

In the Senate of the United States,

November 10, 2015.

Resolved, That the bill from the House of Representatives (H.R. 2029) entitled “An Act making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes.”, do pass with the following

AMENDMENT:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

- 1 That the following sums are appropriated, out of any
- 2 money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for
- 3 military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs,
- 4 and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September
- 5 30, 2016, and for other purposes, namely:

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TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

For acquisition, construction, installation, and equipment of temporary or permanent public works, military installations, facilities, and real property for the Army as currently authorized by law, including personnel in the Army Corps of Engineers and other personal services necessary for the purposes of this appropriation, and for construction and operation of facilities in support of the functions of the Commander in Chief, \$663,245,000, to remain available until September 30, 2020: Provided, That, of this amount, not to exceed \$109,245,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services, and host nation support, as authorized by law, unless the Secretary of the Army determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

For acquisition, construction, installation, and equipment of temporary or permanent public works, naval installations, facilities, and real property for the Navy and Marine Corps as currently authorized by law, including personnel in the Naval Facilities Engineering Command

1 and other personal services necessary for the purposes of this
2 appropriation, \$1,619,699,000, to remain available until
3 September 30, 2020: Provided, That, of this amount, not
4 to exceed \$91,649,000 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 MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

11 For acquisition, construction, installation, and equip-
12 ment of temporary or permanent public works, military in-
13 stallations, facilities, and real property for the Air Force
14 as currently authorized by law, \$1,389,185,000, to remain
15 available until September 30, 2020: Provided, That, of this
16 amount, not to exceed \$89,164,000 shall be available for
17 study, planning, design, and architect and engineer serv-
18 ices, as authorized by law, unless the Secretary of Air Force
19 determines that additional obligations are necessary for
20 such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropria-
21 tions of both Houses of Congress of the determination and
22 the reasons therefor.

1 MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE

2 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

3 For acquisition, construction, installation, and equip-
4 ment of temporary or permanent public works, installa-
5 tions, facilities, and real property for activities and agen-
6 cies of the Department of Defense (other than the military
7 departments), as currently authorized by law,
8 \$2,290,767,000, to remain available until September 30,
9 2020: Provided, That such amounts of this appropriation
10 as may be determined by the Secretary of Defense may be
11 transferred to such appropriations of the Department of De-
12 fense available for military construction or family housing
13 as the Secretary may designate, to be merged with and to
14 be available for the same purposes, and for the same time
15 period, as the appropriation or fund to which transferred:
16 Provided further, That, of the amount appropriated, not to
17 exceed \$160,404,000 shall be available for study, planning,
18 design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized
19 by law, unless the Secretary of Defense determines that ad-
20 ditional obligations are necessary for such purposes and no-
21 tifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of
22 Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor.

23 MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

24 For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilita-
25 tion, and conversion of facilities for the training and ad-

1 ministration of the Army National Guard, and contribu-
2 tions therefor, as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10,
3 United States Code, and Military Construction Authoriza-
4 tion Acts, \$197,237,000, to remain available until Sep-
5 tember 30, 2020: Provided, That, of the amount appro-
6 priated, not to exceed \$20,337,000 shall be available for
7 study, planning, design, and architect and engineer serv-
8 ices, as authorized by law, unless the Director of the Army
9 National Guard determines that additional obligations are
10 necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on
11 Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determina-
12 tion and the reasons therefor.

13 MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

14 For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilita-
15 tion, and conversion of facilities for the training and ad-
16 ministration of the Air National Guard, and contributions
17 therefor, as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United
18 States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts,
19 \$138,738,000, to remain available until September 30,
20 2020: Provided, That, of the amount appropriated, not to
21 exceed \$5,104,000 shall be available for study, planning, de-
22 sign, and architect and engineer services, as authorized by
23 law, unless the Director of the Air National Guard deter-
24 mines that additional obligations are necessary for such
25 purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of

1 both Houses of Congress of the determination and the rea-
2 sons therefor.

3 MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY RESERVE

4 For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilita-
5 tion, and conversion of facilities for the training and ad-
6 ministration of the Army Reserve as authorized by chapter
7 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Con-
8 struction Authorization Acts, \$113,595,000, to remain
9 available until September 30, 2020: Provided, That, of the
10 amount appropriated, not to exceed \$9,318,000 shall be
11 available for study, planning, design, and architect and en-
12 gineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Chief of
13 the Army Reserve determines that additional obligations
14 are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees
15 on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the deter-
16 mination and the reasons therefor.

17 MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY RESERVE

18 For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilita-
19 tion, and conversion of facilities for the training and ad-
20 ministration of the reserve components of the Navy and Ma-
21 rine Corps as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United
22 States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts,
23 \$36,078,000, to remain available until September 30, 2020:
24 Provided, That, of the amount appropriated, not to exceed
25 \$2,208,000 shall be available for study, planning, design,

1 and architect and engineer services, as authorized by law,
2 unless the Secretary of the Navy determines that additional
3 obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the
4 Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress
5 of the determination and the reasons therefor.

6 MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE RESERVE

7 For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilita-
8 tion, and conversion of facilities for the training and ad-
9 ministration of the Air Force Reserve as authorized by
10 chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military
11 Construction Authorization Acts, \$65,021,000, to remain
12 available until September 30, 2020: Provided, That, of the
13 amount appropriated, not to exceed \$13,400,000 shall be
14 available for study, planning, design, and architect and en-
15 gineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Chief of
16 the Air Force Reserve determines that additional obliga-
17 tions are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Com-
18 mittees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the
19 determination and the reasons therefor.

20 NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION

21 SECURITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM

22 For the United States share of the cost of the North
23 Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Pro-
24 gram for the acquisition and construction of military facili-
25 ties and installations (including international military

1 headquarters) and for related expenses for the collective de-
2 fense of the North Atlantic Treaty Area as authorized by
3 section 2806 of title 10, United States Code, and Military
4 Construction Authorization Acts, \$120,000,000, to remain
5 available until expended.

6 FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

7 For expenses of family housing for the Army for con-
8 struction, including acquisition, replacement, addition, ex-
9 pansion, extension, and alteration, as authorized by law,
10 \$99,695,000, to remain available until September 30, 2020.

11 FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY

12 For expenses of family housing for the Army for oper-
13 ation and maintenance, including debt payment, leasing,
14 minor construction, principal and interest charges, and in-
15 surance premiums, as authorized by law, \$393,511,000.

16 FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE

17 CORPS

18 For expenses of family housing for the Navy and Ma-
19 rine Corps for construction, including acquisition, replace-
20 ment, addition, expansion, extension, and alteration, as au-
21 thorized by law, \$16,541,000, to remain available until
22 September 30, 2020.

1 FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY
2 AND MARINE CORPS

3 For expenses of family housing for the Navy and Ma-
4 rine Corps for operation and maintenance, including debt
5 payment, leasing, minor construction, principal and inter-
6 est charges, and insurance premiums, as authorized by law,
7 \$353,036,000.

8 FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

9 For expenses of family housing for the Air Force for
10 construction, including acquisition, replacement, addition,
11 expansion, extension, and alteration, as authorized by law,
12 \$160,498,000, to remain available until September 30,
13 2020.

14 FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR
15 FORCE

16 For expenses of family housing for the Air Force for
17 operation and maintenance, including debt payment, leas-
18 ing, minor construction, principal and interest charges,
19 and insurance premiums, as authorized by law,
20 \$331,232,000.

21 FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE,
22 DEFENSE-WIDE

23 For expenses of family housing for the activities and
24 agencies of the Department of Defense (other than the mili-

1 tary departments) for operation and maintenance, leasing,
2 and minor construction, as authorized by law, \$58,668,000.

3 DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE ACCOUNT

4 For deposit into the Department of Defense Base Clo-
5 sure Account 1990, established by section 2906(a) of the De-
6 fense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (10 U.S.C.
7 2687 note), \$251,334,000, to remain available until ex-
8 pended.

9 ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

10 SEC. 101. None of the funds made available in this
11 title shall be expended for payments under a cost-plus-a-
12 fixed-fee contract for construction, where cost estimates ex-
13 ceed \$25,000, to be performed within the United States, ex-
14 cept Alaska, without the specific approval in writing of the
15 Secretary of Defense setting forth the reasons therefor.

16 SEC. 102. Funds made available in this title for con-
17 struction shall be available for hire of passenger motor vehi-
18 cles.

19 SEC. 103. Funds made available in this title for con-
20 struction may be used for advances to the Federal Highway
21 Administration, Department of Transportation, for the con-
22 struction of access roads as authorized by section 210 of
23 title 23, United States Code, when projects authorized there-
24 in are certified as important to the national defense by the
25 Secretary of Defense.

1 SEC. 104. None of the funds made available in this
2 title may be used to begin construction of new bases in the
3 United States for which specific appropriations have not
4 been made.

5 SEC. 105. None of the funds made available in this
6 title shall be used for purchase of land or land easements
7 in excess of 100 percent of the value as determined by the
8 Army Corps of Engineers or the Naval Facilities Engineer-
9 ing Command, except: (1) where there is a determination
10 of value by a Federal court; (2) purchases negotiated by
11 the Attorney General or the designee of the Attorney Gen-
12 eral; (3) where the estimated value is less than \$25,000; or
13 (4) as otherwise determined by the Secretary of Defense to
14 be in the public interest.

15 SEC. 106. None of the funds made available in this
16 title shall be used to: (1) acquire land; (2) provide for site
17 preparation; or (3) install utilities for any family housing,
18 except housing for which funds have been made available
19 in annual Acts making appropriations for military con-
20 struction.

21 SEC. 107. None of the funds made available in this
22 title for minor construction may be used to transfer or relo-
23 cate any activity from one base or installation to another,
24 without prior notification to the Committees on Appropria-
25 tions of both Houses of Congress.

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

6 SEC. 109. None of the funds available to the Depart-
7 ment of Defense for military construction or family housing
8 during the current fiscal year may be used to pay real prop-
9 erty taxes in any foreign nation.

10 SEC. 110. None of the funds made available in this
11 title may be used to initiate a new installation overseas
12 without prior notification to the Committees on Appropria-
13 tions of both Houses of Congress.

14 SEC. 111. None of the funds made available in this
15 title may be obligated for architect and engineer contracts
16 estimated by the Government to exceed \$500,000 for projects
17 to be accomplished in Japan, in any North Atlantic Treaty
18 Organization member country, or in countries bordering the
19 Arabian Gulf, unless such contracts are awarded to United
20 States firms or United States firms in joint venture with
21 host nation firms.

22 SEC. 112. None of the funds made available in this
23 title for military construction in the United States terri-
24 tories and possessions in the Pacific and on Kwajalein
25 Atoll, or in countries bordering the Arabian Gulf, may be

1 used to award any contract estimated by the Government
2 to exceed \$1,000,000 to a foreign contractor: Provided, That
3 this section shall not be applicable to contract awards for
4 which the lowest responsive and responsible bid of a United
5 States contractor exceeds the lowest responsive and respon-
6 sible bid of a foreign contractor by greater than 20 percent:
7 Provided further, That this section shall not apply to con-
8 tract awards for military construction on Kwajalein Atoll
9 for which the lowest responsive and responsible bid is sub-
10 mitted by a Marshallese contractor.

