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Senate

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

LAKEN RILEY ACT—Resumed

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 5, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 5) to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to take into custody aliens who have been charged in the United States with theft, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Thune (for Ernst/Grassley) amendment No. 8, to include crimes resulting in death or serious bodily injury to the list of offenses that, if committed by an inadmissible alien, require mandatory detention.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask to speak in morning business for 3 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, today, we have a new President. So I say congratulations to President Trump.

As we turn a new page from one administration to another, we can put a contentious campaign and all the negative rhetoric behind us.

There will be plenty of time for arguments, and those arguments can be about policy and personalities in the days and years to come, but today, this very day, is a day that all Americans can celebrate in their own way.

With today's inauguration, there is a sense of optimism that always comes with a new President and a rededication of our republican form of government.

Even those who voted another way on November 5 can take the opportunity to pause and enjoy the excitement of their fellow Americans and even allow themselves to share in some of that optimism.

Of course, a new President must assemble a Cabinet of people he trusts to carry out his agenda and do that under the Constitution with the advice and consent of the Senate, with the expectation that before the day is out, we will approve the nomination of Senator MARCO RUBIO to be our Nation's 72nd Secretary of State. I am proud that today we can do that.

No one in this body can doubt that MARCO RUBIO is a very intelligent man with a remarkable understanding of America's foreign policy and a very deep commitment to the American dream. That dream comes from the fact that his family has a history that started with the immigration to the United States from Cuba and then watching their former homeland fall into a communist dictatorship that still exists to this day. That helps explain his love for America and his drive to oppose oppressive, autocratic regimes that threaten freedom.

Even in this time of intense partisanship and intense time of character assassination, I expect Senator RUBIO will receive an overwhelming vote for his confirmation. His colleagues know his talents and his character firsthand. I expect most, if not all, of my colleagues will vote based on what they have seen with their own eyes rather than blind partisanship.

I look forward to MARCO RUBIO continuing his passionate defense of freedom in his role as our next Secretary of State.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

S. 5

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, last week, you heard me speak in support of

The Senate met at 4:30 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, on this Martin Luther King and Inauguration Day, we thank You for being our hope for the years to come. You store up blessings for all who honor You. If angels must veil their faces in Your presence, shouldn't we mere mortals embrace referential awe?

Empower our Senators to be strong and courageous as they make loyalty to You their highest priority. Lord, smile on them with Your blessings, for You are the author and finisher of our salvation. Grant that our lawmakers may know what is conducive for Your glory.

Today, we lift our hearts in ceaseless praise to You, our strong deliverer.

We pray in Your magnificent Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BUDD). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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S245

the Laken Riley Act, a vote that we are going to have later this afternoon. Today, I would like to discuss a related bill called Sarah's Law.

Sarah Root was a young woman from Iowa who had a bright future ahead of her. Her life was tragically cut short just 1 day after she graduated from college with a 4.0 grade point average. She was killed when an illegal migrant who was street racing while heavily drunk crashed his car into Sarah Root's while she was stopped at a red light. In an outrage of justice, this illegal migrant was released after his arrest.

Sarah's Law requires immigration authorities to detain criminals responsible for a death or serious bodily injury.

Illegal migrants shouldn't be here in the first place. Everybody knows that it is against the law to enter the United States without our permission. Even so, if they come here violating our law, they hurt and kill an American, the Federal Government must prioritize their detention and deportation.

The Trump administration has promised to remove dangerous criminals who cross our borders illegally. Sarah's Law will support these efforts.

I would like to thank my colleague Senator ERNST for her long and tireless efforts to get this bill passed. Senator ERNST first introduced Sarah's Law almost a decade ago, and I was proud to join as an original cosponsor and colead this effort. Since then, she has reintroduced the bill with each new congressional session.

We haven't forgotten Sarah Root, and it is long past time for Congress to pass this legislation that we have named after Sarah—Sarah's Law.

I urge my colleagues to pass the Laken Riley Act as amended with Sarah's Law included.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The majority leader is recognized.

60TH INAUGURAL CEREMONY AND CABINET NOMINATIONS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I want to offer my warmest congratulations to President Trump and Vice President VANCE.

There is a sense of optimism today in Washington as we turn the page on the past 4 years, and I am looking forward to working with President Trump and Vice President VANCE in the coming months and years to build a bright new future for our country.

Our priority here in the Senate for the next few weeks is getting President Trump's nominees confirmed so that he has the team that he needs in place to deliver. We have already been hard at work on that.

Last week, Senate committees held hearings on 12 nominees. On Wednesday, we held hearings on a total of six Cabinet nominees—the most Cabinet confirmation hearings in a single day since 2001. I am hoping to begin floor votes imminently.

I am excited to vote to confirm a longtime colleague, Senator MARCO RUBIO, as Secretary of State this week as well as former Congressman and Director of National Intelligence John Ratcliffe as head of the CIA. Both of these men will bring a renewed focus to restoring American strength, knowing that the surest guarantee of peace here at home and in other regions of the globe as well is a strong and prepared America. More confirmation votes will follow, and I will work to have the President's Cabinet in place in the very near future. President Trump and Republicans have been given a mandate by the American people, and the President needs to have his team in place so that we lose no time in delivering.

Along with approving President Trump's nominees, Republicans are hard at work on our legislative priorities. Among other things, we are focused on extending tax relief for American families, lifting burdensome Biden administration regulations, building up our military, and securing our border.

The Senate took an initial step on border security this past week with consideration of the Laken Riley Act, which hopefully will pass the Senate today. This legislation will ensure that illegal aliens who steal or assault a law enforcement officer are detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement instead of being allowed out on the streets. I am looking forward to getting this legislation to the President's desk.

When I was elected majority leader, I talked about my commitment to empowering Members and restoring the Senate as a place of discussion and deliberation. I think we achieved that this past week. We have had an extended debate on the Laken Riley Act, with multiple amendment votes already and one more scheduled for this evening, and we passed Senator CORNYN's amendment with a strong bipartisan margin.

I am grateful to Senator KATIE BRITT, author of the Laken Riley Act and manager of the bill, for all her work and to Senator BUDD for his leadership on these issues, and I am grateful also to Senators CORNYN and ERNST for their amendments to further strengthen this legislation.

ISRAEL

Mr. President, before I close, I want to mention the cease-fire between Israel and Hamas, agreed to at the end of last week. This agreement is due in no small part to the unequivocal message President-elect Trump delivered to Hamas and the world after his election and, above all, to Israel's unwavering commitment to crippling the terrorist organization that has dedicated itself to wiping Israel off the map.

Thirty-three hostages—women and children, the injured, and those over 50 years old—will be released during the first phase of the cease-fire, including the three hostages who were released yesterday. The rest of the hostages are scheduled to be released over the next two phases of the cease-fire, and the families and loved ones will continue to wait in agony until they are safely home.

It is intolerable that these innocent individuals have been in the hands of terrorists for more than 15 months, and I want to underscore the absolute imperative of the return of all hostages as soon as possible. Hamas should be on notice that the United States is watching and that we will not tolerate further delays or further aggression.

I want to again offer my warmest congratulations to President Trump and to Vice President VANCE. I look forward to all that we can achieve together, and I pray that God will bless their new administration.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KENNEDY). Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Democratic leader is recognized.

60TH INAUGURAL CEREMONY

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, a few hours ago, beneath the dome of the U.S. Capitol, with the eyes of the world upon us, the United States carried out, yet again, a peaceful transfer of power. We fulfilled the sacred commandment handed down to us by the Framers nearly two and a half centuries ago. We observed the inauguration of Donald Trump, the 47th President of the United States.

I congratulate President Trump. I congratulate Vice President VANCE. The prayers of the American people are with them.

Today, let me also thank one more time our Nation's 46th President, Joe Biden. History will look kindly on President Biden's 4 years in office. He lifted America out of the abyss of crisis. He restored decency and integrity to the White House. His bold agenda, made possible by Democrats in Congress and particularly in the Senate, will stand the test of time.

When Americans drive on better roads, breathe cleaner air, enjoy good-paying manufacturing jobs, and save on prescription drugs, it will be because of the things we accomplished under President Biden's watch. So I thank President Biden and I thank Vice President HARRIS for their service to our Nation.

The peaceful transfer of power is the defining feature of a free society. It is what separates nations like the United

States from the wastelands of despotism and autocracy. As we have seen recently, the peaceful transfer of power can never be taken for granted. It requires all sides to accept the will of the people and affirm the results of the democratic process, no matter the outcome.

That is what Democrats firmly believe in. Democrats believe in the peaceful transfer of power, and we showed it today. Democrats are loyal, above all, to our Constitution and to our democratic principles, and today we practiced what we preached: the democratic transfer of power. I hope that today's inauguration shows the world that the chaos of 4 years ago was an unfortunate aberration and not the norm.

It is now time to look to the future. The challenges that face America are many and great. The Senate must respond with resolve, bipartisanship, and fidelity to the working and middle class of this country. While President Trump and I often disagree, I stand ready to work with him and with anyone, regardless of party, to advance the Nation's well-being. The American people want us to work together to make their lives better. Democrats are ready to do just that. We have been and always will be.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., DAY

Mr. President, finally, today, of course, is not just Inauguration Day but Martin Luther King, Jr., Day too.

Today, we remember that the march of justice may sometimes feel slow and halting, but if we persist and persist and persist, then one day we, too, shall reach the Promised Land.

I like to say that Dr. King hoisted a giant mirror on his shoulders and, with his brilliance, his eloquence, and his faith, he forced America to look into that mirror. And America didn't like what it saw, and that began us on a real road, a real path to greater equality, and we still have a long way to go.

But King was an amazing man, and it is fitting that his holiday is the only holiday on the calendar named for just one person. We have Mother's Day for the mothers, Father's Day for the fathers, Presidents Day for the Presidents, Veterans Day for the veterans, but only one holiday for one man. That is because Dr. King was so unique and so amazing.

Now, the work of justice—we all know, and Dr. King taught us—does not happen overnight. Sometimes progress rushes forth like a mighty stream. Other times it may feel as if progress flows in reverse and moves backward. Either way, Dr. King's hopeful message is the same: No matter the odds, we shall overcome.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—AMENDMENT
NO. 90

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I would ask unanimous consent of the Presiding Officer to set aside the pending amendment so I may offer my amendment No. 90; that there be up to 15 minutes for debate on the amendment; and that upon the use or yielding back of time, the Senate vote on the amendment without further intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there any objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mrs. BRITT. Mr. President, reserving my right to object, the Laken Riley Act is a targeted, commonsense, life-saving bill. This legislation adds crimes to the mandatory detention provisions of the INA and uses the existing framework of the INA.

