

Inflation is what happens when you have too many dollars chasing too few goods and services. And a big reason for our current inflation situation is the Democrats' decision to pour a lot of unnecessary government money into the economy earlier this year, despite—despite, I might add—being warned that their partisan \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan spending spree could stoke inflation.

And you don't have to take my word for it. Here is what former Obama economic adviser Jason Furman had to say recently when discussing our inflation problem:

The original sin was an oversized American Rescue Plan. It contributed to both higher output but also higher prices.

That quote from Mr. Furman appeared in a New York Times article that also noted:

But some economists, including veterans of previous Democratic administrations, say much of Mr. Biden's inflation struggle is self-inflicted. Lawrence H. Summers is one of those who say the stimulus bill [that] the president signed in March gave too much of a boost to consumer spending. . . . Mr. Summers, who served in the Obama and Clinton administrations, says inflation now risks spiraling out of control and other Democratic economists agree there are risks.

Again, that is from the New York Times.

Inflation is spiraling out of control, and Democrats are preparing to throw more fuel on the fire. That is right. Democrats are preparing to double down on the strategy that helped get us in this mess in the first place and pass yet another massive government spending bill.

I am not sure whether Democrats simply don't care about the inflation situation facing American families or whether they are operating under the delusion that they can somehow pass another major government spending bill without serious consequences for the economy.

Regardless, there is no question that pouring another \$1.75 trillion in government money into the economy would likely make our inflation crisis even worse than it is today.

I say \$1.75 trillion because that is what Democrats have been selling as the pricetag for their so-called Build Back Better plan. But as we learned on Friday of last week from the Congressional Budget Office's latest analysis, the Democrats' spending spree would far exceed \$1.75 trillion. When you take away the shell games and budget gimmicks, the Democrats' spending spree would cost almost \$5 trillion—5 trillion. And, of course, the tax hikes in the Democrats' plan, as large as they are, wouldn't even come close to funding that amount.

The Democrats' Build Back Better proposal, if implemented over 10 years, as they plan, would add an eye-popping \$3 trillion to our national debt. It turns out that Build Back Better is more like "Build Back Bankrupt."

Democrats have attempted to disguise the true cost of their "Build

Back Bankrupt" plan by strategically sunseting various provisions before the end of the bill's 10-year budget window. Of course, Democrats have never had any intention of actually sunseting these provisions. But by claiming that they are going to sunset these measures, they have been able to sort of disguise the fact that their spending spree would actually cost nearly \$5 trillion.

That is the Congressional Budget Office, not me. The Congressional Budget Office, last Friday said, if extended—the 10-year window—this bill would cost \$5 trillion.

Democrats are implicitly admitting that they plan to extend these programs, but they are saying that people shouldn't worry, that the cost of these extensions will be offset. Well, I would like to know just how exactly they plan to do that.

With massive new tax hikes, on top of the tax hikes they have already included in their bill—just how many tax hikes do Democrats think our economy can handle?

And if Democrats had a plan for future offsets, why didn't they include those offsets in their bill, in the first place, along with an honest accounting of the length of their programs?

Is it because they thought that the American people would balk if they knew the true cost of the bill, that they might not be crazy about the idea of a bill that would cost them \$5 trillion?

I am hard-pressed to think of anything more irresponsible than for Democrats to pass their Build Back Better—or their "Build Back Bankrupt"—measure right now. Inflation is soaring, as I have just pointed out, and there is no clear end in sight. Even the Federal Reserve is now acknowledging that this isn't transitory. They removed that word from their description.

We are emerging from a pandemic that required a lot of government expenditure and a corresponding increase in our debt, and we have no idea what government money might be needed down the road.

Passing a \$5 trillion spending spree that would add \$3 trillion to our national debt is the very last thing that we should be doing.

I hope that at least some of my Democrat colleagues will think better of their spending plans before the American people are forced to discover just what "Building Back Bankrupt" is really like.

I yield the floor.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The senior assistant 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 Executive Calendar No. 576, Samantha D. Elliott, of New Hampshire, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Hampshire.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Tina Smith, Martin Heinrich, Elizabeth Warren, Patty Murray, Tammy Duckworth, Tim Kaine, Gary C. Peters, Angus S. King, Jr., Brian Schatz, Margaret Wood Hassan, Jacky Rosen, Chris Van Hollen, Jeanne Shaheen, Christopher Murphy, Ron Wyden.

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 Samantha D. Elliott, of New Hampshire, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Hampshire, 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 Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 59, nays 40, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 495 Ex.]

YEAS—59

Baldwin	Hassan	Reed
Bennet	Heinrich	Romney
Blumenthal	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Booker	Hirono	Sanders
Brown	Kaine	Schatz
Burr	Kelly	Schumer
Cantwell	King	Shaheen
Cardin	Klobuchar	Sinema
Carper	Leahy	Smith
Casey	Lujan	Stabenow
Collins	Manchin	Tester
Coons	Markey	Tillis
Cornyn	Menendez	Toomey
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Murkowski	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Feinstein	Murray	Warren
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Graham	Padilla	Wyden
Grassley	Peters	

NAYS—40

Barrasso	Hagerty	Risch
Blackburn	Hawley	Rounds
Blunt	Hoehn	Rubio
Boozman	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Braun	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Capito	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Kennedy	Shelby
Cotton	Lankford	Sullivan
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Marshall	Tuberville
Cruz	McConnell	Wicker
Daines	Moran	Young
Ernst	Paul	
Fischer	Portman	

NOT VOTING—1

Lummis

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 59, the nays are 40.