11 SEC. 113. The Secretary of Defense shall inform the
12 appropriate committees of both Houses of Congress, includ-
13 ing the Committees on Appropriations, of plans and scope
14 of any proposed military exercise involving United States
15 personnel 30 days prior to its occurring, if amounts ex-
16 pended for construction, either temporary or permanent,
17 are anticipated to exceed \$100,000.

18 SEC. 114. Not more than 20 percent of the funds made
19 available in this title which are limited for obligation dur-
20 ing the current fiscal year shall be obligated during the last
21 2 months of the fiscal year.

22 SEC. 115. Funds appropriated to the Department of
23 Defense for construction in prior years shall be available
24 for construction authorized for each such military depart-

1 ment by the authorizations enacted into law during the cur-
2 rent session of Congress.

3 SEC. 116. For military construction or family housing
4 projects that are being completed with funds otherwise ex-
5 pired or lapsed for obligation, expired or lapsed funds may
6 be used to pay the cost of associated supervision, inspection,
7 overhead, engineering and design on those projects and on
8 subsequent claims, if any.

9 SEC. 117. Notwithstanding any other provision of law,
10 any funds made available to a military department or de-
11 fense agency for the construction of military projects may
12 be obligated for a military construction project or contract,
13 or for any portion of such a project or contract, at any
14 time before the end of the fourth fiscal year after the fiscal
15 year for which funds for such project were made available,
16 if the funds obligated for such project: (1) are obligated from
17 funds available for military construction projects; and (2)
18 do not exceed the amount appropriated for such project,
19 plus any amount by which the cost of such project is in-
20 creased pursuant to law.

21 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

22 SEC. 118. Subject to 30 days prior notification, or 14
23 days for a notification provided in an electronic medium
24 pursuant to sections 480 and 2883 of title 10, United States
25 Code, to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses

1 of Congress, such additional amounts as may be determined
2 by the Secretary of Defense may be transferred to: (1) the
3 Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund
4 from amounts appropriated for construction in “Family
5 Housing” accounts, to be merged with and to be available
6 for the same purposes and for the same period of time as
7 amounts appropriated directly to the Fund; or (2) the De-
8 partment of Defense Military Unaccompanied Housing Im-
9 provement Fund from amounts appropriated for construc-
10 tion of military unaccompanied housing in “Military Con-
11 struction” accounts, to be merged with and to be available
12 for the same purposes and for the same period of time as
13 amounts appropriated directly to the Fund: Provided, That
14 appropriations made available to the Funds shall be avail-
15 able to cover the costs, as defined in section 502(5) of the
16 Congressional Budget Act of 1974, of direct loans or loan
17 guarantees issued by the Department of Defense pursuant
18 to the provisions of subchapter IV of chapter 169 of title
19 10, United States Code, pertaining to alternative means of
20 acquiring and improving military family housing, military
21 unaccompanied housing, and supporting facilities.

22 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

23 SEC. 119. In addition to any other transfer authority
24 available to the Department of Defense, amounts may be
25 transferred from the accounts established by sections

1 2906(a)(1) and 2906A(a)(1) of the Defense Base Closure
2 and Realignment Act of 1990 (10 U.S.C. 2687 note), to the
3 fund established by section 1013(d) of the Demonstration
4 Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966 (42
5 U.S.C. 3374) to pay for expenses associated with the Home-
6 owners Assistance Program incurred under 42 U.S.C.
7 3374(a)(1)(A). Any amounts transferred shall be merged
8 with and be available for the same purposes and for the
9 same time period as the fund to which transferred.

10 SEC. 120. Notwithstanding any other provision of law,
11 funds made available in this title for operation and mainte-
12 nance of family housing shall be the exclusive source of
13 funds for repair and maintenance of all family housing
14 units, including general or flag officer quarters: Provided,
15 That not more than \$35,000 per unit may be spent annu-
16 ally for the maintenance and repair of any general or flag
17 officer quarters without 30 days prior notification, or 14
18 days for a notification provided in an electronic medium
19 pursuant to sections 480 and 2883 of title 10, United States
20 Code, to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses
21 of Congress, except that an after-the-fact notification shall
22 be submitted if the limitation is exceeded solely due to costs
23 associated with environmental remediation that could not
24 be reasonably anticipated at the time of the budget submis-
25 sion: Provided further, That the Under Secretary of Defense

1 (Comptroller) is to report annually to the Committees on
2 Appropriations of both Houses of Congress all operation
3 and maintenance expenditures for each individual general
4 or flag officer quarters for the prior fiscal year.

5 SEC. 121. Amounts contained in the Ford Island Im-
6 provement Account established by subsection (h) of section
7 2814 of title 10, United States Code, are appropriated and
8 shall be available until expended for the purposes specified
9 in subsection (i)(1) of such section or until transferred pur-
10 suant to subsection (i)(3) of such section.

11 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

12 SEC. 122. During the 5-year period after appropria-
13 tions available in this Act to the Department of Defense
14 for military construction and family housing operation and
15 maintenance and construction have expired for obligation,
16 upon a determination that such appropriations will not be
17 necessary for the liquidation of obligations or for making
18 authorized adjustments to such appropriations for obliga-
19 tions incurred during the period of availability of such ap-
20 propriations, unobligated balances of such appropriations
21 may be transferred into the appropriation “Foreign Cur-
22 rency Fluctuations, Construction, Defense”, to be merged
23 with and to be available for the same time period and for
24 the same purposes as the appropriation to which trans-
25 ferred.

1 SEC. 123. Amounts appropriated or otherwise made
2 available in an account funded under the headings in this
3 title may be transferred among projects and activities with-
4 in the account in accordance with the reprogramming
5 guidelines for military construction and family housing
6 construction contained in Department of Defense Financial
7 Management Regulation 7000.14–R, Volume 3, Chapter 7,
8 of February 2009, as in effect on the date of enactment of
9 this Act.

10 SEC. 124. None of the funds made available in this
11 title may be obligated or expended for planning and design
12 and construction of projects at Arlington National Ceme-
13 tery.

14 SEC. 125. For an additional amount for “Military
15 Construction, Army”, \$34,500,000, to remain available
16 until September 30, 2020: Provided, That such funds may
17 only be obligated to carry out construction projects, in pri-
18 ority order, identified in the Department of the Army’s Un-
19 funded Priority List for Fiscal Year 2016 submitted to Con-
20 gress: Provided further, That such funding is subject to au-
21 thorization prior to obligation and expenditure of funds to
22 carry out construction: Provided further, That, not later
23 than 30 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of
24 the Army shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations

1 of both Houses of Congress an expenditure plan for funds
2 provided under this section.

3 SEC. 126. For an additional amount for “Military
4 Construction, Navy and Marine Corps”, \$34,320,000, to re-
5 main available until September 30, 2020: Provided, That
6 such funds may only be obligated to carry out construction
7 projects, in priority order, identified in the Department of
8 the Navy’s Unfunded Priority List for fiscal year 2016:
9 Provided further, That such funding is subject to authoriza-
10 tion prior to obligation and expenditure of funds to carry
11 out construction: Provided further, That, not later than 30
12 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Navy
13 shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both
14 Houses of Congress an expenditure plan for funds provided
15 under this section.

16 SEC. 127. For an additional amount for “Military
17 Construction, Army National Guard”, \$51,300,000, to re-
18 main available until September 30, 2020: Provided, That
19 such funds may only be obligated to carry out construction
20 projects, in priority order, identified in the Department of
21 the Army’s Unfunded Priority List for Fiscal Year 2016
22 submitted to Congress: Provided further, That such funding
23 is subject to authorization prior to obligation and expendi-
24 ture of funds to carry out construction: Provided further,
25 That, not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act,

1 the Secretary of the Army shall submit to the Committees
2 on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress an expendi-
3 ture plan for funds provided under this section.

4 SEC. 128. For an additional amount for “Military
5 Construction, Army Reserve”, \$34,200,000, to remain
6 available until September 30, 2020: Provided, That such
7 funds may only be obligated to carry out construction
8 projects, in priority order, identified in the Department of
9 the Army’s Unfunded Priority List for Fiscal Year 2016
10 submitted to Congress: Provided further, That such funding
11 is subject to authorization prior to obligation and expendi-
12 ture of funds to carry out construction: Provided further,
13 That, not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act,
14 the Secretary of the Army shall submit to the Committees
15 on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress an expendi-
16 ture plan for funds provided under this section.

17 (RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

18 SEC. 129. Of the unobligated balances available from
19 prior Appropriations Acts (other than appropriations that
20 were designated by the Congress as an emergency require-
21 ment or as being for Overseas Contingency Operations/
22 Global War on Terrorism pursuant to a concurrent resolu-
23 tion on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency
24 Deficit Control Act of 1985) the following funds are hereby

1 rescinded from the following accounts and programs in the
2 specified amounts:

3 “Military Construction, Army”, \$45,000,000;

4 “Military Construction, Air Force”, \$46,400,000; and

5 “Military Construction, Defense-Wide”, \$80,500,000.

6 (RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

7 SEC. 130. Of the unobligated balances made available
8 in prior appropriations Acts for the fund established in sec-
9 tion 1013(d) of the Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan
10 Development Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 3374), \$65,000,000 are
11 hereby rescinded.

12 SEC. 131. Notwithstanding any other provision of law,
13 none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available
14 by this or any other Act may be used to consolidate or relo-
15 cate any element of a United States Air Force Rapid Engi-
16 neer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron En-
17 gineer (RED HORSE) outside of the United States until
18 the Secretary of the Air Force (1) completes an analysis
19 and comparison of the cost and infrastructure investment
20 required to consolidate or relocate a RED HORSE squad-
21 ron outside of the United States versus within the United
22 States; (2) provides to the Committees on Appropriations
23 of both Houses of Congress (“the Committees”) a report de-
24 tailing the findings of the cost analysis; and (3) certifies
25 in writing to the Committees that the preferred site for the

1 consolidation or relocation yields the greatest savings for
2 the Air Force: Provided, That the term “United States” in
3 this section does not include any territory or possession of
4 the United States.

5 SEC. 132. For an additional amount for “Military
6 Construction, Air Force”, \$21,000,000, to remain available
7 until September 30, 2020: Provided, That such funds may
8 only be obligated to carry out construction projects, in pri-
9 ority order, identified in the Department of the Air Force’s
10 Unfunded Priority List for Fiscal Year 2016 submitted to
11 Congress: Provided further, That such funding is subject to
12 authorization prior to obligation and expenditure of funds
13 to carry out construction: Provided further, That not later
14 than 30 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of
15 the Air Force shall submit to the Committees on Appropria-
16 tions of both Houses of Congress an expenditure plan for
17 funds provided under this section.

