

They are right that alumni are often best suited to speak out about illiberalism on our campuses. It is understandably hard for students and faculty to speak out about the atmosphere of intolerance they live and work in. You know they are shamed, embarrassed—all of those things that are tools that shouldn't be used in any university that brags about academic freedom. That is where the alumni come in. Alumni can have an outsized voice in this atmosphere of lack of tolerance at some of our universities.

This is one reason why I recently joined the Senate Campus Free Speech Caucus. This Senate caucus aims to bring together Members who are interested in defending the rights of students on college campuses. In addition, I was proud to cosponsor the campus free speech resolution, which urges greater First Amendment protection at public universities. Just as with private alumni, Senators need to be willing to speak out and shine a light when students' rights are being infringed.

I have heard countless examples of universities putting an emphasis on superficial definitions of "diversity" that focus only on physical characteristics. The benefit of having people from different backgrounds is that they bring different viewpoints. But that whole concept of diversity is turned on its head if only one point of view is ever allowed to be spoken.

Universities do a disservice to their students if they just tamp down any idea that their loudest activists disagree with. Colleges should be places of debate and discussion, not enforced intellectual rigidity. Alumni need to be willing to speak out about these issues because, too often, people who are on that campus can't.

My definition of "university" that I have used throughout a lifetime is, it is a place where controversy runs rampant. It is a place where we ought to have civil discussions, respecting each other's points of view.

I don't know how many of my colleagues run into what I run into too often in Iowa at my town meetings. People proudly stand up and say: You know, there are two things I never talk about—religion and politics.

Well, if you are a religious person and God is going to have an impact on your life, why shouldn't you be willing to discuss that? You may be discussing it with a Baptist and a Catholic or with an atheist and with a Baptist or a Christian. Why shouldn't you be able to discuss that in a civil way because it is important to your life?

We all know the role of Big Government in our society, and we know the principles of representative government. Why shouldn't you be able to talk about politics? Republicans or Democrats or Socialists and Communists versus conservatives or whatever the case might be, you ought to be able to disagree in a civil way. It is the same way on the university campuses.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

REMEMBERING DENNIS MOORE

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, thank you for recognizing me. I rise this afternoon based upon an announcement earlier today. I rise in the memory of former Kansas Congressman Dennis Moore, a man who lived a life of service to our Nation. He was a friend, and I am sad to hear of his passing today.

Dennis, above all, was a kind man. He was a loving husband to his wife Stephene and a doting father and grandfather.

He was born in Anthony, KS, and went on to earn degrees from the University of Kansas and then Washburn University School of Law. He served our country with the U.S. Army Reserve and then Kansas for 12 years as the Johnson County district attorney. He was known for integrity and for a strong moral compass, which he carried with him to the Halls of Congress when elected in 1998.

Dennis's approach to politics was one-on-one, person-to-person, and oftentimes with his iconic guitar not too far out of his reach. It was this personal approach that paved the way for him to be the first Democratic Member of Congress from Kansas elected in that district in 37 years. As the Kansas City Star headlined today in their memorial to him, "Strumming a guitar instead of flinging mud"—doesn't that sound good?—"Strumming a guitar instead of flinging mud, Dennis Moore changed Kansas voters' minds."

He was a six-term Member, and in many ways, we spent those 6 years working together. He and I shared that period of time, and I have great respect for him and the way he served the people of the Third District of Kansas.

That respect for him only grew when I witnessed the way he and his wife Stephene faced his battle with Alzheimer's with a determination to use their experience to help others. They made a choice to make this private and devastating diagnosis public because they knew it would bring awareness to the realities of the disease.

Especially after his diagnosis and for as long as he was able, Dennis was a tireless advocate for the Alzheimer's Association. In 2018, I was humbled to receive an inaugural award in his name, the Dennis Moore Alzheimer's Champion Award, from the Alzheimer's Association of Central and Western Kansas.

He was vocal about what he went through and sincere in his urging for others having memory problems to see their doctor. In his free time, he still kept himself busy strumming his guitar at senior centers.

One area where we always agreed was the need to invest in finding a cure for Alzheimer's, and in 2014, Dennis shared his experience with this harrowing disease in front of my Senate Health Appropriations Subcommittee colleagues.

