

The New York Times has made itself a laughing stock, but this is no laughing matter because the cancel culture threatens the very principles of free inquiry and open debate upon which our society is based.

You see other manifestations of the cancel culture all across the country today. In many cases, they have adopted the spirit of a Jacobin mob in the French Revolution. In a reign of terror, they are trying to completely erase our culture and our history. Unfortunately, many Democrats are vying to be the Robespierre for this Jacobin mob.

Look at what is happening in Seattle. Revolutionaries, anarchists have taken over city government buildings. They have taken over neighborhoods. They have declared themselves an autonomous zone. They put up a sign that says "You are leaving the United States" when you enter this autonomous zone.

The Democratic Party today, I suppose, is still the party of secession.

It is not just in Seattle. Look at what is happening to statues and monuments all around our country. In several cities, statues of Christopher Columbus have been pulled down, or they have been defaced or destroyed—statues that in most cases were put up by Italian American immigrants who were proud of their part in the great American story. This was not done in accordance with law. It was not done after thoughtful debate in city councils or State legislatures. It was done by mobs. Just last week, the Lincoln Memorial—a temple to the great emancipator—was defaced. The World War II Memorial—a memorial to those who fought and liberated the world from fascism—was defaced. Now, across the Atlantic, the ideological kin of this Jacobin mob defaced statues of Churchill. Wait until they hear about what the other guy did on the other side.

But, you know, history is not the long suit of these woke children. They didn't take history classes, apparently, in high school and college. They were too busy taking social justice seminars. You can see that, too, in Philadelphia, where the statue of Matthias Baldwin was defaced. Matthias Baldwin was a committed and devoted abolitionist who funded education for freed African Americans. He gave them jobs, and they defaced his statue.

Even more amazing, in Boston, the Shaw Memorial was defaced. The Shaw Memorial honors the 54th Massachusetts Regiment—the first African-American regiment formed after the Emancipation Proclamation, whose bravery and valor in battle on behalf of the Union cause was memorialized in the movie "Glory." Yet it was defaced by these mobs.

It is not just our history; it is pop culture and entertainment too. You may have seen the news that "Live P.D." and "Cops" television shows were canceled. "Paw Patrol" was on the cutting board too. You may know that Chase is the police cop in "Paw

Patrol." There are calls to euthanize the police dog on social media. I wish I could say I am joking, but I am not.

Legos has announced they are not going to advertise any of their police Lego sets for the next year. They are not going to take them out of distribution. They are not going to recall them from stores. No, no—woke capitalism only goes so far. They are still capitalists. They are just not going to advertise police sets anymore.

HBO announced they are not going to run "Gone with the Wind" anymore—"Gone With the Wind," for which African-American actress Hattie McDaniel won the first Academy Award, the first Oscar ever given to an African-American woman. HBO says: "No, we are going to cancel it."

If you think it is just limited to statues or TV shows or toys, you would be wrong. This woke mob could very soon be coming for any one of you.

At UCLA, a college professor has been suspended and is under police investigation because he declined to postpone final exams so students could apparently go out and participate in protests.

Another professor is being investigated for reading aloud from Martin Luther King, Jr.'s letter from a Birmingham jail because it uses offensive language—Martin Luther King, Jr.'s letter from a Birmingham jail.

A professional soccer player, Alexander Katai, was fired for his wife's tweet—not his own, his wife's tweet.

Multiple different business executives and editors at newspapers and magazines have been fired.

If you think this is only for people who are not powerful and not rich, you would be wrong. Ivanka Trump was scheduled to give a commencement speech last weekend at a Wichita technical school. The speech was canceled because she was being too controversial. It was a speech about workforce training and women's opportunities in our economy, and Ivanka Trump was canceled.

Where does this cancel culture take us? What is the logical conclusion? What is the end of the cancel culture? I will tell you what it is—it is right here in this city, Washington, the District of Columbia. That is where it will end if we don't put an end to the madness now. Just up the Mall is the Washington Monument. Are we going to tear down the Washington Monument? Are we going to rename it the "Obelisk of Wokeness?"