18 SEC. 133. For an additional amount for “Military
19 Construction, Air National Guard”, \$6,100,000, to remain
20 available until September 30, 2020: Provided, That such
21 funds may only be obligated to carry out construction
22 projects, in priority order, identified in the Department of
23 the Air Force’s Unfunded Priority List for Fiscal Year 2016
24 submitted to Congress: Provided further, That such funding
25 is subject to authorization prior to obligation and expendi-

1 ture of funds to carry out construction: Provided further,
2 That not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act,
3 the Secretary of the Air Force shall submit to the Commit-
4 tees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress an ex-
5 penditure plan for funds provided under this section.

6 SEC. 134. For an additional amount for “Military
7 Construction, Air Force Reserve”, \$10,400,000, to remain
8 available until September 30, 2020: Provided, That such
9 funds may only be obligated to carry out construction
10 projects, in priority order, identified in the Department of
11 the Air Force’s Unfunded Priority List for Fiscal Year 2016
12 submitted to Congress: Provided further, That such funding
13 is subject to authorization prior to obligation and expendi-
14 ture of funds to carry out construction: Provided further,
15 That not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act,
16 the Secretary of the Air Force shall submit to the Commit-
17 tees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress an ex-
18 penditure plan for funds provided under this section.

19 TITLE II

20 DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

21 VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION

22 COMPENSATION AND PENSIONS

23 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

24 For the payment of compensation benefits to or on be-
25 half of veterans and a pilot program for disability examina-

1 tions as authorized by section 107 and chapters 11, 13, 18,
2 51, 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United States Code; pension
3 benefits to or on behalf of veterans as authorized by chapters
4 15, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United States Code; and
5 burial benefits, the Reinstated Entitlement Program for
6 Survivors, emergency and other officers' retirement pay, ad-
7 justed-service credits and certificates, payment of premiums
8 due on commercial life insurance policies guaranteed under
9 the provisions of title IV of the Servicemembers Civil Relief
10 Act (50 U.S.C. App. 541 et seq.) and for other benefits as
11 authorized by sections 107, 1312, 1977, and 2106, and
12 chapters 23, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United States
13 Code, \$166,271,436,000, to remain available until ex-
14 pended, of which \$87,146,761,000 shall become available on
15 October 1, 2016: Provided, That not to exceed \$15,562,000
16 of the amount appropriated for fiscal year 2016 and
17 \$16,021,000 of the amount made available for fiscal year
18 2017 under this heading shall be reimbursed to "General
19 Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration",
20 and "Information Technology Systems" for necessary ex-
21 penses in implementing the provisions of chapters 51, 53,
22 and 55 of title 38, United States Code, the funding source
23 for which is specifically provided as the "Compensation and
24 Pensions" appropriation: Provided further, That such sums
25 as may be earned on an actual qualifying patient basis,

1 shall be reimbursed to “Medical Care Collections Fund” to
2 augment the funding of individual medical facilities for
3 nursing home care provided to pensioners as authorized.

4 READJUSTMENT BENEFITS

5 For the payment of readjustment and rehabilitation
6 benefits to or on behalf of veterans as authorized by chapters
7 21, 30, 31, 33, 34, 35, 36, 39, 41, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of
8 title 38, United States Code, \$32,088,826,000, to remain
9 available until expended, of which \$16,743,904,000 shall be-
10 come available on October 1, 2016: Provided, That expenses
11 for rehabilitation program services and assistance which the
12 Secretary is authorized to provide under subsection (a) of
13 section 3104 of title 38, United States Code, other than
14 under paragraphs (1), (2), (5), and (11) of that subsection,
15 shall be charged to this account.

16 VETERANS INSURANCE AND INDEMNITIES

17 For military and naval insurance, national service life
18 insurance, servicemen’s indemnities, service-disabled vet-
19 erans insurance, and veterans mortgage life insurance as
20 authorized by chapters 19 and 21, title 38, United States
21 Code, \$169,080,000, to remain available until expended, of
22 which \$91,920,000 shall become available on October 1,
23 2016.

1 VETERANS HOUSING BENEFIT PROGRAM FUND

2 For the cost of direct and guaranteed loans, such sums
3 as may be necessary to carry out the program, as authorized
4 by subchapters I through III of chapter 37 of title 38,
5 United States Code: Provided, That such costs, including
6 the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in sec-
7 tion 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: Provided
8 further, That, during fiscal year 2016, within the resources
9 available, not to exceed \$500,000 in gross obligations for
10 direct loans are authorized for specially adapted housing
11 loans.

12 In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out
13 the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$164,558,000.

14 VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

15 For the cost of direct loans, \$31,000, as authorized by
16 chapter 31 of title 38, United States Code: Provided, That
17 such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall
18 be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget
19 Act of 1974: Provided further, That funds made available
20 under this heading are available to subsidize gross obliga-
21 tions for the principal amount of direct loans not to exceed
22 \$2,952,381.

23 In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to
24 carry out the direct loan program, \$367,000, which may

1 be paid to the appropriation for “General Operating Ex-
2 penses, Veterans Benefits Administration”.

3 NATIVE AMERICAN VETERAN HOUSING LOAN PROGRAM
4 ACCOUNT

5 For administrative expenses to carry out the direct
6 loan program authorized by subchapter V of chapter 37 of
7 title 38, United States Code, \$1,134,000.

8 VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION
9 MEDICAL SERVICES

10 For necessary expenses for furnishing, as authorized
11 by law, inpatient and outpatient care and treatment to
12 beneficiaries of the Department of Veterans Affairs and vet-
13 erans described in section 1705(a) of title 38, United States
14 Code, including care and treatment in facilities not under
15 the jurisdiction of the Department, and including medical
16 supplies and equipment, bioengineering services, food serv-
17 ices, and salaries and expenses of healthcare employees
18 hired under title 38, United States Code, aid to State homes
19 as authorized by section 1741 of title 38, United States
20 Code, assistance and support services for caregivers as au-
21 thorized by section 1720G of title 38, United States Code,
22 loan repayments authorized by section 604 of the Caregivers
23 and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010 (Public
24 Law 111–163; 124 Stat. 1174; 38 U.S.C. 7681 note), and
25 hospital care and medical services authorized by section

1 1787 of title 38, United States Code; \$3,104,197,000, which
2 shall be in addition to funds previously appropriated under
3 this heading that become available on October 1, 2015; and,
4 in addition, \$51,673,000,000, plus reimbursements, shall
5 become available on October 1, 2016, and shall remain
6 available until September 30, 2017: Provided, That, of the
7 amount made available on October 1, 2016, under this
8 heading, \$1,400,000,000 shall remain available until Sep-
9 tember 30, 2018: Provided further, That, notwithstanding
10 any other provision of law, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
11 shall establish a priority for the provision of medical treat-
12 ment for veterans who have service-connected disabilities,
13 lower income, or have special needs: Provided further, That,
14 notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary
15 of Veterans Affairs shall give priority funding for the provi-
16 sion of basic medical benefits to veterans in enrollment pri-
17 ority groups 1 through 6: Provided further, That, notwith-
18 standing any other provision of law, the Secretary of Vet-
19 erans Affairs may authorize the dispensing of prescription
20 drugs from Veterans Health Administration facilities to en-
21 rolled veterans with privately written prescriptions based
22 on requirements established by the Secretary: Provided fur-
23 ther, That the implementation of the program described in
24 the previous proviso shall incur no additional cost to the
25 Department of Veterans Affairs: Provided further, That, of

1 the amount made available on October 1, 2016, under this
2 heading, not less than \$900,000,000 shall be available for
3 highly effective Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) clinical treat-
4 ments including clinical treatments with modern medica-
5 tions that have significantly higher cure rates than older
6 medications, are easier to prescribe, and have fewer and
7 milder side effects: Provided further, That the Secretary of
8 Veterans Affairs shall ensure that amounts appropriated to
9 the Department of Veterans Affairs for medical supplies and
10 equipment are allocated to ensure the provision of gender
11 appropriate prosthetics.

12 MEDICAL SUPPORT AND COMPLIANCE

13 For necessary expenses in the administration of the
14 medical, hospital, nursing home, domiciliary, construction,
15 supply, and research activities, as authorized by law; ad-
16 ministrative expenses in support of capital policy activities;
17 and administrative and legal expenses of the Department
18 for collecting and recovering amounts owed the Department
19 as authorized under chapter 17 of title 38, United States
20 Code, and the Federal Medical Care Recovery Act (42
21 U.S.C. 2651 et seq.), \$6,524,000,000, plus reimbursements,
22 shall become available on October 1, 2016, and shall remain
23 available until September 30, 2017: Provided, That, of the
24 amount made available on October 1, 2016, under this

1 heading, \$100,000,000 shall remain available until Sep-
2 tember 30, 2018.

3 MEDICAL FACILITIES

4 For necessary expenses for the maintenance and oper-
5 ation of hospitals, nursing homes, domiciliary facilities,
6 and other necessary facilities of the Veterans Health Admin-
7 istration; for administrative expenses in support of plan-
8 ning, design, project management, real property acquisition
9 and disposition, construction, and renovation of any facil-
10 ity under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department;
11 for oversight, engineering, and architectural activities not
12 charged to project costs; for repairing, altering, improving,
13 or providing facilities in the several hospitals and homes
14 under the jurisdiction of the Department, not otherwise pro-
15 vided for, either by contract or by the hire of temporary
16 employees and purchase of materials; for leases of facilities;
17 and for laundry services, \$5,074,000,000, plus reimburse-
18 ments, shall become available on October 1, 2016, and shall
19 remain available until September 30, 2017: Provided, That,
20 of the amount made available on October 1, 2016, under
21 this heading, \$250,000,000 shall remain available until
22 September 30, 2018.

23 MEDICAL AND PROSTHETIC RESEARCH

24 For necessary expenses in carrying out programs of
25 medical and prosthetic research and development as author-

1 ized by chapter 73 of title 38, United States Code,
2 \$621,813,000, plus reimbursements, shall remain available
3 until September 30, 2017: Provided, That such sums are
4 allocated to ensure the provision of gender appropriate
5 prosthetics and to conduct research related to toxic expo-
6 sure.

7 NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION

8 For necessary expenses of the National Cemetery Ad-
9 ministration for operations and maintenance, not otherwise
10 provided for, including uniforms or allowances therefor;
11 cemeterial expenses as authorized by law; purchase of one
12 passenger motor vehicle for use in cemeterial operations;
13 hire of passenger motor vehicles; and repair, alteration or
14 improvement of facilities under the jurisdiction of the Na-
15 tional Cemetery Administration, \$266,220,000, of which
16 not to exceed \$26,600,000 shall remain available until Sep-
17 tember 30, 2017.

