

the importance of this investment and the importance of this underlying passage of legislation.

He testified that this investment of \$20 billion could soon become as big as \$100 billion, but not if we don't pass this legislation.

GlobalFoundries announced that it would invest billions of dollars in semiconductor manufacturing equipment in places in the northeast part of the United States, but they too are contingent upon us passing this legislation.

When I think about the workforce that is going to be needed to produce this kind of product or the workforce that is going to be needed in cleaner sources of energy, I know that passing this legislation is key to getting the training and skilling of that workforce underway, right now, as soon as possible.

There is one reason that Apple, one of the largest sellers of smart phones in the world, announced last year that they would have to bring back some of their production to the United States. It is because the government worked to bring leading-edge semiconductor manufacturing into Arizona.

This is about securing leadership in innovation. It is about this "ah-ha" moment that everybody around the world has seen, because of COVID and Ukraine, that the security of doing this needs to be done now and invested in the United States.

But some people are still dragging their feet. Congress needs to act now and act swiftly to go to conference, to reconcile these differences, and support this supply chain crisis that is affecting our economy.

Every day that we wait, our companies, our manufacturers, our universities, our workforce are questioning whether we are going to invest in the United States of America. The CEO of Intel told us that Europe has put \$49 billion in a chips package, and they had the money available before we had our legislation done. That is right.

People listened to this issue of bringing, for more secure reasons, investment out of Asia and back to the United States, but, yes, Europe listened and went and got the money and got the bill done. That is why some people have said: We are not going to be buying chips in U.S. dollars. We will be buying them in euros.

This is so important. We must get this legislation done. Companies may test their ideas in Europe. Maybe the R&D is in Europe. But is that what we want? We want to be the leaders of this. There is an entire ecosystem in an information age that is about the next generation of advanced chips that leads to the next advanced manufacturing.

If you want our auto makers, if you want our truck makers, if you want the communications technology and the defense people to also have that ecosystem, you have to send this price signal now—that the Congress, the House and Senate, are serious about resolving this issue.

This is not a summertime issue. It is not an after-the-November-election issue. It is a now issue. Show the American consumer that you have concern for their costs and shortages that are plaguing them in all aspects of their lives and get an agreement, and let's go to conference and show Americans that we can work on a bipartisan basis to address the supply chain crisis.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HICKENLOOPER). The Senator from Minnesota.

#### CORONAVIRUS

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I come to the floor today on two very important subjects. The first is about an issue that is of vital importance for the United States across economic, security, and humanitarian spheres, and that is vaccinating the world's population.

I think we all have learned in a very hard, hard way the last 2 years that the coronavirus does not respect international borders. It started in China. It came to America. It went all over the world.

Experts have been warning for months that if the virus continues to spread in other parts of the world, new variants could continue to emerge, just as we are emerging and seeing each other again and going to family gatherings and having people and tour groups come into the Capitol. We cannot let our guard down.

American companies have worked with the world to create the most effective vaccines in existence. We put our faith in science, and now we have an incredible vaccine that we can be proud of. And as we continue to ensure that Americans get their shots and their boosters, we know that ending this pandemic is going to require a sustained, multinational approach to getting these lifesaving shots to the rest of the world.

This makes sense from a humanitarian perspective, it makes sense from an economic perspective, and it is just common sense, because we can't let this happen again, and we certainly can't put our heads in the sand and pretend that, just because it is going on in another continent or across the ocean, it won't affect us.

For those in America who have lost loved ones, that couldn't even say goodbye to their loved ones, because they were in a hospital, holding the hand of a nurse, and all they could do was see them in the hospital bed over a Zoom screen or on an iPad, we can't let any of that happen again. And that means that we not only do our work at home and get the vaccines out and the leadership that we have seen out of the White House on that front, but it is also about leading in the world.

The United States has long been a leader in global health programs. President George W. Bush established PEPFAR, which stands for President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. That program saved over 20 million lives and

prevented millions of infections. It was a bipartisan effort that was led by President Bush.