Up the hill is the Washington National Cathedral, where so many times we have gathered as a nation over the years to mourn our great leaders, to pray for God's protection and deliverance in moments of national strife and struggle. Are we going to rename the Washington National Cathedral the "Temple of Reason," as the Jacobins did to Notre Dame during the French Revolution?

What are we going to call this city? We can't call it Washington. We can't

call it Columbia. We have to come up with new names all around because—I will say this—the cancel culture, whether in its malice or its Jacobin forms, ultimately is animated by a single ideal: that America at its core is fundamentally irredeemable and wicked.

I reject that claim fully and wholeheartedly. America is a great and noble nation. It is the noblest Nation in the history of mankind that has struggled throughout our history, imperfectly but ceaselessly, to live up to our founding creed that all men are created equal—the single greatest defense against tyranny, against racism, against oppression. That is the stake of this debate.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

#### HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE VICTIMS OF THE HEINOUS ATTACK AT THE PULSE NIGHTCLUB ON JUNE 12, 2016

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, Floridians will never forget the horrific events of June 12, 2016. Four years ago, our State, Nation, the city of Orlando, and Hispanic and gay communities were attacked, and 49 innocent and beautiful lives were lost. It was an evil act. It was an act of terrorism designed to divide us as a nation and strike fear in our hearts and minds, but we didn't let it because Floridians are resilient. We came together, and we supported each other.

The weeks following the attack will always stay with me—days spent in hospitals with families, at funerals, at wakes with loved ones, and countless events throughout the community. As a father and grandfather, it was one of the hardest things I ever had to do. It was heartbreaking. Yet, in this horribly dark time, the selfless courage of so many—from community members, to law enforcement, to healthcare workers—provided a sense of hope. This incredible strength, love, and bravery uplifted the community and helped us repair and rebuild.

On the fourth anniversary of this unthinkable tragedy, the State of Florida comes together to honor the lives lost too soon, and we vow to always stand up and fight against evil and hatred in this world.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 614, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 614) honoring the memory of the victims of the heinous attack at the Pulse nightclub on June 12, 2016.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to,

and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 614) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

#### TAXPAYER FIRST ACT OF 2019— Continued

H.R. 1957

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. President, as we continue our debate today on the Great American Outdoors Act, I thought I would come to the floor one more time to talk about the benefits of this historic conservation package and what it means for the great State and the people of Colorado.

Several years back, this Congress worked in a bipartisan fashion to pass legislation by Senator SHAHEEN and me that required the Commerce Department, for the first time in our country's history, to break out the outdoor economy as a part of our economic numbers, to determine how many jobs this country had in the outdoor industry in recreation, and to determine the overall revenues generated by the recreation economy. What we discovered was what we knew intuitively: that the recreation economy is a huge part of jobs in this country, with over 5 million jobs.

In Colorado, you are looking at about a \$28 billion part of our economy. If I could, I just want to talk a little bit more about what that means for Colorado and what this bill means as applied to our State, the benefits environmentally of this legislation and the economic impact it will have.

I talked on the floor about the Great Sand Dunes National Park. Right around the year 2000, this legislation turned this national monument into a national park. Hundreds of thousands of people come to the valley to visit every year. What is neat about this is that it is not just a national park, the Great Sand Dunes National Park, but it is also an example of how the Land and Water Conservation Fund works together because it established the Great Sand Dunes National Park to make sure that the water resource was protected that is so instrumental to keeping the sand dunes in place. We used the Land and Water Conservation Fund to purchase elements of land around it, like the Baca Ranch and Zapata Ranch and other areas, to make sure we had this great resource maintained for future generations to come.

Of course, Rocky Mountain National Park is the third most heavily visited park in the Nation. Almost 5 million visitors come to Rocky Mountain National Park every year. A few years

back, there were 2.8, 3 million people. We have almost doubled the visitors in recent times, which has caused a lot of challenges for Rocky Mountain National Park. It has benefited as well from the Land and Water Conservation Fund because some of the last remaining inholdings within Rocky Mountain National Park have been purchased using the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

If you look at the Restore Our Parks Act, the money in the Great American Outdoors Act that will go toward catching up with the maintenance backlog, this park has about \$85 million worth of needs in terms of that backlog. It has \$85 million worth of projects, from visitors centers to roads and trails.

