

agencies and other critical programs is counterproductive to our shared mission of reducing violent crime and keeping communities safe.”

It is no secret that the Attorney General is fixated on immigration, but we need the Deputy Attorney General to ensure that this fixation does not undermine the important ways that the Justice Department and local law enforcement cooperate to reduce violent crime.

This administration cannot call itself a law-and-order administration and then do something like cut the funds for violence prevention when police chiefs across America say that is just wrong.

The third area of critical importance is criminal justice policy. Today, our Federal prisons are 30 percent over capacity, and runaway prison expenditures are undermining important public safety priorities like crime prevention, drug courts, and addiction treatment.

The largest increase in the Federal prison population has been nonviolent drug offenders who are then separated from their families for years on end as a result of inflexible mandatory minimum sentences. This has a destructive effect on communities and erodes faith in America in our criminal justice system.

Congress needs to pass legislation to reform our Federal drug sentencing laws, but the Justice Department’s policies for nonviolent drug offenses also can help.

Under the Obama administration, the Smart on Crime Initiative directed Federal prosecutors to reserve stiff mandatory minimum sentences for individuals convicted of serious offenses. This initiative has been very effective in focusing the Department’s limited resources on the worst offenders and ensuring that people convicted of low-level, nonviolent offenses are not subjected to these same mandatory minimum penalties.

Attorney General Sessions has signaled that he wants to eliminate the Smart on Crime Initiative, and certainly those of us who listened to his opposition to criminal sentencing reform are not surprised. But, as Deputy Attorney General, Mr. Rosenstein will chair the Task Force on Crime Reduction and Public Safety that has been established by the President. This gives him an important voice. I hope he will work to ensure that the Department’s charging policy reserves stiff mandatory sentences for only serious violent offenders.

Mr. Rosenstein would also be responsible for determining the fate of the Justice Department’s efforts to work constructively with State and local law enforcement to protect civil rights and improve community and police relations. In particular, Mr. Rosenstein should continue negotiations to pursue police reform in Chicago, backed up by an enforceable consent decree. The former U.S. attorney in Chicago, Zach

Fardon, felt strongly that a consent decree was needed to correct the systemic problems we face. Mr. Rosenstein has shown more openness to using consent decrees than Attorney General Sessions, who has an ideological personal hostility toward them. I hope Mr. Rosenstein will look carefully at this issue in Chicago and respect the judgment of Mr. Fardon and the career DOJ professionals who spent over a year investigating this matter.

Mr. Rosenstein also will be responsible for reigning in the Attorney General’s worst instincts on immigration. It is no surprise to any Member of this Chamber that when the issue of immigration came to the floor, the leading opponent on immigration reform was Senator Sessions of Alabama. I believe he offered 100 amendments to the immigration reform bill that passed the U.S. Senate. He has spoken out over and over again about his opposition to immigration reform.

The Attorney General has already directed Federal prosecutors across the country to make immigration cases a higher priority and look for opportunities to bring serious felony charges against those who cross the border without authorization. Federal prosecutors understand this is not the right approach. Listen to Paul Charlton, the U.S. attorney for Arizona under the Bush administration. According to him, this new directive will overburden the Federal courts already struggling to handle the volume of immigration cases. He said: “Prosecution and incarceration do not adequately address the real need, which is a reform of the immigration laws.”

Let me conclude. I see the Democratic leader on the floor.

There are a number of critical issues that will require sound judgment and leadership from the next Deputy Attorney General. I hope Mr. Rosenstein will approach these issues with the professionalism and integrity that have earned him bipartisan praise as U.S. Attorney in Maryland. I hope he will be willing to speak truth to power and to stand up to the President and the Attorney General if necessary.

I will support Mr. Rosenstein’s nomination. I hope we can work together constructively on the important matters facing the Department of Justice.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

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

MR. SCHUMER. Mr. President, first let me thank my friend from Illinois for his always thoughtful and good words. I agree with his sentiments on Mr. Rosenstein, whom I will support as well.

