LOG ID	REV	MEMBER	MARKUP LOC	DESCRIPTION	MARKUP ACT
4751	0	Finstad, Brad	CIT	Alternative Lubrication Mechanisms for Engine Optimization	EB 1
4754	1	Wittman, Robert	CIT	Rapid Fielding of Department of Defense Command and Control Operating Systems to Enable Agency-Wide Integration. Directs the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on the accelerated deployment of integrated command and control operating systems.	EB 1
4755	1	Finstad, Brad	CIT	University Affiliated Research Center for Hypersonics	EB 1
4759	1	Finstad, Brad	CIT	Super Refractory Alloys for Hypersonic Weapons	EB 1
4788	2	Fallon, Pat	CIT	CYBER WORKFORCE INCENTIVIZATION PLAN	EB 1
4842	1	Bacon, Don	CIT	This DRL directs the Commander of the Air Force Research Lab to provide the committee a briefing on requirements for integration of digital and analog RF microelectronics for electronic warfare mission applications	EB 1
4873	1	Ryan, Patrick	CIT	Requires SECDEF briefing on the integration of artificial intelligence across the DoD.	EB 1
4922	1	McGuire, John J.	CIT	Would direct the CIO to provide a report on post quantum cryptography risks, steps needed to implement post quantum cryptography, and plans for the transition to post quantum cryptography.	EB 1
4925	1	McGuire, John J.	CIT	Would direct SECDEF and the director of DISA to provide a briefing on how DoD will fully onboard all its cloud service providers to ensure that personnel have full access to cloud computing resources, including for training and operating AI capabilities.	EB 1
4927	1	McGuire, John J.	CIT	Would direct the CIO to provide a briefing on DoD's plan to implement cyber deception technologies to support its zero trust cybersecurity architecture.	EB 1
4930	0	DesJarlais, Scott	CIT	Expansion of 'Clean Sheet Authority' (Section 4123 of Title 10) to include test organizations and defense laboratories	EB 1
4961	1	Bacon, Don	CIT	This report language expresses concern over the cancelation of the Joint Electromagnetic Battle Management Situational Awareness program and directs the Director of DISA to provide a briefing on how the capability will continue into the future to meet combatant command needs.	EB 1
4970	0	Wittman, Robert	CIT	Provides equity investment authority for the Office of Strategic Capital.	EB 1

LOG ID	REV	MEMBER	MARKUP LOC	DESCRIPTION	MARKUP ACT
4972	1	Sorensen, Eric	CIT	Requires a briefing on DOD's plans to expand on public private partnerships in quantum computing.	EB 1
4985	1	Bergman, Jack	CIT	Enhances analysis of joint and coalition exercises by integrating C2 data into a single multi-domain view. Directs a report on how Common Data Models improve readiness, mission analysis, and future plans for broader use in Indo-Pacific Command.	EB 1
5065	0	Harrigan, Pat	CIT	Directs the Department to provide a report to the committee on Department efforts to develop and transition small, agile, low-signature UAS platforms—such as those using bio-inspired designs and acoustic reduction technologies—for operations in contested environments.	EB 1
5081	4	Jacobs, Sara	CIT	DRL which directs CDAO to survey existing work conducted or overseen by the Department of Defense on the preferences, tendencies, and potential influence of artificial intelligence (AI) models in national security policy decision-making.	EB 1
5084	1	Crank, Jeff	CIT	Establishes a Department of Defense Advisory Subcommittee for CJADC2	EB 1
5096	2	Jackson, Ronny	CIT	Reviews DOD reliance on optical transceivers from foreign adversaries in artificial intelligence data centers.	EB 1
5107	1	Jackson, Ronny	CIT	Establishes a National Security and Defense AI Institute.	EB 1
5123	1	Messmer, Mark B.	CIT	This amendment requires a review of certain Cyber-Physical Ranges to determine if they can operate as Potential National Cyber Range Complexes.	EB 1
5166	1	Jackson, Ronny	CIT	Supports U.S. DEVCOM ARL's hypersonics research and partnerships with American universities	EB 1
5207	0	Fallon, Pat	CIT	Proper Market Research Requirements and Report for DOD Markets	EB 1
5244	0	Houlahan, Chrissy	CIT	Directs the Secretary of Defense to establish policies and guidelines on the responsible development and deployment of biotechnology within the Department of Defense.	EB 1
5254	2	Kelly, Trent	CIT	Requiring DLA to report to HASC to compare OpenID Connect and alternative methods of user identity management.	EB 1
5273	2	Jacobs, Sara	CIT	DRL which directs CDAO to report on how AI tools are being used in non-combat daily operations and workflows	EB 1

LOG ID	REV	MEMBER	MARKUP LOC	DESCRIPTION	MARKUP ACT
5299	1	Bergman, Jack	CIT	Directs the Secretary of the Air Force to brief HASC by Dec 15, 2025, on connectivity solutions for flightline support equipment, including 5G limitations in Agile Combat Employment scenarios and the feasibility of using military-grade radio systems.	EB 1
5324	1	Garamendi, John	CIT	Amending Section 215 of the FY23 NDAA to allow Department of Defense research, development, test, and evaluation funds for use on the design and construction of facilities.	EB 1
5327	2	Kiggans, Jennifer A.	CIT	Encouraging DOD to leverage the existing Science, Mathematics, and Research for Transformation (SMART) Scholarship-for-Service Program to incentivize more students in biotechnology to pursue careers with the Department. Corresponds with NSCEB Final Report Recommendation C.5.2i	EB 1
5364	1	Houlahan, Chrissy	CIT	Directs the Secretary of Defense to establish and carry out training programs for uniformed and civilian personnel whose duties involve creating and deploying novel biotechnologies, as well as analyzing, preparing for, or responding to biological threats.	EB 1
5384	1	Fallon, Pat	CIT	Directs the Secretary of Defense to brief on the effectiveness of the Bridging Operational Objectives and Support for Transition program.	EB 1
5392	0	Bacon, Don	CIT	This DRL Spending Flexibility for Essential Cybersecurity Upgrades. Seeks to know the thresholds that may unduly restrict program managers' ability to acquire the tools necessary to protect military facilities and critical defense infrastructure from cyberattacks.	EB 1
5427	2	Kelly, Trent	CIT	Requiring SECNAV to brief HASC on the feasibility to return to a consolidated network approach to Navy IT infrastructure	EB 1
5440	1	Khanna, Ro	CIT	The Department of Defense should brief the House Committee on Armed Services on progress to update the 1260H list to more accurately reflect the magnitude of PRC biotechnology companies with direct and indirect ties to the PLA.	EB 1
5441	0	Elfreth, Sarah	CIT	Requires the Commander, U.S. Cyber Command and Director, National Security Agency/Chief, Central Security Service to provide a briefing describing options to scale the activities of the NSA CCC at varying levels of effort, including required funding and personnel support.	EB 1
5447	1	Garamendi, John	CIT	Brief on Biotechnology Leadership in the Department of Defense	EB 1
5448	1	Khanna, Ro	CIT	Authorizes the Department of Defense (DOD) to establish a program to incentivize private sector expansion of infrastructural capacity across the United States to manufacture bioindustrial products at commercial scale that are critical for defense and national security needs.	EB 1
5450	0	Khanna, Ro	CIT	Encourage the Department of Defense (DOD) to report guidance promoting the use of existing hiring authorities and public-private talent exchange authorities to recruit, train, and retain biotechnology talent.	EB 1
5452	1	Khanna, Ro	CIT	Authorizes the Department of Defense (DOD) to establish a program to serve as an accelerator for biotechnology and advanced biomanufacturing solutions to create domestic supply chains for defense materials.	EB 1

LOG ID	REV	MEMBER	MARKUP LOC	DESCRIPTION	MARKUP ACT
5471	1	Mace, Nancy	CIT	Would prohibit the Department from conducting or funding gain-of-function research on potential pandemic pathogens unless determined by the Secretary of Defense that is in the national interested of the United States	EB 1
5479	1	Mace, Nancy	CIT	Pilot program on the use of distributed ledger technology for inventory management	EB 1
5520	1	Elfreth, Sarah	CIT	Provide a briefing on plans to establish an open and competitive process pursuant to section 1521 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022	EB 1
5539	0	Rogers, Mike	CIT	Codifies the minimum award for APFIT at $10 million.	EB 1
5608	0	Bacon, Don	CIT	Directs cyber security requirements for DoD wireless telecommunications contracts	EB 1

Amendment to H.R. 3838

Offered by: Mr. Finstad

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

Alternative Lubrication Mechanisms for Engine Optimization

The committee recognizes that the development of small limited-life engines for use in unmanned aerial vehicles in expendable and attritable weapon systems will be critical to maintaining air superiority as air combat evolves. The committee notes an important component in successfully executing this strategy is the development of low cost, easy to manufacture, and high efficiency propulsion systems for these smaller vehicles. Unfortunately, traditional approaches to lubrication system design often limit propulsion system performance and the committee encourages the Department of the Defense to challenge industry to develop small, lightweight, and modular lubrication systems, that enhance strike capacity, standoff range, and payload for expendable and attritable attack munitions.

Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense to provide a report to the House Armed Services Committee not later than April 1, 2026. At a minimum, the report shall include:

- An assessment of industrial base capabilities and capacity to provide the small limited-life engines used in expendable and/or attritable unmanned aerial vehicles;
- An assessment of innovative subsystems and/or component technologies that could improve system performance in range, payload, and capacity; and,
- A strategy to integrate any promising subsystem or component improvements into existing or planned systems to improve performance in range, payload, and capacity.

Amendment to H.R. 3838
National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2026

Offered by: Mr. Wittman

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

Rapid Fielding of Department of Defense Command and Control Operating Systems to Enable Agency-Wide Integration

The committee applauds the consistent deployment of integrated command and control operating systems that leverage proven commercial technologies across Combatant Commands, and notes that such deployments have demonstrated significant operational success in enhancing command and control capabilities, situational awareness, targeting, logistics, and decision-making effectiveness. The committee believes that these technologies, currently in production and leveraging commercial machine learning and artificial intelligence (AI/ML) capabilities, can be deployed more broadly across the Department of Defense to meet the urgent need for comprehensive, real-time data integration and intelligence-driven decision support. The committee also notes that such commercial technologies may support the Combined Joint All Domain Command and Control (CJADC2) mission, currently spearheaded by the Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Office.

The committee believes that Secretary of Defense should explore the potential value of rapidly fielding integrated command and control operating systems that leverage proven commercial technologies to all military departments, including the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Staff, and the Missile Defense Agency to ensure cohesive, enterprise-wide data integration and command and control capabilities and support the CJADC2 effort.

The committee directs the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the House Armed Services Committee not later than December 1, 2025, on its efforts to extend such operating systems more broadly across the Department of Defense. The briefing should include:

(1) a timeline for additional deployments across military departments, the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Staff, and the Missile Defense Agency;

(2) plans for the integration and replacement of existing data platforms and command and control systems;

(3) metrics for evaluating mission impact, data interoperability, and operational readiness;

(4) identification of additional resource requirements or authorities necessary for the Secretary to carry out the requirements to implement the provision, to include life-cycle sustainment cost estimates for the deployments described in part (1); and

(5) any other matters the Secretary considers appropriate.

Amendment to H.R. 3838

Offered by: Mr. Finstad

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

University Affiliated Research Center for Hypersonics

The committee is concerned about the lack of a coordinated approach to hypersonic research, development, testing, and evaluation (RDT&E) capability across the Department of Defense. The committee therefore directs the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, in coordination with the director of the Test Resource Management Center, to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services no later than March 1, 2026, regarding and advisability of establishing a University Affiliated Research Center (UARC) focused on hypersonics RDT&E, including the correlation of hypersonic test data across the testing continuum. The briefing shall include:

(1) potential benefits and drawbacks of establishing such a UARC;
(2) an estimate of funding and other resourcing requirements;
(3) a proposed implementation plan and timeline; and
(4) such other information as the Under Secretary deems relevant.

Amendment to H.R. 3838

Offered by: Mr. Finstad

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

Super Refractory Alloys for Hypersonic Weapons

The committee continues to support efforts across the Department of Defense to develop and deploy hypersonic weapons. The committee notes that due to the demanding flight regimes in which they operate, hypersonic systems impose significant thermal and structural demands on components and structures, driving the need for increasingly novel and advanced materials. However, the committee is concerned that availability, cost, and performance limitations associated with certain advanced materials may hinder program advancement, and that limitations on testing throughput in certain flight regimes may likewise hinder testing and certification of both materials and components.

The committee is additionally aware that in certain cases, such as with certain super refractory alloys and other superalloys which have a significant testing heritage, testing data available from industry sources may not be easily available to or ingestible by programs undergoing testing and certification efforts. The committee therefore directs the Undersecretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, in coordination with the Air Force Research Laboratory, to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than March 1, 2026 describing the availability of relevant industry and academia data sources for advanced materials, such as superalloys, applicable to hypersonics and other critical technology areas; the current ability of the Department of Defense to use such data for testing and certification; the feasibility of expanding access to such data; and the potential to accelerate Department testing and certification of advanced materials through such increased access.

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3838

OFFERED BY MR. FALLON OF TEXAS

At the appropriate place in title XV, insert the following new section:

SEC. 15___. INCENTIVIZATION PLAN FOR CRITICAL SKILLS FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES TO CARRY OUT DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CYBER OPERATIONS.

(a) PLAN REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Commander of the United States Cyber Command, shall develop and implement a plan to incentivize critical skills and proficiencies for covered members of the Armed Forces required to carry out Department of Defense cyber operations.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The plan required under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) An identification of critical skills and proficiencies required by covered members of the Armed Forces to carry out Department of Defense cyber operations.

(2) A process for reassessment of critical skills and identification of lessons learned with respect to such operations.

(3) An identification of skill sets related to such operations that should require periodic recertification.

(4) Estimated personnel levels required for each skill set and proficiency related to such operations.

(5) A process for identifying personnel levels and skills of covered members of the Armed Forces that may be useful for such operations.

(6) A process for providing continuation or certification pay for each skill set needed for such operations.

(7) An anticipated budget for incentives to be used with—

(A) the level of cyber operations personnel as of the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(B) a level of cyber operations personnel that the Secretary considers to be full capacity.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than March 1, 2026, the Secretary of the Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report containing the plan required under subsection (a).

(d) COVERED MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''covered members

of the Armed Forces'' means members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Space Force.

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Amendment to H.R. 3838

Offered by Mr. Bacon of Nebraska

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

Investment in Analog and Digital Microelectronics Integration

The committee supports efforts underway by the United States Air Force and the Air Force Research Lab to significantly reduce the size, weight, power and cost (SWAP-C) of radio frequency (RF), signals intelligence and electronic warfare systems to achieve its affordable mass goals. The committee believes the focus on advancing digital hardware solutions has outpaced advancements in the miniaturization of analog RF hardware specifically where antenna aperture and actuators contact the threat signal environment. The committee believes that improved integration and miniaturization of analog and digital components will be necessary for future autonomous systems.

Therefore, the committee directs the Commander of the Air Force Research Lab to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services by March 6, 2026 on the following:

(1) an assessment of the requirement for the Air Force and the Defense Industrial Base to develop and integrate analog-digital solutions and the need to find, train, and retain highly specialized talent in designing custom electronics to ensure proper interoperation of analog and digital components; and

(2) a description of the necessary steps and estimated funding required to ensure design, integration and deployment of RF hardware solutions for electromagnetic spectrum operations that ensure analog and digital designs are optimized for SWAP-C and future artificial intelligence capabilities.

Amendment to H.R. 3838

Offered by: Mr. Ryan

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

Integrating Artificial Intelligence across the Department of Defense

The committee recognizes the steps that the department and the services are taking to integrate artificial intelligence into efforts to enhance readiness, increase capabilities, and optimize workflows. The committee supports such efforts but believes that further action is required in order to acquire and implement enterprise-wide foundational tools for large language models, leverage commercially-provided AI capabilities, and evaluate the implications and risks associated with artificial intelligence advances, including artificial general intelligence systems. The committee therefore directs the Secretary of Defense to submit a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than January 31, 2026, that includes the following:

(1) a description of current enterprise-wide tools to structure and ingest Department of Defense data at all classification levels for large language models;

(2) a timeline for deployment of the necessary foundational tools that can be leveraged across the military departments and Department of Defense elements for large language models;

(3) an assessment of expected cost savings and efficiencies associated with enhanced large language model effectiveness;

(4) an overview of how the department and the services identify and review commercial capabilities for possible integration into their respective requirements for artificial intelligence and machine learning systems;

(5) an evaluation of the potential for artificial general intelligence, and any loss of control scenarios and associated risks to national security associated with it;

(6) analysis of opportunities for beneficial applications of advanced AI systems for defense and civilian purposes; and

(7) recommendations for risk mitigation strategies, research priorities, and potential regulatory frameworks related to the possible development and use of artificial general intelligence.

Amendment to H.R. 3838

Offered by: Mr. McGuire

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

Post-Quantum Cryptography Readiness

The committee recognizes the threat posed by potential adversary development of cryptographically relevant quantum computing systems, and that development timelines for such systems impose upon the Department aggressive timelines for inventory and upgrade of cryptographic systems to post-quantum cryptographic standards. Risk vectors such as "Harvest Now, Decrypt Later" attacks, where attackers collect and store encrypted data to eventually decrypt it using quantum systems, underscore the urgency of such efforts.

Therefore, the committee directs the Chief Information Officer of the Department of Defense to submit a briefing to the House Armed Services Committee not later than April 1, 2026 that describes the Department's quantum readiness. The briefing should include:

1) an assessment of risks posed by projected advances in quantum computing, including "Harvest Now, Decrypt Later";

2) steps taken to implement post quantum cryptography, including deployment of automated readiness and inventory management tools;

3) plans for transition to post quantum cryptography, including a description of any additional resources needed to accelerate quantum readiness within the Department; and

4) such other information as the Chief Information Officer deems relevant.

