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## Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable ROGER MARSHALL, a Senator from the State of Kansas.

### PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Almighty God, who taught us it is more blessed to give than receive. As we prepare to celebrate Presidents Day, thank You for the great gift of leadership. May this wonderful ability to mobilize people toward a shared objective become the strength of our legislative branch. Help our lawmakers find the correct balance that leads to true influence.

Lord, give them the wisdom to prefer listening to speaking and learning to teaching, as they seek to make bipartisan progress. Infuse them with the serenity to accept the things they cannot change, the courage to change the things they can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

We pray in your wonderful Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer 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.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

The senior assistant executive clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, February 13, 2025.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable ROGER MARSHALL, a Senator from the State of Kansas, to perform the duties of the Chair.

CHUCK GRASSLEY,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. MARSHALL thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RESERVATION OF LEADERSHIP TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

### CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant executive clerk read the nomination of Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., of California, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

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

### NOMINATION OF ROBERT F. KENNEDY, JR.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, this morning the Senate will vote on the nomination of Robert F. Kennedy to serve as Secretary of Health and Human Services. By now, it is beyond

clear that Mr. Kennedy is not remotely qualified to become the next Secretary of HHS. In fact, Mr. Kennedy might be one of the least qualified people that Donald Trump could have chosen for the job. There are so many others that would have been better.

I am very proud that every single Democrat will oppose Mr. Kennedy's nomination, because Democrats know better than to elevate a conspiracy theorist to the top healthcare job in the country.

I know some of my colleagues feel the same way privately. In fact, if the Senate held a secret ballot today, I would bet Mr. Kennedy would never come close to becoming confirmed and that many, if not most, Republicans would vote against him. I think, most likely, most Republicans would vote against him if there were a secret ballot.

But, sadly and unfortunately for America, Republicans are being strong-armed by Donald Trump and will end up holding their nose and voting to confirm Mr. Kennedy—what a shame, what a travesty.

I urge my Republican colleagues to think very carefully, one last time, before rolling the dice—before rolling the dice—on Mr. Kennedy.

A vote to confirm Mr. Kennedy is a vote to make America sicker. Mr. Kennedy has made a living not by promoting public health but by actively fighting it. Mr. Kennedy is the face of the modern anti-vaccine movement. Mr. Kennedy has spent decades profiting off vaccine misinformation.

Mr. Kennedy told me to my face that he would “defer to the President” on issues as personal, as deeply held, as important as abortion. How do we know that Mr. Kennedy won't defer to the President—who is far from an expert on healthcare—on other issues and healthcare issues as well? It is simple: We don't. But if he can change his view and defer to the President on something as deeply held as abortion, the

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



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likelihood is he will change his view on many other healthcare issues, to the detriment of the American people. One thing he won't change his views on is vaccines. I am sure because he has held that so deeply.

My Republican colleagues should think very carefully before voting to elevate a vaccine skeptic and conspiracy theorist to oversee our healthcare system.

If confirmed, I fear greatly that Mr. Kennedy will take steps that severely undermine public health, weaken safety standards, and put the needs of for-profit corporations ahead of the needs of American families.

Sooner or later, public backlash is going to build, and Republicans will have wished they hadn't signed their names for such a troubled nominee. So one final time—one final time—I implore my Republican colleagues to reject the nomination of Mr. Kennedy to be Secretary of HHS. A vote to confirm Mr. Kennedy is a vote I truly believe many, many Republicans and most Americans will eventually very deeply regret.

#### GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. President, now on costs, lowering costs for average families in the budget resolution. Well, my colleagues, ladies and gentlemen, my fellow Americans, welcome to the age of Trumpflation—Trumpflation. If there was one mandate that Donald Trump had after winning the election, it was to fight inflation. Remember what he said on the campaign trail? He said:

When I win, I will immediately bring prices down starting on Day One.

Starting on day one, he said he will bring prices down. Well, today is day 25, and inflation is not down but actually up by 3 percent—higher than what economists were expecting. At the grocery store, the price of pork and chicken and beef are all up. Eggs are up 15 percent from last month. Gas prices are up 2 percent from last month. Used cars are up. Auto insurance has become more expensive. And what is Donald Trump doing about all this? He is making the problem worse by threatening trade wars with our own allies.

Here is what the CEO of Ford Motor Company said yesterday. The CEO of Ford Motor Company warned yesterday that “a 25 percent tariff across the Mexico and Canada borders would blow a hole in the U.S. industry that we've never seen.” That is the head of Ford Motor. That is not some liberal Democratic economist. The head of Ford Motor says that tariffs will blow a huge hole—a hole in the U.S. auto industry.

What he is doing on tariffs is, again, sort of like everything else. It is sort of a meat-ax approach, a slash-and-burn approach, not looking at each individual case and seeing what is good and what is bad.

Inflation is the No. 1 issue on people's minds. It was the biggest issue during the election. And already, Donald Trump is breaking his promise to

do something about it. The American people are starting to take notice already, even though we are only on day 25 of Trump's term. A recent CBS poll showed that 66 percent of voters do not think Trump is focused enough on lowering prices. Sixty-six percent of voters do not think Donald Trump is focused enough on lowering prices. And do you know what? They are absolutely right.

In the 3 weeks that Donald Trump has been President, he has been focused on pretty much everything but fighting inflation, which is the No. 1 thing people care about. We have seen this maneuver so many times before from Donald Trump. He knows that he has no real answers to fixing inflation, so what does he do? He distracts. He distorts. He says ridiculous and wild, strange things hoping to distract the country from the fact he is not doing his job. It is why he talks about things like renaming the Gulf of Mexico. It is why he is talking about hotels in Gaza. It is why he is talking about annexing Canada. None of these things have anything to do with the thing that matters most—lowering the cost of living for average American families.

Meanwhile, what are the Republicans doing here in Congress? What are my Senate Republican colleagues doing? Are they fighting inflation maybe? No way. No way. Republicans are full steam ahead with cutting taxes for the ultrarich, paid for on the backs of working- and middle-class families.

Just look at the gargoyle-like budget proposal that the House Republicans released yesterday. Republicans want to make billionaires even wealthier by raising costs for working people. The Republican budget slashes nutrition programs that help 40 million Americans put food on the table. The Republican budget proposes massive cuts to Medicaid, threatening healthcare for tens of millions of people. It will make food, healthcare, energy, and housing more expensive—all to cut taxes for the ultrarich, hurting the middle class, raising costs for the middle class to help the ultrawealthy. The Republican budget plan can be described in one word: “radical.”

Republicans should remember well what happened the last time they cut taxes for the ultrawealthy. It backfired with the rest of America. If Republicans try to cut taxes for the ultrarich again, history is going to repeat itself, and it will cost them dearly at the ballot box.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### NOMINATION OF BROOKE ROLLINS

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I am honored to speak on the floor of the

Senate and support Brooke Rollins to be Secretary of Agriculture. The Senate will vote on her nomination in this Cabinet position today, and I encourage my colleagues to vote yes.

America's farmers, ranchers, and foresters need a leader at USDA who will be an advocate for their livelihoods and rural America and be a strong voice to address the pressing needs of our agriculture community. Brooke Rollins is that person. In her hearing before the Senate Agriculture Committee, she pledged to do everything within her ability to ensure that our farmers, ranchers, and rural communities thrive. And we know she will follow through on that because rural America helped shape her into what she is today.

She is leading a life of service that began with membership in her smalltown Texas FFA chapter. She continues to credit her FFA adviser for his support and mentorship in her agriculture career. She invited him to attend the nomination hearing before the Senate Agriculture Committee last month, along with the Texas State FFA officer team she served with in high school.

Texas Governor Rick Perry knew Brooke Rollins had a heart for Texas farmers and invited her to join his policy team, where she advocated for agriculture. She continues that passion today.

Her executive leadership during the first Trump administration and her regular collaboration with President Trump make her uniquely qualified to serve in this position and advocate for family farms.

She understands the significant responsibility of this role during one of the most economically challenging times for agriculture producers. Hard-working farmers who grow our food are struggling to operate, let alone make a profit in this current economic climate. High inflation and steep input costs far outpacing depressed market prices have put many farm families on a course toward bankruptcy, with multigenerational operations fighting to continue their family legacies.

In December, Congress approved natural disaster and emergency assistance to help producers obtain critical operating loans for this crop year. Ensuring delivery of this aid will be one of her first priorities as Secretary. I am confident she will pursue policies to help rural America live up to its potential.

While we first met during the first Trump administration, I have had the opportunity to get to know her better during her confirmation process, and she has demonstrated her enthusiasm for being a voice for smalltown American agriculture producers. I am grateful she is willing to take on this big responsibility and is willing to be a part of the solution to help rural America at this time of unprecedented challenges.

As chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, I have met with

farmers, ranchers, and agriculture stakeholders from all over the country, and they have been sounding the alarm of the dire circumstances they face in producing a safe, affordable, and abundant supply of food. Farmers from my home State of Arkansas shared with the committee last week about the difficult conversations they are forced to have right now about continuing their multigenerational farms and risking their families' futures in the industry. Unfortunately, this is a conversation many more farm families across the country will have if we do not act quickly.

Congress must deliver an updated 5-year farm bill that modernizes the safety net in order to minimize the liabilities farm families take on when they plant their crops. Food security is national security. Our country is blessed to have grocery stores stocked with food to put on our tables. This is the result of the hard work of our farmers and ranchers. These producers need the tools to be successful and continue to grow the food, fiber, and fuel our Nation depends on.

I know Brooke Rollins shares my commitment to enhancing policies that help farm families and rural communities thrive. Given her executive leadership, she is well prepared to hit the ground running when she walks through the doors of the USDA as Secretary and to deliver this certainty and predictability our producers need. I look forward to working with her and strengthening rural America for the men, women, and families who call it home.

I also want to thank everyone on both sides of the aisle for making it such that we can do this in such an expeditious way. It took a lot of cooperation. I think it just shows how important our farmers are to both Democrats and Republicans. It is one of the few areas in which it is not a partisan issue. It is all about helping the men and women who work so, so very hard to provide the food we eat.

With that, I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

NOMINATION OF BROOKE ROLLINS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, anybody who knows me well knows that I say this a lot, and that is that agriculture is the lifeblood of South Dakota and the lifeblood of our country, and farmers and ranchers are hard at work every single day to feed America and the world. But what I hear lately from farmers and ranchers is not good.

Agriculture producers across the country have faced strong headwinds in recent years—higher input costs, high interest rates, lower commodity prices—all leading to declining farm income year after year. Natural disasters have struck many of our farm regions, and the bird flu continues to ravage agriculture across the country.

Of course, in the last few years, the Biden administration was hardly much

help. It imposed burdensome regulations like WOTUS, or waters of the United States, that threatened to devastate the farm sector. The administration put expanding market access on the back burner while our agricultural trade deficit grew to record levels, and their profligate spending led to inflation that hit farmers and ranchers especially hard in the form of higher input costs.

Meanwhile, Democrats here in Congress failed to prioritize a modernized farm bill to support agriculture through these challenges, and we are now more than a year past due for an updated farm bill. America's farmers and ranchers deserve better—much better.

I expect things will be different under President Trump, and I know that farmers and ranchers will have a friend in Brooke Rollins, the President's choice for Secretary of Agriculture.

Ms. Rollins grew up in the small, agricultural town of Glen Rose, TX. She spent summers working for her family on their farm in Minnesota, helping with their corn, potato, and soybean crops. She was a 4-H'er, an FFA State officer, and a barrel racer, and her four kids are keeping up her family's way of life by showing cattle in Texas.

After studying agriculture development at Texas A&M, Ms. Rollins went to work for then-Governor Rick Perry, where she worked on agriculture policy. She then continued her ag work by building up a Texas think tank, empowering the voices of farmers, ranchers, and rural communities. Then she served in President Trump's first administration—first leading the Office of American Innovation and then on the Domestic Policy Council.

Brooke Rollins is a policy wonk with a farmer's heart. She understands the needs of agriculture producers, and she knows how to deliver results. She promises to get right to work after she is confirmed on four key priorities: first, getting disaster and economic aid out the door and into the hands of farmers; second, getting the bird flu and other animal disease outbreaks under control; third, getting the farm bill done; and finally, revitalizing the U.S. Department of Agriculture to focus on its core mission and put America and American agriculture first. I am looking forward to working with Ms. Rollins on these key priorities.

Under this Republican majority, delivering a modernized farm bill is a priority, and I am glad that Ms. Rollins has pledged to work with Congress on one of the top farm bill needs, which is strengthening the farm safety net—essential to keeping existing operations going—and encouraging the next generation of producers to get started.

I was also pleased to hear Ms. Rollins acknowledge the need to improve the management of national forests. The Black Hills National Forest, among others across the country, has seen its timber industry decimated by bad man-

agement policies. So I look forward to working with the USDA, under Secretary Rollins, to provide relief from the dire situation in western South Dakota.

I am encouraged as well that she will prioritize getting disaster and economic assistance out the door. Last year, many parts of the country suffered from natural disasters, including South Dakota. As I said, farmers and ranchers have suffered lower commodity prices and declining incomes. In December, Congress passed \$31 billion in agricultural disaster and economic assistance, and we need to get that money into the hands of farmers and ranchers working to rebuild.

Brooke Rollins understands the mission of the USDA. She understands the day-to-day needs of America's farmers, and she has the expertise to deliver results. I trust that she will put America's farmers and ranchers first as Secretary of Agriculture, and I look forward to working with her in this role.

(The remarks of Mr. THUNE pertaining to the introduction of S. 587 are printed in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

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

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

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to speak for up to 15 minutes, Senator CRAPO for up to 5 minutes, and Senator SCHUMER for 2 minutes prior to the scheduled votes.

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

NOMINATION OF ROBERT F. KENNEDY, JR.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, late into the night, Senators spoke on the Senate floor about why Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., is the least qualified nominee to ever be tapped as America's chief health officer.

On issue after issue, Mr. Kennedy has demonstrated a profound lack of knowledge, at best, and deeply dangerous views, at worst.

Mr. Kennedy has refused to tell Americans how we would manage healthcare issues that they are deeply worried about: vaccine safety, women's reproductive health, drug pricing, and affordable healthcare, to name a few. This leaves millions of Americans alarmed about the future of health and science in America.

Last week, two Oregon medical students approached me to talk about Mr. Kennedy's nomination. These medical students told me they were less concerned about the damage Mr. Kennedy would do as HHS Secretary in the weeks and months to come. These medical students are not only worried

about the prospect of losing cures, treatments, and medical breakthroughs if Mr. Kennedy is confirmed. These medical students from Oregon told me that his unwillingness to take science and medical data seriously is going to harm science for decades to come.

So I ask my colleagues to think about those medical students' words. Is that a legacy you want to leave behind as a result of supporting Mr. Kennedy?

Senate Democrats have been making this exact case. In his hearing before the Finance Committee, I asked Mr. Kennedy to square his anti-vaccine views with more recent statements designed to appease a number of our Senators who are quite nervous about his nomination.

In his testimony, he used the fact that his own children were vaccinated to prove he was not anti-vaccine. But the record shows that just a few years ago, he said he would "do anything" and "pay anything" to go back in time in order to prevent them from getting those vaccines.

Elsewhere in his testimony, Mr. Kennedy stated he was not anti-vaccine but, rather, "pro-safety." But about 18 months ago, he said on a podcast:

No vaccine is safe and effective.

In other words, in the Senate Finance Committee, we brought the evidence; we brought the receipts, and Mr. Kennedy said nothing to actually disavow his prior statements. He stuck by the timeworn tactics of a conspiracy theorist: Always ask for more evidence, and never accept the evidence that is placed in front of you.

Even some of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are now deeply disturbed by Mr. Kennedy's refusal to entertain evidence that would require him to change his mind on vaccine safety. Nevertheless, it sure looks like my Republican colleagues have bowed to pressure from Donald Trump and are poised to hand Mr. Kennedy the platform he has been seeking for two decades to push fringe views.

Before the Senate votes, I would like to take a moment to talk a little bit about the fights ahead on healthcare.

Republicans in the House are already pressing ahead this morning with their plan to kick millions of Americans off of their health insurance in order to fund more tax cuts for those who are very wealthy. And as HHS Secretary, Mr. Kennedy is going to be a key player in this effort.

While Senators were on the floor speaking yesterday, the Senate Budget Committee debated a budget resolution that unlocks the legislative tools Republicans need to make good on their go-it-alone plan. At the same time, the House Budget Committee released its own budget resolution that will be debated today.

What is clear in both of these blueprints, in their game plan, is that Medicaid cuts are at the top of the list.

Eighty-one million Americans rely on healthcare coverage under Medicaid

and the CHIP program for kids. Those people are folks with disabilities, low-income families, seniors, and, of course, children.

The damage and destruction to American families if Republicans go through with their plans to gut Medicaid cannot be overstated.

Take nursing homes, for example. Two out of three nursing home residents are currently being covered for their healthcare by Medicaid.

Imagine you visit your mom in her nursing home in the months after the Republican bill makes steep cuts to Medicaid. Your mom complains there are fewer and fewer staff. She had to wait more than an hour after calling for help to use the bathroom on several occasions.

The next time you visit, she tells you some of the new staff don't have time for her. You learn that the facility no longer has the resources to conduct background checks and that they are desperate for workers.

A few weeks later, the facility manager pulls you aside to deliver some bad news. Her nursing home can no longer accept patients with Medicaid after steep Federal cuts to the program. Unless you can find another facility that accepts Medicaid, you have got to pay the high monthly costs out of your own pocket.

Suddenly, and with no warning, you have got impossible options. Either you scramble to find the money to cover a new facility that costs thousands of dollars a month, or you bring your mom home with you.

So between holding down a full-time job and raising young kids, suddenly, you have to deal with making sure your mom gets full-time care, and that requires nursing assistance around the clock.

Unfortunately, this case I described is something you see in every nook and cranny of America. I know that from my days as codirector of the Gray Panthers. And I know that many of your friends and neighbors with aging parents and grandparents in nursing homes are facing the catastrophe that I have just described.

Now, Republicans are going to do somersaults to disguise their cuts to Medicaid, and they are going to describe it in healthcare lingo that they think plays well with people.

For Republicans, every single child, senior, or family struggling to pay the bills that gets denied coverage is a win. That brings us to Mr. Kennedy.

During his confirmation hearing on everything from abortion to vaccines to Medicare and Medicaid, Mr. Kennedy was given ample opportunity to go on the record about how he would improve these programs, bring down costs, save taxpayers money, and improve care. Instead, he showed a complete lack of understanding of the basics of Medicaid and how it functions.

I personally believe it shouldn't be too much to ask for the future CEO of Medicaid to understand how important

it is to provide affordable coverage for millions of families.

Republicans, with Donald Trump at the helm, are steering our country toward a healthcare cliff. Their ultimate objective is to take away Medicaid from as many people as they can.

Colleagues, so much for making America healthy again.

What the American people need is a leader who will be the voice of reason in the room as Trump and his assistants in Congress start slicing and cutting.

Our country needs a leader at Health and Human Services who is actually going to work to improve care and lower costs, defend the reproductive freedom of families, and listen, in particular, to facts and science.

The American people have no reason to believe, based on the record, the evidence that the Senate Finance Committee has accumulated—to believe that Mr. Kennedy will be that leader.

There is no question the healthcare system in America needs reforms. It has fallen short, and Democrats want to work in a bipartisan way on those issues.

We are disillusioned by a system that puts profits over patients in too many circumstances. Nobody on this side of the aisle is arguing for the status quo.

But the solution, colleagues—and I am closing with this—does not lie in Donald Trump's "concept of a plan" to make our country less healthy, less safe, and less successful.

When kids are kicked off their Medicaid coverage and forced to go without basic medical care and grow up with chronic illnesses that leave them in a lifetime of pain and suffering, Republicans are going to regret any vote they give to Robert Kennedy.

When seniors are told they have to vacate their nursing homes because it no longer accepts Medicaid, Republicans again will regret a vote for Robert Kennedy.

When families are struggling to pay the bills and they are landed with a mountain of medical debt because their kid got sick and they were kicked off their insurance, finally, Republicans will regret any vote they give to Robert Kennedy.

Mr. Kennedy will, no doubt, be right alongside Republicans, a willing participant in this future for healthcare that I have described today that is really stepping back from progress that has been made.

I urge a "no" vote.

I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

MR. CRAPO. Mr. President, I rise today in support of Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.'s nomination to be Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and to urge my colleagues to vote in favor of his confirmation.

Contrary to the attacks that have constantly been made on him, he has made it very clear that he will support safe vaccinations and just wants to see

that the research on them is done and done well.

When his nomination for the role of Secretary at HHS was announced, Mr. Kennedy stated:

We have a generational opportunity to bring together the greatest minds in science, medicine, industry, and government to put an end to the chronic disease epidemic facing Americans.

I agree with him. We have got to get into the business of making America healthy again.

Mr. Kennedy's dedication to this commitment has been apparent throughout the nomination process. He will bring a fresh perspective to healthcare, prioritizing consumer choice, information transparency, and early interventions to strengthen the well-being of all Americans.

He has been responsive to a wide variety of questions from Members on both sides of the aisle, appearing before two committees and answering hundreds of questions for the record, not to mention going through the extensive vetting process of the Finance Committee, which I chair, which is the most extensive vetting process that any candidate for a position in this administration goes through in the Senate.

While some of my colleagues continue to question his financial agreements, Mr. Kennedy met and then exceeded the requirements set forth by the Office of Government Ethics. Mr. Kennedy has participated in one of the most extensive processes, as I have said, that our Senate puts a nominee through and has succeeded in meeting those standards, and I encourage my colleagues to support his nomination.

#### HEALTHCARE FUNDING

Mr. President, now, before I close, I want to respond briefly to the comments that we have heard today here on the floor and all day yesterday in a long, long Budget Committee hearing to set up the first reconciliation legislation to come before the Congress.

It was said today that Republicans are going to take Medicaid away from children; they are going to take healthcare away from seniors. It was said yesterday that we were going to go after pretty much old people, young people, middle-aged people, and every other kind of people because we are going to destroy the support base that they have here in the Federal system.

The fact is, this is the politics of fear, the politics of claiming things that are going to happen which are not going to happen.

The reality is that yesterday's Budget Committee meeting was not on healthcare. There was nothing done in the meeting yesterday that would have done any of the things that you have heard on the floor today. What we did do yesterday was to set up a process so we can provide some significant extra spending authority to our government to close the border and deport the violent criminals who have come into our country in the millions in the last few

years. We had another provision in it to give significant new resources to our national defense so that we can build back our Department of Defense and the ability of our armed services members to have the technology and the equipment and be capable of responding to threats to our Nation.

And, finally, we restarted and charged up our use and engagement in producing America's energy in America so that we can get back into the business of being independent and not relying on other nations for our energy policy.

Those are the three things that we focused on in the committee yesterday. And, by the way, each one of those was a little bit costly, and every one of those was offset so that there was no increase in Federal spending.

Mr. President, I think we need to argue over facts when we get into these debates. We are going to have a tremendous number of debates. And, yes, we will debate on healthcare at some point, but yesterday and what we did yesterday was focused on the border, on national defense, and on reboosting our energy production in America.

I encourage a strong "yes" vote for Robert F. Kennedy to be the next Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for 1 minute for an opportunity to respond to my colleague from Idaho.

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

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I would only say to my friend from Idaho that he says this is not going to happen, that people are going to be safe and seniors on Medicaid and the like will be safe—I would just say to my colleague, it starts today—today—in the other body of Congress, I would say to my colleague. The process of setting in motion these cuts to essential healthcare services begins today. We can read about it in the publications about the congressional schedule.

I look forward to working with my colleague when we can find common ground, but on this point that it is not going to happen and everybody is going to be safe, the efforts to cut these vital programs, including Medicaid, begins this morning in the other body.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have 30 seconds to just respond.

