DIVISION G – DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2021

The following statement is an explanation of the effects of Division G, which provides appropriations for the Department of the Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Forest Service, the Indian Health Service, and related agencies for fiscal year 2021.

The joint explanatory statement accompanying this division is approved and indicates congressional intent. Unless otherwise noted, the language set forth in House Report 116-448 carries the same weight as language included in this joint explanatory statement and should be complied with unless specifically addressed to the contrary in this joint explanatory statement. While some language is repeated for emphasis, it is not intended to negate the language referred to above unless expressly provided herein.

In cases where the House report or this joint explanatory statement direct the submission of a report, such report is to be submitted to both the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations. Where this joint explanatory statement refers to the Committees or the Committees on Appropriations, unless otherwise noted, this reference is to the House Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies and the Senate Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies.

Each department and agency funded in this Act is directed to follow the directions set forth in this Act and the accompanying statement and to not reallocate resources or reorganize activities except as provided herein or otherwise approved by the House and Senate Appropriations Committees through the reprogramming process as referenced in this Act. This joint explanatory statement addresses only those agencies and accounts for which there is a need for greater explanation than provided in the Act itself. Funding levels for appropriations by account, program, and activity, with comparisons to the fiscal year 2020 enacted level and the fiscal year 2021 budget request, can be found in the table at the end of this division.

Unless expressly stated otherwise, any reference to “this Act” or “at the end of this statement” shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of this division.

Conservation Partnerships.—Funds are available for land management agencies to enter into agreements with youth and veterans organizations as authorized by the John McCain 21st Century Service Conservation Corps Act (Public Law 116–9). The Committees continue to support the partnerships between the Department and the 21st Century Conservation Service Corps and Public Land Corps, which help to engage youth and veterans in hands-on service to our public lands and expects these efforts to continue.
Section 413 continues a provision which delineates the program priorities for the programs managed by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Section 414 permits funds provided to the National Endowment for the Arts to be used for the operating expenses of grantees.

Section 415 permits funds provided to the National Endowment for the Humanities to be used for the operating expenses of grantees.

Section 416 requires the Department of the Interior, Environmental Protection Agency, Forest Service and Indian Health Service to provide the Committees on Appropriations quarterly reports on the status of balances of appropriations.

Section 417 extends certain authorities through fiscal year 2021 allowing the Forest Service to renew grazing permits.

Section 418 prohibits the use of funds to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network is designed to block access to pornography websites.

Section 419 addresses the humane transfer and treatment of excess wild horses and burros.

Section 420 extends the authority of the Forest Service Facility Realignment and Enhancement Act.

Section 421 sets requirements for the use of American iron and steel for certain loans and grants.

Section 422 provides authority for the Secretary of the Interior to enter into training agreements and to transfer excess equipment and supplies for wildfires.

Section 423 provides a one-year extension of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act.

Section 424 incorporates Reprogramming Guidelines into the Act.

Section 425 continues a provision through fiscal year 2021 authorizing the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to consider local contractors when awarding contracts for certain activities on public lands.

Section 426 extends the authority for the Shasta-Trinity Marina fee for one year.

Section 427 extends the authority for the Interpretive Association for one year.

Section 428 extends the authority for Puerto Rico Schooling for one year.

Section 429 extends the authority for Forest Botanical Products fee collection for one year.

Section 430 includes certain limitations on oil and gas development near Chaco Culture National Historical Park.

Section 431 requires 105(l) Tribal lease payments to begin no earlier than the date the lease proposal is submitted and for the Federal agencies to consult with Tribes on lease requirements.

Section 432 requires the Secretary of Interior to conduct a resource study of sites associated with the 1908 Springfield Race Riot.