

update Federal anti-money laundering laws, which I am hopeful will become law as part of the NDAA later this month. Thanks to his work, we are on the verge of finally putting a stop to the use of anonymous shell companies by traffickers, terrorists, and tax dodgers, and making numerous other reforms that will cut off funding for criminal actors and make Americans safer.

I have been proud to call DOUG a colleague and friend. I know that Americans in Alabama, Minnesota, and everywhere in between join me in thanking him for his service and wishing him a fond farewell.

Ms. ROSEN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor and thank my dear friend and colleague, Senator DOUG JONES, for the hard and noble work he has done in the United States Senate. I greatly admire his passion and all that he accomplished for the people of Alabama and all Americans.

For his entire life, Senator JONES has stood tall as a pillar of justice and equality. After graduating law school, Senator JONES became counsel to the Senate Judiciary Committee for then-Senator Howell Heflin and served as an Assistant United States Attorney shortly after. Senator JONES then became the U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Alabama, where he fought for civil liberties and against racial injustice. As U.S. Attorney, he successfully was able to prosecute two of the four men who were responsible for the 1963 bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church, and later indicted domestic terrorist Eric Rudolph. By pursuing these cases, Senator JONES encouraged us all to continue to reject bigotry and hate in all its forms.

In 2017, Senator JONES became the first Democrat to represent the state of Alabama since 1997. He made it his duty to represent the people of Alabama in every vote he made on the Senate floor. He always voted in the best interests of his constituents, even when it wasn't politically expedient or convenient. His service stands as a reminder that bipartisanship is vital in addressing the issues that our nation currently faces.

Senator JONES is a man of bravery and strength. His heart and passion are not only moving, but admirable as well. I am very proud to have had Senator JONES as a friend and colleague as we served alongside each other on the HELP Committee these past two years, and I am eager to continue watching his fierce fight against injustice, joining with him in this struggle until hate is rejected in every corner of this nation.

DOUG, you have been a great friend and colleague of mine in the Senate. It has been an honor serving alongside you, and I am so sorry to see you go. We have shared so much, both on and off the Senate floor, and I look forward to continuing our friendship. During your time here, you've shown bravery and strength, you followed your con-

scious, and you have always done what was right. The lives of the people of Alabama have been made better with you as their Senator. You will be dearly missed.

#### TRIBUTE TO MARTHA MCSALLY

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to recognize and thank Senator MARTHA MCSALLY for her career of service. I had the pleasure of serving alongside Senator MCSALLY on various committees but primarily wanted to underscore our work together on the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources' Subcommittee on Water and Power. In her capacity as subcommittee chair and mine as ranking Member, we were successful in shepherding the Colorado River Drought Contingency Plan Authorization Act, P.L. 116-1, through the Senate and ensuring that it was signed into law on April 16, 2019. This monumental legislation culminated years of work by the seven Colorado River basin States, researchers, local stakeholders, and Tribal governments, and affirmed the commitments made by the basin States to reduce States' water usage and target minimum water levels for reservoirs in the river's watershed, such as Lake Mead on the Arizona-Nevada border and Lake Powell on the Utah-Arizona border. I commend Senator MCSALLY's dedication to this effort to secure sustainable water levels for the 40 million Americans who rely on the Colorado River as a water source. It has truly been a pleasure to work with Senator MCSALLY on this and other western priorities, and I wish her and her family all the best in their future endeavors.

#### TRIBUTE TO DEPARTING REPUBLICAN SENATE COLLEAGUES

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to my friends and colleagues on the Republican side of the aisle who are departing the Senate at the conclusion of this Congress. Although we might not have always seen eye-to-eye on every issue, I am proud to have worked with them on finding solutions to the many challenges facing the American people.

On January 3, when the new Congress is sworn in, we will be missing among our ranks a stalwart advocate for the people of Wyoming who has valiantly served in the U.S. Senate for 23 years, MIKE ENZI. Senator ENZI's service to this body has been defined both by a commitment to principle and a willingness to find common ground. MIKE believed fully that our focus in Washington must always be on crafting legislation, not making headlines. He took a low-ego approach to lawmaking and prized delivering results over fomenting conflict. On many occasions, he extended a hand to those working on the other side of the aisle, including the late great Paul Sarbanes of Maryland, with whom he collaborated in

crafting the bipartisan Sarbanes-Oxley Act. I was privileged to serve with Senator ENZI on the Senate Budget Committee, and despite our differences, he always made an effort to treat me and others on the committee with kindness, as a true professional and a gentleman. His infamous "80 percent tool"—the notion that all of us can agree on 80 percent of the issues 80 percent of the time—will continue to remind us on Capitol Hill of the capacity for Congress to come together on the issues that matter. I wish him the best in the years to come.

