

## Manager's Amendment

### **IN THE BILL:**

At the end of Title I, before the short title, insert the following (and conform the Committee Report accordingly):

SEC. \_\_\_\_\_. During fiscal year 2027, Job Corps operators (as defined in section 142(7) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3192(7))) may accept grants, charitable donations, or other assistance, including materials and equipment, if such grants, donations, or assistance—

- (1) are used to carry out the purposes of subtitle C of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3191 et seq.); and
- (2) are not used to fulfill any obligation or cost incurred under an agreement entered into pursuant to section 147 of such Act (29 U.S.C. 3197).

At the end of Title I, before the short title, insert the following (and conform the Committee Report accordingly):

SEC. \_\_\_\_\_. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to pause or cease operations of a Job Corps campus unless the Secretary of Labor has first provided written notice to the operator of the campus and to the Members of Congress representing the campus location identifying the specific conditions that must be met to permit the resumption of operations.

At the end of Title I, before the short title, insert the following (and conform the Committee Report accordingly):

SEC. \_\_\_\_\_. (a) No funds shall be used by the Secretary to issue a temporary labor certification for nonimmigrant workers under section 101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) filed by, on behalf of, or for the benefit of an employer that has been convicted of a covered human trafficking offense, or an employer that has been found liable for human trafficking in a final judgment in a civil case.

(b) For purposes of this section, the term “covered human trafficking offense” means a felony violation of chapter 77 of title 18, United States Code, including sections 1589 (forced labor), 1590 (trafficking with respect to peonage, slavery, involuntary servitude, or forced labor), 1591 (sex trafficking of children or by force, fraud, or coercion), 1592 (unlawful conduct with respect to documents in furtherance of trafficking), and 1594 (attempt and conspiracy).

(c) An employer described in paragraph (a) shall be permanently ineligible to file or obtain approval of a petition under section 101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(b) of the INA.

On page 84, lines 5-6, strike “pursuant to section 1101(a)(8) of division A of Public Law 119–4” and insert, “in division B of Public Law 119–75”.

At the end of Title II, before the short title, insert the following (and conform the Committee Report accordingly):

SEC. \_\_\_\_\_. (a) Not to exceed the amount of funds made available under the heading “National Institutes of Health” in fiscal year 2025 that were obligated during fiscal year 2025 for more than one year of a multiyear award may be obligated in fiscal year 2027 from amounts made available under such heading in this Act for more than one year of a multiyear award.

(b) A multiyear award, as the term is used in this section, includes multiyear awards for grants, cooperative agreements, contracts, and any other financial mechanisms.

At the end of Title II, before the short title, insert the following (and conform the Committee Report accordingly):

SEC. \_\_\_\_ . None of the funds made available in this Act or any other Act may be used to implement CMS-5056-N, “Implementation of Prior Authorization for Select Services for the Wasteful and Inappropriate Services Reduction (WISeR) Model”, or any such model that implements prior authorizations in traditional Medicare.

On page 139, lines 11-14, strike:

“: *Provided*, That the budget activities specified in the table under this heading in the report accompanying this Act shall be funded in the amounts specified in such table: *Provided further*,”

And replace it with the following:

“, and of which the amount made available for subpart 3 shall be for the purposes and in the amounts specified in the table under the heading ‘School Safety National Activities’ in the report accompanying this Act: *Provided*,”

At the end of Title III, before the short title, insert the following (and conform the Committee Report accordingly):

SEC. \_\_\_\_ . None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to administer Title IV federal student aid programs in a manner that does not designate advanced nursing programs as professional degree programs. For purposes of this section, the term “advanced nursing program” means a post-baccalaureate educational program that prepares students for advanced practice registered nursing licensure, certification, or authorization, including nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, certified registered nurse anesthetist, or other advanced practice registered nurse programs.

At the end of Title III, before the short title, insert the following (and conform the Committee Report accordingly):

SEC. \_\_\_\_ . None of the funds made available by this Act shall be used to alter the fundamental purpose, structure, or implementation of the Federal TRIO Programs under chapter 1 of subpart 2 of part A of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.1070a-11 et seq.), which are intended to provide first-generation students and low-income students access to higher education, including four-year institutions of higher education, and support the attainment of bachelor’s and graduate degrees: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall administer such programs consistent with prior practice and congressional intent to prevent disruption to grantees, participants, and services: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this Act for such programs shall be obligated, and awards issued, as expeditiously as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That the allocation for each of the Federal TRIO Programs shall be not less than the fiscal year 2026 allocation for each such program: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall publish the notices inviting applications for new awards for the Talent Search program under section 402B of such Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a-12) and the Educational Opportunity Centers program under section 402F of such Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a-16) no later than December 1, 2026: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall issue grant award notifications (both new and non-competing continuation awards notices) for all Federal TRIO programs no later than May 1, 2027.

