or Severely Ill/
4 Injured (Category II or III) Active Duty Service
5 Members” issued by the Assistant Secretary of De-
6 fense for Health Affairs on April 3, 2012, and the
7 guidance issued to implement such policy, including
8 any limitations on the amount of such benefits avail-
9 able to such a member except that—

10 (A) the time periods regarding embryo
11 cryopreservation and storage set forth in part
12 III(G) and in part IV(H) of such memorandum
13 shall not apply; and

14 (B) such term includes embryo
15 cryopreservation and storage without limitation
16 on the duration of such cryopreservation and
17 storage.

18 (4) The term “adoption reimbursement” means
19 reimbursement for the adoption-related expenses for
20 an adoption that is finalized after the date of the en-
21 actment of this Act under the same terms as apply
22 under the adoption reimbursement program of the
23 Department of Defense, as authorized in Depart-
24 ment of Defense Instruction 1341.09, including the

1 reimbursement limits and requirements set forth in
2 such instruction.

3 (c) Amounts made available for the purposes speci-
4 fied in subsection (a) of this section are subject to the
5 requirements for funds contained in section 508 of division
6 H of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public
7 Law 115–141).

8 SEC. 234. None of the funds appropriated or other-
9 wise made available by this Act or any other Act for the
10 Department of Veterans Affairs may be used in a manner
11 that is inconsistent with: (1) section 842 of the Transpor-
12 tation, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development, the
13 Judiciary, the District of Columbia, and Independent
14 Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006 (Public Law 109–115;
15 119 Stat. 2506); or (2) section 8110(a)(5) of title 38,
16 United States Code.

17 SEC. 235. Section 842 of Public Law 109–115 shall
18 not apply to conversion of an activity or function of the
19 Veterans Health Administration, Veterans Benefits Ad-
20 ministration, or National Cemetery Administration to con-
21 tractor performance by a business concern that is at least
22 51 percent owned by one or more Indian Tribes as defined
23 in section 5304(e) of title 25, United States Code, or one
24 or more Native Hawaiian Organizations as defined in sec-
25 tion 637(a)(15) of title 15, United States Code.

1 SEC. 236. (a) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in
2 consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Sec-
3 retary of Labor, shall discontinue using Social Security
4 account numbers to authenticate individuals in all infor-
5 mation systems of the Department of Veterans Affairs for
6 all individuals not later than September 30, 2024:

7 (b) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may collect and
8 use a Social Security account number to identify an indi-
9 vidual, in accordance with section 552a of title 5, United
10 States Code, in an information system of the Department
11 of Veterans Affairs if and only if the use of such number
12 is necessary to:

13 (1) obtain or provide information the Secretary
14 requires from an information system that is not
15 under the jurisdiction of the Secretary;

16 (2) comply with a law, regulation, or court
17 order;

18 (3) perform anti-fraud activities; or

19 (4) identify a specific individual where no ade-
20 quate substitute is available.

21 (c) The matter in subsections (a) and (b) shall super-
22 sede section 237 of division J of Public Law 117–328.

23 SEC. 237. For funds provided to the Department of
24 Veterans Affairs for each of fiscal year 2025 and 2026

1 for “Medical Services”, section 239 of division A of Public
2 Law 114–223 shall apply.

3 SEC. 238. None of the funds appropriated in this or
4 prior appropriations Acts or otherwise made available to
5 the Department of Veterans Affairs may be used to trans-
6 fer any amounts from the Filipino Veterans Equity Com-
7 pensation Fund to any other account within the Depart-
8 ment of Veterans Affairs.

9 SEC. 239. Of the funds provided to the Department
10 of Veterans Affairs for each of fiscal year 2025 and fiscal
11 year 2026 for “Medical Services”, funds may be used in
12 each year to carry out and expand the child care program
13 authorized by section 205 of Public Law 111–163, not-
14 withstanding subsection (e) of such section.

15 SEC. 240. None of the funds appropriated or other-
16 wise made available in this title may be used by the Sec-
17 retary of Veterans Affairs to enter into an agreement re-
18 lated to resolving a dispute or claim with an individual
19 that would restrict in any way the individual from speak-
20 ing to members of Congress or their staff on any topic
21 not otherwise prohibited from disclosure by Federal law
22 or required by Executive order to be kept secret in the
23 interest of national defense or the conduct of foreign af-
24 fairs.

