

Atlanta Journal-Constitution op-ed, Eve Byrd and Jennifer Olsen of the Cardinal Center wrote: “Isolation is one of the cruelest components of the outbreak.”

Last week, I spoke with the head of a mental health treatment facility in Georgia. They are seeing a significant spike in those reaching out for help. The waitlist is growing, and the demand for help is rising rapidly. An emergency hotline run by the Substance Abuse and Mental Services Administration in HHS saw a 1,000-percent increase in calls in just 1 month. That was this April compared to last April.

I have spoken with local law enforcement officials who have seen a serious spike in domestic abuse calls. The nationwide Crisis Text Line has seen a 78-percent increase in texts related to domestic violence across our country.

The millions of Americans who have lost their jobs or their businesses are suffering.

Tiffany, a mother of three from College Park, GA, was furloughed from her steady job stocking store shelves. She said: “It is very overwhelming when you have rent, when you have children to take care of.” When a parent loses their job, they lose much more. They lose their ability to put food on the table, to pay rent, and the uncertainty grows for children. It is vital to help families weather this crisis.

We know that Americans who have a steady paycheck are more likely to have stable, secure families, and children from stable families are more likely to do well in school. That is why I have designed the USA RISE Plan as an economic framework that takes the human cost of the coronavirus into account. Helping families and job creation today will allow parents to get back to work and reduce the fallout from this pandemic from permanently impacting an entire generation.

Importantly, this does not mean we should expand the grip of the Federal Government. An American Enterprise Institute report on achieving the American dream, released just a few weeks ago, states:

The power of community has become all the more poignant as we retreated more to isolated lives required by social distancing. Oftentimes, local institutions and neighborhoods have a greater influence on economic outcomes than what is occurring at the Federal level.

Being in Washington working on behalf of our State, I see that local impact firsthand. Often, these organizations are at the heart of our communities. It is where people turn for help, for a sense of belonging.

Churches and other nonprofits are doing amazing work during this very difficult time. They have been providing childcare, meals, and other support for family and children. For example, YMCAs are the largest provider of childcare in Georgia. Many have stepped up to provide childcare for essential workers. They are providing

thousands of meals each week to help out needy families.

That is why last week I introduced legislation, the Limiting Infant Fatality and Empowering Nonprofit Organization Workforces Act, or LIFE NOW Act. It allows larger nonprofits access to the Paycheck Protection Program loans. These loans will help them keep their doors open and continue to serve their communities while ensuring that no taxpayer dollars go to abortion providers.

Yesterday, I introduced the Working Families Childcare Access Act. This will give more working families more flexibility by allowing parents to contribute more to their employer-sponsored dependent care cafeteria flexible spending account, or FSA. If a family doesn't use all their funds in 1 year, any leftover funds can be rolled over to the following year. This will help families make plans for childcare as they begin to go back to work.

I am continuing to work on additional legislation to provide families with targeted relief—for example, a bill to codify the Trump administration regulations to help Americans who recently lost their jobs and their health insurance. The Trump administration expanded short-term, limited-duration health insurance plans after President Obama substantially restricted those plans just 2 months before he left office. These plans had previously been available for nearly 20 years. They are an affordable option for Americans who are in between jobs or who have been laid off.

The dramatic economic numbers alone do not convey the full cost of this pandemic—the futures impacted, the isolation, domestic abuse, substance abuse, and suicide. As our country begins to look forward amid the coronavirus pandemic, we must support job growth and families to build strong futures.

In the coming weeks, I will introduce additional bills as part of the USA RISE Plan aimed at incentivizing manufacturing in the United States, helping our farmers and small business owners, and to ensure that America is the best place in the world to do business.

While I continue to do all I can to fight COVID-19, I will also continue to do all I can to help Georgia families and employers recover and prosper.

I yield the floor.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ROMNEY). 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 John F. Heil III, of Oklahoma, to

be United States District Judge for the Northern, Eastern and Western Districts of Oklahoma.

Mitch McConnell, Chuck Grassley, Joni Ernst, John Barrasso, Deb Fischer, John Cornyn, Roger F. Wicker, Roy Blunt, John Thune, Rob Portman, Shelley Moore Capito, Steve Daines, Lindsey Graham, Pat Roberts, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Richard Burr, Mike Crapo.

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 John F. Heil III, of Oklahoma, to be United States District Judge for the Northern, Eastern and Western Districts of Oklahoma, shall be brought to 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. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted “yea.”

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKY), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. LOEFFLER). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 76, nays 16, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 98 Ex.]

YEAS—76

Baldwin	Fischer	Peters
Barrasso	Gardner	Portman
Bennet	Graham	Reed
Blackburn	Grassley	Risch
Blunt	Hassan	Roberts
Boozman	Hawley	Romney
Braun	Heinrich	Rosen
Capito	Hoover	Rubio
Cardin	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Carper	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Casey	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Jones	Shaheen
Collins	Kaine	Shelby
Coons	Kennedy	Sinema
Cornyn	King	Smith
Cortez Masto	Lankford	Sullivan
Cotton	Leahy	Tester
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Loeffler	Tillis
Cruz	Manchin	Toomey
Daines	McConnell	Udall
Duckworth	McSally	Warner
Durbin	Moran	Wicker
Enzi	Murphy	Young
Ernst	Paul	
Feinstein	Perdue	

NAYS—16

Blumenthal	Hirono	Schumer
Booker	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Brown	Menendez	Van Hollen
Cantwell	Merkley	Wyden
Gillibrand	Murray	
Harris	Schatz	

NOT VOTING—8

Alexander	Murkowski	Warren
Burr	Rounds	Whitehouse
Markey	Sanders	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote the yeas are 76, the nays are 16. 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 John F. Heil III, of Oklahoma, to be United States District Judge for the Northern, Eastern and Western Districts of Oklahoma.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri is recognized.