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

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I would simply say that we hear this every time we look at trying to address the spending excesses in our government.

And I will just say to my colleague and to everyone: We are not going to take healthcare away from children. We are not going to take healthcare

away from adults, from seniors, or from middle-aged people. We are not going to attack the benefits that people get under Medicare.

And, frankly, we will reform some of the spending, yes, but we will not do all of the terrible things that are being spun up to try to attack this effort to control the excessive spending in our government.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

NOMINATION OF ROBERT F. KENNEDY, JR.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, the fact that we are here right now—that we are even here right now—voting on this wildly unqualified conspiracy theorist to trust with one of the most life-or-death jobs, HHS Secretary, charged with protecting the health of every single American should be an affront to every Senator and the millions of Americans that will be impacted by this horrific nomination.

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle, I implore you, think one more time, one last time, about this vote. My colleagues on the Republican side, you know the consequences of what you are doing. My colleagues on the Republican side, you know how dangerous this is. My colleagues on the other side, you know you are not putting your constituents, their health, their families first when you vote yes.

To quote my colleague the junior Senator from Texas just a few years ago, he said:

We need an expert, we need a scientist, we need someone who knows something about healthcare leading the Health and Human Services Department.

Well, which is Robert Kennedy? An expert? A scientist?

Or what about the senior Senator from Louisiana, the chair of the HELP Committee and a well-respected medical professional himself? A few years ago, here is what he said:

Previous HHS Secretaries have had a pharmaceutical industry background, been a State health commissioner, run health systems, have been governors—somebody who has had a background in actually administering the programs that HHS administers.

I ask my colleagues: Which of these qualifications does RFK possess?

You know the answer: None of them.

The question in front of this body today—the question in front of this body—is not simply to confirm RFK to run the Nation's Health Department. The question before us is very simple: Which is more important to you—the health and well-being of your constituents or blindly obeying orders, knowing full well the dangerous impacts your vote will enable?

I plead with you one more time: Rethink this issue. This is dangerous. This is wrong—very wrong.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON KENNEDY NOMINATION

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Kennedy nomination?

Mr. SCHUMER. 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 52, nays 48, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 52 Ex.]

#### YEAS—52

Banks	Graham	Mullin
Barrasso	Grassley	Murkowski
Blackburn	Hagerty	Paul
Boozman	Hawley	Ricketts
Britt	Hoeven	Risch
Budd	Husted	Rounds
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Collins	Justice	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Sheehy
Cotton	Lankford	Sullivan
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Lummis	Tillis
Cruz	Marshall	Tuberville
Curtis	McCormick	Wicker
Daines	Moody	Moran
Ernst	Moran	Young
Fischer	Moreno	

#### NAYS—48

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Reed
Baldwin	Hirono	Rosen
Bennet	Kaine	Sanders
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schatz
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Schiff
Booker	King	Schumer
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Coons	Lujan	Slotkin
Cortez Masto	Markey	Smith
Duckworth	McConnell	Van Hollen
Durbin	Merkley	Warner
Fetterman	Murphy	Warnock
Gallego	Murray	Warren
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Welch
Hassan	Padilla	Whitehouse
Heinrich	Peters	Wyden

The nomination was confirmed.

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

#### CLOTURE MOTION WITHDRAWN

Under the previous order, the cloture motion with respect to the Rollins nomination is withdrawn.

The cloture motion was withdrawn.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the Rollins nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Brooke Rollins, of Texas, to be Secretary of Agriculture.

#### NOMINATION OF BROOKE ROLLINS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I rise today to speak in support of the nomination of Brooke Rollins of Texas to be Secretary of the Department of Agriculture.

I met Mrs. Rollins during President Trump's first term when we worked together to pass the largest criminal justice reform legislation since the 1990s, the First Step Act.

Now, she is focusing on her agricultural roots, having grown up participating in 4-H and FFA.

I am encouraged by her attention to detail and hard work, something I am sure will serve her and America's farmers well.

Mrs. Rollins is taking on a large role, leading 100,000 employees, making policy decisions that will affect family farmers across the country, and impact the efficiency and transparency of government.

In her confirmation hearing, Mrs. Rollins assured me that she would, to the best of her ability, respond to my letters and make the Department of Agriculture a place where whistleblowers can come forward confidently.

I look forward to working with this highly capable nominee to advance policies that will help Iowa farmers, including the enforcement of the Packers and Stockyards Act and advocating for new markets for our ag products.

#### VOTE ON ROLLINS NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Rollins nomination?

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, 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 72, nays 28, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 53 Ex.]

#### YEAS—72

Baldwin	Gallego	Mullin
Banks	Graham	Murkowski
Barrasso	Grassley	Ossoff
Bennet	Hagerty	Paul
Blackburn	Hassan	Peters
Booker	Hawley	Ricketts
Boozman	Heinrich	Risch
Britt	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Budd	Hoeven	Rounds
Capito	Husted	Schiff
Cassidy	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Collins	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Justice	Scott (SC)
Cortez Masto	Kennedy	Shaheen
Cotton	Klobuchar	Sheehy
Cramer	Lankford	Slotkin
Crapo	Lee	Sullivan
Cruz	Lummis	Thune
Curtis	Marshall	Tillis
Daines	McConnell	Tuberville
Durbin	McCormick	Warnock
Ernst	Moody	Welch
Fetterman	Moran	Wicker
Fischer	Moreno	Young

#### NAYS—28

Alsobrooks	Kim	Schatz
Blumenthal	King	Schumer
Blunt Rochester	Lujan	Smith
Cantwell	Markey	Van Hollen
Coons	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Murphy	Warren
Gillibrand	Murray	Whitehouse
Hirono	Padilla	Wyden
Kaine	Reed	
Kelly	Sanders	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HAGERTY). 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.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will re-

sume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Howard Lutnick, of New York, to be Secretary of Commerce.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

#### REMEMBERING PAUL GALLO

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, it is with a sense of sadness but also an honor to celebrate the life of someone who truly made a profound impact on my home State of Mississippi: Paul Gallo. My State mourns Paul, who died January 19, 2025, after a brave fight with cancer.

Known across the airwaves as the host of "The Paul Gallo Show," Paul was far more than just a broadcaster. If there is anyone who can be considered a Mississippi icon, it is him. He earned that status over decades as a steady voice for news and opinion in my State.

I will never forget the first time I had the honor of being on "The Paul Gallo Show" as a newly elected State senator. Paul treated me with kindness, fairness, and respect, qualities he extended to everyone he encountered, whether they were politicians, movers and shakers, or simply everyday listeners. He made you feel like you were a part of every conversation, someone you could rely on and someone you could trust.

In the 1990s, Paul helped transform a longtime vision into reality with the creation of SuperTalk Mississippi, a statewide network that gave Mississippians a platform to be heard, uniting our State through shared conversation.

Paul, the son of the Mississippi Delta, was a true believer in Mississippi. He recognized its potential and its strengths, but he wasn't afraid to address its challenges head-on. He shaped the conversations that mattered to the people of Mississippi, no matter where they lived across the State.

Throughout his career, Paul was a voice for change. He spoke out on critical issues affecting our communities and held our leaders accountable. His dedication to the people of Mississippi and his unabashed commitment to doing right by them was evident in everything he did.

Beyond his broadcasting career, Paul and his colleagues at SuperTalk Mississippi became champions for the Palmer Home for Children. Their tireless efforts have raised millions of dollars to support children in need, giving them a better chance at a brighter future. Paul's compassion for the people of Mississippi, especially its children, was unwavering.

My heart goes out to his wife Patsy, their children, grandchildren, the entire SuperTalk family, and the countless listeners whose lives he touched.

Paul's impact on Mississippi will be felt for generations through the stories he shared, the people he connected with, the policies he has influenced, and the legacy he leaves behind.

Paul Gallo will always be part of Mississippi's story and always a part of our hearts.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

#### TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, last week, the Senate voted to confirm Pam Bondi as U.S. Attorney General. I was proud to support her nomination both at the Senate Judiciary Committee level and on the Senate floor.

Today, the Senate Judiciary Committee held a markup on the nomination of Kash Patel for Director of the FBI. Likewise, I was happy to support his nomination in committee, and I look forward to supporting him here on the Senate floor as soon as that vote comes before us.

One of President Trump's most important pledges during the campaign was to end the politicalization and the weaponization of the Department of Justice, including the FBI. Pam Bondi and Kash Patel, I think, are outstanding picks to fulfill this pledge, which is very important. I am pleased the Senate is moving to confirm them with no delay.

I believe that the FBI and the Department of Justice are two of the most important institutions in America. If you look around the world, you see a lot of countries that have a similar economic system to ours, and you wonder, why is America uniquely prosperous? Why is it that we succeed where others fail?

I believe it is two things. One is our independent judiciary, and secondly, our institutions of justice like the FBI and the Department of Justice that are supposed to discharge their responsibilities without regard to politics and without regard to the sorts of activities we have seen in recent years.

We know that both of these individuals—Mr. Patel and Ms. Bondi—have their work cut out for them.

The mission of the Department of Justice, after all, is to uphold the rule of law, to keep the country safe, and to protect civil rights. The FBI's mission is to protect the American people and to uphold the Constitution of the United States.

Under the Biden administration and even before that, the Department of Justice and the FBI failed to achieve those noble and worthy goals. Of course, back even during President Trump's first term of office, there was the infamous Crossfire Hurricane FBI investigation. There was the so-called Russian hoax based on a phony piece of Russian propaganda known as the Steele dossier, which ultimately we found out was part of the opposition research that Hillary Clinton's campaign collected during her campaign against President Trump back in 2016. This was dressed up to make it look like a credible bit of intelligence, when, in fact, it was Russian propaganda, we ultimately found out, Russian disinformation.

Two weeks ago, during his hearing at the Judiciary Committee, Kash Patel

told me that the rule of law is one of the fundamental precepts that make America an exceptional nation. Without the rule of law, he said, "we go back to the Uganda that my father fled."

Kash Patel's adherence to the mission of the FBI and its parent Agency, the Department of Justice, is a stark contrast from what we have seen in recent years. We saw, for example, Merrick Garland's misguided memo in October of 2021 directing the FBI to work with U.S. attorneys to "discuss strategies for addressing threats from parents" who were taking an active role in their children's education by participating in parent-teacher meetings and school board meetings.

Similarly, we have the FBI Richmond Field Office that sent a memo in 2023 suggesting that traditional Catholics might pose a threat as violent domestic extremists.

So we know that there is example after embarrassing example of how the FBI and the DOJ have gotten off track.

A report from the House Judiciary Committee highlighted, for example, the FBI's misguided attempt to artificially inflate the number of domestic extremism threats by claiming Americans who were exercising their First Amendment rights were somehow potential domestic terrorist threats, not to mention the FBI's role in censoring information related to Hunter Biden's criminal activities.

A Senate report from the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, in 2020, detailed many of Hunter's and his associates' unseemly—and likely illegal—activities, including payments from Ukrainian, Russian, Kazakh, and Chinese nationals and revealed that the FBI may have had knowledge of these activities for some time and done nothing.

In September 2020, when the House Judiciary Committee sent a followup letter to Director Wray, related to Hunter Biden's alleged misconduct, the FBI stonewalled them and refused to confirm or deny any ongoing investigations.

I know that is a common response by the FBI. Well, they are not going to talk about ongoing investigations, and, certainly, we understand that, as a routine matter, there shouldn't be any sort of interference in ongoing investigations. But Congress has a unique constitutional role of oversight, and, essentially, what Director Wray was saying was, he wasn't willing to give the Congress, as an oversight body, the information we need in order to do our job.

Of course, despite these numerous efforts within the FBI and the Department of Justice to protect Hunter Biden from accountability for his crimes, we know his own father issued a Presidential pardon in the final weeks of his Presidency, even though for months he had said he would never do such a thing. But then he did, claiming his son was selectively and unfairly prosecuted.

Well, my recollection was Hunter was convicted of one crime by a jury but pled guilty to others. So it is not clear to me how President Biden can say that he was selectively and unfairly prosecuted for the crimes that he pled guilty to.

It is hard to imagine thinking someone was unfairly targeted when the entire government—all the government Agencies involved—did everything they could to assist the Biden family and to protect that person from justice.

While it is no surprise that the American people were upset and even outraged by this, who could forget the marked differences, the double standard, in response to when President Trump was found to have sensitive documents in his home in Mar-a-Lago and when President Biden was found to have sensitive documents in his home in Wilmington, DE.

And all the while, during the historic crime wave we have experienced in recent years, Merrick Garland directed his Agency not to enforce mandatory minimums against most drug crimes. He did this while Americans across the country were suffering from fatal drug overdoses at record numbers, especially from fentanyl, which took the lives of approximately 70,000 Americans last year alone.

The results of all of these abuses of authority has been a loss of trust and confidence by the American people in these important institutions: the FBI and the Department of Justice. These institutions were no longer believed to be engaged in the fair administration of justice based on facts and evidence, as opposed to political gamesmanship.

Now, I realize that Attorney General Bondi and soon-to-be Director Patel are going to have a huge task ahead of them to restore these Agencies to their core missions and to restore the trust that has been eroded of the American people in our American system of justice. But both of these individuals have pledged to do just that, and I believe they should have an opportunity to do that.

Pam Bondi, after all, has been a career prosecutor. She then went on to be attorney general of Florida for two terms. As a former attorney general of my State in Texas, I know how tough that job can be. But she has done an outstanding job, and I have no doubt that her promotion to U.S. Attorney General by President Trump was well deserved. She is prepared for this important job.

My goal for the Department of Justice and the FBI is to restore the non-partisan functioning of our country's chief law enforcement Agencies. The American people deserve an FBI and a Department of Justice that they can trust. They deserve to live under a system where the guilty are prosecuted and where the innocent are not unfairly targeted. They deserve to live in a place where political views are not a basis for a criminal investigation and where an accused person is still presumed innocent until proven guilty. In



short, we need a Department of Justice that will deal out justice evenhandedly, without fear or favor.

I believe that being Attorney General is probably one of the toughest jobs here in Washington, DC, because you are not only the chief law enforcement officer for the country, you are also a member of the President's Cabinet.

But even given the difficult nature of the job, Merrick Garland practically abdicated his responsibilities as chief law enforcement officer in order to be a partisan advocate for President Biden's policies.

President Trump's Attorney General will have a chance to turn the page from Merrick Garland's failures by reversing the partisan hackery that has been a part and parcel of President Biden's Department of Justice. President Trump's Attorney General can restore the Department of Justice to its core mission. Pam Bondi can serve President Trump and the Nation well by enforcing the law that is on the books and ending the weaponization of political enemies.

Similarly, Kash Patel has an opportunity to turn the page from the abuses and the lack of accountability that we have seen at the FBI in recent years.

So I look forward to working with Ms. Bondi and Mr. Patel in their noble endeavor to restore trust in our Nation's justice system, and by doing so, to restore the trust of the American people.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

#### FOOD FOR PEACE PROGRAM

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, today I want to speak about a program that has shaped our Nation's humanitarian efforts and made a significant impact on my home State of Kansas, a program called Food for Peace.

In 1953, agricultural surpluses had reached an alltime high, but the price of storing excess commodities was too expensive to rationalize, and it was at risk of going to waste.

Kansas farmers, like Cheyenne County's Peter O'Brien, worked hard to cultivate and grow these commodities. Looking for a solution, Peter suggested at a local Farm Bureau meeting that maybe the excess food could be sent to countries in need. Peter understood that, out of our abundance, we have a moral duty and opportunity to feed the hungry. His idea sparked the origin of a program we now know as Food for Peace.

Another Kansan, one of my predecessors, Andy Schoepel, led the Food for Peace Act in the Senate, which was signed into law by President Eisenhower, another Kansan, in 1954, and Senator Bob Dole from Russell, KS, later championed the reauthorization of Food for Peace.

The program's premise was simple but impactful: By leveraging the food surpluses we produce in Kansas and across the Nation, we could address famine around the world, while cre-

ating new markets for our commodities and bolstering our agricultural economy.

The first shipments of American wheat and corn were sent to Korea and Greece in 1954, and by the end of Food for Peace's initial year of operation, it had fed 1.2 million people. Over the last 70 years, the program has fed more than 4 billion people in more than 150 countries, all with American-grown commodities.

Hunger, whether driven by price increases or food shortages, can act as a catalyst for protest and armed conflict. We have seen how food can be used as a weapon of war as radical Islamic groups in Syria used food as a means to recruit soldiers. We have witnessed regions of the world that are critical to America's strategic interest descend into chaos due to people not having access to affordable food.

In a turbulent world, stricken with conflict, American leadership is more than just our military and our economic might. Food aid provided by the United States reduces despair and increases stability within fragile countries by enabling economic productivity and minimizing the risk of radicalization.

For countless individuals around the world, their survival is dependent upon the resources provided by the American people. These vulnerable populations rely on the strength and prosperity of the United States. However, much work remains in the ongoing battle against hunger, and part of that battle is improving the process and programs that administer our aid.

Food for Peace is administered by the USAID, and the inefficiency of USAID has been a growing concern. The Agency struggles with bureaucratic delays, mismanagement, and a lack of coordination, which undermines its ability to deliver effectively aid to those in need. This inefficiency not only wastes taxpayer dollars but also diminishes the impact of America's foreign aid in addressing global crises.

Reports suggest that millions of taxpayer dollars have been allocated to promoting tourism in Lebanon and Egypt, funding the purchase of electric vehicles for Vietnam, and inadvertently supporting the cultivation of opium in Afghanistan.

Even more concerning, it has been confirmed that \$9 million intended for civilian food and medical supplies in Syria fell into the hands of terrorist organizations linked to al-Qaida, due to the failed oversight of USAID.

Amid these concerns of corruption, President Trump has taken steps to dismantle USAID. In conjunction with the President's action and with approval of the White House policy team, I have introduced a bill with Senator JOHN HOEVEN and Senator ROGER MARSHALL and Representative TRACEY MANN to move Food for Peace from the turbulent USAID program and move it to the Department of Agriculture, in an effort to prevent waste and bring

the program closer to farmers that depend upon it.

USDA has a long and proven history of managing agricultural policy and programs that support American farmers, food distribution systems, and global security efforts. USDA has boots on the ground and the infrastructure already in place to support the logistics for food assistance. The Agency understands how to move crops efficiently, sustainably, and quickly. This knowledge is indispensable when responding to international crises, where speed and reliability can mean the difference between life and death. By placing Food for Peace under USDA's authority, we make certain that the program is in good hands and can continue to bring revenue to American agriculture.

As of just a little over an hour ago, the Senate confirmed the new Secretary of Agriculture, Brooke Rollins. I have no doubt she will be an excellent advocate for our Nation's farmers, and I appreciate the conversations we have already had on this legislation. The Secretary has told me she is excited about this proposal and looks forward to working together on this issue.

We produce more than we can consume in this Nation. So without programs to export to, our ability to make a living in agriculture in Kansas and across the country disappears.

In fiscal year 2023 alone, \$713 million of U.S.-grown commodities were purchased by the Food for Peace program, putting money back into the hands of farmers. In rural America, food assistance programs like Food for Peace put American-grown products in the hands of the hungry, and this food is a tangible extension of the hard work and dedication of farmers and ranchers.

I am pleased to help find ways to make our delivery of food aid more effective, more efficient, and remove the challenges and things that we have seen that are so disturbing.

America is the greatest country on Earth and the most prosperous. Food for Peace bolsters the farmers who feed us, creates a more stable world, and feeds the hungry.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I am here to speak in opposition to the confirmation of Senator Kelly Loeffler to serve as Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

I am concerned for the more than 722,000 small businesses that call Massachusetts home and that last year relied on \$708 million in loans from the Small Business Administration.

I am concerned because of Donald Trump and Elon Musk, who have sent a clear message: They are here to illegally cut off funding for critical government Agencies and services. They are here to make government work for billionaires but at the expense of working-class people, and they are filling their Cabinet with people who are going to carry out that illegal bidding.



As I stand here today, DOGE operatives continue to work under the cover of darkness, including at the Small Business Administration. The American people want answers. Is the private information of families and businesses and individuals safe at the SBA? Will an entrepreneur looking to open their beauty salon be looking to close on an SBA loan and get their money on schedule? Can government contractors, many of whom are veterans, continue providing critical services while getting paid on time?

Lawmakers and American families alike are scrambling to figure out whether the government is open for business. Small business owners are wondering what will come from the illegal access to their private data by Musk's minions. These are just small business people across the country who have handed over the financial secrets of their families, and there is no guarantee that all of those secrets of their families are being protected right now. They are small business people. We have 7 million people in Massachusetts and 722,000 small businesses.

Meanwhile, Donald Trump continues to attack DEI—diversity, equity, and inclusion—when, in reality, the administration is carrying out a different kind of DEI—“defending Elon's interests.”

So today, I stand in opposition to the confirmation of Kelly Loeffler because of this effort which is going to be throwing us into a constitutional crisis through their illegal actions. I fear that, as Administrator, Senator Loeffler will put the interests—at the command of Donald Trump and Elon Musk—of the more than 34 million small businesses second and of Elon and billionaire interests first.

In a moment when our democracy is under threat, I expect a clearer commitment to the rule of law. So far, Senator Loeffler has offered an unapologetic defense of Trump's Executive orders, which attempt to supersede the law of the land, and has supported pardons for the January 6 insurrectionists.

Taxpayers need to ensure they have an environment which is fair and impartial at the SBA. Instead, Senator Loeffler has, in the past, basically bragged that she is more conservative even than Attila the Hun.

I need to make sure that this environment that is being created is one which is going to be hospitable to small businesses, because they need to ensure that there is an Administrator who will act ethically and for the benefit of America's entrepreneurs. Small businesses need an Administrator who will help them compete and innovate. They do not need an Administrator who is only listening to the White House's, Trump's, and Elon Musk's orders.

To conclude, under the Biden administration, we saw a record number of new small businesses, but just because they were recovering, it doesn't mean they weren't hurting.

So to all of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, we have to work together to uplift our entrepreneurs and promote a ruthless Darwinian marketplace that would bring a smile to ADAM SMITH. That is my goal. The vibrancy of our communities depends on us ensuring small business can compete, expand, and create jobs.

By crippling government from within, Trump is trying to damage the critical services that help working families put food on the table. So I urge a “no” vote on the confirmation of Senator Loeffler to serve as Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

Unfortunately, by now, we are able to look back and see the totality across the EPA, across the NIH, across the President's call for the dismantlement of the Department of Education as to what the real story line is here as the Trump administration and the DOGE apparatchiks move into Agency after Agency and are in the Small Business Administration right now.

So my goal is to try to protect that SBA that we have all known on a bipartisan basis for generations—to just protect it from this storm of partisanship that is taking over our country, and on that basis, I recommend a “no” vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, later today, we have the opportunity to advance the nomination of the Honorable Kelly Loeffler to be the Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

Senator Loeffler is immensely qualified for this role. As a successful businesswoman, it is abundantly clear that Senator Loeffler truly understands what it takes to be an entrepreneur and will be an effective voice for small businesses across America.

Since President Trump's election in November, optimism on Main Street has surged to its highest levels since 2018. Our Nation's job creators—small businesses—are excited about the prospect of having a dedicated and knowledgeable leader at the helm of the SBA.

Last week, the Small Business Committee, on which I serve as chair, favorably reported her nomination out with a bipartisan vote—a sure sign that my friends on both sides of the aisle believe she is fit to lead the SBA.

Senator Loeffler will bring accountability back to the Agency and promote policies that will truly benefit America's small businesses. As evidenced in her nomination hearing, Senator Loeffler's experience and her expertise make her the right person to lead the SBA and advocate for our small businesses.

Growing up on her family's farm in Bloomington, IL, Senator Loeffler experienced firsthand the problems facing America's farmers and small business owners. And as a fellow farm girl myself, I look forward to having some more Midwest common sense in Washington, DC.