1 SEC. 241. For funds provided to the Department of
2 Veterans Affairs for each of fiscal year 2025 and 2026,
3 section 258 of division A of Public Law 114–223 shall
4 apply.

5 SEC. 242. (a) None of the funds appropriated or oth-
6 erwise made available by this Act may be used to deny
7 an Inspector General funded under this Act timely access
8 to any records, documents, or other materials available to
9 the department or agency over which that Inspector Gen-
10 eral has responsibilities under the Inspector General Act
11 of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), or to prevent or impede the ac-
12 cess of the Inspector General to such records, documents,
13 or other materials, under any provision of law, except a
14 provision of law that expressly refers to such Inspector
15 General and expressly limits the right of access.

16 (b) A department or agency covered by this section
17 shall provide its Inspector General access to all records,
18 documents, and other materials in a timely manner.

19 (c) Each Inspector General shall ensure compliance
20 with statutory limitations on disclosure relevant to the in-
21 formation provided by the establishment over which that
22 Inspector General has responsibilities under the Inspector
23 General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.).

24 (d) Each Inspector General covered by this section
25 shall report to the Committee on Appropriations of the

1 Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House
2 of Representatives within 5 calendar days of any failure
3 by any department or agency covered by this section to
4 comply with this requirement.

5 SEC. 243. None of the funds made available in this
6 Act may be used in a manner that would increase wait
7 times for veterans who seek care at medical facilities of
8 the Department of Veterans Affairs.

9 SEC. 244. None of the funds appropriated or other-
10 wise made available by this Act to the Veterans Health
11 Administration may be used in fiscal year 2025 to convert
12 any program which received specific purpose funds in fis-
13 cal year 2024 to a general purpose funded program unless
14 the Secretary of Veterans Affairs submits written notifica-
15 tion of any such proposal to the Committees on Appropria-
16 tions of both Houses of Congress at least 30 days prior
17 to any such action and an approval is issued by the Com-
18 mittees.

19 SEC. 245. For funds provided to the Department of
20 Veterans Affairs for each of fiscal year 2025 and 2026,
21 section 248 of division A of Public Law 114–223 shall
22 apply.

23 SEC. 246. (a) None of the funds appropriated or oth-
24 erwise made available by this Act may be used to conduct
25 research commencing on or after March 9, 2024, that uses

1 any canine, feline, or non-human primate unless the Sec-
2 retary of Veterans Affairs approves such research specifi-
3 cally and in writing pursuant to subsection (b).

4 (b)(1) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may approve
5 the conduct of research commencing on or after March
6 9, 2024, using canines, felines, or non-human primates if
7 the Secretary certifies that—

8 (A) the scientific objectives of the research can
9 only be met by using such canines, felines, or non-
10 human primates and cannot be met using other ani-
11 mal models, in vitro models, computational models,
12 human clinical studies, or other research alter-
13 natives;

14 (B) such scientific objectives are necessary to
15 advance research benefiting veterans and are directly
16 related to an illness or injury that is combat-related
17 as defined by 10 U.S.C. 1413(e);

18 (C) the research is consistent with the revised
19 Department of Veterans Affairs canine research poli-
20 cy document dated December 15, 2017, including
21 any subsequent revisions to such document; and

22 (D) ethical considerations regarding minimizing
23 the harm experienced by canines, felines, or non-
24 human primates are included in evaluating the sci-
25 entific necessity of the research.

1 (2) The Secretary may not delegate the authority
2 under this subsection.

3 (c) If the Secretary approves any new research pursu-
4 ant to subsection (b), not later than 30 days before the
5 commencement of such research, the Secretary shall sub-
6 mit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate
7 and House of Representatives a report describing—

8 (1) the nature of the research to be conducted
9 using canines, felines, or non-human primates;

10 (2) the date on which the Secretary approved
11 the research;

12 (3) the USDA pain category on the approved
13 use;

14 (4) the justification for the determination of the
15 Secretary that the scientific objectives of such re-
16 search could only be met using canines, felines, or
17 non-human primates, and methods used to make
18 such determination;

19 (5) the frequency and duration of such re-
20 search; and

21 (6) the protocols in place to ensure the neces-
22 sity, safety, and efficacy of the research, and animal
23 welfare.

