

That is Donald Trump. He thinks that Blacks are lazy and that they can't help it because it is one of their traits. Trump didn't deny it. He later admitted: "The stuff O'Donnell wrote about me is probably true."

But since Donald Trump became involved in Presidential politics, his racism has reached even new heights. Trump led the so-called birther movement to delegitimize our first African-American President. Last year, announcing his candidacy for President, Trump denounced Mexican immigrants as "criminals, drug dealers, rapists."

Consider all of the despicable racist things he has done this year alone. He has repeatedly called for a ban on Muslims entering the United States. Trump attacked a Gold Star dad and a Gold Star mother. They are Muslims. Their son, CPT Humayun Khan, was killed in battle, but Donald Trump didn't only question Mr. Khan, he questioned Mrs. Khan. She was sitting there, and he said: I guess she is not talking because she is forbidden to speak by Islam.

Donald Trump refused to condemn former KKK grand wizard David Duke, who is still in politics.

Donald Trump has retweeted messages from Nazi sympathizers and White supremacists.

Donald Trump launched a racist attack on U.S. District Court Judge Curiel, a man born in Indiana, but Trump didn't like that because his mom and dad were of Mexican heritage. He said he should be disqualified from hearing the case. Speaker RYAN called Trump's offensive attack "a textbook definition of a racist comment." This is the U.S. House of Representatives Speaker, who acknowledges that his Republican Presidential nominee is a racist. Yet here we are, 7 weeks from election day, and the Speaker of the House and the Senate Republican leader are both endorsing this racist man.

Republicans should not support a man for President who by their Speaker's own admission is the textbook definition of a racist. Think of the example Republicans are setting for our Nation's youth. Republicans are normalizing this racist behavior. This will be their legacy—one of them. They have plenty to add to that. Those who refuse to denounce Donald Trump's actions as racism are complicit in propagating and normalizing his hate.

It is time for reporters and journalists to be honest with the American people. They owe Americans the truth: Through his words and deeds, Donald Trump is a racist.

#### CONTINUING RESOLUTION

Mr. REID. Madam President, I want to make a few comments on the CR. Senator MCCONNELL has given a great statement, but about whom? It is a straw man argument. We don't oppose the Zika legislation. We don't oppose helping flood victims. But we want more. We think it should be taken care

of, but it hasn't been in this bill, that is for sure.

On opioids, we think it should be really funded, not this pitter path that doesn't do anything. What it does is allow you to spend money that is not here. We think we should do the Shaheen legislation and pay for it. We do believe we should not leave Flint behind, though.

The CR proposed by the Republicans is short on a number of issues, and I will talk only about two of them this afternoon.

I was especially disappointed to see the Republicans' proposal regarding another disaster—a disaster that has been ongoing for well over a year. This CR, this funding measure, does not put a single penny toward Flint, MI—not a penny. The people of Flint, MI, have been waiting for emergency assistance to clean up poison water for more than a year. There are 100,000 people—children—lead-poisoned already.

Senate Republicans claim they will address the needs of Flint when we return after the election. Well, we have heard that before, haven't we? That has been the Republicans go-to move in stalling funding for Flint—they always claim they will do it at a later time. Flint has heard this and heard this and heard this. In the meantime, the people of Flint, if they are fortunate, can take a drink of water out of a bottle and bathe in bottled water.

We ran out of time months ago. We ran out of time when the Republicans decided to take a 7-week vacation, which is something that was remarkable in history, in more than 60 years. With the time we are going to have off before December 9 with the funding resolution, it will be the longest break the Senate has had going back, we believe, to before the Depression—the Great Depression, not the Bush depression.

The crisis has been going on for a long time. Two and a half years ago, Flint learned that its water was not safe. Nine months ago, Republican Governor Snyder and President Obama declared the Flint, MI, water crisis an emergency. Five months ago, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee passed water infrastructure legislation with a bipartisan aid package for Flint. I commend the chairman of that committee, Senator INHOFE, over and over for agreeing to do the fair thing. That package was voted out of the Senate less than 2 weeks ago on a vote of 95 to 3 as part of the so-called WRDA Act, but the House Republicans made it clear they have no intention of putting funding for Flint in that bill. Still the people of Flint wait for assistance.