Senator Loeffler also witnessed her parents start up a small trucking busi-

ness and navigate complex rules and regulations. She understands the struggles small businesses face because—do you know what?—she has experienced them. Fortunately, Senator Loeffler is ready to cut the redtape and reduce the burdens that so many of our job creators still face today.

Senator Loeffler is also a successful entrepreneur. She was the first employee and CEO of a financial technology company. Through her hard work and tenacity, she aggressively grew the company and took it public within 3 years.

Additionally, Senator Loeffler knows what it means to work for Main Street and the American people. During COVID, as a U.S. Senator, she worked tirelessly to bring relief to the people of Georgia, specifically through the Paycheck Protection Program. However, she, like me, recognizes that some took advantage of this program, and they need to be held accountable. During her confirmation hearing, Senator Loeffler detailed her zero-tolerance policy for waste, fraud, and abuse in the SBA. That should be welcome news for all of us.

In addition, Senator Loeffler indicated the need for a full-scale audit—I started my political career as an auditor, so I agree with this—a full-scale audit at the SBA to uncover improper spending and stated she would rely on that data to make the best decisions for the future of the SBA.

Senator Loeffler also noted the importance of working with Congress, particularly when it comes to disaster relief. She recognized the tragedy of the SBA's disaster shortfall, which lasted for 66 days in the middle of back-to-back natural disasters. She recognized this should never happen again.

SBA's vital role in the disaster process cannot be overstated, and we must ensure we have an Administrator who will alert Congress at the first signs of any concerns.

The SBA needs a strong leader with a proven track record in business management, and Senator Loeffler brings all of that and more to the table.

I look forward to working with Senator Loeffler to ensure small businesses all across America can thrive and maintain these high levels of optimism we are already seeing under this administration.

I urge my colleagues to advance her nomination and support her with a “yes” vote.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

NOMINATION OF HOWARD LUTNICK

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, I rise in support of the nomination of Howard Lutnick to be Secretary of Commerce.

Two weeks ago, Mr. Lutnick appeared before the Commerce Committee, where he received a warm reception from Senators. The following week, he was reported out with bipartisan support, underscoring that many Commerce Committee members see Mr. Lutnick as highly qualified to serve as Secretary of Commerce.

Mr. Lutnick has demonstrated great resilience and grit throughout his life. As he revealed at the hearing, growing up with some real personal adversity has given him a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by ordinary working Americans.

He lost both of his parents before his 18th birthday, and he put himself through college and helped to raise his younger siblings.

On 9/11, Howard personally witnessed the fall of the Twin Towers. On that day, he lost two-thirds of his staff, including his own brother. Few men can recover from an experience like that, but Howard not only rebuilt Cantor Fitzgerald, but he made it into an international powerhouse with 13,000 employees and operations in more than 20 countries.

Just as importantly, he has dedicated his rebuilt company to helping support the families who lost loved ones on 9/11. He created the Cantor Fitzgerald Relief Fund to ensure that the families of employees who were killed received healthcare and millions in financial support. And he continues to serve as a board member of the National September 11th Memorial.

Over the next few years, Mr. Lutnick will lead on key issues vital to the success of America's economy: expanding commercial access to midband spectrum, keeping the gulf open for oil and gas exploration, and spurring a resurgence of manufacturing in America.

Mr. Lutnick will ensure that American taxpayer dollars are spent efficiently and that Congress gets "the benefit of the bargain" on legislation like the Chips and Science Act.

Mr. Lutnick has earned the support of nearly 50 organizations and associations. From agriculture to aviation, broadband to manufacturing, companies across the spectrum support President Trump's selection of Howard Lutnick to serve as Secretary of Commerce.

As the Wireless Association put it, "Mr. Lutnick's leadership will bring a fresh, innovative approach to the Department of Commerce." He will "advance policies that promote innovation, foster economic growth, and strengthen America's position as a global leader in wireless technology and digital transformation."

Mr. President, it is my hope that, given the bipartisan support Mr. Lutnick received in committee, the full Senate will follow suit and agree that he is the forward-looking leader focused on jobs who we need at the Department.

I urge my colleagues to support Howard Lutnick's nomination for Secretary of Commerce.

#### WAIVING MANDATORY QUORUM CALL

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call with respect to the Lutnick and Loeffler nominations be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the scheduled roll-call votes begin immediately.

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

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant executive 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 nomination of Executive Calendar No. 19, Howard Lutnick, of New York, to be Secretary of Commerce.

John Thune, John R. Curtis, Tommy Tuberville, Kevin Cramer, Ashley B. Moody, Mike Crapo, Markwayne Mullin, David McCormick, Mike Lee, Ron Johnson, John Barrasso, Pete Ricketts, Jim Justice, Jon A. Husted, Bernie Moreno, Josh Hawley, Tom Cotton.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Howard Lutnick, of New York, to be Secretary of Commerce, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGO) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 52, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 54 Ex.]

#### YEAS—52

Banks	Grassley	Mullin
Barrasso	Hagerty	Murkowski
Blackburn	Hawley	Paul
Britt	Hoeven	Ricketts
Budd	Husted	Risch
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Cassidy	Johnson	Schmitt
Collins	Justice	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Sheehy
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Lummis	Thune
Cruz	Marshall	Tillis
Curtis	McConnell	Tuberville
Daines	McCormick	Wicker
Ernst	Moody	Young
Fischer	Moran	
Graham	Moreno	

#### NAYS—45

Alsobrooks	Booker	Fetterman
Baldwin	Cantwell	Gillibrand
Bennet	Coons	Hassan
Blumenthal	Cortez Masto	Heinrich
Blunt Rochester	Durbin	Hickenlooper

Hirono	Murray	Shaheen
Kaine	Ossoff	Slotkin
Kelly	Padilla	Smith
Kim	Peters	Van Hollen
King	Reed	Warner
Klobuchar	Rosen	Warnock
Lujan	Sanders	Warren
Markey	Schatz	Welch
Merkley	Schiff	Whitehouse
Murphy	Schumer	Wyden

#### NOT VOTING—3

Boozman	Duckworth	Gallego
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The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MORENO). On this vote, the yeas are 52, the nays are 45.

The motion is agreed to.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The 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 nomination of Executive Calendar No. 20, Kelly Loeffler, of Georgia, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

John Thune, John R. Curtis, Tommy Tuberville, Kevin Cramer, Ashley B. Moody, Mike Crapo, Markwayne Mullin, David McCormick, Mike Lee, Ron Johnson, John Barrasso, Pete Ricketts, Jim Justice, Jon A. Husted, Bernie Moreno, Josh Hawley, Tom Cotton.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Kelly Loeffler, of Georgia, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) would have voted "YEA."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGO) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 51, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 55 Ex.]

#### YEAS—51

Banks	Cotton	Grassley
Barrasso	Cramer	Hagerty
Blackburn	Crapo	Hawley
Britt	Cruz	Hoeven
Budd	Curtis	Husted
Capito	Daines	Hyde-Smith
Cassidy	Ernst	Justice
Collins	Fischer	Kelly
Cornyn	Graham	Kennedy

Lankford	Mullin	Scott (SC)
Lee	Murkowski	Sheehy
Lummis	Ricketts	Sullivan
McConnell	Risch	Thune
McCormick	Rosen	Tillis
Moody	Rounds	Tuberville
Moran	Schmitt	Wicker
Moreno	Scott (FL)	Young

## NAYS—43

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Schatz
Baldwin	Hirono	Schiff
Bennet	Kaine	Schumer
Blumenthal	Kim	Shaheen
Blunt Rochester	King	Slotkin
Booker	Klobuchar	Smith
Cantwell	Lujan	Van Hollen
Coons	Markey	Warner
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warnock
Duckworth	Murphy	Warren
Durbin	Murray	Welch
Fetterman	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wyden
Hassan	Reed	
Heinrich	Sanders	

## NOT VOTING—6

Boozman	Johnson	Paul
Gallego	Marshall	Peters

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BUDD). On this vote, the yeas are 51, the nays are 43.

The motion is agreed to.

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Kelly Loeffler, of Georgia, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

(The remarks of Ms. MURKOWSKI pertaining to the submission of S. 573 are printed in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

## EXECUTIVE ORDERS

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I want to shift gears for just a moment. Colleagues know that I am the chairman of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee. I have been on this committee since I came to the Senate, and it is a position that I hold very close. I represent a constituency of Alaskan Natives back in my home State.

We have over one-half the Tribes in the United States of America, and so my responsibility to them as their Federal representative is one, again, that I take very, very seriously.

There has been a fair amount of confusion, I think, uncertainty that has been brought about by many of the Executive orders, some of the Federal actions that we have seen, whether it is funding freezes or programs that are being put on pause. But one area that I want to make very, very clear to colleagues, as I have sought to make clear to those who are part of the incoming administration, that when we are speaking about our Indian Tribes and our Tribal programs, and the Federal funding that they receive, they do not fall into the category, if you will, of diversity, equity, inclusion.

And so when the Executive order was announced in the very first week of the Trump administration, there was con-

fusion as to whether or not Indian and Tribal programs were impacted, and in that confusion, I think, a lot of undue stress and anxiety.

And so I immediately asked the OMB—I met with Mr. Vought personally, and I asked him to take steps immediately to reaffirm the unique treatment, the programs and services to Indian Tribes based on their political and their legal status, which is recognized in our U.S. Constitution, in our treaties, under many Federal laws and policies, to ensure that there is no disruption to our Federal Tribal programs.

We know—our Supreme Court has affirmed our Indian Tribes are a unique political class—this is not a racial one—and their sovereignty and their trust relationship with the Federal Government must be upheld. And I shared this in a letter to the Acting Director of OMB.

We have seen, at least in a couple of the Departments already, that they clearly understand this distinct legal and political relationship. The Department of the Interior very quickly moved to add clarification.

On January 30, the Department of the Interior issued a Secretarial order that acknowledges that nothing in their order should be construed to affect the activities that implement the legal requirements, independent of the EOs, including the statutory authorities, treaty, and/or trust obligations of the Department to our Tribal nations and to our Native Hawaiian community. And so I appreciated that very clear message coming out of the Department of the Interior so early.

I think that it can be used as that model, that template, for other Federal Agencies because it is not just within Interior that we see Tribal programs, it is in other areas. We have just recently seen, out of the Department of Health and Human Services, that they recognize that as well. We are working, again, to make sure that any Tribal program has the clarity that they need and assurance that they and the beneficiaries will not be impacted.

We have a trust responsibility. We have an obligation that is clear. So avoiding any confusion, misunderstanding, or anxiety is something that I think we owe to our indigenous peoples across the country, and I am thankful that many within the new administration have stepped up to work with us to clear up any confusion that may be out there.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

## MORNING BUSINESS

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business for debate only, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

## U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, rule XXVI, paragraph 2, of the Standing Rules of the Senate requires each committee to adopt rules to govern the procedure of the committee and to publish those rules in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD not later than March 1 of the first year of each Congress. Today, the Committee on the Budget adopted committee rules of procedure.

Consistent with Standing Rule XXVI, I ask unanimous consent to have a copy of the rules of procedure of the Committee on the Budget printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET—RULES FOR THE  
119TH CONGRESS  
RULES OF PROCEDURE

## I. Meetings

(1) Meeting Schedule. The committee shall hold its regular meeting on the first Thursday of each month. Additional meetings may be called by the chair as the chair deems necessary to expedite committee business.

(2) Open to the Public. Each meeting of the committee, including meetings to conduct hearings, shall be open to the public, except that a portion or portions of any such meeting may be closed to the public if the committee determines by record vote in open session of a majority of the members of the committee present that the matters to be discussed or the testimony to be taken at such portion or portions—

(a) will disclose matters necessary to be kept secret in the interests of national defense or the confidential conduct of the foreign relations of the United States;

(b) will relate solely to matters of the committee staff personnel or internal staff management or procedure;

(c) will tend to charge an individual with crime or misconduct, to disgrace or injure the professional standing of an individual, or otherwise to expose an individual to public contempt or obloquy, or will represent a clearly unwarranted invasion of the privacy of an individual;

(d) will disclose the identity of any informer or law enforcement agent or will disclose any information relating to the investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense that is required to be kept secret in the interests of effective law enforcement;

(e) will disclose information relating to the trade secrets or financial or commercial information pertaining specifically to a given person if—

(i) an act of Congress requires the information to be kept confidential by Government officers and employees; or

(ii) the information has been obtained by the Government on a confidential basis, other than through an application by such person for a specific Government financial or other benefit, and is required to be kept secret in order to prevent undue injury to the competitive position of such person; or

(f) may divulge matters required to be kept confidential under other provisions of law or Government regulations.

(3) Notice. Notice of, and the agenda for, any business meeting or markup shall be provided to each member and made available

to the public at least 72 hours prior to such meeting or markup.

## II. Consideration of Budget Resolutions

(1) Amendment Consideration Generally. If the chair of the committee makes proposed legislative text of a budget resolution available to all committee members by 12:00 p.m., five days prior to the start of a meeting or markup to consider the resolution, during that meeting or markup:

(a) it shall not be in order to consider a first degree amendment unless the amendment has been submitted to the chief clerk by 5:00 p.m. two days prior to the start of the meeting or markup, except that an amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by the chair of the committee shall not be required to be filed in advance;

(b) it shall not be in order to consider a second degree amendment unless the amendment has been submitted to the chief clerk by 5:00 p.m. on the day prior to the start of the meeting or markup; and

(c) it shall not be in order to consider a side-by-side amendment unless the amendment has been submitted to the chief clerk by 5:00 p.m. on the day prior to the start of the meeting or markup, and the amendment is filed in relation to a particular first degree amendment that is considered by the committee.

(2) Amendments with No Force or Effect. During consideration of a budget resolution, it shall not be in order to consider an amendment that would have no force or effect if adopted.

## III. Order of Recognition

Those members who are present at the start of any meeting of the committee including meetings to conduct hearings, shall be recognized in order of seniority based on time served as a member of the committee. Any members arriving after the start of the meeting shall be recognized, in order of appearance, after the most junior member.

## IV. Quorums and Voting

(1) Definition of Quorum. Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this section, a quorum for the transaction of committee business shall consist of not less than one-third of the membership of the entire committee: Provided, that proxies shall not be counted in making a quorum.

(2) Reporting. A majority of the committee shall constitute a quorum for reporting to the Senate budget resolutions, legislative measures, nominations, or recommendations: Provided, that proxies shall not be counted in making a quorum.

(3) Testimony. For the purpose of taking sworn or unsworn testimony, a quorum of the committee shall consist of one Senator.

### (4) Polling Authority.

(a) The committee may poll—

(i) internal committee matters including those concerning the committee's staff, records, and budget;

(ii) steps in an investigation, including issuance of subpoenas, applications for immunity orders, and requests for documents from agencies; and

(iii) other committee business that the committee has designated for polling at a meeting, except that the committee may not vote by poll on reporting to the Senate budget resolutions, legislative measures, nominations, or recommendations, and may not vote by poll on closing a meeting or hearing to the public.

(b) To conduct a poll, the chair shall circulate polling sheets to each member specifying the matter being polled and the time limit for completion of the poll. If any member requests, the matter shall be held for a meeting rather than being polled. The chief clerk shall keep a record of polls; if the com-

mittee determines by record vote in open session of a majority of the members of the committee present that the polled matter is one of those enumerated in Committee on the Budget Rules of Procedure I(2)(a)–(f), then the record of the poll shall be confidential. Any member may move at the committee meeting following a poll for a vote on the polled decision.

## V. Proxies

When a record vote is taken in the committee on any budget resolutions, legislative measures, nominations, recommendations, amendments, or any other questions, a quorum being present, a member who is unable to attend the meeting may vote by proxy if the absent member has been informed of the matter on which the vote is being recorded and has affirmatively requested to be so recorded; except that no member may vote by proxy during the deliberations on budget resolutions unless a member is experiencing a health issue and the chair and ranking member agree to allow that member to vote by proxy on amendments to a budget resolution. While proxies may be voted on a motion to report a measure or matter from the committee, such a motion shall also require the concurrence of a majority of the members who are physically present at the time such action is taken.

## VI. Hearings and Hearing Procedures

(1) Exemption from Two-Hour Rule. Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the committee is exempt from the prohibition on Senate committees meeting while the Senate is in session without special leave, after the conclusion of the first two hours after the meeting of the Senate commenced and in no case after two o'clock postmeridian unless consent therefor has been obtained from the majority leader and the minority leader (or in the event of the absence of either such leaders, from their designee(s)).

(2) Notice. The committee shall make public announcement of the date, place, time, and subject matter of any hearing to be conducted on any measure or matter at least 1 week in advance of such hearing, unless the chair and ranking member determine that there is good cause to begin such hearing at an earlier date.

(3) Witness Testimony Deadline. At least 24 hours prior to the scheduled start time of the hearing, a witness appearing before the committee shall file a written statement of proposed testimony, including visual exhibits intended for display during testimony, with the chief clerk who is responsible for circulating the proposed testimony to all members at the same time. The requirement that a witness submit testimony 24 hours prior to a hearing may be waived by the chair and the ranking member, following their determination that there is good cause for the failure of compliance.

(4) Witness Testimony Time Limit. Oral statements of witnesses shall be based upon their filed statements but shall be limited to 5 minutes duration. This period may be limited or extended at the discretion of the chair presiding at the hearings.

## VII. Committee Reports

(1) Report Generally. When the committee has ordered a measure or recommendation reported, following final action, the report thereon shall be filed in the Senate at the earliest practicable time.

(2) Supplemental Report. A member of the committee, who gives notice of an intention to file supplemental, minority, or additional views at the time of final committee approval of budget resolutions, legislative measures, nominations, or recommenda-

tions, shall be entitled to not less than 3 calendar days in which to file such views, in writing, with the chief clerk of the committee. Such views shall then be included in the committee report and printed in the same volume, as a part thereof, and their inclusions shall be noted on the cover of the report. In the absence of timely notice, the committee report may be filed and printed immediately without such views.

## VIII. Use of Display Materials in Committee by Members

Committee members may use the electronic display system provided in the committee hearing room or physical graphic displays during any meetings or hearings of the committee. Physical graphic displays are limited to the following:

Charts, photographs, or renderings:

Size: no larger than 36 inches by 48 inches.

Where: on an easel stand next to the member's seat or at the rear of the committee room.

The member may display such materials only at the time the member is speaking, and no more than two may be displayed at a time.

## IX. Confirmation Standards and Procedures

(1) Standards. In considering a nomination, the committee shall inquire into the nominee's experience, qualifications, suitability, and integrity to serve in the position to which he or she has been nominated. The committee shall recommend confirmation if it finds that the nominee has the necessary integrity and is affirmatively qualified by reason of training, education, or experience to carry out the functions of the office to which he or she was nominated.

(2) Information Concerning the Nominee. Each nominee shall submit the following information to the chief clerk, who will distribute to the chair and ranking member at the same time:

(a) A detailed biographical resume which contains information concerning education, employment, and background which generally relates to the position to which the individual is nominated, and which is to be made public;

(b) Information concerning financial and other background of the nominee which is to be made public; provided, that financial information that does not relate to the nominee's qualifications to hold the position to which the individual is nominated, tax returns or reports prepared by federal agencies that may be submitted by the nominee shall, after review by the chair, ranking member, or any other member of the committee upon request, be maintained in a manner to ensure confidentiality; and

(c) Copies of other relevant documents and responses to pre-hearing questions and responses to questions for the record submitted in accordance with the deadline following the committee hearing, as the committee may so request, such as responses to questions concerning the policies and programs the nominee intends to pursue upon taking office.

(3) Report on the Nominee. After a review of all information pertinent to the nomination, a confidential report on the nominee may be prepared by the committee staff for the chair, the ranking member, and, upon request, for any other member of the committee. The report shall summarize the steps taken and the results of the committee inquiry, including any unresolved matters that have been raised during the course of the inquiry.

(4) Hearings. The committee shall conduct a hearing, subject to the hearing notice requirement, during which the nominee shall be called to testify under oath on all matters relating to the nominee's suitability for office, including the policies and programs

which the nominee would pursue while in that position. No hearing or meeting to consider the confirmation shall be held until at least 72 hours after the following events have occurred: the nominee has responded to the requirements set forth in subsection (2)—including responding to pre-hearing questions and questions for the record for hearings and meetings, respectively, and, if a report described in subsection (3) has been prepared, it has been presented to the chair and ranking member, and is available to other members of the committee, upon request.

(5) OMB Nominees. Pursuant to S. Res. 445, 108th Congr. §101 (2004) (adopted), the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs shall have joint jurisdiction over the nominations of persons nominated by the President to fill the positions of Director of Deputy Director for Budget within the Office and Management and Budget, and if one committee votes to order reported such a nomination, the other must report within 30 calendar days session, or be automatically discharged.

#### BAHRAIN

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, this month marks the 14th year since thousands of Bahraini citizens took to the streets to peacefully protest the oppressive practices of the Bahraini Government. These citizens—to include human rights defenders and pro-democracy activists—were brutally repressed by their own leaders. Since then, I have stood in solidarity with the Bahraini people demanding accountability, and I will continue to do so until we see real change.

Unfortunately, all these years later, the Bahraini Government has failed to implement basic changes to guarantee the fundamental rights that every government owes its citizens. The Government of Bahrain continues to impose restrictions on expression, assembly, and association.

Bahraini elections are neither free nor fair, and authorities systematically exclude and repress opposition voices. In 2023, the government arrested four men for simply suggesting on social media that Bahrain should improve its legislative system.

The State Department's most recent human rights report judged that there was no improvement in the human rights situation in Bahrain. No improvement? Nearly 15 years to address these fundamental flaws and the Bahraini Government still has nothing to show for it!

I called on the Government of Bahrain to release its political prisoners, and while I was heartened to hear that the Bahraini Government granted amnesty to 2,500 prisoners last year, they should not have been detained in the first place. Many of these prisoners were unjustly detained, and thousands remain in prison under inhumane conditions and without fair trial.

Hundreds of political prisoners remain detained in the now-infamous Jau Prison in Bahrain, where two people died last year because of medical neglect. The U.N. has raised troubling concerns that detainees at this facility

have been denied required medical care and do not have regular access to adequate food and safe drinking water. Some allegations have suggested that authorities have intentionally exposed prisoners to extreme heat in these facilities, at times reaching 122 degrees Fahrenheit. These conditions are unacceptable, particularly when many of these prisoners have been denied fair trials and due process.

My goal today is not to insult or undermine a U.S. ally. It is precisely because of our strong ties that I feel compelled to speak out and demand better. It is my greatest hope that someday I will be able to stop issuing these statements into the record every February because the Bahraini regime has stopped repressing its citizens and has instead entered into a real and inclusive dialogue with them.

In short, I am not asking for lip service; I am asking for real change. I renew my call on Bahrain's monarchy to halt its deliberate campaign of silencing peaceful opposition, to stop the indefensible revocation of citizenships, and to release political prisoners like Abdulhadi al-Khawaja and Abduljalil al-Singace.

And I call on the Trump administration and, in particular, Secretary Rubio—who has previously been a staunch advocate in the U.S. Senate for advancing human rights in Bahrain—to take this issue seriously and demand more accountability from Bahrain at the highest levels.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO DR. BRIAN FONTES

• Mr. CURTIS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and honor the distinguished career of Dr. Brian Fontes, who recently announced his decision to step down as chief executive officer of NENA: The 9-1-1 Association after a remarkable decades-long career in public service, telecommunications, and 9-1-1.

Dr. Fontes received his undergraduate and master's degrees at Brigham Young University and his Ph.D. at Michigan State University. He then began his career as a communications professor at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, establishing the groundwork for his future contributions to the field.

Transitioning from academia to public service, Dr. Fontes served as senior adviser and chief of staff to FCC Commissioner James H. Quello. In this role, he was instrumental in shaping telecommunications policy during a time of rapid technological advancement.