The United States has also connected global towns and villages with clean water, thought to prevent malaria, and led efforts to end smallpox and polio around the world. This is our legacy, but we can't rest on our success and the leadership from the past. We have to lead now.

At this point, only about 56 percent of the world's population is fully vaccinated. In nations around the world, the individual rate is much lower. In Nigeria, Africa's most populous country, only 5 percent of people are fully vaccinated. Few people would disagree with the assessment that new variants will continue to form—ask Dr. Fauci—as long as much of the world remains unvaccinated, and that makes every nation vulnerable, including ours.

And we can do this at such a relatively small cost to what the gain will be—the gain in saving lives abroad and in America, the gain in keeping a stable economy around the world, because you know we export to the world, and we know we are interconnected with the world.

So when it comes to beating this virus, we have to recognize that our destiny is linked with the rest of the world. We can't give up this fight. Now is not the time to cut corners. We have suffered enough through this virus, and we have the needed tools to vaccinate a global population. We have the vaccine. We just have to get it to the people that need it.

I will keep fighting to get the resources to get this done. We will work with our colleagues on the other side of the aisle until we get this done and vaccinate the world.

#### NOMINATION OF KETANJI BROWN JACKSON

Mr. President, a second important topic is in front of us right now, and that is Judge Jackson's nomination to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. I enthusiastically support the nomination of Judge Jackson. I supported it at a recent committee hearing and in our committee vote on Monday. As a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, I have had the opportunity to spend a lot of time with the judge, in my office for nearly an hour and then watching her persevere—that is a good word—through 2 full days of questions. And I know that she is going to be confirmed by the Senate. And, by the way, I appreciate the support of every Democrat for her nomination, as well as of Senators COLLINS and MURKOWSKI and ROMNEY.

She showed the American people why she is the person to meet this moment in our country's history. She is someone that showed such grace under pressure, as so many people have had to do, by the way, in the last 2 years. She showed herself to be a true person, someone that when asked about how you balanced work with being a mom, she said: We are not all perfect. I can't do everything all the time, but I try my best, and I love my kids.

And she clearly is a shining example of a good mother. She talked about her faith. Even under direct, over-the-top questioning by our colleagues, she kept true to her faith and to her values and to her view of a judge, which is to take the facts and the law and make a decision without fear or favor. She showed the American people why she is the person to meet this moment as the first Black woman nominated to the Court and only the sixth woman in the history of our country.

One hundred fifteen Justices—she is the sixth woman. She will open a door that has been long shut for so many, and she will do it by virtue of her strong presence, her skills, and her experience. She will show little girls and boys across the country that everything is possible.

She was already an inspiration to one 11-year-old girl by the name of Maddi Morgan. I met Maddi's dad when I was on a walk in Washington, DC. He parked his car, sprung out of his car, and showed me the letter that his daughter had written President Biden when President Biden announced that he was going to make a nomination but didn't reveal who it was and was interviewing candidates.

Maddi, his 11-year-old, decided that she would be appropriate for the job. She noted that she would live many more years and so, therefore, would be the longest serving Justice in history. She noted that she could be a voice for kids. She also noted that she lived very close to the courthouse, and she could walk to work all the time.

And then when Judge Jackson was announced by President Biden as the nominee, Maddi said this:

If I'm going to be snubbed, it couldn't be for a better candidate.

So that little 11-year-old girl was sitting in the hearing room watching as a woman who is truly an inspiration to her, Judge Jackson, answered question after question.

And by the way, I am not surprised at some of our Republican colleagues either supporting Judge Jackson or voicing their belief that she is a qualified person and a smart person and someone who deserves to be nominated, even if they, for other reasons, aren't voting for her. I think they are pretty consistent in saying, with the American public, that Judge Jackson is qualified.

In fact, two-thirds of Americans, according to one recent poll, say Judge Jackson should be confirmed.