On page 167, line 11, strike “\$6,148,000” and insert “\$7,148,000” (and conform the Committee Report accordingly).

## **IN THE REPORT:**

On page 11, before the paragraph titled “*Performance Reporting*”, insert the following as a new paragraph:

*Outcome-Based Reviews.*—The Committee supports: (1) the conduct of outcome-based program and operational reviews consistent with the Government Performance and Results Modernization Act of 2010; (2) the review of existing regulations, internal policies, and administrative requirements to identify outdated, duplicative, or unnecessarily burdensome provisions; and (3) the identification of opportunities for cost savings, administrative streamlining, and improved program delivery. As part of the fiscal year 2028 congressional justification the Secretaries of Health and Human Services, Education, and Labor, shall include information on agency efforts to strengthen performance management, regulatory review, and oversight practices to better align spending with measurable outcomes.

On page 12, before the paragraph titled “*Critical Minerals Battery Workforce Development*”, insert the following as a new paragraph:

*Collaborations Between Manufacturers and Educational Institutions.*—The Committee encourages the Department to develop pilot programs that facilitate education and training programs in the field of advanced manufacturing.

On page 13, following the paragraph titled “*Upskilling Workers in Industrial Sectors*”, insert the following as a new paragraph:

*Workforce Sustainability and Upskilling.*—The Committee encourages the Department to support national workforce training organizations that partner with employers to provide skills-based, industry-recognized credentialed training aligned with high-demand, emerging industries. The Committee further encourages the Department to prioritize reskilling and upskilling of the existing workforce to meet needs in critical industries and support long-term economic and national security objectives.

On page 24, following the paragraph titled “*Off-Base Transition Training*”, insert the following as a new paragraph:

*Transition Assistance Program.*—The Department plays an important role in educating veterans about many of their benefits through the Transition Assistance Program, including providing job assistance training, business ownership courses, financial planning resources, and basic understandings of many other benefits. Despite these efforts, the Committee is concerned with the growing number of veterans and separating service members who are unaware of many of the service-connected benefits that are available to them once they transition back to civilian life. The Committee directs the Department to include in the fiscal year 2028 congressional justification the estimated cost of modifying the Transition Assistance Program to include a once-a-year workshop for all service members, regardless of their enlistment status.

On page 77, in the second sentence of the paragraph titled “*Safe Motherhood and Infant Health*”, insert before the comma, “ through the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System”, after “data collection”.

On page 92, before the paragraph titled “*Human Health Risks Posed by Wildlife*”, add the following as a new paragraph

*Food Allergies.*—The Committee recognizes food allergies as a serious public health concern that affects children and families across the U.S. and can result in severe, potentially fatal anaphylactic reactions. The Committee encourages CDC to support school-based efforts to address food allergies and reduce the risk of allergic emergencies in schools.

On page 120, before the heading “*Institutional Development Awards*”, insert the following as a new paragraph:

*Bridge Programs.*—The Committee strongly supports opportunities for students with limited access to STEMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Medicine) education and research. The Committee recognizes the effectiveness and importance of the NIGMS bridging programs that support historically underserved students and researchers to pursue STEMM studies and become the nation’s next generation of researchers, including programs such as the Bridges to the Baccalaureate Research Training Program, Bridges to the Doctorate Research Training Program, Postbaccalaureate Research Education Program, Advancing Research Careers program, and Maximizing Opportunities for Scientific and Academic Independent Careers program. The Committee notes that NIH terminated many of these programs in 2026 and strongly urges NIH to reestablish them. The Committee urges NIH to continue the previous training programs that bridge different educational or career stages and maintain these programs at institutions that have historically received low levels of funding support from NIH. The Committee urges NIH to set clear mentorship and support standards for students participating in these programs. The Committee urges NIH to encourage and provide more guidance to participating institutions to account for sufficient staff and outreach, budget, and other training-related expenses in grant applications. Finally, the Committee directs NIH to provide a briefing to the Committee on this effort within 90 days of enactment of this Act.

On page 123, before the paragraph titled “*Priority Research for Pregnant and Lactating Women*”, insert the following as a new paragraph:

*Prenatal and Postnatal Vitamins.*—The Committee encourages NIH to support evidence-based research that generates the criteria needed to define pregnancy-specific nutrient requirements to support evidence-based improvements in the formulation of prenatal and postnatal supplements to support maternal and fetal health.