The motion is agreed to.

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 motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 1605, an act to designate the National Pulse Memorial located at 1912 South Orange Avenue in Orlando, Florida, and for other purpose.

Charles E. Schumer, Tina Smith, Martin Heinrich, Patty Murray, Tammy Duckworth, Tim Kaine, Gary C. Peters, Angus S. King, Jr., Richard J. Durbin, Jack Reed, Brian Schatz, Margaret Wood Hassan, Jacky Rosen, Chris Van Hollen, Jeanne Shaheen, Christopher Murphy, Debbie Stabenow.

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 motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 1605, an act to designate the National Pulse Memorial located at 1912 South Orange Avenue in Orlando, Florida, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 86, nays 13, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 496 Ex.]

YEAS—86

Baldwin	Graham	Peters
Barrasso	Grassley	Reed
Bennet	Hagerty	Risch
Blackburn	Hassan	Romney
Blumenthal	Hawley	Rosen
Blunt	Heinrich	Rounds
Booker	Hickenlooper	Rubio
Boozman	Hirono	Sasse
Brown	Hoeven	Schatz
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Schumer
Cantwell	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Capito	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Carper	Kaine	Shaheen
Casey	Kelly	Shelby
Cassidy	Kennedy	Sinema
Collins	King	Smith
Coons	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Cornyn	Lankford	Sullivan
Cortez Masto	Leahy	Tester
Cotton	Luján	Thune
Cramer	Manchin	Tillis
Crapo	Marshall	Tuberville
Cruz	McConnell	Van Hollen
Daines	Menendez	Warner
Duckworth	Moran	Warnock
Durbin	Murkowski	Whitehouse
Ernst	Murphy	Wicker
Feinstein	Murray	Young
Fischer	Ossoff	

NAYS—13

Braun	Merkley	Toomey
Cardin	Padilla	Warren
Gillibrand	Paul	Wyden
Lee	Portman	
Markey	Sanders	

NOT VOTING—1

Lummis

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LUJÁN). On this vote, the yeas are 86, the nays are 13.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Cloture having been invoked, the Senate will resume legislative session to resume consideration of the House message to accompany S. 1605, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That the bill from the Senate (S. 1605) entitled "An Act to designate the National Pulse Memorial located at 1912 South Orange Avenue in Orlando, Florida, and for other purposes," do pass with an amendment.

Pending:

Schumer motion to concur in the amendment of the House of Representatives to the bill.

Schumer motion to concur in the amendment of the House of Representatives to the bill, with Schumer amendment No. 4880 (to the House amendment), to add an effective date.

Schumer amendment No. 4881 (to amendment No. 4880), to modify the effective date.

Schumer motion to refer the message of the House on the bill to the Committee on Armed Services, with instructions, Schumer amendment No. 4882, to add an effective date.

Schumer amendment No. 4883 (to the instructions (amendment No. 4882) of the motion to refer), to modify the effective date.

Schumer amendment No. 4884 (to amendment No. 4883), to modify the effective date.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion to refer, and the amendments pending thereto, fall.

The majority leader.

RELATING TO INCREASING THE DEBT LIMIT—Motion to Proceed

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 184, S.J. Res. 33.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 33) relating to increasing the debt limit.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on the motion.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS.)

The result was announced—yeas 50, nays 49, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 497 Leg.]

YEAS—50

Baldwin	Brown	Casey
Bennet	Cantwell	Coons
Blumenthal	Cardin	Cortez Masto
Booker	Carper	Duckworth

Durbin	Manchin	Schumer
Feinstein	Markey	Shaheen
Gillibrand	Menendez	Sinema
Hassan	Merkley	Smith
Heinrich	Murphy	Stabenow
Hickenlooper	Murray	Tester
Hirono	Ossoff	Van Hollen
Kaine	Padilla	Warner
Kelly	Peters	Warnock
King	Reed	Warren
Klobuchar	Rosen	Whitehouse
Leahy	Sanders	Wyden
Luján	Schatz	

NAYS—49

Barrasso	Graham	Risch
Blackburn	Grassley	Romney
Blunt	Hagerty	Rounds
Boozman	Hawley	Rubio
Braun	Hoeven	Sasse
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Capito	Inhofe	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Johnson	Shelby
Collins	Kennedy	Sullivan
Cornyn	Lankford	Thune
Cotton	Lee	Tillis
Cramer	Marshall	Toomey
Crapo	McConnell	Tuberville
Cruz	Moran	Wicker
Daines	Murkowski	Young
Ernst	Paul	
Fischer	Portman	

NOT VOTING—1

Lummis

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. SINEMA). On this vote, the yeas are 50, the nays are 49.

The motion is agreed to.

RELATING TO INCREASING THE DEBT LIMIT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the joint resolution.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 33) relating to increasing the debt limit.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 117-71, there will now be 10 hours of debate on the joint resolution, equally divided between the chairman and the ranking member of the Committee on Finance.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess until 2:15 p.m. and that all time during recess count equally against both sides on the joint resolution.

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

Mr. DURBIN. For the information of Senators, we expect a rollcall vote on the passage of S.J. Res. 33 to occur at approximately 4 p.m. today.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 1:09 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Ms. SINEMA).

RELATING TO INCREASING THE DEBT LIMIT—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.