

about the massive reduction in local tax revenue and the very difficult decisions that will soon need to be made if Federal assistance doesn't arrive soon.

I have heard from teachers and school administrators about the challenges they have encountered trying to educate their students during the pandemic and the difficulties they are anticipating as they begin to plan for the school year coming in September.

The shift to remote learning has exposed the disparities in broadband access across New Hampshire and across this country that leaves behind many students and makes it extremely difficult for teachers to deliver a quality education, especially for students with disabilities.

So many small businesses, while they are very grateful for the Paycheck Protection Program and the loans and grants that have been made available through the Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program, are telling me it is not enough; that revenues for many of these small businesses are still at unsustainable lows, particularly for those in tourism, entertainment, and hospitality—in New Hampshire, tourism is our second largest industry—and that they need help if they are going to weather this storm.

So I can't understand why this body and why Majority Leader MCCONNELL doesn't feel a sense of urgency to pass legislation that will continue to help Americans during this time of crisis.

It has been more than 1 month since the House of Representatives sent to us the Heroes Act to continue to provide assistance to Americans who are in need. In the time since, we have not taken up any proposal that would provide comprehensive relief for the sectors of our economy that are still hurting.

We just can't wait until the end of July, when we know that there will be so many families, workers, and businesses across the country who will be in an even more dire position than they are now.

Americans are urging Congress to act, and we should work together in a bipartisan way, just as we did with the first three—really, four, if you count the second count of the small business assistance. Those four bills all passed with strong bipartisan votes. Now it is time for us to do that again, to provide Americans with the relief they so desperately need.

Congress has taken some very important bipartisan steps to provide assistance to the Nation, but the conversations I have had with Granite Staters on the frontlines are a very powerful reminder of how much work still lies ahead.

We should provide assistance for our hospitals and healthcare providers, especially for nursing homes and long-term care facilities because, in New Hampshire, they have accounted for more than 70 percent of COVID-19 deaths, and across the country, for a very high percentage.

We need to provide support to all of our essential workers who are still on the frontlines getting out there every day, despite the health risks; that includes grocery store workers, healthcare workers, and first responders who are sacrificing so much for our health and safety.

We should provide investments in our Nation's infrastructure, like broadband, to make sure we have better access to telehealth and education opportunities.

We should provide support for sectors of our economy that have taken major losses, like the clean energy sector, which has lost more than 600,000 jobs over the past few months.

We should provide help for food and rental assistance for those who have lost income and are struggling to make ends meet.

We should support the Postal Service so it can continue to serve our communities and small businesses. In New Hampshire, we have so many small towns that depend on the Postal Service for prescription drugs. Families in those towns depend on the Postal Service for prescription drugs and to communicate with the outside world. Especially now, when so many people are still feeling so isolated, they need to know they can count on the Postal Service and that it is not going to get into a financial crisis this summer.

Finally, we need to support our States and our local communities. They have been on the frontlines fighting this pandemic. As the cost of COVID-19 response efforts continue to rise, mayors, town administrators, and county officials are all grappling with whether they are going to have to lay off first responders, firefighters, police, teachers, and municipal workers—all of those people who continue to provide services in our communities and without whom people are going to face even more dire consequences. States and communities need help now. They should not have to cut essential services and frontline workers.

In Congress, we must also provide additional support to small businesses. PPP, the Paycheck Protection Program, by any measure, despite some of the challenges, has been the most significant small business assistance program in our Nation's history. It has delivered over \$500 billion in aid in a very short time.

I am proud to have worked with a bipartisan group of colleagues to offer that provision, but when we first sat down to design it just over 3 months ago, none of us had any concept of the magnitude of this crisis or what would be its duration. Since then, we have learned just how devastating this disease is and how terribly difficult it is to defeat.

I have heard from so many businesspeople in New Hampshire who took a PPP loan. They used the proceeds just as we had intended: They kept their employees on the payroll or they hired them back if they had al-

ready laid them off. They have kept their lights on. Now it is time—when they are beginning to reopen their businesses, and they are still running short because those loans are about to run out, they need more help. If we don't provide it, they are going to lay off all those workers again. For many small businesses, they are going to be forced to close their doors.

Last week, I was pleased to work with Senators CARDIN and COONS to introduce the Prioritized Paycheck Protection Program, the P4 Act. That is legislation that would provide a second round of PPP funding for smaller businesses and particularly for those in the restaurant and hospitality industries which have been hit especially hard in recent months. They were the first to be closed down by government order, and they are the last to be able to open back up.

I am hopeful that, once again, we can work in a bipartisan way to make a proposal that will have support on both sides of the aisle and that will ensure that more businesses can stay afloat as we reopen our economy.

Our country is still hurting, and the coronavirus isn't going to go away without a vaccine. It is going to take a while for us to get back on our feet as a nation.

The devastating health and economic effects from COVID-19 will not be alleviated just because we pretend the coronavirus is going away. It will not be alleviated unless Congress acts. It was the decisive action that we took back at the end of February and March that has allowed so many businesses to stay afloat, so many families to continue to feed their kids and to pay their rent. It is going to be critical for us to continue to take action to provide that assistance.

We can't wait. We can't take a wait-and-see approach. We know that people are hurting right now. So I urge the Senate to take up and pass legislation. Let's negotiate what we don't like about the Heroes Act. Let's make changes, but let's take up that relief bill and continue to provide the help Americans are calling for. We have no more time to waste.

Thank you.

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

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

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The 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 Cory T. Wilson, of Mississippi, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit.