On page 137, before the paragraph titled “*Research Facilities Innovation Fund*”, insert the following as a new paragraph:

*Competitive Award Delays.*—The Committee notes delays in available competitive NIH grants. As of June in fiscal year 2026, the amount of available competitive NIH awards is down 48 percent, and the value of all competitive awards is down 40 percent in fiscal year 2026 as compared to fiscal year 2024. These delays in disbursement of appropriated funds present serious challenges to institutions of higher education who depend on reliable timelines and clear communication from the Department to allocate necessary resources and staff towards grant applications. Additionally, the Committee is concerned about broad-based efforts to limit access to grant funds for some higher education institutions. The Committee urges NIH to focus on the rigor and quality of the research and scientific findings, while preserving access to funds for meritorious grant applications.

On page 173, before the paragraph titled “*Application of Plasma-Derived Product Exclusion*”, insert the following as a new paragraph:

*Addressing Post-Mastectomy Pain and Sensation Loss.*—Nearly 80 percent of women experience pain or numbness after breast cancer surgery, creating functional impairment and safety risks. The Committee notes that modern reconstructive techniques can restore not only appearance but also critical functions such as breast sensation. Sensory nerve reconstruction can reduce post-mastectomy pain syndrome, improve safety, and enhance quality of life. The Committee requests a report within 180 days of enactment of this Act on insurance coverage of nerve reconstruction after mastectomy.

On page 174, before the paragraph titled “*Behavioral Health Efficiency and Effectiveness Initiative*”, insert the following as a new paragraph:

*Autologous Breast Reconstruction Coverage.*—Breast or chest wall reconstruction has evolved significantly in the nearly 25 years since the passage of the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act. The Committee requests that CMS include in the fiscal year 2028 congressional justification an analysis of existing policies regarding autologous reconstruction options, including an examination of geographic trends in reimbursement and access to perforator flap breast reconstruction.

On page 194, before the paragraph titled “*Whole Child Health*”, insert the following as a new paragraph:

*Wasteful and Inappropriate Services Reduction (WISeR) Model.*—The Committee notes concern with CMS’ Wasteful and Inappropriate Service Reduction (WISeR) Model, which may create burdens and delays for patients and providers. The Committee believes that any proposal to impose prior authorization requirements in traditional Medicare should be subject to robust congressional oversight and transparent evaluation of impacts on beneficiary access to care, provider burden, and program costs. The Committee requests CMS provide an update in the fiscal year 2028 congressional justification on the impact of this pilot program on patients and how States were selected for participation.

On page 207, before the heading titled “*Community Services Block Grant Act Programs*”, insert the following as a new paragraph:

The Committee is aware of concerns about the recent proposal to replace the Social and Economic Development Strategies (SEDS) and SEDS-Alaska (SEDS-AK) grants with new programs, in particular that the proposed programs would focus on a narrower set of priority areas and shift from the historical model in SEDS and SEDS-AK that has allowed grantees to tailor their project priorities and designs based on locally identified needs. As part of future programmatic decisions, the Committee encourages ACF to ensure engagement with interested stakeholders, to ensure program funding continues to advance the economic and community development goals of Tribal Nations and other Native organizations.

On page 238, before the paragraph titled “*Disclosure of Reimbursements for People’s Liberation Army (PLA) and Xinjiang-Developed Medicines*”, insert the following as a new paragraph:

*Digital Mammography Coverage Analysis.*—The Committee recognizes the importance of access to mammography screening for early detection of breast cancer. Digital Breast Tomosynthesis, or 3D mammography, offers clinical benefits to women with dense breasts, detects more invasive cancers, improves accuracy, reduces patient recalls for additional testing, and provides rapid and reliable results and storage of images. The Committee directs GAO to study any coverage and copay gaps across States and different forms of private and public health insurance, as well as trends in usage for 3D mammography screening, and to provide a preliminary briefing to the Committee within 180 days of enactment of this Act with a report to follow.

On page 248, following the paragraph titled “*Veterans’ Opioid Prescribing Practices*”, insert the following as a new paragraph:

*Workforce Preparedness for Neuroplastogens.*—The Committee notes recent developments related to novel neuroplastogens and rapid-acting treatments for complex neuropsychiatric and neurocognitive conditions. The Committee requests an update in the fiscal year 2028 congressional justification on any associated interagency work between HHS and the Department of Veterans Affairs related to workforce readiness, including any training and credentialing programs, and any associated concerns that emerge.