In 1994, Dr. Fontes joined the Cellular Telecommunications Industry Association as senior vice president for policy and administration, where he continued his involvement with international telecom policy. He was tasked with developing policies and guiding regulation for wireless services in South Africa, working with the transitioning new

government under F. W. de Klerk and Nelson Mandela.

In 1995, President Clinton appointed Dr. Fontes as the head of the U.S. Delegation to the International Telecommunication Union's World Radio Conference held in Geneva, Switzerland, granting him the rank of Ambassador. Following the 1995 Dayton agreement in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Dr. Fontes served as chairman of the Communication Regulatory Agency Council, working to develop policies and ensure wireless spectrum access in the newly formed country, thus guaranteeing wireless availability for its public.

Before joining NENA, Dr. Fontes was vice president of Federal relations for Cingular Wireless, continuing in that role following its merger with AT&T.

In 2008, Dr. Fontes took the helm at NENA, where he has been instrumental in advocating for the development and adoption of Next Generation 9-1-1 technologies and services. His leadership has helped ensure that Americans have access to reliable emergency services, that 9-1-1 centers have access to state-of-the-art technologies, and that 9-1-1 professionals receive best-in-class training.

As Dr. Fontes moves on to an exciting future, we reflect on his legacy of service, innovation, and dedication to public safety. His visionary leadership has left an indelible mark on emergency communications systems at home and abroad, and his work will continue to benefit future generations.

I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our deepest gratitude to Dr. Brian Fontes for his unwavering commitment to enhancing public safety and telecommunications.●

##### RECOGNIZING STAGECOACH INN

• Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, as a member and former chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each month I recognize and celebrate the American entrepreneurial spirit by highlighting the success of small businesses in my home State of Idaho. Today, I am pleased to honor the Stagecoach Inn as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for February 2025.

The Stagecoach Inn was founded in 1959 by Willie Schrier, a U.S. Coast Guard veteran and a trained horse jockey. Willie was a pioneer in the food and bar industry, priding himself on providing high-quality service and a great meal to every customer at the Stagecoach Inn. For over two decades, Willie successfully ran the business before passing it down to his fraternal twin daughters Mary and Marian Schrier in 1980. The sisters, alongside their cousin Nettie Allen, maintained the restaurant's reputation for exceptional food and hospitality.

The sisters sold the establishment in 2009, and much to the dismay of many Treasure Valley residents, new management closed the businesses in 2011.

Luckily, a group of loyal customers and former staff rallied to recruit Wanda Martinat, a longtime server at the Stagecoach, and customers Fred and Francie Oliver, to acquire the restaurant. The Olivers dedicated countless hours to updating the facilities while maintaining its beloved 1960s atmosphere. With their encouragement and partnership, the Stagecoach Inn reopened its doors in 2015, welcoming back many of its original staff.

Wanda Martinat's story is one of perseverance and deep Idaho roots. Her parents' families endured the injustices of World War II when they were forcibly relocated to the Minidoka internment camp. Her mother was 13 at the time and her father, age 17, had joined the U.S. Army to avoid internment. After the war, her parents met in Caldwell and had seven children, Wanda being the middle child. Her parents passed down their values of resilience and hard work, which has shaped her approach to managing and co-owning the Stagecoach Inn.

Today, the Stagecoach is thriving and remains a feature of Idaho's political and social fabric. Throughout its history, the restaurant has been known as a gathering place where business contracts were signed on drink coasters and political discussions that changed Idaho's legislative landscape occurred.

Congratulations to the team at the Stagecoach Inn on their selection as the February 2025 Small Business of the Month. Thank you for serving Idaho as small business owners and entrepreneurs. You make our great State proud, and I look forward to your continued growth and success.●

#### RECOGNIZING THE GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUB, WOMAN'S CENTURY CLUB

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC), Woman's Century Club in Nampa, ID—a remarkable organization that has been at the forefront of community service and education since its inception in 1900. As the first service club established in Nampa, the Woman's Century Club has demonstrated commitment and dedication to enhancing the lives of Idahoans.

Since joining the GFWC Idaho Federation of Women's Club, members have worked tirelessly to uplift their community. The club's motto, "You find yourself when you lose yourself in the service of others," embodies their commitment to service and the betterment of society.

The Women's Club has initiated and supported many notable projects, including the establishment of the Carnegie Library in 1908, the creation of the Rose Garden at Lakeview Park, and the organization of the local Red Cross Chapter. These impactful efforts have enriched the community and set a precedent for future generations of service.

In 2023, the club made significant contributions to Idaho's local food banks, showcasing their commitment to alleviating hunger and supporting those in need. The club also recently made a 2-year commitment to support the Idaho Youth Ranch, an organization that provides resources like counseling, job training, and scholarships to Idaho teens facing trauma and challenging circumstances.

The Woman's Century Club continues to inspire Idahoans through their annual Student Art and Poetry Contest, scholarships for high school seniors, support for local veterans, and programs focused on preventing domestic violence.

As we celebrate this significant milestone, I am proud to recognize the members of the Woman's Century Club, both past and present, for their unwavering dedication and hard work. Their spirit of generosity and compassion has transformed the lives of countless Idahoans in Nampa and the greater Treasure Valley. Let us honor their legacy and continue to support the invaluable work they do to improve our community.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:57 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 35. An act to impose criminal and immigration penalties for intentionally fleeing a pursuing Federal officer while operating a motor vehicle.

H.R. 77. An act to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide for en bloc consideration in resolutions of disapproval for "midnight rules", and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 35. An act to impose criminal and immigration penalties for intentionally fleeing a pursuing Federal officer while operating a motor vehicle; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 77. An act to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide for en bloc consideration in resolutions of disapproval for "midnight rules", and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

#### PRIVILEGED NOMINATION REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

On request by Senator RICHARD BLUMENTHAL, under the authority of S. Res. 116, 112th Congress, the following nomination was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Richard Topping, of Ohio, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. GRAHAM, from the Committee on the Budget, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 7. An original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2025 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2026 through 2034.

By Mr. PAUL, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. Res. 77. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. GRAHAM, from the Committee on the Budget, without amendment:

S. Res. 78. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on the Budget.

#### EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

By Mr. GRASSLEY for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Kashyap Patel, of Nevada, to be Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a term of ten years.

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

#### 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. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. COTTON, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. PETERS, Mr. DAINES, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 558. A bill to provide for the consideration of a definition of antisemitism set forth by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance for the enforcement of Federal antidiscrimination laws concerning education programs or activities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. CAPITO:

S. 559. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the allowance for depreciation, amortization, or depletion for purposes of determining the income limitation on the deduction for business interest; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. KING, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. HASSAN, and Mr. RICKETTS):

S. 560. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to reauthorize and expand the National Threat Assessment Center of the Department of Homeland Security; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. CRAMER, and Mrs. BRITT):



S. 561. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to require the Secretary to designate food and food products to be made available under the supplemental nutrition assistance program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 562. A bill to approve the settlement of water rights claims of the Pueblos of Acoma and Laguna in the Rio San Jose Stream System and the Pueblos of Jemez and Zia in the Rio Jemez Stream System in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 563. A bill to approve the settlement of water rights claims of Ohkay Owingeh in the Rio Chama Stream System, to restore the Bosque on Pueblo Land in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 564. A bill to approve the settlement of water rights claims of the Zuni Indian Tribe in the Zuni River Stream System in the State of New Mexico, to protect the Zuni Salt Lake, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 565. A bill to approve the settlement of water rights claims of the Navajo Nation in the Rio San Jose Stream System in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. HICKENLOOPER (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. BENNET, and Mr. CURTIS):

S. 566. A bill to amend the Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018 to require the President to automatically waive certain critical document fees for individuals and households affected by major disasters for which assistance is provided under the Individuals and Households program; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. REED, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BENNET, Ms. SMITH, Mr. FETTERMAN, and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. 567. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the First Rhode Island Regiment, in recognition of their dedicated service during the Revolutionary War; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. HICKENLOOPER):

S. 568. A bill to authorize compensation to individuals, organizations, and companies impacted by the Gold King Mine wastewater spill of 2015, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. LUMMIS (for herself, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 569. A bill to limit the closure or consolidation of any United States Postal Service processing and distribution center in States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. KELLY (for himself and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 570. A bill to amend the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014 to establish payment and performance security requirements for projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. JUSTICE, and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 571. A bill to require benefit eligibility determination to be made within a certain period of time; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GALLEG0 (for himself, Mr. KELLY, Mr. HOEVEN, and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 572. A bill to enhance the effectiveness of the Shadow Wolves Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. 573. A bill to designate a mountain in the State of Alaska as Denali; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. COONS, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. RICKETTS, Ms. SMITH, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. CORNYN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 574. A bill to amend the Animal Health Protection Act to provide compensation for poultry growers and layers in control areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Ms. LUMMIS):

S. 575. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to increase access to services provided by advanced practice registered nurses under the Medicare and Medicaid programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MARSHALL (for himself, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Ms. LUMMIS, and Mr. WICKER):

S. 576. A bill to prohibit the flying, draping, or other display of any flag other than the flag of the United States at covered public buildings, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. 577. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to expand access to capital for rural-area small businesses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself, Mr. KELLY, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 578. A bill to pilot the use of image technician positions in the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Office of Field Operations; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. DAINES, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 579. A bill to amend the National Quantum Initiative Act to provide for a research, development, and demonstration program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Ms. LUMMIS, and Mr. CURTIS):

S. 580. A bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to provide training and guidance relating to human rights abuses, including such abuses perpetrated against the Uyghur population by the Government of the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 581. A bill to amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 with respect to mandatory reporting of dairy products processing costs; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 582. A bill to provide for the authorized use of Federal vehicle transportation by certain astronauts; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 583. A bill to amend chapter 9 of title 5, United States Code, to reauthorize the executive reorganization authority of the President and to ensure efficient executive reorganization, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 584. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income any judgements, awards, and settlements with respect to sexual assault or sexual harassment claims, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KING (for himself, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. CRAMER, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 585. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a pre-transition health care registration process to facilitate enrollment in the patient enrollment system of the Department of Veterans Affairs by members of the Armed Forces who are separating from the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 586. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an advance refundable credit to offset certain flood insurance premiums, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. LANKFORD, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. DAINES, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. SHEEHY, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. MULLIN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BUDD, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISC, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. ERNST, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. ROUNDS, Ms. LUMMIS, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. COTTON, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. BANKS, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. LEE, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. MORENO):

S. 587. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the estate and generation-skipping transfer taxes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. KAINE, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 588. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for examination and disclosure with respect to Presidential income tax returns, to amend the chapter 131 of title 5, United States Code, to require the disclosure of certain tax returns by Presidents and certain candidates for the office of the President, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 589. A bill to prohibit disinformation in the advertising of abortion services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.



By Mr. SCHATZ:

S. 590. A bill to require the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere to maintain the National Mesonet Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, and Mr. TUBERVILLE):

S. 591. A bill to reform the Federal hiring process, to restore merit to Government service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 592. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to require that plain writing statements regarding the solicitation of subcontractors be included in certain subcontracting plans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mrs. FISCHER (for herself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. THUNE, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. ERNST, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. 593. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to modify Reid Vapor Pressure requirements and to provide for the return of certain retired credits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 594. A bill to amend the Post-Katrina Management Reform Act of 2006 to repeal certain obsolete requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHIFF, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 595. A bill to establish the Office of Gun Violence Prevention, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HICKENLOOPER (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. COONS, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 596. A bill to establish a pilot program to support domestic critical material processing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. COONS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. Kaine, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REED, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 597. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the purchase of certain firearms by individuals under 21 years of age, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HICKENLOOPER (for himself and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 598. A bill to establish a mineral and mining innovation program within the Department of Energy to advance domestic mineral resources, economic growth, and national security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 599. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the mileage rate offered by the Department of Veterans Affairs through their Beneficiary Travel program

for health related travel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 600. A bill to enhance pre- and post-adoption support services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PAUL (for himself and Mr. MCCONNELL):

S. 601. A bill to remove restrictions from a parcel of land in Paducah, Kentucky; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 602. A bill to amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to support research and development of ungulate grazing land management techniques for purposes of wildfire mitigation, fuel reduction, and post-fire recovery; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. Kaine (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 603. A bill to designate the General George C. Marshall House in the Commonwealth of Virginia, as an affiliated area of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 604. A bill to amend the adoption opportunities program to define unregulated custody transfers of children and to improve awareness and prevention of such transfers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. CRAMER, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. MORAN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. WICKER, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. RICKETTS, and Mr. MORENO):

S.J. Res. 18. A joint resolution disapproving the rule submitted by the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection relating to "Overdraft Lending: Very Large Financial Institutions"; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S.J. Res. 19. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Trichloroethylene (TCE); Regulation Under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. PAUL:

S. Res. 77. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. GRAHAM:

S. Res. 78. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on the Budget; from the Committee on the Budget; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself and Mrs. MOODY):

S. Res. 79. A resolution honoring the memories of the victims of the senseless at-

tack at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School on February 14, 2018; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. ROUNDS (for himself, Mr. THUNE, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. COTTON, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. RICKETTS, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. WICKER, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. KING, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. GALLEGO, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. KIM, Mr. REED, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. COONS, Mr. BENNET, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJAN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. PETERS, Ms. ROSEN, and Mr. KELLY):

S. Res. 80. A resolution expressing gratitude to the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, the Architect of the Capitol, the Sergeant at Arms, the Secretary of the Senate, law enforcement officers, emergency personnel, and volunteers for their support in making the Presidential Inauguration a success; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. RICKETTS (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. CAPITO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. SHEEHY, Mr. SULLIVAN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. CRAPO, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. Res. 81. A resolution calling on the United Kingdom, France, and Germany (E3) to initiate the snapback of sanctions on Iran under United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231 (2015); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. GRAHAM:

S. Con. Res. 7. An original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2025 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2026 through 2034; from the Committee on the Budget; placed on the calendar.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 187

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. SHEEHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 187, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently allow a tax deduction at the time an investment in qualified property is made.

S. 199

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) were added as cosponsors of S. 199, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide special rules for the taxation of certain residents of Taiwan with income from sources within the United States.

S. 226

At the request of Mr. SHEEHY, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE) were added as cosponsors of S. 226, a bill to require a strategy to oppose financial or material support by foreign countries and

nongovernmental organizations to the Taliban, and for other purposes.

S. 317

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 317, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify and extend the deduction for charitable contributions for individuals not itemizing deductions.

S. 334

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 334, a bill to permanently enact certain appropriations Act restrictions on the use of funds for abortions and involuntary sterilizations, and for other purposes.

S. 380

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 380, a bill to improve obstetric emergency care.

S. 383

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 383, a bill to extend Federal Pell Grant eligibility of certain short-term programs.

S. 424

At the request of Mrs. BRITT, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) were added as cosponsors of S. 424, a bill to amend the Federal securities laws to enhance 403(b) plans, and for other purposes.

S. 455

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 455, a bill to amend section 287 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to limit immigration enforcement actions at sensitive locations, to clarify the powers of immigration officers at sensitive locations, and for other purposes.

S. 498

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 498, a bill to posthumously award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the African Americans who served with Union forces during the Civil War, in recognition of their bravery and outstanding service.

S. 537

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BANKS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 537, a bill to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture from prohibiting the use of lead ammunition or tackle on certain Federal land or water under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture, and for other purposes.

S. 540

At the request of Mr. TUBERVILLE, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 540, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the consideration of continuity of health care in determining best medical interest under the Veterans Community Care Program, and for other purposes.

S. 557

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 557, a bill to repeal the small business loan data collection requirements under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act.

S. RES. 53

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) and the Senator from California (Mr. SCHIFF) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 53, a resolution recognizing the 80th anniversary of the amphibious landing on the Japanese island of Iwo Jima during World War II and the raisings of the flag of the United States on Mount Suribachi.

S. RES. 68

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 68, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States shall not deploy United States military assets or personnel to Gaza for purposes of “taking over” Gaza.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. GALLEG0, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. COTTON, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. PETERS, Mr. DAINES, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 558. A bill to provide for the consideration of a definition of antisemitism set forth by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance for the enforcement of Federal antidiscrimination laws concerning education programs or activities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 558

*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 “Antisemitism Awareness Act of 2025”.

#### SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.), prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, and national origin in programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance;

(2) while such title does not cover discrimination based solely on religion, individuals who face discrimination based on actual or perceived shared ancestry or ethnic characteristics do not lose protection under such title for also being members of a group that share a common religion;

(3) discrimination against Jews may give rise to a violation of such title when the discrimination is based on race, color, or national origin, which can include discrimination based on actual or perceived shared ancestry or ethnic characteristics;

(4) it is the policy of the United States to enforce such title against prohibited forms of discrimination rooted in antisemitism as vigorously as against all other forms of discrimination prohibited by such title; and

(5) as noted in the U.S. National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism issued by the White House on May 25, 2023, it is critical to—

(A) increase awareness and understanding of antisemitism, including its threat to America;

(B) improve safety and security for Jewish communities;

(C) reverse the normalization of antisemitism and counter antisemitic discrimination; and

(D) expand communication and collaboration between communities.

#### SEC. 3. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Antisemitism is on the rise in the United States and is impacting Jewish students in K-12 schools, colleges, and universities.

(2) The International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (referred to in this Act as the “IHRA”) Working Definition of Antisemitism is a vital tool which helps individuals understand and identify the various manifestations of antisemitism.

(3) On December 11, 2019, Executive Order 13899 extended protections against discrimination under the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to individuals subjected to antisemitism on college and university campuses and tasked Federal agencies to consider the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism when enforcing title VI of such Act.

(4) Since 2018, the Department of Education has used the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism when investigating violations of that title VI.

(5) The use of alternative definitions of antisemitism impairs enforcement efforts by adding multiple standards and may fail to identify many of the modern manifestations of antisemitism.

(6) The White House released the first-ever United States National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism on May 25, 2023, making clear that the fight against this hate is a national, bipartisan priority that must be successfully conducted through a whole-of-government-and-society approach.

#### SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this Act, the term “definition of antisemitism”—

(1) means the definition of antisemitism adopted on May 26, 2016, by the IHRA, of which the United States is a member, which definition has been adopted by the Department of State; and

(2) includes the "[c]ontemporary examples of antisemitism" identified in the IHRA definition.

#### SEC. 5. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION FOR TITLE VI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964.

In reviewing, investigating, or deciding whether there has been a violation of title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.) on the basis of race, color, or national origin, based on an individual's actual or perceived shared Jewish ancestry or Jewish ethnic characteristics, the Department of Education shall take into consideration the definition of antisemitism as part of the Department's assessment of whether the practice was motivated by antisemitic intent.

#### SEC. 6. OTHER RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.

(a) GENERAL RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed—

(1) to expand the authority of the Secretary of Education;

(2) to alter the standards pursuant to which the Department of Education makes a determination that harassing conduct amounts to actionable discrimination; or

(3) to diminish or infringe upon the rights protected under any other provision of law that is in effect as of the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) CONSTITUTIONAL PROTECTIONS.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to diminish or infringe upon any right protected under the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. 573. A bill to designate a mountain in the State of Alaska as Denali; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about a century-long dispute. A hundred years plus, there has been a dispute about the Federal designation of North America's tallest mountain. It is a pretty majestic picture, but it does nothing to really convey the amazing grandeur of Denali. It is majestic. It is breathtaking. It is something that as Alaskans and as a lifelong Alaskan, there is not a day when I am able to see Denali and just say—just kind of breathe deep, because it is that extraordinary.

And in my hometown of Anchorage, we are about 250 miles away from Denali, and on clear days, when you are on the road, just about a mile from my house, just a little bit of elevation, you can see the mountain.

And we talk about it that way. We say: She is out. The mountain is out today. The big one is out today.

It is an extraordinary gift from God, really. Snow-blanketed crevasses, the ridges are just gleaming in the sun. How this mountain connects earth to sky beyond, it is just extraordinary.

And, again, this picture is beautiful—obviously, on a summer day. There is never a time when she is not covered in snow, but Denali can also be one of the coldest, most treacherous places on Earth.

It has storms in the middle of winter. You expect that. But it has storms in

the middle of July that obey no rules. It has its own rules. Denali creates its own weather. It literally creates its own weather.

I had an opportunity to go up on Ruth Glacier on my birthday. My birthday happens to be the end of May. It was going to be an extraordinary big-ticket item—it was a big-ticket item, but we were chased off that mountain after about 40 minutes because the weather which, when we had arrived at the mountain, was pretty great, and in 40 minutes, she was shutting down, and we were either going to be spending the night there, which was not prime condition to do, or we were getting off in order to get out safely. You respect her.

But it is a place where you respect the nature around you because what can be that perfect day can descend with wind and snow into chaos. It falls on you so quickly, you can't see your own footprints in the snow.

The lives that have been lost and the legends of the stories told remain, but no matter what happens with the weather, as transitory as all that is, Denali stands resilient and true.

For centuries, the Koyukon Athabascans have lived, they have hunted, they have foraged, they have loved, they have died, they have survived in the shadow of this great mountain.

They have been on the waterways, in the valleys, on the hills, and in the ridges. Alaska Natives have persevered in one of the most challenging climates, and they have done so in harmony with the food supply and the surroundings around them.

Denali is Koyukon for "the Great One," for "the Great One." This is how Native people have always known it, and as the great witness of untold stories from their ancestors.

The very first-ever map to label the mountain read "Tenada," and this is a transcription of Denali—again, the Great One.

The first mountaineers to summit the peak called it Denali. It is interesting to note that the first individual to actually summit was not the mountaineers who had paid for the climb, but it was the Alaskan Native guide who took them safely and successfully to the top. But it is the same Native people, those same mountaineers that were baffled that anyone would dare to modify the original Native name.

And yet, in 1917, the mountain was not named Denali. And there is a fair amount of legend that comes with that as well, that there was a trapper who came out of the woods—this was during the early days of the President McKinley administration—and he said: Out of respect, let's honor the new President.

But much like Native lands, health, and culture, you just don't come in and say we are going to disregard, we are going to disrespect the rightful name, the name that had been in place for generations, for thousands of years.

And so since that time in 1917, the U.S. Board on Geographic Names has

received over 20,000 letters and signatures, most of them—the vast majority of them calling for the name Denali to be restored.

This massive mountain commands a reverent name, a steadfast name—not the name of an individual, a person who comes and goes, who may have had an impact for a brief moment in time.

But this is ageless, timeless. The Great One, 20,310 feet tall, the tallest mountain in North America. So when you have something that is that significant, that is that connected as part of the land in ways that are beyond just a mere name—but, again, a reverence with which you speak of this piece of land, this geography.

When Alaskans leave our home State and boast to outsiders, whether spinning a globe or just talking about it, we say: That is Denali. That is the Great One. She is out today.

So that is why today I have introduced legislation that would officially restore the federally recognized name of this quintessential mountain as Denali.

Now, this is not the first time I have done this. This is actually the fourth Congress that I have introduced this legislation. Maybe I am persistent; I think Alaskans are just very resilient, and we will continue to be. We will continue to be because this magnificent mountain is something that each of us holds in our hearts, that we hold dear. For these last 100 years or so, we have continued to call our great mountain Denali, regardless, and will continue to do that 100 years going forward. Denali existed before any person, and it will remain long after we are dust.

So I share this with my colleagues today, letting you know that we put this legislation out there. My introduction follows on the actions of the Alaska State Legislature—both the house and the senate have moved a resolution urging us in Congress to move forward with this and officially restore the federally recognized name, and so I am pleased to be able to begin that process today.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. DAINES, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 579. A bill to amend the National Quantum Initiative Act to provide for a research, development, and demonstration program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 579

*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 "Department of Energy Quantum Leadership Act of 2025".

## SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY QUANTUM INFORMATION SCIENCE RESEARCH PROGRAM.

Section 401 of the National Quantum Initiative Act (15 U.S.C. 8851) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Energy shall carry out a research, development, and demonstration program on quantum information science, engineering, and technology.”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “, engineering, and technology” after “science”;

(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “, engineering, and technology” after “science”;

(C) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

“(3) provide research experiences and training for additional undergraduate and graduate students in quantum information science, engineering, and technology, including in the fields specified in paragraph (4);”;

(D) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through (5) as paragraphs (5) through (7), respectively;

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

“(3) operate National Quantum Information Science Research Centers under section 402 to accelerate and scale scientific and technical breakthroughs in quantum information science, engineering, and technology, and maintain state-of-the-art infrastructure for quantum researchers and industry partners;

“(4) conduct cooperative basic and applied research with industry, National Laboratories, institutions of higher education, and other research institutions to facilitate the development, demonstration, and commercial application of quantum information science, engineering, and technology priorities, as determined by the Secretary of Energy, including in the fields of—

“(A) quantum information theory;

“(B) quantum physics;

“(C) quantum computational science, including hardware and software, machine learning, and data science;

“(D) applied mathematics and algorithm development;

“(E) quantum communications and networking, including hardware and software for quantum communications and networking;

“(F) quantum sensing, imaging, and detection;

“(G) materials science and engineering;

“(H) quantum modeling and simulation, including molecular modeling;

“(I) near- and long-term application development, as determined by the Secretary of Energy;

“(J) quantum chemistry;

“(K) quantum biology;

“(L) superconductive and high-performance microelectronics; and

“(M) quantum security technologies.”;

(F) in paragraph (6) (as so redesignated), in subparagraph (F), by striking “and” at the end;

(G) in paragraph (7) (as so redesignated)—

(i) by striking “and” before “potential”;

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting “, and other relevant stakeholders, as determined by the Secretary of Energy; and”;

(H) by adding at the end the following:

“(8) leverage the collective body of knowledge and data, including experience and resources from existing Federal research activities and commercially available quantum computing hardware and software, to the extent practicable.”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(c) INDUSTRY OUTREACH.—In carrying out the program under subsection (a), the Secretary of Energy shall engage with the quantum technology industry and promote commercialization of applications of quantum technology relevant to the activities of the Department of Energy by—

“(1) educating—

“(A) the energy industry on near-term and commercially available quantum technologies; and

“(B) the quantum industry on potential energy applications;

“(2) accelerating the advancements of United States quantum computing, communications, networking, sensing, and security capabilities to protect and optimize the energy sector;

“(3) advancing relevant domestic supply chains, manufacturing capabilities, and associated simulations or modeling capabilities;

“(4) facilitating commercialization of quantum technologies from National Laboratories and engaging with the Quantum Economic Development Consortium and other organizations, as applicable, to transition component technologies that advance the development of a quantum supply chain; and

“(5) to the extent practicable, ensuring industry partner access, especially for small- and medium-sized businesses, to specialized quantum instrumentation, equipment, testbeds, and other infrastructure to design, prototype, and test novel quantum hardware and streamline user access to reduce costs and other administrative burdens.

“(d) HIGH-PERFORMANCE COMPUTING STRATEGIC PLAN.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary of Energy shall submit to Congress a 10-year strategic plan to guide Federal programs in designing, expanding, and procuring hybrid, energy-efficient high-performance computing systems capable of integrating with a diverse set of accelerators, including quantum, artificial intelligence, and machine learning accelerators, to enable the computing facilities of the Department of Energy to advance national computing resources.

“(2) CONTENTS.—The strategic plan under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

“(A) A conceptual plan to leverage capabilities and infrastructure from the exascale computing program, as the Secretary of Energy determines necessary.

“(B) A plan to minimize disruptions to the advanced scientific computing workforce.

“(C) A consideration of a diversity of quantum computing modalities.

“(D) A plan to integrate cloud access of commercially available quantum hardware and software to complement on-premises high-performance computing systems and resources consistent with the QUEST program established under section 404.

“(e) EARLY-STAGE QUANTUM HIGH-PERFORMANCE COMPUTING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.—

“(1) DEFINITION OF QUANTUM HIGH-PERFORMANCE COMPUTING.—In this subsection, the term ‘quantum high-performance computing’ means the use of classical high-performance computing systems with quantum processing units and hybrid quantum-classical algorithms to leverage the strength of computational architectures and solve complex problems.

“(2) PROGRAM.—The Secretary of Energy shall establish an early-stage research and development program in quantum high-performance computing—

“(A) to inform the 10-year strategic plan described in subsection (d)(1); and

“(B) to build the necessary scientific computing workforce to fulfill the objectives of that plan.

“(3) ACTIVITIES.—The program established under paragraph (2) shall—

“(A) support early-stage quantum supercomputing testbeds and prototypes; and

“(B) connect early-stage quantum high-performance computing projects to the Centers funded under this Act.

“(4) FUNDING.—Of funds made available under subsection (i)(1), the Secretary of Energy shall use not more than \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030 to carry out the activities under this subsection.

“(f) SUPPLY CHAIN STUDY.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, shall conduct a study on quantum science, engineering, and technology supply chain needs, including—

“(1) identifying hurdles to growth in the quantum industry by leveraging the expertise of relevant stakeholders in academia and industry, including the Quantum Economic Development Consortium; and

“(2) making recommendations on how to strengthen the domestic supply of materials and technologies necessary for the development of a robust manufacturing base and workforce.

“(g) TRAINEESHIP PROGRAM.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Energy shall establish a university-led traineeship program—

“(A) to address workforce development needs in quantum information science, engineering, and technology; and

“(B) that will focus on supporting increased participation, workforce development, and research experiences for underrepresented undergraduate and graduate students.

“(2) FUNDING.—Of funds made available under subsection (i)(1), the Secretary of Energy shall use not more than \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030 to carry out the activities under this subsection.

“(h) COORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary of Energy shall, to the maximum extent practicable, coordinate with the Director of the National Science Foundation, the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Director of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, and the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies to ensure that programs and activities carried out under this section complement and do not duplicate existing efforts across the Federal government.

“(i) FUNDING.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Of amounts authorized to be appropriated for the Department of Energy, the Secretary of Energy shall use not more than \$175,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030 to carry out activities under this section.

“(2) RESTRICTIONS.—

“(A) CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE.—None of the funds made available under this subsection may be obligated to or expended by an institution of higher education that maintains a contract or other agreement with a Confucius Institute or any successor of a Confucius Institute.

“(B) FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND ENTITIES OF CONCERN.—

“(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this subparagraph:

“(I) FOREIGN COUNTRY OF CONCERN.—The term ‘foreign country of concern’ means—

“(aa) a covered nation (as defined in section 4872(d) of title 10, United States Code); and

“(bb) any other country that the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, and the Director of National Intelligence, determines to be engaged in conduct that is detrimental to the national security or foreign policy of the United States.

“(II) FOREIGN ENTITY OF CONCERN.—The term ‘foreign entity of concern’ means a foreign entity that—

“(aa) is designated as a foreign terrorist organization by the Secretary of State under section 219(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189(a));

“(bb) is included on the list of specially designated nationals and blocked persons maintained by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of the Treasury;

“(cc) is owned by, controlled by, or subject to the jurisdiction or direction of a government of a foreign country that is a covered nation (as defined in section 4872(d) of title 10, United States Code);

“(dd) is alleged by the Attorney General to have been involved in activities for which a conviction was obtained under—

“(AA) chapter 37 of title 18, United States Code (commonly known as the ‘Espionage Act’);

“(BB) section 951 or 1030 of title 18, United States Code;

“(CC) chapter 90 of title 18, United States Code (commonly known as the ‘Economic Espionage Act of 1996’);

“(DD) the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.);

“(EE) section 224, 225, 226, 227, or 236 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2284);

“(FF) the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 (50 U.S.C. 4801 et seq.); or

“(GG) the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.); or

“(ee) is determined by the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Director of National Intelligence, to be engaged in unauthorized conduct that is detrimental to the national security or foreign policy of the United States.

“(ii) RESTRICTION.—None of the funds made available under this subsection may be obligated or expended to promote, establish, or finance quantum research activities between a United States entity and a foreign country of concern or a foreign entity of concern.”

### SEC. 3. DOE QUANTUM INSTRUMENTATION AND FOUNDRY PROGRAM.

The National Quantum Initiative Act is amended by inserting after section 401 (15 U.S.C. 8851) the following:

#### “SEC. 401A. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY QUANTUM INSTRUMENTATION AND FOUNDRY PROGRAM.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Energy shall establish an instrumentation and infrastructure program to carry out the following:

“(1) Maintain United States leadership in quantum information science, engineering, and technology.

“(2) Develop domestic quantum supply chains.

“(3) Provide resources for the broader scientific community.

“(4) Support activities carried out under sections 401, 402, 403, and 404.

“(b) PROGRAM COMPONENTS.—In carrying out the program under subsection (a), the Secretary of Energy shall—

“(1) develop, design, build, purchase, and commercialize specialized equipment, laboratory infrastructure, and state-of-the-art instrumentation to advance quantum engineering research and the development of quantum component technologies at a scale sufficient to meet the needs of the scientific community and enable commercialization of quantum technology;

“(2) leverage the capabilities of National Laboratories and Nanoscale Science Research Centers, including facilities and experts that research and develop novel quantum materials and devices; and

“(3) consider the technologies and end-use applications that have significant economic potential, as determined by the Secretary, based on consultation with relevant stakeholders in academia and industry, including the Quantum Economic Development Consortium.

“(c) QUANTUM FOUNDRIES.—In carrying out the program under subsection (a), and in coordination with institutions of higher education and industry, the Secretary of Energy shall support the development of quantum foundries focused on meeting the device, hardware, software, and materials needs of the scientific community and the quantum supply chain.

“(d) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out the program under subsection (a), the Secretary of Energy shall consult with the following entities to identify the instrumentation, equipment, infrastructure, and materials needed to support the objectives of that program:

“(1) The National Institute of Standards and Technology.

“(2) The National Science Foundation.

“(3) The National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

“(4) Any other relevant Federal agency.

“(5) The National Laboratories.

“(6) National Quantum Information Science Research Centers.

“(7) Industry stakeholders.

“(8) Institutions of higher education.

“(9) Any other research institution.

“(e) FUNDING.—Of amounts authorized to be appropriated for the Department of Energy, the Secretary of Energy shall use not more than \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030 to carry out this section.”

### SEC. 4. NATIONAL QUANTUM INFORMATION SCIENCE RESEARCH CENTERS.

Section 402 of the National Quantum Initiative Act (15 U.S.C. 8852) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking “basic”; and

(ii) by striking “science and technology and to support research conducted under section 401” and inserting “science, engineering, and technology, expand capacity for the domestic quantum workforce, and support research conducted under sections 401, 403, and 404”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)(C), by inserting “that may include 1 or more commercial entities” after “collaborations”; and

(2) in subsection (b), by inserting “and should be inclusive of the variety of viable quantum technologies, as appropriate” before the period at the end;

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking “basic”; and

(B) by inserting “, engineering, and technology, accelerating quantum workforce development,” after “science”; and

(4) in subsection (e), by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2) RENEWAL.—Each Center established under this section may be renewed for an additional period of 5 years following a successful, merit-based review and approval by the Director.”; and

(5) in subsection (f), in the first sentence—

(A) by striking “\$25,000,000” and inserting “\$35,000,000”; and

(B) by striking “2019 through 2023” and inserting “2026 through 2030”.

### SEC. 5. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY QUANTUM NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

Section 403 of the National Quantum Initiative Act (15 U.S.C. 8853) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (4)—

(i) by inserting “, including” after “networking”; and

(ii) by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in paragraph (5), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(6) as applicable, leverage a diversity of modalities and commercially available quantum hardware and software; and

“(7) develop education and training pathways related to quantum network infrastructure investments, aligned with existing programmatic investments by the Department of Energy.”; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by redesignating subparagraphs (C) and (D) as subparagraphs (D) and (E), respectively; and

(ii) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following:

“(C) the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the head of any other relevant Federal agency, as determined by the Secretary.”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “ground-to-space and” before “space-to-ground”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (E), by striking “photon-based” and inserting “all applicable modalities of”;

(iii) in subparagraph (F), by inserting “, quantum sensors,” after “quantum repeaters”; and

(iv) in subparagraph (G)—

(I) by inserting “data centers,” after “repeaters.”; and

(II) by striking “and” at the end;

(v) in subparagraph (H)—

(I) by striking “the quantum technology stack” and inserting “quantum technology modality stacks”; and

(II) by striking “National Laboratories in” and inserting “National Laboratories such as”; and

(vi) by adding at the end the following:

“(I) development of quantum network and entanglement distribution protocols or applications, including development of network stack protocols and protocols enabling integration with existing technologies or infrastructure; and

“(J) development of high-efficiency room-temperature photon detectors for quantum photonic applications, including quantum networking and communications.”; and

(C) in paragraph (4)—

(i) by striking “basic”; and

(ii) by striking “material” and inserting “materials”; and

(D) in paragraph (5), by striking “fundamental”; and

(3) in subsection (d), by striking “basic research” and inserting “research, development, and demonstration”.

### SEC. 6. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY QUANTUM USER EXPANSION FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM.

Section 404 of the National Quantum Initiative Act (15 U.S.C. 8854) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “and quantum computing clouds” and inserting “, software, and cloud-based quantum computing”; and

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking “and” at the end;

(C) in paragraph (4), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

“(5) to enable development of software and applications, including estimation of resources needed to scale applications; and

“(6) to develop near-term quantum applications to solve public and private sector problems.”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (4), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in paragraph (5), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(6) enable users to develop algorithms, software tools, simulators, and applications for quantum systems using cloud-based quantum computers; and

“(7) partner with appropriate public- and private-sector entities to develop training and education opportunities on prototype and early-stage devices to support commercial applications.”;

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (4) through (8) as paragraphs (5) through (9), respectively; and

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

“(4) the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.”; and

(4) in subsection (e)—

(A) in paragraph (4), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in paragraph (5), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(6) \$38,000,000 for fiscal year 2028;

“(7) \$39,900,000 for fiscal year 2029; and

“(8) \$41,895,000 for fiscal year 2030.”.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. LANKFORD, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. DAINES, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. SHEEHY, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. MULLIN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BUDD, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. ERNST, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. ROUNDS, Ms. LUMMIS, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. COTTON, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. BANKS, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. LEE, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. MORENO):

S. 587. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the estate and generation-skipping transfer taxes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, later today, I will introduce a bill to repeal the death tax.

As I mentioned, as a resident of a rural State filled with family farms and ranches, I have made death tax repeal a priority for a long time, and I was proud to help secure a doubling of the death tax exemption in the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. This doubled exemption has provided certainty to a lot of farms and ranches and small businesses over the past 7 years, but the expanded exemption is expiring at the end of this year. It is my hope that we will not merely extend this exemption but that we will get rid of this fundamentally flawed tax once and for all.

The death tax is fundamentally flawed both in theory and in practice. There should be a limit to how many times the government can tax you. The money you leave at your death has already been taxed by the government at least once, which makes the death tax double taxation, and the government isn't even profiting all that much from this double taxation. That is right. The death tax accounts for a teeny, tiny fraction of government revenue. In fact, there is reason to believe that the government would collect more in taxes if it got rid of the death tax entirely due to the economic growth and job creation that would stem from its elimination.

So how is there any support left for this burdensome tax? That is a good question. For some, of course, heavy taxation is axiomatic. “Do well,” their thinking runs, “and the government should come after you.” Some think that you shouldn't be able to pass the results of hard work down to your children upon your death.

Well, death tax proponents tend to talk as if the death tax only affects the extremely wealthy, but nothing, of course, could be further from the truth. The death tax can sweep up those who have very little in the bank—notably, family farms and ranches and family businesses. How? Well, farming and ranching is often a cash-poor business. A farmer might have substantial looking assets on paper, but the vast majority of that is land and farming equipment. Only a small fraction of it is money in the bank.

On top of that, farmland can often be valued at a level that is inconsistent with its agricultural productivity value. A farmer might have land with a substantial value on paper, but the crop yield on that land could be worth far, far less.

So what happens when a farmer or a rancher dies and his estate is subject to the tax? There is a very good chance that his liquid assets—in other words, the cash he has available in the bank—won't come close to covering the tax bill from the Federal Government, and the only alternative for his heirs may be to start selling off land or farm equipment to pay the tax. In some cases, they will be able to keep the farm, just a smaller version of it; in others, they may have to sell off the family farm entirely.

The case is similar with family-owned businesses. The owner might appear to have substantial looking assets on paper, but only a small fraction of that may be money in the bank. The vast majority may be tied up in the business. Once again, when the Federal Government comes around, demanding a huge portion of this individual's taxable estate, there may not be anywhere close to enough money in the bank to pay the tax. To pay the Federal Government, the owner's descendants will have to sell off part or all of the family business.

Now, family farms and ranches are the lifeblood of the rural communities

in South Dakota. They are a source of jobs. They provide support for local businesses. They help build up local schools and local infrastructure. Losing a local farm can hit rural communities very, very hard, especially when that farm or ranch is bought up by an out-of-State business with few ties to the community and limited interest in building it up.

It is not just those who actually get hit by the estate tax who suffer. A lot of family farms and ranches and family businesses spend a lot of time and money on estate planning to avoid being hit by this tax. That is time and money that could have gone into building their business, investing in new equipment, hiring new workers, and the list goes on.

Some set aside capital to prepare for the death tax—capital that, again, could go into building up a farm or ranch or hiring new workers for the family business.

As one of my Democrat colleagues, the senior Senator from Washington, said a while back:

The estate tax is bad for businesses. It is bad for workers and new job creation. And it is bad for our communities who are watching their local, family-owned businesses get swallowed up by large corporations.

As I said, we protected a lot more family farms and family businesses by doubling the death tax exemption in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act back in 2017, but we didn't protect them all. And those we did protect will lose those protections at the end of this year. It is time to end this punishing and burdensome tax once and for all.

I want to thank my Republican colleagues who have joined me in sponsoring this legislation. I hope that 2025 will be the year that we permanently bid farewell to the death tax.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 587

*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 “Death Tax Repeal Act of 2025”.

#### SEC. 2. REPEAL OF ESTATE AND GENERATION-SKIPPING TRANSFER TAXES.

(a) ESTATE TAX REPEAL.—Subchapter C of chapter 11 of subtitle B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

##### “SEC. 2210. TERMINATION.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), this chapter shall not apply to the estates of decedents dying on or after the date of the enactment of the Death Tax Repeal Act of 2025.

“(b) CERTAIN DISTRIBUTIONS FROM QUALIFIED DOMESTIC TRUSTS.—In applying section 2056A with respect to the surviving spouse of a decedent dying before the date of the enactment of the Death Tax Repeal Act of 2025—

“(1) section 2056A(b)(1)(A) shall not apply to distributions made after the 10-year period beginning on such date, and



“(2) section 2056A(b)(1)(B) shall not apply on or after such date.”.

(b) GENERATION-SKIPPING TRANSFER TAX REPEAL.—Subchapter G of chapter 13 of subtitle B of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 2664. TERMINATION.

“This chapter shall not apply to generation-skipping transfers on or after the date of the enactment of the Death Tax Repeal Act of 2025.”.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) The table of sections for subchapter C of chapter 11 of the Internal Revenue Code of

1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“Sec. 2210. Termination.”.

(2) The table of sections for subchapter G of chapter 13 of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“Sec. 2664. Termination.”.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to the estates of decedents dying, and generation-skipping transfers, after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. MODIFICATIONS OF GIFT TAX.

(a) COMPUTATION OF GIFT TAX.—Subsection (a) of section 2502 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

“(a) COMPUTATION OF TAX.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The tax imposed by section 2501 for each calendar year shall be an amount equal to the excess of—

“(A) a tentative tax, computed under paragraph (2), on the aggregate sum of the taxable gifts for each calendar year and for each of the preceding calendar periods, over

“(B) a tentative tax, computed under paragraph (2), on the aggregate sum of the taxable gifts for each of the preceding calendar periods.

“(2) RATE SCHEDULE.—

<b>“If the amount with respect to which the tentative tax to be computed is: .....</b>	<b>The tentative tax is:</b>
Not over \$10,000 .....	18% of such amount.
Over \$10,000 but not over \$20,000 .....	\$1,800, plus 20% of the excess over \$10,000.
Over \$20,000 but not over \$40,000 .....	\$3,800, plus 22% of the excess over \$20,000.
Over \$40,000 but not over \$60,000 .....	\$8,200, plus 24% of the excess over \$40,000.
Over \$60,000 but not over \$80,000 .....	\$13,000, plus 26% of the excess over \$60,000.
Over \$80,000 but not over \$100,000 .....	\$18,200, plus 28% of the excess over \$80,000.
Over \$100,000 but not over \$150,000 .....	\$23,800, plus 30% of the excess over \$100,000.
Over \$150,000 but not over \$250,000 .....	\$38,800, plus 32% of the excess over \$150,000.
Over \$250,000 but not over \$500,000 .....	\$70,800, plus 34% of the excess over \$250,000.
Over \$500,000 .....	\$155,800, plus 35% of the excess over \$500,000.”.

(b) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN TRANSFERS IN TRUST.—Section 2511 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(c) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN TRANSFERS IN TRUST.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section and except as provided in regulations, a transfer in trust shall be treated as a taxable gift under section 2503, unless the trust is treated as wholly owned by the donor or the donor’s spouse under subpart E of part I of subchapter J of chapter 1.”.

(c) LIFETIME GIFT EXEMPTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 2505(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

“(1) the amount of the tentative tax which would be determined under the rate schedule set forth in section 2502(a)(2) if the amount with respect to which such tentative tax is to be computed were \$10,000,000, reduced by”.

(2) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—Section 2505 of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(d) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any calendar year after 2011, the dollar amount in subsection (a)(1) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

“(A) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(B) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for such calendar year by substituting ‘calendar year 2010’ for ‘calendar year 2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof.

“(2) ROUNDING.—If any amount as adjusted under paragraph (1) is not a multiple of

\$10,000, such amount shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of \$10,000.”.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 2505(a) of such Code is amended by striking the last sentence.

(2) The heading for section 2505 of such Code is amended by striking “UNIFIED”.

(3) The item in the table of sections for subchapter A of chapter 12 of such Code relating to section 2505 is amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 2505. Credit against gift tax.”.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to gifts made on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(f) TRANSITION RULE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of applying sections 1015(d), 2502, and 2505 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, the calendar year in which this Act is enacted shall be treated as 2 separate calendar years one of which ends on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act and the other of which begins on such date of enactment.

(2) APPLICATION OF SECTION 2504(b).—For purposes of applying section 2504(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, the calendar year in which this Act is enacted shall be treated as one preceding calendar period.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. COONS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs.

MURRAY, Mr. REED, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 597. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the purchase of certain firearms by individuals under 21 years of age, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Age 21 Act, a vital piece of legislation aimed at reducing gun violence and enhancing the safety of all Americans.

The Age 21 Act would prohibit the sale of assault weapons, large-capacity ammunition, and related items to individuals under the age of 21.

However, this bill includes reasonable exceptions to allow temporary transfer or possession of assault weapons for specific activities, such as recreational use or work-related responsibilities, including Active military service.

Every American has the right to live free from the fear of gun violence. Yet this epidemic continues to devastate our communities, claiming over 46,000 lives in 2023 alone, the third-highest number of gun-related deaths ever recorded. This ongoing crisis demands urgent and meaningful action.



Assault weapons—engineered for military purposes—are designed to inflict maximum damage in the shortest amount of time. Unsurprisingly, they are frequently chosen by those who perpetrate mass violence. Their deadly impact is tragically evident in many of our Nation's darkest moments.

