

our budget and transparent. We put out in the public what our intelligence community topline budget is. The Russians and Chinese don't do that. They hide as much as they can. They don't pay their forces the way we do, and 70 percent of our defense budget is for our forces—our manpower—in the pay and benefits and healthcare they need. We don't have the combined industrial base with the military that the Chinese do, for example, and that the Russians do. What we spend is all out there. They can hide a lot of their spending in the activities of their industrial companies that are doing the work of the Chinese army, for example. So that is not a valid comparison.

I will just conclude this way. I was in the Congress for 26 years. I served on the House Armed Services Committee. I came to the Senate and served on numerous commissions and task forces—in the Intelligence Committee, for example, for 8 years, which looked into the threats that we face and what we need to do about those threats. I led efforts dealing with our strategic deterrent, our nuclear modernization effort, and I was sobered by the evidence that we received as a member of the National Defense Strategy Commission. I was taken aback. I had not been in the Senate for 5 years. I hadn't had the advantage of classified briefings on the status of our adversaries' efforts and our own, and I was shocked at the degree to which we have lost the advantage that we used to have. I shared the concerns with my colleagues that this could lead potential adversaries to miscalculate, to think that they could make moves that wouldn't be resisted by the United States because we don't have the capability any more to do that. That has to change if we are to avoid war.

Therefore, I urge my colleagues in the days and weeks to come to review this Commission report, to think about it in terms of a consensus document between Republicans and Democrats, who unanimously agreed that it was critical to tell the American people the truth—that we have a severe crisis in this country—and to recognize that we, the Congress—the House and the Senate—have the first obligation to do something about this by setting the policy through our National Defense Authorization Acts and then funding those policies adequately through a series of eliminating sequestration, funding through the regular order appropriation process, rather than continuing resolutions, and increasing the topline budget for the military enough to make up the gap that we discuss in this report here.

That effort will begin with an administration in the development of its budget, which is underway right now and will be submitted to the Congress in the early spring. I urge the administration, as well, to recognize that its leadership in this effort will have a lot to do with the success of Congress stepping up to do its job to fund that budget adequately.

So to my colleagues who are concerned about our national security—and who isn't—and to those who said during the last campaign that we want to work across the aisle to solve problems that confront the American people, well, I can't think of a more serious problem than this. This is a great opportunity to roll up our sleeves and work together. I pledge to work with my colleagues to do exactly that and commend to them this report of the National Defense Strategy Commission to review during the Thanksgiving break we are going to have here and to come back ready to do work.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

AMENDING THE WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE WATER RIGHTS QUANTIFICATION ACT OF 2010

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding adoption of the motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 140 with further amendment No. 4054, as modified, that amendment No. 4054, as modified, be further modified with the changes at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 4054), as further modified, is as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018”.

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.

TITLE I—REORGANIZATION OF TITLE 14, UNITED STATES CODE

Sec. 101. Initial matter.

Sec. 102. Subtitle I.

Sec. 103. Chapter 1.

Sec. 104. Chapter 3.

Sec. 105. Chapter 5.

Sec. 106. Chapter 7.

Sec. 107. Chapter 9.

Sec. 108. Chapter 11.

Sec. 109. Subtitle II.

Sec. 110. Chapter 19.

Sec. 111. Part II.

Sec. 112. Chapter 21.

Sec. 113. Chapter 23.

Sec. 114. Chapter 25.

Sec. 115. Part III.

Sec. 116. Chapter 27.

Sec. 117. Chapter 29.

Sec. 118. Subtitle III and chapter 37.

Sec. 119. Chapter 39.

Sec. 120. Chapter 41.

Sec. 121. Subtitle IV and chapter 49.

Sec. 122. Chapter 51.

Sec. 123. References.

Sec. 124. Rule of construction.

TITLE II—AUTHORIZATIONS

Sec. 201. Amendments to title 14, United States Code, as amended by title I of this Act.

Sec. 202. Authorizations of appropriations.

Sec. 203. Authorized levels of military strength and training.

Sec. 204. Authorization of amounts for Fast Response Cutters.

Sec. 205. Authorization of amounts for shoreside infrastructure.

Sec. 206. Authorization of amounts for aircraft improvements.

TITLE III—COAST GUARD

Sec. 301. Amendments to title 14, United States Code, as amended by title I of this Act.

Sec. 302. Primary duties.

Sec. 303. National Coast Guard Museum.

Sec. 304. Unmanned aircraft.

Sec. 305. Coast Guard health-care professionals; licensure portability.

Sec. 306. Training; emergency response providers.

Sec. 307. Incentive contracts for Coast Guard yard and industrial establishments.

Sec. 308. Confidential investigative expenses.

Sec. 309. Regular captains; retirement.

Sec. 310. Conversion, alteration, and repair projects.

Sec. 311. Contracting for major acquisitions programs.

Sec. 312. Officer promotion zones.

Sec. 313. Cross reference.

Sec. 314. Commissioned service retirement.

Sec. 315. Leave for birth or adoption of child.

Sec. 316. Clothing at time of discharge.

Sec. 317. Unfunded priorities list.

Sec. 318. Safety of vessels of the Armed Forces.

Sec. 319. Air facilities.

TITLE IV—PORTS AND WATERWAYS SAFETY

Sec. 401. Codification of Ports and Waterways Safety Act.

Sec. 402. Conforming amendments.

Sec. 403. Transitional and savings provisions.

Sec. 404. Rule of construction.

Sec. 405. Advisory committee: repeal.

Sec. 406. Regattas and marine parades.

Sec. 407. Regulation of vessels in territorial waters of United States.

Sec. 408. Port, harbor, and coastal facility security.

TITLE V—MARITIME TRANSPORTATION SAFETY

Sec. 501. Consistency in marine inspections.

Sec. 502. Uninspected passenger vessels in St. Louis County, Minnesota.

Sec. 503. Engine cut-off switch requirements.

Sec. 504. Exception from survival craft requirements.

Sec. 505. Safety standards.

Sec. 506. Fishing safety grants.

Sec. 507. Fishing, fish tender, and fish processing vessel certification.

Sec. 508. Deadline for compliance with alternate safety compliance program.

Sec. 509. Termination of unsafe operations; technical correction.