

This is exactly the world Vladimir Putin wants, and little by little, Donald Trump is helping him make it happen.

BUDGET

Mr. President, on the Republican budget, last week, Senate Republicans passed their budget resolution, clearing the way to massive tax giveaways for Donald Trump's billionaire buddies. From the moment Donald Trump was sworn in, everything Republicans have done can be boiled down to this: Billionaires win; American families lose. That is the Republican agenda in a nutshell.

This week, it is House Republican's turn. Today, I want to say this about the Republican plan in the House: It doesn't matter which path Republicans ultimately go with—one bill, two bills, 50 bills. At the end of the day, Republicans are very clear: They want to cut taxes for billionaires and have the American people pay the cost.

Republicans want to perhaps push the biggest cuts to Medicaid ever so billionaires can have another tax break. That is morally corrupt and politically bankrupt.

With a government shutdown just a few weeks away, what are Republicans doing? They are spending precious time trying to cater to the wishes of the absolutely richest people in America, instead of working to avoid a disastrous halt of services that help tens of millions of middle-class American families. Their priorities are utterly skewed and upside down.

If House Republicans proceed this week, the backlash, "upsetness," and anger House Republicans saw in their townhalls last week is only going to get far more thunderous.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

REMEMBERING LIEUTENANT COLONEL HARRY STEWART, JR.

Mrs. BRITT. Mr. President, earlier this month, the United States of America lost a legend: Harry Stewart, Jr., one of the last surviving Tuskegee Airmen, died at the age of 100.

Lieutenant Colonel Stewart's legacy is one of excellence. He grew up watching planes come in and out of LaGuardia Airport, dreaming of one day flying himself.

At just 18 years old, Lieutenant Colonel Stewart joined a new initiative launched in Alabama; a first of its kind training program for Black pilots established after the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

He flew 43 missions from late 1944 to the spring of 1945 with the 332nd Fighter Group; earning the Distinguished

Flying Cross after downing three German planes in a dogfight just before the Allied victory in Europe.

Lieutenant Colonel Stewart didn't recognize the gravity of what he was doing at the time, he said in an interview just last year. He just wanted to serve his country, and serve his country he did.

But let's stop for a moment and think about what that means. Lieutenant Colonel Stewart and the rest of the Tuskegee Airmen signed up to fight for a country that did not allow them the same rights as White citizens. They put their lives on the line to fight for a country that treated them as second class.

They could not live, work, eat, or drink alongside White countrymen or women. It was a world where people who looked like them could be met with violent attacks just because of the color of their skin. Consider what that means—that Lieutenant Colonel Stewart and the Tuskegee Airmen dealt with all kinds of discrimination, and yet still decided to risk everything to serve this Nation.

They faced almost inconceivable injustices, but they also believed in the promise of America, even though that promise wasn't being met. They fought for that promise against the Nazis in Europe and in doing so, blazed a trail for countless others to follow.

After the war, Lieutenant Colonel Stewart and three of his fellow Tuskegee Airmen won the U.S. Air Force's inaugural TOPGUN competition, an accomplishment that wasn't acknowledged, though, until decades later.

Unfortunately, that was a common theme for Lieutenant Colonel Stewart after the war. After aspiring to become an airline pilot his whole life and even after serving heroically and earning the Distinguished Flying Cross, he was prevented from flying commercial jets because of his race.

Instead, he earned a mechanical engineering degree from New York University and remained in the Air Force Reserve. He taught the next generations of pilots until being recalled for duty during the Korean war. It wasn't until 2007 that the Tuskegee Airmen received the Congressional Gold Medal for their valor.

The legacies of Harry Stewart, Jr., and the rest of the pilots who made history, should be recognized as central to America's story.

In his first term, President Trump promoted Airman Charles McGee to brigadier general and pinned his stars in the Oval Office.

In his second term, Secretary Hegseth has reaffirmed that the Trump administration will continue to honor these heroes, and the Tuskegee Airmen will remain role models not only for the next generation of American servicemembers but for all Americans.

Lt. Col. Harry Stewart, Jr., and the pilots he flew with represent the best of America. Their courage and selfless-

ness in the face of adversity both at home and at war are inspirational.

And their legacies—those of greatness and unquestionable merit—deserve to be celebrated amongst the rest of our country's heroes, not just during Black History Month but all throughout the year.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. BRITT). The Democratic whip.