In 2022, an 18-year-old gunman in Uvalde, TX, used an AR-15-style rifle to kill 19 children and 2 teachers at Robb Elementary School. In 2018, a 19-year-old gunman at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, FL, murdered 17 students and staff members with an AR-15 rifle. And in 2012, a 20-year-old gunman used an AR-15-style rifle to kill 20 children and 6 educators at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, CT.

These are not isolated incidents but part of devastating pattern. Data shows that more than 85 percent of fatalities in public mass shootings involving four or more deaths are caused by assault rifles. The evidence is clear: These weapons amplify the scale of violence and loss of life.

Scientific research supports raising the minimum age for accessing such destructive weapons. Studies show that the human brain continues to develop into a person's mid-20s, particularly in areas related to impulse control, judgment, and long-term planning. Recognizing this, Federal law already restricts the purchase of alcohol and tobacco to individuals over 21, common-sense measures to protect public safety. Assault weapons, with their unparalleled potential for destruction, deserve no less consideration.

Americans deserve to feel safe in their schools, places of worship, and neighborhoods. By passing the Age 21 Act, we can take a meaningful step to reduce the availability of these deadly weapons to young individuals, helping to save lives and prevent future tragedies.

Public safety is a shared responsibility, and this bill represents an important measure to strengthen our collective efforts to combat gun violence. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation and working to pass the Age 21 Act as swiftly as possible.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 602. A bill to amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to support research and development of ungulate grazing land management techniques for purposes of wildfire mitigation, fuel reduction, and post-fire recovery; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise to introduce the bipartisan Wildfire Resilience Through Grazing Research Act. This legislation aims to advance research into the use of hooved animal grazing as a tool for wildfire prevention, mitigation, and recovery.

Wildfires in the U.S. are becoming more frequent, intense, and destructive, posing significant threats to lives, ecosystems, and property. The economic and ecological costs of these fires are devastating. To mitigate future risks and support postfire recovery, we must adopt effective land management strategies. One promising and natural method is ungulate grazing, which has proven effective in reducing the fuel loads that exacerbate fire spread.

However, we still lack sufficient scientific understanding of how to optimize grazing practices for wildfire mitigation while avoiding potential environmental harms. Supporting this research will allow the Federal Government, as well as private landowners, to make grazing a core, cost-effective tool in wildfire prevention, working alongside other mitigation strategies to protect our landscapes, our communities, and our way of life.

Our bipartisan bill would add the Grazing for Wildfire Mitigation Initiative to the National Institute of Food and Agriculture's (NIFA) High-Priority Research List. Specifically, this initiative would support research and development of ungulate grazing land management techniques that promote wildfire mitigation, fuels reduction, and postfire recovery. In addition, it would support information dissemination of ungulate grazing land management techniques that support wildfire mitigation to public and private landowners, land managers, and livestock owners.

I would like to thank my colleagues Senators MORAN, HIRONO, and LANKFORD for their leadership in introducing this bipartisan legislation with me. I urge my colleagues to support the Wildfire Resilience Through Grazing Research Act, and I look forward to working together to ensure our communities are better prepared to face the challenges posed by increasingly frequent and severe wildfires.

By Mr. Kaine (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 603. A bill to designate the General George C. Marshall House in the Commonwealth of Virginia, as an affiliated area of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. Kaine. Mr. President, today, I am joining with Senator MARK WARNER to again introduce legislation to designate the General George C. Marshall House, also known as the Dodona Manor, in Leesburg, VA, as an affiliated area under the National Park Service. This same bill passed unanimously in the Senate at the end of the 118th Congress.

The legislation will be the final step in the yearslong effort to recognize the Dodona Manor as a unit of the National Park System. It will also promote the public appreciation of the significant historic contributions made by U.S. military leader and statesman George C. Marshall.

George C. Marshall was an American hero, playing a significant role in the Allied victory in World War II and serving as an architect of one of the most significant foreign policy initiatives in our country's history. He led a lifetime of public service, serving as Chief of Staff to the Army during America's entry into World War II, as Secretary of State, where he orchestrated the historic Marshall Plan to rebuild Europe following the war and provided counsel to Presidents Roosevelt and Truman, and as Secretary of Defense after the onset of the Korean war. He acquired Dodona Manor while serving as the Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army in 1941 and lived there until his death in 1959.

Today, the George C. Marshall House is dedicated to preserving and advancing General Marshall's life's work and legacy by hosting international exchanges, historical exhibits, and community events, and supporting educational programming based on General Marshall's desire to inspire future leaders. The legislation would bring greater resources, including technical assistance, accessibility improvements, and new programming, to this historical site and enable the Marshall House to improve and expand its work.

I am hopeful that this designation will provide new resources to preserve, honor, and celebrate General Marshall's legacy at this historic site, and I am pleased that companion legislation is also being introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives by my colleague Representative SUHAS SUBRAMANYAM.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 77—AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. PAUL submitted the following resolution; from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 77

*Resolved,*

#### SECTION 1. GENERAL AUTHORITY.

In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate and Senate Resolution 445 (108th Congress), agreed to October 9, 2004, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs (in this resolution referred to as the "committee") is authorized from March 1, 2025, through February 28, 2027, in its discretion, to—

- (1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;
- (2) employ personnel; and
- (3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and

the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

## SEC. 2. EXPENSES.

(a) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2025.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2025, through September 30, 2025, under this resolution shall not exceed \$8,380,388, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$400,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(b) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026, under this resolution shall not exceed \$14,366,379, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$400,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2027.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2026, through February 28, 2027, under this resolution shall not exceed \$5,985,991, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$400,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

## SEC. 3. EXPENSES AND AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) EXPENSES OF THE COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee.

(2) VOUCHERS NOT REQUIRED.—Vouchers shall not be required for—

(A) the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate;

(B) the payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(C) the payment of stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of the Stationery;

(D) payments to the Postmaster of the Senate;

(E) the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(F) the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services; or

(G) the payment of franked and mass mail costs by the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper.

(b) AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.—There are authorized to be paid from the appropriations account for “Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations” of the Senate such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee—

(1) for the period March 1, 2025, through September 30, 2025;

(2) for the period October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026; and

(3) for the period October 1, 2026, through February 28, 2027.

## SEC. 4. INVESTIGATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The committee, or any duly authorized subcommittee of the committee, is authorized to study or investigate—

(1) the efficiency and economy of operations of all branches of the Government including the possible existence of fraud, misfeasance, malfeasance, collusion, mismanagement, incompetence, corruption, or unethical practices, waste, extravagance, conflicts of interest, and the improper expenditure of Government funds in transactions, contracts, and activities of the Government or of Government officials and employees and any and all such improper practices between Government personnel and corporations, individuals, companies, or persons affiliated therewith, doing business with the Government, and the compliance or noncompliance of such corporations, companies, or individuals or other entities with the rules, regulations, and laws governing the various governmental agencies and its relationships with the public;

(2) the extent to which criminal or other improper practices or activities are, or have been, engaged in the field of labor-management relations or in groups or organizations of employees or employers, to the detriment of interests of the public, employers, or employees, and to determine whether any changes are required in the laws of the United States in order to protect such interests against the occurrence of such practices or activities;

(3) organized criminal activity which may operate in or otherwise utilize the facilities of interstate or international commerce in furtherance of any transactions and the manner and extent to which, and the identity of the persons, firms, or corporations, or other entities by whom such utilization is being made, and further, to study and investigate the manner in which and the extent to which persons engaged in organized criminal activity have infiltrated lawful business enterprise, and to study the adequacy of Federal laws to prevent the operations of organized crime in interstate or international commerce, and to determine whether any changes are required in the laws of the United States in order to protect the public against such practices or activities;

(4) all other aspects of crime and lawlessness within the United States which have an impact upon or affect the national health, welfare, and safety, including but not limited to investment fraud schemes, commodity and security fraud, computer fraud, and the use of offshore banking and corporate facilities to carry out criminal objectives;

(5) the efficiency and economy of operations of all branches and functions of the Government with particular reference to—

(A) the effectiveness of present national security methods, staffing, and processes as tested against the requirements imposed by the rapidly mounting complexity of national security problems;

(B) the capacity of present national security staffing, methods, and processes to make full use of the Nation's resources of knowledge and talents;

(C) the adequacy of present intergovernmental relations between the United States and international organizations principally concerned with national security of which the United States is a member; and

(D) legislative and other proposals to improve these methods, processes, and relationships;

(6) the efficiency, economy, and effectiveness of all agencies and departments of the

Government involved in the control and management of energy shortages including, but not limited to, their performance with respect to—

(A) the collection and dissemination of accurate statistics on fuel demand and supply;

(B) the implementation of effective energy conservation measures;

(C) the pricing of energy in all forms;

(D) coordination of energy programs with State and local government;

(E) control of exports of scarce fuels;

(F) the management of tax, import, pricing, and other policies affecting energy supplies;

(G) maintenance of the independent sector of the petroleum industry as a strong competitive force;

(H) the allocation of fuels in short supply by public and private entities;

(I) the management of energy supplies owned or controlled by the Government;

(J) relations with other oil producing and consuming countries;

(K) the monitoring of compliance by governments, corporations, or individuals with the laws and regulations governing the allocation, conservation, or pricing of energy supplies; and

(L) research into the discovery and development of alternative energy supplies; and

(7) the efficiency and economy of all branches and functions of Government with particular references to the operations and management of Federal regulatory policies and programs.

(b) EXTENT OF INQUIRIES.—In carrying out the duties provided in subsection (a), the inquiries of this committee or any subcommittee of the committee shall not be construed to be limited to the records, functions, and operations of any particular branch of the Government and may extend to the records and activities of any persons, corporation, or other entity.

(c) SPECIAL COMMITTEE AUTHORITY.—For the purposes of this section, the committee, or any duly authorized subcommittee of the committee, or its chairman, or any other member of the committee or subcommittee designated by the chairman is authorized, in its, his, her, or their discretion—

(1) to require by subpoena or otherwise the attendance of witnesses and production of correspondence, books, papers, and documents;

(2) to hold hearings;

(3) to sit and act at any time or place during the sessions, recess, and adjournment periods of the Senate;

(4) to administer oaths; and

(5) to take testimony, either orally or by sworn statement, or, in the case of staff members of the Committee and the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, by deposition in accordance with the Committee Rules of Procedure.

(d) AUTHORITY OF OTHER COMMITTEES.—Nothing contained in this section shall affect or impair the exercise of any other standing committee of the Senate of any power, or the discharge by such committee of any duty, conferred or imposed upon it by the Standing Rules of the Senate or by the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946.

(e) SUBPOENA AUTHORITY.—All subpoenas and related legal processes of the committee and any duly authorized subcommittee of the committee authorized under Senate Resolution 59 (118th Congress), agreed to February 15, 2023, are authorized to continue.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 78—AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

Mr. GRAHAM submitted the following resolution; from the Committee

on the Budget which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 78

*Resolved,*

#### SECTION 1. GENERAL AUTHORITY.

In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on the Budget (in this resolution referred to as the “committee”) is authorized from March 1, 2025, through February 28, 2027, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

#### SEC. 2. EXPENSES.

(a) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2025.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2025, through September 30, 2025, under this resolution shall not exceed \$4,630,478, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$23,333 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$17,500 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(b) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026, under this resolution shall not exceed \$7,937,962, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$40,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$30,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2027.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2026, through February 28, 2027, under this resolution shall not exceed \$3,307,484, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$16,667 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$12,500 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

#### SEC. 3. EXPENSES AND AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) EXPENSES OF THE COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee.

(2) VOUCHERS NOT REQUIRED.—Vouchers shall not be required for—

(A) the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate;

(B) the payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(C) the payment of stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of the Stationery;

(D) payments to the Postmaster of the Senate;

(E) the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(F) the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services; or

(G) the payment of franked and mass mail costs by the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper.

(b) AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.—There are authorized to be paid from the appropriations account for “Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations” of the Senate such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee—

(1) for the period March 1, 2025, through September 30, 2025;

(2) for the period October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026; and

(3) for the period October 1, 2026, through February 28, 2027.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 79—HONORING THE MEMORIES OF THE VICTIMS OF THE SENSELESS ATTACK AT MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS HIGH SCHOOL ON FEBRUARY 14, 2018

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself and Mrs. MOODY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 79

Whereas, on February 14, 2018, a mass shooting that took the lives of 17 teachers and students took place at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida;

Whereas the people of the United States continue to pray for the individuals who were affected by this tragedy;

Whereas the Parkland community has shown strength, compassion, and unity over the past 6 years; and

Whereas February 14, 2025, marks 7 years since the horrific attack: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) honors the memories of the victims of the senseless attack at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School on February 14, 2018, and offers heartfelt condolences and deepest sympathies to the families, loved ones, and friends of the victims;

(2) honors the survivors of the attack and pledges continued support for their recovery;

(3) recognizes the strength and resilience of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School community; and

(4) expresses gratitude to the emergency medical and health care professionals of the Parkland community for their efforts in responding to the attack and caring for the victims and survivors.

SENATE RESOLUTION 80—EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO THE JOINT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON INAUGURAL CEREMONIES, THE ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL, THE SERGEANT AT ARMS, THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE, LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS, EMERGENCY PERSONNEL, AND VOLUNTEERS FOR THEIR SUPPORT IN MAKING THE PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION A SUCCESS.

Mr. ROUNDS (for himself, Mr. THUNE, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. COTTON, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. RICKETTS, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. WICKER, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. KING, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. GALLEGO, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. KIM, Mr. REED, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. COONS, Mr. BENNET, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. PETERS, Ms. ROSEN, and Mr. KELLY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 80

Whereas, on January 20, 2025, the inauguration of the 47th President of the United States, President Donald J. Trump (referred to in this preamble as the “Presidential Inauguration”), took place under unique and challenging circumstances, requiring the relocation of certain events indoors due to unseasonably cold weather;

Whereas, during the Presidential Inauguration, the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, the Architect of the Capitol, the Sergeant at Arms, the Secretary of the Senate, law enforcement officers, emergency personnel, and volunteers displayed exceptional dedication and professionalism in adapting to unforeseen challenges to guarantee the safety, security, and smooth operation of all inaugural events;

Whereas the tireless efforts of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, the Architect of the Capitol, the Sergeant at Arms, the Secretary of the Senate, law enforcement officers, emergency personnel, and volunteers during the Presidential Inauguration facilitated a historic and dignified transfer of power, reflecting the best traditions of the United States;

Whereas the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, the Architect of the Capitol, the Sergeant at Arms, and the Secretary of the Senate spent years planning and preparing for the events of the Presidential Inauguration and executed that plan flawlessly, even with unforeseen challenges;

Whereas the cold weather during the Presidential Inauguration presented additional logistical and operational difficulties, which were overcome through extraordinary commitment and teamwork; and

Whereas the vigilance and preparedness of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, the Architect of the Capitol, the Sergeant at Arms, the Secretary of the Senate, law enforcement officers, emergency personnel, and volunteers allowed attendees of the Presidential Inauguration to celebrate the momentous occasion in a

safe and secure environment: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) expresses its profound gratitude to the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, the Architect of the Capitol, the Sergeant at Arms, the Secretary of the Senate, law enforcement officers, emergency personnel, and volunteers whose hard work and dedication made the inauguration of President Donald J. Trump on January 20, 2025 (referred to in this resolution as the “Presidential Inauguration”), a resounding success;

(2) commends the professionalism and resilience of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, the Architect of the Capitol, the Sergeant at Arms, the Secretary of the Senate, law enforcement officers, emergency personnel, and volunteers in adapting to the unexpected challenges posed by the cold weather and the relocation of events during the Presidential Inauguration;

(3) recognizes the invaluable hard work of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, the Architect of the Capitol, the Sergeant at Arms, the Secretary of the Senate, law enforcement officers, emergency personnel, and volunteers in upholding the safety and security of all participants and attendees of the Presidential Inauguration;

(4) extends heartfelt thanks to the families and loved ones of the law enforcement officers, emergency personnel, and volunteers, whose support enables their service; and

(5) calls upon all people of the United States to join in acknowledging the critical role played by the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, the Architect of the Capitol, the Sergeant at Arms, the Secretary of the Senate, law enforcement officers, emergency personnel, and volunteers in ensuring the success of the Presidential Inauguration, a significant national event.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 81—CALLING ON THE UNITED KINGDOM, FRANCE, AND GERMANY (E3) TO INITIATE THE SNAPBACK OF SANCTIONS ON IRAN UNDER UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2231 (2015)

Mr. RICKETTS (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. CAPITO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. SHEEHY, Mr. SULLIVAN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. CRAPO, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. YOUNG) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 81

Whereas, on July 15, 2015, the P5+1 (the United States, the United Kingdom, France, the People’s Republic of China, the Russian Federation, and Germany), the European Union, and the Islamic Republic of Iran finalized the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA);

Whereas the JCPOA required the Government of Iran to implement constraints on its uranium enrichment and heavy water nuclear reactor programs, as well as allow the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to monitor compliance with the agreement;

Whereas, on July 20, 2015, the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) passed Resolution 2231 (UNSCR 2231), which endorsed the JCPOA and provided for the termination of all previous UNSC resolutions targeting Iran’s nuclear program (1696, 1737, 1747, 1803

1835, and 1929), while maintaining United Nation’s arms restrictions on Iran for 5 years and United Nation’s prohibitions on Iran’s missile and drone activity for 8 years;

Whereas, pursuant to the JCPOA, Iran received significant sanctions relief from the previous sanctions imposed by the European Union, the United States, and previous UNSC resolutions;

Whereas Iran used this sanctions relief to fund its terrorist proxies, regional aggression, and its expansion of its ballistic missile program;

Whereas, on May 8, 2018, President Donald J. Trump announced the United States was ceasing its participation in the JCPOA and reimposing sanctions against Iran that had been previously waived;

Whereas President Trump’s successful maximum pressure campaign imposed significant financial costs on Iran’s regime “to alter its course of malign activities and ensure that Iranian bad acts are no longer rewarded”;

Whereas, Iran has repeatedly violated the terms of the JCPOA and UNSCR 2231, including by—

(1) lifting the cap on its stockpile of uranium;

(2) increasing its enrichment activities to 60 percent purity, expanding its enrichment capabilities;

(3) resuming its activity at prohibited nuclear facilities; and

(4) preventing the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) from being able to effectively monitor its nuclear activities;

Whereas, Iran repeatedly violated UNSCR 2231’s restrictions on ballistic missile testing and development, as well as United Nations-imposed and internationally binding arms export and import embargoes;

Whereas UNSCR 2231 includes a formal mechanism for a participant state of the JCPOA, if it believes there has been significant non-performance of commitments under the JCPOA by Iran, to trigger a process that would require the UNSC to “snapback” all United Nation sanctions on Iran that has been lifted pursuant to UNSCR 2231;

Whereas, on September 14, 2024, in a joint statement, the United States and United Kingdom acknowledged publicly that Iran’s nuclear program “has never been more advanced and posed a clear threat to regional and global peace and security”;

Whereas, in June and November of 2024, in efforts led by France, Germany, the United Kingdom (E3), and the United States, the IAEA’s Board of Governors voted to censure Iran for non-compliance with its obligations under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, done at Washington, London, and Moscow July 1, 1968 (commonly referred to as the “Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty” or “NPT”);

Whereas, on December 9, 2024, the E3 sent a letter to the United Nations Security Council stating, “We reiterate our determination to use all diplomatic tools to prevent Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon, including using snapback if necessary.”;

Whereas, on January 6, 2025, President of France Emmanuel Macron said the acceleration of Iran’s nuclear program was “bringing us very close to the breaking point” and said, “We will have to ask ourselves whether to use the mechanism for re-establishing sanctions. We are ready to do so if the question arises.”;

Whereas, on January 23, 2025, the Director General of the IAEA, Rafael Grossi, said that Iran has increased production of 60 percent enriched uranium from 7 kilograms to over 30 kilograms per month, and currently possess about 200 kilograms, which if enriched to 90 percent would amount to at least 5 nuclear weapons; and

Whereas, under UNSCR 2231, the resolution, including the “snapback” mechanism, terminates 10 years after Adoption Day for the JCPOA, which will be October 18, 2025: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes that Iran’s possession of a nuclear weapon would threaten not only the security of the United States, but global security at large, including United States allies and partners in Europe and the Middle East;

(2) condemns the Government of Iran’s flagrant and repeated violations of commitments it made under the JCPOA and its international obligations under UNSCR 2231;

(3) condemns the Russian Federation and the People’s Republic of China, who remain participants in the JCPOA, for their role in supporting Iran’s malign activities;

(4) reaffirms that the United States Government maintains the right to take any necessary measures to prevent the Government of Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons;

(5) supports the imposition and enforcement of robust sanctions on Iran for its nuclear and missile programs and on entities and individuals involved in these programs to deter further proliferation efforts; and

(6) urges the E3 to invoke the “snapback” of United Nations sanctions against Iran under UNSCR 2231 as soon as possible before the option expires on October 18, 2025.

#### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 7—SETTING FORTH THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET FOR THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 AND SETTING FORTH THE APPROPRIATE BUDGETARY LEVELS FOR FISCAL YEARS 2026 THROUGH 2034

Mr. GRAHAM; from the Committee on the Budget submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was placed on the calendar:

S. CON. RES. 7

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),*

#### SECTION 1. CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025.

(a) DECLARATION.—Congress declares that this resolution is the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2025 and that this resolution sets forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2026 through 2034.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this concurrent resolution is as follows:

Sec. 1. Concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2025.

#### TITLE I—RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS

##### Subtitle A—Budgetary Levels in Both Houses

Sec. 1101. Recommended levels and amounts.  
Sec. 1102. Major functional categories.

##### Subtitle B—Levels and Amounts in the Senate

Sec. 1201. Social Security in the Senate.  
Sec. 1202. Postal Service discretionary administrative expenses in the Senate.

#### TITLE II—RECONCILIATION

Sec. 2001. Reconciliation in the House of Representatives.  
Sec. 2002. Reconciliation in the Senate.

#### TITLE III—RESERVE FUNDS

Sec. 3001. Reserve fund for reconciliation legislation.

Sec. 3002. Reserve fund for deficit-neutral legislation.

#### TITLE IV—OTHER MATTERS

Sec. 4001. Enforcement filing.

Sec. 4002. Budgetary treatment of administrative expenses.

Sec. 4003. Application and effect of changes in allocations, aggregates, and other budgetary levels.

Sec. 4004. Adjustment authority for revisions to statutory caps.

Sec. 4005. Adjustments to reflect changes in concepts and definitions.

Sec. 4006. Adjustment for changes in the baseline.

Sec. 4007. Exercise of rulemaking powers.

#### TITLE I—RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS

##### Subtitle A—Budgetary Levels in Both Houses

#### SEC. 1101. RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS.

The following budgetary levels are appropriate for each of fiscal years 2025 through 2034:

(1) **FEDERAL REVENUES.**—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution:

(A) The recommended levels of Federal revenues are as follows:

Fiscal year 2025: \$3,853,053,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2026: \$4,005,633,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2027: \$4,095,208,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2028: \$4,221,709,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2029: \$4,343,708,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2030: \$4,536,585,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2031: \$4,744,851,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2032: \$4,939,252,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2033: \$5,155,399,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2034: \$5,375,311,000,000.

(B) The amounts by which the aggregate levels of Federal revenues should be changed are as follows:

Fiscal year 2025: —\$5,916,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2026: —\$211,035,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2027: —\$421,185,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2028: —\$415,138,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2029: —\$416,123,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2030: —\$422,056,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2031: —\$435,419,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2032: —\$449,460,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2033: —\$467,244,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2034: —\$484,719,000,000.

(2) **FEDERAL REVENUE CHANGES RELATIVE TO CURRENT POLICY.**—The amounts by which the aggregate levels of Federal revenues should be changed compared to current policy are as follows:

Fiscal year 2025: \$0.  
Fiscal year 2026: \$0.  
Fiscal year 2027: \$0.  
Fiscal year 2028: \$0.  
Fiscal year 2029: \$0.  
Fiscal year 2030: \$0.  
Fiscal year 2031: \$0.  
Fiscal year 2032: \$0.  
Fiscal year 2033: \$0.  
Fiscal year 2034: \$0.