Let me show you one of those trails right here. You can see this is what it looked like. You can see the erosion and washouts. This is what happens over time with heavy use and weather.

You can see the work we have been able to do to maintain and to catch up with the needs in Rocky Mountain National Park. We can do this across our Park System thanks to the Restore Our Parks Act. We will put \$1.9 billion a year—paid for by oil and gas revenues—into our national parks to catch up with the maintenance and backlog needs at places like Rocky Mountain National Park.

It is \$85 million in Rocky Mountain National Park. It is \$7 to \$8 million in the Great Sand Dunes National Park. In Mesa Verde National Park, it is almost \$75 million. I will show you Black Canyon of the Gunnison right now. Black Canyon of the Gunnison is in need of nearly \$7 to \$8 million as well for its backlog needs.

This is a picture I actually took on my iPhone. This is a picture I had taken while attending a press conference to celebrate a Land and Water Conservation Fund purchase. You can see Park Superintendent Noble is pointing across the canyon to the land that was purchased using the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The canyon is right here. It is not over the horizon; it is right here. This land was on the rim of the canyon. It was not a part of the park. You can imagine, if somebody had decided to build something there and said "Why don't we develop that? Why don't we do something else?" what that would have meant to the national park and enjoyment of that park. Using this, they were able to get the entire rim of the canyon for the National Park System. That is where that is.

If you go to this next picture, you see it is not just about national parks. The Great American Outdoors Act is not just about Land and Water Conservation Fund. It is about our forests. It is about our national forests, our Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife, and it is about the Bureau of Indian Education.

This is actually a national monument. This is Dinosaur National Monu-

ment. If you go to Northern Colorado, Dinosaur National Monument straddles both the State of Colorado and the State of Utah. Some of the best white water rafting in the country goes through Dinosaur National Monument. This is amazing. This is absolutely cool.

You can see these archaeologists who are actually hanging on to a wall as they do their work. This is known as the fossil wall. Hundreds of millions of years' worth of fossils are in this long wall at Dinosaur National Monument. You can see the fossils and the bones in this picture, layer after layer. It is a remarkable resource in one of the most truly unique areas of Colorado. The needs here are tremendous, too, as they face erosion and challenges from visitors and access needs to some of these resources.

If you go to Mesa Verde National Park, this is truly spectacular. If you look at Mesa Verde—for those who never had a chance to go there, I hope people will have a chance to visit. This park was established in 1906. Look at this beautiful ridge. Look at the plateau. Look at the cliff dwellings. It is remarkable. It was established in 1906 to preserve and interpret the archaeological heritage of the ancestral Pueblo people who made it their home for over 700 years. The park protects nearly 5,000 known archaeological sites, including 600 cliff dwellings—some of the best and most notable preserved dwellings in the United States.

In 2019, they had about 556,000 visitors. This is in the Four Corners area of the State, surrounded by towns like Cortez, CO; Mancas, CO; Durango, CO—areas that rely on tourism and recreation and farming and ranching for their jobs.

In 2018, visitors spent about \$58 million in these local gateway regions. This supported nearly 1,000 jobs, \$22 million in labor income, \$40 million in value added, and about \$72 million in economic help in the gateway economy surrounding the Mesa Verde National Park. They operate about \$700 million worth of facilities, and they have about 10 percent of that in need of deferred maintenance. So \$76 million is their total deferred maintenance needs.

They need to rehabilitate the Chapin Mesa Civilian Conservation Corps. They need to replace the water, electric, information, and sewer systems. They need to replace the campground, water, and road systems. They need to improve the historic maintenance operations buildings. That is just some of the need at Mesa Verde National Park.

When we talk about the Great American Outdoors Act, we talk about national parks, national forests, and BLM land and monuments, but we should also talk about recreation, because so many times this gets lost in our conversation on the floor, because it is not only recreation in terms of parks and the National Forest Service, but it is sports complexes, baseball fields, soccer fields, tennis courts—the ability for