What this amendment would do is introduce new carve-outs that don't already exist.

We have a crisis in this Nation. Our border has been overrun, and every city across this country is paying the price.

Today, we return to common sense. We return to practicality. If you come here illegally and you commit a crime, you should not be free to roam the streets of this Nation. Our children deserve better, and that is exactly what we are giving them today.

My colleague from Colorado speaks of DACA. Of the 537,000 DACA recipients in this Nation, there is not one that is under the age of 17.

And, in fact, of the 537,000 recipients, there are only 1,000 between the ages of 17 and 20. When you are talking about other minors across this Nation, some of which may be here illegally, we are seeing the cost to them right now.

Look no further than what is happening in New York. We have teen migrant gangs running rampant, where you have minors as young as 11 being involved in the theft and burglary rings.

What do you think you do if you carve out a certain set of minors? Do you think you make them more safe from the people looking to do them harm? Do you think the drug cartels, all of a sudden, say: Hey, I am going to leave them alone.

No, that is not what happens. What happens is each and every one of those kids becomes a greater target. They become more vulnerable to become a mule to do the work of the drug cartels and the human traffickers.

Again, now is the time to return to common sense. Now is the time to return to law and order. We are a proud nation of immigrants. We are also a nation of laws, and the lawlessness ends today.

I could not be more proud of those who are choosing today to support the Laken Riley Act because what we have done is we have decided we are going to stop talking and we are going to start achieving results. We are looking for

targeted reforms. They are going to keep Americans safe and secure. It is exactly what the Laken Riley Act does. It honors Laken's life and legacy, a beautiful life and legacy. As her mother Allyson and her stepfather John Phillips have said, she brought warmth to everyone who knew her—that she lit up every room, that she found ways to show kindness and her faith and her love for the Lord.

Today, we honor Laken, and we ensure that with this commonsense approach, targeted, making sure that our communities are safe and secure, that no other family has to go through the heartbreak that Laken's did.

So, ultimately, I have to say no to this amendment, and, therefore, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from Alabama for her work on the Senate floor and for coming over. I know this is a big day around the Senate. It is a big day for America, and it is appropriate, I think, that we should be here on this issue today because, over the coming months and years, we are going to be confronting a lot of choices to make. And I think it is critically important that, as we make these choices, we do it in a way that is consistent with our values.

Throughout our history, generations of Americans have tried to secure our heritage as a nation of immigrants and a nation committed to the rule of law. Both of those are important. And when we have fallen short, which we have from time to time, we have battled back to reclaim these moral values.

Our enduring commitment to this imperfect but principled work is why 21st century America has one of the most dynamic economies, vibrant cultures, and an important reputation throughout the world as a beacon of freedom. That reputation, by the way, is not assured. That is a reputation that has to be earned by our Nation every single day.

Although our Founders were famously suspicious of overreaching by the Federal Government, they recognized the obvious national imperatives—the national security and foreign policy imperatives—and the problems that would arise if every State and county and city were to enforce its own immigration laws. And that is why the Constitution of the United States says that the Congress, working with the President, should administer those laws, and, therefore, logically assigned the responsibility to our national government—not to our State government, not to our local government—to enforce our immigration law.

Throughout our history, the American people have been welcoming to new immigrants—and sometimes less so. Understandably, chaotic and changing circumstances like the ones we face today sometimes raise alarms among the American people. Unfortunately, in

our time—and I would agree with the Senator from Alabama on this—we have not addressed the chaos at the southern border of the United States, and politicians have used this crisis for years to divide the American people on one side of the partisan divide and as another. And as a result, the failing immigration system that we have has only become more broken.

The thing that I want to make sure of is that, as we think about the chaos that we are facing, the complexity that we are facing, is that we don't—as we have occasionally in the past—abandon our values and our commitment to the rule of law.

In more inspired times, we have used these crises to actually burnish our great global advantage as a nation of immigrants that is committed to the rule of law.

In 2013, we had what was, in my view, an important chance to embrace those values with the Senate's work on the Gang of 8. The Senator of Alabama might remember it. To her, that seems like ancient history. I was one of the members of the Gang of 8. I was a lot younger than I am today and so were the other members of that gang too. But we seriously tried to take on meaningful immigration reform in this Chamber.

We had a tough but fair pathway to citizenship for those who could earn it in the United States. We included the Dream Act. We had a massive overhaul—massive overhaul—of our visa system so our farms and ranches and high-tech industries, even our ski industry, could continue to compete with the rest of the world. We had \$46 billion of border security money in there—I hate to think what that money was in real dollars today, what that \$46 billion would look like today; I bet you it is around \$60 billion—that 68 people in this Chamber agreed to support together.

There was so much money in that bill that LINDSEY GRAHAM—Senator GRAHAM from South Carolina, who was another member of the Gang of 8, used to say there were going to be so many border patrol agents that they could literally hold hands from one end of the border to the other across the United States of America.

I can see that the Senator from Alabama has heard that story before.

There has been a huge cost of inaction, not just the money that if we had spent it then would have made such a huge difference but the painful consequences the Senator from Alabama and others have talked about, I have talked about, for the American people and for our country.

In the end, after months of going through the legislative wringer, as I mentioned, we got 68 votes over here in the Senate. If it had been given a chance—read Speaker Boehner's book; he will tell you this. If it had gone to the floor, it would have gotten a majority vote on the floor of the Senate. But the Freedom Caucus killed that bill in

a legislative back alley before it could see the light of day on the House floor.

And since then, like with so many of the American people's most fundamental concerns, the Federal Government and this Congress has been immobilized on the subject of immigration, for sure, under both Republican and Democratic Presidents.

In the meantime, transnational gangs have seized full opportunity of our inaction, raking in billions of dollars smuggling human beings and drugs and weapons to the southern border of the United States. These criminal syndicates have perfected their worldwide smuggling operations. They have trained people how to exploit our asylum system, and they have weaponized social media to enable thousands of people to travel all over the globe to present themselves at the southern border of the United States or to come through the southern border. And the result of that paralysis has been, at times, an overwhelmed southern border.

For this reason, in 2022, I urged the Biden administration never to lift title 42 without a plan and without the resources to execute it. They were unprepared for what was to come, and they were too slow to act.

It is clear to almost everybody today that our system isn't built for today's conditions. We need to fix it, and we need to give the American people confidence that we have a fair and secure system in place.

So how do we do that? Well, tonight, we are going to vote on the first response from the Congress, the Laken Riley Act, which I think is neither focused on driving resources to the border or establishing a more robust and rigorous system of immigration. Instead, contrary to our constitutional obligation, today's bill devolves authority away from the President and Congress to 50 State attorneys general, in ways that seem extremely counterproductive to me.

I hope I am not right about this; although, you can already see a battle brewing in the administration about this.

This bill provides State attorneys general the power to seek nationwide injunctions to completely block certain countries, like India and China and El Salvador, from sending immigrants here.

Imagine a Salvadorian farmworker on an H-2A visa living in Florida or Louisiana committing a violent crime leading to a deportation order.

He should be deported. I am not here to dispute that. I don't dispute that.

But with this bill, if El Salvador doesn't accept his deportation, Florida's attorney general could ask a court to force the Federal Government to ban all visas from El Salvador or all H-2A visas or all H-1B visas for high-tech workers for all that matters.

Nearly 5,500 people in Colorado today are working on an H-2A visa. Why should Florida's attorney general be

able to dictate Colorado's need for these workers? Why should any State attorney general be able to hammer the economies of 49 other States? It doesn't make any sense.

It is because Congress and the administration have abandoned their responsibility here that we find ourselves in this position.

Second, this bill creates mandatory detention policies for immigrants accused of committing nonviolent and also violent crime. And as I said, I believe we should be going after transnational gangs, street gangs, and people who pose a threat to our community. When a brutal crime is committed, as in the case of Laken Riley, we should respond. We have to respond. And we should stand with her family—as the Senator from Alabama has done—and her community and ensure that something like that never happens again.

But in my opinion, this bill is not targeted enough. It would force ICE, working with local law enforcement, to detain immigrants who are accused—not just convicted but accused—of a very broad set of crimes, including shoplifting, without regard to how young they are or, more important, whether they are a threat to our community or a threat to public safety.

There is a good reason—and I know the presiding officer may not agree with this, but I know he knows the logic. There is a good reason why we seldom pass legislation with mandatory detention or jailing. We tend to believe that law enforcement is in the best position to determine in realtime who the threat to public safety actually is. And we know we don't have the resources—we never have the resources—to lock up every nonviolent offender without regard to whether they are a threat to public safety or not.

I know this sounds crazy, but this bill is so broadly drafted that it would compel law enforcement to put a mandatory detention on—you heard it—an 11-year-old immigrant in New York accused of stealing a soda from a gas station. I think most law enforcement agents across the country would tell you that their time would be much better spent tracking down and detaining, for example, a violent criminal who has bludgeoned their neighbor with a hammer. But this bill doesn't distinguish between those two cases. Instead, it strips law enforcement of their ability to make their best judgment about whom to arrest and not to arrest, whom to detain and not detain, and how to focus their precious resources on protecting our public safety.

The proponents of this bill do not deny that children will be swept up in its administration. This is not a drafting error. In this bill, every undocumented person accused—not just convicted but accused—of a list of crimes that is in this bill must be detained. That might sound like law and order,

but it is easy to see how this encroachment on law enforcement's ability to do its job could spiral out of control.

To make matters even worse, this bill does not provide ICE with the resources it needs to implement what is now a massive unfunded liability. And I know that the proponents of the bill say they are going to fix that problem. But just so you understand, ICE says this bill is going to cost \$27 billion a year. That is their number. I have heard much higher numbers than that. Let's take their number: \$27 billion a year. That is three times ICE's annual budget of \$9 billion.

Many of us are used to Congress passing bills without ever paying for them, but this may be one of the worst cases that we have seen.

And I know there may be an attempt here through reconciliation—you know, a tax measure to try to fund this in some way or to pick some other place to do it—but choices are going to have to be made between the mandatory detention of people who may not be a threat to our community and other choices like the funding for border patrol or the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office at the Homeland Security, the disaster relief fund—just three that come to mind.

Put another way, every dollar that ICE spends incarcerating kids is a dollar the border patrol doesn't have to spend on the border itself. Wouldn't the American people be a lot better off if Homeland Security were left to focus on violent criminals and enforcing the border, not on kids accused of non-violent crimes?