I have heard all the happy talk: Well, the Republicans are going to take care of this. Call and tell me you are going to take care of it. Give me some assurances that you are going to take care of it because 100,000 Flint residents continue to struggle with having safe water to drink. In fact, 40 percent of

the people of Flint live below the poverty line.

Flint, MI, is a community of color—African Americans. The junior Senator from Louisiana was especially callous in dismissing the people of Flint. It is hard to acknowledge what he said, but I am going to do it. He called the residents of Flint "other people's grief." Well, using his analogy, the things we have done over the years with all the problems that Louisiana has had—hurricanes, floods, wind storms, and this latest ravaging rain they got—in Nevada, I guess that is somebody else's problem—the people of Louisiana. The many problems we have had in Texas over the last decade—they are everybody's problem, but not by the definition of the Senator from Louisiana. They are not other people's grief.

I would suggest the relatively new Senator from Louisiana needs to figure out what the name of his job is. It is United States Senator—not State senator from Louisiana, United States Senator. He can look out for the people of Louisiana and yet turn a cold shoulder to fellow Americans in Michigan. Congress must act to address emergencies whenever and wherever they occur, especially to help vulnerable Americans, because every one of these emergencies is creating lots of vulnerable Americans.

The people of Flint deserve justice, and 90,000 children who have been lead-poisoned deserve justice. But instead of helping the people of Flint, they promise to use this government funding measure to feed their addiction to undisclosed and unaccountable dark money. What the Republican leader stuck in this funding resolution is a provision to prevent the Securities and Exchange Commission from telling corporations that they must disclose campaign contributions. If ever there were legislation contained in a resolution that didn't deserve to be there, it would be that. Shadowy interest groups are spending hundreds of millions of dollars on trying to elect hand-picked political candidates.

What is this dark money? It is all these advertisements with all these phony front groups, most of which are funded by the Koch brothers. You won't see their name on anything other than something to divert your attention—a public service announcement about how good Koch Industries is for creating jobs. Well, Koch Industries is great for trying to get richer and richer and trying to enrich these two wealthy, Republican, rightwing men who are doing everything they can to buy America. They are doing pretty well, I have to give them credit for that. If they continue the way they are, they are going to be first in line. They are going to be the No. 1 oligarch in America, and they can match to see if they are entitled to be even a notch higher than the No. 1 oligarch in Russia. Russia is an oligarchy, and because

of the Koch brothers, America is turning into one. And what does the Republican leader do? He sticks a provision in this legislation to protect them even further.

Current Federal law requires publicly traded corporations to disclose financial details on their annual report to shareholders, such as how much they are paying their executive officers and others, but shareholders—the true owners of corporations—have no idea how much money is being spent on politics, being directed by a few in the corporations. The Securities and Exchange Commission does not require this to be reported.

Last August, 44 Democratic Senators sent a letter to the Securities and Exchange Commission in support of adding political disclosures in their annual shareholder reports. The Republican leader wants to stop this. He wants to do everything he can to protect the Koch brothers. But the Securities and Exchange Commission received 1 million public comments in support of disclosure because it protects the interests of investors—1 million comments. That is unheard of.

The Republicans in the Senate are opposed to disclosure. That is why the Republican leader has attached this so-called rider to the government funding bill to prevent shareholders from knowing how their money is spent and being used in the political process. Republicans are holding the government hostage because they want to keep the political system awash in dark money. They want to give contributions to the Chamber of Commerce, the National Rifle Association, and on and on—millions and millions of dollars.

The Senate Republicans need to rethink their priorities. Republicans need to spend less time worrying about the balance in their campaign accounts and more time protecting their fellow Americans, especially those in Flint, MI.

Madam President, I see my friend the senior Senator from Iowa on the floor. Before he speaks, will the Chair announce the business of the day.

#### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

#### LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 5325, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5325) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes.

Pending:

McConnell (for Cochran) amendment No. 5082, in the nature of a substitute.

McConnell amendment No. 5083 (to amendment No. 5082), to change the enactment date.

McConnell amendment No. 5084 (to amendment No. 5083), of a perfecting nature.

McConnell amendment No. 5085 (to the language proposed to be stricken by amendment No. 5082), to change the enactment date.

McConnell amendment No. 5086 (to amendment No. 5085), of a perfecting nature.

