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H.R. 5693 – Long-Term Care Veterans Choice Act (Rep. Higgins, R-LA)

CONTACT: [Gavin Proffitt](#), 202-226-2076

FLOOR SCHEDULE: July 25, 2018, under a suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 5693](#) would authorize a 3-year pilot wherein VA would pay for medical foster home care for certain veterans. This legislation would also establish a fourth administration within the VA called the Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition Administration.

COST:

The [Congressional Budget Office](#) estimates that enacting H.R. 5693 would cost \$200 million over the 2019-2023 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts.

This legislation would modify the program that provides mortgage loan guarantees for veterans. CBO estimates that enacting this legislation would decrease direct spending by \$202 million over the 2019-2028 period.

Pay-as-you-go procedures apply because enacting the legislation would affect direct spending. Enacting the bill would not affect revenues.

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 5693 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2029.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** This legislation would establish a fourth administration within the VA called the Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition Administration. This legislation would establish an Under Secretary for Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition to be appointed by the President.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** This legislation would provide the Secretary of Veterans Affairs authority to add additional functions of the new Administration.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 5693 would authorize a 3-year pilot wherein VA would pay for medical foster home care for certain veterans. This legislation would also establish a fourth administration within the VA called the Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition Administration.

Sec 2. Secretary of Veterans Affairs Contact Authority for Placement of Veterans in Non-Department Medical Foster Homes.

This section would provide that during the three-year period beginning on October 1, 2019, at the request of a veteran for whom the Secretary of Veterans Affairs is required to provide nursing home care, the Secretary may place the veteran in medical foster home that meets department standards.

This section would require that a daily average of no more than 900 veterans placed in a medical foster home be covered at the expense of the United States under this authority.

The effective date of this section would be October 1, 2019.

Sec 3. Establishment of Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transportation Administration.

This section would establish a fourth administration within the Department of Veterans Affairs to be called the Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition Administration.

This section would specify that the primary function of this administration would be the administration of the programs of the Department that provide assistance related to economic opportunity to veterans and their dependents and survivors.

This section would specify the functions of the Administration to be: 1) Vocational rehabilitation and employment programs; 2) Educational assistance programs; 3) Veteran's housing loan and related programs; 4) The verification of small businesses owned and controlled by veterans, including the administration of the database of veteran-owned businesses; 5) The Transition Assistance Program; and 6) any other program of the Department that the Secretary determines appropriate.

This section would specify that the Secretary would be required to submit an annual report to Congress on: 1) the number of claims received; 2) the number of claims decided; 3) the average processing time for a claim; 4) the number of successful outcomes (as determined by the Secretary); 5) the number of full-time equivalent employees; and 6) the amounts expended for information technology.

This section would specify that the number of full-time employees for fiscal years 2019 through 2020 for the Administration may not exceed 23,692.

Sec 4. Under Secretary for Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition.

This section would establish an Under Secretary for Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition to be appointed by the President. Additionally, this section would outline the responsibilities of the Under Secretary.

Sec 5. Loans Guaranteed Under Home Loan Program of Department of Veterans Affairs.

This section would authorize a temporary increase in the VA home loan financing funding free for interest rate reduction when refinancing homes. This provision is meant to offset the costs of the bill.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 5696 was introduced on May 7, 2018, and was referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs. A markup was held on June 27, 2018, and was reported by voice vote.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No stated Administration position available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor of this legislation: "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution."

Senate Amendment to H.R. 2353 — Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Rep. Thompson, R-PA)

CONTACT: [Noelani Bonifacio](#), 202-226-9719

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 25, 2018, under suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[The Senate Amendment to H.R. 2353](#) would amend, and reauthorize through 2024, the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act that provides fund to support to local and state career and technical education (CTE) programs. This bill makes changes that bring the program's standards into alignment with those set in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

COST:

A Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that implementing H.R. 2353, as passed by the House, would cost \$4.4 billion over the 2018-2022 period, and about \$4 billion after 2022, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts. The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$5.9 billion over the 2018-2022 period, and an additional \$1.2 billion in 2023. Under the General Education Provisions Act, those authorizations would be extended automatically for an additional year through 2024.

