

such title, and sales involving credit bidding, and, whenever the United States trustee determines it to be appropriate—

"(i) filing comments or objections concerning compliance with [subsections \(q\), \(r\), and \(s\) of section 363 of title 11](#), the best interests of the estate, the fairness of the sale process, and the treatment of employees, retirees, and unsecured creditors;

"(ii) seeking limitations on or denial of credit bidding for cause under [section 363\(k\) or 363\(s\) of title 11](#); and

"(iii) appearing and being heard under [section 307 of title 11](#) and participating, including as amicus curiae, in appellate proceedings involving the interpretation or application of [section 363](#) or [1129](#) of title 11;".

(d) Duties of bankruptcy administrators.—The Judicial Conference of the United States shall require each bankruptcy administrator appointed under [section 302\(d\)\(3\)\(I\) of the Bankruptcy Judges, United States Trustees, and Family Farmer Bankruptcy Act of 1986](#) (Public Law 99–554; 100 Stat. 3123) to perform the duties specified in [section 586\(a\)\(3\)\(J\) of title 28, United States Code](#), as added by subsection (c), in the same manner and to the same extent as a United States trustee.

(e) Application.—

(1) Pending and future cases.—The amendments made by this section shall apply in any case under [title 11, United States Code](#), filed or pending on or after the date of enactment of this Act with respect to a sale or plan for which a final order authorizing the sale or confirming the plan was not entered before such date.

(2) Completed sales.—Nothing in this section or the amendments made by this section shall affect the validity of a sale or transfer consummated before the date of enactment of this Act.

Subtitle G—Public Ownership and Voluntary Value Sharing

SEC. 271. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) Findings.—Congress finds the following:

(1) Human history reveals that many cultures have developed traditions of voluntary sharing, redistribution, gift giving, potlatch, jubilee, mutual aid, and public generosity to reduce excessive concentrations of wealth and simultaneously strengthen social bonds.

(2) Modern corporations and other business entities are legal persons created by law and granted special privileges by the people; these privileges are justified by the capacity of these entities to serve the public good, empower citizens to pool resources toward collective goals, build productive capacity, and create value for the communities and nation that make their existence and success possible.

(3) In the 21st century, the United States has the ability to recreate the ancient social function of voluntary value sharing utilizing a digital monetary system. This subtitle establishes a public channel through which business entities and natural persons may express gratitude to

the country and community, repair or acknowledge public or private harms, or share windfall gains.

(4) Public reporting and recognition of voluntary value sharing can promote friendly competition among business entities and financial institutions while encouraging civic responsibility.

(5) An annual distribution of the aggregate value shared during each fiscal year also parallels another human tradition: the autumn harvest festival and the sharing of the year's abundance among the community. A mid-October distribution will offer citizens a potluck of choices, including civic participation, meeting family needs, holiday spending, building savings, or repaying debts.

(b) Purpose.—The purpose of section 272 is to establish a voluntary value sharing mechanism for the citizens of the United States through their Treasury transaction accounts.

SEC. 272. VOLUNTARY VALUE SHARING.

(a) Voluntary value sharing by eligible entities.—Subchapter A of chapter 7 of subtitle A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as added by section 862 of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"Sec. 1604. Voluntary value sharing.

"(a) Definitions.—In this section:

"(1) Applicable base.—The term 'applicable base' means—

"(A) for a business entity described in paragraph (2)(A), gross profits determined under this chapter; and

"(B) for a financial institution described in paragraph (2)(B), the financial activities tax base determined under chapter 50C.

"(2) Eligible entity.—The term 'eligible entity' means—

"(A) a business entity subject to this chapter; or

"(B) a financial institution subject to chapter 50C.

"(3) Fund.—The term 'Fund' means the Voluntary Value Sharing Fund established under section 1399b of title 42, United States Code.

"(4) Voluntary value sharing amount.—The term 'voluntary value sharing amount' means the excess of the amount paid under this section over the amount that would have been due under section 1602(b) or section 5000G(b), as applicable, without regard to this section.

"(b) Voluntary value sharing.—

"(1) In general.—An eligible entity may elect to share an amount in excess of the requirements of this chapter or chapter 50C, as applicable, by making a declaration of voluntary value sharing for a taxable year at any time, but may not declare an effective rate lower than the rate specified in section 1602(b) or section 5000G(b), as applicable.

"(2) Declarations.—A declaration shall be effective only for the taxable year for which it is made. The Secretary shall promulgate rules to enable declarations—

"(A) as a percentage of applicable base;

"(B) as a total dollar amount, if the amount exceeds the tax otherwise due under this chapter or chapter 50C, as applicable;

"(C) as a dollar amount in excess of the tax otherwise due under this chapter or chapter 50C, as applicable; or

"(D) in any other form provided in regulations.

"(c) Declarations to have force of law.—

"(1) In general.—A declaration under subsection (b) shall be binding on the eligible entity for the taxable year for which the declaration is made.

"(2) Percentage declarations.—In the case of a declaration made as a percentage of applicable base, the tax liability under this section shall be computed by substituting the declared percentage for the rate in section 1602(b) or section 5000G(b), as applicable.

"(3) Dollar declarations.—In the case of a declaration made as a dollar amount, the declared amount shall be assessed and collected in the same manner as a tax imposed under section 1602 or chapter 50C, as applicable, at such time and in such manner as the Secretary shall prescribe.

"(4) Deposit of excess.—The Secretary shall deposit the voluntary value sharing amount in the Fund.