18 DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

19 GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

20 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

21 For necessary operating expenses of the Department of
22 Veterans Affairs, not otherwise provided for, including ad-
23 ministrative expenses in support of Department-Wide cap-
24 ital planning, management and policy activities, uniforms,
25 or allowances therefor; not to exceed \$25,000 for official re-

1 ception and representation expenses; hire of passenger
2 motor vehicles; and reimbursement of the General Services
3 Administration for security guard services, \$311,591,000,
4 of which not to exceed \$10,000,000 shall remain available
5 until September 30, 2017: Provided, That funds provided
6 under this heading may be transferred to “General Oper-
7 ating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration”.

8 BOARD OF VETERANS APPEALS

9 For necessary operating expenses of the Board of Vet-
10 erans Appeals, \$107,884,000, of which not to exceed
11 \$10,788,000 shall remain available until September 30,
12 2017.

13 GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES, VETERANS BENEFITS
14 ADMINISTRATION

15 For necessary operating expenses of the Veterans Bene-
16 fits Administration, not otherwise provided for, including
17 hire of passenger motor vehicles, reimbursement of the Gen-
18 eral Services Administration for security guard services,
19 and reimbursement of the Department of Defense for the
20 cost of overseas employee mail, \$2,697,734,000: Provided,
21 That expenses for services and assistance authorized under
22 paragraphs (1), (2), (5), and (11) of section 3104(a) of title
23 38, United States Code, that the Secretary of Veterans Af-
24 fairs determines are necessary to enable entitled veterans:
25 (1) to the maximum extent feasible, to become employable

1 and to obtain and maintain suitable employment; or (2)
2 to achieve maximum independence in daily living, shall be
3 charged to this account: Provided further, That, of the funds
4 made available under this heading, not to exceed
5 \$160,000,000 shall remain available until September 30,
6 2017.

7 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS

8 For necessary expenses for information technology sys-
9 tems and telecommunications support, including develop-
10 mental information systems and operational information
11 systems; for pay and associated costs; and for the capital
12 asset acquisition of information technology systems, includ-
13 ing management and related contractual costs of said ac-
14 quisitions, including contractual costs associated with oper-
15 ations authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States
16 Code, \$4,106,363,000, plus reimbursements: Provided, That
17 \$1,115,757,000 shall be for pay and associated costs, of
18 which not to exceed \$34,800,000 shall remain available
19 until September 30, 2017: Provided further, That
20 \$2,512,863,000 shall be for operations and maintenance, of
21 which not to exceed \$175,000,000 shall remain available
22 until September 30, 2017: Provided further, That
23 \$477,743,000 shall be for information technology systems
24 development, modernization, and enhancement, and shall
25 remain available until September 30, 2017: Provided fur-

1 ther, That amounts made available for information tech-
2 nology systems development, modernization, and enhance-
3 ment may not be obligated or expended until the Secretary
4 of Veterans Affairs or the Chief Information Officer of the
5 Department of Veterans Affairs submits to the Committees
6 on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a certifi-
7 cation of the amounts, in parts or in full, to be obligated
8 and expended for each development project: Provided fur-
9 ther, That amounts made available for salaries and ex-
10 penses, operations and maintenance, and information tech-
11 nology systems development, modernization, and enhance-
12 ment may be transferred among the three subaccounts after
13 the Secretary of Veterans Affairs requests from the Commit-
14 tees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress the au-
15 thority to make the transfer and an approval is issued: Pro-
16 vided further, That amounts made available for the “Infor-
17 mation Technology Systems” account for development, mod-
18 ernization, and enhancement may be transferred among
19 projects or to newly defined projects: Provided further, That
20 no project may be increased or decreased by more than
21 \$1,000,000 of cost prior to submitting a request to the Com-
22 mittees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress to
23 make the transfer and an approval is issued, or absent a
24 response, a period of 30 days has elapsed: Provided further,
25 That funds under this heading may be used by the Inter-

1 agency Program Office through the Department of Veterans
2 Affairs to develop a standard data reference terminology
3 model: Provided further, That, of the funds made available
4 for information technology systems development, mod-
5 ernization, and enhancement for VistA Evolution, not more
6 than 25 percent may be obligated or expended until the Sec-
7 retary of Veterans Affairs submits to the Committees on Ap-
8 propriations of both Houses of Congress, and such Commit-
9 tees approve, a report that describes: (1) the status of and
10 changes to the VistA Evolution program plan dated March
11 24, 2014 (hereinafter referred to as the “Plan”), the VistA
12 4 product roadmap dated February 26, 2015 (“Roadmap”),
13 and the VistA 4 Incremental Life Cycle Cost Estimate,
14 dated October 26, 2014; (2) any changes to the scope or
15 functionality of projects within the VistA Evolution pro-
16 gram as established in the Plan; (3) actual program costs
17 incurred to date; (4) progress in meeting the schedule mile-
18 stones that have been established in the Plan; (5) a Project
19 Management Accountability System (PMAS) Dashboard
20 Progress report that identifies each VistA Evolution project
21 being tracked through PMAS, what functionality it is in-
22 tended to provide, and what evaluation scores it has re-
23 ceived throughout development; (6) the definition being used
24 for interoperability between the electronic health record sys-
25 tems of the Department of Defense and the Department of

1 Veterans Affairs, the metrics to measure the extent of inter-
2 operability, the milestones and timeline associated with
3 achieving interoperability, and the baseline measurements
4 associated with interoperability; (7) progress toward devel-
5 oping and implementing all components and levels of inter-
6 operability, including semantic interoperability; (8) the
7 change management tools in place to facilitate the imple-
8 mentation of VistA Evolution and interoperability; and (9)
9 any changes to the governance structure for the VistA Evo-
10 lution program and its chain of decisionmaking authority:
11 Provided further, That the funds made available under this
12 heading for information technology systems development,
13 modernization, and enhancement, shall be for the projects,
14 and in the amounts, specified under this heading in the
15 report accompanying this Act.

16 OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

17 For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector Gen-
18 eral, to include information technology, in carrying out the
19 provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C.
20 App.), \$126,766,000, of which \$12,676,000 shall remain
21 available until September 30, 2017.

22 CONSTRUCTION, MAJOR PROJECTS

23 For constructing, altering, extending, and improving
24 any of the facilities, including parking projects, under the
25 jurisdiction or for the use of the Department of Veterans

1 Affairs, or for any of the purposes set forth in sections 316,
2 2404, 2406 and chapter 81 of title 38, United States Code,
3 not otherwise provided for, including planning, architec-
4 tural and engineering services, construction management
5 services, maintenance or guarantee period services costs as-
6 sociated with equipment guarantees provided under the
7 project, services of claims analysts, offsite utility and storm
8 drainage system construction costs, and site acquisition,
9 where the estimated cost of a project is more than the
10 amount set forth in section 8104(a)(3)(A) of title 38, United
11 States Code, or where funds for a project were made avail-
12 able in a previous major project appropriation,
13 \$1,027,064,000, of which \$967,064,000 shall remain avail-
14 able until September 30, 2020, and of which \$60,000,000
15 shall remain available until expended: Provided, That ex-
16 cept for advance planning activities, including needs assess-
17 ments which may or may not lead to capital investments,
18 and other capital asset management related activities, in-
19 cluding portfolio development and management activities,
20 and investment strategy studies funded through the advance
21 planning fund and the planning and design activities fund-
22 ed through the design fund, including needs assessments
23 which may or may not lead to capital investments, and
24 salaries and associated costs of the resident engineers who
25 oversee those capital investments funded through this ac-

1 count, and funds provided for the purchase of land for the
2 National Cemetery Administration through the land acqui-
3 sition line item, none of the funds made available under
4 this heading shall be used for any project which has not
5 been approved by the Congress in the budgetary process:
6 Provided further, That funds made available under this
7 heading for fiscal year 2016, for each approved project shall
8 be obligated: (1) by the awarding of a construction docu-
9 ments contract by September 30, 2016; and (2) by the
10 awarding of a construction contract by September 30, 2017:
11 Provided further, That the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
12 shall promptly submit to the Committees on Appropriations
13 of both Houses of Congress a written report on any ap-
14 proved major construction project for which obligations are
15 not incurred within the time limitations established above:
16 Provided further, That, of the amount made available on
17 October 1, 2016, under this heading, \$490,700,000 for Vet-
18 erans Health Administration major construction projects
19 shall not be available until the Secretary of Veterans Af-
20 fairs:

21 (1) Enters into an agreement with the U.S.
22 Army Corps of Engineers, to serve as the design and
23 construction agent for Veterans Health Administra-
24 tion projects with a Total Estimated Cost of
25 \$250,000,000 or above.

1 (2) That such an agreement will designate the
2 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as the design and con-
3 struction agent to serve as—

4 (A) the overall construction project man-
5 ager, with a dedicated project delivery team in-
6 cluding engineers, medical facility designers, and
7 professional project managers;

8 (B) the facility design manager, with a
9 dedicated design manager and technical support;

10 (C) the design agent, with standardized and
11 rigorous facility designs;

12 (D) the architect/engineer designer; and

13 (E) the overall construction agent, with a
14 dedicated construction and technical team dur-
15 ing pre-construction, construction, and commis-
16 sioning phases.

17 (3) Certifies in writing that such an agreement
18 is in effect and will prevent subsequent major con-
19 struction project cost overruns, provides a copy of the
20 agreement entered into (and any required supple-
21 mentary information) to the Committees on Appro-
22 priations of both Houses of Congress, and a period of
23 60 days has elapsed.

1 CONSTRUCTION, MINOR PROJECTS

2 For constructing, altering, extending, and improving
3 any of the facilities, including parking projects, under the
4 jurisdiction or for the use of the Department of Veterans
5 Affairs, including planning and assessments of needs which
6 may lead to capital investments, architectural and engi-
7 neering services, maintenance or guarantee period services
8 costs associated with equipment guarantees provided under
9 the project, services of claims analysts, offsite utility and
10 storm drainage system construction costs, and site acqui-
11 sition, or for any of the purposes set forth in sections 316,
12 2404, 2406 and chapter 81 of title 38, United States Code,
13 not otherwise provided for, where the estimated cost of a
14 project is equal to or less than the amount set forth in sec-
15 tion 8104(a)(3)(A) of title 38, United States Code,
16 \$378,080,000, to remain available until September 30,
17 2020, along with unobligated balances of previous “Con-
18 struction, Minor Projects” appropriations which are hereby
19 made available for any project where the estimated cost is
20 equal to or less than the amount set forth in such section:
21 Provided, That funds made available under this heading
22 shall be for: (1) repairs to any of the nonmedical facilities
23 under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department
24 which are necessary because of loss or damage caused by
25 any natural disaster or catastrophe; and (2) temporary

1 measures necessary to prevent or to minimize further loss
2 by such causes.

3 GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF STATE EXTENDED CARE
4 FACILITIES

5 For grants to assist States to acquire or construct
6 State nursing home and domiciliary facilities and to re-
7 model, modify, or alter existing hospital, nursing home, and
8 domiciliary facilities in State homes, for furnishing care
9 to veterans as authorized by sections 8131 through 8137 of
10 title 38, United States Code, \$100,000,000, to remain avail-
11 able until expended.