I assume no one here really thinks that mandatorily incarcerating children accused of nonviolent crimes is the best, most strategic way to fix our immigration system. We certainly don't want a repeat of the images of children caged in chain-link enclosures screaming out for their parents.

Federal law enforcement does not want a repeat of that, least of all, least of anybody, and I doubt any of us would want private prisons managing that outcome either. That episode was a shameful part of our history. It falls into that chapter of our history.

In another one of our more shameful immigration failures, Congress has never addressed the status of the Dreamers. The Senator from Alabama made this point when she said that there isn't a Dreamer in the country that is less than 17 years old. That is because notwithstanding the American people's overwhelming support for Dreamers who know no country other than the United States, that we have been unable to rationalize their presence in the country.

But 3 million Dreamers—who, after all these years, are now middle-age nurses and teachers and small business owners with families of their own—are also vulnerable.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Senator, your time has expired.

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I ask for 2 additional minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BENNET. We can make this bill better and stronger by focusing on the actual threats to public safety and protecting nonviolent kids from getting locked up, stripped away from their parents, schools, churches, and communities. We can make this bill better by protecting nonviolent Dreamers from mandatory incarceration in the only country they know.

I know my time is almost over.

The American people want us to fix our broken immigration system. They want us to feel safe in our own country. They want us to secure the border and cut down on illegal border crossings. They want us to strengthen rigorous legal pathways to support our economy and attract top talent. They want us to improve our partnerships with other countries so there is a reason for people to stay at home and not just come here. As we fix our broken immigration system, most Americans want people treated with dignity, especially if they are children.

Immigration is one of the many challenges facing our country today. It touches every aspect of our economy. It directly affects families and often implicates our core values. In their best moments, our parents and grandparents managed to navigate these tough issues by upholding the law and honoring our values. We must not abandon that aspiration in our time.

Mr. President, I am grateful for your patience. I apologize for going over a minute or two.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mrs. BRITT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senators ERNST, RISCH, SHAHEEN, and I be permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes each prior to the scheduled rollcall votes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. BRITT. Mr. President, before I yield the floor to my distinguished colleague from Iowa, I do want to respond to one thing my colleague from Colorado said.

I am glad to see there being a keen interest on what is happening to immigrant children now. My question has been, where has that passion been for the last 4 years when we had over 468,000 unaccompanied minors come across our border?

I just saw my distinguished colleague from Wisconsin walk in, who has tried to bring attention to this, tried to make sure we had a hearing on the 88,000-plus children that have been lost under this previous administration.

Look, additionally, when you talk about ICE, there are 6,000 ICE officers in the interior of our country, and we have over 11 million migrants that have come here illegally, over 7.8 that are actually in removal proceedings, and over 1.4 million that have been given their final orders of removal, and

yet the resources have not been there for them to do that at the level they need. That will change under this administration and under the Republican majority.

I now yield the floor to my colleague from Iowa.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

AMENDMENT NO. 8

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, I rise in support of the Laken Riley Act and ask my fellow colleagues to vote for my amendment, Sarah's Law. Combined, these actions will close the loopholes that for too long have allowed murderers who come here illegally to roam free in our communities and commit more crimes.

These two young women, Sarah Root and Laken Riley, and their families deserve justice. Folks, we can make this happen tonight. After all, this is not a partisan fight. I am honored to have my colleague Senator FETTERMAN from the great State of Pennsylvania co-sponsoring Sarah's Law.

The truth is, the border crisis has impacted every State, not just southern border States like Texas and Arizona but New York, Georgia, Pennsylvania, and, yes, folks, even Iowa.

The end of this month marks 9 years since Iowan's Michelle Root and Scott Root, whom I know personally, woke up to every parent's worst nightmare: Their daughter Sarah was killed by a drunk driver who was an illegal immigrant. Sarah, a 21-year-old from Council Bluffs, IA, had just graduated from Bellevue University in Nebraska with a 4.0 GPA. She was headed home after celebrating this milestone—a very important day in her life—with her family and friends. In an instant, an illegal immigrant, Edwin Mejia, who was drunk-driving, with a blood alcohol three times the legal limit, struck and killed her.

One would think that Sarah's killer would clearly meet Immigration and Customs Enforcement's "enforcement priorities" but no—no. Citing the Obama administration's November 2014 memo, ICE declined to take custody of Mejia. Yes, folks, he had killed a woman, and they declined to take custody of Edwin Mejia despite his repeated driving offenses and history of skipping court dates.

Before the Root family could even lay Sarah to rest in her satin-lined casket in the cold Iowa ground, her murderer had posted bond, never to be seen again and never to face justice.

Since then, I have warned repeatedly against the dangers of letting illegal immigrants who have already broken our laws roam the country and continue their lawlessness.

A loophole in the law meant Sarah's killer escaped justice, but today we can do something to ensure that no other family has to go through the pain and the grief that Scott and Michelle and Scotty and the rest of their family still feel from that heartbreaking day. My amendment would close the alarming

loophole that let Sarah's killer go free. It would simply require ICE to detain illegal immigrants charged with killing or seriously injuring another person so they do not disappear before facing justice.

Let's make this a reality today for Sarah's family, for Laken's family, and for the countless American families we can protect.

I thank the gentle lady from Alabama for spearheading this effort to bring justice for our families.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following disposition of Calendar No. 1, S. 5, the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Executive Calendar No. 2, MARCO RUBIO of Florida to be Secretary of State; further, that the Senate vote on confirmation of the Rubio nomination with no intervening action or debate; finally, that, if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action. I would also ask unanimous consent that immediately prior to that vote, I be given 3 minutes to debate and my distinguished colleague from New Hampshire also be given 3 minutes to debate prior to calling the vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 8

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, all postcloture time is expired.

The question occurs on adoption of amendment No. 8, as amended.

Ms. ERNST. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 75, nays 24, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 6 Leg.]

YEAS—75

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Baldwin | Gallego | Mullin |
| Banks | Graham | Murkowski |
| Barrasso | Grassley | Ossoff |
| Bennet | Hagerty | Paul |
| Blackburn | Hassan | Peters |
| Blumenthal | Hawley | Ricketts |
| Boozman | Heinrich | Risch |
| Britt | Hickenlooper | Rosen |
| Budd | Hoeben | Rounds |
| Cantwell | Hyde-Smith | Rubio |
| Capito | Johnson | Schmitt |
| Cassidy | Justice | Scott (FL) |
| Collins | Kelly | Scott (SC) |
| Coons | Kennedy | Shaheen |
| Cornyn | King | Sheehy |
| Cortez Masto | Klobuchar | Slotkin |
| Cotton | Lankford | Sullivan |
| Cramer | Lee | Thune |
| Crapo | Lujan | Tillis |
| Cruz | Lummis | Tuberville |
| Curtis | Marshall | Warner |
| Daines | McConnell | Warnock |
| Ernst | McCormick | Wicker |
| Fetterman | Moran | Wyden |
| Fischer | Moreno | Young |

NAYS—24

| | | |
|-----------------|---------|------------|
| Alsobrooks | Kim | Schatz |
| Blunt Rochester | Markey | Schiff |
| Booker | Merkley | Schumer |
| Duckworth | Murphy | Smith |
| Durbin | Murray | Van Hollen |
| Gillibrand | Padilla | Warren |
| Hirono | Reed | Welch |
| Kaine | Sanders | Whitehouse |

The amendment (No. 8), as amended, was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SULIVAN). The majority leader.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the next vote be a 10-minute vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will read the title of the bill for the third time.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

VOTE ON S. 5

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass, as amended?

Mrs. BRITT. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 64, nays 35, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 7 Leg.]

YEAS—64

| | | |
|--------------|------------|------------|
| Banks | Grassley | Peters |
| Barrasso | Hagerty | Ricketts |
| Blackburn | Hassan | Risch |
| Boozman | Hawley | Rosen |
| Britt | Hoeben | Rounds |
| Budd | Hyde-Smith | Rubio |
| Capito | Johnson | Schmitt |
| Cassidy | Justice | Scott (FL) |
| Collins | Kelly | Scott (SC) |
| Cornyn | Kennedy | Shaheen |
| Cortez Masto | Lankford | Sheehy |
| Cotton | Lee | Slotkin |
| Cramer | Lummis | Sullivan |
| Crapo | Marshall | Thune |
| Cruz | McConnell | Tillis |
| Curtis | McCormick | Moran |
| Daines | Moran | Moreno |
| Ernst | Moreno | Mullin |
| Fetterman | Mullin | Murkowski |
| Fischer | Murkowski | Ossoff |
| Gallego | Ossoff | Paul |
| Graham | Paul | |

NAYS—35

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------|------------|
| Alsobrooks | Hickenlooper | Reed |
| Baldwin | Hirono | Sanders |
| Bennet | Kaine | Schatz |
| Blumenthal | Kim | Schiff |
| Blunt Rochester | King | Schumer |
| Booker | Klobuchar | Smith |
| Cantwell | Lujan | Van Hollen |
| Coons | Markey | Warren |
| Duckworth | Merkley | Welch |
| Durbin | Murphy | Whitehouse |
| Gillibrand | Murray | Wyden |
| Heinrich | Padilla | |

The bill (S. 5), as amended, was passed as follows:

S. 5

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Laken Riley Act".

SEC. 2. DETENTION OF CERTAIN ALIENS WHO COMMIT THEFT.

Section 236(c) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1226(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—
 (A) in subparagraph (C), by striking "or";
 (B) in subparagraph (D), by striking the comma at the end and inserting " or "; and
 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following:

(E)(i) is inadmissible under paragraph (6)(A), (6)(C), or (7) of section 212(a); and

"(ii) is charged with, is arrested for, is convicted of, admits having committed, or admits committing acts which constitute the essential elements of any burglary, theft, larceny, shoplifting, or assault of a law enforcement officer offense, or any crime that results in death or serious bodily injury to another person,";

(2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (4); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

"(2) DEFINITION.—For purposes of paragraph (1)(E), the terms 'burglary', 'theft', 'larceny', 'shoplifting', 'assault of a law enforcement officer', and 'serious bodily injury' have the meanings given such terms in the jurisdiction in which the acts occurred."

"(3) DETAINEE.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall issue a detainer for an alien described in paragraph (1)(E) and, if the alien is not otherwise detained by Federal, State, or local officials, shall effectively and expeditiously take custody of the alien."

SEC. 3. ENFORCEMENT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL OF A STATE.

