

of 2015, instead of following U.S. objectives of confronting oligarchs, Vice President Biden's staff advised him to avoid commenting on the odious oligarch and instead say "I am not going to get into naming names or accusing individuals."

Well, if you are running an anticorruption agenda in Ukraine and you pull your punches when it comes to Burisma while your son is on the board, that goes to judgment—and here it looks like very bad judgment and weak leadership.

Based on witness testimony, Burisma's owner allegedly paid a \$7 million bribe to officials serving under Ukraine's prosecutor general to shut the case against him. When he allegedly placed the bribe in December 2014, Hunter Biden was on the board and—can you believe this—he had been hired to be on the board to assist with what they call "corporate governance and responsibility." Obviously, he wasn't doing his corporate job—due diligence.

The facts show that the Obama administration was well aware of the problems that Hunter Biden being on the Burisma board caused. The facts show that the Obama administration turned a blind eye to it. Everyone knew about the problems it caused, but nobody wanted to do anything about it. So much for leadership.

At its core, the investigation is a good government oversight investigation. These are exactly the kinds of shady, backroom deals that the American people should know about. So now the facts are out there. The American people can judge this information for themselves. They don't need the people on the other side of the aisle of this institution telling them what went on when they were using disinformation from Russia and spreading that disinformation around and trying to say it was attributed to something that we got.

As for the next step, Senator JOHN-SON and I will continue to review the records that we possess and further records that we hope we are able to acquire.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

#### NOMINATION OF AMY CONEY BARRETT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, after Senate Republicans established the

principle that the Senate shouldn't consider Supreme Court nominations in Presidential election years, on Saturday, President Trump nominated Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court with less than 40 days left in the Presidential election.

The Senate has never—never—confirmed a nominee to the Supreme Court this close to a Presidential election. In fact, the election is already underway, but President Trump gets to play by different rules under this Republican majority.

By nominating Judge Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court, President Trump has once again put Americans' healthcare in the crosshairs. President Trump has promised to nominate Supreme Court Justices who will "terminate"—his words—our healthcare law. In Judge Barrett, President Trump has found the deciding vote.

Judge Barrett strongly criticized the ruling to uphold the Affordable Care Act, claiming that if Justices read the law the way she does, they would "have had to invalidate" the entire healthcare law. Let me repeat that: Judge Barrett strongly criticized Justice Roberts' decision to uphold the Affordable Care Act, saying that "he pushed [the law] beyond its plausible meaning to save the statute." If Justice Roberts had read the law the way Judge Barrett does, the Supreme Court would have had to invalidate the entire Affordable Care Act.

The Republican lawsuit against the Affordable Care Act, as everyone knows, will be heard 1 week after the election. Senate Republicans are rushing to jam Judge Barrett's confirmation through in time for her to hear arguments in that very case. Not one for subtlety, President Trump tweeted on Saturday that our healthcare law would be replaced "if terminated by the Supreme Court."

So the American people should make no mistake, a vote by any Senator for Judge Amy Coney Barrett is a vote to strike down the Affordable Care Act and eliminate protections for millions of Americans with preexisting conditions.

Judge Barrett's record also suggests that if she is confirmed, the reproductive freedom of millions of women would be in grave danger. Should Judge Amy Coney Barrett be confirmed, a far-right majority on the Court could turn back the clock on women's rights and a woman's right to choose, workers' rights, voting rights, civil rights, environmental protections, LGBTQ rights, and many more. The future for DACA recipients hangs in the balance as well.

So this nomination concerns no less than the fundamental rights of the American people. After holding a Supreme Court vacancy open for 8 months before a Presidential election, President Trump and Leader McConnell are doing what no Senate has done before—shamelessly rushing to fill Justice

Ginsburg's seat less than 40 days before the Presidential election.

Justice Ginsburg's dying wish was that she not be replaced until a new President is installed. Republicans are poised not only to ignore her wishes, but to replace her with someone who could tear down everything she had built.

This reprehensible power grab is a cynical attack on the legitimacy of the Court, and I would strongly, strongly oppose this nomination.

The Senate Republican majority has decided, however, that they will stop at nothing, break all the rules—even their own rules—to rush this nomination through before the election. But apparently the Senate majority isn't going to stop at naked hypocrisy. It is also going to engage in manufactured hysterics.

For the past few weeks, long before President Trump even nominated Judge Barrett, Senate Republicans have been telling everyone who will listen that Democrats "better not make Catholicism an issue in this nomination." That is their quote.

Last week, a Member of this Chamber wrote me an entire letter preemptively warning about anti-Catholic attacks against a nominee who hadn't been named yet. Another Member of this Chamber said that "in CHUCK SCHUMER's America—only atheists can be Supreme Court Justices."

Of course, not a single Democrat will make these attacks or make personal religious beliefs an issue, but that doesn't matter to my Republican friends. Oh, no. They will try to slander Democrats with this imaginary issue anyway because they are desperate for a distraction. Republicans invented this concern because they are so eager to make this nomination about anything other than their disgraceful double standard—anything besides their attempts to take away healthcare and curtail the fundamental rights of the American people.

Honestly, it is embarrassing how transparent Republicans are being about this manufactured line of attack. They couldn't even wait for a Catholic nominee to be chosen. They already scripted the attacks.

The Senator from Tennessee is making wild allegations; the Senator from Missouri is writing ridiculous letters; and my friend from Florida is cutting videos decrying the kind of attacks on a person's faith that haven't occurred since the political right was implying that our last practicing Christian President, President Obama, was a secret Muslim.