12 GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF VETERANS CEMETERIES

13 For grants to assist States and tribal organizations
14 in establishing, expanding, or improving veterans ceme-
15 teries as authorized by section 2408 of title 38, United
16 States Code, \$46,000,000, to remain available until ex-
17 pended.

18 ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

19 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

20 SEC. 201. Any appropriation for fiscal year 2016 for
21 “Compensation and Pensions”, “Readjustment Benefits”,
22 and “Veterans Insurance and Indemnities” may be trans-
23 ferred as necessary to any other of the mentioned appro-
24 priations: Provided, That, before a transfer may take place,
25 the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall request from the

1 Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress
2 the authority to make the transfer and such Committees
3 issue an approval, or absent a response, a period of 30 days
4 has elapsed.

5 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

6 SEC. 202. Amounts made available for the Department
7 of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2016, in this Act or any
8 other Act, under the “Medical Services”, “Medical support
9 and compliance”, and “Medical Facilities” accounts may
10 be transferred among the accounts: Provided, That any
11 transfers between the “Medical Services” and “Medical
12 Support and Compliance” accounts of 1 percent or less of
13 the total amount appropriated to the account in this or any
14 other Act may take place subject to notification from the
15 Secretary of Veterans Affairs to the Committees on Appro-
16 priations of both Houses of Congress of the amount and
17 purpose of the transfer: Provided further, That any trans-
18 fers between the “Medical Services” and “Medical Support
19 and Compliance” accounts in excess of 1 percent, or exceed-
20 ing the cumulative 1 percent for the fiscal year, may take
21 place only after the Secretary requests from the Committees
22 on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress the authority
23 to make the transfer and an approval is issued: Provided
24 further, That any transfers to or from the “Medical Facili-
25 ties” account may take place only after the Secretary re-

1 quests from the Committees on Appropriations of both
2 Houses of Congress the authority to make the transfer and
3 an approval is issued.

4 SEC. 203. Appropriations available in this title for sal-
5 aries and expenses shall be available for services authorized
6 by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code; hire of pas-
7 senger motor vehicles; lease of a facility or land or both;
8 and uniforms or allowances therefore, as authorized by sec-
9 tions 5901 through 5902 of title 5, United States Code.

10 SEC. 204. No appropriations in this title (except the
11 appropriations for “Construction, Major Projects”, and
12 “Construction, Minor Projects”) shall be available for the
13 purchase of any site for or toward the construction of any
14 new hospital or home.

15 SEC. 205. No appropriations in this title shall be
16 available for hospitalization or examination of any persons
17 (except beneficiaries entitled to such hospitalization or ex-
18 amination under the laws providing such benefits to vet-
19 erans, and persons receiving such treatment under sections
20 7901 through 7904 of title 5, United States Code, or the
21 Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assist-
22 ance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.)), unless reimbursement
23 of the cost of such hospitalization or examination is made
24 to the “Medical Services” account at such rates as may be
25 fixed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

1 SEC. 206. Appropriations available in this title for
2 “Compensation and pensions”, “Readjustment benefits”,
3 and “Veterans insurance and indemnities” shall be avail-
4 able for payment of prior year accrued obligations required
5 to be recorded by law against the corresponding prior year
6 accounts within the last quarter of fiscal year 2015.

7 SEC. 207. Appropriations available in this title shall
8 be available to pay prior year obligations of corresponding
9 prior year appropriations accounts resulting from sections
10 3328(a), 3334, and 3712(a) of title 31, United States Code,
11 except that if such obligations are from trust fund accounts
12 they shall be payable only from “Compensation and Pen-
13 sions”.

14 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

15 SEC. 208. Notwithstanding any other provision of law,
16 during fiscal year 2016, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
17 shall, from the National Service Life Insurance Fund under
18 section 1920 of title 38, United States Code, the Veterans’
19 Special Life Insurance Fund under section 1923 of title 38,
20 United States Code, and the United States Government Life
21 Insurance Fund under section 1955 of title 38, United
22 States Code, reimburse the “General operating expenses,
23 Veterans Benefits Administration” and “Information Tech-
24 nology Systems” accounts for the cost of administration of
25 the insurance programs financed through those accounts:

1 Provided, That reimbursement shall be made only from the
2 surplus earnings accumulated in such an insurance pro-
3 gram during fiscal year 2016 that are available for divi-
4 dends in that program after claims have been paid and ac-
5 tuarially determined reserves have been set aside: Provided
6 further, That, if the cost of administration of such an insur-
7 ance program exceeds the amount of surplus earnings accu-
8 mulated in that program, reimbursement shall be made
9 only to the extent of such surplus earnings: Provided fur-
10 ther, That the Secretary shall determine the cost of adminis-
11 tration for fiscal year 2016 which is properly allocable to
12 the provision of each such insurance program and to the
13 provision of any total disability income insurance included
14 in that insurance program.

15 SEC. 209. Amounts deducted from enhanced-use lease
16 proceeds to reimburse an account for expenses incurred by
17 that account during a prior fiscal year for providing en-
18 hanced-use lease services, may be obligated during the fiscal
19 year in which the proceeds are received.

20 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

21 SEC. 210. Funds available in this title or funds for
22 salaries and other administrative expenses shall also be
23 available to reimburse the Office of Resolution Management
24 of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Office of Em-
25 ployment Discrimination Complaint Adjudication under

1 section 319 of title 38, United States Code, for all services
2 provided at rates which will recover actual costs but not
3 to exceed \$43,700,000 for the Office of Resolution Manage-
4 ment and \$3,400,000 for the Office of Employment Dis-
5 crimination Complaint Adjudication: Provided, That pay-
6 ments may be made in advance for services to be furnished
7 based on estimated costs: Provided further, That amounts
8 received shall be credited to the “General Administration”
9 and “Information Technology Systems” accounts for use by
10 the office that provided the service.

11 (TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

12 SEC. 211. Of the amounts made available to the De-
13 partment of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2016 for the
14 Office of Rural Health under the heading “Medical Serv-
15 ices”, including any advance appropriation for fiscal year
16 2016 provided in prior appropriation Acts, up to
17 \$20,000,000 may be transferred to and merged with funds
18 appropriated under the heading “Grants for Construction
19 of State Extended Care Facilities”.

20 SEC. 212. No funds of the Department of Veterans Af-
21 fairs shall be available for hospital care, nursing home care,
22 or medical services provided to any person under chapter
23 17 of title 38, United States Code, for a non-service-con-
24 nected disability described in section 1729(a)(2) of such
25 title, unless that person has disclosed to the Secretary of

1 Veterans Affairs, in such form as the Secretary may require,
2 current, accurate third-party reimbursement information
3 for purposes of section 1729 of such title: Provided, That
4 the Secretary may recover, in the same manner as any other
5 debt due the United States, the reasonable charges for such
6 care or services from any person who does not make such
7 disclosure as required: Provided further, That any amounts
8 so recovered for care or services provided in a prior fiscal
9 year may be obligated by the Secretary during the fiscal
10 year in which amounts are received.

11 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

12 SEC. 213. Notwithstanding any other provision of law,
13 proceeds or revenues derived from enhanced-use leasing ac-
14 tivities (including disposal) may be deposited into the
15 “Construction, Major Projects” and “Construction, Minor
16 Projects” accounts and be used for construction (including
17 site acquisition and disposition), alterations, and improve-
18 ments of any medical facility under the jurisdiction or for
19 the use of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Such sums
20 as realized are in addition to the amount provided for in
21 “Construction, Major Projects” and “Construction, Minor
22 Projects”.

23 SEC. 214. Amounts made available under “Medical
24 Services” are available—

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

3 (2) for funeral expenses, burial expenses, and
4 other expenses incidental to funerals and burials for
5 beneficiaries receiving care in the Department.

6 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

7 SEC. 215. Such sums as may be deposited to the Med-
8 ical Care Collections Fund pursuant to section 1729A of
9 title 38, United States Code, may be transferred to “Medical
10 Services”, to remain available until expended for the pur-
11 poses of that account: Provided, That, for fiscal year 2016,
12 up to \$27,000,000 deposited in the Department of Veterans
13 Affairs Medical Care Collections Fund shall be transferred
14 to “Information Technology Systems”, to remain available
15 until expended, for development of the Medical Care Collec-
16 tions Fund electronic data exchange provider and payer
17 system.

18 SEC. 216. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may enter
19 into agreements with Indian tribes and tribal organizations
20 which are party to the Alaska Native Health Compact with
21 the Indian Health Service, and Indian tribes and tribal
22 organizations serving rural Alaska which have entered into
23 contracts with the Indian Health Service under the Indian
24 Self Determination and Educational Assistance Act, to pro-
25 vide healthcare, including behavioral health and dental

1 care. The Secretary shall require participating veterans and
2 facilities to comply with all appropriate rules and regula-
3 tions, as established by the Secretary. The term “rural Alas-
4 ka” shall mean those lands sited within the external bound-
5 aries of the Alaska Native regions specified in sections
6 7(a)(1)–(4) and (7)–(12) of the Alaska Native Claims Set-
7 tlement Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1606), and those lands
8 within the Alaska Native regions specified in sections
9 7(a)(5) and 7(a)(6) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement
10 Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1606), which are not within
11 the boundaries of the municipality of Anchorage, the Fair-
12 banks North Star Borough, the Kenai Peninsula Borough
13 or the Matanuska Susitna Borough.

14 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

15 SEC. 217. Such sums as may be deposited to the De-
16 partment of Veterans Affairs Capital Asset Fund pursuant
17 to section 8118 of title 38, United States Code, may be
18 transferred to the “Construction, Major Projects” and “Con-
19 struction, Minor Projects” accounts, to remain available
20 until expended for the purposes of these accounts.

21 SEC. 218. None of the funds made available in this
22 title may be used to implement any policy prohibiting the
23 Directors of the Veterans Integrated Services Networks from
24 conducting outreach or marketing to enroll new veterans
25 within their respective Networks.

1 SEC. 219. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall sub-
2 mit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses
3 of Congress a quarterly report on the financial status of
4 the Veterans Health Administration.

5 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

6 SEC. 220. Amounts made available under the “Medical
7 Services”, “Medical Support and Compliance”, “Medical
8 Facilities”, “General Operating Expenses, Veterans Bene-
9 fits Administration”, “General Administration”, and “Na-
10 tional Cemetery Administration” accounts for fiscal year
11 2016 may be transferred to or from the “Information Tech-
12 nology Systems” account: Provided, That, before a transfer
13 may take place, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall re-
14 quest from the Committees on Appropriations of both
15 Houses of Congress the authority to make the transfer and
16 an approval is issued.

17 SEC. 221. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise
18 made available by this Act or any other Act for the Depart-
19 ment of Veterans Affairs may be used in a manner that
20 is inconsistent with: (1) section 842 of the Transportation,
21 Treasury, Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary,
22 the District of Columbia, and Independent Agencies Appro-
23 priations Act, 2006 (Public Law 109–115; 119 Stat. 2506);
24 or (2) section 8110(a)(5) of title 38, United States Code.