McConnell motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations, with instructions, McConnell amendment No. 5087, to change the enactment date.

McConnell amendment No. 5088 (to the instructions) amendment No. 5087), of a perfecting nature.

McConnell amendment No. 5089 (to amendment No. 5088), of a perfecting nature.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Iowa.

#### IOWA FLOODS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, natural disasters happen. Eight years ago, Senator Harkin and I had to deal with flooding in Eastern Iowa. Today Senator ERNST and I are called upon to observe—as we did this past weekend—a great amount of flooding in Eastern Iowa. Earlier this year, we also heard the Senators from West Virginia and the Senators from Louisiana speak about the natural disasters in their State. It was only 8 years ago that I was on the floor talking about the record devastation caused by severe storms and floods. Many of the same places are currently experiencing similar flooding as rivers are cresting at record or near-record levels.

On Saturday, I toured several cities with the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, and Members of the Iowa congressional delegation, including Senator ERNST. We saw debris and damage left by receding floodwaters, many homes underwater, and great flood fight preparations.

Many businesses and individual volunteers have been working tirelessly to help prevent damage to both public and private property and to help clean up. Today I had a discussion with the mayor of Greene, IA, about the numbers of high schools that are closed in that area, but the kids are coming in to help clean up in the city of Greene, IA. This is the Iowa way. I thank those who have helped and will provide assistance in the future.

Since the floods of 2008, many lessons have been learned. Plans and training to protect Iowa communities are in place. I am pleased to report that the mitigation through Federal, State, and local resources that has taken place throughout Iowa since the floods of 2008 has been beneficial. This has already proven effective and will lessen the impact of this year's floods. It is estimated that more than \$50 million of reduced impact will be experienced because of previous mitigation efforts. However, as we learned this weekend, so much remains to be done.

Iowa's second largest city, Cedar Rapids, experienced massive devastation, with more than 1,300 city blocks covered in water and over \$32 billion worth of damages from the floods of

2008. Today, as a result of massive amounts of rain upstream over the last few days, the city of Cedar Rapids is fighting to prepare for the high crest on the Cedar River, second only to 2008. Cedar Rapids is doing everything it can to protect its citizens by using HESCO barriers, earthen levees, and berms. However, a permanent solution through permanent flood control structures is still very much needed.

Even prior to the 2008 floods, the protection of the Cedar River in Cedar Rapids was identified as needing evaluation. In 2006, Congress authorized a flood risk management feasibility study with the feasibility cost share arrangement being signed on May 30, 2008. Since then, the feasibility study was completed and alternatives were chosen, although this Federal project protects only a portion of Cedar Rapids. I worked to get the construction of the project authorized in the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014. That happened to be the first WRDA bill since 2007. However, funding has been difficult to obtain since the benefit-cost ratio is just over one from the point of view of the Corps of Engineers' scoring.

I am pleased the Senate instructed the Army Corps of Engineers to expedite this and three other flood damage reduction and flood risk management projects in the recently passed Water Resources Development Act.

Also in this year's act, the Senate passed an amendment to the bill that I was pleased to cosponsor with my colleague, Senator ERNST, requiring the Government Accountability Office to study the Army Corps of Engineers' methodology and performance metrics used to calculate benefit-cost ratios when evaluating construction projects.

I have heard from Cedar Rapids, Des Moines, and several other places in Iowa regarding their concerns about how the Corps calculates the benefit of structures and that mitigation and future savings is not a strong factor in determining flood risk management.

Let me say that as I talk to people in Iowa—but particularly in Cedar Rapids, IA—about the cost-benefit ratio, mitigation, and future savings not being taken so much into consideration, it is something that they just do not understand. I recognize that this is a complex issue and that the Corps rarely gets enough funding to maintain and operate what it owns, let alone start numerous construction projects. I also recognize the need to have a rationale on how to prioritize projects when there are scarce resources, and I have been supportive of these efforts.

However, a one-size-fits-all approach doesn't work when dealing with flood protection. This is the most difficult thing to explain to people in Cedar Rapids, IA. It is a necessity to more accurately quantify future benefits and the protection of citizens when making benefit-cost ratios. We also need to find a way to expedite these flood projects so it doesn't take 20 to 40