1 (d) Not later than September 9, 2024, and biannually
2 thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to such Committees
3 a report describing—

4 (1) any research being conducted by the De-
5 partment of Veterans Affairs using canines, felines,
6 or non-human primates as of the date of the sub-
7 mittal of the report;

8 (2) the circumstances under which such re-
9 search was conducted using canines, felines, or non-
10 human primates;

11 (3) the justification for using canines, felines,
12 or non-human primates to conduct such research;

13 (4) the protocols in place to ensure the neces-
14 sity, safety, and efficacy of such research; and

15 (5) the development and adoption of alter-
16 natives to canines, felines, or non-human primates
17 research.

18 (e) Not later than September 9, 2024, and annually
19 thereafter, the Department of Veterans Affairs must sub-
20 mit to voluntary U.S. Department of Agriculture inspec-
21 tions of canine, feline, and non-human primate research
22 facilities.

23 (f) Not later than September 9, 2024, and annually
24 thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to such Committees
25 a report describing—

1 (1) any violations of the Animal Welfare Act,
2 the Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care
3 and Use of Laboratory Animals, or other Depart-
4 ment of Veterans Affairs policies related to oversight
5 of animal research found during that quarter in VA
6 research facilities;

7 (2) immediate corrective actions taken; and

8 (3) specific actions taken to prevent their recur-
9 rence.

10 (g) The Department shall implement a plan under
11 which the Secretary will eliminate the research conducted
12 using canines, felines, or non-human primates by not later
13 than March 9, 2026.

14 SEC. 247. (a) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may
15 use amounts appropriated or otherwise made available in
16 this title to ensure that the ratio of veterans to full-time
17 employment equivalents within any program of rehabilita-
18 tion conducted under chapter 31 of title 38, United States
19 Code, does not exceed 125 veterans to one full-time em-
20 ployment equivalent.

21 (b) Not later than 180 days after the date of the en-
22 actment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Con-
23 gress a report on the programs of rehabilitation conducted
24 under chapter 31 of title 38, United States Code, includ-
25 ing—

1 (1) an assessment of the veteran-to-staff ratio
2 for each such program; and

3 (2) recommendations for such action as the
4 Secretary considers necessary to reduce the veteran-
5 to-staff ratio for each such program.

6 SEC. 248. Amounts made available for the “Veterans
7 Health Administration, Medical Community Care” ac-
8 count in this or any other Act for fiscal years 2025 and
9 2026 may be used for expenses that would otherwise be
10 payable from the Veterans Choice Fund established by
11 section 802 of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Account-
12 ability Act, as amended (38 U.S.C. 1701 note).

13 SEC. 249. Obligations and expenditures applicable to
14 the “Medical Services” account in fiscal years 2017
15 through 2019 for aid to state homes (as authorized by
16 section 1741 of title 38, United States Code) shall remain
17 in the “Medical Community Care” account for such fiscal
18 years.

19 SEC. 250. Of the amounts made available for the De-
20 partment of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2025, in this
21 or any other Act, under the “Veterans Health Administra-
22 tion—Medical Services”, “Veterans Health Administra-
23 tion—Medical Community Care”, “Veterans Health Ad-
24 ministration—Medical Support and Compliance”, and
25 “Veterans Health Administration—Medical Facilities” ac-

1 counts, \$1,323,444,000 shall be made available for gen-
2 der-specific care and programmatic efforts to deliver care
3 for women veterans.

4 SEC. 251. Notwithstanding any other law, unless pre-
5 vented by an order issued by a federal or state court, by
6 no later than September 30, 2025, the Secretary shall
7 commence construction of the Community Based Out-
8 patient Clinic in Bakersfield, California authorized in sec-
9 tion 1(a)(3) of Public Law 111–82 and in accordance with
10 Lease No. 36C10F20L0008 or successor lease.