1 SEC. 222. Of the amounts made available to the De-
2 partment of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2016, in this
3 Act or any other Act, under the “Medical Facilities” ac-
4 count for nonrecurring maintenance, not more than 20 per-
5 cent of the funds made available shall be obligated during
6 the last 2 months of that fiscal year: Provided, That the
7 Secretary may waive this requirement after providing writ-
8 ten notice to the Committees on Appropriations of both
9 Houses of Congress.

10 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

11 SEC. 223. Of the amounts appropriated to the Depart-
12 ment of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2016 for “Medical
13 Services”, “Medical Support and Compliance”, “Medical
14 Facilities”, “Construction, Minor Projects”, and “Informa-
15 tion Technology Systems”, up to \$266,303,000, plus reim-
16 bursements, may be transferred to the Joint Department of
17 Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility
18 Demonstration Fund, established by section 1704 of the Na-
19 tional Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Pub-
20 lic Law 111–84; 123 Stat. 3571) and may be used for oper-
21 ation of the facilities designated as combined Federal med-
22 ical facilities as described by section 706 of the Duncan
23 Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year
24 2009 (Public Law 110–417; 122 Stat. 4500): Provided,
25 That additional funds may be transferred from accounts

1 designated in this section to the Joint Department of De-
2 fense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility
3 Demonstration Fund upon written notification by the Sec-
4 retary of Veterans Affairs to the Committees on Appropria-
5 tions of both Houses of Congress: Provided further, That sec-
6 tion 223 of Title II of Division I of Public Law 113–235
7 is repealed.

8 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

9 SEC. 224. Of the amounts appropriated to the Depart-
10 ment of Veterans Affairs which become available on October
11 1, 2016, for “Medical Services”, “Medical Support and
12 Compliance”, and “Medical Facilities”, up to
13 \$265,675,000, plus reimbursements, may be transferred to
14 the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans
15 Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund, established
16 by section 1704 of the National Defense Authorization Act
17 for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111–84; 123 Stat. 3571)
18 and may be used for operation of the facilities designated
19 as combined Federal medical facilities as described by sec-
20 tion 706 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Author-
21 ization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (Public Law 110–417; 122
22 Stat. 4500): Provided, That additional funds may be trans-
23 ferred from accounts designated in this section to the Joint
24 Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs
25 Medical Facility Demonstration Fund upon written notifi-

1 cation by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to the Commit-
2 tees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

3 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

4 SEC. 225. Such sums as may be deposited to the Med-
5 ical Care Collections Fund pursuant to section 1729A of
6 title 38, United States Code, for healthcare provided at fa-
7 cilities designated as combined Federal medical facilities as
8 described by section 706 of the Duncan Hunter National
9 Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (Public
10 Law 110–417; 122 Stat. 4500) shall also be available: (1)
11 for transfer to the Joint Department of Defense-Department
12 of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund,
13 established by section 1704 of the National Defense Author-
14 ization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111–84; 123
15 Stat. 3571); and (2) for operations of the facilities des-
16 igned as combined Federal medical facilities as described
17 by section 706 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Au-
18 thorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (Public Law 110–417;
19 122 Stat. 4500).

20 (TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

21 SEC. 226. Of the amounts available in this title for
22 “Medical Services”, “Medical Support and Compliance”,
23 and “Medical Facilities”, a minimum of \$15,000,000 shall
24 be transferred to the DOD–VA Health Care Sharing Incen-
25 tive Fund, as authorized by section 8111(d) of title 38,

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

4 (INCLUDING RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

5 SEC. 227. (a) Of the funds appropriated in division
6 I of Public Law 113–235, the following amounts which be-
7 come available on October 1, 2015, are hereby rescinded
8 from the following accounts in the amounts specified:

9 (1) “Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical
10 Services”, \$1,400,000,000.

11 (2) “Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical
12 Support and Compliance”, \$150,000,000.

13 (3) “Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical
14 Facilities”, \$250,000,000.

15 (b) In addition to amounts provided elsewhere in this
16 Act, an additional amount is appropriated to the following
17 accounts in the amounts specified to remain available until
18 September 30, 2017:

19 (1) “Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical
20 Services”, \$1,400,000,000.

21 (2) “Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical
22 Support and Compliance”, \$100,000,000.

23 (3) “Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical
24 Facilities”, \$250,000,000.

1 SEC. 228. The Secretary of the Department of Veterans
2 Affairs shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of
3 both Houses of Congress of all bid savings in major con-
4 struction projects that total at least \$5,000,000, or 5 percent
5 of the programmed amount of the project, whichever is less:
6 Provided, That such notification shall occur within 14 days
7 of a contract identifying the programmed amount: Provided
8 further, That the Secretary shall notify the Committees on
9 Appropriations of both Houses of Congress 14 days prior
10 to the obligation of such bid savings and shall describe the
11 anticipated use of such savings.

12 SEC. 229. The scope of work for a project included in
13 “Construction, Major Projects” may not be increased above
14 the scope specified for that project in the original justifica-
15 tion data provided to the Congress as part of the request
16 for appropriations.

17 SEC. 230. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall sub-
18 mit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses
19 of Congress a quarterly report that contains the following
20 information from each Veterans Benefits Administration
21 Regional Office: (1) the average time to complete a dis-
22 ability compensation claim; (2) the number of claims pend-
23 ing more than 125 days; (3) error rates; (4) the number
24 of claims personnel; (5) any corrective action taken within
25 the quarter to address poor performance; (6) training pro-

1 grams undertaken; and (7) the number and results of Qual-
2 ity Review Team audits: Provided, That each quarterly re-
3 port shall be submitted no later than 30 days after the end
4 of the respective quarter.

5 SEC. 231. Of the funds provided to the Department of
6 Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2016 for “Medical Services”
7 and “Medical Support and Compliance”, a maximum of
8 \$5,000,000 may be obligated from the “Medical Services”
9 account and a maximum of \$154,596,000 may be obligated
10 from the “Medical Support and Compliance” account for
11 the VistA Evolution and electronic health record interoper-
12 ability projects: Provided, That funds in addition to these
13 amounts may be obligated for the VistA Evolution and elec-
14 tronic health record interoperability projects upon written
15 notification by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to the Com-
16 mittees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

17 SEC. 232. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall pro-
18 vide written notification to the Committees on Appropria-
19 tions of both Houses of Congress 15 days prior to organiza-
20 tional changes which result in the transfer of 25 or more
21 full-time equivalents from one organizational unit of the
22 Department of Veterans Affairs to another.

23 SEC. 233. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall pro-
24 vide on a quarterly basis to the Committees on Appropria-
25 tions of both Houses of Congress notification of any single

1 national outreach and awareness marketing campaign in
2 which obligations exceed \$2,000,000.

3 SEC. 234. Not more than \$4,400,000 of the funds pro-
4 vided in this Act under the heading “Department of Vet-
5 erans Affairs—Departmental Administration—General
6 Administration” may be used for the Office of Congres-
7 sional and Legislative Affairs.

8 SEC. 235. None of the funds available to the Depart-
9 ment of Veterans Affairs, in this or any other Act, may
10 be used to replace the current system by which the Veterans
11 Integrated Service Networks select and contract for diabetes
12 monitoring supplies and equipment.

13 (RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

14 SEC. 236. Of the discretionary funds made available
15 in title II of division I of Public Law 113–235 for the De-
16 partment of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2016,
17 \$198,000,000 are rescinded from “Medical Services”,
18 \$42,000,000 are rescinded from “Medical Support and
19 Compliance”, and \$15,000,000 are rescinded from “Medical
20 Facilities”.

21 (RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

22 SEC. 237. (a) There is hereby rescinded an aggregate
23 amount of \$55,000,000 from the total budget authority pro-
24 vided for fiscal year 2016 for discretionary accounts of the
25 Department of Veterans Affairs in—

1 (1) this Act; or

2 (2) any advance appropriation for fiscal year
3 2016 in prior appropriation Acts.

4 (b) The Secretary shall submit to the Committees on
5 Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a report speci-
6 fying the account and amount of each rescission not later
7 than 30 days following enactment of this Act.

8 (RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

9 SEC. 238. Of the unobligated balances available within
10 the “DOD–VA Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund”,
11 \$50,000,000 are hereby rescinded.

12 (RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

13 SEC. 239. Of the discretionary funds made available
14 in title II of division I of Public Law 113–235 for the De-
15 partment of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2015,
16 \$1,052,000 are rescinded from “General Administration”,
17 and \$5,000,000 are rescinded from “Construction, Minor
18 Projects”.

19 (RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

20 SEC. 240. (a) There is hereby rescinded an aggregate
21 amount of \$90,293,000 from prior year unobligated bal-
22 ances available within discretionary accounts of the De-
23 partment of Veterans Affairs;

24 (b) No funds may be rescinded from amounts provided
25 under the following headings:

- 1 (1) “Medical Services”;
- 2 (2) “Medical and Prosthetic Research”;
- 3 (3) “National Cemetery Administration”;
- 4 (4) “Board of Veterans Appeals”;
- 5 (5) “General Operating Expenses, Veterans Ben-
- 6 efits Administration”;
- 7 (6) “Office of Inspector General”;
- 8 (7) “Grants for Construction of State Extended
- 9 Care Facilities”; and
- 10 (8) “Grants for Construction of Veterans Ceme-
- 11 teries”.

12 (c) No amounts may be rescinded from amounts that
13 were designated by the Congress as an emergency require-
14 ment pursuant to the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget
15 or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act
16 of 1985, as amended.

17 (d) The Secretary shall submit to the Committees on
18 Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a report speci-
19 fying the account and amount of each rescission not later
20 than 30 days following enactment of this Act.

21 SEC. 241. Section 2302(a)(2)(A)(viii) of title 5, United
22 States Code, is amended by inserting “or under title 38”
23 after “of this title”.

24 SEC. 242. The Department of Veterans Affairs is au-
25 thorized to administer financial assistance grants and enter

1 into cooperative agreements with organizations, utilizing a
2 competitive selection process, to train and employ homeless
3 and at-risk veterans in natural resource conservation man-
4 agement.

5 SEC. 243. Section 312 of title 38, United States Code,
6 is amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
7 section:

8 “(c)(1) Whenever the Inspector General, in carrying
9 out the duties and responsibilities established under the In-
10 spector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), issues a work
11 product that makes a recommendation or otherwise suggests
12 corrective action, the Inspector General shall—

13 “(A) submit the work product to—

14 “(i) the Secretary;

15 “(ii) the Committee on Veterans’ Af-
16 fairs, the Committee on Homeland Security
17 and Governmental Affairs, and the Com-
18 mittee on Appropriations of the Senate;

19 “(iii) the Committee on Veterans’ Af-
20 fairs, the Committee on Oversight and Gov-
21 ernment Reform, and the Committee on Ap-
22 propriations of the House of Representa-
23 tives;

24 “(iv) if the work product was initiated
25 upon request by an individual or entity

1 other than the Inspector General, that indi-
2 vidual or entity; and

3 “(v) any Member of Congress upon re-
4 quest; and

5 “(B) the Inspector General shall submit all
6 final work products to—

7 “(i) if the work product was initiated
8 upon request by an individual or entity
9 other than the Inspector General, that indi-
10 vidual or entity; and

11 “(ii) any Member of Congress upon re-
12 quest; and

13 “(C) not later than 3 days after the work
14 product is submitted in final form to the Sec-
15 retary, post the work product on the Internet
16 website of the Inspector General.