The executive director of the Kansas Alzheimer's Association, Fe

Vorderlandwehr, had this to say about Dennis:

After Congressman Moore was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, he became a fierce advocate for the Alzheimer's Association, championing the need for an increase in Alzheimer's research with the NIH. He became the face of the disease amongst his former colleagues in Congress as he testified about his battle with Alzheimer's and the need for research to keep other families from going through what he was going through. Through it all, he kept a wonderful sense of humor and his passion for music.

I leave you with the Congressman's own words, and he said this:

Alzheimer's is a bipartisan issue, and I urge my former colleagues to unite behind it, allotting the necessary resources to fight a public health crisis that millions of families just like mine are facing.

Dennis was a genuine, warm, decent man who lived an inspiring life that we can all learn from. His legacy will be the way in which he gave others battling Alzheimer's both courage and hope.

Robba and I extend our heartfelt condolences to his children and grandchildren and to Stephanie, his wife, and to all of those who knew him.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). The Senator from Wyoming.

GOVERNMENT SPENDING

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to oppose the Democrats' reckless tax-and-spending spree.

On Thursday, President Biden came here to Capitol Hill to meet with Democrats over in the House. Just hours before he got here, economists sounded the alarms once again about the economy that our Nation is facing under President Biden.

Economic growth slowed to just 2 percent. Now, this is the slowest it has been since the post-pandemic recovery began. This was also significantly lower than even the experts expected. So there was a disconnect. It was really low and even lower than they expected.

Growth is slowing down; hiring is slowing down; and shelves are empty all across America. We have a growing supply chain nightmare. Prices continue to go up. I heard about it all across the State of Wyoming this past weekend.

So what did President Biden do in response?

Well, he ignored the alarm bells. He gave his blessing to the latest version of this reckless tax-and-spending bill.

And the new version looks a lot like the old version—just as radical, just as reckless, and just as unpopular with the American public. There is nothing really new in the bill except more budget gimmicks.

And it is interesting that NBC News, this weekend, came out with a poll that only 22 percent—only about one in five Americans think that, under Joe Biden and the Democrats, the country is on the right path. Seventy-one percent said we are on the wrong path.

And the bill that is being proposed by the Democrats is still about 2,500 pages long and still contains the worst parts of the old bill.

So what is in the new one?

Well, here are a couple of things. It still supersedes the IRS. This new bill would still give the Internal Revenue Service \$80 billion to hire an army of IRS agents. Now, Democrats know this is unpopular, yet they continue to defend the proposal.

Why would that be?

The American people have spoken out. They complained to Congress. Democrats don't seem to care. That is because Democrats need to squeeze working Americans for more of the hard-earned money they make.

Why do they want it?

So the Democrats can spend it.

What do they want to spend it on?

Well, the largest part of this bill has to do with energy. It would spend half a trillion dollars for parts of the Green New Deal. That includes over \$2.5 billion for something they call tree equity.

It still includes enormous handouts to people who buy electric luxury vehicles. Now, we already give billions and billions of taxpayer dollars in subsidy to electric vehicle makers and owners. This would be even more.

Studies show 80 percent of these subsidies go to households making more than \$100,000 each. Well, Democrats say that is not enough. This bill still would give \$12,500 to couples making up to \$800,000 a year to buy luxury electric vehicles.

The bill still includes the \$1,500 payouts to people who buy electric bicycles. It is a mystery to me how electric bicycles can be better for the environment than regular bicycles. They are obviously not. It just shows that this policy is really not about the environment; it is about payoffs to Democrat elites in the big cities.

That is why the bill still includes the Civilian Climate Corps. Now, this is an army of full-time, taxpayer-funded climate activists. They would get paid generous stipends and salaries. And what would they get paid to do? To protest American energy projects.

Now, just last week, climate protesters stopped traffic in New York City during rush hour. People were just trying to get to work or get home, just trying to take their kids to school, yet they had to sit in traffic because of professional protesters, and this administration wants to hire up to a million of them.

Now, Democrats know this isn't popular. That is why they changed the name of the Climate Corps in the new bill. They didn't change the purpose. Now they are trying to call it the Land Corps. It sounds like a harmless group. It is the same civilian climate army, a green army to attack American oil, gas, and coal.