"(d) Reports and recognition.—

"(1) In general.—The Secretary shall—

"(A) not later than October 15, 2027, and annually thereafter, issue a report on the voluntary value sharing amounts deposited in the Voluntary Value Sharing Fund under this section during the previous fiscal year;

"(B) maintain a publicly searchable database of eligible entities that have made declarations or payments pursuant to this section, including the effective rate, voluntary value sharing amount, and taxable year for each declaration or payment; and

"(C) establish and publicize ranked lists of the 200 eligible entities with the highest voluntary value sharing amounts for the previous year, in the following categories:

"(i) by percentage rounded to the nearest hundredth, among eligible entities with applicable bases—

"(I) less than \$1,000,000;

"(II) greater than or equal to \$1,000,000, but less than \$100,000,000;

"(III) greater than or equal to \$100,000,000, but less than \$500,000,000; and

"(IV) greater than or equal to \$500,000,000; and

"(ii) by total voluntary value sharing amount.

"(2) No vacancies.—Beginning with the 2029 fiscal year, if the number of eligible entities participating in voluntary value sharing is less than 200 in any category described in paragraph (1)(C), the Secretary shall fill the ranked list for that category with the eligible entities reporting the highest applicable bases and state that the voluntary value sharing amount was zero.

"(e) Effective date.—This section shall take effect on the date of enactment of the POPULIST Act. Before the first taxable year to which section 1602 or chapter 50C applies to an eligible entity, no liability shall arise under this section unless the eligible entity makes a declaration under subsection (b).".

(b) Voluntary value sharing.—[Chapter 7 of title 42, United States Code](#), as amended by section 811 of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"Subchapter XXIII—Voluntary Value Sharing

"SEC. 1399a. Definitions.

"SEC. 1399b. Voluntary Value Sharing Fund.

"SEC. 1399c. Annual citizen distributions.

"Sec. 1399a. Definitions.

"In this subchapter:

"(1) Treasury transaction account.—The term 'Treasury transaction account' means an account established under section 623 of the POPULIST Act.

"(2) Eligible citizen.—The term 'eligible citizen' means a natural person who—

"(A) is a citizen of the United States;

"(B) has been assigned a Treasury transaction account under section 623(b)(1) of the POPULIST Act; and

"(C) was alive at the close of the fiscal year for which the distribution is made.

"(3) Fund.—The term 'Fund' means the Voluntary Value Sharing Fund established under section 1399b.

"(4) Secretary.—The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of the Treasury.

"(5) Treasury Dollar Bills.—The term 'Treasury Dollar Bills' means the sovereign money issued under section 5104 of title 31, United States Code.

"Sec. 1399b. Voluntary Value Sharing Fund.

"(a) Establishment.—There is established in the Treasury a Voluntary Value Sharing Fund, which shall be administered by the Secretary. Amounts in the Fund shall be available for annual citizen distributions under section 1399c and may not be obligated, expended, transferred, or distributed except as provided in this subchapter.

"(b) Contributions.—Any person may make a contribution to the Fund in such amount, form, manner, and frequency as the Secretary may prescribe. A contract, agreement, settlement, or other instrument purporting to require a natural person to make a future contribution to the Fund shall be unenforceable.

"(c) Deposit in Fund.—The Secretary shall deposit in the Fund all contributions made under this section and all voluntary value sharing amounts paid under section 1604 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

"(d) Privacy.—The Secretary may not publicly disclose the identity, account information, address, contribution amount, or other identifying information of a person who makes or does not make a contribution to the Fund, except—

"(1) with the affirmative consent of such person; or

"(2) as necessary for administration or enforcement of Federal law.

"(e) No tax benefit.—No deduction, credit, exclusion, basis increase, or other tax benefit shall be allowed by reason of a contribution to the Fund unless expressly provided by another provision of law.

"(f) Regulations.—The Secretary may issue regulations to prevent coercion, fraud, duplication, erroneous contributions, or misuse of contribution mechanisms under this section.

"Sec. 1399c. Annual citizen distributions.

"(a) Annual citizen distribution.—

"(1) In general.—Not later than October 15, 2027, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall distribute from the Fund the amount available for distribution in equal shares to the Treasury transaction account of each eligible citizen.

"(2) Calculations.—

"(A) Equal share.—The equal share for each eligible citizen shall be the amount determined by dividing the amount in the Fund as of the close of the fiscal year by the number of eligible citizens and rounding the quotient down to the nearest \$0.01.

"(B) Amount available for distribution.—The amount available for distribution shall be the product of the number of eligible citizens and the equal share calculated in subparagraph (A).

"(3) Residual amounts.—Any amount in the Fund in excess of the amount able to be distributed shall remain in the Fund.

"(4) Missed account claims.—

"(A) No loss due to administrative delay.—No administrative delay in assigning a Treasury transaction account under section 623(b)(1) of the POPULIST Act shall extinguish or reduce the claim of a citizen of the United States to receive a distribution under this paragraph.

"(B) Claim.—A citizen of the United States who was not treated as an eligible citizen for a fiscal year solely because the citizen had not been assigned a Treasury transaction account under section 623(b)(1) of the POPULIST Act may claim the equal share distribution amount for that fiscal year.

"(C) Payment.—The Secretary shall pay a valid claim under this paragraph in the same amount paid to eligible citizens for that fiscal year.

"(D) Source of payment.—Amounts paid under this paragraph shall be paid from the Fund and may be treated as an adjustment reducing the amount available for distribution for a subsequent fiscal year.

"(b) Acquisition of Treasury Dollar Bills for distribution.—

"(1) In general.—Before making an annual citizen distribution under this section, the Secretary shall acquire Treasury Dollar Bills for the Fund in an amount sufficient to credit the amount available for distribution under subsection (a)(2)(B) to the Treasury transaction accounts of eligible citizens.

"(2) Methods of acquisition.—The Secretary may acquire Treasury Dollar Bills for the Fund by exchange with a Federal trust fund or Federal account holding Treasury Dollar Bills, provided that—

"(A) the exchange is made dollar-for-dollar at par;

"(B) the managing trustee or other responsible officer determines that the exchange is consistent with the projected liquidity needs of the fund or account; and

"(C) the exchange does not impair the payment of any benefit or obligation payable from such fund or account.