11 SEC. 252. Not later than 30 days after the end of
12 each fiscal quarter, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall
13 submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both
14 Houses of Congress a quarterly report on the status of
15 the “Veterans Medical Care and Health Fund”, estab-
16 lished to execute section 8002 of the American Rescue
17 Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117–2): *Provided*, That,
18 at a minimum, the report shall include an update on obli-
19 gations by program, project or activity and a plan for ex-
20 pending the remaining funds.

21 SEC. 253. Any amounts transferred to the Secretary
22 and administered by a corporation referred to in section
23 7364(b) of title 38, United States Code, between October
24 1, 2018 and September 30, 2019 for purposes of carrying
25 out an order placed with the Department of Veterans Af-

1 fairs pursuant to section 1535 of title 31, United States
2 Code, that are available for obligation pursuant to section
3 7364(b)(1) of title 38, United States Code, are to remain
4 available for the liquidation of valid obligations incurred
5 by such corporation during the period of performance of
6 such order, provided that the Secretary of Veterans Af-
7 fairs determines that such amounts need to remain avail-
8 able for such liquidation.

9 SEC. 254. Unobligated balances available under the
10 headings “Construction, Major Projects” and “Construc-
11 tion, Minor Projects” may be obligated by the Secretary
12 of Veterans Affairs for a facility pursuant to section
13 2(e)(1) of the Communities Helping Invest through Prop-
14 erty and Improvements Needed for Veterans Act of 2016
15 (Public Law 114–294; 38 U.S.C. 8103 note), as amended,
16 to provide additional funds or to fund an escalation clause
17 under such section of such Act: *Provided*, That before such
18 unobligated balances are obligated pursuant to this sec-
19 tion, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall request from
20 the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Con-
21 gress the authority to obligate such unobligated balances
22 and such Committees issue an approval, or absent a re-
23 sponse, a period of 30 days has elapsed: *Provided further*,
24 That the request to obligate such unobligated balances
25 must provide Congress notice that the entity described in

1 section 2(a)(2) of Public Law 114–294, as amended, has
2 exhausted available cost containment approaches as set
3 forth in the agreement under section 2(c) of such Public
4 Law.

5 SEC. 255. (a) None of the funds made available in
6 this Act may be used to implement, administer, or other-
7 wise carry out the Department of Veterans Affairs interim
8 final rule published on September 9, 2022, or any suc-
9 cessor to such rule, or to propose, promulgate, or imple-
10 ment any substantially similar rule or policy.

11 (b) None of the funds appropriated in this Act shall
12 be expended for any abortion, including through a medical
13 benefits package or health benefits program that includes
14 coverage of abortion.

15 (c) The limitations established in subsection (b) shall
16 not apply to an abortion—

17 (1) if the pregnancy is the result of an act of
18 rape or incest; or

19 (2) in the case where a woman suffers from a
20 physical disorder, physical injury, or physical illness,
21 including a life-endangering physical condition
22 caused by or arising from the pregnancy itself, that
23 would, as certified by a physician, place the woman
24 in danger of death unless an abortion is performed.

1 SEC. 256. None of the funds made available by this
2 Act may be used for surgical procedures or hormone thera-
3 pies for the purposes of gender affirming care.

4 SEC. 257. None of the funds made available by this
5 Act may be used by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to
6 fly or display a flag over a facility of the Department of
7 Veterans Affairs or a national cemetery other than the
8 flag of the United States, the flag of a State, Territory,
9 or District of Columbia, the flag of an Indian Tribal gov-
10 ernment, the flag of the Department, the flag of an Armed
11 Force, or the POW/MIA flag.

12 SEC. 258. During the period beginning on October
13 1, 2024 and ending on September 30, 2025, none of the
14 funds made available by this Act may be used to admin-
15 ister, implement, or enforce the final rule issued by the
16 Secretary of Veterans Affairs relating to “Change in Rates
17 VA Pays for Special Modes of Transportation” (88 Fed.
18 Reg. 10032) and published on February 16, 2023.

19 SEC. 259. None of the funds made available by this
20 Act may be used to carry out VHA Directive 1193.01,
21 “Coronavirus Disease 2019 Vaccination Program for Vet-
22 erans Health Administration Health Care Personnel”.