An updated CBO score is not yet available for the Senate-passed version of the bill. The Senate amendment increases the total authorized amount by \$425 M above the original House-passed bill for fiscal years 2019-2023 The Senate amendment also includes an authorization for fiscal year 2024.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

Some conservatives may feel that the federal government should not be involved in funding career or technical education at either the secondary or post-secondary level; however, this bill makes improvements to the current law by ensuring more state and local control over CTE programs, and strengthens the current prohibition on a federal curriculum and mandates.

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

This bill would amend the [Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act](#), which was last reauthorized in 2006, and is the principle source of federal funding to states for the improvement of secondary and postsecondary career and technical education (CTE) programs. The purpose of the bill is to develop the academic knowledge, technical skills, and employability of secondary and post-

secondary education students who elect to enroll in career and technical education programs. This bill reauthorizes the program through fiscal year 2024. It is important to note that in many instances this bill replaces “such sums as necessary” with specific authorization levels.

The House passed H.R. 2353 under suspension on June 22, 2017. The RSC’s legislative bulletin for the House-passed bill can be found [here](#).

Changes Made to H.R. 2353 by the Senate:

The bill would no longer require career and technical education explorers to be included in states’ accountability systems.

The House bill would prohibit a state from receiving an allotment that is less than 90 percent of their allotment from the previous year. The Senate-passed bill removes this provision and replaces it with a foundation grant. The Secretary of Education would be required to allocate the same amount allocated to any given state in fiscal year 2018 prior to awarding funding to states beyond their 2018 allocation. In the case that funding is increased above the fiscal year 2018 levels, additional funds would be allocated to states whose original allocation of the funds were less than .5 percent of the total of additional available funds. The bill would also reduce the amount of money allocated to small states, which are states that receive less than .5 percent of funding. If funding falls below fiscal year 2018 levels, each state would have their FY2018 allocation reduced by the same percentage.

The bill would require states to spend at least \$50,000 or 0.1 percent of their grant, as allotted under the [Perkins Act](#), whichever is smaller, in an effort to recruit special populations to enroll in career and technical education programs.

When creating the state plan, the bill would require the governor to be consulted prior to the plan being submitted to the secretary. The governor has 30 days to sign the plan, and the plan must be made available for public comment for 30 days.

The bill would eliminate the requirement that each eligible agency include a measure of the median earning of career and technical education concentrators in unsubsidized employment two quarters after the program is completed.

The House-passed bill requires eligible entities to submit a state plan that is “sufficiently ambitious” to allow for meaningful program quality evaluations. The Senate-passed bill would replace this, requiring state plans to continually make meaningful progress toward improving career and technical education concentrators, provide an assurance that public comments were taken into account in the plan’s development and require revised levels of performance to exceed the performance levels of the previous two years.

The bill would reduce the amount of state leadership activities that are required to supporting: (1) activities that expose students to high-skill, high-wage, and in-demand occupations; (2) individuals in state institutions, such as correctional institutions, and institutions that serve disabled individuals; (3) the recruitment and detainment of career and technical education teachers, through activities such as preservice, professional development and leadership development programs; and, (4) technical assistance.

The House-passed bill eliminated the authority of the secretary to withhold funding if the state fails to meet at least 90 percent of a state-determined level of performance after the improvement plan has been implemented for two years. The Senate bill maintains this provision.

The House-passed bill prohibited the secretary from establishing required curricula that states must implement in order to receive federal funding. Under the Senate-passed bill a state cannot be required to have its academic standards approved by the federal government and the secretary cannot deny funding for states under other DOE programs because they have not applied for Perkins Act funding.

The bill would expand the requirements for local applications.

The bill would increase the level of fiscal effort per student that is required from 90 percent to 95 percent.

The House-passed bill reauthorized the Perkins Act beginning in fiscal year 2018 and through fiscal year 2023. The Senate bill would reauthorize the Perkins Act beginning in fiscal year 2019 and through fiscal year 2024.