Amendment to H.R. 3838

Offered by: Mr. McGuire

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

Cloud Service Provider On-boarding

The committee is concerned about the Department of Defense's ability to access and adopt the full range of innovative technologies, including the infrastructure and compute power to enable cutting edge artificial intelligence (AI) capabilities, in a timely manner. While the committee has previously adopted language modernizing the Department's Authority to Operate process, the "last mile" problem of "on-boarding" cloud service providers (CSPs), or connecting them through established cloud brokers to Department of Defense networks, remains a challenge. Such on-boarding must occur before any Department of Defense entity or military service can use cloud services or any mission capabilities developed on that cloud platform, including those leveraging AI.

Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Director of the Defense Information Systems Agency, to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than December 1, 2025, on how the Department will enable swift onboarding of CSPs at their authorized classification levels by the end of fiscal year 2026.

Amendment to H.R. 3838

Offered by: Mr. McGuire

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

Cyber Deception Technologies

The committee notes the Department of Defense's effort to establish a zero trust cybersecurity architecture and continuously validate users and their access to sensitive and classified information. However, the committee is aware that emerging cyber threats like identity-driven attacks and artificial intelligence-enabled malware continue to stress the Department's ability to reliably secure its networks. Further action to implement active cyber defense technologies, such as cyber deception tools, is necessary to not only prevent access to sensitive data, but also to collect valuable intelligence on new or emerging cyber threats.

The committee believes that cyber deception tools could increase the Department's ability to identify specific actors, what systems they target, and the methods they use to execute cyber tradecraft. Therefore, the committee directs the Chief Information Officer of the Department of Defense in the next briefing regarding the Department's zero trust implementation required in 10 United States Code 2224 note to provide an update on the Department's use of cyber deception technologies to augment zero trust.

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3838

OFFERED BY MR. DESJARLAIS OF TENNESSEE

At the appropriate place in title II, insert the following new section:

SEC. 2___. MODIFICATION TO MECHANISMS TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO DEFENSE LABORATORIES AND OTHER ENTITIES FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNOLOGIES FOR MILITARY MISSIONS.

Section 4123 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by inserting ''**and test organizations**'' after ''**defense laboratories**'';

(2) by inserting ''or test organization'' after ''laboratory'' each place it appears; and

(3) in subsection (a)(3), by inserting ''or test organizations'' after ''laboratories''.

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Amendment to H.R. 3838

Offered by: Mr. Bacon of Nebraska

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

Electromagnetic Battle Management

The committee considers the Electromagnetic Battle Management (EMBM) program a critical capability in Joint Electromagnetic Spectrum Operations, integrating electronic warfare (EW), signals intelligence (SIGINT), and spectrum management (SM) to enhance joint-force operations across all domains. Therefore, the committee is alarmed by the abrupt decision to cancel the Joint Electromagnetic Battle Management Situational Awareness (EMBM-J-SA) component which provides a common operating picture for dynamic spectrum awareness and electromagnetic spectrum (EMS) maneuver and which the geographic combatant commands use daily to support theater operations.

The committee urges the Department to prioritize investment in EMBM-J-SA to support combatant command operations with real-time EMS awareness, spectrum maneuvering, and multi-domain coordination. The committee also expects improved coordination with the combatant commands to ensure their requirements inform acquisition decisions.

Therefore, the committee directs the Director of the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) to submit a briefing to the House Armed Services Committee no later than December 1, 2025, on plans to continue to provide access to EMBM-J-SA capability. The briefing shall include:

(1) a description of how the Department will bridge funding to continue providing access to EMBM-J-SA capability and reduce the operational risks of any gaps in capability;
(2) a plan for a permanent solution to provide enduring EMBM-J-SA capability to the combatant commands, including planned funding;
(3) a plan to strengthen coordination mechanisms to ensure combatant command requirements and input in EMBM development align with operational needs; and
(4) an evaluation of how service-specific EW, SIGINT, and SM capabilities may integrate with EMBM, how standardization or shared architectures may improve data sharing and decision making.

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3838

OFFERED BY MR. WITTMAN OF VIRGINIA

At the appropriate place in title IX, insert the following new section:

SEC. 9___. FURTHER MODIFICATIONS TO CAPITAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OF THE OFFICE OF STRATEGIC CAPITAL.

Section 149 of title 10, United States Code, as amended by ⟦section 902 (Log 82511)⟧, is further amended—

(1) in subsection (d), by inserting ''or equity investment'' after ''direct loan'';

(2) in subsection (e)—

(A) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)(ii)(I), by amending item (bb) to read as follows:

''(bb) The Director may waive the requirement under item (aa) with respect to an investment if—

''(AA) the investment is determined by the Secretary of Defense, acting through the Director, to be

vital to the national security of the United States; or

''(BB) in the case of a convertible debt instrument, the Director believes the total return on investment of such convertible debt instrument will exceed the total return on investment of a loan with an interest rate at the yield on marketable securities of a similar maturity to the maturity of the loan on the date of execution of the loan agreement.''; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(D)(i) The Director may, as a minority investor, support an eligible investment selected pursuant to subsection (d) with funds or use other mechanisms for the purpose of purchasing, and may make and fund commitments to purchase, invest in, make pledges in respect of, or otherwise acquire, financial interests (including equity and quasi-equity securities (such as warrants)) of the eligible entity receiving support for the eligible investment, including as a limited partner or other investor in investment

funds, upon such terms and conditions as the Secretary may determine.

''(ii) The Director may seek to sell and liquidate any support for an eligible investment provided under subparagraph (A)(i) commensurate with other similar investors in the eligible investment and taking into consideration the national security interests of the United States.'';

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (7) through (10) as paragraphs (8) through (11), respectively;

(C) by inserting after paragraph (6) the following new paragraph:

''(7)(A) There is established in the Treasury of the United States a Department of Defense Equity Program Account to hold equity instruments obtained under this subsection.

''(B) In addition to equity instruments described in subparagraph (A), the Equity Program Account shall consist of amounts appropriated to carry out this subsection.''; and

(D) by amending paragraph (10), as so redesignated, to read as follows:

''(10) The Director shall notify the congressional defense committees not later than 30 days

after any capital assistance is provided under this subsection.''; and

(E) in paragraph (11), as so redesignated, by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(C) The authority of the Director to make equity investments under this subsection shall expire on October 1, 2028. Any equity investments made under this subsection that are outstanding as of such date shall continue to be subject to the terms, conditions, and other requirements of this subsection.''.

(3) in subsection (f), by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

''(1) The term 'capital assistance' means a loan, loan guarantee, convertible debt instrument, equity security, quasi-equity security (such as a warrant), or technical assistance.''.

In section 902 (Log 82511), in the matter proposed to be inserted by paragraph (4), strike ''paragraph (10)'' each place it appears and insert ''paragraph (11)''.

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Amendment to H.R. 3838

Offered by: Mr. Sorensen

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

Public Private Partnerships in Quantum Computing

The committee is aware of the potential benefits that quantum technologies could provide the warfighter. The committee remains supportive of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency's Quantum Benchmarking Initiative (QBI) and Underexplored Systems for Utility-Scale Quantum Computing (US2QC) programs and is encouraged by the announced Quantum Proving Ground at the Illinois Quantum and Microelectronics Park, in partnership with the State of Illinois. The committee believes such public-private partnerships are critical to ensuring that quantum technology use cases are proven out leveraging the significant innovation and investment occurring in the private sector while also developing shared facilities with reduced capital costs. These facilities could serve as an innovative way to attract a range of private sector, federal, state, and local partners to help spur and accelerate innovation within the quantum field. Therefore, the committee directs the Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering) to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than February 1, 2026, on the Department's strategy for encouraging and leveraging such partnerships for quantum technologies. The briefing should include identification of any opportunities to further co-locate quantum test and fabrication facilities where such colocation could enhance the Department's ability to leverage both private sector partners and efficiencies from shared facilities for quantum applications.

Amendment to H.R. 3838

Offered by: Mr. Bergman

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

Common Data Models for Multi-Domain Exercise Analysis

The committee is aware that recent joint and coalition exercises in the United States Indo-Pacific Command area of responsibility have demonstrated that common data models, and certain supplementary tools, have provided the capability to integrate training, testing, operational, and tactical command and control data feeds from multiple services and allied partners into a single, live, multi-domain display.

The committee directs the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Commander, United States Indo-Pacific Command, to submit a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than February 1st, 2026, on the impact of employing Common Data Models and any related ancillary tools. The briefing shall include the following:

(1) an assessment of how common data models have improved real-time and postmission analysis during joint and coalition exercises;

(2) identification of specific training and operational improvements realized as a result of these tools.

Amendment to H.R. 3838

Offered by: Mr. Harrigan

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

Low-Signature UAS for Contested Environments

The committee recognizes the growing need for small, agile, and low-signature unmanned aerial systems (UAS) capable of operating in complex, defended environments. Traditional UAVs face increasing survivability challenges in urban and near-peer theaters due to limited maneuverability, acoustic detectability, and radar signature vulnerabilities.

Emerging technologies—such as avian-inspired airframes, artificial hair sensors, ducted electric propulsion, and real-time optimization software—offer potential solutions to enhance agility, stealth, and survivability. The committee notes that efforts like the Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Activity's Little Horned Owl (LHO) program and the Army's Software for Parallelized Analysis, Reconfigurations, and Rapid Optimization (SPARRO) initiative have demonstrated promising concepts, but the Department lacks a coordinated acquisition strategy to transition these capabilities into operational platforms.