I am also sad to say goodbye to my neighbor in the Senate Hart Building and a veteran of this Chamber, Senator PAT ROBERTS, who is retiring after four decades serving his home State of Kansas in the U.S. Congress. Although Senator ROBERTS has had a storied career in Washington, all of us know that his first love was the U.S. Marine Corps. PAT ROBERTS took what he learned in the Armed Forces of humility, friendship, and cooperation and brought those values with him to Washington. As a lawmaker, Senator ROBERTS has led with good humor and grace. I was honored to serve with him on the Senate Agriculture Committee, where we worked together on the 2018 farm bill to enhance provisions to help farmers clean up the Chesapeake Bay, correct an inequity in how our 1890 HBCUs spend Federal funds, and support our Nation's minority and veteran farmers. I was also pleased that he joined me in introducing a bill that would fully fund the IDEA in order to support our schools and ensure a first-rate education for children with disabilities. His tireless commitment to promoting comity and camaraderie in this body demonstrated that kindness often precedes compromise. I salute the years of service he has given in the defense of our Nation and the promotion of the common good. And I say directly to my colleague and friend, PAT ROBERTS: *semper fi* and Godspeed.

But of those departing the Congress this year, few rival the erudition, warmth, and spirit of Senator LAMAR ALEXANDER. He is a true renaissance man, who excelled in the academy as president of the University of Tennessee, served our country first as Governor, then as Senator, and has entertained scores of captivated listeners with his skills at a piano. Those of us in the U.S. Senate who have had the distinct pleasure of working with LAMAR ALEXANDER recognize his talent for building consensus and reaching across the aisle to hammer out real solutions to the problems facing the American people. I am particularly grateful for his work on the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, leading the charge to publish a report on our Nation's competitiveness in science and technology. That report, "Rising Above the Gathering Storm," produced findings that have been vital to the promotion of increased funding for science and STEM education in my

State of Maryland and across the country. And his leadership in shepherding through the Great American Outdoors Act has allowed for serious investments in our Nation's public lands, our conservation efforts, and our outdoor economy. Senator ALEXANDER's commitment to bridge-building presents a model for how the U.S. Congress can come together, despite the nature of these divisive times. He will be dearly missed.

Lastly, I would like to extend a warm farewell to my colleague Senator CORY GARDNER from the great State of Colorado. CORY GARDNER and I first met in the House of Representatives in 2011. I had just started my fifth term representing Maryland in the House, and then-Congressman GARDNER was being sworn in for the first time as the Member from Colorado's fourth. We got to know each other even better in 2017, when I joined the U.S. Senate and served as the chair of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee opposite Senator GARDNER, who was chairing the National Republican Senatorial Committee. We didn't always agree on how best to move our country forward, but I have no doubt in my mind that Senator GARDNER has served our country with unceasing optimism and love for his State. He possesses a profound and deep respect for our Nation's history and institutions. I send my best to him and his family.

#### GOVERNMENT SPENDING

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, the Federal Government brought in \$3.3 trillion in revenue last year and spent \$6.6 trillion for a record-setting \$3.3 trillion deficit. If you are looking for more COVID bailout money, we don't have any. The coffers are bare. We have no rainy day fund. We have no savings account. Congress has spent all of the money. Congress spent all of the money a long time ago.

The economic damage from the pandemic is not the reason for this runaway spending. This has gone on for decades. Today's money is gone, so Congress is spending tomorrow's money. When you look at a graph of our projected spending, you see a big spike this year. The spike is a mountain of money doled out to pay for the economic ruin of the government mandates.

When we talk about spending tomorrow's money, this is not just money we will need next month; this is money we will need in a decade—money we will need in one, two, and three generations from now. For national defense. For infrastructure. This is money that your children and grandchildren will pay back with interest, and it is going up by more than a trillion dollars every year.

Instead of enjoying the same wealth and opportunity that we have enjoyed in this country, our children will be stuck paying our bills—with interest. Every taxpaying American already

owes \$136,754 today, and they are starting at a red-ink projection into the future. We are \$27 trillion in total debt today. How do we expect a child to have economic opportunity when crushing debt is their inheritance from Congress?