The Senate bill would increase the House-passed authorizations by at least \$96 million in each fiscal year.

OUTSIDE GROUPS:

[U.S. Chamber of Commerce](#): Key Vote YES

[Association for Career and Technical Education](#)

[National Governor's Association](#)

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 2353 was introduced on May 4, 2017, where it was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce. A mark-up session was held and the bill was reported by voice-vote. The House passed the bill on June 22, 2017, by voice vote under suspension.

The bill passed the Senate, with amendment, by voice vote on July 23, 2018.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the bill's sponsor: Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: "Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States". No specific enumerating clause was cited.

H. Res. 981 — Condemning the violence, persecution, intimidation, and murders committed by the Government of Nicaragua against its citizens, as amended (Rep. Ros-Lehtinen, R-FL)

CONTACT: [Nicholas Rodman](#), 202-226-8576

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 25, 2018, under suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H. Res. 981](#) would condemn the violence, persecution, intimidation, and murders committed by the Government of Nicaragua against its citizens.

COST:

No Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is available.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H. Res. 981 would state that the House of Representatives: condemns the violence, persecution, intimidation, and murders of peaceful protesters by the Government of Nicaragua; supports the people of Nicaragua in their pursuit for democracy, including their call for free and fair elections overseen by credible domestic and international observers; urges the international community to stand in solidarity with the people of Nicaragua; calls on the United States to continue to condemn the atrocities in Nicaragua, demand the release of individuals wrongfully detained, and identify those individuals whose involvement in this violence qualifies for the imposition of sanctions under the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (subtitle F of title XII of the [National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016](#); 22 U.S.C. 2656 note); and affirms that the rights to freedom of assembly, association, and expression, the freedom of the press, and freedom from extrajudicial detention and violence, are universal human rights that apply to all persons; and countries that fail to respect these rights jeopardize the security and prosperity of all of their citizens.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H. Res. 981 was introduced on July 3, 2017, and was referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

No constitutional authority is available.

H.R. 5535 — Energy Diplomacy Act of 2018, as amended (Rep. McCaul, R-TX)

CONTACT: [Nicholas Rodman](#), 202-226-8576

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 25, 2018, under suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 5535](#) would repeal the statute for the Coordinator for International Energy Affairs and would replace that position by authorizing the creation of an Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of Energy Resources position within the Department of State to manage U.S. foreign policy in the field of energy.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that implementing the bill would codify current policies and practices and would have no effect on the federal budget. The bureau currently has 74 positions and a budget of \$13 million, and the President requested \$12.5 million for the bureau in 2019. Enacting H.R. 5535 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 5535 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2029.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 5535 would authorize to be established in the Department of State an Assistant Secretary of State for Energy Resources. The Secretary of State would be directed to ensure that there are sufficient personnel dedicated to energy matters within the Department of State who shall be responsible for formulating and implementing international policies, in coordination with Secretary of Energy, as appropriate, aimed at protecting and advancing United States energy security interests by effectively managing United States bilateral and multilateral relations in the fields of petroleum, natural gas, biofuels, renewable energy, nuclear, and other energy resources; ensuring that analyses of the national security implications of global energy and environmental developments are reflected in the decision making process within the Department of State; incorporating energy security priorities into the Department's activities; coordinating energy activities within the Department and with relevant Federal agencies; working internationally to support the development of energy resources and the distribution of such resources for the benefit of the United States and United States allies and trading partners for their energy security and economic development needs; promote availability of diversified energy supplies and a well-functioning global market for energy resources, technologies, and expertise for the benefit of the United States and United States allies and trading partners; as well as other initiatives.

The bill would strike subsections (a) and (b) of section 931 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 ([42 U.S.C. 17371](#)), repealing the position of the Coordinator for International Energy Affairs.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 5535 was introduced on April 17, 2018, and was referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. The bill was ordered to be reported (amended) by voice vote on [May 9, 2018](#).

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor: "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article 1 Section 8." No enumerating clause was listed.