"(3) No creation or extinguishment.—An acquisition or distribution under this subchapter shall not create or extinguish the aggregate amount of Treasury Dollar Bills.

"(c) Administration and reports.—

"(1) Tax and benefit treatment.—Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed to—

"(A) exclude a voluntary value sharing distribution from gross income; or

"(B) require a voluntary value sharing distribution to be disregarded as income, resources, or assets for purposes of determining eligibility for, or the amount of benefits or assistance under, any Federal, State, or local program.

"(2) Annual distribution report.—Not later than October 15, 2027, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall publish a report stating—

"(A) the total amount deposited in the Fund during the previous fiscal year;

"(B) the total amount distributed under section 1399c;

"(C) the per citizen distribution amount; and

"(D) the amount carried forward for distribution in a subsequent year.

"(3) Individual contribution privacy.—Any report under this section shall report contributions by individual citizens only in aggregate form and may not disclose identifying information protected under section 1399b(d).

"(d) Regulations.—The Secretary may prescribe such regulations and other guidance as may be necessary to carry out this subchapter."

(c) Conforming amendments.—

(1) Internal Revenue Code table of sections.—The table of sections for subchapter A of chapter 7 of subtitle A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as added by section 862 of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following new item:

"Sec. 1604. Voluntary value sharing."

(2) Title 42 table of contents.—The table of contents for [chapter 7 of title 42, United States Code](#), as amended by section 811 of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following new item:

"Subchapter XXIII—Voluntary Value Sharing".

SEC. 273. DEMOCRATIC STEWARDSHIP OF FEDERAL EQUITY INTERESTS.

(a) Democratic stewardship chapter.—Subtitle VI of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"CHAPTER 99—DEMOCRATIC STEWARDSHIP OF FEDERAL EQUITY INTERESTS

"SEC. 9901. Findings and purpose.

"SEC. 9902. Definitions.

"SEC. 9903. Public ownership principles and scope.

"SEC. 9904. Office of Federal Equity Stewardship.

"SEC. 9905. Independence of investment selection and information firewall.

"SEC. 9906. Preservation and exercise of Federal voting interests.

"SEC. 9907. National voting policy established by Congress.

"SEC. 9908. Records, disclosure, and audit.

"SEC. 9909. Conflicts of interest and unlawful interference.

"SEC. 9910. Enforcement and judicial review.

"SEC. 9911. Proposals for permanent democratic stewardship.

"SEC. 9912. Regulations and relation to other law.

"Sec. 9901. Findings and purpose.

"(a) Findings.—Congress finds the following:

"(1) Article IV, section 3, clause 2 of the Constitution grants Congress the power to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting property belonging to the United States.

"(2) In *Gibson v. Chouteau* (1872), the Supreme Court described Congress's authority over the disposition of Federal property as subject to no limitations and recognized Congress's authority to prescribe the times, conditions, and mode of its disposition.

"(3) In *Ashwander v. Tennessee Valley Authority* (1936), the Supreme Court held that water power brought under Federal control through construction of a Federal dam, the right to convert that power into electric energy, and the resulting electric energy were property belonging to the United States subject to congressional disposition.

"(4) Investments made for Federal accounts may similarly bring under Federal control substantial voting power inherent in underlying equity interests. Such voting power is a valuable incident of Federal ownership and an instrument of economic governance.

"(5) Congress therefore has the authority and responsibility under Article IV, section 3, clause 2 of the Constitution to establish national policy governing the preservation, aggregation, direction, exercise, and disposition of voting power inherent in Federal equity interests. Under Article II of the Constitution, officers of the executive branch are responsible for faithfully administering that policy.

"(b) Purpose.—The purpose of this chapter is to preserve, aggregate, direct, and exercise the voting power inherent in Federal equity interests as an instrument of public ownership, in accordance with national policy established by Congress, for the benefit of the people of the United States.

"Sec. 9902. Definitions.

"In this chapter:

"(1) Equity index fund.—The term 'equity index fund' means a qualifying index fund described in section 9702(d)(6) or (7).

"(2) Federal equity account.—The term 'Federal equity account' means a Federal account, as defined in section 9702(a)(1), that acquires or holds an interest in an equity index fund subject to this chapter.

"(3) Federal voting interest.—The term 'Federal voting interest' means, for each issuer and matter, the voting power determined under section 9906(b) that would be attributable to the proportionate economic interest of a Federal equity account in equity securities held by an

equity index fund or by a master fund or other pooled investment vehicle through which the equity index fund obtains its index exposure, without reduction for securities lending or another transfer, waiver, or delegation of voting authority. The term does not include voting power attributable to a security sold or otherwise disposed of before the applicable issuer record date.

"(4) Office.—The term 'Office' means the Office of Federal Equity Stewardship established under section 9904.

"(5) Qualifying equity fund.—The term 'qualifying equity fund' means an equity index fund that satisfies section 9906, including an international equity index fund operating under a determination made under section 9906(h).

"(6) Responsible official.—The term 'responsible official' has the meaning given the term in section 9702(a)(4).

"Sec. 9903. Public ownership principles and scope.

"(a) Scope.—This chapter applies to each interest acquired under section 9702(d)(6) or (7) on or after January 1, 2027, and to each addition made on or after that date to such an interest.

"(b) Other Federal equity interests.—This chapter applies to any other Federal equity interest expressly made subject to this chapter by an Act of Congress.

"(c) Public trust.—A Federal voting interest is a valuable incident of public ownership held by the United States in trust for the people of the United States.

"(d) No individual property interest.—Subsection (c) does not create an individual legal or equitable ownership interest, entitlement to income or proceeds, trust claim against a Federal account, or private cause of action.