23 SEC. 260. None of the funds made available by this
24 Act may be used to provide any services to any individual
25 unlawfully present in the United States who is not eligible

1 for health care under the laws administered by the Sec-
2 retary of Veterans Affairs.

3 SEC. 261. None of the funds made available by this
4 Act may be used by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
5 under section 5502 of title 38, United States Code, in any
6 case arising out of the administration by the Secretary of
7 laws and benefits under such title, to report a person who
8 is deemed mentally incapacitated, mentally incompetent,
9 or to be experiencing an extended loss of consciousness
10 as a person who has been adjudicated as a mental defec-
11 tive under subsection (d)(4) or (g)(4) of section 922 of
12 title 18, United States Code, without the order or finding
13 a judge, magistrate, or other judicial authority of com-
14 petent jurisdiction that such person is a danger to himself
15 or herself or others.

1 TITLE III
2 RELATED AGENCIES
3 AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION
4 SALARIES AND EXPENSES

5 For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for,
6 of the American Battle Monuments Commission, including
7 the acquisition of land or interest in land in foreign coun-
8 tries; purchases and repair of uniforms for caretakers of
9 national cemeteries and monuments outside of the United
10 States and its territories and possessions; rent of office
11 and garage space in foreign countries; purchase (one-for-
12 one replacement basis only) and hire of passenger motor
13 vehicles; not to exceed \$15,000 for official reception and
14 representation expenses; and insurance of official motor
15 vehicles in foreign countries, when required by law of such
16 countries, \$90,020,000, to remain available until ex-
17 pended.

18 FOREIGN CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS ACCOUNT
19 For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for,
20 of the American Battle Monuments Commission, such
21 sums as may be necessary, to remain available until ex-
22 pended, for purposes authorized by section 2109 of title
23 36, United States Code.

1 UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS
2 CLAIMS
3 SALARIES AND EXPENSES

4 For necessary expenses for the operation of the
5 United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims as
6 authorized by sections 7251 through 7298 of title 38,
7 United States Code, \$47,200,000: *Provided*, That
8 \$3,800,000 shall be available for the purpose of providing
9 financial assistance as described and in accordance with
10 the process and reporting procedures set forth under this
11 heading in Public Law 102–229.

12 DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—CIVIL
13 CEMETERIAL EXPENSES, ARMY
14 SALARIES AND EXPENSES

15 For necessary expenses for maintenance, operation,
16 and improvement of Arlington National Cemetery and Sol-
17 diers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery, including
18 the purchase or lease of passenger motor vehicles for re-
19 placement on a one-for-one basis only, and not to exceed
20 \$2,000 for official reception and representation expenses,
21 \$105,514,000, of which not to exceed \$15,000,000 shall
22 remain available until September 30, 2027. In addition,
23 such sums as may be necessary for parking maintenance,
24 repairs and replacement, to be derived from the "Lease

1 of Department of Defense Real Property for Defense
2 Agencies’’ account.

3 CONSTRUCTION

4 For necessary expenses for planning and design and
5 construction at Arlington National Cemetery and Soldiers’
6 and Airmen’s Home National Cemetery, \$42,000,000, to
7 remain available until expended for planning and design
8 and construction associated with the Southern Expansion
9 project at Arlington National Cemetery.

10 ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME

11 TRUST FUND

12 For expenses necessary for the Armed Forces Retire-
13 ment Home to operate and maintain the Armed Forces
14 Retirement Home—Washington, District of Columbia,
15 and the Armed Forces Retirement Home—Gulfport, Mis-
16 sissippi, to be paid from funds available in the Armed
17 Forces Retirement Home Trust Fund, \$69,520,000, to re-
18 main available until September 30, 2026, of which
19 \$1,000,000 shall remain available until expended for con-
20 struction and renovation of the physical plants at the
21 Armed Forces Retirement Home—Washington, District of
22 Columbia, and the Armed Forces Retirement Home—
23 Gulfport, Mississippi: *Provided*, That of the amounts made
24 available under this heading from funds available in the
25 Armed Forces Retirement Home Trust Fund,

1 \$25,000,000 shall be paid from the general fund of the
2 Treasury to the Trust Fund.

