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## Senate

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

### PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, the fountain of wisdom, as our lawmakers do the work of freedom, give them the assurance of Your provisions and prevailing presence. Remind them of Your promise to never leave or forsake Your people. Nourish our Senators this day with spiritual truths and moral qualities that will make our Nation strong and good.

Lord, surround our legislators and their loved ones with the shield of Your Divine favor, being for them a shade by day and a defense by night.

And, Lord, in this land we love, draw together the diverse men and women from every race, creed, and culture, forging us into a united force for good. Empower us to accomplish Your purposes on Earth, as we remember that words matter and that out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

### FUNDING THE GOVERNMENT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, as we all know, Congress has until Friday

to reach an agreement that ensures continuous funding for the Federal Government. There is too much at stake for Republicans and Democrats not to come together, particularly while serious bipartisan conversations are underway on shared priorities, such as rebuilding our military, fixing our broken immigration policy, and other issues.

Now that a Federal judge has issued a nationwide injunction preventing the administration from winding down the Obama administration's DACA Program, it is clear that Congress has at least until March, at a minimum and possibly even longer, to reach a compromise that resolves the DACA question but also strengthens our security and makes other needed reforms to our broken immigration system. With no imminent deadline on immigration and with bipartisan talks well underway, there is no reason why Congress should hold government funding hostage over the issue of illegal immigration.

I am confident that Senators on both sides of the aisle will choose to avoid a manufactured crisis, reach a bipartisan funding agreement in the coming days, and then continue our negotiations in these important areas.

### FISA

Mr. McCONNELL. Now, on another matter, later this afternoon the Senate will vote to advance reauthorization of title VII of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. This includes section 702, one of the most important tools that our warfighters and intelligence professionals use to wage the war on terror and to keep Americans safe.

It allows the United States to collect communications from foreign terrorists who wish harm on America and our allies. To be clear, it does not permit the targeting of American citizens anywhere in the world. Let me repeat that. Section 702 does not allow the targeting of American citizens, nor does it

permit the targeting of anyone of any nationality who is known to be located here in the United States. With respect to foreigners on foreign soil, 702 gives the men and women who keep us safe the vital tools they need to fulfill their missions.

Five years ago, Congress reauthorized the title with overwhelming bipartisan support. It is imperative that we do so once again. The world remains dangerous. Al-Qaida, ISIL, and associated terror groups are still intent on harming our people and those working with us overseas.

Yet with each day that passes since the Nation was attacked on September 11, 2001, it seems that concern over terrorism has waned. This is in part due to the success of our defense and intelligence community in preventing another major attack. They rely upon section 702 to accomplish that mission.

I look forward to renewing the bipartisan consensus on this issue and reauthorizing this important provision as the Senate votes later this week.

### TAX REFORM

Mr. McCONNELL. Now, on a final matter, in the wake of last month's historic tax reform legislation, the news is filled with stories of economic optimism and increasing prosperity for workers and middle-class families.

In fact, I am proud to announce that earlier today I spoke with the leadership of Humana, which employs more than 12,000 people in my home State of Kentucky. Yesterday they notified their staff that they will be accelerating pay incentives for associates and raising the minimum hourly wages for both part-time and full-time employees—all thanks to tax reform. For these Kentucky workers, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act will mean more money in their paychecks.

Just last week, the international automaker Fiat Chrysler announced that it will invest 1 billion new dollars

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



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in the Warren Truck Assembly Plant just outside of Detroit. The production line for Ram heavy-duty trucks is leaving Mexico and coming back to America. This will create 2,500 new jobs and inject relief right into the local economy. According to officials who announced the change, all this is only happening because tax reform is remaking the business climate in our country.

Besides the revival in manufacturing, Fiat Chrysler announced a new wave of \$2,000 bonuses for 60,000 hourly and salaried employees. They will join a growing list of more than 150 companies that have announced plans to distribute significant bonuses, permanent pay raises, more generous retirement contributions, or other benefits to their employees, all thanks to tax reform.

Prior to tax reform, companies that wanted to manufacture goods in America and hire American employees faced the highest statutory corporate tax rate in the developed world. American workers were ready to clock in, but our outdated burdensome Tax Code told potential investors to move along and find somewhere else to set up shop. Those days are over, thanks to the President and Republican majorities in the House and Senate that voted to modernize our Tax Code.