Mitch McConnell, Chuck Grassley, Cory Gardner, Lamar Alexander, Richard C. Shelby, Steve Daines, David Perdue, Pat Roberts, Lindsey Graham, Tim Scott, Richard Burr, Mike Crapo, Shelley Moore Capito, John Barrasso, Roger F. Wicker, Cindy Hyde-Smith, John Thune.

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 Cory T. Wilson, of Mississippi, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) are necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 124 Ex.]

YEAS—51

Alexander	Fischer	Perdue
Barrasso	Gardner	Portman
Blackburn	Graham	Risch
Blunt	Grassley	Roberts
Boozman	Hawley	Romney
Braun	Hoeben	Rounds
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Capito	Inhofe	Sasse
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Shelby
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Loeffler	Thune
Cruz	McConnell	Tillis
Daines	McSally	Toomey
Enzi	Moran	Wicker
Ernst	Paul	Young

NAYS—43

Baldwin	Gillibrand	Rosen
Bennet	Harris	Schatz
Blumenthal	Hassan	Schumer
Booker	Hirono	Shaheen
Brown	Jones	Smith
Cantwell	Kaine	Stabenow
Cardin	King	Tester
Carper	Klobuchar	Udall
Casey	Leahy	Van Hollen
Collins	Manchin	Warner
Coons	Markey	Warren
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Whitehouse
Duckworth	Murphy	Wyden
Durbin	Peters	
Feinstein	Reed	

NOT VOTING—6

Heinrich	Murkowski	Sanders
Merkley	Murray	Sinema

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 51, the nays are 43.

The motion is agreed to.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SULIVAN). The Senator from Nebraska.

Mr. SASSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

WORLD REFUGEE DAY

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, this past Saturday, June 20, we marked the 20th commemoration of World Refugee Day. Since 2000, World Refugee Day annually shines a light on the struggles of displaced people all over the globe and encourages us all to redouble our efforts to help them.

We are currently experiencing the most severe refugee crisis in recorded history. There are almost 80 million forcibly displaced people worldwide, of which more than 30 million are refugees and asylum-seekers. Every 2 seconds, someone is forced to leave his or her home because of conflict or persecution. That means that, since I began speaking, roughly 20 individuals have become newly displaced.

These numbers are staggering and difficult to comprehend, but try to imagine for a moment what it means to be a refugee: to watch your home torn apart by conflict; to become the target of violence and oppression; to fear so greatly for your life and the lives of your loved ones that you choose to leave everything you know behind and take a dangerous journey to a place where the language and the culture are unfamiliar, where you have no support system, where you may struggle every day to make ends meet.

This nightmare is the reality for almost 80 million human beings around the world. The situation has only worsened since the outbreak of the global COVID-19 pandemic. The majority of refugees are in low and middle-income countries, where weak health systems are already struggling to provide the basics of care. According to the International Rescue Committee, just 34 conflict-affected and fragile countries could see between 500 million and 1 billion COVID-19 infections, leading to between 1.7 million and 3.2 million deaths over the course of the pandemic. Furthermore, refugees and displaced persons tend to live in precarious conditions that make them even more vulnerable to the coronavirus. They often live in crowded housing situations with little access to basic hygiene services, the perfect breeding ground for infectious diseases to spread. For instance, there are about 850,000 Rohingya refugees living in congested camps in Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh. As the coronavirus began to take hold there in March, experts warned that the lack of

sanitation and capacity for social distancing in these refugee camps would create the "perfect storm" for transmission of the disease.

Additionally, many refugees are employed in informal industries with little to no options for sick leave, restricted access to public health services, and have few, if any, resources to weather the financial burden of quarantine measures. Many are forced to defy stay-at-home orders to find ways to support their families, risking their health and that of their loved ones to provide basic shelter and food.

Take, for example, the story of Orlando, a member of an indigenous community in Venezuela who is among the 4.5 million Venezuelan migrants and refugees who have fled the country's hunger, violence, and insecurity since 2014. He now lives in Brazil with 18 other families from his indigenous group. He and his family make their living as artisans, but when lockdown orders prevented them from selling their crafts, they could no longer afford rent. All 120 of the individuals living in his house were expelled, sent to the street in the middle of a pandemic. Meanwhile, many of Orlando's family members became sick with the virus, and one sadly passed away, devastating the community. Unfortunately, stories like this one are common among refugees.

The good news is that there are a number of incredible multilateral and nongovernmental organizations working tirelessly to ensure that displaced people are safe, healthy, supported, and treated with the dignity they deserve. These organizations deserve our gratitude and, more importantly, our assistance. In my home State of Maryland, organizations such as the IRC, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society—now HIAS—and World Relief are there to help refugees start a new life in the United States. Especially now, as the COVID-19 pandemic stretches resources and capacity of service providers around the world, it is critical that the United States do its part to help address the refugee crisis.

That is why I joined all the other democratic members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in introducing legislation to provide an additional \$9 billion in funding for international efforts to fight the COVID-19 pandemic and strengthen our refugee resettlement process to accommodate those affected by the global health crisis. I also urged Secretary of State Pompeo to contribute at least \$500 million to the U.N. campaign to protect displaced and disadvantaged persons around the world from the coronavirus.

Historically, the United States has prided itself on offering safe harbor to the world's refugees. This country, after all, was founded by a group of people fleeing religious persecution. The plaque on the Statue of Liberty, perhaps the most famous symbol of American freedom and democracy,