3 MAJOR CONSTRUCTION

4 For expenses necessary to support efforts to complete
5 the renovation of the Sheridan Building at the Armed
6 Forces Retirement Home—Washington, District of Co-
7 lumbia, \$31,000,000, to remain available until expended,
8 shall be paid from the general fund of the Treasury to
9 the Armed Forces Retirement Home Trust Fund.

10 ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

11 SEC. 301. Amounts deposited into the special account
12 established under 10 U.S.C. 7727 are appropriated and
13 shall be available until expended to support activities at
14 the Army National Military Cemeteries.

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TITLE IV

GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 401. 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. 402. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for any program, project, or activity, when it is made known to the Federal entity or official to which the funds are made available that the program, project, or activity is not in compliance with any Federal law relating to risk assessment, the protection of private property rights, or unfunded mandates.

SEC. 403. All departments and agencies funded under this Act are encouraged, within the limits of the existing statutory authorities and funding, to expand their use of “E-Commerce” technologies and procedures in the conduct of their business practices and public service activities.

SEC. 404. Unless stated otherwise, all reports and notifications required by this Act shall be submitted to the Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs,

1 and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations
2 of the Senate.

3 SEC. 405. None of the funds made available in this
4 Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or in-
5 strumentality of the United States Government except
6 pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority pro-
7 vided in, this or any other appropriations Act.

8 SEC. 406. None of the funds made available in this
9 Act may be used for a project or program named for an
10 individual serving as a Member, Delegate, or Resident
11 Commissioner of the United States House of Representa-
12 tives.

13 SEC. 407. (a) Any agency receiving funds made avail-
14 able in this Act, shall, subject to subsections (b) and (c),
15 post on the public Web site of that agency any report re-
16 quired to be submitted by the Congress in this or any
17 other Act, upon the determination by the head of the agen-
18 cy that it shall serve the national interest.

19 (b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to a report if—

20 (1) the public posting of the report com-
21 promises national security; or

22 (2) the report contains confidential or propri-
23 etary information.

24 (c) The head of the agency posting such report shall
25 do so only after such report has been made available to

1 the requesting Committee or Committees of Congress for
2 no less than 30days.

3 SEC. 408. (a) None of the funds made available in
4 this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer
5 network unless such network blocks the viewing,
6 downloading, and exchanging of pornography.

7 (b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of
8 funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law
9 enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out crimi-
10 nal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities.

11 SEC. 409. None of the funds made available in this
12 Act may be used by an agency of the executive branch
13 to pay for first-class travel by an employee of the agency
14 in contravention of sections 301–10.122 through 301–
15 10.124 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations.

16 SEC. 410. None of the funds made available in this
17 Act may be used to execute a contract for goods or serv-
18 ices, including construction services, where the contractor
19 has not complied with Executive Order No. 12989.

20 SEC. 411. None of the funds made available by this
21 Act may be used in contravention of section 101(e)(8) of
22 title 10, United States Code.

23 SEC. 412. (a) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds ap-
24 propriated or otherwise made available to the Department
25 of Defense in this Act may be used to construct, renovate,

1 or expand any facility in the United States, its territories,
2 or possessions to house any individual detained at United
3 States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, for the
4 purposes of detention or imprisonment in the custody or
5 under the control of the Department of Defense.

6 (b) The prohibition in subsection (a) shall not apply
7 to any modification of facilities at United States Naval
8 Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba.

9 (c) An individual described in this subsection is any
10 individual who, as of June 24, 2009, is located at United
11 States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, and who—

12 (1) is not a citizen of the United States or a
13 member of the Armed Forces of the United States;
14 and

15 (2) is—

16 (A) in the custody or under the effective
17 control of the Department of Defense; or

18 (B) otherwise under detention at United
19 States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba.

20 SEC. 413. None of the funds appropriated by this Act
21 may be used in any way, directly or indirectly, to influence
22 congressional action on any legislation or appropriation
23 matter pending before Congress, other than to commu-
24 nicate to Members of Congress as described in 18 U.S.C.
25 1913.

1 SEC. 414. None of the funds appropriated or other-
2 wise made available by this Act may be made available
3 to implement, administer, apply, enforce, or carry out Ex-
4 ecutive Order 13985 of January 20, 2021 (86 Fed. Reg.
5 7009), Executive Order 14035 of June 25, 2021 (86 Fed.
6 Reg. 34593), or Executive Order 14091 of February 16,
7 2023 (88 Fed. Reg. 10825).