"(e) National public policy.—Notwithstanding an account specific fiduciary, actuarial, or other duty, the preservation, aggregation, direction, and exercise of a Federal voting interest under this chapter shall advance the general welfare and the national public policy established by Congress. Compliance with this chapter with respect to such voting interest shall not constitute a breach of a duty otherwise applicable to a Federal equity account, responsible official, investment manager, trustee, or other person.

"(f) Separate economic attribution.—This chapter shall not alter the legal or equitable ownership, separate accounting identity, income, gain, loss, expense, corpus, principal, payment obligation, expenditure restriction, or authorized purpose of a Federal equity account.

"(g) Participant owned interests excluded.—This chapter does not apply to an interest beneficially owned by a person other than the United States, including an interest of a participant or beneficiary in the Thrift Savings Fund. Ownership by a non-Federal person of a separate interest in the same qualifying equity fund does not limit the application of this chapter to the interest of a Federal equity account or the resulting Federal voting interest.

"(h) Federal proportion disregarded for substantive ownership and control restrictions.—Solely by reason of the acquisition, holding, aggregation, direction, or exercise of a Federal voting interest under this chapter—

"(1) the Federal voting interest shall be disregarded and shall not be attributed to the United States, the Office, a Federal equity account, a responsible official, a qualifying equity fund, or a person acting ministerially under section 9906(d), for purposes of a Federal percentage limitation, ownership or control prohibition, affiliation or common control rule, licensing or approval requirement, or determination of acting in concert or group status; and

"(2) compliance with a binding instruction or mirror voting formula under this chapter shall not be treated as investment discretion or as an independent basis for control, affiliation, acting in concert, or group status.

"(i) Limitations.—Subsection (h)—

"(1) applies only to the Federal proportion and to conduct required under this chapter;

"(2) does not apply if a person possesses operational control or another independent basis for ownership, control, affiliation, acting in concert, or group status;

"(3) does not limit a disclosure, reporting, or recordkeeping requirement otherwise applicable to a private person or expressly applicable to the United States, or an anti-fraud, sanctions, or national security requirement; and

"(4) does not alter the attribution or treatment of a private interest, excuse private investment discretion, or exempt an issuer from otherwise applicable law.

"(j) No operational control.—Nothing in this chapter authorizes the United States, solely by reason of a Federal voting interest, to appoint an officer or employee of an issuer, direct the day-to-day operations of an issuer, or exercise management authority beyond that ordinarily possessed by an equity holder.

"Sec. 9904. Office of Federal Equity Stewardship.

"(a) Establishment.—There is established in the Department of the Treasury an Office of Federal Equity Stewardship.

"(b) Director.—The Office shall be headed by a Director who shall be a career appointee in the Senior Executive Service and shall be appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury from among individuals with substantial experience in public administration, corporate governance, securities markets, competition policy, labor policy, consumer protection, or democratic deliberation. The Director shall perform the functions of the Office subject to the supervision of the Secretary as provided in this chapter.

"(c) Startup authority.—Until a Director is appointed, the Secretary shall appoint a career appointee in the Senior Executive Service to serve as Acting Director and perform the functions of the Director.

"(d) Duties.—The Office shall—

"(1) maintain and aggregate records of Federal voting interests;

"(2) prescribe model terms, standard forms, and uniform technical standards necessary to implement section 9906, without adding to or subtracting from the substantive requirements of this chapter;

"(3) negotiate, approve, and administer master agreements or other binding arrangements that satisfy section 9906 for one or more Federal equity accounts;

"(4) certify, suspend, and decertify qualifying equity funds and maintain a current public list of certified funds, share classes, and arrangements;

"(5) issue binding voting instructions under this chapter;

"(6) verify execution of each instruction and administer mirror voting when required;

"(7) publish the records and reports required under this chapter; and

"(8) prepare the proposals required under section 9911.

"(e) Consultation.—The Office shall consult, as appropriate, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Federal Trade Commission, the Department of Justice, including the Antitrust Division, the Department of Commerce, the Department of Labor, the Comptroller General, and responsible officials. Consultation under this subsection is advisory and does not authorize a consulted agency, official, or responsible official to direct an issuer-specific instruction or to add to, subtract from, or substitute a different policy for the national voting policy established by Congress under section 9907.

"(f) No charge to accounts.—The costs of the Office and the administration of this chapter may not be charged to a Federal equity account.

"Sec. 9905. Independence of investment selection and information firewall.

"(a) Investment decisions independent of voting consequences.—A responsible official shall select, allocate among, acquire, retain, and dispose of investments under section 9702 without regard to the expected effect of the decision on the identity of issuers subject to a Federal voting interest, the amount of voting power attributable to an issuer, or the outcome of a shareholder vote.

"(b) Permissible considerations.—Subsection (a) does not prohibit consideration of the authorized purposes, payment obligations, liquidity needs, investment horizon, diversification, risk, expected return, fees, or other financial and statutory requirements of the Federal equity account.

"(c) Separation of functions.—The Office has no authority to select, allocate among, acquire, retain, or dispose of investments for a Federal equity account. The Office, the Secretary, and any other officer or employee may not direct or influence an investment decision for the purpose of changing the composition or amount of Federal voting interests. Negotiation, approval, certification, suspension, or decertification under section 9904(d) shall address compliance with this chapter only and shall not constitute a recommendation or direction to acquire, retain, or dispose of an investment.

"(d) Information firewall.—The Secretary shall maintain separate personnel, access controls, and records for investment administration and stewardship administration. Nonpublic information concerning a planned voting instruction, fund qualification action, or disposition may not be disclosed or used for investment selection, trading, or personal benefit.