CHINA

Mr. HAWLEY. Madam President, we have come to the middle hour of our struggle against this epidemic, against a disease unleashed on the world by the failures and falsehoods of a government in Beijing. This epidemic has brought devastation in its wake—lost jobs, lost lives, fear, and isolation. It is shaking old institutions and challenging old ways.

The international order, as we have known it for 30 years, is breaking. Now imperialist China seeks to remake the world in its own image and to bend the global economy to its own will, and we face a moment of truth. Will we acquiesce? Are we, in this Nation, willing to witness the slow undoing of the free world? Are we willing to watch our own way of life, our own liberties and livelihoods grow dependent on the policy of Beijing?

Already, we hear a chorus of voices telling us that America must accept a narrower future. We must live with slower economic growth. We must expect lower wages. We must accommodate ourselves to the rise of China. Well, I, for one, am not willing to settle for less. I am not willing to see blue collar workers go without work for months or years on end as their jobs are shipped overseas. I am not willing to watch wages flatline and fall. I am not willing to see families struggle for food and middle-class neighborhoods disappear, and neither are the American people.

The Nation that sent a man to the Moon and defeated German and Soviet oppression in the space of 50 years will not be content to take second place to the imperialists in Beijing. We will not be content with a small future. Now, as in times past, this Nation must again take control of our own destiny and lead the free world to a better day.

The free nations again confront a common threat. The Chinese Communist Party is a menace to all free peoples. It seeks nothing less than domination. It wants nothing less than world power. This is China's policy: to control Asia and to rule the Pacific. From there, the Chinese Government wants to spread its influence to Africa, to Europe, to South America—a master of home and abroad.

And they are well on their way. For decades now, China has bent and abused and broken the rules of the international economic system to its own benefit. They have stolen our intellectual property and forced our companies to transfer sensitive trade secrets and technology. They have manipulated their currency and cheated time and again on their trade commitments. They have been complicit in the trafficking of persons and relied on the forced labor of religious minorities.

America has suffered. Since Beijing won most favored nation status and joined the World Trade Organization in 2001, we have lost over 3 million jobs to China. During the past two decades, as we fought war after war in the Middle East, the Chinese Government systematically built its military on the backs of the American middle class. Oh, we were promised that things would be different. We were told that giving China access to our markets and allowing them power in the WTO would reform their behavior and it would make them more liberal. We were told it would be good for America and good for the world.

Well, the only nation it was good for was China, and we cannot afford inaction any longer. The threat of China to the free world grows by the day. If the coronavirus pandemic doesn't make that clear, nothing will. What should be equally clear is that the United States must now reform the global economy itself to rebuild our strength and prevent China's bid for domination.

The economy has become the principal arena for the great power contest in this new century. Economic policy is now security policy, and China understands that. China has integrated its economic and security strategies for the last two decades, systematically weaponizing the institutions and procedures of the global economy for its own benefit.

It is the United States that has been slow to respond. Now we must recognize that the economic system designed by Western policymakers at the end of the Cold War does not serve our purposes in this new era, and it does not meet our needs in this new day. And we should admit that multiple of its founding premises were in error.

The economic system over the last 30 years—it is nothing sacred. It is not inevitable. It was a choice, and now we have the power to choose again, to choose differently, and for the better.

You know, it didn't start out this way. Decades ago, in the aftermath of the Second World War, the United States and its allies created a series of economic partnerships and institutions that aimed to strengthen the free world and check Soviet expansion. These agreements encouraged partnership and trade among free nations as sovereign equals. Trade in commerce did increase and barriers did come down, but nations remained in control of their own economies and their own

destinies. Important sectors were protected, capital flows controlled, and workers had a place to rise.

But when the Soviet Union fell, ambitious policymakers in this country and other Western nations saw the opportunity to create something new, something in the spirit of Woodrow Wilson, a dream to remake the world. These Western leaders wanted a truly global economy, one that would include all nations, like-minded or not, to be governed by multilateral institutions rather than nation-states, to operate by a single set of rules, to promote the flow of goods and capital across borders. They wanted a single liberal market to support a single liberal international order, one that was supposed to bring peace in our time. Well, that peace never arrived. Instead, these new Wilsonians embroiled the United States in conflict after conflict, war after war for decades, and the new global market they championed flatlined the wages of American workers and shifted American industry overseas, all while multinational corporations reaped the gains.

One of the Wilsonians' new institutions particularly typified these trends. I am talking about the World Trade Organization. It was established in 1995 as a successor to the Cold War-era General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. The idea was for the WTO to help harmonize trading rules the world over and have the teeth to enforce them.

The WTO would have its own court—I was part of the design—a dispute resolution body that would interpret trade agreements and settle the differences between nations over trade. The effect was to take trade disputes out of the hands of elected national leaders and commit them to the control of international lawyers in Geneva.

It worked in the sense that the WTO's court increasingly set trade policy for the world. The old system, the GATT, had allowed for national policy needs to come first—our workers and our industries—but the WTO reversed these priorities. Now global concerns reigned supreme, which meant the priorities of multinational corporations and global capital.

Not surprisingly, the WTO lawyers have not been kind to America. The WTO's dispute resolution process has systematically disfavored the United States—a complaint that Presidents of both parties have made for years. The United States has lost 90 percent of the cases brought against it, hurting industries across the Nation, from steelworkers in the Rust Belt to cotton farmers in States like mine.

Meanwhile, the WTO dispute resolution body has systematically expanded its own jurisdiction, going beyond the text of the actual trade agreements and citing itself as authority.

That is not all. The WTO permitted China to claim special status as a developing country from the moment