17 “(2) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed
18 to authorize the public disclosure of information that
19 is specifically prohibited from disclosure by any other
20 provision of law.”.

21 SEC. 244. None of the funds provided in this Act may
22 be used to pay the salary of any individual who (a) was
23 the Executive Director of the Office of Acquisition, Logistics
24 and Construction, and (b) who retired from Federal service
25 in the midst of an investigation, initiated by the Depart-

1 ment of Veterans Affairs, into delays and cost overruns as-
2 sociated with the design and construction of the new med-
3 ical center in Aurora, Colorado.

4 SEC. 245. Of the amounts appropriated or otherwise
5 made available to the Department of Veterans Affairs for
6 the “Medical Services” account for fiscal year 2016 in this
7 Act of any other Act, not less than \$10,000,000 shall be used
8 to hire additional caregiver support coordinators to support
9 the programs of assistance and support for caregivers of vet-
10 erans under section 1720G of title 38, United States Code.

11 SEC. 246. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise
12 made available to the Department of Veterans Affairs in
13 this Act may be used in a manner that would—

14 (1) interfere with the ability of a veteran to par-
15 ticipate in a State-approved medicinal marijuana
16 program;

17 (2) deny any services from the Department to a
18 veteran who is participating in such a program; or

19 (3) limit or interfere with the ability of a health
20 care provider of the Department to make appropriate
21 recommendations, fill out forms, or take steps to com-
22 ply with such a program.

23 SEC. 247. The Comptroller General of the United
24 States shall conduct random, periodic audits of medical fa-
25 cilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Vet-

1 erans Integrated Service Networks to assess whether such
2 facilities and Networks are complying with all standards
3 imposed by law or by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs with
4 respect to the timely access of veterans to hospital care, med-
5 ical services, and other health care from the Department.

6 SEC. 248. None of the amounts appropriated or other-
7 wise made available by this title may be used to transfer
8 any amount from the Filipino Veterans Equity Compensa-
9 tion Fund to any other account in the Treasury of the
10 United States.

11 SEC. 249. None of the amounts appropriated or other-
12 wise made available by title II may be used to carry out
13 the Home Marketing Incentive Program of the Department
14 of Veterans Affairs or to carry out the Appraisal Value
15 Offer Program of the Department with respect to an em-
16 ployee of the Department in a senior executive position (as
17 defined in section 713(g) of title 38, United States Code).

18 SEC. 250. (a) Not later than one year after the date
19 of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the
20 United States shall submit to the congressional veterans
21 committees a report evaluating the implementation by the
22 Department of Veterans Affairs of section 101 of the Vet-
23 erans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 (Pub-
24 lic Law 113–146; 38 U.S.C. 1701 note).

1 (b) The report required by subsection (a) shall include,
2 with respect to the implementation of such section 101, an
3 evaluation of the following:

4 (1) The effect of such implementation on the re-
5 duction in the use of purchased care by the Depart-
6 ment, including delays or denials of care and inter-
7 ruptions in courses and continuity of care.

8 (2) The ability of health care providers to meet
9 the demand for primary, specialty, and behavioral
10 health care under such section 101 that cannot rea-
11 sonably be provided in medical facilities of the De-
12 partment.

13 (3) The efforts of the Department to recruit
14 health care providers to provide health care under
15 such section 101.

16 (4) The accuracy of the information provided to
17 veterans through call centers regarding the receipt of
18 health care under such section 101.

19 (5) The timeliness of referrals of veterans by the
20 Department to health care providers under such sec-
21 tion 101.

22 (6) Unique issues and difficulties in the imple-
23 mentation of section 101 with respect to veterans re-
24 siding in rural areas, the States of Alaska and Ha-
25 waii and states lacking a full service VA Hospital.

1 (7) With respect to rural areas: (A) an identi-
2 fication of the average wait times for veterans in
3 rural areas to receive health care under such section
4 101, measured from when the veteran first calls the
5 Department or contracted call center to request an
6 appointment; (B) an assessment of utilization rates
7 for health care provided under such section 101 in
8 rural areas; (C) an assessment of the accessibility of
9 veterans in rural areas to primary and specialty care
10 at medical centers of the Department and from non-
11 Department health care providers under such section
12 101; (D) an assessment of the status of any pilot pro-
13 grams created by the Department to provide care
14 under such section 101; (E) an identification of the
15 number of health care providers providing health care
16 under such section 101 to veterans in rural areas,
17 broken out by primary care providers, specialty and
18 subspecialty providers, and behavioral health pro-
19 viders in each Veterans Integrated Service Network.

20 (8) Recommendations for such improvements to
21 the provision of health care under such section 101 as
22 the Comptroller General considers appropriate.

23 (c) In this section, the term “congressional veterans
24 committees” means the Veterans Affairs Committees of the
25 United States Senate and the House of Representatives and

1 the Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Af-
2 fairs and Related Agencies of the Committees on Appropria-
3 tions of the United States Senate and the House of Rep-
4 resentatives.

5 SEC. 251. Not later than February 1, 2016, the Sec-
6 retary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committee
7 on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on
8 Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives a report
9 that supplements the report required under section 4002(c)
10 of the Surface Transportation and Veterans Health Care
11 Choice Improvement Act of 2015 (Public Law 114–41) and
12 that contains the following:

13 (1) A description of the changes in access, if any,
14 of veterans in Alaska to purchased care from the De-
15 partment of Veterans Affairs that have resulted from
16 implementation of section 101 of the Veterans Access,
17 Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 (Public Law
18 113–146), including denials of care and interruptions
19 in the course and continuity of care.

20 (2) An assessment of the performance of the De-
21 partment in providing health care under such section
22 101 in Alaska, including—

23 (A) the performance of call center service
24 provided to veterans;

1 (B) the accuracy of call center information
2 provided to veterans and health care providers;

3 (C) whether health care providers are agree-
4 ing to provide health care under such section 101
5 in each of the major communities in Alaska;

6 (D) gaps in the availability of health care
7 providers, disaggregated by primary, specialty,
8 subspecialty, and behavioral health care;

9 (E) impediments to the provision of health
10 care under such section 101; and

11 (F) plans to mitigate those impediments.

12 (3) An assessment of the status of health care
13 provider vacancies at the VA Alaska Healthcare Sys-
14 tem as of the date of submittal of the report under
15 this section, including impediments to filling those
16 vacancies and plans to mitigate those impediments.

17 (4) A description of the manner in which the De-
18 partment plans to serve the primary, specialty, and
19 behavioral health care needs of veterans in Alaska if
20 the plan and recommendations set forth in the report
21 submitted under such section 4002(c) are imple-
22 mented, including a description of specific strategies
23 to be employed by the Department to address gaps in
24 the provision of health care to veterans and the sup-
25 ply and demand of health care providers for veterans,

1 including the roles of tribal health providers and com-
2 munity providers in addressing those gaps.

3 SEC. 252. None of the amounts appropriated or other-
4 wise made available by this title may be used—

5 (1) to carry out the memorandum of the Veterans
6 Benefits Administration known as “Fast Letter 13–
7 10”, issued on May 20, 2013; or

8 (2) to create or maintain any patient record-
9 keeping system other than those currently approved
10 by the Department of Veterans Affairs Central Office
11 in Washington, District of Columbia.

12 SEC. 253. (a) Not later than 180 days after the date
13 of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the
14 United States shall submit to Congress a report on the re-
15 cruitment and retention of health care providers by the De-
16 partment of Veterans Affairs.

17 (b) The report required by subsection (a) shall include
18 the following:

19 (1) An identification of the ratio of veterans to
20 health care providers of the Department,
21 disaggregated by State.

22 (2) An analysis of the workload of primary and
23 specialty care providers of the Department,
24 disaggregated by State.

1 (3) An assessment of initiatives carried out by
2 the Veterans Health Administration to recruit and re-
3 tain health care providers of the Department.

4 (4) An assessment of the extent to which the Vet-
5 erans Health Administration oversees health care pro-
6 viders of the Department.

7 (5) Such recommendations for improving the re-
8 cruitment and retention of health care providers of
9 the Department as the Comptroller General considers
10 appropriate.

11 SEC. 254. (a) Not later than 180 days after the date
12 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Af-
13 fairs shall submit to Congress a report on the implementa-
14 tion by the Department of Veterans Affairs of section 101
15 of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of
16 2014 (Public Law 113–146; 38 U.S.C. 1701 note) in rural
17 areas.

18 (b) The report required by subsection (a) shall include
19 the following:

20 (1) An identification of average wait times for
21 veterans in rural areas to receive health care under
22 such section 101, measured from when the veteran
23 first calls the Department to schedule an appoint-
24 ment.

1 (2) An assessment of utilization rates for health
2 care provided under such section 101 in rural areas.

3 (3) An assessment of the accessibility of veterans
4 in rural areas to primary and specialty care at med-
5 ical centers of the Department and from non-Depart-
6 ment health care providers under such section 101.

7 (4) An identification of the number of health
8 care providers providing health care under such sec-
9 tion 101 in each Veterans Integrated Service Network.

10 (5) An assessment of the status of any pilot pro-
11 grams created by the Department to provide care
12 under such section 101 in rural areas.

13 SEC. 255. REPORT ON USE OF SOCIAL SECURITY
14 NUMBERS BY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS. (a)
15 REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 120 days after the
16 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans
17 Affairs shall submit to the appropriate committees of Con-
18 gress a report on the use of social security numbers by the
19 Department of Veterans Affairs and the plans of the Sec-
20 retary to discontinue the unnecessary use.

21 (b) CONTENTS.—The report required by subsection (a)
22 shall include the following:

23 (1) A list of documents and records of the De-
24 partment of Veterans Affairs that contain social secu-
25 rity numbers.

1 (2) A list of all government and non-government
2 entities and the numbers of their employees that have
3 access to the social security numbers of veterans that
4 are stored by the Department.

5 (3) A description of how the Department, other
6 governmental entities, and persons use social security
7 numbers they obtain from the Department, including
8 a description of any information sharing arrange-
9 ments that the Secretary may have with the heads of
10 other governmental entities.

11 (4) The number of data breaches of Department
12 of Veterans Affairs information systems that involved
13 social security numbers that occurred during the five-
14 year period ending on the date of the enactment of
15 this Act that the Secretary discovered or that were re-
16 ported to the Secretary, a description and status of
17 the investigations conducted by the Secretary regard-
18 ing such breaches, and a description of the plans of
19 the Secretary to remediate such breaches.

20 (5) The plans of the Secretary, including a
21 timeline, to discontinue the unnecessary use by the
22 Department of social security numbers.