"(e) Personal trading and certification.—The Secretary shall establish personal trading restrictions for Office personnel. Each responsible official shall annually certify compliance with

subsection (a), and the Inspector General of the Department of the Treasury shall periodically review compliance with this section.

"Sec. 9906. Preservation and exercise of Federal voting interests.

"(a) Eligibility condition.—A responsible official may not acquire an interest in an equity index fund unless the governing documents of the fund or a binding agreement with the fund, investment manager, trustee, or other person exercising voting authority provide that—

"(1) the Federal voting interest will be identified for each issuer and matter submitted for a vote;

"(2) the fund will accept and execute a binding instruction of the Office;

"(3) no private person may determine how the Federal voting interest is exercised;

"(4) if the Office issues no valid instruction, the Federal voting interest will be voted in the same proportions among the voting choices recorded for non-Federal shares on the matter, including votes for, against, abstaining, or withholding authority, as applicable;

"(5) an independent tabulator or other neutral administrator will execute the mirror voting formula without discretion by the issuer or investment manager;

"(6) a quantity of each portfolio security sufficient to support the full Federal voting interest will remain unloaned and free from any transfer, waiver, or arrangement that would impair voting capacity; and

"(7) the fund will provide the records and certifications required under section 9908.

"(b) Measurement.—For each issuer and matter, the Federal voting interest shall be determined by reference to the securities held by the equity index fund, or by a master fund or other pooled investment vehicle through which the equity index fund obtains its index exposure, and entitled to vote as of the issuer record date and the proportionate economic interest of each Federal equity account in the fund as of the close of business on that date or the nearest preceding valuation time prescribed by the Office. The Office shall prescribe uniform rules for valuation timing and intermediated ownership consistent with this subsection.

"(c) Aggregated instruction.—For each issuer and matter, the Office shall aggregate all Federal voting interests and issue a single instruction applicable to the aggregate Federal voting interest.

"(d) Ministerial execution.—A private person may transmit or execute an instruction or mirror voting formula if that person possesses no discretion to alter, disregard, or substitute another voting policy.

"(e) Fallback voting.—

"(1) Mirror voting.—If the Office issues no valid instruction, the mirror voting formula required under subsection (a)(4) shall apply.

"(2) Residual abstention.—A Federal voting interest may remain unvoted only to the extent that execution of both a valid instruction and the mirror voting formula is legally or operationally impossible.

"(f) No waiver.—A responsible official may not waive a requirement of this section.

"(g) Loss of qualification.—

"(1) Notice and cessation of purchases.—A fund shall immediately notify the Office and each affected responsible official of a loss of a required contractual commitment, failure to execute an instruction, unauthorized private voting, impairment of voting capacity, material reporting failure, or other material noncompliance. No additional interest in the fund may be acquired for a Federal equity account after notice or discovery.

"(2) Cure period.—The fund shall have 90 days after the earlier of notice or discovery to restore full compliance.

"(3) Orderly disposition.—If compliance is not restored during the cure period, each responsible official shall dispose of the affected interest in a prudent and orderly manner not later than 1 year after the cure period ends.

"(4) Limited extension.—The Office may grant 1 extension of not more than 1 year if immediate disposition would reasonably be expected to cause a material loss to a Federal equity account or substantial market disruption.

"(5) Voting during transition.—During a cure or disposition period, the private manager may not exercise discretion over the Federal voting interest. A valid instruction shall be executed to the maximum extent possible, and the mirror voting formula shall apply to the remainder.

"(6) Continued application.—For purposes of this subsection and sections 9908 through 9910, an equity index fund and each related interest shall remain subject to this chapter and shall be treated as a qualifying equity fund and Federal voting interest, respectively, until the affected interest is disposed of.

"(h) International equity index funds.—

"(1) Limited exception.—An international equity index fund described in section 9702(d)(7) may qualify notwithstanding an inability, with respect to a particular foreign issuer or market, to fully satisfy subsection (a)(4), (5), or (6) or subsection (e), only if the Office determines in writing that—

"(A) full compliance is prevented by foreign law or unavoidable market infrastructure;

"(B) the fund has used all reasonable means, including alternative custody or voting arrangements, to preserve and execute the Federal voting interest to the maximum extent possible;

"(C) the exception is no broader than necessary and no reasonably available fund would provide materially greater compliance without materially impairing diversification or liquidity; and

"(D) each exception and the resulting amount not voted are fully disclosed under section 9908.

"(2) Impermissible grounds.—An exception may not be based on securities lending, investment manager preference, administrative convenience, or cost alone.

"(3) Domestic funds.—No exception under this subsection applies to a domestic equity index fund described in section 9702(d)(6).

"(i) Certification and common implementation.—

"(1) Certification required.—An equity index fund shall not be treated as satisfying this section unless the Office has certified in writing that the governing documents or binding agreement required under subsection (a) satisfy this section.

"(2) Scope and reliance.—A certification may apply to a fund, share class, master agreement, or other standardized arrangement and may be relied on by each responsible official while in effect.

"(3) Master agreements.—The Office may negotiate and approve a master agreement or standardized form implementing subsection (a) for one or more Federal equity accounts. A responsible official remains solely responsible for investment selection under section 9702.

"(4) Technical standards.—The Office may prescribe uniform technical standards for holdings and record-date data, calculation of Federal voting interests, voting-choice coding, authentication and transmission of instructions, mirror-vote calculations, execution certifications, reconciliation, and audit records. A technical standard under this paragraph may not alter the substantive voting policy established by section 9907(a).

"(5) Public list.—The Office shall maintain and publish a current list of each fund, share class, or arrangement certified under this subsection and the status of the certification.

"(6) Suspension or decertification.—The Office may suspend or revoke a certification upon material noncompliance. Subsection (g) shall govern cessation of purchases, cure, and disposition following such suspension or revocation.