(The remarks of Mr. DURBIN pertaining to the submission of S. Res. 91 are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

Mr. DURBIN. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, if cloture is invoked on the Driscoll nomination, the Senate vote immediately on the motion to invoke cloture on the Greer nomination; further, if cloture is invoked on the Greer nomination, all time be expired on the Driscoll and Greer nominations and the Senate vote on confirmation of the nominations at a time to be determined by the majority leader, in consultation with the Democratic leader, no earlier than Tuesday, February 25, with respect to the Driscoll nomination and Wednesday, February 26, with respect to the Greer nomination; finally, if the nominations are confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

WAIVING OF QUORUM CALLS

Mr. RISCH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to waive the mandatory quorum calls with respect to the Driscoll and Greer nominations.

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

The Senator from Idaho.

Mr. RISCH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the rollcall vote commence at this time.

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

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 assistant bill 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. 21, Daniel Driscoll, of North Carolina, to be Secretary of the Army.

John Thune, John R. Curtis, Steve Daines, Tim Sheehy, Marsha Blackburn, Eric Schmitt, John Boozman, Mike Crapo, Mike Rounds, Tommy

Tuberville, Jim Justice, Markwayne Mullin, John Barrasso, Cindy Hyde-Smith, James Lankford, Ted Budd, Mike Lee.

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 Daniel Driscoll, of North Carolina, to be Secretary of the Army, 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 Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK), and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE), are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 66, nays 28, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 88 Ex.]

YEAS—66

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

NAYS—28

| | | |
|-----------------|---------|------------|
| Alsobrooks | King | Schiff |
| Baldwin | Lujan | Schumer |
| Blunt Rochester | Markey | Slotkin |
| Booker | Merkley | Smith |
| Cantwell | Murphy | Van Hollen |
| Coons | Murray | Warren |
| Duckworth | Ossoff | Welch |
| Gillibrand | Padilla | Wyden |
| Hirono | Sanders | |
| Kim | Schatz | |

NOT VOTING—6

| | | |
|--------|---------|------------|
| Cramer | Kaine | Whitehouse |
| Graham | Warnock | Young |

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. RICKETTS). The yeas are 66, the nays are 28.

The motion was 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 senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 22, Jamieson Greer, of Maryland, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.

John Thune, John R. Curtis, Steve Daines, Tim Sheehy, Marsha Blackburn, Eric Schmitt, John Boozman, Mike Crapo, Tommy Tuberville, Mike Rounds, Jim Justice, Markwayne Mullin, John Barrasso, Cindy Hyde-Smith, James Lankford, Ted Budd, Mike Lee.

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 Jamieson Greer, of Maryland, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, 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 North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) is necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 55, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 89 Ex.]

YEAS—55

| | | |
|-----------|--------------|------------|
| Banks | Graham | Moreno |
| Barrasso | Grassley | Mullin |
| Bennet | Hagerty | Murkowski |
| Blackburn | Hawley | Paul |
| Boozman | Hickenlooper | 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 |
| Crapo | Lee | Thune |
| Cruz | Lummis | Tillis |
| Curtis | Marshall | Tuberville |
| Daines | McConnell | Whitehouse |
| Ernst | McCormick | Wicker |
| Fetterman | Moody | |
| Fischer | Moran | |

NAYS—42

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

NOT VOTING—3

| | | |
|--------|-------|-------|
| Cramer | Kaine | Young |
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The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 55, the nays are 42.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Jamieson Greer, of Maryland, to be United States Trade Representative.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

U.S. SENATE PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, Senate Standing Rule XXVI 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. On February 20, 2025, a majority of the members of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs' Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations adopted subcommittee rules of procedure.

Consistent with Standing Rule XXVI, today I ask unanimous consent that a copy of the rules of procedure of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations be printed in the RECORD.

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

RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE SENATE PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS AS ADOPTED

(February 20, 2025)

1. No public hearing connected with an investigation may be held without the approval of either the Chair and the Ranking Minority Member or a Majority of the Members of the Subcommittee. In all cases, notification to all Subcommittee Members of the intent to hold hearings must be given at least 7 days in advance to the date of the hearing. The Ranking Minority Member should be kept fully apprised of preliminary inquiries, investigations, and hearings. Preliminary inquiries may be initiated by the Subcommittee Majority staff upon the approval of the Chair and notice of such approval to the Ranking Minority Member, Minority Staff Director, or the Minority Chief Counsel. Preliminary inquiries may be undertaken by the Minority staff upon the approval of the Ranking Minority Member and notice of such approval to the Chair, Staff Director, or Chief Counsel. Investigations may be undertaken upon the approval of the Chair and the Ranking Minority Member