The numbers are mind-boggling. It is hard to conceive of a billion dollars, much less a trillion dollars. How big is a billion? Well, a billion seconds ago was 1988 and Reagan was still President. A billion minutes ago, Jesus walked the shore of the Sea of Galilee. A billion hours ago, man still lived in caves. But a billion dollars ago—as spent by the Federal Government—that was just 80 minutes ago. That is right, the Federal Government spends a billion dollars every 80 minutes.

All of this should be setting off alarm bells, but the only alarm bells in Congress are sounding the alarm for more spending, more debt. No cuts. No offsets. No pay-fors. No prioritization. Just debt. Spend all the money and leave the future to figure itself out. Our budget deficit for 2020 was \$3.3 trillion, and we are projected to have a deficit of nearly \$2 trillion in 2021. And that was before any additional spending on another round of coronavirus bailout money.

By refusing to acknowledge the debt crisis, we are only hastening the day of economic reckoning. Total debt was 55 percent of GDP 20 years ago; today it is 128 percent. The World Bank estimates there is a tipping point of debt to GDP at about 77 percent. Every percentage point after that costs about one-tenth of 1 percent of economic growth. We are at 128 percent, which means Congress's continued borrowing is costing the U.S. economy about 8 percent growth each year.

We are borrowing and worsening this debt crisis, in part, because too many Governors and mayors have imposed heavyhanded restrictions that crush businesses. The pandemic itself was disruptive, but Congress is being asked to help perpetuate lockdowns and shutdowns through bailouts and debt. Every bailout dollar printed and passed out to Governors only allows these tin pot dictators to perpetuate the lockdowns. Their rules are arbitrary, and Governors and mayors across the country are picking winners and losers. Businesses, some that have been in families for generations, are being wiped out because they are not allowed to offer their services. Restaurants have to close for indoor dining, but then they are told they can stay open at limited capacity, but then they are told they have to close again, but then they are told that they can reopen but bars have to close. Confusing doesn't explain the half of it.

Bars are told they can only serve alcohol if people are sitting and not standing and only if they have heavy foods on their menus. Restaurants are told they can serve outdoors, then have that permission revoked after they have sunk time and money converting

their restaurant to outdoor service. But a caterer can still serve outdoors.

Businesses are told they have to close at an arbitrary time determined by government officials, as though the virus only comes out late at night. A business in one Zip Code can be open but one in the adjoining Zip Code has to close, as if the virus can't cross an imaginary line.

Airlines are allowed to fly but hotels have to limit their occupancy, so you may not have anywhere to stay when you get there.

Mom-and-pop stores and specialty stores are forced to close, but big box competitors are allowed to stay open because they have a grocery aisle. But then other States roped off random sections of stores. How is any business expected to survive that kind of regulation?

Meanwhile, many schools remain closed despite overwhelming evidence showing kids can safely learn in-person with basic precautions, which means parents can't go to work, which has forced many parents to leave their jobs to take care of home-bound kids. Now they have no income because the government forced them to leave their jobs to take care of their kids, and many kids are struggling with an improvised virtual school.

The need for help is real. I hear it every day from Kentuckians and across the country. But it is clear that government has worsened the economic damage and acted as the biggest obstacle to economic recovery.

There is no free money to get us out of this situation. In fact, there is no more money at all. The answer is not printing up and distributing "free money" to everyone. The answer is immediately opening the economy. We can choose to let our economies open, with guidance and precautions but not obstruction. Let people rebuild their livelihoods. Reopen our schools so kids can learn and parents can go back to working and earning a living. Congress should do away with automatic spending increases and scrutinize where in our budget we can find savings to pay for the pressing needs arising from the pandemic. This is what I prefer and what I have proposed. Or Congress can follow the status quo: Congress can continue to borrow from our kids—the same ones whom we have locked out of schools. Congress can keep enabling the shutting down of business by force, spend all of today's money and all of tomorrow's money. Then good luck figuring out how to pay for all of this massive debt.

It doesn't have to be this way. This debt crisis is a preventable crisis. It is not too late to change our course. Cut unnecessary spending, eliminate waste, stop fighting a \$50 billion per year forever war in Afghanistan. Make the hard decisions now. We can't keep pretending that more debt is a sustainable policy course. Leadership is not passing on the problem to someone who can't protest, leadership is making the