"(j) Tiered pooled arrangements.—If an equity index fund obtains index exposure through a master fund or another pooled investment vehicle, the requirements of this section shall apply through each relevant tier to the extent necessary to identify, preserve, and execute the Federal voting interest attributable to underlying equity securities actually held. Nothing in this subsection creates a Federal voting interest with respect to synthetic exposure for which no underlying voting security is held directly or indirectly for the equity index fund.

"Sec. 9907. National voting policy established by Congress.

(a) National voting policy.—Congress establishes the following national public policy for the exercise of Federal voting interests. The Office shall administer, and each officer exercising supervisory authority under this chapter shall apply, the policy established in this subsection. A regulation, standing instruction, issuer-specific instruction, or supervisory determination under this chapter may implement but may not add to, subtract from, or substitute a different policy for the policy established in this subsection. Federal voting interests shall be exercised to—

"(1) advance the general welfare and long-term public interest of the United States;

"(2) strengthen competitive markets and oppose anticompetitive consolidation, managerial entrenchment, and abuses of market power;

"(3) support productive enterprise, responsible treatment of workers and consumers, public health and safety, civil rights, and environmental sustainability;

"(4) promote truthful disclosure, accountable governance, and responsible long-term stewardship;

"(5) oppose corporate political spending, including any proposal that would authorize, approve, ratify, or permit an issuer to make a disbursement for a political purpose within the meaning of section 10F of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and

"(6) promote compensation practices that reduce excessive pay disparities, including compensation structures that reduce the pay ratio described in section 11(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and thereby reduce or avoid the tax increase imposed under that subsection; and

"(7) oppose self-dealing, corruption, undisclosed political influence, excessive extraction, and compensation practices that reward short-term value destruction.

"(b) Prioritization and standing administration.—

"(1) Resource prioritization.—The Office shall direct individualized review first to matters presenting the greatest combination of public importance and potential for the aggregate Federal voting interest to affect the outcome, taking into account the size of the Federal voting interest, the economic significance of the issuer or transaction, and the degree to which the matter implicates subsection (a).

"(2) Heightened individualized review.—To the maximum extent practicable, the Office shall conduct individualized review of a merger, consolidation, acquisition, contested election or removal of directors, material change in voting or governance rights, significant executive compensation plan, and any other matter the Office determines could materially affect competition, long-term productive capacity, or the general welfare.

"(3) Standing instructions and automated application.—The Director may establish and publish generally applicable standing instructions or automated procedures for recurring or routine matters if the instructions or procedures apply objective criteria derived from subsection (a) and regulations issued under this chapter, are periodically reviewed, and preserve the Director's responsibility for their operation. The Director shall establish a standing instruction to carry out subsection (a)(5).

"(4) Mirror voting for routine matters.—The Office may designate a routine, minor, or immaterial matter for mirror voting under section 9906(e)(1) if no standing instruction governs the matter and individualized review would not materially advance the policy established in subsection (a).

"(c) Issuer-specific instructions.—

"(1) Preparation.—Authorized career personnel of the Office shall analyze each matter selected for individualized review and prepare a proposed issuer-specific instruction by applying this chapter and regulations issued under this chapter.

"(2) Director decision.—The Director shall issue each issuer-specific instruction.

"(3) Application and rationale.—Each issuer-specific instruction shall identify the provision of subsection (a), an applicable regulation, or an applicable standing instruction on which it is based and, when issuer-specific judgment is material to the outcome, include a concise statement of reasons.

"(d) Secretary review and accountability.—

"(1) Review authority.—The Secretary may review an issuer-specific instruction before execution and may affirm, reverse, or modify the instruction only by applying this chapter and regulations issued under this chapter.

"(2) Written determination.—A reversal or modification under paragraph (1) shall be set forth in a signed written determination that identifies the applicable statutory policy and regulation, states the reasons for the decision, and is published immediately.

"(3) No prior approval required.—An issuer-specific instruction issued by the Director is effective without prior approval by the Secretary. The availability or exercise of review under this subsection may not be used to delay transmission or execution beyond the time reasonably necessary to exercise the Federal voting interest.

"(e) Direction and policy changes.—

"(1) Informal direction prohibited.—No person may informally direct or attempt to direct an issuer-specific instruction.

"(2) Policy changes.—A proposed policy change may be initiated through the rulemaking process and must be generally applicable, prospective, public, and consistent with subsection (a).

"(f) Public communication log.—The Office shall maintain and publish a log of each nonpublic communication seeking to influence an issuer-specific instruction, including the participants, date, subject, and material substance. Publicly available mass communications and ministerial transmissions need not be logged individually. The Office shall disclose the existence and general subject of a communication even when information is lawfully withheld.

"Sec. 9908. Records, disclosure, and audit.

"(a) Vote level record.—For each matter subject to a Federal voting interest, the Office shall publish, in an open and machine-readable format—

"(1) the issuer, meeting date, applicable record date, matter presented, and instruction or mirror voting treatment, including the basis required under section 9907(c)(3);

"(2) the voting interest attributable to each Federal equity account and the aggregate Federal voting interest;

"(3) the amount cast, mirrored, not cast, or unavailable, and the reason for any nonexecution; and

"(4) a certification by the person responsible for execution that full voting capacity was preserved or, if it was not preserved or fully executed, the amount and reason for each impairment, unavailability, or nonexecution.

"(b) Timing.—The Office shall publish each instruction, together with the basis and any statement of reasons required under section 9907(c)(3), not later than 5 calendar days before the shareholder meeting where practicable and shall publish the execution record not later than 7 days after the meeting. Each advance publication under this subsection shall state that the disclosure is informational and does not constitute an instruction or recommendation to any other shareholder as to how to vote.