On page 278, before the paragraph titled “*Skill-Aligned Instruction*”, insert the following as a new paragraph:

*Energy Workforce Pathways.*—The Committee recognizes that a highly skilled domestic energy workforce is essential to supporting America’s energy reliability, economic competitiveness, and critical infrastructure resilience. Accordingly, the Committee supports efforts to strengthen workforce pathways that prepare students and workers for careers in the energy sector, including through career and technical education (CTE) programs aligned with industry workforce needs. The Committee encourages the Department to support the adoption and implementation of the energy and natural resources (ENR) career cluster within state and local CTE frameworks in order to expand awareness of, and access to, high-skill, high-wage career opportunities in the energy sector. The Committee further recognizes the importance of developing a skilled workforce pipeline to address current and emerging workforce shortages across critical energy industries. Accordingly, no later than 180 days after enactment of this Act, the Department is directed to brief the Committees on Appropriations on efforts to support the ENR career cluster within State and local CTE frameworks.

On page 290, in the second paragraph under the heading “*Federal TRIO Programs*”, strike the second sentence.

On page 296, before the paragraph titled “*Bill Wide Requirements*”, insert the following as a new paragraph:

*After School STEM.*—The Committee recognizes the importance of a strong domestic STEM workforce to U.S. economic competitiveness, national security, and technological leadership. The Committee appreciates the benefits of educators trained in emerging technologies and the impact that informal STEM learning environments, such as afterschool and summer STEM programs, play in strengthening student engagement, improving academic outcomes, and expanding pathways into high-demand STEM fields, such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, cybersecurity, robotics, advanced manufacturing, and quantum mechanics. The Committee encourages the Department to support evidence-based STEM educator development initiatives that strengthen instructional quality in out-of-school settings, including initiatives that promote partnerships among schools, community organizations, and local STEM-focused industry leaders. The Committee urges the Department to prioritize underserved, rural, and low-income communities, where access to robust STEM learning opportunities remain the most limited.

On page 298, before the paragraph titled “*Reports to Congress*”, insert the following as a new paragraph:

*Recess in Schools.*—The Committee recognizes the critical role of recess in K-12 schools in providing protected, unstructured time for children and adolescents, strengthening cognitive function and memory retention, and building problem-solving and communication skills. The Committee requests an update in the fiscal year 2028 congressional justification on the benefits of recess on the academic, social, and physical development of children and adolescents and recommendations on how to preserve recess time and remove unnecessary regulatory and administrative barriers, such as those limiting the use of wood chips on playgrounds.

On page 300, at the end of the paragraph titled “*Clery Act*”, insert the following:

“The Committee encourages the Department to collect and report this data in coordination with the Federal Bureau of Investigation Uniform Crime Report Program.”

On page 300, following the paragraph titled “*Clery Act*”, insert the following:

*Reporting.*—The Committee urges OCR to continue efforts to complete investigations of outstanding complaints. Additionally, the Committee urges OCR to complete publication of the 2023-2024 Civil Rights Data Collection and to publish the 2025 annual report in as timely a manner as practicable.

*Statutory Responsibilities.*— The Committee recognizes the statutory responsibilities of OCR to enforce Federal civil rights laws and ensure that all students have equal access to educational opportunities. The Committee is concerned that prolonged delays deny students the right to a timely and fair investigation process and therefore urges the Department to support staffing and capacity in support of carrying out these statutory functions and responsibilities. Additionally, within 90 days of enactment of this Act and 180 days thereafter, the Committee directs the Department to provide a briefing to the Committees summarizing the total number of open cases; the number of open, dismissed, and resolved cases in each category and subcategory; and staffing levels by each regional office. The Committee also urges the Department to maintain its publicly available information on investigations.

On page 307, at the end of the second paragraph under the header for “NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD—SALARIES AND EXPENSES,” insert the following:

“The Committee also recognizes the Board’s declining mediation capacity which has led to reduced grievance mediation and dispute resolution and further urges the Board to support overall mediation capacity.”

On page 426, in the “Community Project Funding” table, strike the sixth row and replace it with the following:

Department of Health and Human Services	Health Resources and Services Administration	Douglas, Grant, Lincoln, and Okanogan Counties Public Hospital District #6, Grand Coulee, WA for facilities	1,750,000	Newhouse
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On page 434, in the “Community Project Funding” table, strike the ninth row and replace it with the following:

Department of Health and Human Services	Health Resources and Services Administration	Klickitat County Public Hospital District No. 1, Goldendale, WA for facilities	1,000,000	Newhouse
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