Therefore, the committee directs the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, in coordination with the Secretary of the Army, to submit a report to the congressional defense committees by March 1, 2026, that includes:

1) an overview of current Department and interagency efforts to develop maneuverable, low-observable small UAS;

2) a roadmap for integrating enabling technologies such as airflow sensing, bio-inspired shaping, and acoustic reduction into future systems; and

3) recommendations for rapid prototyping, operational evaluation, and transition pathways for relevant platforms.

Amendment to H.R. 3838

Offered by: Ms. Jacobs

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

Preferences and Tendencies of Artificial Intelligence Models in National Security Decision-making

The committee is concerned that the Joint Staff is accelerating the use of artificial intelligence (AI)–enabled decision aids, including large language models, in routine, non-lethal workflows without a comprehensive understanding of best practices, measurable outcomes, and attendant ethical or cybersecurity risks.

The committee directs the Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer to submit a report to the congressional defense committees by March 1, 2026 on the following:

(1) description of ongoing initiatives and pilot programs within the Joint Staff Directorate for Intelligence and other relevant components to operationalize AI-enabled decision aids;

(2) examples of successful use cases, practical implementation scenarios, and measurable outcomes in non-combat, low-risk environments;

(3) assessment of lessons learned, including challenges and barriers identified during integration efforts;

(4) recommendations for scaling successful practices across other Department of Defense components and operational contexts;

(5) strategies for continuous training, education, and adaptation to foster responsible adoption of AI tools by Department personnel; and

(6) ethical, operational, and cybersecurity considerations identified during implementation, together with proposed mitigation measures.

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3838

OFFERED BY MR. CRANK OF COLORADO

At the appropriate place in title IX, insert the following:

SEC. 9___. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE TO REVIEW TECHNOLOGIES, PROCESSES, AND INVESTMENT RELATED TO COMBINED JOINT ALL-DOMAIN COMMAND AND CONTROL.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Defense may establish a subcommittee (referred to in this section as the ''Subcommittee'') under the board of advisors established pursuant to section 233 of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116–283; 10 U.S.C. 4001 note) to review technologies to achieve combined joint all-domain command and control.

(b) MEMBERS.—The Subcommittee shall consist of a subset of the members of the board of advisors described in subsection (a).

(c) AREAS OF REVIEW.—The Subcommittee may review:

(1) Processes for integrating joint effects chains to support priority operational challenges.

(2) Data architectures, including potential roles for artificial intelligence and machine learning technologies.

(3) Methods for achieving a platform-agnostic joint common operating picture through data accessibility, interoperability, and integration into combatant command workflows, to assist the incorporation of commercial communications technologies.

(4) Networking technologies, including potential roles for artificial intelligence and machine learning.

(5) Enterprise and edge cloud technologies.

(6) Interoperability technologies, including software programs like the System-of-Systems Technology Integration Tool Chain for Heterogeneous Electronic Systems (commonly referred to as ''STITCHES'').

(7) Interoperability technologies to integrate vehicles out of the Replicator project with relevant battle networks.

(8) Any other matters determined relevant by the Secretary of Defense.

(d) TERMINATION.—The Subcommittee shall terminate on December 31, 2029.

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Amendment to H.R. 3838

Offered by: Mr. Jackson of Texas

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

Threat of Optical Transceivers Manufactured by Foreign Adversaries

The committee is concerned that optical transceivers, which serve as the backbone of fiber optic transmissions in artificial intelligence (AI)-driven data centers, can leave the Department vulnerable to foreign adversary supply chains. The committee further notes that compromised transceivers could intercept or manipulate sensitive data, including proprietary AI models and national security communications. Accordingly, the committee urges the Department of Defense to establish trusted vendor guidelines to ensure transceiver components originate from secure U.S.-based or allied sources. Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Chief Information Officer and Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer, to submit a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than March 27, 2026, on the national security threats posed by the use of optical transceivers manufactured by foreign adversaries in Department of Defense AI-driven data centers and critical infrastructure networks. The report shall include, at a minimum:

(1) an analysis of the oversight efforts being taken by the Department to ensure the safety and security of optical transceiver components during procurement;
(2) an assessment of existing U.S.-based companies able to meet the Department's need for optical transceiver components; and
(3) any other barriers that inhibit the Department's use of transceiver components that originate from secure, U.S.-based or allied manufacturing sources.

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3838

OFFERED BY MR. JACKSON OF TEXAS

At the appropriate place in title II, insert the following new section:

SEC. 2___. NATIONAL SECURITY AND DEFENSE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE INSTITUTE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense may establish at least one National Security and Defense Artificial Intelligence Institute (referred to in this section as an ''Institute'') at an eligible host institution.

(b) INSTITUTE DESCRIBED.—A National Security and Defense Artificial Intelligence Institute referred to in subsection (a) is an artificial intelligence research institute that—

(1) is focused on a cross-cutting challenge or foundational science for artificial intelligence systems in the national security and defense sector;

(2) establishes partnerships among public and private organizations, including, as appropriate, Federal agencies, institutions of higher education, including community colleges, nonprofit research organizations, Federal laboratories, State, local, and

Tribal governments, and industry, including the Defense Industrial Base and startup companies;

(3) has the potential to create an innovation ecosystem, or enhance existing ecosystems, to translate Institute research into applications and products used to enhance national security and defense capabilities;

(4) supports interdisciplinary research and development across multiple institutions of higher education and organizations; and

(5) supports workforce development in artificial intelligence related disciplines in the United States.

(c) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AUTHORIZED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense may award financial assistance to an eligible host institution, or consortia thereof, to establish and support one or more Institutes.

(2) USE OF FUNDS.—Financial assistance awarded under paragraph (1) may be used by an Institute for—

(A) managing and making available to researchers accessible, curated, standardized, secure, and privacy protected data sets from the public and private sectors for the purposes of training and testing artificial intelligence sys-

tems and for research using artificial intelligence systems with regard to national security and defense;

(B) developing and managing testbeds for artificial intelligence systems, including sector-specific test beds, designed to enable users to evaluate artificial intelligence systems prior to deployment;

(C) conducting research and education activities involving artificial intelligence systems to solve challenges with national security implications;

(D) providing or brokering access to computing resources, networking, and data facilities for artificial intelligence research and development relevant to the Institute's research goals;

(E) providing technical assistance to users, including software engineering support, for artificial intelligence research and development relevant to the Institute's research goals;

(F) engaging in outreach and engagement to broaden participation in artificial intelligence research and the artificial intelligence workforce; and

(G) such other activities as may determined by the Secretary of Defense.

(3) DURATION.—Financial assistance under paragraph (1) shall be awarded for a five-year period, and may be renewed for not more than one additional five-year period.

(4) APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—A eligible host institution or consortia thereof seeking financial assistance under paragraph (1) shall submit to the Secretary of Defense an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

(5) COMPETITIVE, MERIT REVIEW.—In awarding financial assistance under paragraph (1), the Secretary of Defense shall use a competitive, merit-based review process.

(6) COLLABORATION.—In awarding financial assistance under paragraph (1), the Secretary of Defense may collaborate other departments and agencies of the Federal Government with missions that relate to or have the potential to be affected by the national security implications of artificial intelligence systems.

(7) LIMITATION.—No financial assistance authorized in this section shall be awarded to an entity

outside of the United States. All recipients of financial assistance under this section, including subgrantees, shall be based in the United States and shall meet such other eligibility criteria as may be established by the Secretary of Defense.

(d) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ''eligible host institution'' means an institution of higher education in the United States that conducts research sponsored by the Department of Defense.

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AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3838

OFFERED BY MR. MESSMER OF INDIANA

At the appropriate place in title XV, insert the following:

SEC. ___. ASSESSMENT OF CYBER-PHYISCAL RANGES AS POTENTIAL NATIONAL CYBER RANGE COMPLEXES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report assessing the benefits and costs of designating the cyber-physical ranges of the Department of Defense as National Cyber Range complexes or providing the treatment of such cyber-physical ranges in a manner that is similar to the treatment of a National Cyber Range complex, including—

(1) an assessment of whether to so designate one or more such cyber-physical ranges or to so treat such cyber-physical ranges; and

(2) a plan for making such designations and a plan for so treating such cyber-physical ranges, each of which shall include—

(A) the designation of an entity within the Office of the Under Secretary that is best placed to assume responsibility for the oversight, operation, and sustainment of such cyber-physical ranges;

(B) the annual funding requirements for entity designated under subparagraph (A) to operate, sustain, and, if necessary, modernize such cyber-physical ranges; and

(C) an estimated timeline for transitioning the management of such cyber-physical ranges to the entity designated under subparagraph (A).

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term ''cyber-physical range'' means a range that simulates a real-world environment across physical, logical and cyber-persona layers that can be used for research, development, testing, training and evaluation through the competition continuum.

(2) The term ''National Cyber Range complex'' means an integrated cyber range capability operated by the Department of Defense Test Resource Management Center.