"(c) Annual report.—Not later than March 31 of each year, the Office shall submit to Congress and publish a report summarizing Federal voting interests, voting activity, nonexecution, costs, conflicts, communications, international exceptions, and material policy questions during the preceding calendar year.

"(d) Audit.—The Comptroller General shall audit compliance with this chapter at least once every 2 years and report the results to Congress and the public.

"Sec. 9909. Conflicts of interest and unlawful interference.

"(a) Lawful advocacy.—Nothing in this section prohibits a person from publicly advocating a voting position, submitting information through a public process, or petitioning the Government for redress of grievances.

"(b) Sole public purpose.—A person administering or executing a Federal voting interest may not use that interest to advance a personal financial interest, private client, political party, candidate, officeholder, or undisclosed agreement.

"(c) Prohibited consideration.—A Federal voting instruction may not be conditioned on a campaign contribution, lobbying expenditure, gift, contract, grant, regulatory action, employment opportunity, or other thing of value.

"(d) Conflicts and recusals.—The Office shall establish public conflict of interest, disclosure, and recusal requirements for each officer, employee, contractor, adviser, and expert participating in the administration of this chapter.

"(e) Unauthorized official direction.—

"(1) Administrative remedies.—An officer or employee of the United States, other than the President or Vice President, who knowingly and willfully directs, attempts to direct, or causes an issuer-specific instruction contrary to this chapter or a rule issued under this chapter shall be subject, in accordance with otherwise applicable law, to removal or other appropriate discipline.

"(2) Civil remedies.—In a civil action brought by the Attorney General, a district court of the United States may impose on an individual described in paragraph (1) a civil penalty of not more than \$100,000 and disqualify the individual from appointment to or employment in the Federal civil service for not more than 5 years.

"(3) President and Vice President.—Nothing in this subsection alters a constitutional process applicable to the President or Vice President or limits a penalty, remedy, or authority available under subsection (f) or (g) or another provision of law.

"(f) Corrupt interference.—Whoever corruptly gives, offers, solicits, or accepts a thing of value, or threatens, retaliates, or uses deception, with intent to influence an issuer-specific instruction contrary to this chapter shall be fined under [title 18](#), imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both.

"(g) Election interference.—If an offense under subsection (f) is committed with intent to interfere with or affect the nomination or election of a candidate for Federal office, the maximum term of imprisonment shall be 10 years.

"(h) Other law.—The penalties under this section are cumulative of penalties under any other provision of law.

"Sec. 9910. Enforcement and judicial review.

"(a) Civil enforcement.—The Office or the Attorney General may bring a civil action for declaratory relief, injunctive relief, specific performance, restitution, or recovery of losses to enforce this chapter or an agreement required under section 9906.

"(b) Contractual remedies.—Each agreement required under section 9906 shall provide that a material violation is enforceable by the United States and may result in suspension or loss of qualification and termination of the agreement.

"(c) Records.—The Office may require records and certifications reasonably necessary to determine compliance with this chapter.

"(d) No private cause of action.—This chapter does not create a private cause of action.

"(e) Review of general rules.—A person adversely affected by a final rule of general applicability may, not later than 60 days after publication, file a petition for review in the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, which shall have exclusive jurisdiction to affirm, set aside, or remand the rule.

"(f) issuer-specific instructions.—A court may not enjoin, stay, or otherwise delay a shareholder meeting or vote based on a challenge to an issuer-specific instruction. Relief on such a challenge shall be prospective or declaratory only.

"Sec. 9911. Proposals for permanent democratic stewardship.

"(a) Proposals required.—Not later than January 1, 2028, the Secretary of the Treasury, acting through the Office and in consultation with the agencies and officials described in section 9904(e) and the public, shall submit to Congress and publish a report and complete proposed legislative text for each model described in subsection (b).

"(b) Required models.—The submission shall include—

"(1) an independent professional public stewardship institution operating under statutory public ownership principles;

"(2) a citizen directed system through which citizens may select generally applicable voting policies or voluntarily delegate voting authority to qualifying representative organizations; and

"(3) a national citizens' assembly of approximately 500 compensated citizens selected by sortition and demographic stratification, supported by a professional stewardship office.

"(c) Hybrid and recommendation.—The Secretary may also submit a hybrid model and shall identify any recommended model, but a recommendation may not substitute for complete legislative text for each model required under subsection (b).

"(d) Required subjects.—Each proposal shall address selection and accountability, compensation and staffing, public deliberation and expert evidence, conflicts and lobbying, proportional voting through pooled funds, domestic and international holdings, other ownership interests, cross-market concentration and competition effects, account-specific economic effects and fiduciary treatment, judicial review, enforcement, appropriations, and implementation.

"(e) Inventory and expansion proposals.—

"(1) Government-wide inventory.—The submission shall include a government-wide inventory of each equity security, warrant, convertible security, fund interest, proxy right, consent right, veto right, board nomination or observation right, golden share, special share, and other corporate governance or ownership right held directly or indirectly by the United States or administered by an agency, instrumentality, Government corporation, or public purpose trust. For each interest, the inventory shall identify—

"(A) the issuer and class or type of interest;

"(B) the legal and beneficial owner;

"(C) the administering department, agency, instrumentality, corporation, trust, or account;

"(D) the number, value, and percentage of outstanding interests held, to the extent applicable;

"(E) each voting, consent, conversion, appointment, observation, veto, or other governance right;

"(F) each contractual, statutory, fiduciary, beneficiary, foreign law, or operational restriction on the exercise of such right;

"(G) any agreement governing how such right is exercised; and

"(H) whether the interest is held for the general benefit of the United States, for a particular public purpose, or for identified participants or beneficiaries.

