

community health centers; the needs of veterans and pensioners and disaster relief to aid the victims of the recent hurricanes, Irma and Maria. That is why we need also to prevent the mass, draconian deportation of 800,000 young people brought here as infants and children through no choice of their own.

Those bipartisan agreements on each of those issues can be turned into a package that can unite both sides of the aisle—maybe not everyone but a majority here and a majority in the House of Representatives—if they are simply put to a vote. We are here to vote on the substance. Give us that opportunity to vote on a package that embodies those bipartisan agreements.

The President must either lead or get out of the way. These difficult negotiations have to be contrasted with the talks that took place just yesterday between the President and the minority leader, Senator SCHUMER. In a kind of microcosm, that day epitomizes the kind of leadership that got us to this point.

The President and minority leader emerged from that conversation at midday with a conceptual framework and agreement—virtually—on a constructive set of principles, including a path to citizenship for the Dreamers.

To the consternation of some on our side, the minority leader put on the table, in effect, full funding for the wall—the wall that my colleague Senator RUBIO just discussed as a condition for such an agreement. This wall was supposed to be funded by the Mexicans. It is, in my view, excessively costly and a waste of money. Border security is absolutely necessary, but it can be done more effectively and less expensively with surveillance, drones, sensors, more patrol officers, and better training. There is a set of fencing system improvements that we can agree on. But if Donald Trump wants that wall and it is a condition for literally the survival of 800,000 young people, the minority leader was willing to put it on the table. That flexibility and willingness to compromise epitomizes the approach that we have offered to take—and must be taken—to reach an agreement.

Within hours, literally, the President backed away from that virtual agreement—maybe “backed away,” in fact, is inaccurate. He was pulled away by his far-right extremist staff and supporters. We may never know all of the names that spoke to him, but the fact is, the agreement fell apart.

The shutdown is almost entirely the making of one man, who happens to be President of the United States and who today marks his 1-year anniversary—a year characterized by chaos and conflict, disarray and dysfunction, personal invective and partisan controversy. He has reversed himself so many times that the majority leader himself expressed frustration just a day or so ago because we have no idea what he wants to emerge from these bodies on any of these issues. The mi-

nority leader characterized negotiating with him as trying to deal with Jell-O. I think it is equally like a ping pong ball that ricochets back and forth, depending on who has last talked to him and what his mood is and what his last tweet may have been.

So, just as many times before, the President is likely to put the extreme rightwing members of his party before all else—before children and their health, before Dreamers and their potential deportation, and before funding for our troops.

One party is in charge of the Senate and the House and the White House. It owns this shutdown. But more important than pointing fingers and assigning blame is reaching an end and reaching agreement on what is necessary to end this shutdown. And more important than who is hurt politically in this body or the House or in the White House is who is hurt in the country by the failure of this government to function.

We have work to do. We are here tonight. I will be here tonight and tomorrow. We have engaged in some very constructive conversation and discussion across the aisle. I think there is good will on both sides because ultimately we have in our hearts and minds this great Nation. If the President is not able to take yes for an answer, he needs to accept what we provide and resolve that the great dealmaker has to be a deal acceptor. He has repeatedly shown himself to be an erratic, unreliable, unpredictable, and capricious negotiator. There are a number of ways to resolve this shutdown that are within reach with the right kind of leadership on both sides.

I went today to the Women's March here in Washington. I was impressed with the excitement and energy and the dedication of many of the young people who were there. Far from the cynicism and the partisanship that maybe we find all too rampant in this body, their idealism seems balanced. It is inspiring and exciting, their dedication to equal rights and equality, to women's healthcare, and engaging in the political process, believing that one person—one of them, one of us—can make a difference.

If we are impressed by the resolve and determination of those young people, as I was, we should fulfill those high expectations which they and all America have for us.

Restoring trust in our institutions is a service we can help perform by ending this shutdown, coming to an agreement, and making sure we do what is truly in the public interest.

Looking into their eyes, I was reminded also of the Dreamers. They are known as Dreamers because they believe in that same American dream.

Many of the individuals at the Women's March on the Mall in Washington, DC, this morning were, in fact, Dreamers. They were not a majority but many. They were there because they believe in America, the only country

they have ever known. Their communities, their schools, their families are intricately part of this Nation. They are Americans except for the papers, the documents they lack.

I know that my Republican colleagues want to give them a path to citizenship. It is not so much give but afford them the opportunity for a path to citizenship because they have so much to give back to this country. They have lived here all their lives. They played by the rules. They are our future doctors, engineers, nurses, business owners, and entrepreneurs. We can fulfill the American dream for them and for us if we give them that path to citizenship.

A great nation fulfills its promises. America is the greatest Nation in the history of the world. We need to keep our promise. We need to keep our promise in this body to the American people—the oath we have taken to uphold the law and the Constitution—and to do what is right.

We should do what is right for the Dreamers and their American dream, for our military who need support, children who need health insurance, families who need health facilities, veterans who need programs that they have earned and deserve, and fellow Americans who need disaster relief. Every one of them should be done now, not 3 weeks from now, not 4 weeks from now. We are already 112 days into this fiscal year. Now is the time to do the right thing.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

MORNING BUSINESS

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:04 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4712. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit a health care practitioner from failing to exercise the proper degree of care in the case of a child who survives an abortion or attempted abortion.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 2274

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2274, a bill to provide for the compensation of Federal employees affected by lapses in appropriations.

ORDERS FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY
21, 2018

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 1 p.m. on Sunday, January 21; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time

for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; finally, that following leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of the House message to accompany H.R. 195.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 1 P.M.
TOMORROW

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:35 p.m., adjourned until Sunday, January 21, 2018, at 1 p.m.