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Amendment to H.R. 3838

Offered by: Mr. Jackson of Texas

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

U.S. Army Hypersonics Research

The committee applauds the many ongoing research and development efforts undertaken by Department of Defense organizations and academic institutions across the country, but remains concerned that the United States may not be keeping pace with foreign adversaries in critical technologies areas such as hypersonics. The committee is encouraged by the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Army Research Lab (ARL) research efforts related to hypersonics, including propulsion and advanced materials such as novel shape-morphing materials capable of withstanding ultra-high temperatures. The committee additionally strongly supports ARL's research partnerships with universities, and notes the importance of such partnerships across a wide variety of technology areas that enable current and future hypersonics development efforts.

Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of the Army to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services by February 15, 2026, on current and planned partnerships with universities as part of ARL's hypersonics research activities. The briefing should include potential focus areas for research that could advance the state of the art for Army hypersonics programs and case studies where universities have significantly advanced, enabled, or accelerated ARL research activities related to hypersonics.

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3838

OFFERED BY MR. FALLON OF TEXAS

At the appropriate place in title II, insert the following:

SEC. 2___. REPORT ON DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE MARKET RESEARCH OF CRITICAL TECHNOLOGY AND CAPABILITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering and the Under Secretary of Acquisition and Sustainment, shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report that—

(1) reviews and assesses the ability of the Department of Defense to conduct effective and thorough market research on critical existing and emerging defense technologies; and

(2) makes recommendations for the improvement of such market research capabilities.

(b) CONTENTS.—The report under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) An assessment of the strategic market evaluation practices across developmental innovation and

acquisition offices, including practices that are aligned for purposes of investigating existing commercial technology capabilities in critical technologies and capabilities.

(2) Recommendations on ways to improve market research and commercial sector due diligence within key Department of Defense innovation and acquisition offices, with a particular focus on deeper engagement with existing private sector entities.

(3) An assessment of the current status of development maturity and growth in critical technological market areas.

(4) An assessment of regulatory, legal, and administrative barriers in testing and evaluation of such critical technologies that may delay their maturation and development, such as—

(A) a lack of authority to operate new technologies domestically; and

(B) barriers to direct commercial sales and foreign military sales for such critical technologies.

(5) An assessment of how the barriers described in paragraph (4) may be addressed to direct additional investment and speed development.

(6) An assessment of current practices of accumulating and storing market research data across the Department of Defense enterprise, from early-stage research and development efforts to mature commercial solutions.

(7) Recommendations, with respect to each critical technology sector, for enhancing private sector participation, lowering barriers to entry for commercial sector entities, decreasing capital costs required for development, and shortening internal Department of Defense timelines for major acquisition decisions.

(8) Recommendations for the creation of standardized best practices for market research and commercial sector due diligence within key innovation and acquisition organizations in the Department of Defense.

(c) CONSULTATION.—In preparing the report under subsection (a) the Secretary shall seek input from relevant individuals and organizations in commercial industry and the venture capital sector.

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AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3838

OFFERED BY MS. HOULAHAN OF PENNSYLVANIA

At the appropriate place in title II, insert the following:

SEC. 2___. RESPONSIBLE DEVELOPMENT AND DEPLOYMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

(a) REQUIREMENT.—

(1) POLICIES AND GUIDELINES.—The Secretary of Defense shall issue policies and guidelines on the responsible development and deployment of biotechnology within the Department of Defense.

(2) EXECUTIVE AGENT.—The Secretary shall designate a senior civilian official within the Office of the Secretary of Defense to serve as the executive agent to develop the policies and guidelines under paragraph (1).

(3) COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall ensure that the policies and guidelines under paragraph (1) are developed in consultation with—

(A) the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering;

(B) the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy; and

(C) individuals representing industry, academia, and civil society.

(4) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary shall make the policies and guidelines under paragraph (1) publicly available.

(b) MATTERS INCLUDED.—The policies and guidelines under subsection (a)(1) shall include the following:

(1) Definitions related to the responsible development and use of biotechnology.

(2) An assessment of whether, and to what extent, existing statutes, regulations, directives, manuals, or instructions limit the ability of the Department of Defense to provide guidelines for the responsible development of emerging biotechnology.

(3) Guidelines encouraging the safe use of biotechnology products under appropriate regulatory and other oversight processes.

(4) Policies relating to informed consent of members of the Armed Forces participating in the development of biotechnology products that have not received regulatory approval.

(5) Policies relating to whether, and under which conditions, irreversible or heritable treatments

of potential biotechnology applications are acceptable.

(6) Policies relating to the potential effects of biotechnologies on the environment.

(7) Policies relating to the compliance by and obligations of the Department of Defense with respect to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction (commonly referred to as the ''Biological Weapons Convention'').

(8) Such other matters as the Secretary of Defense determines relevant.

(c) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the policies and guidelines under subsection (a)(1), including the methodologies used to develop the policies and guidelines.

(2) FORM.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

(3) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary of Defense shall make report required under paragraph (1) publicly available, except such publicly available version of the report may not include any classified annex provided under paragraph (2).

(d) BRIEFING.—During the two-year period beginning on the date that is one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall provide to the congressional defense committees an annual briefing on the implementation of the policies and guidelines under subsection (a)(1), including a description of any needed resources for such implementation.

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Amendment to H.R. 3838

Offered by: Mr. Trent Kelly

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

DLA Identity Layer Alternatives

The committee recognizes the Defense Logistics Agency's use of OpenID Connect as an identity layer in the Procurement Integrated Enterprise Environment's user management integration with Commercial Platform Program vendors. The committee directs the Commander, Defense Logistics Agency, to conduct, and brief, the House Committee on Armed Services no later than May 30th, 2026, on a comparative analysis of OpenID Connect versus alternative methods of user identity management for said vendors. Alternatives involving using XML-based Security Assertion Markup Language (SAML) may be considered in this analysis, as well as current best practices and possible efficiencies.

Amendment to H.R. 3838

Offered by: Ms. Jacobs

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

INTEGRATION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE-ENABLED DECISION AIDS IN DAILY OPERATIONS

The committee is concerned that the Joint Staff is accelerating the use of artificial intelligence (AI)–enabled decision aids, including large language models, in routine, non-lethal workflows without a comprehensive understanding of best practices, measurable outcomes, and attendant ethical or cybersecurity risks.

The committee directs the Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer to submit a report to the congressional defense committees by March 1, 2026 on the following:

(1) description of ongoing initiatives and pilot programs within the Joint Staff Directorate for Intelligence and other relevant components to operationalize AI-enabled decision aids;

(2) examples of successful use cases, practical implementation scenarios, and measurable outcomes in non-combat, low-risk environments;

(3) assessment of lessons learned, including challenges and barriers identified during integration efforts;

(4) recommendations for scaling successful practices across other Department of Defense components and operational contexts;

(5) strategies for continuous training, education, and adaptation to foster responsible adoption of AI tools by Department personnel; and

(6) ethical, operational, and cybersecurity considerations identified during implementation, together with proposed mitigation measures.

Amendment to H.R. 3838

Offered by: Mr. Bergman

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

Flightline Equipment Connectivity for Agile Combat Employment

The committee recognizes the critical need to enhance connectivity for flightline support equipment to enable the Department of the Air Force's Agile Combat Employment strategy. The committee encourages the Department to pursue complementary connectivity solutions tailored to the specific needs of flightline support equipment—particularly for assets in austere environments, contested environments, and long-term storage.

The committee directs the Secretary of the Air Force to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than December 15, 2025, on the Department's approach to enhancing connectivity for flightline support equipment. The briefing should include the following:

(1) a detailed assessment of current and planned initiatives to improve connectivity for flightline support equipment;

(2) the challenges and limitations of using fifth-generation networks in Agile Combat Employment scenarios, including impacts on operational security, spectrum management, and deployability;

(3) an analysis of the feasibility, scalability, and benefits of incorporating military grade radio systems, and how these technologies complement ongoing 5G modernization efforts; and

(4) recommendations for integrating diverse connectivity solutions to improve the operational readiness

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3838

OFFERED BY MR. GARAMENDI OF CALIFORNIA

At the appropriate place in title II, insert the following new section:

SEC. 2___. SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF BIOINDUSTRIAL MANUFACTURING PROCESSES.

Section 215 of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117–263; 10 U.S.C. 4841 note) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (d) through (f) as subsections (e) through (g), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (c) the following new subsection:

''(d) APPLICABILITY OF FUNDING.—The activities described in subsection (c), including the design and construction of facilities, are applicable to funds authorized to be appropriated for the Department of Defense for research, development, test, and evaluation.''.

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Amendment to H.R. 3838

Offered by: Ms. Kiggans

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

Leveraging the Science, Mathematics, and Research for Transformation Scholarship-for-Service Program for Biotechnology

The committee recognizes that, in order for the Department of Defense to effectively meet its strategic objectives in biotechnology, the Department must recruit and maintain a sufficient pool of technically trained talent in biotechnology. The committee commends the Department's Science, Mathematics, and Research for Transformation (SMART) Scholarship-for-Service Program, which has awarded more than 5,000 scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students. The SMART program enables talented young researchers to receive training and gain hands-on experience, and provides them with a pathway to enter Department of Defense employment in science and technology fields. However, the committee notes that the SMART Scholarship-for-Service program awards comparatively few scholarships in the biosciences, with less than 1% of 2024 awards granted in this field.