(3) **NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY.**—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the appropriate levels of total new budget authority are as follows:

Fiscal year 2025: \$4,660,822,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2026: \$4,787,172,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2027: \$4,918,969,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2028: \$5,195,931,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2029: \$5,348,812,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2030: \$5,634,695,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2031: \$5,877,961,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2032: \$6,148,105,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2033: \$6,480,776,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2034: \$6,681,550,000,000.

(4) **BUDGET OUTLAYS.**—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the appropriate levels of total budget outlays are as follows:

Fiscal year 2025: \$4,636,002,000,000.  
Fiscal year 2026: \$4,803,228,000,000.

Fiscal year 2027: \$4,995,184,000,000.

Fiscal year 2028: \$5,283,709,000,000.

Fiscal year 2029: \$5,338,399,000,000.

Fiscal year 2030: \$5,621,606,000,000.

Fiscal year 2031: \$5,845,033,000,000.

Fiscal year 2032: \$6,078,132,000,000.

Fiscal year 2033: \$6,437,602,000,000.

Fiscal year 2034: \$6,592,030,000,000.

(5) **DEFICITS.**—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the amounts of the deficits are as follows:

Fiscal year 2025: \$782,949,000,000.

Fiscal year 2026: \$797,595,000,000.

Fiscal year 2027: \$899,976,000,000.

Fiscal year 2028: \$1,062,000,000,000.

Fiscal year 2029: \$994,691,000,000.

Fiscal year 2030: \$1,085,021,000,000.

Fiscal year 2031: \$1,100,182,000,000.

Fiscal year 2032: \$1,138,880,000,000.

Fiscal year 2033: \$1,282,203,000,000.

Fiscal year 2034: \$1,216,719,000,000.

(6) **PUBLIC DEBT.**—Pursuant to section 301(a)(5) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 632(a)(5)), the appropriate levels of the public debt are as follows:

Fiscal year 2025: \$36,371,784,000,000.

Fiscal year 2026: \$37,521,488,000,000.

Fiscal year 2027: \$38,649,388,000,000.

Fiscal year 2028: \$39,897,925,000,000.

Fiscal year 2029: \$41,251,544,000,000.

Fiscal year 2030: \$42,552,065,000,000.

Fiscal year 2031: \$43,855,127,000,000.

Fiscal year 2032: \$45,199,622,000,000.

Fiscal year 2033: \$46,803,080,000,000.

Fiscal year 2034: \$48,714,403,000,000.

(7) **DEBT HELD BY THE PUBLIC.**—The appropriate levels of debt held by the public are as follows:

Fiscal year 2025: \$29,141,533,000,000.

Fiscal year 2026: \$30,151,121,000,000.

Fiscal year 2027: \$31,291,493,000,000.

Fiscal year 2028: \$32,629,565,000,000.

Fiscal year 2029: \$33,930,044,000,000.

Fiscal year 2030: \$35,349,716,000,000.

Fiscal year 2031: \$36,814,512,000,000.

Fiscal year 2032: \$38,364,377,000,000.

Fiscal year 2033: \$40,073,109,000,000.

Fiscal year 2034: \$41,747,907,000,000.

#### SEC. 1102. MAJOR FUNCTIONAL CATEGORIES.

Congress determines and declares that the appropriate levels of new budget authority and outlays for fiscal years 2025 through 2034 for each major functional category are:

(1) **National Defense (050):**

Fiscal year 2025:

(A) New budget authority, \$933,481,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$909,629,000,000.

Fiscal year 2026:

(A) New budget authority, \$901,220,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$904,412,000,000.

Fiscal year 2027:

(A) New budget authority, \$923,020,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$911,956,000,000.

Fiscal year 2028:

(A) New budget authority, \$944,111,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$934,660,000,000.

Fiscal year 2029:

(A) New budget authority, \$966,203,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$942,419,000,000.

Fiscal year 2030:

(A) New budget authority, \$989,212,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$966,361,000,000.

Fiscal year 2031:

(A) New budget authority, \$1,012,715,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$984,795,000,000.

Fiscal year 2032:

(A) New budget authority, \$1,036,723,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$1,003,888,000,000.

Fiscal year 2033:

(A) New budget authority, \$1,062,319,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$1,037,888,000,000.

Fiscal year 2034:

(A) New budget authority, \$1,087,382,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$1,054,430,000,000.

(2) **International Affairs (150):**

Fiscal year 2025:

(A) New budget authority, \$65,962,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$69,206,000,000.

Fiscal year 2026:

(A) New budget authority, \$61,716,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$67,669,000,000.

Fiscal year 2027:

(A) New budget authority, \$62,249,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$66,456,000,000.

Fiscal year 2028:

(A) New budget authority, \$63,512,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$62,391,000,000.

Fiscal year 2029:

(A) New budget authority, \$64,944,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$62,832,000,000.

Fiscal year 2030:

(A) New budget authority, \$66,408,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$63,077,000,000.

Fiscal year 2031:

(A) New budget authority, \$67,878,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$64,002,000,000.

Fiscal year 2032:

(A) New budget authority, \$69,343,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$65,176,000,000.

Fiscal year 2033:

(A) New budget authority, \$70,874,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$66,517,000,000.

Fiscal year 2034:

(A) New budget authority, \$72,435,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$67,889,000,000.

(3) **General Science, Space, and Technology (250):**

Fiscal year 2025:

(A) New budget authority, \$42,084,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$41,734,000,000.

Fiscal year 2026:

(A) New budget authority, \$41,345,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$41,844,000,000.

Fiscal year 2027:

(A) New budget authority, \$42,264,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$41,923,000,000.

Fiscal year 2028:

(A) New budget authority, \$43,099,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$42,198,000,000.

Fiscal year 2029:

(A) New budget authority, \$44,017,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$42,887,000,000.

Fiscal year 2030:

(A) New budget authority, \$44,980,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$43,633,000,000.

Fiscal year 2031:

(A) New budget authority, \$45,946,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$44,551,000,000.

Fiscal year 2032:

(A) New budget authority, \$46,922,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$45,486,000,000.

Fiscal year 2033:

(A) New budget authority, \$47,936,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$46,460,000,000.

Fiscal year 2034:

(A) New budget authority, \$48,985,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$47,466,000,000.

(4) **Energy (270):**

Fiscal year 2025:

(A) New budget authority, \$39,842,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$37,587,000,000.

Fiscal year 2026:

(A) New budget authority, \$39,958,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$44,514,000,000.

Fiscal year 2027:

(A) New budget authority, \$34,098,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$52,768,000,000.

Fiscal year 2028:

(A) New budget authority, \$34,825,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$51,623,000,000.

Fiscal year 2029:

(A) New budget authority, \$35,770,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$48,582,000,000.

Fiscal year 2030:

(A) New budget authority, \$33,946,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$42,596,000,000.

Fiscal year 2031:

(A) New budget authority, \$35,188,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$40,366,000,000.

Fiscal year 2032:

(A) New budget authority, \$39,697,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$41,611,000,000.

Fiscal year 2033:

(A) New budget authority, \$24,489,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$25,941,000,000.

Fiscal year 2034:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$16,203,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$17,040,000,000.  
 (5) Natural Resources and Environment (300):  
 Fiscal year 2025:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$88,219,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$90,074,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2026:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$67,633,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$80,552,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2027:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$45,140,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$75,844,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2028:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$45,985,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$71,673,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2029:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$46,956,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$67,691,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2030:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$47,707,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$63,948,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2031:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$48,854,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$60,580,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2032:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$49,918,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$56,444,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2033:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$51,246,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$55,797,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2034:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$52,225,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$55,480,000,000.  
 (6) Agriculture (350):  
 Fiscal year 2025:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$58,457,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$41,846,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2026:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$28,163,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$46,212,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2027:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$31,716,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$33,686,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2028:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$33,008,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$34,426,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2029:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$33,334,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$32,441,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2030:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$30,857,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$30,098,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2031:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$30,468,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$29,609,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2032:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$31,239,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$30,163,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2033:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$32,276,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$30,893,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2034:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$32,912,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$31,721,000,000.  
 (7) Commerce and Housing Credit (370):  
 Fiscal year 2025:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$12,477,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, —\$18,175,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2026:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$32,747,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, —\$626,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2027:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$28,145,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$7,710,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2028:  
 (A) New budget authority, —\$56,796,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, —\$65,194,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2029:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$25,562,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$15,976,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2030:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$25,712,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$12,680,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2031:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$25,941,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$7,932,000,000.

Fiscal year 2032:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$26,354,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$5,060,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2033:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$20,192,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, —\$4,224,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2034:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$29,862,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$2,451,000,000.  
 (8) Transportation (400):  
 Fiscal year 2025:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$173,158,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$144,771,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2026:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$167,673,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$152,541,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2027:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$132,085,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$158,068,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2028:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$133,386,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$162,528,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2029:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$134,447,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$160,846,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2030:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$129,994,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$150,790,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2031:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$130,964,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$147,539,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2032:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$138,846,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$150,163,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2033:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$140,544,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$149,247,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2034:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$142,271,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$149,454,000,000.  
 (9) Community and Regional Development (450):  
 Fiscal year 2025:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$87,762,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$78,752,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2026:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$20,135,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$64,267,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2027:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$19,259,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$56,506,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2028:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$19,462,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$45,101,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2029:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$19,888,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$35,976,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2030:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$20,326,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$31,026,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2031:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$20,727,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$27,543,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2032:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$21,007,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$24,658,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2033:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$21,462,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$22,754,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2034:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$21,864,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$21,733,000,000.  
 (10) Education, Training, Employment, and Social Services (500):  
 Fiscal year 2025:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$149,303,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$171,916,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2026:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$152,714,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$151,605,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2027:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$154,949,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$150,975,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2028:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$157,763,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$152,697,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2029:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$160,740,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$155,316,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2030:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$163,649,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$158,173,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2031:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$166,633,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$161,098,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2032:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$169,998,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$164,267,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2033:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$173,554,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$167,569,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2034:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$176,600,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$170,648,000,000.  
 (11) Health (550):  
 Fiscal year 2025:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$945,070,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$961,180,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2026:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$992,092,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$976,652,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2027:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$1,020,326,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$1,021,179,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2028:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$1,055,396,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$1,052,323,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2029:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$1,098,848,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$1,094,015,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2030:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$1,142,891,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$1,132,318,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2031:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$1,176,522,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$1,175,476,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2032:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$1,226,824,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$1,216,998,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2033:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$1,276,881,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$1,266,068,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2034:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$1,310,000,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$1,298,975,000,000.  
 (12) Medicare (570):  
 Fiscal year 2025:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$950,891,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$950,641,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2026:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$1,006,800,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$1,008,719,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2027:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$1,066,571,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$1,066,276,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2028:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$1,209,735,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$1,208,310,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2029:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$1,125,645,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$1,125,229,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2030:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$1,275,864,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$1,275,566,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2031:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$1,357,791,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$1,357,726,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2032:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$1,445,195,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$1,445,191,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2033:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$1,663,779,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$1,663,796,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2034:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$1,666,492,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$1,666,497,000,000.  
 (13) Income Security (600):  
 Fiscal year 2025:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$712,446,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$709,132,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2026:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$691,755,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$690,914,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2027:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$709,037,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$704,040,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2028:

(A) New budget authority, \$727,612,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$727,412,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2029:

(A) New budget authority, \$729,224,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$715,149,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2030:

(A) New budget authority, \$748,243,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$739,546,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2031:

(A) New budget authority, \$761,438,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$752,199,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2032:

(A) New budget authority, \$779,471,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$769,491,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2033:

(A) New budget authority, \$800,819,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$797,512,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2034:

(A) New budget authority, \$809,385,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$799,089,000,000.

## (14) Social Security (650):

## Fiscal year 2025:

(A) New budget authority, \$67,259,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$67,259,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2026:

(A) New budget authority, \$81,690,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$81,690,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2027:

(A) New budget authority, \$89,447,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$89,447,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2028:

(A) New budget authority, \$94,419,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$94,419,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2029:

(A) New budget authority, \$100,138,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$100,138,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2030:

(A) New budget authority, \$106,208,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$106,208,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2031:

(A) New budget authority, \$112,114,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$112,114,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2032:

(A) New budget authority, \$118,485,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$118,485,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2033:

(A) New budget authority, \$125,325,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$125,325,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2034:

(A) New budget authority, \$132,539,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$132,539,000,000.

## (15) Veterans Benefits and Services (700):

## Fiscal year 2025:

(A) New budget authority, \$361,349,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$357,760,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2026:

(A) New budget authority, \$382,555,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$378,814,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2027:

(A) New budget authority, \$404,594,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$401,319,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2028:

(A) New budget authority, \$427,329,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$444,241,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2029:

(A) New budget authority, \$447,757,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$422,317,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2030:

(A) New budget authority, \$466,616,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$461,720,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2031:

(A) New budget authority, \$486,716,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$481,638,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2032:

(A) New budget authority, \$507,187,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$502,655,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2033:

(A) New budget authority, \$528,733,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$548,734,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2034:

(A) New budget authority, \$550,662,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$547,796,000,000.

## (16) Administration of Justice (750):

## Fiscal year 2025:

(A) New budget authority, \$83,111,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$85,235,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2026:

(A) New budget authority, \$88,992,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$87,024,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2027:

(A) New budget authority, \$87,701,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$86,420,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2028:

(A) New budget authority, \$89,687,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$88,514,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2029:

(A) New budget authority, \$92,142,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$90,690,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2030:

(A) New budget authority, \$94,574,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$92,986,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2031:

(A) New budget authority, \$96,848,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$94,869,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2032:

(A) New budget authority, \$104,463,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$101,844,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2033:

(A) New budget authority, \$107,160,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$104,339,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2034:

(A) New budget authority, \$109,431,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$106,934,000,000.

## (17) General Government (800):

## Fiscal year 2025:

(A) New budget authority, \$10,089,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$37,960,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2026:

(A) New budget authority, \$30,666,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$38,285,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2027:

(A) New budget authority, \$32,065,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$38,261,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2028:

(A) New budget authority, \$32,994,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$37,957,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2029:

(A) New budget authority, \$33,770,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$37,793,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2030:

(A) New budget authority, \$34,614,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$37,985,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2031:

(A) New budget authority, \$35,247,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$37,024,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2032:

(A) New budget authority, \$36,189,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$36,307,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2033:

(A) New budget authority, \$36,960,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$36,758,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2034:

(A) New budget authority, \$37,681,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$37,266,000,000.

## (18) Net Interest (900):

## Fiscal year 2025:

(A) New budget authority, \$1,010,050,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$1,010,050,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2026:

(A) New budget authority, \$1,022,935,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$1,022,935,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2027:

(A) New budget authority, \$1,064,571,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$1,064,571,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2028:

(A) New budget authority, \$1,130,048,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$1,130,048,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2029:

(A) New budget authority, \$1,186,820,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$1,186,820,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2030:

(A) New budget authority, \$1,237,051,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$1,237,051,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2031:

(A) New budget authority, \$1,294,533,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$1,294,533,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2032:

(A) New budget authority, \$1,354,493,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$1,354,493,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2033:

(A) New budget authority, \$1,407,576,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$1,407,576,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2034:

(A) New budget authority, \$1,469,426,000,000.  
(B) Outlays, \$1,469,426,000,000.

## (19) Allowances (920):

## Fiscal year 2025:

(A) New budget authority,  
—\$1,002,585,000,000.

(B) Outlays, —\$982,952,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2026:

(A) New budget authority,  
—\$888,507,000,000.

(B) Outlays, —\$899,685,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2027:

(A) New budget authority,  
—\$890,385,000,000.

(B) Outlays, —\$894,338,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2028:

(A) New budget authority,  
—\$848,499,000,000.

(B) Outlays, —\$850,453,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2029:

(A) New budget authority,  
—\$851,993,000,000.

(B) Outlays, —\$853,311,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2030:

(A) New budget authority,  
—\$874,575,000,000.

(B) Outlays, —\$874,575,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2031:

(A) New budget authority,  
—\$874,548,000,000.

(B) Outlays, —\$874,548,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2032:

(A) New budget authority,  
—\$894,135,000,000.

(B) Outlays, —\$894,135,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2033:

(A) New budget authority,  
—\$945,247,000,000.

(B) Outlays, —\$945,247,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2034:

(A) New budget authority,  
—\$913,790,000,000.

(B) Outlays, —\$913,790,000,000.

## (20) Undistributed Offsetting Receipts (950):

## Fiscal year 2025:

(A) New budget authority,  
—\$127,603,000,000.

(B) Outlays, —\$127,603,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2026:

(A) New budget authority,  
—\$135,110,000,000.

(B) Outlays, —\$135,110,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2027:

(A) New budget authority,  
—\$137,883,000,000.

(B) Outlays, —\$137,883,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2028:

(A) New budget authority,  
—\$141,145,000,000.

(B) Outlays, —\$141,165,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2029:

(A) New budget authority,  
—\$145,400,000,000.

(B) Outlays, —\$145,407,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2030:

(A) New budget authority,  
—\$149,582,000,000.

(B) Outlays, —\$149,581,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2031:

(A) New budget authority,  
—\$154,014,000,000.

(B) Outlays, —\$154,013,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2032:

(A) New budget authority,  
—\$160,114,000,000.

(B) Outlays, —\$160,113,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2033:

(A) New budget authority,  
—\$166,102,000,000.

(B) Outlays, —\$166,101,000,000.

## Fiscal year 2034:

(A) New budget authority,  
—\$171,015,000,000.

(B) Outlays, —\$171,014,000,000.

### Subtitle B—Levels and Amounts in the Senate

## SEC. 1201. SOCIAL SECURITY IN THE SENATE.

(a) SOCIAL SECURITY REVENUES.—For purposes of Senate enforcement under sections



302 and 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633 and 642), the amounts of revenues of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund are as follows:

Fiscal year 2025: \$1,303,924,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2026: \$1,363,672,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2027: \$1,418,444,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2028: \$1,471,555,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2029: \$1,530,067,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2030: \$1,590,856,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2031: \$1,653,864,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2032: \$1,717,636,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2033: \$1,781,872,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2034: \$1,848,256,000,000.

(b) SOCIAL SECURITY OUTLAYS.—For purposes of Senate enforcement under sections 302 and 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633 and 642), the amounts of outlays of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund are as follows:

Fiscal year 2025: \$1,413,704,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2026: \$1,496,323,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2027: \$1,585,399,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2028: \$1,686,635,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2029: \$1,786,689,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2030: \$1,890,295,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2031: \$1,998,538,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2032: \$2,111,627,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2033: \$2,224,148,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2034: \$2,324,954,000,000.

(c) SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—In the Senate, the amounts of new budget authority and budget outlays of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund for administrative expenses are as follows:

Fiscal year 2025:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$6,408,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$6,338,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2026:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$6,268,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$6,287,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2027:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$6,455,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$6,422,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2028:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$6,644,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$6,584,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2029:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$6,832,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$6,765,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2030:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$7,033,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$6,963,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2031:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$7,233,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$7,162,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2032:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$7,437,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$7,365,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2033:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$7,651,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$7,576,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2034:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$7,869,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$7,792,000,000.

#### SEC. 1202. POSTAL SERVICE DISCRETIONARY ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES IN THE SENATE.

In the Senate, the amounts of new budget authority and budget outlays of the Postal Service for discretionary administrative expenses are as follows:

Fiscal year 2025:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$268,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$268,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2026:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$279,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$279,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2027:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$289,000,000.  
 (B) Outlays, \$289,000,000.  
 Fiscal year 2028:  
 (A) New budget authority, \$299,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$299,000,000.

Fiscal year 2029:

(A) New budget authority, \$309,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$309,000,000.

Fiscal year 2030:

(A) New budget authority, \$319,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$319,000,000.

Fiscal year 2031:

(A) New budget authority, \$330,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$330,000,000.

Fiscal year 2032:

(A) New budget authority, \$341,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$341,000,000.

Fiscal year 2033:

(A) New budget authority, \$352,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$352,000,000.

Fiscal year 2034:

(A) New budget authority, \$364,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$364,000,000.

### TITLE II—RECONCILIATION

#### SEC. 2001. RECONCILIATION IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

(a) COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE.—The Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that reduce the deficit by not less than \$1,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(b) COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES.—The Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that increase the deficit by not more than \$150,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(c) COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE.—The Committee on Education and Workforce of the House of Representatives shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that reduce the deficit by not less than \$1,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(d) COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE.—The Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that reduce the deficit by not less than \$1,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(e) COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES.—The Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that reduce the deficit by not less than \$1,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(f) COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY.—The Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that increase the deficit by not more than \$175,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(g) COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY.—The Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that increase the deficit by not more than \$175,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(h) COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE.—The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that increase the deficit by not more than \$20,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(i) SUBMISSIONS.—In the House of Representatives, not later than March 7, 2025, the committees named in the subsections of this section shall submit their recommendations to the Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives to carry out this section.

#### SEC. 2002. RECONCILIATION IN THE SENATE.

(a) COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY.—The Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate shall report changes in laws within its

jurisdiction that reduce the deficit by not less than \$1,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(b) COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES.—The Committee on Armed Services of the Senate shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that increase the deficit by not more than \$150,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(c) COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION.—The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that increase the deficit by not more than \$20,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(d) COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES.—The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that reduce the deficit by not less than \$1,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(e) COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS.—The Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that increase the deficit by not more than \$1,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(f) COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.—The Committee on Finance of the Senate shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that reduce the deficit by not less than \$1,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(g) COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS.—The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that reduce the deficit by not less than \$1,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(h) COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS.—The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that increase the deficit by not more than \$175,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(i) COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY.—The Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that increase the deficit by not more than \$175,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(j) SUBMISSIONS.—In the Senate, not later than March 7, 2025, the committees named in the subsections of this section shall submit their recommendations to the Committee on the Budget of the Senate. Upon receiving all such recommendations, the Committee on the Budget of the Senate shall report to the Senate a reconciliation bill carrying out all such recommendations without any substantive revision.

### TITLE III—RESERVE FUNDS

#### SEC. 3001. RESERVE FUND FOR RECONCILIATION LEGISLATION.

(a) HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In the House of the Representatives, the chair of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill or joint resolution considered pursuant to section 2001 containing the recommendations of one or more committees, or for one or more amendments to, a conference report on, or an amendment between the Houses in relation to such a bill or joint resolution, by the amounts necessary to accommodate the budgetary effects of the legislation, if the budgetary effects of the legislation comply with the reconciliation instructions under this concurrent resolution.

(2) DETERMINATION OF COMPLIANCE.—For purposes of this section, compliance with the

reconciliation instructions under this concurrent resolution shall be determined by the chair of the Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives.

(3) **EXCEPTION FOR LEGISLATION.**—The point of order set forth in clause 10 of rule XXI of the House of Representatives shall not apply to reconciliation legislation reported by the Committee on the Budget pursuant to submissions under section 2001.

(b) **SENATE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—In the Senate, the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution, and make adjustments to the pay-as-you-go ledger, for any bill or joint resolution considered pursuant to section 2002 containing the recommendations of one or more committees, or for one or more amendments to, a conference report on, or an amendment between the Houses in relation to such a bill or joint resolution, by the amounts necessary to accommodate the budgetary effects of the legislation, if the budgetary effects of the legislation comply with the reconciliation instructions under this concurrent resolution.

(2) **DETERMINATION OF COMPLIANCE.**—For purposes of this section, compliance with the reconciliation instructions under this concurrent resolution shall be determined by the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate.