As we learned during the hearing, Judge Jackson grew up in a family who values public service. Her parents, whom I had the chance to meet, started their careers as teachers. And when Judge Jackson's dad set his sights on becoming a lawyer, her mom figured out how to support the family while he attended law school.

As a lawyer, she balanced work with parenthood. I appreciated hearing about how Judge Jackson would sit with her dad while he was studying the

law books and she was doing a coloring book.

She, as someone who has been a Federal public defender—the first with that experience who will be in the room where it happens—but also having many relatives in law enforcement has a unique perspective of the law and a very important respect for people in law enforcement.

Her brother was a police officer who also served in the military. One of her uncles was a detective, and the other uncle was the chief of police for the Miami Police Department.

It was from that family of public servants that Judge Jackson set her sights high.

After graduating from law school, doing very well there, she was a clerk for Justice Breyer. And then as she heads into this nomination after three votes—this will be her fourth vote in front of this Senate with bipartisan support—she will come to the Court with more—with more—judicial experience than four other Justices had when they went on the Court. These are current Justices.

She is the person we need right now. We know that trust in the Court has been fading, and so to have someone that has her legal acumen and background but also to have someone who gets that these decisions aren't just words on a page; that the words on the page and the decisions you make as a judge are connected to real people; they affect whether someone is going to get healthcare; they affect their own healthcare choices; they affect if you are going to have clean water or air; and they affect whether or not you can actually vote and how you can vote and when you can vote and if you can vote—she gets it.

I appreciated her willingness to take so many questions. We talked about antitrust, a subject true to my heart, as well as the importance of the First Amendment and many other detailed questions that she got. And I know a lot of those questions that got attention were the over-the-top ones, the attacks on her, but, nevertheless, the bulk of the questions in that hearing got to true questions about the law and her views and her knowledge of the cases, and she passed every single thing with flying colors.

At this critical moment, Judge Jackson has the qualities to make sure that the Court and the Constitution, in Justice Breyer's words, "work for the people of today."

She has a quintessentially American story, and as she put it, her success is a "testament to the hope and promise of this country."

I urge my colleagues to embrace the hope and promise of Judge Jackson and the hope and promise of this country.

Vote for her.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I am here to voice my very strong, enthusiastic support for Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson's nomination and to urge all of our colleagues in joining me to vote to confirm her.

Judge Jackson is one of the most exceptional Supreme Court nominees I have met, and I am so excited she is on her way to the Supreme Court. It is incredibly well deserved and incredibly good news for our country.

The bottom line for me is always, can I tell my constituents back home in Washington State that if they ever have a case before this judge, this is someone who will listen, who will understand, and someone who will make a thoughtful, fair decision for them based on the laws of our Nation? And the answer with Judge Jackson is a resounding yes.

It is clear from her record she has the experience. It was clear from her hearing that she has a masterful understanding of the law and a seemingly endless supply of perhaps unwarranted patience.

And I think it is clear to anyone, after a few minutes with her, she has heart, compassion, and a commitment to justice.

So it should be no surprise her nomination was met with wide acclaim, including from prominent Republican lawyers and retired judges appointed by Republican Presidents.

As a professional, Judge Jackson's record doesn't merely check the boxes we have come to expect from our Supreme Court nominees: a clerkship for Justice Breyer, experience as a district court judge and a circuit court judge. She also has experience that is less common to the highest Court in the land, and for that reason, all the more important—like her experience on the U.S. Sentencing Commission, a perspective only the retiring Justice Breyer brought to the Supreme Court or her experience as a public defender, something no other Supreme Court Justice has ever had. This is so important and so long overdue.

Being a public defender means developing an in-depth understanding of the legal needs of everyday people. Judges from these kinds of legal backgrounds can be better equipped to understand the experiences of each person before them to recognize the burden laws often place on people who are living with low income or otherwise marginalized, and ultimately to render more informed, more just decisions.