The committee believes that the SMART Program to be an essential tool for enabling the Department of Defense to grow and recruit the biotechnology workforce it will need to meet future challenges. Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services, not later than January 31, 2026, on:

(1) the number of SMART scholarships awarded by discipline, number of applicants, acceptance rate, and retention rate for each of the last six fiscal years;
(2) an assessment of the adequacy of SMART scholarship recruitment and retention efforts and strategies for each discipline;
(3) current efforts by the SMART Program to encourage more applicants in critical and emerging technology fields, such as biotechnology; and
(4) any additional tools or authorities that would enable the SMART program to more effectively target and recruit high-performing students in key fields.

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3838

OFFERED BY MS. HOULAHAN OF PENNSYLVANIA

At the appropriate place in title II, insert the following:

SEC. 2___. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BIOTECHNOLOGY WORKFORCE TRAINING.

(a) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall establish and carry out a training program—

(1) for members of the covered Armed Forces, civilian employees of the Department of Defense, and contractors of such Department whose duties the Secretary determines include—

(A) creating or deploying novel biotechnologies;

(B) analyzing, preparing for, or responding to biological threats; or

(C) planning, research and development, engineering, or testing and evaluation of systems (including quality control and assurance, procurement and contracting, logistics, and cost estimating) regarding biotechnology; and

(2) on biotechnology and other relevant critical and emerging technologies.

(b) CONSULTATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall consult with leadership and workforce training managers in the Department to develop and implement such training program and identify the individuals described in subsection (a) based on—

(A) the needs and priorities of the Department; and

(B) the relevance of the training to the individuals' positions.

(2) MATERIAL.—The material covered in the training programs shall be customized by Department leadership to align with specific needs and mission requirements.

(3) SKILLS.—The Secretary shall define the essential skills for biotechnology personnel to better understand what Federal personnel should undergo training and how to customize training for groups.

(c) REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The training program established under this section shall, at a minimum, include information on—

(A) the fundamental science underlying biotechnology, artificial intelligence and other relevant critical and emerging technologies;

(B) concepts relating to the technological features of biotechnology systems;

(C) applications of biotechnology in defense, health, agriculture, energy, environment, and other relevant areas;

(D) the ways in which artificial intelligence, quantum computing, and other technologies are leveraged to advance biotechnology;

(E) mechanisms by which the Federal Government supports, funds, purchases, and deploys biotechnology and its applications;

(F) ways in which the Federal Government can benefit from biotechnology;

(G) ethical, social, and legal aspects of biotechnology including ways of incorporating a wide range of stakeholder perspectives throughout research and innovation cycles;

(H) ways to mitigate the risks described in previous subparagraphs, including efforts to create and identify biotechnologies that are reliable, safe, and trustworthy; and

(I) future trends in biotechnology, including intersections with artificial intelligence, quantum computing, autonomous systems, robotics, advanced manufacturing, and other relevant technologies, as well as trends for economic and national security, and innovation.

(2) PARTICIPATION.—Any individual described under subsection (b)(1) shall complete training under this section annually.

(3) INTERACTIVE.—The Secretary shall ensure interactive learning with scholars and experts from private, public and nonprofit sectors is included under the training programs. The Secretary shall provide access to courses through institutions of professional military education, such as the National Defense University.

(4) UPDATES.—The training programs established under this section shall be updated each year to review and cover advances in biotechnology and its convergence with other critical and emerging technologies.

(5) CONTINUING EDUCATION.—The Secretary shall update the training programs established under this section to provide continuing technology education for individuals described in subsection (a) and

include requirements for refresher training on the latest advances in biotechnology science, laboratory work, equipment and software.

(d) PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS.—The Secretary shall establish mechanisms to measure participation in training programs required under this section, and to receive and consider feedback from program participants to improve training.

(e) REPORT.—Not later than six months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives a report that includes a plan to establish and implement the training programs required under this section.

(f) SUNSET.—This section and the training programs required to be carried out by this section shall terminate on the date that is five years after such programs are established under subsection (a).

(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term ''artificial intelligence'' has the meaning given that term in section 5002 of the National Artificial Intelligence Initiative Act of 2020 (division E of Public Law 116–283).

(2) The term ''covered Armed Force'' means the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, or Space Force.

Amendment to H.R. 3838

Offered by: Mr. Fallon

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

Reporting Technology Transition Performance

The committee understands that the Department has struggled with transitioning technologies into established capability development and procurement activities and aligning requirements with capability in a structured and expedited manner. The committee believes that the Bridging Operational Objectives and Support for Transition program (BOOST) will be an effective framework to align emerging technology with critical capabilities. This may not solve all issues in ensuring synergy and adaptability across research and development and acquisition.

Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense to provide a brief by August 1, 2026 to the Committee on the implementation of BOOST, and additional authorities needed.

Amendment to H.R. 3838
National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2026

Offered by Mr. Bacon of Nebraska

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

Spending Flexibility for Essential Cybersecurity Upgrades

The committee recognizes the importance of leveraging commercially available tools to protect military facilities and critical defense infrastructure from cyberattacks, particularly in operational technology environments. Given the rapidly evolving cyber threat, the committee is concerned that the Department's current definition of operations and maintenance (O&M) Expense/Investment thresholds may unduly restrict program managers' ability to acquire the tools necessary to protect military facilities and critical defense infrastructure from cyberattacks. Therefore, the committee directs the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) in coordination with the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment and the Chief Information Officer to submit a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services no later than December 31, 2025 including:

(1) The impact that delayed cybersecurity system upgrades could have on the cybersecurity of key military facilities and critical defense infrastructure in the United States and overseas;

(2) An assessment of existing barriers that prevent program managers from rapidly acquiring commercial cybersecurity solutions for operational technology environments using O&M funds;

(3) Options for modifying O&M funding definitions or other policies to exempt cybersecurity system upgrades funded via other transaction authorities and other means from being subject to current Expense/Investment thresholds;

(4) Any additional recommendations for aligning acquisition guidance and financial management regulations with the Department's cybersecurity risk management priorities, including any necessary legislative changes.

Amendment to H.R. 3838

Offered by: Mr. Kelly

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

Navy and Marine Corps Enterprise Network

The committee recognizes the Department of the Navy's long-standing effort to consolidate its enterprise information technology environment through the Navy and Marine Corps Enterprise Network.

The committee directs the Secretary of the Navy to brief the House Committee on Armed Services no later than March 1, 2026, on the following:

(1) A cost benefit analysis of any efforts to shift to a different contracting approach, which should include, but not be limited to, a review of any sustainment impacts, a total lifecycle costs overview, and any effects on government staffing levels and ongoing integration efforts;

(2) Any efforts underway to migrate afloat assets and any barriers that might exist in doing so.

Amendment to H.R. 3838

Offered by: Mr. Khanna

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

Protecting Defense Procurement Against Adversarial Biotechnology Entities

The committee recognizes the importance of biotechnology as a critical and emerging technology sector with significant implications for national security. The committee notes that the People's Republic of China (PRC) has made significant investments in biotechnology for decades, and that the PRC is striving to develop and integrate biotechnology into its warfighting capabilities. The committee is also aware that commercial biotechnology entities in the PRC may be facilitating asymmetrical military advantages for the People's Liberation Army (PLA).

The 1260H list, as established in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283), identifies Chinese military companies operating in the United States, including biotechnology companies. The committee notes that in order to meet the intent of this legislation, the 1260H list must be updated regularly. The committee therefore directs the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than March 30, 2026, that contains:

(1) an overview of the status of updates to the 1260H list, including the addition of PRC biotechnology entities and their affiliates that have direct or indirect ties to the PLA and entities that have a known joint venture, partnership, or contractual relationship with a biotechnology company included on the 1260H list;

(2) a description of efforts to ensure that Department of Defense contractors and subcontractors are certifying compliance with regards to the PRC biotechnology entities already listed on the 1260H list; and

(3) an overview of efforts to identify additional biotechnology entities with direct or indirect ties to the PLA, as well as entities with known joint ventures, partnerships, or contractual relationships with a biotechnology company included on the 1260H list, as possible additions to the list, including a description of any obstacles to their listing.

Amendment to H.R. 3838

Offered by: Ms. Elfreth of Maryland

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

National Security Agency Cybersecurity Collaboration Center

The committee notes the critical work undertaken by the National Security Agency (NSA)'s Cybersecurity Collaboration Center (CCC) to work with industry, interagency, and international partners to secure the defense industrial base, mitigate emerging and ongoing cybersecurity challenges, and secure key technologies. The committee is aware that the NSA CCC is part of a constellation of federal efforts to engage with commercial partners, but believes that the NSA's unique insights on cyber threats and the CCC's track record of successful engagement, including through contractor protection initiatives, uniquely enable the CCC to act as a trusted partner with the defense industry. The committee believes that, to the greatest extent possible, the NSA and U.S. Cyber Command should seek to expand the activities of the NSA CCC, including through increased resourcing and the leveraging of existing authorities. The committee therefore directs the Commander, U.S. Cyber Command and Director, National Security Agency/Chief, Central Security Service to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than February 1, 2026, describing options to scale the activities of the NSA CCC at varying levels of effort, including required funding and personnel support. The briefing shall also identify any statutory or policy limitations or barriers to such scaling.