(a) INSPECTION OF APPLICANTS FOR ADMISSION.—Section 235(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1225(b)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

"(3) ENFORCEMENT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL OF A STATE.—The attorney general of a State, or other authorized State officer, alleging a violation of the detention and removal requirements under paragraph (1) or (2) that harms such State or its residents shall have standing to bring an action against the Secretary of Homeland Security on behalf of such State or the residents of such State in an appropriate district court of the United States to obtain appropriate injunctive relief. The court shall advance on the docket and expedite the disposition of a civil action filed under this paragraph to the greatest extent practicable. For purposes of this paragraph, a State or its residents shall be considered to have been harmed if the State or its residents experience harm, including financial harm in excess of \$100."

(b) APPREHENSION AND DETENTION OF ALIENS.—Section 236 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1226), as amended by this Act, is further amended—

(1) in subsection (e)—
 (A) by striking "or release"; and

(B) by striking "grant, revocation, or denial" and insert "revocation or denial"; and
 (2) by adding at the end the following:

"(f) ENFORCEMENT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL OF A STATE.—The attorney general of a State, or other authorized State officer, alleging an action or decision by the Attorney General or Secretary of Homeland Security under this section to release any alien or grant bond or parole to any alien that harms such State or its residents shall have standing to bring an action against the Attorney General or Secretary of Homeland Security on behalf of such State or the residents of such State in an appropriate district court of the United States to obtain appropriate injunctive relief. The court shall advance on

the docket and expedite the disposition of a civil action filed under this subsection to the greatest extent practicable. For purposes of this subsection, a State or its residents shall be considered to have been harmed if the State or its residents experience harm, including financial harm in excess of \$100.”

(c) PENALTIES.—Section 243 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1253) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) ENFORCEMENT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL OF A STATE.—The attorney general of a State, or other authorized State officer, alleging a violation of the requirement to discontinue granting visas to citizens, subjects, nationals, and residents as described in subsection (d) that harms such State or its residents shall have standing to bring an action against the Secretary of State on behalf of such State or the residents of such State in an appropriate district court of the United States to obtain appropriate injunctive relief. The court shall advance on the docket and expedite the disposition of a civil action filed under this subsection to the greatest extent practicable. For purposes of this subsection, a State or its residents shall be considered to have been harmed if the State or its residents experience harm, including financial harm in excess of \$100.”

(d) CERTAIN CLASSES OF ALIENS.—Section 212(d)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(d)(5)) is amended—

(1) by striking “Attorney General” each place such term appears and inserting “Secretary of Homeland Security”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) The attorney general of a State, or other authorized State officer, alleging a violation of the limitation under subparagraph (A) that parole solely be granted on a case-by-case basis and solely for urgent humanitarian reasons or a significant public benefit, that harms such State or its residents shall have standing to bring an action against the Secretary of Homeland Security on behalf of such State or the residents of such State in an appropriate district court of the United States to obtain appropriate injunctive relief. The court shall advance on the docket and expedite the disposition of a civil action filed under this subparagraph to the greatest extent practicable. For purposes of this subparagraph, a State or its residents shall be considered to have been harmed if the State or its residents experience harm, including financial harm in excess of \$100.”

(e) DETENTION.—Section 241(a)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1231(a)(2)) is amended—

(1) by striking “During the removal period,” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—During the removal period,”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) ENFORCEMENT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL OF A STATE.—The attorney general of a State, or other authorized State officer, alleging a violation of the detention requirement under subparagraph (A) that harms such State or its residents shall have standing to bring an action against the Secretary of Homeland Security on behalf of such State or the residents of such State in an appropriate district court of the United States to obtain appropriate injunctive relief. The court shall advance on the docket and expedite the disposition of a civil action filed under this subparagraph to the greatest extent practicable. For purposes of this subparagraph, a State or its residents shall be considered to have been harmed if the State or its residents experience harm, including financial harm in excess of \$100.”

(f) LIMIT ON INJUNCTIVE RELIEF.—Section 242(f) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1252(f)) is amended by adding at the end following:

“(3) CERTAIN ACTIONS.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to an action brought pursuant to section 235(b)(3), subsections (e) or (f) of section 236, or section 241(a)(2)(B).”

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of MARCO RUBIO, of Florida, to be Secretary of State.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

NOMINATION OF MARCO RUBIO

Mr. SCHUMER. Well, tonight, the Senate will vote on the confirmation of Senator RUBIO to serve as the next Secretary of State.

Democrats have been very clear about our approach to President Trump’s nominees. We will neither rubberstamp nominees we feel are grossly unqualified, nor will we reflexively oppose nominees that deserve serious consideration.

Senator RUBIO is an example of a qualified nominee we think should be confirmed quickly. Earlier today, he was unanimously reported out of committee with full support from Democrats, and he should be quickly confirmed here on the floor.

So today, I will vote yes on Senator RUBIO. While I certainly do not agree with many of Senator RUBIO’s positions, in this instance, it is important for the new administration to have a Senate-confirmed Secretary of State as soon as possible. So I will vote yes.

Republicans did the same with Secretary Clinton during the first Obama administration. It was appropriate then; it is appropriate now.

I will vote yes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, it is an honor to be here today to ask the Senate to confirm President Trump’s first appointment, that being our colleague MARCO RUBIO to be the 72nd Secretary of State of this great country.

His nomination was voted positively and unanimously out of the Foreign Relations Committee just moments ago, actually.

Sixteen years ago, I came here and sat down on the Foreign Relations Committee. I took a seat at the very end. That afternoon, I got on the Intelligence Committee, took a seat at the very end. Two years later, MARCO came in and sat next to me. During that period of time, he and I have worked together a tremendous number of hours on many issues.

We are in a time when America faces threats from nearly every corner of the world. It is no secret that hostile powers, from China, to Russia, to North Korea, to Iran, have formed an authori-

tarian axis bent on weakening the United States. We need a principled, action-oriented chief diplomat like MARCO RUBIO to take them on.

Our challenges in the foreign relations lane and the national security lane are enormous and complicated. I can’t think of another person better equipped to tackle these issues than our colleague MARCO RUBIO.

I would encourage anyone who wants a clear understanding of U.S. foreign policy to look at and watch the recording of MARCO’s performance before the Foreign Relations Committee last week. I would say to you, his performance was flawless.

MARCO’s qualifications and ability to stand in the shoes of Thomas Jefferson, our first Secretary of State, and the 70 who followed him—MARCO’s qualifications are unchallengeable.

I urge you all to join me in voting for MARCO RUBIO.

(Applause.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, the position of Secretary of State is one of the most important in our entire government. Given the uncertainty around the globe right now, it is in America’s interests not to skip a beat and to fill this role immediately. That is why I am pleased that the Foreign Relations Committee has not only moved quickly today to hold a business meeting but we unanimously confirmed Senator RUBIO’s nomination.

I have had a good working relationship with Senator RUBIO for many years, and I was very impressed at his hearing by his grasp of policy. While we may not always agree, I believe he has the skills, knowledge, and qualifications to be Secretary of State. So I intend to vote in favor of MARCO RUBIO to be Secretary of State, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

VOTE ON RUBIO NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the great Senator RUBIO’s nomination?

Mr. RISCH. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 99, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 8 Ex.]

YEAS—99

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Alsobrooks | Collins | Galleo |
| Baldwin | Coons | Gillibrand |
| Banks | Cornyn | Graham |
| Barrasso | Cortez Masto | Grassley |
| Bennet | Cotton | Hagerty |
| Blackburn | Cramer | Hassan |
| Blumenthal | Crapo | Hawley |
| Blunt Rochester | Cruz | Heinrich |
| Booker | Curtis | Hickenlooper |
| Boozman | Daines | Hirono |
| Britt | Duckworth | Hoeben |
| Budd | Durbin | Hyde-Smith |
| Cantwell | Ernst | Johnson |
| Capito | Fetterman | Justice |
| Cassidy | Fischer | Kaine |

| | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|
| Kelly | Murphy | Scott (SC) |
| Kennedy | Murray | Shaheen |
| Kim | Ossoff | Sheehy |
| King | Padilla | Slotkin |
| Klobuchar | Paul | Smith |
| Lankford | Peters | Sullivan |
| Lee | Reed | Thune |
| Luján | Ricketts | Tillis |
| Lummis | Risch | Tuberville |
| Markey | Rosen | Van Hollen |
| Marshall | Rounds | Warner |
| McConnell | Rubio | Warnock |
| McCormick | Sanders | Warren |
| Merkley | Schatz | Welch |
| Moran | Schiff | Whitehouse |
| Moreno | Schmitt | Wicker |
| Mullin | Schumer | Wyden |
| Murkowski | Scott (FL) | Young |

* John Ratcliffe, of Texas, to be Director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

AMENDMENT NO. 53

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 53 intended to be proposed to S. 5, a bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to take into custody aliens who have been charged in the United States with theft, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 60

At the request of Mr. OSSOFF, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 60 intended to be proposed to S. 5, a bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to take into custody aliens who have been charged in the United States with theft, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. SHEEHY, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. SCHMITT, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 152. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit kindergarten through grade 12 educational expenses to be paid from a 529 account; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 153. A bill to repeal the Protecting Americans from Foreign Adversary Controlled Applications Act; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 84

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BANKS) were added as cosponsors of S. 84, a bill to require U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to take into custody certain aliens who have been charged in the United States with a crime that resulted in the death or serious bodily injury of another person, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 21

At the request of Mr. OSSOFF, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 21 intended to be proposed to S. 5, a bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to take into custody aliens who have been charged in the United States with theft, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 24

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 24 intended to be proposed to S. 5, a bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to take into custody aliens who have been charged in the United States with theft, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 35

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 35 intended to be proposed to S. 5, a bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to take into custody aliens who have been charged in the United States with theft, and for other purposes.

The nomination was confirmed.

(Applause.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume legislative session and be in a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Kalbaugh, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. WICKER for the Committee on Armed Services.

*Peter Hegseth, of Tennessee, to be Secretary of Defense.

By Mr. RISCH for the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Marco Rubio, of Florida, to be Secretary of State.

By Mr. PAUL for the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

*Russell Vought, of Virginia, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

*Kristi Noem, of South Dakota, to be Secretary of Homeland Security.

By Mr. COTTON for the Select Committee on Intelligence.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I have four requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Monday, January 20, 2025, at 5 p.m., to vote on a nomination.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Monday, January 20, 2025, at 4:30 p.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Monday, January 20, 2025, at 5:30 p.m., to conduct a business meeting.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Monday, January 20, 2025, at 4:45 p.m., to conduct a closed business meeting.