H.R. 6414 – To amend title 23, United States Code, to extend the deadline for promulgation of regulations under the tribal transportation self-governance program. (Rep. DeFazio, D-OR)

CONTACT: [Noelani Bonifacio](#), 202-226-9719

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Expected to be considered July 25, 2018, under suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 6414](#) would extend the [deadline](#) for the Secretary of the Interior to promulgate regulations under the tribal transportation self-governance [program](#).

COST:

A Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is not yet available.

Rule 28(a)(1) of the Rules of the Republican Conference prohibits measures from being scheduled for consideration under suspension of the rules without an accompanying cost estimate. Rule 28(b) provides that the cost estimate requirement may be waived by a majority of the Elected Leadership.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 6414 would extend the [deadline](#) for the Secretary of the Interior to promulgate regulations under the tribal transportation self-governance [program](#). The bill would double the amount of time the secretary has to publish proposed regulations to 42 months, and extend the expiration of authority by 18 months.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 6414 was introduced on July 18, 2017, and referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. There has been no further action on the bill.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the bill's sponsor: "Article I, Section 8, Clause 1, Clause 3, and Clause 18 of the Constitution."

House Amendment to S. 756 – Save Our Seas Act of 2017 (Sen. Sullivan, R-AK)

CONTACT: [Noelani Bonifacio](#), 202-226-9719

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Expected to be considered July 25, 2018, under suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[House Amendment to S. 756](#) would reauthorize and make changes to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's [Marine Debris Program](#), make changes to vessel safety laws, and require the establishment of a Blue Technology Center of Expertise.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that the cost of implementing S. 756 as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation would be \$44 million over the 2018-2022 period, subject to appropriation. Direct spending would be affected, so paygo would apply, though the net effect would be negligible.

A CBO report on the House Amendment to S. 756 is not available at this time.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** The bill would require an office to be established within the Coast Guard to conduct oversight of recognized organizations and require the establishment of a Blue Technology Center of Expertise.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

Title I — Save our Seas Act

S. 756 would amend the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's [Marine Debris Program](#) ([33 U.S.C. 1952](#)) to add the following as a components of the program: (1) working to develop outreach and education strategies with federal agencies to address marine debris sources; (2) promoting international action to reduce the incidence of marine debris, including providing technical assistance to expand waste management systems internationally; and, (3) in the case of a severe marine debris event, assist in cleanup and response.

The bill would require NOAA to determine, at the discretion of the administrator or at the request of a governor, whether there a severe marine debris event has occurred.

Current law allows the administrator to waive all or part of the matching requirement if the administrator determines there are no reasonable means by which a grant applicant can meet it. The bill would only allow the administrator to reduce the matching requirement by up to 50 percent.

The bill codifies the federal share for grants as follows: (1) 100 percent of the cost of activity for an activity funded completely by funds provided by a person or foreign government in order to respond to a severe marine debris event; or, (2) 75 percent for all other activities. Current law caps the federal share at 50 percent.

The bill would express the sense of Congress that the President should: (1) support research and development on systems that reduce derelict fishing gear and the amount of solid waste that enters the ocean; (2) work with representatives of foreign countries that discharge the largest amounts of solid waste to develop reduction mechanisms; (3) carry out studies to determine the primary means of discharges by foreign countries, the manner in which waste management infrastructure can be most effective in preventing discharges, and the long-term impact of marine debris on the global economy; and, (4) work with representatives to conclude international agreements that include provisions to mitigate discharge, to provide technical assistance and investment in waste management infrastructure to reduce discharges, and encourage the U.S. Trade Representative to consider the impact of discharges from the above-named countries in future trade agreements.

The bill would add the Department of State and the Department of the Interior to the Interagency Marine Debris Coordinating Committee, as codified under [33 U.S.C. 1954](#).

The bill would reauthorize the Marine Debris Program at current spending levels (\$10 million) for fiscal years 2018 through 2022. The bill would also authorize \$2 million for the Commandant of the Coast Guard to improve MARPOL implementation, with only 5 percent authorized for administrative costs.

