

**Manager's Package**  
**FY24 Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies**

**Bill Technical Correction**

1. Technical correction concerning period of availability.

**Bill Language**

1. Administrative Provision on Certain IT for Senator Rubio

**Report Language**

1. Report language for Senator Baldwin on state, county, and tribal veteran service officers.
2. Report language for Senator Hagerty on Voting-Related Activities.

## **Technical Correction**

Strike Sec. 132 of the bill, replace with:

SEC. 132. For an additional amount for “Military Construction, Air Force”, \$20,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028, for cost increases identified subsequent to the fiscal year 2024 budget request for authorized major construction projects: *Provided*, That not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Air Force, or their designee, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress an expenditure plan for funds provided under this section.

## **Bill Language: Certain IT systems**

On page 78 of the bill, insert the following:

### **SEC. 259. PROHIBITION ON AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR CERTAIN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT AND SOFTWARE.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—None of the funds appropriated by this Act or otherwise made available for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of Veterans Affairs may be obligated or expended to procure or purchase computers, printers, software, hardware, connecting cables, or other information technology equipment needed for an office environment in which the manufacturer, bidder, or offeror, or any subsidiary or parent entity of the manufacturer, bidder, or offeror, of the equipment or software is an entity, or is a subsidiary or parent company of an entity—

- (1) in which the People’s Republic of China has any ownership stake;
- (2) that has been organized under the laws of the People’s Republic of China; or
- (3) that contributes to the defense industry of the Chinese Communist Party.

(b) **APPLICABILITY TO THIRD PARTIES.**—The prohibition in subsection (a) also applies in cases in which the Secretary has contracted with a third party for the procurement, purchase, or expenditure of funds on any of the equipment and software described in such subsection.

## **State, County, and Tribal Veteran Service Officers**

In the report, on page 31, strike the language under the heading *Support to County, Tribal and Equivalent Governmental Veterans Service Officers*

And replace with:

*Support to County, Tribal and Equivalent Governmental Veterans Service Officers.*—The Committee recognizes the crucial role of county, Tribal and equivalent governmental Veterans Service Officers in ensuring veterans receive the benefits and care they deserve. Accordingly, the Department is encouraged to support county, Tribal and equivalent governmental Veterans Service Officers in their assistance to the Nation’s veterans. The Department is directed to submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress no later than 90 days after enactment of this act detailing a systemic method for facilitating collaboration between county, state, and Tribal Veterans Service Officers, VHA facilities and VBA offices in their respective geographic areas. The proposed approach should identify ways to enhance existing resources to support county, Tribal and equivalent governmental Veterans Service Officers, designate Department staff to serve as regional liaisons, and provide a timeline to implement across the enterprise. Furthermore, the Committee encourages the Department to track what benefits veterans are filing for by county. The goal of such collaboration should be to improve services to all veterans, to proactively identify barriers to delivering high quality care, ensuring veterans who need assistance are able to access support, and to share data and observations that indicate substandard quality of care.

## **Voting Related Activities**

On page 58 of the report, insert the following:

“Voting-related Activities—The Committee directs the Secretary to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a briefing, no later than 90 days after enactment of this act, regarding any strategic plans developed by the Department since January 20, 2021 outlining the ways that the Department has promoted voter registration, and voter participation.”

## **Text of Veterans Equal Access (VA Medical Marijuana) Amendment**

**June 22, 2023**

Insert the following:

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

- (1) interfere with the ability of a veteran to participate in a medicinal marijuana program approved by a State;
- (2) deny any services from the Department to a veteran who is participating in such a program; or
- (3) limit or interfere with the ability of a health care provider of the Department to make appropriate recommendations, fill out forms, or take steps to comply with such a program.