INAUGURAL CEREMONY

Inauguration of Donald John Trump, January 20, 2025, 10 a.m.

The Architect of the Capitol, Mr. Thomas Austin, accompanied by Mrs. Shannon Austin, entered the Great Rotunda.

The Leadership of the 60th Presidential Inaugural Committee, Cochairs the Honorable Kelly Loeffler and Mr. Steve Whitcoff; and Executive Director Mr. Richard Walters entered the Great Rotunda.

The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Charles Q. Brown, Jr., entered the Great Rotunda.

Former Senate Majority Leader, the Honorable MITCH MCCONNELL, accompanied by the Honorable Elaine Chao; and the Honorable Elizabeth Dole, entered the Great Rotunda.

Former Speakers of the House of Representatives, the Honorable Kevin McCarthy; the Honorable John Boehner, accompanied by Mrs. Debbie Boehner; and the Honorable Newt Gingrich, accompanied by Ambassador Callista Gingrich, and Mrs. Heather Foley entered the Great Rotunda.

Members of the 119th United States House of Representatives, led by Majority Whip, the Honorable TOM EMMER and Democratic Whip, the Honorable KATHERINE CLARK, entered the Great Rotunda.

The Chair of the National Governors Association, the Honorable Jared Polis, the Vice Chair of the National Governors Association, the Honorable Kevin Stitt, and the Mayor of the District of Columbia, the Honorable Muriel Bowser, entered the Great Rotunda.

Members of the 119th Senate of the United States, led by Majority Leader, the Honorable JOHN THUNE; Majority Whip, the Honorable JOHN BARRASSO; and Democratic Whip, the Honorable DICK DURBIN, entered the Great Rotunda.

The President-elect's Cabinet and Cabinet-level designees entered the Great Rotunda.

The Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps entered the Great Rotunda.

Former Vice Presidents, the Honorable Dan Quayle, accompanied by Mrs. Marilyn Quayle, and the Honorable Michael Pence entered the Great Rotunda.

The 42nd President of the United States William Jefferson Clinton, accompanied by the Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton, entered the Great Rotunda.

The 43rd President of the United States, the Honorable George W. Bush, accompanied by Mrs. Laura Bush, entered the Great Rotunda.

The 44th President of the United States, the Honorable Barack H. Obama entered the Great Rotunda.

The Chief Justice of the United States, the Honorable John G. Roberts, Jr., and the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States entered the Great Rotunda.

The children of President-Elect Trump, Donald Trump Jr., Ivanka Trump, Eric Trump, Tiffany Trump, and Barron Trump, escorted by the Assistant Secretary of the Senate, the Honorable Robert Paxton; and Deputy Clerk of the House of Representatives, the Honorable Lisa Grant, entered the Great Rotunda.

The First Lady, Dr. Jill Biden, and the husband of the Vice President, Mr. Douglas Emhoff, escorted by the Republican Staff Director of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, Ms. Emily Leviner; the Senate Secretary for the Minority, the Honorable Gary Myrick; the House of

Representatives Chief Administrative Officer, the Honorable Catherine Szpindor; and Mr. Bruce Fischer, entered the Great Rotunda.

Mrs. Melania Trump and Mrs. Usha Vance, escorted by the Secretary of the Senate, the Honorable Jackie Barber; the Clerk of the House of Representatives, the Honorable Kevin F. McCumber; Mr. John Bessler; Mrs. Kelly Johnson; Mrs. Iris Weinshall-Schumer; and Mrs. Jennifer Scalise, entered the Great Rotunda.

The President of the United States, the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., and Vice President of the United States, the Honorable KAMALA DEVI HARRIS, escorted by Ranking Member of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, the Honorable DEB FISCHER; House Democratic Leader, the Honorable HAKEEM JEFFRIES; and Senate Majority Secretary, the Honorable Robert Duncan, entered the Great Rotunda.

The Vice President-elect of the United States, the Honorable JD VANCE, escorted by the Executive Director for the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, Mr. Michael Wagner; Senate Deputy Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, Jason Bell; and House Deputy Sergeant at Arms, Mr. Sean Keating, entered the Great Rotunda.

The President-elect of the United States, Donald John Trump, escorted by the Staff Director for the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, Elizabeth Farrar; House Sergeant at Arms, the Honorable William P. McFarland; Senate Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, the Honorable Jennifer A. Hemingway; Senate Majority Leader, the Honorable JOHN THUNE; and the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies: House Democratic Leader, the Honorable HAKEEM JEFFRIES; House Majority Leader, the Honorable STEVE SCALISE; Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Honorable MIKE JOHNSON; Senate Democratic Leader, the Honorable CHARLES E. SCHUMER; Ranking Member of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, the Honorable DEB FISCHER; and Chairwoman of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, the Honorable AMY KLOBUCHAR, entered the Great Rotunda.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Good morning, everyone. Welcome to the 60th Presidential inauguration.

Today, President-elect Trump and Vice President-elect VANCE will take their oaths of office, and we will witness the peaceful transfer of power at the heart of our democracy.

(Applause.)

For the past year, I have chaired the Inaugural Ceremony Committee, which includes the leadership of Congress from both parties. We thank the committee and Capitol staff and law enforcement, who worked so hard over the last year and especially the last 3 days.

You have done a beautiful job, and you have shown grace under pressure.

(Applause.)

Our theme this year is "Our Enduring Democracy." The presence of so many Presidents and Vice Presidents here today is truly a testament to that endurance.

We welcome President Biden and Dr. Biden. We welcome Vice President HARRIS and Doug Emhoff, President Obama, President Clinton and Secretary Clinton, President Bush and Laura Bush, Vice President Pence, and Vice President Quayle and Marilyn Quayle. The Justices of the U.S. Supreme Court are with us—all nine of them; I counted—and, of course, the Trump and Vance families.

This ceremony marks what will soon be 250 years of our democracy. It is the moment when leaders, elevated by the will of the people, promised to be faithful to our Constitution, to cherish and defend it. It is the moment when they become—as we all should be—the guardians of our country.

Through war and peace, through adversity and prosperity, we hold this inauguration every 4 years. And today, it falls on Martin Luther King Day—a further reminder that we must strive to uphold the values enshrined in our Constitution—the freedoms, the liberties, and as is inscribed on the entrance of the U.S. Supreme Court: "Equal Justice Under Law."

(Applause.)

But what makes this moment more than a passing ceremony is all who are watching it across the country—the people of this Nation, the ordinary people doing extraordinary things.

President Kennedy, who at one point worked as a Senator in this building and would often walk through this very Rotunda, once said:

In a democracy, every citizen, regardless of interest in politics, "holds office"; every one of us is in a position of responsibility.

With that responsibility of citizenship comes an obligation not to seek out malice, as President Lincoln once reminded us, but to view others with the generosity of spirit, despite our differences.

With that responsibility of leadership comes an obligation to stand our ground when we must and find common ground when we can.

With everything swirling around us, the hot mess of division, it is on all of us—to quote an incredible songwriter, who just happened to be born in my State—to ensure that our Nation's democracy is our shelter from the storm.

There is a reason this ceremony takes place at the Capitol. In other countries, it might be in a Presidential palace or a gilded executive office building. Here, it is traditionally held at the Capitol, the people's House. It is a fitting reminder of the system of checks and balances that is the very foundation of our government—three equal branches of government. That is how for nearly 250 years, our great American experiment, grounded in the rule of law, has endured.

So as we inaugurate a new President and Vice President, let us remember that the power of those in this room comes from the people: the construction workers who build our country, the teachers and healthcare workers who nurture us, the troops defending our freedoms, and, yes, the firefighters in Los Angeles putting themselves on the line for us.

(Applause.)

Our democracy, strength, and grit must match theirs.

May God bless our Nation.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

Mrs. FISCHER. Good afternoon.

Endurance through the years is the ultimate test. To persevere through time is the truest measure of an idea, an institution, and a nation.

Our Founders wrote the Constitution so that America could withstand all the twists and turns of time. They wrote it to guide us and to preserve forever our right of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

But as much as the truths and principles enshrined in our Constitution remain the same, our democracy promises the American people the power to change, to chart their own destiny.

That is the beauty. That is the importance of democracy. It allows the endurance, the permanence of a nation through change. It allows nations, like our United States, both to avoid the obstacles and to seize the opportunities God has placed before us, all while staying true to our founding principles.

Today is our country's 60th inauguration ceremony. Like all the others before it, it is a celebration of our right to set our uniquely American course. The past several years have been trying at times for many, many Americans and also for the nations of the free world that we humbly strive to lead.

In November, Americans chose again to steer this Nation toward greatness—the secure, safe, and prosperous future that our Founders envisioned for all of us. And today, we celebrate not only their decision to do so but also the simple right and wisdom of a free people to make their own choice so that their Nation might endure.

And now, allow me to welcome Archbishop Timothy Doland and Reverend Franklin Graham, who will deliver our invocation.

Please rise.

Archbishop DOLAND. Be still and know that I am God, supreme among the nations, supreme on the Earth. Let us pray.

Remembering General George Washington on his knees at Valley Forge, recalling Abraham Lincoln at his second inaugural: "with malice toward none, with charity for all, with the firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right," remembering General George Patton's instructions to his soldiers as they began the Battle of the Bulge eight decades ago, pray. Pray when fighting. Pray alone. Pray with others. Pray by night. Pray by day.

Observing the birthday of the Reverend Martin Luther King, who warned, without God, our efforts turn to ashes. We, blessed citizens of this one Nation under God, humbled by our claim that in God we trust, gather, indeed, this inauguration day to pray for our President Donald J. Trump, his family, his advisers, his Cabinet, his aspirations, his Vice President, for the large blessings upon Joseph Biden, for our men and women in uniform, for each other whose hopes are stoked this new year, this inauguration day.

We cannot err in relying upon that prayer from the Bible upon which our President will soon place his hand in oath. As we make our own the supplications of King Solomon for wisdom, as he began his governance, God of our fathers, in Your wisdom, You set man to govern Your creatures, to govern in holiness and justice, to render justice with integrity, give our leader wisdom, for he is Your servant, aware of his own weakness and brevity of life.

If wisdom, which comes not from You be not with him, he shall be held in no esteem. Send wisdom from Heaven that she may be with him, that he may know Your designs.

Please, God, bless America. Please, mentor every flaw. You are the God in whom we trust who lives and reigns forever and ever.

Amen.