"(2) Recommendations and proposed legislative text.—The submission shall include recommendations and complete proposed legislative text concerning whether and how to extend this chapter, or establish a parallel stewardship framework, for—

"(A) Federal equity interests acquired before January 1, 2027;

"(B) common stock, warrants, and other equity interests held directly by the United States, including interests in Intel Corporation held or administered by the Department of Commerce;

"(C) equity securities, pooled investment interests, and other ownership interests held or administered by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation;

"(D) equity securities, pooled investment interests, and other ownership interests held through an investment trust, decommissioning trust, restoration trust, retirement arrangement, or other public purpose account administered by the Tennessee Valley Authority;

"(E) direct equity, private fund interests, limited partnership interests, warrants, conversion rights, consent rights, and other governance rights held or administered by the United States International Development Finance Corporation;

"(F) senior preferred stock, warrants, conservatorship-related interests, and other ownership interests or governance rights relating to the Federal National Mortgage Association or the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation;

"(G) golden shares, special shares, veto rights, board appointment or observation rights, convertible preferred stock, warrants, and other ownership interests or governance rights acquired for national security, industrial policy, supply chain, or similar public purposes, including interests relating to United States Steel Corporation and MP Materials Corp.;

"(H) interests acquired through a financial rescue, conservatorship, receivership, resolution, bankruptcy, enforcement action, settlement, forfeiture, procurement agreement, grant agreement, loan agreement, or other Federal authority;

"(I) interests held in the Thrift Savings Fund and other assets beneficially owned by Federal employees, members of the uniformed services, retirees, participants, or beneficiaries, which shall be evaluated under a separate participant or beneficiary directed stewardship model; and

"(J) any other Federal ownership or governance interest identified in the inventory required under paragraph (1).

"(3) Required distinctions.—For each category described in paragraph (2), the submission shall—

"(A) distinguish among interests beneficially owned by the United States, assets held for a particular public purpose, assets beneficially owned by identified participants or beneficiaries, nonvoting economic interests, and specialized governance rights that are not equivalent to ordinary common stock voting power;

"(B) evaluate whether the interest should be subject to national aggregation under this chapter, account specific stewardship, participant or beneficiary directed stewardship, or a separate framework tailored to the nature and purpose of the interest;

"(C) identify any existing voting agreement or other restriction that would need to be amended, terminated, superseded, or preserved; and

"(D) address transition, valuation, fiduciary duties, contractual arrangements, market effects, foreign law restrictions, and constitutional or statutory limitations.

"(4) No automatic application.—Neither the inventory nor a recommendation or proposal under this subsection shall make an interest subject to this chapter except as expressly provided by a subsequent Act of Congress.

"(f) Public process.—Before submitting the proposals, the Office shall provide public notice, receive written comments for not less than 90 days, and conduct public hearings that include workers, consumers, beneficiaries of Federal programs, institutional investors, corporate issuers, public interest organizations, and experts in democratic deliberation.

"Sec. 9912. Regulations and relation to other law.

"(a) Regulations.—The Secretary of the Treasury, acting through the Office, may prescribe regulations necessary to carry out this chapter.

"(b) Initial implementation rules.—Not later than December 30, 2026, the Secretary of the Treasury, acting through the Office, shall issue an interim final rule to implement section 9907 and sections 9905(e), 9906(b), and 9909(d). The interim final rule shall take effect upon publication in the Federal Register, shall have the force and effect of law, and may be issued without regard to [section 553 of title 5](#), United States Code. The Office shall provide a public comment period of not less than 60 days after publication. Not later than September 30, 2027, the Secretary, acting through the Office, shall issue a final rule. Failure to issue the final rule by that date shall not suspend or terminate the interim final rule. A rule under this subsection may implement but may not add to, subtract from, or substitute a different policy for the national voting policy established by Congress under section 9907(a).

"(c) Private obligations preserved.—Except as expressly provided in section 9903(e) and (h) and section 9906(d) and (e), nothing in this chapter exempts a private fund, investment manager, trustee, custodian, proxy adviser, or issuer from a requirement of the securities laws, the antitrust laws, or another provision of Federal law. A private person acting solely ministerially under section 9906(d) or (e) shall be treated as satisfying any otherwise applicable Federal duty concerning the choice of how the Federal voting interest is exercised, but remains subject to disclosure, reporting, recordkeeping, anti-fraud, and other duties unrelated to that choice.

"(d) Inability to comply.—A domestic equity index fund that cannot preserve and execute the full Federal voting interest or provide the required mirror voting mechanism is not a qualifying equity fund. An international equity index fund is subject to section 9906(h)."

(b) Clerical amendment.—The table of chapters for subtitle VI of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"99. Democratic Stewardship of Federal Equity Interests.....9901".

(c) Conforming amendments to Federal account investment authority.—Section 9702 of title 31, United States Code, as amended by section 612(e), is further amended—

(1) in subsection (d)(6), by inserting before the semicolon at the end the following: ", if the fund satisfies section 9906";

(2) in subsection (d)(7), by inserting before the semicolon at the end the following: ", if the fund satisfies section 9906"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(k) Democratic stewardship of equity investments.—An investment decision under paragraph (6) or (7) of subsection (d) shall be made in accordance with section 9905, and each Federal voting interest attributable to such an investment is subject to chapter 99."

(d) Appropriations.—

(1) Startup appropriation.—There is appropriated to the Department of the Treasury, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, \$150,000,000 for fiscal year 2027, to remain available through September 30, 2029, to establish the Office of Federal Equity Stewardship and carry out startup implementation of chapter 99 of title 31, United States Code.

(2) Ongoing appropriation.—In addition to amounts appropriated under paragraph (1), there are appropriated to the Department of the Treasury, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2027 and each fiscal year thereafter to operate the Office of Federal Equity Stewardship and carry out chapter 99 of title 31, United States Code, to remain available until expended.

(e) Effective date.—The amendments made by subsection (c) shall take effect immediately after the amendments made by section 612(e).