

Explanatory Statement

DIVISION B—COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

Report language included in House Report 112-463 (“the House report”) or Senate Report 112-158 (“the Senate report”) that is not changed by this explanatory statement or this Act is approved. The explanatory statement, while repeating some language for emphasis, is not intended to negate the language referred to above unless expressly provided herein. In cases where both the House report and the Senate report address a particular issue not specifically addressed in the explanatory statement, the House report and the Senate report should be read as consistent and are to be interpreted accordingly. In cases where the House report or the Senate report directs the submission of a report, such report is to be submitted to both the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

It is expected that each department and agency funded in this Act shall follow the directions set forth in this Act and the accompanying statement, and shall not reallocate resources or reorganize activities except as provided herein. Reprogramming procedures shall apply to: funds provided in this Act; unobligated balances from previous appropriations Acts that are available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2013; and non-appropriated resources such as fee collections that are used to meet program requirements in fiscal year 2013. These procedures are specified in section 505 of this Act.

Any reprogramming request shall include any out-year budgetary impacts and a separate accounting of program or mission impacts on estimated carryover funds. Any program, project or activity cited in this statement, or in the House report or the Senate report and not changed by this Act or statement, shall be construed as the position of the Congress and shall not be subject to reductions or reprogramming without prior approval of the Committees. Further, it is expected that any department or agency funded in this Act which plans a reduction-in-force to notify by letter the Appropriations Committees of the House and Senate 30 days in advance of the date of any such planned personnel action.

It is noted that when a department or agency submits a reprogramming or transfer request to the Appropriations Committees of the House and Senate and does not receive identical responses by the House and Senate, it shall be the responsibility of the department or agency seeking the reprogramming to reconcile the differences between the two bodies before

proceeding. If reconciliation is not possible, the items in disagreement in the reprogramming or transfer request shall be considered unapproved.

In compliance with section 537 of this Act, the Departments of Commerce and Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the National Science Foundation are directed to submit spending plans, signed by the respective department or agency head, for the Committees' review within 45 days of enactment of this Act.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

This Act includes language making available to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) \$2,933,241,000, the full amount of offsetting fee collections estimated for fiscal year 2013.

Patent infringement.—The USPTO is directed to expand its Intellectual Property Awareness Campaign to include a special emphasis on small business concerns and independent inventors and how to increase their understanding of the steps they need to take to protect their intellectual property from patent infringement. The USPTO shall provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations no later than 120 days after enactment of this Act regarding these efforts.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY

This Act includes \$824,173,000 for the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL RESEARCH AND SERVICES

This Act includes \$621,173,000 for NIST's scientific and technical core programs. Senate language regarding the National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education is modified to direct NIST to use such sums as necessary to fund these activities. Senate language regarding NIST greenhouse gas research and atmospheric weather monitoring systems is adopted, but NIST is expected to award competitively any funding for these activities. Language modified from S. 2323 of the 112th Congress allowing NIST to locally transport its Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) program participants is included. This provision shall only apply to NIST's SURF program.

Centers of Excellence.—The creation of centers of excellence is supported, and \$20,000,000 is included, as requested, to establish these centers on a competitive basis.

National Strategy for Trusted Identities in Cyberspace (NSTIC).—Up to \$16,500,000 is included for NSTIC. NIST is directed to submit a spending plan for NSTIC as part of the overall spending plan required by section 537 of this Act.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

This Act includes \$143,000,000 for industrial technology services, including \$128,500,000 for the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) Program and \$14,500,000 for the Advanced Manufacturing Technology Consortia (AMTech) program. House language regarding a report on AMTech is amended by directing that this report be provided to the Committees on Appropriations no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act. Also, House report language regarding a GAO report is amended by directing that this study be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations no later than 180 days after enactment of this Act. Finally, it is noted with concern that the Department remains delinquent in submitting the MEP Program report requested in Public Law 112–55, and the Secretary is directed to submit this report to the Committees on Appropriations no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act.

CONSTRUCTION OF RESEARCH FACILITIES

This Act includes \$60,000,000 for NIST construction.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

This Act includes a total of \$5,100,000,000 in discretionary funds for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act includes a total program level of \$3,246,678,000 under this account for the coastal, fisheries, marine, weather, satellite and other programs of NOAA. This total funding level includes \$3,112,614,000 in direct appropriations; a transfer of \$119,064,000 from balances in the “Promote and Develop Fishery Products and Research Pertaining to American Fisheries” account; and \$15,000,000 derived from recoveries of prior year obligations.

National Ocean Policy (NOP).—Section 553 of H.R. 5326 of the 112th Congress regarding the NOP is not included. However, it is noted that no funding was requested to