Reverend GRAHAM. Mr. President, in the last 4 years, there were times, I am sure, you thought it was pretty dark. But look what God has done. We praise Him and give Him glory.

(Applause.)

Let us pray.

Our Father and our God, Thou has said blessed is the Nation whose God is the Lord.

As the Prophet Daniel prayed: "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever. For wisdom and might are his. He changes the times and the seasons. He removes kings. He raises up kings. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding."

Our Father, today, as President Donald J. Trump takes the oath of office once again, we come to say thank you, O Lord, our God.

Father, when Donald Trump's enemies thought he was down and out, You and You alone, saved his life and raised him up with strength and power by Your mighty hand.

We pray for President Trump; that You will watch over, protect, guide, direct him. Give him Your wisdom from Your throne on high. We ask that You would bless him and that our Nation would be blessed through him.

We also ask that You would bless and protect Melania, his First Lady. We thank You for the beauty, the warmth, and grace that she shows not only to this Nation but to the whole world.

We thank You for Vice President-elect JD VANCE and his wife Usha and their young family. May he be a strength to President Trump, to stand

beside him, to hold up his arms like Aaron held up the arms of Moses in the midst of battle.

The Prophet Samuel reminded the people it was You that brought them up from the land of Egypt. And he said, now stand still that I may reason with you before the Lord. So, Father, we take this moment to stand still, to remember the great things that You have done for this Nation.

Thank you for the protection, the bounty, the freedoms that we so enjoy. We remember to keep our eyes fixed on You. And may our hearts be inclined to Your voice. We know that America can never be great again if we turn our backs on You. We ask for Your help.

We pray all of this in the name of the king of kings, the lords of lords, Your son, my Savior, and our Redeemer, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

(Christopher Macchio performed "O, America" accompanied by the Armed Forces Chorus.)

MUC EDWARDS. Ladies and gentlemen, please welcome Associate Justice Kavanaugh to administer the Vice Presidential oath of office.

The Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, BRETT KAVANAUGH, administered to the Vice President-elect the oath of office prescribed by the Constitution, which he repeated as follows:

I, JAMES DAVID VANCE, do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God.

Associate Justice KAVANAUGH. Congratulations, Mr. Vice President.

(Applause.)

MUC EDWARDS. Ladies and gentlemen, please welcome Chief Justice Roberts to administer the Presidential oath of office.

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, JOHN G. ROBERTS, JR., administered to the President-elect the oath of office prescribed by the Constitution, which he repeated, as follows:

I, Donald John Trump, do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States. So help me God.

The Chief Justice. Congratulations, Mr. President.

(Applause.)

(United States Marine Band performs "Battle Hymn of the Republic.")

(Applause.)

Mrs. FISCHER. Ladies and gentlemen, it is my honor and pleasure to introduce to you the 45th and the 47th President of the United States of America, Donald J. Trump.

(Applause.)

The PRESIDENT. Thank you very much, everybody. Thank you very, very much.

Vice President VANCE, Speaker JOHN-SON, Senator THUNE, Chief Justice Roberts, Justices of the U.S. Supreme

Court, President Clinton, President Bush, President Obama, President Biden, Vice President HARRIS, and my fellow citizens, the golden age of America begins right now.

(Applause.)

From this day forward, our country will flourish and be respected again all over the world. We will be the envy of every nation, and we will not allow ourselves to be taken advantage of any longer.

During every single day of the Trump administration, I will—very simply—put America first.

(Applause.)

Our sovereignty will be reclaimed. Our safety will be restored. The scales of justice will be rebalanced. The vicious, violent, and unfair weaponization of the Justice Department and our government will end.

(Applause.)

And our top priority will be to create a nation that is proud, prosperous, and free.

(Applause.)

America will soon be greater, stronger, and far more exceptional than ever before.

(Applause.)

I return to the Presidency confident and optimistic that we are at the start of a thrilling new era of national success. A tide of change is sweeping the country, sunlight is pouring over the entire world, and America has the chance to seize this opportunity like never before.

But, first, we must be honest about the challenges we face. While they are plentiful, they will be annihilated by this great momentum that the world is now witnessing in the United States of America.

As we gather today, our government confronts a crisis of trust. For many years, a radical and corrupt establishment has extracted power and wealth from our citizens, while the pillars of our society lay broken in seemingly incomplete disrepair.

We now have a government that cannot manage even a simple crisis at home, while at the same time stumbling into a continuing catalog of catastrophic events abroad.

It fails to protect our magnificent law-abiding American citizens but provides sanctuary and protection for dangerous criminals, many from prisons and mental institutions that have illegally entered our country from all over the world.

We have a government that is giving unlimited funding to the defense of foreign borders but refuses to defend American borders or, more importantly, its own people. Our country can no longer deliver basic services in times of emergency, as recently shown by the wonderful people of North Carolina being treated so badly—

(Applause.)

—and other States who are still suffering from a hurricane that took place many months ago, or more recently, Los Angeles, where we are watching

fires still tragically burn from weeks ago, without even a token of defense. They are raging through the houses and communities, even affecting some of the wealthiest and most powerful individuals in our country, some of whom are sitting here right now. They don't have a home any longer. That is interesting.

We can't let this happen. Everyone is unable to do anything about it. That is going to change.

We have a public health system that does not deliver in times of disaster, yet more money is spent on it than any country anywhere in the world.

And we have an education system that teaches our children to be ashamed of themselves, in many cases, to hate our country, despite the love that we try so desperately to provide to them.

All of this will change starting today, and it will change very quickly.

(Applause.)

My recent election is a mandate to completely and totally reverse a horrible betrayal and all of these many betrayals that have taken place and to give the people back their faith, their wealth, their democracy, and indeed their freedom. From this moment on, America's decline is over.

(Applause.)

Our liberties and our Nation's glorious destiny will no longer be denied, and we will immediately restore the integrity, competency, and loyalty of America's government.

Over the past 8 years, I have been tested and challenged more than any President in our 250-year history, and I have learned a lot along the way. The journey to reclaim our Republic has not been an easy one; that I can tell you. Those who wish to stop our cause have tried to take my freedom and indeed to take my life. Just a few months ago, in a beautiful Pennsylvania field, an assassin's bullet ripped through my ear, but I felt then and believe even more so now that my life was saved for a reason. I was saved by God to make America great again.

(Applause.)

Thank you very much.

That is why, each day, under our administration of American patriots, we will be working to meet every crisis with dignity and power and strength. We will move with purpose and speed to bring back hope, prosperity, safety, and peace for citizens of every race, religion, color, and creed. For American citizens, January 20, 2025, is liberation day.

(Applause.)

It is my hope that our recent Presidential election will be remembered as the greatest and most consequential election in the history of our country. As our victory showed, the entire Nation is rapidly unifying behind our agenda with dramatic increases in support from virtually every element of our society—young and old, men and women, African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian Americans, urban,

suburban, rural. And very importantly, we had a powerful win in all seven swing States, and the popular vote we won by millions of people.

(Applause.)

To the Black and Hispanic communities, I want to thank you for the tremendous outpouring of love and trust that you have shown me with your vote. We set records, and I will not forget it. I have heard your voices in the campaign, and I look forward to working with you in the years to come.

Today is Martin Luther King Day, and in his honor—this will be a great honor—but, in his honor, we will strive together to make his dream a reality. We will make his dream come true.

(Applause.)

National unity is now returning to America, and confidence and pride is soaring like never before.

In everything we do, my administration will be inspired by a strong pursuit of excellence and unrelenting success. We will not forget our country; we will not forget our Constitution; and we will not forget our God. Can't do that.

(Applause.)

Today, I will sign a series of historic Executive orders. With these actions, we will begin the complete restoration of America and the revolution of common sense. It is all about common sense.

(Applause.)

First, I will declare a national emergency at our southern border.

(Applause.)

All illegal entry will immediately be halted, and we will begin the process of returning millions and millions of criminal aliens back to the places from which they came. We will reinstate my "Remain in Mexico" policy.

(Applause.)

I will end the practice of catch-and-release.

(Applause.)

And I will send troops to the southern border to repel the disastrous invasion of our country.

(Applause.)

Under the orders I sign today, we will also be designating the cartels as foreign terrorist organizations.

(Applause.)

And by invoking the Alien Enemies Act of 1798, I will direct our government to use the full and immense power of Federal and State law enforcement to eliminate the presence of all foreign gangs and criminal networks bringing devastating crime to U.S. soil, including our cities and inner cities.

(Applause.)

As Commander in Chief, I have no higher responsibility than to defend our country from threats and invasions, and that is exactly what I am going to do. We will do it at a level that nobody has ever seen before.

Next, I will direct all members of my Cabinet to marshal the vast powers at their disposal to defeat what was record inflation and rapidly bring down costs and prices.

(Applause.)

The inflation crisis was caused by massive overspending and escalating energy prices, and that is why, today, I will also declare a national energy emergency. We will drill, baby, drill.

(Applause.)

America will be a manufacturing nation once again. And we have something that no other manufacturing nation will ever have—the largest amount of oil and gas of any country on Earth—and we are going to use it. Going to use it.

We will bring prices down, fill our strategic reserves up again, right to the top, and export American energy all over the world.

(Applause.)

We will be a rich nation again, and it is that liquid gold under our feet that will help to do it.

With my actions today, we will end the Green New Deal, and we will revoke the electric vehicle mandate, saving our auto industry and keeping my sacred pledge to our great American autoworkers.

(Applause.)

In other words, you will be able to buy the car of your choice. We will build automobiles in America again at a rate that nobody could have dreamt possible just a few years ago.

And thank you to the autoworkers of our Nation for your inspiring vote of confidence. We did tremendously with their vote.

(Applause.)

I will immediately begin the overhaul of our trade system to protect American workers and families. Instead of taxing our citizens to enrich other countries, we will tariff and tax foreign countries to enrich our citizens.

(Applause.)

For this purpose, we are establishing the External Revenue Service to collect all tariffs, duties, and revenues. It will be massive amounts of money pouring into our Treasury, coming from foreign sources. The American dream will soon be back and thriving like never before.

To restore competence and effectiveness to our Federal Government, my administration will establish the brandnew Department of Government Efficiency.

(Applause.)

After years and years of illegal and unconstitutional Federal efforts to restrict free expression, I will also sign an Executive order to immediately stop all government censorship and bring back free speech to America.

(Applause.)

Never again will the immense power of the state be weaponized to persecute political opponents, something I know something about. We will not allow that to happen. It will not happen again. Under my leadership, we will restore fair, equal, and impartial justice under the constitutional rule of law.