Title II – Maritime Safety Act of 2018

The bill would require the commandant to publish information online on domestic vessel compliance with [subtitle II of title 46, U.S.C.](#) The report must include flag-state detention rates for each type of inspected vessel, and identify any recognized organization that inspected or surveyed a vessel that was later subject to a Coast Guard-issued control action attributable to a major nonconformity that the reorganized organization failed to identify in such inspection or survey.

The GAO would be required to conduct an audit regarding the implementation and effectiveness of safety management plans, as required under [chapter 32 of title 46, U.S.C.](#) The audit must include a representative sample of safety management plans. Results must be submitted to congress within one year of enactment. The commandant would also be required to publish a Marine Safety Alert providing notification of the report's completion and a link to the report online.

The bill would require a freight vessel inspected under [46 U.S.C. 3306](#) to be outfitted with distress signaling and location technology for the minimum complement of officers and crew on the inspection certificate, or the number of persons onboard the vessel, whichever is higher. The secretary must begin implementing this provision within one year of enactment.

The bill would require the secretary to promulgate regulations requiring companies to maintain records of all incremental weight changes made to freight vessels inspected under this chapter, and to track weight changes over time. These records must be store onboard for at least three years, and shoreside for the life of the vessel. The secretary must begin implementing this provision within one year of enactment.

The bill would require the commandant to seek to enter into negotiations through the International Maritime Organization to require a high-water alarm sensor in each cargo hold of a freight vessel that connects with audible and visual alarms on the navigation bridge of the vessel.

The bill would require the Coast Guard to have full access to and ability to use voyage data recorder data and audio held by any federal agency in all marine casualty investigation, regardless of the lead investigative agency.

The bill would require the commandant to seek to enter into negotiations through the International Maritime Organization to require that all voyage data recorders are installed in a float-free arrangement and contain an integrated emergency position indicating radio beacon. The commandant would be required to submit to congress a progress report within three years. Within two years the commandant would be required to submit a cost-benefit analysis of the requirement that voyage data recorders installed on commercial vessels capture communication on the internal telephone systems of such vessels, including both sides of all communications with the bridge onboard such vessels.

The bill would require the commandant to identify and procure equipment that will provide search-and-rescue units the ability to attach a radio or automated identification system strobe or beacon to an object that is not immediately retrievable.

The bill would require the commandant to implement an Officer in Charge, Marine Inspections segment to the sector commander indoctrination course for prospective sector commanders without a Coast Guard prevention ashore officer specialty code.

The bill would require the commandant to implement steam plant inspection training for Coast Guard marine inspectors and establish advanced journeyman inspector training to provide instruction on the oversight of recognized organizations.

The bill would amend the definition of a major marine casualty to mean a casualty involving a vessel resulting in property damage estimated at \$2 million or more. The current threshold is \$500,000.

The bill would require the commandant to review policies and procedures for documenting major conversion determinations.

The bill would require the commandant to review the effectiveness of U.S. regulations, international conventions, reorganized organizations' class rules and Coast Guard technical policy in regards to ventilators, fire dampers, and intact and damage stability standards. The bill would also require the commandant to brief Congress on the reliability of datum marker buoys used during search-and-rescue operations.

The bill would require the secretary to issue flag-state guidance for freight vessels regarding the inclusion of damage control information in safety management plans. In addition, the commandant would be required to work with recognized organizations to create a single U.S. Supplement to the rules of reorganized organizations for the classification of vessels.

Current law requires the [marine safety strategy](#) to be submitted annually. The bill would change this to once every three years.

The bill would require, within two years of enactment, an office to be established within the Coast Guard to conduct oversight of recognized organizations.

The bill would require the commandant to seek to enter into negotiations through the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea to require that vessels subject to the convention's requirements receive timely synoptic and graphical chart weather forecasts.

The bill would require the commandant to brief Congress on the implementation status of actions within the "Sinking of US Cargo Vessel SS El Faro" [report](#).

The commandant would be required to review the authorities that have been delegated to reorganized organizations for the alternative compliance program, and revise them if necessary to ensure safe maritime operation.