GOVERNMENT SPENDING BILL

Mr. President, first I want to say that it is very good news that the President seems to be taking the wall off the table in the negotiations we are having on an appropriations bill this week. It would remove the prospect of

a needless fight over a poison pill proposal that Members of both parties don’t support. On a bill as important as one to keep the government open, it is a dangerous prospect for the administration to push so hard for such a flawed, incomplete, and unthought-out proposal on a must-pass spending bill. It could tank what would have been productive, bipartisan, bicameral negotiations between the leaders in both Houses. If the threat of the wall is removed, as I hope is the case, our negotiations can continue and we can hopefully continue to resolve all of the outstanding issues by Friday.

Make no mistake about it, there are other important issues to resolve—no poison pill riders, above all, and the ratio of defense and nondefense spending in terms of increases above the baseline. On the nondefense side, miners are very important on our side, getting permanent healthcare for these miners who have struggled their whole lives; the issue of cost-sharing, where 6 million people could lose their healthcare because it would become unaffordable; and the issue of Puerto Rico, which is struggling so, are among those that we feel are important as well. There are other issues to resolve as well, but I am hopeful we can address them as the week moves forward. Poison pill riders are something that could really hurt the bill, and we don’t want that to happen.

THE PRESIDENT’S FIRST ONE HUNDRED DAYS

Mr. President, on another matter, as we quickly approach the 100-day mark of the Trump Presidency, it is a good time to look back on what this administration has accomplished and has not accomplished. One thing is clear: This President has either broken or failed to fulfill many of the promises he made to working families during the campaign. This morning, I wish to focus on one area in particular—this President’s promises to working people on jobs and the economy.

One of the President’s key rationales as to why he would be an effective President was that he was a good businessman who could create jobs and get the economy moving much faster than anyone predicted. But on the major issues of jobs, including outsourcing, “Buy American,” trade—key economic issues that help job growth in America, that help working families—President Trump has made scant progress during his first 100 days and has broken several core campaign promises he made to kick-start the economy for working families.

On jobs, President Trump said he was going to be “the greatest job President that God ever created,” but have we seen one significant piece of legislation that would create jobs from this President? What about infrastructure, for instance? That is something that would create tons of good-paying jobs, and Candidate Trump talked about it a lot when he campaigned. He promised to fix America’s crumbling infrastructure, pledging a \$1 trillion plan to do

it. But we haven't seen any details of any plan yet, and no comprehensive plan to rebuild our infrastructure has been introduced by any Republicans in Congress.

So we Democrats came out with our own \$1 trillion infrastructure plan, taking what the President said in his campaign. The bill would create 15 million good-paying jobs, going to the working families of America. We haven't seen any proposal or gotten any response to our proposal from the President. The only thing we have seen from President Trump on infrastructure is that he has proposed multibillion-dollar cuts to vital transportation programs in his 2018 budget, saying one thing in the campaign—infrastructure jobs—yet doing exactly the opposite—cutting infrastructure jobs—in his proposed budget for next year.

On outsourcing, Candidate Trump lamented the fact that so many companies were shipping U.S. jobs overseas, promising: "We're going to stop it day one. It's so easy to stop."

While President Obama used regulatory measures to stop inversions in their tracks—a company in New York, Pfizer, which I thought was so wrong to try and invert—President Trump has just signed an Executive order to review those rules and potentially undo them—the exact opposite of what he campaigned on. This is astounding. He said he was going to prevent jobs from going overseas. President Obama put in regulations that have virtually stopped inversions—companies moving their headquarters overseas for tax breaks. President Trump, directly in contradiction of what he talked about over and over and over again in his campaign, says: Now let's review those rules and possibly undo them. It is just hard to comprehend.

President Trump said his policy would be "Buy American and Hire American," and he has had a bunch of little rallies where he talks about this, but he has refused to insist that pipelines and water infrastructure be made with American steel.

If he were serious about stopping outsourcing, he would demand that Senate Republicans put Senator BALDWIN's bill requiring infrastructure to be made with American steel on the Senate floor. If we increase water and sewer as one of our biggest infrastructure proposals, American steel would get a huge boost, if companies had to buy American steel. Senator BALDWIN has a bill that does it. President Trump has not gotten any action. He ought to tell Leader McCONNELL, tell Speaker RYAN he is for that bill, and they should bring it to the floor, and, with a lot of Democratic votes—probably every one, just about—we can pass it.