(Applause.)

And we are going to bring law and order back to our cities.

This week, I will also end the government policy of trying to socially engineer race and gender into every aspect of public and private life.

(Applause.)

We will forge a society that is color-blind and merit-based.

(Applause.)

As of today, it will henceforth be the official policy of the U.S. Government that there are only two genders: male and female.

(Applause.)

This week, I will reinstate any servicemembers who were unjustly expelled from our military for objecting to the COVID vaccine mandate, with full back pay.

(Applause.)

And I will sign an order to stop our warriors from being subjected to radical political theories and social experiments while on duty. It is going to end immediately. Our Armed Forces will be free to focus on their sole mission: defeating America's enemies.

(Applause.)

Like in 2017, we will again build the strongest military the world has ever seen. We will measure our success not only by the battles we win but also by the wars that we end and, perhaps most importantly, the wars we never get into.

(Applause.)

My proudest legacy will be that of a peacemaker and unifier. That is what I want to be: a peacemaker and a unifier. I am pleased to say that as of yesterday, 1 day before I assumed office, the hostages in the Middle East are coming back home to their families.

(Applause.)

Thank you, America will reclaim its rightful place as the greatest, most powerful, most respected Nation on Earth, inspiring the awe and admiration of the entire world.

A short time from now, we are going to be changing the name of the Gulf of Mexico to the Gulf of America, and we will restore the name of a great President, William McKinley, to Mount McKinley, where it should be and where it belongs. President McKinley made our country very rich through tariffs and through talent. He was a natural businessman and gave Teddy Roosevelt the money for many of the great things he did, including the Panama Canal, which has foolishly been given to the country of Panama after the United States—the United States, I mean, think of this, spent more money than was ever spent on a project before and lost 38,000 lives in the building of the Panama Canal.

We have been treated very badly from this foolish gift that should have never been made, and Panama's promise to us has been broken. The purpose of our deal and the spirit of our treaty has been totally violated. American ships are being severely overcharged and not treated fairly in any way, shape, or form, and that includes the U.S. Navy.

And above all, China is operating the Panama Canal, and we didn't give it to

China; we gave it to Panama. And we are taking it back.

(Applause.)

Above all, my message to Americans today is that it is time for us to once again act with courage, vigor, and the vitality of history's greatest civilization. So as we liberate our Nation, we will lead it to new heights of victory and success. We will not be deterred.

Together, we will end the chronic disease epidemic and keep our children safe, healthy, and disease-free.

The United States will once again consider itself a growing nation, one that increases our wealth, expands our territory, builds our cities, raises our expectations, and carries our flag into new and beautiful horizons. And we will pursue our manifest destiny into the stars, launching American astronauts to plant the stars and stripes on the planet Mars.

(Applause.)

Ambition is the lifeblood of a great nation, and right now our Nation is more ambitious than any other. There is no nation like our Nation. Americans are explorers, builders, innovators, entrepreneurs, and pioneers. The spirit of the frontier is written into our hearts. The call of the next great adventure resounds from within our souls.

Our American ancestors turned a small group of colonies on the edge of a vast continent into a mighty Republic of the most extraordinary citizens on Earth. No one comes close. Americans pushed thousands of miles through a rugged land of untamed wilderness. They crossed deserts, scaled mountains, braved untold dangers, won the Wild West, ended slavery, rescued millions from tyranny, lifted billions from poverty, harnessed electricity, split the atom, launched mankind into the heavens, and put the universe of human knowledge into the palm of the human hand. If we work together, there is nothing we cannot do and no dream we cannot achieve.

Many people thought it was impossible for me to stage such a historic political comeback, but as you see today, here I am. The American people have spoken.

(Applause.)

I stand before you now as proof that you should never believe that something is impossible to do. In America, the impossible is what we do best.

From New York to Los Angeles, from Philadelphia to Phoenix, from Chicago to Miami, from Houston to right here in Washington, DC, our country was forged and built by the generations of patriots who gave everything they had for our rights and for our freedom. They were farmers and soldiers, cowboys and factory workers, steelworkers and coal miners, police officers and pioneers who pushed onward, marched forward, and let no obstacle defeat their spirit or their pride. Together, they laid down the railroads, raised up the skyscrapers, built great highways, won two World Wars, defeated fascism

and communism, and triumphed over every single challenge that they faced.

After all we have been through together, we stand on the verge of the 4 greatest years in American history. With your help, we will restore American promise, and we will rebuild the Nation that we love. And we love it so much. We are one people, one family, and one glorious Nation under God.

So to every parent who dreams for their child and every child who dreams for their future, I am with you. I will fight for you, and I will win for you. They are going to win like never before.

(Applause.)

Thank you. Thank you.

In recent years, our Nation has suffered greatly, but we are going to bring it back and make it great again, greater than ever before. We will be a nation like no other, full of compassion, courage, and exceptionalism. Our power will stop all wars and bring a new spirit of unity to a world that has been angry, violent, and totally unpredictable.

America will be respected again and admired again, including by people of religion, faith, and good will. We will be prosperous. We will be proud. We will be strong. And we will win like never before. We will not be conquered. We will not be intimidated. We will not be broken. And we will not fail.

From this day on, the United States of America will be a free, sovereign, and independent nation. We will stand bravely. We will live proudly. We will dream boldly. And nothing will stand in our way because we are Americans. The future is ours. And our golden age has just begun. Thank you. God bless America. Thank you all. Thank you. Thank you very much. Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

MUC EDWARDS. Ladies and gentlemen, performing "America the Beautiful," please welcome the Armed Forces Chorus and Carrie Underwood.

(Performance of "America the Beautiful" by Carrie Underwood accompanied by the Armed Forces Chorus.)

(Applause.)

MUC EDWARDS. Ladies and gentlemen, Senator FISHER will now introduce the benediction clergy.

Mrs. FISCHER. I now call on Rabbi Ari Berman, Pastor Lorenzo Sewell, and Rev. Frank Mann to provide prayers of benediction.

Rabbi BERMAN: Let us pray.

Almighty God, your profit Jeremiah walked the streets of Jerusalem and blessed its inhabitants with:

(English translation of statement made in Hebrew as follows:)

Blessed is the one who trusts in God. Thousands of years later, this great Nation, which adopted these words as its motto, "In God We Trust," stands at a moment of historic opportunity. Americans are searching for meaning.

Our merciful Father, help us rise to meet this moment. Bless President Donald J. Trump and Vice President

JD VANCE with the strength and courage to choose the right and the good. Unite us around our foundational Biblical values of life and liberty, of service and sacrifice, and especially of faith and morality, which George Washington called the indispensable supports of American prosperity.

Guide our schools and college campuses, which have been experiencing such unrest, to inspire the next generation, to pair progress with purpose, knowledge with wisdom, and truth with virtue.

Hear the cry of the hostages, both American and Israeli, whose pain our President so acutely feels. We are so thankful for the three young women who yesterday returned home and pray that the next 4 years brings peace to Israel and throughout the Middle East.

Almighty God, grant all Americans the opportunity to realize our shared dream of a life filled with peace and plenty, health and happiness, compassion and contribution. Stir within us the confidence to rise to this moment, for while we trust in God, God's trust is in us, the American people.

America is called to greatness, to be a beacon of light and a mover of history.

May our Nation merit the fulfillments of Jeremiah's blessing, that like a tree planted by water, we shall not cease to bear fruit.

May all of humanity experience Your love and Your blessing. May it be Thy will and let us say amen.

Pastor SEWELL. Let us pray for our 47th President.

Heavenly Father, we are so grateful that You gave our 45th and now our 47th President a millimeter miracle.

We are grateful that You are the one that have called him for such a time as this; that America would begin to dream again.

We pray that we would fulfill the true meaning of our creed that "We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal."

We pray that You use our President; that we would live in a nation where we will not be judged by the color of our skin but by the content of our character.

Heavenly Father, in the name of Jesus, we are so grateful today that You will use our 47th President so we would "sing with new meaning 'My country 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing. Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrim's pride, from every mountainside, let freedom ring!'"

And because America is called to be a great nation, we believe that You will make this come true.

So let freedom ring from the prodigious hilltops of New Hampshire. Let freedom ring from the mighty mountains of New York. Let freedom ring from the heightening Alleghenies of Pennsylvania! Let freedom ring from the snowcapped Rockies of Colorado! Let freedom ring from the curvaceous [hilltops] of California!

But, God, we are asking You not only that, "Let freedom ring from Stone

Mountain Georgia! Let freedom ring from Lookout Mountain of Tennessee! Let freedom ring from every hill and every molehill [in] Mississippi"—from every State, every city, every village, and every hamlet.

And when we let freedom ring, we will be able to speed up that day, where all of your children, Black men and White men, Protestant and Catholic, Jew and Gentile, will be able to sing in the meaning of that old Negro spiritual: Free at last, free at last. Thank you, God Almighty, we are free at last.

If you believe where the spirit of the Lord is there is liberty, come on, put your hands together and give your great God great glory.

(Applause.)

Reverend MANN. Almighty and Eternal God, we gather here today in reverence, joined in our shared hopes and dreams for our beloved Nation.

In this sacred moment of the inauguration of President Donald J. Trump and Vice President JD VANCE, we turn our hearts to You, seeking Your divine assistance and abundant blessings upon this pivotal moment in history.

We come before You with profound gratitude for the many gifts You have bestowed upon our land. Thank You for the freedoms we cherish, for the strength of our communities, and for the resilience of our spirit.

As our President and Vice President embrace their newly appointed roles, we humbly implore that Your everlasting love and wisdom will envelope them. Grant them the clarity of mind to navigate the challenges that lie ahead and the compassion to serve all citizens with fairness and integrity.

May their hearts be filled with a giving spirit and sincere understanding for those whom they represent.

May they be beacons of hope in times of uncertainty and prophetic voices in defending the dignity of all created life.

We pray for a spirit of collaboration to flourish in our government and across our Nation, fostering an environment where dialogue and heartfelt listening will prevail over division or discord.

May each decision made by our President and Vice President reflect the values of justice and peace.

As we embark on this new chapter, we also seek Your comfort, O God, for those who feel lost or disheartened. In this time of transition, may Your light shine upon them, reaffirming their belief in a brighter tomorrow.

May we all strive to lift one another, supporting our fellow citizens with kindness and empathy, recognizing that together, we can overcome any adversity.

Grant us the strength to endure, the courage to face our fears, and the clarity to see the light that remains, even when clouds of uncertainty may gather.