23 (c) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DE-
24 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate committees
25 of Congress” means—

1 (1) the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and the
2 Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

3 (2) the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and the
4 Committee on Appropriations of the House of Rep-
5 resentatives.

6 SEC. 256. (a) Not later than 30 days after the date
7 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Af-
8 fairs shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress
9 a report that includes, with respect to the South Texas Vet-
10 erans Health Care System of the Department of Veterans
11 Affairs, the following:

12 (1) A description of the nature and scope of any
13 foreseeable increase in wait times for medical ap-
14 pointments.

15 (2) An assessment of whether a shortage of health
16 care providers is the primary cause of any such in-
17 crease in wait times.

18 (3) An identification of any other causes of any
19 such increase in wait times.

20 (4) A description of any action taken by the De-
21 partment to correct any such increase in wait times.

22 (5) An assessment of any issues relating to access
23 to care.

24 (6) A plan for how the Secretary will remedy
25 any such increase in wait times, including a detailed

1 description of steps to be taken and a timeline for
2 completion.

3 (b) In this section, the term “appropriate committees
4 of Congress” means—

5 (1) the Committee on Appropriations and the
6 Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate; and

7 (2) the Committee on Appropriations and the
8 Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Rep-
9 resentatives.

10 SEC. 257. (a) Not later than 30 days after the date
11 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Af-
12 fairs shall, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense,
13 enter into a contract with an independent third party de-
14 scribed in subsection (b) to carry out a study on the impact
15 of participation in combat during service in the Armed
16 Forces on suicides and other mental health issues among
17 members of the Armed Forces and veterans.

18 (b) An independent third party described in this sub-
19 section is an independent third party that has appropriate
20 credentials to access information in the possession of the
21 Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Af-
22 fairs that is necessary to carry out the study required under
23 subsection (a).

24 SEC. 258. (a) The amount appropriated or otherwise
25 made available by this title under the heading “MEDICAL

1 AND PROSTHETIC RESEARCH” under the heading “VET-
2 ERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION” is hereby increased by
3 \$8,922,462.

4 (b) The amount appropriated or otherwise made avail-
5 able by this title for fiscal year 2016 under the heading
6 “MEDICAL SERVICES” under the heading “VETERANS
7 HEALTH ADMINISTRATION” is hereby reduced by
8 \$8,922,462.

9 SEC. 259. Of the amounts appropriated or otherwise
10 made available by this title for “MEDICAL SERVICES”, not
11 more than \$5,000,000 shall be available to the Secretary
12 of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to assess
13 the feasibility and advisability of awarding grants to vet-
14 erans service agencies, veterans service organizations, and
15 nongovernmental organizations to provide furniture, house-
16 hold items, and other assistance to formerly homeless vet-
17 erans who are moving into permanent housing to facilitate
18 the settlement of such veterans in such housing.

19 SEC. 260. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AC-
20 TION PLAN TO IMPROVE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND
21 EDUCATION. (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days
22 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
23 of Veterans Affairs shall develop and publish an action plan
24 for improving the services and assistance provided under
25 chapter 31 of title 38, United States Code.

1 (b) ELEMENTS.—The plan required by subsection (a)
2 shall include each of the following:

3 (1) A comprehensive analysis of, and rec-
4 ommendations and a proposed implementation plan
5 for remedying workload management challenges at re-
6 gional offices of the Department of Veterans Affairs,
7 including steps to reduce counselor caseloads of vet-
8 erans participating in a rehabilitation program
9 under such chapter, particularly for counselors who
10 are assisting veterans with traumatic brain injury
11 and post-traumatic stress disorder and counselors
12 with educational and vocational counseling work-
13 loads.

14 (2) A comprehensive analysis of the reasons for
15 the disproportionately low percentage of veterans with
16 service-connected disabilities who served in the Armed
17 Forces after September 11, 2001, who opt to partici-
18 pate in a rehabilitation program under such chapter
19 relative to the percentage of such veterans who use
20 their entitlement to educational assistance under
21 chapter 33 of title 38, United States Code, including
22 an analysis of barriers to timely enrollment in reha-
23 bilitation programs under chapter 31 of such title
24 and of any barriers to a veteran enrolling in the pro-
25 gram of that veteran's choice.

1 (3) Recommendations and a proposed implemen-
2 tation plan for encouraging more veterans with serv-
3 ice-connected disabilities who served in the Armed
4 Forces after September 11, 2001, to participate in re-
5 habilitation programs under chapter 31 of such title.

6 (4) A national staff training program for voca-
7 tional rehabilitation counselors of the Department
8 that includes the provision of—

9 (A) training to assist counselors in under-
10 standing the very profound disorientation expe-
11 rienced by veterans with service-connected dis-
12 abilities whose lives and life-plans have been up-
13 ended and out of their control because of such
14 disabilities;

15 (B) training to assist counselors in working
16 in partnership with veterans on individual reha-
17 bilitation plans; and

18 (C) training on post-traumatic stress dis-
19 order and other mental health conditions and on
20 moderate to severe traumatic brain injury that
21 is designed to improve the ability of such coun-
22 selors to assist veterans with these conditions, in-
23 cluding by providing information on the broad
24 spectrum of such conditions and the effect of such

1 conditions on an individual's abilities and func-
2 tional limitations.

3 TITLE III

4 RELATED AGENCIES

5 AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION

6 SALARIES AND EXPENSES

7 For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, of
8 the American Battle Monuments Commission, including the
9 acquisition of land or interest in land in foreign countries;
10 purchases and repair of uniforms for caretakers of national
11 cemeteries and monuments outside of the United States and
12 its territories and possessions; rent of office and garage
13 space in foreign countries; purchase (one-for-one replace-
14 ment basis only) and hire of passenger motor vehicles; not
15 to exceed \$7,500 for official reception and representation
16 expenses; and insurance of official motor vehicles in foreign
17 countries, when required by law of such countries,
18 \$75,100,000, to remain available until expended.

19 FOREIGN CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS ACCOUNT

20 For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, of
21 the American Battle Monuments Commission, such sums as
22 may be necessary, to remain available until expended, for
23 purposes authorized by section 2109 of title 36, United
24 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 United
5 States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims as authorized
6 by sections 7251 through 7298 of title 38, United States
7 Code, \$32,141,000: Provided, That \$2,500,000 shall be
8 available for the purpose of providing financial assistance
9 as described, and in accordance with the process and report-
10 ing procedures set forth, under this heading in Public Law
11 102–229.

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 replace-
19 ment on a one-for-one basis only, and not to exceed \$1,000
20 for official reception and representation expenses,
21 \$70,800,000, of which not to exceed \$28,000,000 shall re-
22 main available until September 30, 2018. In addition, such
23 sums as may be necessary for parking maintenance, repairs
24 and replacement, to be derived from the ‘‘Lease of Depart-

1 ment of Defense Real Property for Defense Agencies” ac-
2 count.

3 ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME

4 TRUST FUND

5 For expenses necessary for the Armed Forces Retire-
6 ment Home to operate and maintain the Armed Forces Re-
7 tirement Home—Washington, District of Columbia, and the
8 Armed Forces Retirement Home—Gulfport, Mississippi, to
9 be paid from funds available in the Armed Forces Retire-
10 ment Home Trust Fund, \$64,300,000, of which \$1,000,000
11 shall remain available until expended for construction and
12 renovation of the physical plants at the Armed Forces Re-
13 tirement Home—Washington, District of Columbia, and the
14 Armed Forces Retirement Home—Gulfport, Mississippi.

15 ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

16 SEC. 301. Funds appropriated in this Act under the
17 heading “Department of Defense—Civil, Cemeterial Ex-
18 penses, Army”, may be provided to Arlington County, Vir-
19 ginia, for the relocation of the federally owned water main
20 at Arlington National Cemetery, making additional land
21 available for ground burials.

22 SEC. 302. Amounts deposited during the current fiscal
23 year to the special account established under 10 U.S.C.
24 4727 are appropriated and shall be available until ex-

1 pended to support activities at the Army National Military
2 Cemeteries.

3 SEC. 303. For an additional amount for “Department
4 of Defense—Civil Cemeterial Expenses, Army” in this title,
5 \$30,000,000: Provided, That notwithstanding any other
6 provision of law, such funds may be transferred to the Fed-
7 eral Highway Administration, Department of Transpor-
8 tation, for construction of access roads adjacent to Arling-
9 ton National Cemetery to support land acquisition for the
10 expansion of the cemetery.

11 TITLE IV

12 GENERAL PROVISIONS

13 SEC. 401. No part of any appropriation contained in
14 this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the
15 current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

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

23 SEC. 403. Such sums as may be necessary for fiscal
24 year 2016 for pay raises for programs funded by this Act
25 shall be absorbed within the levels appropriated in this Act.

1 SEC. 404. No part of any funds appropriated in this
2 Act shall be used by an agency of the executive branch, other
3 than for normal and recognized executive-legislative rela-
4 tionships, for publicity or propaganda purposes, and for
5 the preparation, distribution, or use of any kit, pamphlet,
6 booklet, publication, radio, television, or film presentation
7 designed to support or defeat legislation pending before
8 Congress, except in presentation to Congress itself.

9 SEC. 405. All departments and agencies funded under
10 this Act are encouraged, within the limits of the existing
11 statutory authorities and funding, to expand their use of
12 “E-Commerce” technologies and procedures in the conduct
13 of their business practices and public service activities.

14 SEC. 406. Unless stated otherwise, all reports and noti-
15 fications required by this Act shall be submitted to the Sub-
16 committee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs,
17 and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations
18 of the House of Representatives and the Subcommittee on
19 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related
20 Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

21 SEC. 407. None of the funds made available in this
22 Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or in-
23 strumentality of the United States Government except pur-
24 suant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided
25 in, this or any other appropriations Act.

1 SEC. 408. (a) Any agency receiving funds made avail-
2 able in this Act, shall, subject to subsections (b) and (c),
3 post on the public Web site of that agency any report re-
4 quired to be submitted by the Congress in this or any other
5 Act, upon the determination by the head of the agency that
6 it shall serve the national interest.

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

8 (1) the public posting of the report compromises
9 national security; or

10 (2) the report contains confidential or propri-
11 etary information.

12 (c) The head of the agency posting such report shall
13 do so only after such report has been made available to the
14 requesting Committee or Committees of Congress for no less
15 than 45 days.

16 SEC. 409. (a) None of the funds made available in this
17 Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer net-
18 work unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading,
19 and exchanging of pornography.

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

24 SEC. 410. (a) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds appro-
25 priated or otherwise made available to the Department of

1 Defense in this Act may be used to construct, renovate, or
2 expand any facility in the United States, its territories, or
3 possessions to house any individual detained at United
4 States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, for the pur-
5 poses of detention or imprisonment in the custody or under
6 the control of the Department of Defense.

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

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

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

1 This Act may be cited as the “Military Construction,
2 Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act,
3 2016”.

Attest:

Secretary.

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H.R. 2029

AMENDMENT