On trade, which is another crucial issue for the American worker—maybe the issue that President Trump garnered the most support for from working families—well, he has made some big promises, but he has either broken them or failed to deliver in his first 100

days. He pledged to hold China accountable for its rapacious trade practices, which have robbed America of millions of jobs and cost trillions of dollars of wealth. He said China was "world champion" of currency manipulation and pledged to name it a currency manipulator on day one. President Trump has done neither of those things. He has broken his promise to name them a currency manipulator, and he has backed off on his promise to get tough with trade on China in general.

This is an issue I am passionate about. I didn't agree with President Trump on a whole lot of issues, but when he talked about China during the campaign, I said: I am closer to President Trump on how we treat China than I was with President Obama or President Bush, and I thought it would be one of the areas where we could make real progress. Instead, we have seen a U-turn—China, not a currency manipulator, when he said over and over again they were, and they are manipulating their currency.

I know all the free-trade pundits get up and say: Yes, but now they are not reducing the value of their currency; they are doing the opposite of what they did when they made it easier for them to export. But they are still manipulating it. It still doesn't flow. As sure as we are sitting here, if China's advantage is to once again devalue the currency so they can have more exports and unfair advantages over American workers, they will do it in a minute.

Furthermore, had he called China a currency manipulator, it would have sent a shot across China's bow. For years, frankly, under Democratic and Republican administrations, China has gotten away with economic murder. They steal our intellectual property. They don't let good American companies into China. They buy American companies to get their technology and then produce it in China and try to export it here. They have over the years manipulated the currency to their advantage, among many other things. They are hurting us. Probably nothing has done more to hurt American jobs than China's rapacious trade policies. And President Trump is nowhere to be found. In fact, he is doing the opposite of what he promised on trade.

Instead of sticking up for hard-working, middle-class Americans by trying to create jobs and get tough on both trade and outsourcing, President Trump has spent the last few months looking out for powerful corporations and the special interests he repeatedly campaigned against, breaking promise after promise to working families. It is a shame he has taken this route.

On issues like infrastructure, outsourcing, and trade, we Democrats agree with many of the things Candidate Trump was saying, but he is nowhere to be found to work with on these issues. President Trump could have chosen to spend his first 100 days

working with us Democrats on these issues, finding compromises and consensus to fulfill his promises to working America. Instead, he spent the first 100 days governing from the very hard right, refusing to seek Democratic input on any major legislation. That is not how you get things done here, and that is why the President has so little to show for his first 100 days.

We Democrats are prepared to work with him to give the middle class and those struggling to get there a much needed boost, but the President and Republicans in Congress need to start reaching out and meeting us halfway.

As I have told the President many times, if he governs from the middle, if he is willing to work with both parties to get things done, we might be able to compromise on some of the important economic issues where we have had these values for a long time—the ones I just mentioned. If the President, Republicans, and Congress continue their "my way or the highway approach," the next 100 days will be just like the first—a lot of broken and unfulfilled promises and very few accomplishments from this new administration.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

ANTIQUITIES ACT

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, President Trump is expected to issue an Executive order directing the Department of the Interior to review all of the national monuments issued over the past 20 years, to see whether those monuments should be reduced in size or repealed. It is clear to me that many of us know the value of our public lands. But I am questioning whether our President understands that trying to illegally roll back those national monuments—some of the most treasured lands in our country—is something we should not do.

This shortsighted move is a pretext to attacking the designation of the Bears Ears National Monument in Utah, which is sacred to the five tribes that form the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition, and is a breathtaking site for all Americans who come to experience what is the unbelievable, unique beauty of the West.

Whether they are there hiking or climbing or vacationing, it is a special place. But President Trump's Executive order is expected to go even further than just Bears Ears, reviewing any designation in the last 20 years, threatening the question of the San Juan Islands or Hanford Reach National Monuments and the creation of other sites around the United States and threatening our economy.