Inspire our new leaders to be champions for the vulnerable and advocates for those whose voices are often silenced. May they pursue policies that

promote the well-being of all, seeking to build bridges that will foster unity and belonging.

As we stand witness to this inauguration, we hold fast to the faith, to our faith, and the goodness of each of us and the possibility of change.

We trust that with Your guidance, O God, our Nation can move forward to a future filled with promise, prosperity, and understanding.

And, finally, we lift our hearts in gratitude for the beloved parents of President Trump. Without Mary and Fred Trump, this day would never be the miracle that has just begun. From their place in Heaven, may they shield their son from all harm by their loving protection and give him the strength to guide our Nation along the path that will make America great again.

Let us go forth now with these words of President Trump's emblazoned on our hearts: As long as we have pride in our beliefs, courage in our convictions, and faith in our God, then we will not fail.

We stand tall. We stand proud because we are Americans. And Americans kneel to God and to God alone.

Amen.

(Applause.)

MUC EDWARDS. Ladies and gentlemen, please remain standing for our national anthem.

(Performance of the national anthem by Christopher Macchio, the Naval Academy Glee Club, the Armed Forces Chorus, and the United States Marine Band.)

(The inaugural ceremony was concluded at 12:58 p.m.)

LETTERS OF RESIGNATION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the letters from Senator RUBIO regarding his resignation from the Senate be printed in the RECORD.

The letters follow:

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. SENATE,

Washington, DC, January 20, 2025.

Hon. J.D. VANCE,

Vice President of the United States,
Washington, DC.

MR. VICE PRESIDENT: I have enclosed a letter of resignation, addressed to the Governor of Florida, announcing my resignation from the office of U.S. Senator effective January 20, 2025. As the President of the U.S. Senate, I bring this letter to your attention.

Sincerely,

MARCO RUBIO,
U.S. Senator.

U.S. SENATE,

Washington, DC, January 20, 2025.

Hon. RON DESANTIS,

Governor of the State of Florida,
Tallahassee, FL.

DEAR GOVERNOR DESANTIS: This is to advise you that I hereby resign as U.S. Senator for the State of Florida effective January 20, 2025 in order to assume the responsibilities of U.S. Secretary of State. It has been an honor

and privilege to represent the State of Florida for the last 14 years in the U.S. Senate. Sincerely,

MARCO RUBIO,
U.S. Senator.

BORN-ALIVE ABORTION SURVIVORS PROTECTION ACT—Motion to Proceed

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 4, S. 6.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 4, S. 6, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit a health care practitioner from failing to exercise the proper degree of care in the case of a child who survives an abortion or attempted abortion.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk for the motion to proceed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 4, S. 6, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit a health care practitioner from failing to exercise the proper degree of care in the case of a child who survives an abortion or attempted abortion.

John Thune, Steve Daines, John Kennedy, Jim Justice, James E. Risch, Tim Sheehy, Mike Crapo, Deb Fischer, Tommy Tuberville, Rick Scott of Florida, Pete Ricketts, Katie Britt, Ted Budd, Roger F. Wicker, Mike Rounds, Roger Marshall, Eric Schmitt.

Mr. THUNE. And I ask consent that the mandatory quorum call be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2025

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 11 a.m. on Tuesday, January 21; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; further, upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 4, S. 6; finally, that the Senate recess from 12:30 to 2:15 p.m. to allow for weekly conference meetings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 11 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:53 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 11 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

SCOTT BESSENT, OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO BE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

PAMELA BONDI, OF FLORIDA, TO BE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DOUGLAS BURGUM, OF NORTH DAKOTA, TO BE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

LORI CHAVEZ-DEREMER, OF OREGON, TO BE SECRETARY OF LABOR.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

DOUGLAS COLLINS, OF GEORGIA, TO BE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SEAN DUFFY, OF WISCONSIN, TO BE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

PETER HEGSETH, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

ROBERT F. KENNEDY, JR., OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

HOWARD LUTNICK, OF NEW YORK, TO BE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

LINDA MCMAHON, OF CONNECTICUT, TO BE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

KRISTI NOEM, OF SOUTH DAKOTA, TO BE SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

BROOKE ROLLINS, OF TEXAS, TO BE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MARCO RUBIO, OF FLORIDA, TO BE SECRETARY OF STATE.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

ERIC TURNER, OF TEXAS, TO BE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

CHRISTOPHER WRIGHT, OF COLORADO, TO BE SECRETARY OF ENERGY.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

TULSI GABBARD, OF HAWAII, TO BE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

JAMIESON GREER, OF MARYLAND, TO BE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE, WITH THE RANK AND STATUS OF AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

KELLY LOEFFLER, OF GEORGIA, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

JOHN RATCLIFFE, OF TEXAS, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ELISE STEFANIK, OF NEW YORK, TO BE THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS, WITH THE RANK AND STATUS OF AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY, AND THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

ELISE STEFANIK, OF NEW YORK, TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS DURING HER TENURE OF SERVICE AS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

RUSSELL VOUGHT, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

LEE ZELDIN, OF NEW YORK, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

KEITH BASS, OF TEXAS, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE LESTER MARTINEZ-LOPEZ.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

JAYANTA BHATTACHARYA, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH, VICE MONICA M. BERTAGNOLLI, RESIGNED.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

JAMES BISHOP, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, VICE NANI A. COLORETTI, RESIGNED.

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

FRANK BISIGNANO, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SECURITY, VICE MARTIN O'MALLEY, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TODD BLANCHE, OF FLORIDA, TO BE DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL, VICE LISA O. MONACO, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ADAM BOEHLER, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL ENVOY FOR HOSTAGE AFFAIRS.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

SAMUEL BROWN, OF NEVADA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS FOR MEMORIAL AFFAIRS, VICE MATTHEW T. QUINN.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WALTER CLAYTON, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE DAMIAN WILLIAMS.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

ELBRIDGE COLBY, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR POLICY, VICE COLIN HACKETT KAHL, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MONICA CROWLEY, OF NEW YORK, TO BE CHIEF OF PROTOCOL, AND TO HAVE THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR DURING HER TENURE OF SERVICE, VICE RUPUS GIFFORD, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

HARMEET DHILLON, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, VICE KRISTEN M. CLARKE, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DANIEL DRISCOLL, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY, VICE CHRISTINE ELIZABETH WORMUTH, RESIGNED.

MICHAEL DUFFY, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR ACQUISITION AND SUSTAINMENT, VICE WILLIAM A. LAPLANTE, JR., RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

TROY EDGAR, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY, VICE JOHN K. TIEN, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

MICHAEL FAULKENDER, OF MARYLAND, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, VICE ADEWALE O. ADEYEMO, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

STEPHEN FEINBERG, OF NEW YORK, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE KATHLEEN HOLLAND HICKS, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DAVID FINK, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION, VICE AMITABHA BOSE, RESIGNED.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

PAUL ATKINS, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM EXPIRING JUNE 5, 2026, VICE GARY GENSLER, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

DARIO GIL, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY FOR SCIENCE, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, VICE GERALDINE RICHMOND, RESIGNED.

PRESTON GRIFFITH, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF ENERGY, VICE DAVID CRANE, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JACOB HELBERG, OF FLORIDA, TO BE AN UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE (ECONOMIC GROWTH, ENERGY, AND THE ENVIRONMENT), VICE JOSE W. FERNANDEZ, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DUDLEY HOSKINS, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE FOR MARKETING AND REGULATORY PROGRAMS, VICE JENNIFER LESTER MOFFITT, RESIGNED.

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

JARED ISAACMAN, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION, VICE BILL NELSON, RESIGNED.

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

SCOTT KUPOR, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE KIRAN ARJANDAS AHUJA, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CHRISTOPHER LANDAU, OF MARYLAND, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE, VICE KURT CAMPBELL, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LUKE LINDBERG, OF SOUTH DAKOTA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE FOR TRADE AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS, VICE ALEXIS TAYLOR, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

WILLIAM LONG, OF MISSOURI, TO BE COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL REVENUE FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM EXPIRING NOVEMBER 12, 2027, VICE DANIEL I. WERFEL.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

MARTIN MAKARY, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE COMMISSIONER OF FOOD AND DRUGS, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, VICE ROBERT MCKINNON CALIFF, RESIGNED.

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

MARK MEADOR, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSIONER FOR THE TERM OF SEVEN YEARS FROM SEPTEMBER 26, 2024, VICE LINA M. KHAN, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TROY MEINK, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE, VICE FRANK KENDALL III, RESIGNED.

EMIL MICHAEL, OF FLORIDA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING, VICE HEIDI SHYU, RESIGNED.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

JANETTE NESHEIWAT, OF NEW YORK, TO BE MEDICAL DIRECTOR IN THE REGULAR CORPS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE, SUBJECT TO QUALIFICATIONS THEREFOR AS PROVIDED BY LAW AND REGULATIONS, AND TO BE SURGEON GENERAL OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE VIVEK HALLEGGERE MURTHY, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

JAMES O'NEILL, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, VICE ANDREA JOAN PALM, RESIGNED.

MEHMET OZ, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES, VICE CHIQUITA BROOKS-LASURE, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

KASHYAP PATEL, OF NEVADA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOR A TERM OF TEN YEARS, VICE CHRISTOPHER A. WRAY, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

JOHN PHELAN, OF FLORIDA, TO BE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY, VICE CARLOS DEL TORO, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

AARON REITZ, OF TEXAS, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL VICE HAMPTON Y. DELLINGER.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MICHAEL RIGAS, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE FOR MANAGEMENT AND RESOURCES, VICE RICHARD R. VERMA, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

DEAN SAUER, OF MISSOURI, TO BE SOLICITOR GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES, VICE ELIZABETH PRELOGAR, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

RODNEY SCOTT, OF OKLAHOMA, TO BE COMMISSIONER OF U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, VICE CHRIS MAGNUS.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ABIGAIL SLATER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, VICE JONATHAN KANTER, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

KEITH SONDERLING, OF FLORIDA, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF LABOR, VICE JULIE A. SU, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

STEPHEN VADEN, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE, VICE XOCHITL TORRES SMALL, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DAVID WELDON, OF FLORIDA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION. (NEW POSITION)

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

BRANDON WILLIAMS, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY FOR NUCLEAR SECURITY, VICE JILL HRUBY, RESIGNED.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate January 20, 2025:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MARCO RUBIO, OF FLORIDA, TO BE SECRETARY OF STATE.