Now, this name change alone is an admission that this idea is very unpopular. Democrats know the Amer-

ican people don't want to spend billions of dollars to subsidize protesters.

A recent poll found 90 percent of Americans are unwilling to pay more than \$100 a year to fight climate change. We are already paying more than \$1,000 a year in energy costs to drive and to heat our homes due to Joe Biden's energy policies. This is \$1,000 more than we did last year.

At home this past weekend in Wyoming, I noted and talked to folks while I was filling up that gas is a dollar a gallon higher than it was when Joe Biden took office. Natural gas prices have doubled, and that means a lot because half of the families in America use natural gas to power their homes.

This bill also increases taxes on American energy production. Democrats specifically target a new tax on natural gas production. So this would raise taxes and prices significantly—even higher—for American families who already this winter are facing a 7-year high in the cost of natural gas and are already trying to decide this winter are they going to be able to heat or to eat. That is becoming a concern of families all across America under Joe Biden's agenda and economy.

One in five American families have already cut their spending to pay for their energy bills this year. The American public and people are paying too much for Joe Biden's energy agenda. They don't want to pay a penny more. They are tired of it, fed up.

Democrats know their agenda is unpopular with the American public. That is why this bill would also permanently change the makeup of the country, because the new version of the bill would give amnesty for millions upon millions of illegal immigrants. The Parliamentarian has said Democrats couldn't pass amnesty in the last version of the bill, yet Democrats want amnesty so badly they are going to try it all over again. Apparently, version C is coming soon.

This is supposed to be a spending bill, not an immigration bill. If they want to do an immigration bill, they ought to introduce an immigration bill. Yet Democrats know that they don't have the votes to pass the kind of immigration bill that they want to pass—not at a time when we have a flood of illegal immigrants coming across the southern border, with more on the way.

So they are trying to cram it into this spending bill. They are hoping that the American public won't notice. If Democrats have their way, this would be the most consequential immigration bill in half a century. The bill would give millions of illegal immigrants amnesty and then give them plenty of taxpayer money because this bill includes new permanent welfare programs with no work requirements—none at all—and no citizenship requirements. That is what the Democrats are proposing.

It is no wonder that we have a border crisis at our southern border, a flood of illegal immigrants. With this bill,

Democrats are promising amnesty, as well as free childcare, free preschool, and even free college to illegal immigrants. This is in addition to the \$300 checks they already sent to illegal immigrants with the spending bill that the Democrats passed along party-line votes in March.

Democrats seem to do everything that they can to reward illegal immigration. The Wall Street Journal reports the Biden administration now wants to give millions of dollars to families who came here illegally in 2018 and were detained for illegal entry. The number being reported is that the Biden administration wants to give them \$450,000 a person.

Now, this is more than six times the annual income of a typical American family, Mr. President. It is more than 50 times the per-capita income of El Salvador. \$450,000 per person will mean millions upon millions of taxpayer dollars for families who came here illegally. You talk about an incentive for people to come here illegally—this is exhibit A. The total payout could be more than a billion dollars.

Now, let me just contrast that number of \$450,000 with the fact that those who lose their lives defending the country, like a marine—a young marine from Wyoming, Rylee McCollum, who was one of the 13 killed in Kabul, Afghanistan—the United States sends to those families \$100,000, and Joe Biden is promising 4½ times that much for people who came here illegally.

Mr. President, the Democrats say this is a new bill. It is the same old Democrat agenda: high energy costs, amnesty for illegal immigrants, welfare and payoffs to wealthy donors.

And this is the bill endorsed by the President of the United States. It is no wonder that 71 percent of Americans this past weekend said this country is heading in the wrong direction. It is the wrong direction under the Democrats and under Joe Biden.

Democrats ought to listen to the American people. People are furious with this administration. Listen to the sirens blaring with the poor economic numbers reported last week. It is time to stop making the Biden economy even worse. It is time to stop the freefall. Stop this reckless tax and spending before the administration does even further damage to our economy and our country.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BENNET). The Senator from Kansas.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for up to 3 minutes.

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

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, last week, I was on the floor expressing my concern about things that I heard while home, and the odd thing seemed to be that they were things that I would never expect to be true. And