8 SEC. 415. None of the funds made available by this
9 Act may be used to carry out any program, project, or
10 activity that promotes or advances Critical Race Theory
11 or any concept associated with Critical Race Theory.

12 SEC. 416. (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding sec-
13 tion 7 of title 1, United States Code, section 1738C of
14 title 28, United States Code, or any other provision of law,
15 none of the funds provided by this Act, or previous appro-
16 priations Acts, shall be used in whole or in part to take
17 any discriminatory action against a person, wholly or par-
18 tially, on the basis that such person speaks, or acts, in
19 accordance with a sincerely held religious belief, or moral
20 conviction, that marriage is, or should be recognized as,
21 a union of one man and one woman.

22 (b) Discriminatory action defined.—As used in sub-
23 section (a), a discriminatory action means any action
24 taken by the Federal Government to—

1 (1) alter in any way the Federal tax treatment
2 of, or cause any tax, penalty, or payment to be as-
3 sessed against, or deny, delay, or revoke an exemp-
4 tion from taxation under section 501(a) of the Inter-
5 nal Revenue Code of 1986 of, any person referred to
6 in subsection (a);

7 (2) disallow a deduction for Federal tax pur-
8 poses of any charitable contribution made to or by
9 such person;

10 (3) withhold, reduce the amount or funding for,
11 exclude, terminate, or otherwise make unavailable or
12 deny, any Federal grant, contract, subcontract, co-
13 operative agreement, guarantee, loan, scholarship, li-
14 cense, certification, accreditation, employment, or
15 other similar position or status from or to such per-
16 son;

17 (4) withhold, reduce, exclude, terminate, or oth-
18 erwise make unavailable or deny, any entitlement or
19 benefit under a Federal benefit program, including
20 admission to, equal treatment in, or eligibility for a
21 degree from an educational program, from or to
22 such person; or

23 (5) withhold, reduce, exclude, terminate, or oth-
24 erwise make unavailable or deny access or an entitle-
25 ment to Federal property, facilities, educational in-

1 stitutions, speech fora (including traditional, limited,
2 and nonpublic fora), or charitable fundraising cam-
3 paigns from or to such person.

4 (c) Accreditation; Licensure; Certification.—The
5 Federal Government shall consider accredited, licensed, or
6 certified for purposes of Federal law any person that
7 would be accredited, licensed, or certified, respectively, for
8 such purposes but for a determination against such person
9 wholly or partially on the basis that the person speaks,
10 or acts, in accordance with a sincerely held religious belief
11 or moral conviction described in subsection (a).

12 SEC. 417. None of the funds made available by this
13 Act may be used for any office, programs, or activity for
14 the purposes of diversity, equity, and inclusion training
15 or implementation.

16 SEC. 418. None of the funds made available by this
17 Act may be used to enforce COVID-19 mask mandates.

18 SEC. 419. None of the funds made available by this
19 Act may be used to administer, implement, or enforce Ex-
20 ecutive Order No. 14057 of December 8, 2021.

21 SEC. 420. None of the funds appropriated by this Act
22 may be used to implement any of the following executive
23 orders:

1 (1) Executive Order No. 13990, relating to
2 Protecting Public Health and the Environment and
3 Restoring Science To Tackle the Climate Crisis.

4 (2) Executive Order No. 14008, relating to
5 Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad.

6 (3) Section 6 of Executive Order No. 14013, re-
7 lating to Rebuilding and Enhancing Programs To
8 Resettle Refugees and Planning for the Impact of
9 Climate Change on Migration.

10 (4) Executive Order No. 14030, relating to Cli-
11 mate-Related Financial Risk.

12 (5) Executive Order No. 14057, relating to
13 Catalyzing Clean Energy Industries and Jobs
14 Through Federal Sustainability.

15 (6) Executive Order No. 14082, relating to Im-
16 plementation of the Energy and Infrastructure Pro-
17 visions of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022.

18 (7) Executive Order No. 14096, relating to Re-
19 vitalizing Our Nation’s Commitment to Environ-
20 mental Justice for All.