Now we are the ones with a competitive advantage. The Wall Street Journal's editorial board believes that our tax reform will benefit investment in the United States "at the expense of high-tax countries such as Germany." The Journal also reports that China "fears the tax changes could make the U.S. a more attractive place to do business." That is China. It is becoming clear that these fears are entirely justified, and it is good news for families and workers in Kentucky and all across America.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. JOHNSON). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

#### CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

#### RAPID DNA ACT OF 2017

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the House mes-

sage to accompany S. 139, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

House message to accompany S. 139, a bill to implement the use of Rapid DNA instruments to inform decisions about pretrial release or detention and their conditions, to solve and prevent violent crimes and other crimes, to exonerate the innocent, to prevent DNA analysis backlogs, and for other purposes.

Pending:

McConnell motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the bill.

McConnell motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the bill, with McConnell amendment No. 1870 (to the House amendment to the bill), to change the enactment date.

McConnell amendment No. 1871 (to amendment No. 1870), of a perfecting nature.

McConnell motion to refer the message of the House on the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary, with instructions, McConnell amendment No. 1872, to change the enactment date.

McConnell amendment No. 1873 (to the instructions) amendment No. 1872), of a perfecting nature.

McConnell amendment No. 1874 (to amendment No. 1873), of a perfecting nature.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

#### NET NEUTRALITY

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, first, on the topic of net neutrality, since the administration's FCC voted to end net neutrality in December, Democrats have been working hard to round up enough Senators to overrule the FCC's decision, which places control of the internet in the hands of the biggest corporations.

Today we reached a milestone: 50 Senators will support Senator MARKY's resolution of disapproval. All 49 Democrats have signed on to cosponsor, and my friend from Maine, Senator COLLINS, has also said she will support it.

With our full caucus supporting the measure, it is clear that Democrats want to keep the internet from becoming a Wild West where ISPs are free to offer premium service to the wealthiest customers while average consumers are left with far inferior options.

When we force a vote on this bill, Republicans in Congress will, for the first time, have the opportunity to right the administration's wrong and show the American people whose side they are on. Are they on the side of big internet service providers and corporations, or are they on the side of consumers, entrepreneurs, startups, and small business owners?

I applaud Senator COLLINS for supporting this effort and hope sincerely that more of her colleagues will do the same. Given how quickly this measure has earned the support of 50 Senators, I believe we have a real chance of success in restoring net neutrality and keeping the internet open and free for all Americans.

Mr. President, another pressing issue before us this week is FISA and the 702

program. The majority leader is pressing forward on a 6-year bill to reauthorize the 702 FISA Court program. This is a significant bill, but right now the majority leader is pushing for its passage without debate or amendments. That is the wrong approach.

Many of my colleagues would like to offer amendments on this legislation and, frankly, they deserve that right. Personally, I believe that while the bill makes some improvements to the 702 FISA program, it should go somewhat further. We could do a better job balancing the crucial national security imperatives of the program with legitimate concerns about privacy and protecting the rights of American citizens.

Clearly, the bill on the calendar is better than the status quo, and it is certainly better than no bill at all, but that is not the choice before us. The majority leader can open up the bill for limited debate and a few amendments, not to delay but so we can have some amendments and try to improve it.

For that reason, I will be voting no on the upcoming cloture motion. If cloture is not invoked, we can move quickly to an amendment process where Senators from both parties could offer ideas to improve the bill. That is what we ought to do, especially on a bill on the most sensitive area of the government, where security and liberty meet, and that will stand for 6 years. That is too quick for too much. We ought to have some amendments and some discussion.

#### DACA

Mr. President, the fate of the Dreamers has been the subject of months of intense bipartisan, bicameral negotiations. Last week, a bipartisan group of Senators went to the White House with an agreement that represents the best path forward. Senators GRAHAM and DURBIN, alongside Senators GARDNER, MENENDEZ, FLAKE, and BENNET, worked out a compromise that fits squarely inside the four corners President Trump outlined as the parameters of a deal in a televised meeting last Tuesday. In exchange for passing DACA protections, the Gang of 6 deal includes President Trump's full budget request for border security, including funding to build barriers along the southern border. It deals with family reunification within the scope of the negotiations—foreclosing the possibility of Dreamers sponsoring their parents for citizenship. The deal would also curb the diversity lobbying system—another item President Trump requested. The full details of the proposal will be announced tomorrow, but those are the broad strokes, as I understand them.

The concessions in the bill are tough pills to swallow for Democrats. It is not the bill we would have written if we were in charge, but that is not the situation we find ourselves in. To make this body work—to avoid a shutdown—we must compromise. So Democrats tried, in good faith, to meet the President and our Republican colleagues halfway—to find a deal that neither