Title III – Coast Guard Blue Technology Center of Expertise Act

The bill would require the commandant to establish a Blue Technology Center of Expertise to promote awareness of Blue Technologies and brief Congress on hosting a biennial Coast Guard Blue Technology exposition.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

S. 756 was introduced in the Senate on March 29, 2017. The bill passed the Senate by unanimous consent on August 3, 2017, and was received in the House, where it was referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. The Committee held a mark-up on June 27, 2018, and the bill was reported (amended) by voice vote.

H.R. 6175, the Maritime Safety Act of 2018, which is included as title II in the underlying bill, was introduced in the House on June 21, 2018, by Rep. Duncan Hunter (R-CA). The bill was referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. A mark-up session was held on June 27, 2018, and the bill was reported by voice vote.

H.R. 6206, the Coast Guard Blue Technology Center of Expertise Act, which is included as title I in the underlying bill, was introduced in the House on June 25, 2018, by Rep. John Garamendi (D-CA). The bill was referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. A mark-up session was held on June 27, 2018, and the bill was reported by voice vote.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

A constitutional authority statement is not required for bills that originate in the Senate.

H. Res. 1009 — Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the lack of timely and predictable funding unnecessarily undermines the mission of the United States Special Operations Command and jeopardizes the security of the United States (Rep. Hudson, R-NC)

CONTACT: [Nicholas Rodman](#), 202-226-8576

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 25, 2018, under suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H. Res. 1009](#) would express the sense of the House of Representatives that the lack of timely and predictable funding unnecessarily undermines the mission of the United States Special Operations Command and jeopardizes the security of the United States.

COST:

No Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is required.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H. Res. 1009 would state that the House of Representatives finds that not providing the Department of Defense with stable, predictable, and on-time funding unnecessarily jeopardizes the safety and security of the United States; expresses a sense of gratitude for the incredible sacrifices made by both Special Operators and their families; and commits to meeting the needs of the United States Special Operations Command as part of its efforts to restore military readiness.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H. Res. 1009 was introduced on July 23, 2017, and was referred to the House Committee on Armed Services.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

No constitutional authority is required.

H. Res. 1010 — Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States Air Force faces significant readiness challenges due to insufficient personnel levels, a shrinking and depleted aircraft fleet, and maintenance deferrals, all of which are affected by budgetary uncertainty and impede the Air Force's ability to meet ongoing and unexpected national security threats, putting United States national security at risk (Rep. Arrington, R-TX)

CONTACT: [Nicholas Rodman](#), 202-226-8576

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 25, 2018, under suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H. Res 1010](#) would express the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States Air Force faces significant readiness challenges due to insufficient personnel levels, a shrinking and depleted aircraft fleet, and maintenance deferrals, all of which are affected by budgetary uncertainty and impede the Air Force's ability to meet ongoing and unexpected national security threats, putting United States national security at risk.

COST:

No Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is required.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H. Res. 1010 would state that it is the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States Air Force faces significant readiness challenges due to aging aircraft and depleted personnel; Congress must provide the Air Force regular and sufficient funding to address procurement, maintenance, and staffing shortfalls; and without this funding, United States national security is at risk.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H. Res. 1010 was introduced on July 23, 2017, and was referred to the House Committee on Armed Services.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

No constitutional authority is required.

H. Res. 1007 — Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that not fully resourcing the United States Army in a timely manner erodes the Army's ability to maintain readiness and poses risk to the Army's ability to conduct military operations (Rep. Russell, R-OK)

CONTACT: [Nicholas Rodman](#), 202-226-8576

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on July 25, 2018, under suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H. Res 1007](#) would express the sense of the House of Representatives that not fully resourcing the United States Army in a timely manner erodes the Army's ability to maintain readiness and poses risk to the Army's ability to conduct military operations.

COST:

No Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is required.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H. Res. 1007 would state that the House of Representatives finds that not resourcing the Department of the Army in a timely manner erodes readiness and puts the United States Army at a disadvantage; and affirms that Congress should resource all our warfighters prior to the beginning of a new fiscal year.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H. Res. 1007 was introduced on July 23, 2017, and was referred to the House Committee on Armed Services.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not required.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

No constitutional authority is available.

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