21 SEC. 421. (a) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds ap-
22 propriated by this Act or otherwise made available for Fis-
23 cal Year 2025 for the Department of Veterans Affairs may
24 be obligated or expended to procure or purchase com-
25 puters, printers, software, or hardware needed for an of-

1 fice environment in which the manufacturer, bidder, or of-
2 feror, or any subsidy or parent company of an entity—

3 (1) in which the People’s Republic of China has
4 any ownership stake; or

5 (2) that contributes to the defense industry of
6 the Chinese Communist Party.

7 (b) **APPLICABILITY TO THIRD PARTIES.—**

8 The prohibition in subsection (a) also applies in cases in
9 which the Secretary has contracted with a third party for
10 the procurement, purchase, or expenditure of funds on any
11 of the equipment and software described in such sub-
12 section.

13 **SEC. 422.** None of the funds made available by this
14 Act may be used to pay to an individual employed in a
15 Senior Executive Service position (as such term is defined
16 in section 3132(a) of title 5, United States Code) at the
17 Department of Veterans Affairs a critical skills incentive
18 under section 706(d) of title 38, United States Code.

19 **SPENDING REDUCTION ACCOUNT**

20 **SEC. 423.** \$0.

21 **SEC. 424.** None of the funds made available by this
22 Act may be used by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to
23 ban or remove the photograph “V-J Day in Times
24 Square”.

1 SEC. 425. None of the funds made available by this
2 Act may be used by the Department of Veterans Affairs
3 to decommission mileage reimbursement kiosks.

4 SEC. 426. None of the funds appropriated or other-
5 wise made available by this Act may be used to enforce
6 the provision included in Chapter 1.8 of the VHA Office
7 of Community Care, “Field Guidebook: Specialty Pro-
8 grams” to make wait time and drive time access standards
9 only applicable to primary care, specialty care, and non-
10 institutional extended care services.

11 SEC. 427. None of the funds made available by this
12 Act may be used by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to
13 report a determination under section 5502 of title 38,
14 United States Code, and section 3.353 of title 38 of the
15 Code of Federal Regulations, to the Department of Justice
16 National Instant Criminal Background Check System es-
17 tablished pursuant to section 103 of the Brady Handgun
18 Violence Prevention Act (34 U.S.C. 40901).

19 SEC. 428. None of the funds appropriated or other-
20 wise made available to the Department of Veterans Affairs
21 in this Act may be used to enforce Veterans Health Direc-
22 tive 1315 as it relates to—

23 (1) the policy stating that “VHA providers are
24 prohibited from completing forms or registering Vet-

1 erans for participation in a State-approved mari-
2 juana program”;

3 (2) the directive for the “Deputy Under Sec-
4 retary for Health for Operations and Management”
5 to ensure that “medical facility Directors are aware
6 that it is VHA policy for providers to assess Veteran
7 use of marijuana but providers are prohibited from
8 recommending, making referrals to or completing
9 paperwork for Veteran participation in State mari-
10 juana programs”; and

11 (3) the directive for the “VA Medical Facility
12 Director” to ensure that “VA facility staff are aware
13 of the following” “[t]he prohibition on recom-
14 mending, making referrals to or completing forms
15 and registering Veterans for participation in State-
16 approved marijuana programs”.

17 SEC. 429. None of the funds made available by this
18 Act may be used to modify or remove any display of the
19 Department of Veterans Affairs that bears the mission
20 statement “To fulfill President Lincoln’s promise ‘to care
21 for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow,
22 and his orphan’ by serving and honoring the men and
23 women who are America’s veterans.’”

24 SEC. 430. None of the funds appropriated by this Act
25 may be used by the Department of Veterans Affairs to

1 process medical claims for the Immigration and Customs
2 Enforcement Health Service Corps at the Department of
3 Homeland Security.

4 This Act may be cited as the “Military Construction,
5 Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations
6 Act, 2025”.

Passed the House of Representatives June 5, 2024.

Attest: KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,
Clerk.

Calendar No. 506

118TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 8580

AN ACT

Making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes.

SEPTEMBER 12, 2024

Read twice and placed on the calendar