Amendment to H.R. 3838

Offered by: Mr. John Garamendi of California

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

Leadership and Collaboration on Biotechnology in the Department of Defense and the Military Services

The committee recognizes the extensive efforts undertaken at the Department of Defense and throughout the military services to advance U.S. biotechnology. Emerging biotechnology innovations, such as point-of-need synthetic blood and biomanufacturing, will help ensure that warfighters are better prepared on the battlefield. However, the committee is concerned about the pathways for communication and collaboration between the Department and the military services.

Therefore, the committee directs the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than December 31, 2025 on how the Department is developing pathways for collaboration on biotechnology. The briefing should include a description of how the Department is achieving:

(1) appropriate leadership for biotechnology within each of the military services;

(2) clear expectations for coordination and collaboration between each of these components;

(3) development, coordination, assessment, and oversight of the implementation of service-specific biotechnology capabilities across the services;

(4) alignment of biotechnology efforts with overarching national security objectives;

(5) guidance on biotechnology private sector outreach, engagement, and agreements; and

(6) monitoring of biotechnology-relevant workforce recruitment and retention programs.

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3838

OFFERED BY MR. KHANNA OF CALIFORNIA

At the appropriate place in title VIII, insert the following:

SEC. 8___. BIOINDUSTRIAL COMMERCIALIZATION PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense may establish a program to support the expansion of the domestic capacity for bioindustrial manufacturing of critical biomanufactured products at a commercial level through awards to eligible entities for establishing, upgrading, and retooling of eligible bioindustrial manufacturing facilities.

(b) AWARDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—An entity seeking an award under the program shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary determines appropriate.

(2) COMPETITIVE AWARDS.—The Secretary shall make each award under the program to an eligible entity in a competitive manner.

(3) AWARD CRITERIA.—In selecting eligible entities to receive awards under the program, the Secretary shall consider the following criteria:

(A) The potential of the technology of such eligible entity to improve domestic resilience and protect critical supply chains for critical biomanufactured products.

(B) How the technology of such eligible entity could help meet the demand for the capabilities required by the next generation of warfighters.

(C) The ability of the eligible bioindustrial manufacturing facility with respect to which such eligible entity is seeking such award to be repurposed and the range of products that such eligible bioindustrial manufacturing facilities is capable of producing.

(D) Whether the eligible bioindustrial manufacturing facility with respect to which such eligible entity is seeking such award supports the goal of wide geographic distribution of bioindustrial manufacturing facility across the United States.

(E) Whether the eligible bioindustrial manufacturing facility with respect to which such

eligible entity is seeking such award is located in geographic proximity to sources of input materials for the production of critical biomanufactured products or areas with established biomanfuacturing capabilities; and

(F) Such additional considerations that the Secretary deems appropriate.

(4) USE OF AWARD FUNDS.—A recipient of an award under the program may use funds received under such award for the establishment, upgrading, or retooling of one or more eligible bioindustrial manufacturing facilities to produce critical biomanufactured products, including the development of business or technical plans related to such establishment, upgrading, or retooling.

(c) OVERSIGHT.—If the Secretary establishes the program, the Secretary shall establish reporting requirements for recipients of awards under the program which shall include requirements for period reports on the following:

(1) The progress of the recipient in establishing, upgrading, or retooling the eligible bioindustrial manufacturing facility with respect to which such recipient received such award.

(2) The estimated timeline and funding requirements for the recipient to begin biomanufacturing at the eligible bioindustrial manufacturing facility described in paragraph (1).

(3) The products, including the critical biomanufactured products, that are or will be produced at the eligible bioindustrial manufacturing facility described in paragraph (1).

(4) The progress of the recipient in entering into an agreement with the Department of Defense or an element thereof to provide critical biomanufactured products, that are or will be produced at the eligible bioindustrial manufacturing facility described in paragraph (1) once such eligible bioindustrial manufacturing facility begins biomanufacturing.

(d) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—

(1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and Senate a report on the plan of the Secretary for allocating amounts appropriated to the Department of Defense to fund the program.

(2) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and

annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and Senate a report on the activities under the program, including—

(A) a list of the awards made under the program as of the date on which the report is submitted, including, for each such award—

(i) the name of the entity that received the award;

(ii) the location of the eligible bio-industrial manufacturing facility with respect to which such entity received the award;

(iii) the amount of the award, disaggregated by the initial amount of the award and any additional amounts provided under the award;

(iv) an explanation of the criteria supporting making the award to such entity, including a description of any notable technologies of such entity relevant to the award;

(v) if applicable, an explanation of the rational for providing additional amounts under the award; and

(vi) to the extent practicable, and explanation of the effects of the award;

(B) an identification of amounts available to the Department of Defense for making awards under the program as of the date on which the report is submitted and an explanation of any plans for the use of such amounts;

(C) an explanation of the communication between the Secretary and eligible entities seeking an award under the program regarding requirements and timelines for such awards; and

(D) an explanation of how the establishment, upgrading, or retooling of the eligible bio-industrial manufacturing facility for which awards were made under the program aligns with priorities and needs of the Department of Defense and national security.

(e) SUNSET.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided by paragraph (2), this section shall terminate on the date that is 10 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) EXTENSION.—The Secretary may change the date on which this section terminates to a date

that is later than the date on which this section would terminate under paragraph (1) if the President determines that the continuation of the program is necessary to meet national economic and national security needs.

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term ''biomanufacturing'' means the utilization of biological systems to develop new and advance existing products, tools, and processes at commercial scale.

(2) The term ''critical biomanufactured product'' means a chemical, material, and other product that is manufactured using biomanufacturing and is relevant to the Department of Defense.

(3) The term ''eligible bioindustrial manufacturing facility'' means a bioindustrial manufacturing facility that—

(A) is or, if not yet established, will be located in the United States; and

(B) is or, pursuant to an award under the program, will produce critical biomanufactured products.

(4) The term ''eligible entity'' means an entity that—

(A) is a private entity;

(B) applied for an award under the program in accordance with subsection (b)(1); and

(C) meets such other criteria for eligibility for an award under the program as determined by the Secretary.

(5) The term ''program'' means the program established under subsection (a).

(6) The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Defense.

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Amendment to H.R. 3838

Offered by: Mr. Khanna

In the appropriate place in the report to accompany H.R. 3838, insert the following new Directive Report Language:

Strengthen the Biotechnology Workforce across the Department of Defense

Strengthening the Department of Defense's biotechnology talent pool is essential to advancing its mission. The Department must effectively recruit, train, and retain personnel working directly on biotechnology as well as those supporting it, such as those involved in program management, acquisition, investment, and legal matters. The committee acknowledges that efforts to develop the Department's biotechnology workforce are in progress through the biotechnology roadmap required in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025 (Public Law 118-159).

While the Department has a variety of authorities to hire, train, and retain biotechnology personnel, the committee is concerned that individual offices and hiring managers may be unaware of, and not fully utilizing, available authorities to develop its biotechnology workforce.

Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense to submit a publicly available report to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than March 30, 2026 on the following:

(1) guidance on available hiring and public-private talent exchange authorities for military and civilian staff in biotechnology;

(2) the number of biotechnology staff hired and/or trained using each authority listed in (1);

(3) any challenges the Department has in using the authorities listed in (1) and ways to address those challenges; and

(4) how the Department is encouraging the use of these authorities to strengthen the biotechnology workforce.

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3838

OFFERED BY MR. KHANNA OF CALIFORNIA

At the appropriate place in title II, insert the following new section:

SEC. 2___. BIOTECHNOLOGY SUPPLY CHAIN RESILIENCY PROGRAM.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretaries of the military departments and the heads of relevant Defense Agencies, may establish and implement a program (referred to in this section as the ''Program'') to develop, scale, and transition biotechnology research from the military service laboratories, including biotechnology-based chemicals, materials, fuels, and other products relevant to the mission of the Department of Defense that support the resilience, sustainability, and responsiveness of the defense supply chain.

(2) ACTIVITIES.—Under the Program, the Secretary of Defense may carry out the following activities:

(A) Conduct an assessment of supply chain vulnerabilities in the Department of Defense.

(B) Direct the military service laboratories to establish mechanisms to collaboratively—

(i) conduct applied research, including experimentation, advanced technological development, advanced component development, and rapid prototyping in bioindustrials, biomanufacturing, and related disciplines to support defense missions;

(ii) develop, prototype, test, and transition biologically derived materials and products to reduce reliance on foreign supply chains and vulnerable supply chains;

(iii) upgrade, expand, or construct physical and digital infrastructure, including laboratory facilities, of the Department and its partners to support bioindustrial research, development, testing, prototyping, and production;

(iv) as needed, enter into contracts, cooperative agreements, grants, or other transactions with relevant Federal entities and non-Federal entities such as commer-

cial entities, research institutions, and academic organizations to execute the activities under this paragraph; and

(v) support education, training, and workforce development initiatives to build and sustain a skilled bioindustrial and biomanufacturing workforce.

(C) Collaborate across the military departments, Defense Agencies, and other Federal entities to ensure alignment with national bioindustrial and supply chain strategies.

(D) Promote the development and utilization of next-generation feedstocks and processes in ways that support local economic growth.

(E) Modernize infrastructure through investment in facilities that enable rapid prototyping and advanced materials testing.

(F) Establish performance metrics and benchmarks to measure progress toward operational integration and transition to programs of record.