I don't remember my Republican colleagues making a fuss when peaceful protesters were tear-gassed so President Trump could hold the Bible upside down in front of a church for a photo op.

I understand why certain Republicans are resorting to this disgusting tactic: They have no other argument. They can't argue that this nomination

could proceed because of some solemn constitutional duty because they argued the exact opposite position 4 years ago.

They certainly can't argue the merits of Judge Barrett's position on the Affordable Care Act because they know it is dreadfully unpopular with the American people. No wonder—no wonder Republicans are so desperate to talk about, literally, anything else.

#### CORONAVIRUS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, on another matter, COVID-19, yesterday, the House of Representatives unveiled legislation to provide \$2.2 trillion in emergency funding to help the American people in the fight against COVID-19.

The proposal includes a number of crucial provisions that families, businesses, local leaders, and hospitals desperately need, including \$600 in weekly emergency unemployment insurance, funding for our schools, support for State and local governments, assistance for renters and homeowners, additional resources for testing and contact tracing, and measures to strengthen the post office and complete the census.

It includes important aid for transit systems, by the way, vital to our Nation's economy. It includes crucial support for economic drivers like restaurants, music venues, independent theaters, and more that we have named in our Save Our Stages Act, and it includes critical workplace standards and protections for our workers.

Is this new bill everything that Democrats want? No, but it is an honest attempt to provide the relief our country needs and reach an agreement by moving closer to our Republican colleagues who want to provide much less relief, if they want to provide any at all.

Once again, the bill demonstrates the willingness on the part of Democrats to compromise. COVID-19 remains the No. 1 issue in America. Weekly unemployment claims are still through the roof. Schools are struggling to adapt. Over 200,000 Americans have died. We are a long way from putting this crisis in the rearview mirror.

But none of this seems to concern the Republican majority in the Senate. As countless businesses are going under, as thousands continue to get sick, as millions of Americans are waiting for the Senate to do its job, Leader McConnell and Senate Republicans are moving at a lightning pace to jam through a Supreme Court nominee—a nominee who could rip healthcare away from tens of millions of Americans in the middle of a pandemic.

Leader McConnell chose to put the Senate on pause for 4 months while COVID devastated our country. Now Leader McConnell has the Senate on fast-forward to rush through a partisan nomination to the Supreme Court. It goes to show you the priorities on the other side of the aisle.

#### TRUMP TAX RETURNS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, one final matter: Over the weekend, the New York Times reported that President Trump paid \$750 in income taxes in 2016 and nothing in 10 of the prior 15 years, largely because he reported losing more money than he made. No New Yorker was at all surprised by this report. All the hallmarks of President Trump's career before and after politics are there: hyperbole, fraud, avoiding responsibility, and pursuing selfish interests above all else. That is President Trump in a nutshell.

The documents obtained by the New York Times showed a long history of President Trump's egregious tax avoidance and potentially criminal activity and include the astounding figure that the President owes more than \$500 million—\$500 million—in personal obligations. Who does he owe that money to? And \$500 million is not chump change. Who does the President owe \$500 million to?

If President Trump wants another 4-year term as President, the people have to know who President Trump is so deeply indebted to. These documents reveal that President Trump was an abject failure in business and a serial tax cheat.

We have already heard the President claim the reporting in the New York Times is fake. Well, President Trump, put your tax returns where your mouth is.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KENNEDY). 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.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

#### CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2021 AND OTHER EXTENSIONS ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 8337, which the clerk will report.

The senior legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 8337) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes.

Pending:

McConnell amendment No. 2663, to change the enactment date.

McConnell amendment No. 2664, of a perfecting nature.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for a few minutes as if in morning business.

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

#### TRIBUTE TO JOHN DAVID ARNOLD

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I thought I would deliver a little good news. It is a little hard to get good news these days, but I ran across some.

I want to tell you about a man named Dr. John David Arnold, who, many years ago, started out teaching school. He taught school in Arizona. He had a little blue bus from which he had ripped out the seats and put in desks. He used that blue bus to follow the migrant workers from Arizona clear to the northern border as they worked, teaching the migrant kids.

He came up with an idea. As technology advanced, he said: You know, if I give the kids a computer, I can handle a whole lot more kids. They could use the phone to send their assignments in. He did that. So remote learning has been around for a long time—probably 40 years.

One of the benefits he found was that the parents benefited from it too. The parents of these migrant workers learned along with their kids. That program grew.

Then he came up with another problem that he saw a solution for, and that is that, in Phoenix, there were a lot of high school dropouts and some kids being expelled. There weren't good results from that. So he thought maybe he could start a school for these kids, and he would only take a student who had dropped out or been expelled if they would sign a contract. They and their parents had to sign a contract before they could become students. That contract had to say, of course, that they would behave, they would do their work, and what their goal was for a job after they got out of high school. Then he trained them for that.

That was also a successful educational endeavor that goes on today. There have been a lot of graduates from that, and, today, there are students helping students.

A lot of people who graduated from that want to work with their hands and do things. He has turned out a lot of mechanics, and he has helped some mechanics get their own garages. Those mechanics have contributed money so that other kids who graduate can go into competition with them, but so that they will have the same kind of a start that they had.

Now the students in the school and the graduates are working on inventions to fight against COVID. This isn't their first crisis. They were there after Katrina, and they are still there doing