(3) **EXCEPTIONS FOR LEGISLATION.**—

(A) **SHORT-TERM.**—Section 404 of S. Con. Res. 13 (111th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2010, as amended by section 3201(b)(2) of S. Con. Res. 11 (114th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2016, shall not apply to legislation for which the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate has exercised the authority under paragraph (1).

(B) **LONG-TERM.**—Section 3101 of S. Con. Res. 11 (114th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2016, shall not apply to legislation for which the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate has exercised the authority under paragraph (1).

#### **SEC. 3002. RESERVE FUND FOR DEFICIT-NEUTRAL LEGISLATION.**

(a) **SENATE.**—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution, and make adjustments to the pay-as-you-go ledger, for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports by the amounts provided in such legislation, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(b) **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.**—The chair of the Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this concurrent resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, or conference reports by the amounts provided in such legislation, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit for the period of fiscal year 2025 to fiscal year 2034.

#### **TITLE IV—OTHER MATTERS**

##### **SEC. 4001. ENFORCEMENT FILING.**

(a) **IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.**—In the House of Representatives, if a concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2025 is adopted without the appointment of a committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses with respect to this concurrent resolution on the budget, for the

purpose of enforcing the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 621 et seq.) and applicable rules and requirements set forth in the concurrent resolution on the budget, the allocations provided for in this subsection shall apply in the House of Representatives in the same manner as if such allocations were in a joint explanatory statement accompanying a conference report on the budget for fiscal year 2025. The chair of the Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives shall submit a statement for publication in the Congressional Record containing—

(1) for the Committee on Appropriations, committee allocations for fiscal year 2025 consistent with title I for the purpose of enforcing section 302 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633); and

(2) for all committees other than the Committee on Appropriations, committee allocations consistent with title I for fiscal year 2025 and for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034 for the purpose of enforcing section 302 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633).

(b) **IN THE SENATE.**—If this concurrent resolution on the budget is agreed to by the Senate and House of Representatives without the appointment of a committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses, the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may submit a statement for publication in the Congressional Record containing—

(1) for the Committee on Appropriations, committee allocations for fiscal year 2025 consistent with the levels in title I for the purpose of enforcing section 302 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633); and

(2) for all committees other than the Committee on Appropriations, committee allocations for fiscal years 2025, 2025 through 2029, and 2025 through 2034 consistent with the levels in title I for the purpose of enforcing section 302 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633).

##### **SEC. 4002. BUDGETARY TREATMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.**

(a) **SENATE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—In the Senate, notwithstanding section 302(a)(1) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633(a)(1)), section 13301 of the Budget Enforcement Act of 1990 (2 U.S.C. 632 note), and section 2009a of title 39, United States Code, the report or the joint explanatory statement accompanying this concurrent resolution on the budget or the statement filed pursuant to section 4001(b), as applicable, shall include in an allocation under section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633(a)) to the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate of amounts for the discretionary administrative expenses of the Social Security Administration and the United States Postal Service.

(2) **SPECIAL RULE.**—In the Senate, for purposes of enforcing section 302(f) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633(f)), estimates of the level of total new budget authority and total outlays provided by a measure shall include any discretionary amounts described in paragraph (1).

(b) **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—In the House of Representatives, notwithstanding section 302(a)(1) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633(a)(1)), section 13301 of the Budget Enforcement Act of 1990 (2 U.S.C. 632 note), and section 2009a of title 39, United States Code, the report or the joint explanatory statement accompanying this concurrent resolution on the budget or the statement filed pursuant to section 4001(a), as applicable, shall include in an allocation under section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act

of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633(a)) to the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives of amounts for the discretionary administrative expenses of the Social Security Administration and the United States Postal Service.

(2) **SPECIAL RULE.**—In the House of Representatives, for purposes of enforcing section 302(f) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633(f)), estimates of the level of total new budget authority and total outlays provided by a measure shall include any discretionary amounts described in paragraph (1).

##### **SEC. 4003. APPLICATION AND EFFECT OF CHANGES IN ALLOCATIONS, AGGREGATES, AND OTHER BUDGETARY LEVELS.**

(a) **APPLICATION.**—Any adjustments of allocations, aggregates, and other budgetary levels made pursuant to this concurrent resolution shall—

(1) apply while that measure is under consideration;

(2) take effect upon the enactment of that measure; and

(3) be published in the Congressional Record as soon as practicable.

(b) **EFFECT OF CHANGED ALLOCATIONS, AGGREGATES, AND OTHER BUDGETARY LEVELS.**—Revised allocations, aggregates, and other budgetary levels resulting from these adjustments shall be considered for the purposes of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 621 et seq.) as the allocations, aggregates, and other budgetary levels contained in this concurrent resolution.

(c) **BUDGET COMMITTEE DETERMINATIONS.**—For purposes of this concurrent resolution, the levels of new budget authority, outlays, direct spending, new entitlement authority, revenues, deficits, and surpluses for a fiscal year or period of fiscal years shall be determined on the basis of estimates made by the chair of the Committee on the Budget of the applicable House of Congress.

##### **SEC. 4004. ADJUSTMENT AUTHORITY FOR REVISIONS TO STATUTORY CAPS.**

During the 119th Congress, if a legislative measure is enacted that revises the discretionary spending limit established under subsection (c) of section 251 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901), the Chair of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may, consistent with the legislative measure and as necessary—

(1) adjust the allocation required under section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633(a)) to the appropriate committee or committees of the Senate; and

(2) adjust all other budgetary aggregates, allocations, levels, and limits established under this Concurrent Resolution.

##### **SEC. 4005. ADJUSTMENTS TO REFLECT CHANGES IN CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS.**

(a) **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.**—In the House of Representatives, the chair of the Committee on the Budget may adjust the appropriate aggregates, allocations, and other budgetary levels in this concurrent resolution for any change in budgetary concepts and definitions consistent with section 251(b)(1) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)(1)).

(b) **SENATE.**—In the Senate, upon the enactment of a bill or joint resolution providing for a change in concepts or definitions, the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may make adjustments to the levels and allocations in this concurrent resolution in accordance with section 251(b) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)).

**SEC. 4006. ADJUSTMENT FOR CHANGES IN THE BASELINE.**

The chair of the Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives and the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may adjust the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate budgetary levels in this concurrent resolution to reflect changes resulting from the Congressional Budget Office's updates to its baseline for fiscal years 2025 through 2034, including the effects of legislation enacted before the date on which this concurrent resolution is agreed to.

**SEC. 4007. EXERCISE OF RULEMAKING POWERS.**

Congress adopts the provisions of this title—

(1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate and the House of Representatives, respectively, and as such they shall be considered as part of the rules of each House or of that House to which they specifically apply, and such rules shall supersede other rules only to the extent that they are inconsistent with such other rules; and

(2) with full recognition of the constitutional right of either the Senate or the House of Representatives to change those rules (insofar as they relate to that House) at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as is the case of any other rule of the Senate or House of Representatives.

**AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET**

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I have seven 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 open and closed session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 9:30 a.m., to receive testimony.

**COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS**

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 10:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

**COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS**

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on a nomination.

**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 Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 10 a.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 Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

**COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 9 a.m., to conduct an executive business meeting.

**COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

The Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 2 p.m., to reconvene a business meeting.

**PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR**

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that our intern on the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Kylee Henneberry be granted floor privileges through May 9, 2025, and the CFTC detailee Kevin Webb also be granted floor privileges through the end of the 119th Congress.

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

**TOOLS TO ADDRESS KNOWN EXPLOITATIONS BY IMMOBILIZING TECHNOLOGICAL DEPTAKES ON WEBSITES AND NETWORKS ACT**

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be discharged from further consideration of S. 146 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant executive clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 146) to require covered platforms to remove nonconsensual intimate visual depictions, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (S. 146) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 146

*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 "Tools to Address Known Exploitation by Immobilizing Technological Deepfakes on Websites and Networks Act" or the "TAKE IT DOWN Act".

**SEC. 2. CRIMINAL PROHIBITION ON INTENTIONAL DISCLOSURE OF NON-CONSENSUAL INTIMATE VISUAL DEPICTIONS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 223 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 223) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (h) as subsection (i); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (g) the following:

“(h) INTENTIONAL DISCLOSURE OF NON-CONSENSUAL INTIMATE VISUAL DEPICTIONS.—

“(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

“(A) CONSENT.—The term ‘consent’ means an affirmative, conscious, and voluntary authorization made by an individual free from force, fraud, duress, misrepresentation, or coercion.

“(B) DIGITAL FORGERY.—The term ‘digital forgery’ means any intimate visual depiction of an identifiable individual created through the use of software, machine learning, artificial intelligence, or any other computer-generated or technological means, including by adapting, modifying, manipulating, or altering an authentic visual depiction, that, when viewed as a whole by a reasonable person, is indistinguishable from an authentic visual depiction of the individual.

“(C) IDENTIFIABLE INDIVIDUAL.—The term ‘identifiable individual’ means an individual—

“(i) who appears in whole or in part in an intimate visual depiction; and

“(ii) whose face, likeness, or other distinguishing characteristic (including a unique birthmark or other recognizable feature) is displayed in connection with such intimate visual depiction.

“(D) INTERACTIVE COMPUTER SERVICE.—The term ‘interactive computer service’ has the meaning given the term in section 230.

“(E) INTIMATE VISUAL DEPICTION.—The term ‘intimate visual depiction’ has the meaning given such term in section 1309 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (15 U.S.C. 6851).

“(F) MINOR.—The term ‘minor’ means any individual under the age of 18 years.

“(2) OFFENSE INVOLVING AUTHENTIC INTIMATE VISUAL DEPICTIONS.—

“(A) INVOLVING ADULTS.—Except as provided in subparagraph (C), it shall be unlawful for any person, in interstate or foreign commerce, to use an interactive computer service to knowingly publish an intimate visual depiction of an identifiable individual who is not a minor if—

“(i) the intimate visual depiction was obtained or created under circumstances in which the person knew or reasonably should have known the identifiable individual had a reasonable expectation of privacy;

“(ii) what is depicted was not voluntarily exposed by the identifiable individual in a public or commercial setting;

“(iii) what is depicted is not a matter of public concern; and

“(iv) publication of the intimate visual depiction—

“(I) is intended to cause harm; or

“(II) causes harm, including psychological, financial, or reputational harm, to the identifiable individual.

“(B) INVOLVING MINORS.—Except as provided in subparagraph (C), it shall be unlawful for any person, in interstate or foreign commerce, to use an interactive computer service to knowingly publish an intimate visual depiction of an identifiable individual who is a minor with intent to—

“(i) abuse, humiliate, harass, or degrade the minor; or

“(ii) arouse or gratify the sexual desire of any person.

“(C) EXCEPTIONS.—Subparagraphs (A) and (B) shall not apply to—

“(i) a lawfully authorized investigative, protective, or intelligence activity of—

“(I) a law enforcement agency of the United States, a State, or a political subdivision of a State; or

“(II) an intelligence agency of the United States;

“(ii) a disclosure made reasonably and in good faith—

“(I) to a law enforcement officer or agency;  
 “(II) as part of a document production or filing associated with a legal proceeding;

“(III) as part of medical education, diagnosis, or treatment or for a legitimate medical, scientific, or education purpose;

“(IV) in the reporting of unlawful content or unsolicited or unwelcome conduct or in pursuance of a legal, professional, or other lawful obligation; or

“(V) to seek support or help with respect to the receipt of an unsolicited intimate visual depiction;

“(iii) a disclosure reasonably intended to assist the identifiable individual;

“(iv) a person who possesses or publishes an intimate visual depiction of himself or herself engaged in nudity or sexually explicit conduct (as that term is defined in section 2256(2)(A) of title 18, United States Code); or  
 “(v) the publication of an intimate visual depiction that constitutes—

“(I) child pornography (as that term is defined in section 2256 of title 18, United States Code); or

“(II) a visual depiction described in subsection (a) or (b) of section 1466A of title 18, United States Code (relating to obscene visual representations of the sexual abuse of children).

“(3) OFFENSE INVOLVING DIGITAL FORGERIES.—

“(A) INVOLVING ADULTS.—Except as provided in subparagraph (C), it shall be unlawful for any person, in interstate or foreign commerce, to use an interactive computer service to knowingly publish a digital forgery of an identifiable individual who is not a minor if—

“(i) the digital forgery was published without the consent of the identifiable individual;

“(ii) what is depicted was not voluntarily exposed by the identifiable individual in a public or commercial setting;

“(iii) what is depicted is not a matter of public concern; and

“(iv) publication of the digital forgery—

“(I) is intended to cause harm; or

“(II) causes harm, including psychological, financial, or reputational harm, to the identifiable individual.

“(B) INVOLVING MINORS.—Except as provided in subparagraph (C), it shall be unlawful for any person, in interstate or foreign commerce, to use an interactive computer service to knowingly publish a digital forgery of an identifiable individual who is a minor with intent to—

“(i) abuse, humiliate, harass, or degrade the minor; or

“(ii) arouse or gratify the sexual desire of any person.

“(C) EXCEPTIONS.—Subparagraphs (A) and (B) shall not apply to—

“(i) a lawfully authorized investigative, protective, or intelligence activity of—

“(I) a law enforcement agency of the United States, a State, or a political subdivision of a State; or

“(II) an intelligence agency of the United States;

“(ii) a disclosure made reasonably and in good faith—

“(I) to a law enforcement officer or agency;

“(II) as part of a document production or filing associated with a legal proceeding;

“(III) as part of medical education, diagnosis, or treatment or for a legitimate medical, scientific, or education purpose;

“(IV) in the reporting of unlawful content or unsolicited or unwelcome conduct or in pursuance of a legal, professional, or other lawful obligation; or

“(V) to seek support or help with respect to the receipt of an unsolicited intimate visual depiction;

“(iii) a disclosure reasonably intended to assist the identifiable individual;

“(iv) a person who possesses or publishes a digital forgery of himself or herself engaged in nudity or sexually explicit conduct (as that term is defined in section 2256(2)(A) of title 18, United States Code); or

“(v) the publication of an intimate visual depiction that constitutes—

“(I) child pornography (as that term is defined in section 2256 of title 18, United States Code); or

“(II) a visual depiction described in subsection (a) or (b) of section 1466A of title 18, United States Code (relating to obscene visual representations of the sexual abuse of children).

“(4) PENALTIES.—

“(A) OFFENSES INVOLVING ADULTS.—Any person who violates paragraph (2)(A) or (3)(A) shall be fined under title 18, United States Code, imprisoned not more than 2 years, or both.

“(B) OFFENSES INVOLVING MINORS.—Any person who violates paragraph (2)(B) or (3)(B) shall be fined under title 18, United States Code, imprisoned not more than 3 years, or both.

“(5) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—For purposes of paragraphs (2) and (3)—

“(A) the fact that the identifiable individual provided consent for the creation of the intimate visual depiction shall not establish that the individual provided consent for the publication of the intimate visual depiction; and

“(B) the fact that the identifiable individual disclosed the intimate visual depiction to another individual shall not establish that the identifiable individual provided consent for the publication of the intimate visual depiction by the person alleged to have violated paragraph (2) or (3), respectively.

“(6) THREATS.—

“(A) THREATS INVOLVING AUTHENTIC INTIMATE VISUAL DEPICTIONS.—Any person who intentionally threatens to commit an offense under paragraph (2) for the purpose of intimidation, coercion, extortion, or to create mental distress shall be punished as provided in paragraph (4).

“(B) THREATS INVOLVING DIGITAL FORGERIES.—

“(i) THREATS INVOLVING ADULTS.—Any person who intentionally threatens to commit an offense under paragraph (3)(A) for the purpose of intimidation, coercion, extortion, or to create mental distress shall be fined under title 18, United States Code, imprisoned not more than 18 months, or both.

“(ii) THREATS INVOLVING MINORS.—Any person who intentionally threatens to commit an offense under paragraph (3)(B) for the purpose of intimidation, coercion, extortion, or to create mental distress shall be fined under title 18, United States Code, imprisoned not more than 30 months, or both.

“(7) FORFEITURE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The court, in imposing a sentence on any person convicted of a violation of paragraph (2) or (3), shall order, in addition to any other sentence imposed and irrespective of any provision of State law, that the person forfeit to the United States—

“(i) any material distributed in violation of that paragraph;

“(ii) the person's interest in property, real or personal, constituting or derived from any gross proceeds of the violation, or any property traceable to such property, obtained or retained directly or indirectly as a result of the violation; and

“(iii) any personal property of the person used, or intended to be used, in any manner or part, to commit or to facilitate the commission of the violation.

“(B) PROCEDURES.—Section 413 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 853), with

the exception of subsections (a) and (d), shall apply to the criminal forfeiture of property under subparagraph (A).

“(8) RESTITUTION.—The court shall order restitution for an offense under paragraph (2) or (3) in the same manner as under section 2264 of title 18, United States Code.

“(9) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to limit the application of any other relevant law, including section 2252 of title 18, United States Code.”

(b) DEFENSES.—Section 223(e)(1) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 223(e)(1)) is amended by striking “or (d)” and inserting “, (d), or (h)”.

(c) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (i) of section 223 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 223), as so redesignated by subsection (a), is amended by inserting “DEFINITIONS.—” before “For purposes of this section”.

### SEC. 3. NOTICE AND REMOVAL OF NONCONSENSUAL INTIMATE VISUAL DEPICTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) NOTICE AND REMOVAL PROCESS.—

(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, a covered platform shall establish a process whereby an identifiable individual (or an authorized person acting on behalf of such individual) may—

(i) notify the covered platform of an intimate visual depiction published on the covered platform that—

(I) includes a depiction of the identifiable individual; and

(II) was published without the consent of the identifiable individual; and

(ii) submit a request for the covered platform to remove such intimate visual depiction.

(B) REQUIREMENTS.—A notification and request for removal of an intimate visual depiction submitted under the process established under subparagraph (A) shall include, in writing—

(i) a physical or electronic signature of the identifiable individual (or an authorized person acting on behalf of such individual);

(ii) an identification of, and information reasonably sufficient for the covered platform to locate, the intimate visual depiction of the identifiable individual;

(iii) a brief statement that the identifiable individual has a good faith belief that any intimate visual depiction identified under clause (ii) is not consensual, including any relevant information for the covered platform to determine the intimate visual depiction was published without the consent of the identifiable individual; and

(iv) information sufficient to enable the covered platform to contact the identifiable individual (or an authorized person acting on behalf of such individual).

(2) NOTICE OF PROCESS.—A covered platform shall provide on the platform a clear and conspicuous notice, which may be provided through a clear and conspicuous link to another web page or disclosure, of the notice and removal process established under paragraph (1)(A) that—

(A) is easy to read and in plain language; and

(B) provides information regarding the responsibilities of the covered platform under this section, including a description of how an individual can submit a notification and request for removal.

(3) REMOVAL OF NONCONSENSUAL INTIMATE VISUAL DEPICTIONS.—Upon receiving a valid removal request from an identifiable individual (or an authorized person acting on behalf of such individual) using the process described in paragraph (1)(A)(ii), a covered platform shall, as soon as possible, but not

later than 48 hours after receiving such request—

(A) remove the intimate visual depiction; and

(B) make reasonable efforts to identify and remove any known identical copies of such depiction.

(4) **LIMITATION ON LIABILITY.**—A covered platform shall not be liable for any claim based on the covered platform's good faith disabling of access to, or removal of, material claimed to be a nonconsensual intimate visual depiction based on facts or circumstances from which the unlawful publishing of an intimate visual depiction is apparent, regardless of whether the intimate visual depiction is ultimately determined to be unlawful or not.

(b) **ENFORCEMENT BY THE COMMISSION.**—

(1) **UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRACTICES.**—A failure to reasonably comply with the notice and takedown obligations under subsection (a) shall be treated as a violation of a rule defining an unfair or a deceptive act or practice under section 18(a)(1)(B) of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 57a(a)(1)(B)).

(2) **POWERS OF THE COMMISSION.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in subparagraph (D), the Commission shall enforce this section in the same manner, by the same means, and with the same jurisdiction, powers, and duties as though all applicable terms and provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.) were incorporated into and made a part of this section.

(B) **PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES.**—Any person who violates this section shall be subject to the penalties and entitled to the privileges and immunities provided in the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.).

(C) **AUTHORITY PRESERVED.**—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit the authority of the Federal Trade Commission under any other provision of law.

(D) **SCOPE OF JURISDICTION.**—Notwithstanding sections 4, 5(a)(2), or 6 of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 44, 45(a)(2), 46), or any jurisdictional limitation of the Commission, the Commission shall also enforce this section in the same manner provided in subparagraph (A), with respect to organizations that are not organized to carry on business for their own profit or that of their members.

#### SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **COMMISSION.**—The term “Commission” means the Federal Trade Commission.

(2) **CONSENT; DIGITAL FORGERY; IDENTIFIABLE INDIVIDUAL; INTIMATE VISUAL DEPICTION.**—The terms “consent”, “digital forgery”, “identifiable individual”, “intimate visual depiction”, and “minor” have the meaning given such terms in section 223(h) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 223), as added by section 2.

(3) **COVERED PLATFORM.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The term “covered platform” means a website, online service, online application, or mobile application—

(i) that serves the public; and

(ii)(I) that primarily provides a forum for user-generated content, including messages, videos, images, games, and audio files; or

(II) for which it is in the regular course of trade or business of the website, online service, online application, or mobile application to publish, curate, host, or make available content of nonconsensual intimate visual depictions.

(B) **EXCLUSIONS.**—The term “covered platform” shall not include the following:

(i) A provider of broadband internet access service (as described in section 8.1(b) of title

47, Code of Federal Regulations, or successor regulation).

(ii) Electronic mail.

(iii) Except as provided in subparagraph (A)(ii)(II), an online service, application, or website—

(I) that consists primarily of content that is not user generated but is preselected by the provider of such online service, application, or website; and

(II) for which any chat, comment, or interactive functionality is incidental to, directly related to, or dependent on the provision of the content described in subclause (I).

#### SEC. 5. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this Act, or an amendment made by this Act, is determined to be unenforceable or invalid, the remaining provisions of this Act and the amendments made by this Act shall not be affected.

#### HONORING THE MEMORIES OF THE VICTIMS OF THE SENSELESS ATTACK AT MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS HIGH SCHOOL ON FEBRUARY 14, 2018

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 79, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant executive clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 79) honoring the memories of the victims of the senseless attack at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School on February 14, 2018.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 79) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

#### EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO THE JOINT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON INAUGURAL CEREMONIES, THE ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL, THE SERGEANT AT ARMS, THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE, LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS, EMERGENCY PERSONNEL, AND VOLUNTEERS

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 80, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant executive clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 80) expressing gratitude to the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, the Architect of the Capitol, the Sergeant at Arms, the Secretary of the Senate, law enforcement officers, emergency personnel, and volunteers for their support in making the Presidential Inauguration a success.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 80) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

#### ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2025, THROUGH TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2025

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn to then convene for pro forma session only with no business being conducted on Friday, February 14, at 9 a.m.; further, that when the Senate adjourns on February 14, it stand adjourned until 3 p.m. on Tuesday, February 18; that following the prayer and pledge, Senator WICKER be recognized to deliver Washington's Farewell Address, as provided under the previous order; and that following his remarks, 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 the Senate be in a period of morning business for debate only until 5:30 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each; finally, that at 5:30 p.m. the majority leader be recognized.

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

Ms. MURKOWSKI. For the information of all Senators, Senators should expect a procedural vote at 5:30 p.m. in relation to filing cloture on the Patel nomination, followed by the confirmation vote on the Lutnick nomination, and further votes are possible.

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9 A.M. TOMORROW

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

There being no objection, the Senate, at 3:41 p.m., adjourned until Friday, February 14, 2025, at 9 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Executive nominations confirmed by  
the Senate February 13, 2025:

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

ROBERT F. KENNEDY, JR., OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE SEC-  
RETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.