(3) OTHER CONSIDERATIONS.—In the event the Secretary carries out the Program, the Secretary of Defense shall—

(A) prioritize technologies and capabilities that address critical defense supply chain vulnerabilities and enhance military readiness, including technologies and capabilities necessary to—

(i) reduce logistics through field-enabled manufacturing of materials such as construction-grade bio-cement and deployable infrastructure components;

(ii) enhance performance through development of novel materials including protective coatings and biologically derived composites; or

(iii) improve cost efficiency of manufacturing and reduce dependency on foreign supply chains;

(B) consult with representatives of industry, academia, and other Federal agencies with relevant expertise, to accelerate development and transitions; and

(C) ensure the Program supports the development and fielding of emerging technologies such as biotechnologies that provide operational and strategic advantages to the Armed Forces, including through—

(i) cross-service and public-private partnerships; and

(ii) applied research, pilot-scale production, and technology transition efforts focused on biomanufacturing and materials innovation.

(b) PLAN AND REPORTS.—

(1) INITIAL PLAN.—Not later than 90 days after electing to commence the Program, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a plan for the allocation of appropriations to fund the Program.

(2) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not later than one year after commencing the Program, and annually thereafter until the Program terminates under subsection (c), the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report detailing all activities carried out under the program. Each report shall include, to the extent applicable, the following:

(A) A summary of key research, development, and prototyping efforts initiated or continued during the year covered by the report,

including technical objectives, anticipated defense applications, and funding.

(B) A list of significant partnerships or agreements executed with industry, academic institutions, and other Federal agencies, including the purpose, national security nexus, and funding level of each such partnership or agreement.

(C) An assessment of infrastructure enhancements undertaken to support bioindustrial development and scale-up, including facility modernization and equipment acquisition.

(D) An evaluation of program performance against established milestones or metrics, including progress toward the transition of technologies to operational use or acquisition programs.

(E) An identification of major technical, logistical, or policy challenges encountered, and actions taken to mitigate such challenges.

(F) Any recommendations for additional authorities, funding mechanisms, or interagency coordination necessary to enhance the effectiveness of the Program.

(3) FORM.—Each report under this subsection shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

(c) SUNSET.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the authority to carry out the Program shall terminate on the date that is 10 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) EXTENSION.—The Program may be continued after the termination date specified in paragraph (1) if, before such date, the President—

(A) determines that continuation of the Program is necessary to meet national economic or national security needs; and

(B) submits notice of such determination to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

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AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3838

OFFERED BY MS. MACE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

At the appropriate place in title II, insert the following new section:

SEC. 2___. PROHIBITION ON AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR GAIN OF FUNCTION RESEARCH.

(a) PROHIBITION.—None of the funds authorized to be appropriated by this Act or otherwise made available for fiscal year 2026 for the Department of Defense may be obligated or expended—

(1) to conduct gain-of-function research on any potential pandemic pathogen at any facility operated by or on behalf of the Department; or

(2) to award contracts, grants, cooperative agreements, or any other form of financial assistance to any institution of higher education, nonprofit organization, private entity, or other research institute that is conducting gain-of-function research on potential pandemic pathogens.

(b) WAIVER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense may waive the prohibition under subsection (a) on a case-by-case basis, with respect to an individual re-

search project, grant, contract, or cooperative agreement, if the Secretary determines that such a waiver is in the national interests of the United States.

(2) CONGRESSIONAL NOTICE.—Not later than 30 days before the date on which an award is made, a project is initiated, or an agreement entered into, with respect to which a waiver is made under paragraph (1), the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives notice of such waiver.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term ''gain-of-function research'' means any research that may be reasonably anticipated to confer an attribute to a pathogen such that the pathogen would have enhanced pathogenicity or transmissibility in mammals.

(2) The term ''potential pandemic pathogen'' means a pathogen that, as a result of any gain-of-function research—

(A) is likely more transmissible or likely capable of wide and uncontrollable spread in human populations;

(B) is likely more virulent or likely to cause modest or greater morbidity or mortality in humans; or

(C) is likely to pose a severe threat to public health, the capacity of the public health systems to function, or national security.

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AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3838

OFFERED BY MS. MACE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

At the appropriate place in title X, insert the following:

SEC. 10___. PILOT PROGRAM FOR BLOCKCHAIN-ENABLED INVENTORY MANAGEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense may establish a pilot program under which the Department of Defense shall use commercially available distributed ledger technology to seek to improve inventory management within the Department of Defense.

(b) OBJECTIVES.—Under the pilot program established under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

(1) assess the feasibility and effectiveness of using distributed ledger technology in improving inventory management;

(2) assess the cost savings resulting from the use of distributed ledger technology in inventory management;

(3) assess whether the use of distributed ledger technology in inventory management improves the traceability of inventory;

(4) assess whether the use of distributed ledger technology in inventory management reduces the risk of waste, fraud, and abuse; and

(5) identify and mitigate potential challenges and risks associated with the integration of distributed ledger technology for inventory management, including cybersecurity concerns.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report on the activities performed under the pilot program established under subsection (a).

(d) TERMINATION.—The authority to carry out a pilot program under subsection (a) shall terminate on January 1, 2029.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term ''distributed ledger'' means a ledger that—

(A) is shared across a set of distributed nodes, which are devices or processes, that participate in a network and store a complete or partial replica of the ledger;

(B) is synchronized between the nodes; and

(C) has data appended to it by following a specified consensus mechanism.

(2) The term ''distributed ledger technology'' means technology that enables the operation and use of distributed ledgers.

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AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3838

OFFERED BY MS. ELFRETH OF MARYLAND

At the appropriate place in title XV, insert the following:

SEC. 15___. PROCUREMENT OF BEST-IN-CLASS CYBER DATA PRODUCTS AND SERVICES.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, acting through the Chief Information Officer, shall provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on plans to establish an open and competitive process pursuant to section 1521 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117–81; 10 U.S.C. 2224 note) to provide best-in-class cybersecurity solutions (including endpoint, identity, and threat hunting solutions) and the benefits associated with the use of multiple different cybersecurity providers to support operational resilience of Department of Defense information networks.

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AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3838

OFFERED BY MR. ROGERS OF ALABAMA

At the appropriate place in title VIII, insert the following:

SEC. 8___. MODIFICATION TO AWARD AMOUNT FOR PROGRAM TO ACCELERATE THE PROCUREMENT AND FIELDING OF INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES.

Section 3604(c) of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by striking ''MAXIMUM''; and

(2) by inserting ''shall be greater than or equal to $10,000,000 and'' before ''shall not exceed''.

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AMENDMENT TO H.R. 8383

OFFERED BY MR. BACON OF NEBRASKA

At the appropriate place in title XV, insert the following:

SEC. ___. UPDATE TO CYBER SECURITY REQUIREMENTS FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS CONTRACTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Navy shall implement regulations requiring that each covered telecommunications contract includes updated cyber security requirements for Department wireless telecommunication devices to protect against domestic and international cybersecurity attacks, including SS7 signaling attacks, diameter signaling attacks, SIM hacking, and simulated cellular sites.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The cyber security requirements required to be included in covered telecommunication contracts under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) Disabling the use of 2G and 3G telecommunication networks by Department wireless telecommunication devices, and security vulnerabilities in inbound and outbound Signaling

System 7 traffic from foreign countries and operators of foreign telecommunications networks.

(2) Providing protection against all categories of Diameter protocol exploitation, including Category 0 non-application information, Category 1 application ID and command codes, Category 2 application-specific values, and Category 3 location and time.

(3) Enabling and facilitating rotation of traditionally persistent alphanumeric identifiers used to authentic users, including the international mobile subscriber identity for users, including the international mobile subscriber identity.

(4) Real-time monitoring and blocking of suspicious connections and requests that pose a high risk to cybersecurity, including any connection or request that would force a Department wireless telecommunication device to use a 3G telecommunication network, improperly filtered signaling traffic, and connections or requests that do not match the location of the subscriber, as well as real-time alerting when a user of Department wireless telecommunication device is targeted by a high-risk connection or request.

(5) Encrypting data and call sessions, encrypting call data records in storage, and storing call data records not longer than 60 days.

(6) Apply modern cryptographic protections to prevent the ability to transfer phone numbers between devices and disabling user requests to transfer phone numbers between devices.

(7) Hosting the software infrastructure for the mobile network in a commercial cloud computing environment and making publicly available quarterly cybersecurity audits conducted by independent auditors on behalf of the Department of Defense.

(c) CERTIFICATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Navy shall certify to the congressional defense committees that the Secretary of the Navy has implemented the regulations required by subsection (a).

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term ''covered telecommunications contract'' means a contract—

(A) that is entered into under the multiple award contract (as defined in section 3302(a) of title 41, United States Code) described in the memorandum of the Department of Defense entitled ''DoD UNCLASSIFIED Wireless Mobile

Services and Devices Spiral 4'' and dated May 23, 2024; or

(B) under which the Navy acquires wireless telecommunication services or devices.

(2) The term ''Department wireless telecommunication device'' means a wireless telecommunication device—

(A) acquired under a covered telecommunications contract; or

(B) that is using wireless telecommunication services under a covered telecommunications contract.

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