And Judge Jackson's background is more than simply a resume. It is her perspective growing up as the daughter of two public school teachers, her perspective as a working mother with two daughters of her own, and her perspective as a Black woman working in a profession where stories like hers were few and far between.

I have no doubt that perspective will serve her and the people who come before her well as a Supreme Court Justice.

And while her personal story tells us a lot, the way she gracefully and knowledgeably handled her confirmation hearings shows us even more. During a confirmation process that a few Republicans tried to make incredibly ugly, she showed the kind of poise and patience befitting a U.S. Supreme Court Justice.

Over the course of hundreds of questions, she offered thoughtful answers that demonstrated expert understanding of the law, a carefully considered methodology for how she approaches each case, and an unmistakable commitment to ensuring justice and upholding the liberties of all Americans, not just the powerful and well connected.

And that is so important, especially at a time when so many rights are under attack. We continue to see Republicans pushing through blatantly unconstitutional laws on the right to abortion. We are seeing the tragic consequences of those reckless restrictions every day.

We are also seeing attacks on the rights of workers as they seek to organize or form a union and fight for a better workplace.

We are even seeing attacks on the cornerstone of our democracy—the right to vote—as Republicans have continually pushed through measures to block the ballot box and some even continue to dangerously deny the legitimacy of the last election.

We need a Supreme Court Justice who understands, as Judge Jackson once put it, “Presidents are not kings;” someone who understands equal justice is for all, not just the wealthy and the powerful. There are so many critical issues which come before the Court that matter so deeply to the American people—cases about workers’ rights or reproductive rights or voting rights or Tribal sovereignty, climate change, gun safety, immigration, and so much more.

My constituents deserve to know the Justices hearing these cases are really going to listen to their concerns, understand their experiences, uphold our Constitution, and defend their rights. They deserve a Justice as thoughtful, compassionate, and committed as Ketanji Brown Jackson.

I first ran for Senate because of the Supreme Court, watching the hearings with Anita Hill. I was frustrated that there was no one on the dais who looked like me, no one asking the questions that I would ask; and for most of the country throughout most of our history, our courts have been the same way. They have not represented the diversity of our Nation—not by a long shot. I am proud to say we are finally fixing that, including in my home State of Washington. And soon, we will take another historic step at the highest level possible. We will vote to put another mom on the Supreme Court.

Ketanji Brown Jackson will make history as the first Black woman to serve on the highest Court in the land, though I am sure she will not be the last, because I know now there are little girls across the country watching as the Senate confirms someone who looks like them to the Supreme Court for the first time ever. They are not just watching history being made; they are watching a barrier fall down, a path open up, and a new future that seems more possible than ever before.

You know, I first ran for office because I watched the Supreme Court process and I was frustrated. Today, I am no less energized, but for a very different reason. Today, I am excited. I am inspired, even. And I hope people across our country watching this are as well.

I hope a future Senator or a future Justice or even a future President is able to talk about what this moment meant to them and what doors Justice Jackson opened for others. I am thrilled to be voting yes on this nomination, and I strongly urge all of our colleagues to do the same.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. ROSEN). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BROWN. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, it is an honor to support a thoughtful, experienced, historic nominee to our highest Court, Ketanji Brown Jackson.

I met with her yesterday. It was so clear she has the experience, she has the character, she has the commitment to justice needed to be an excellent Supreme Court Justice. We talked about the legacy and the unfinished fight of Dr. King, how we could never forget that he was martyred in Memphis while fighting for the rights of sanitation workers, some of the most exploited workers in segregated America—segregated in Memphis, TN.

Dr. King understood better than perhaps anybody how worker rights and voter rights come together. It is clear that Judge Jackson understands the dignity of work and that the rights of workers are integral civil rights. People think of the Supreme Court as something like an ivory tower detached from people’s everyday lives, and we know that decisions these Justices make affect America’s workplaces and their paychecks and their safety on the job. That is why it matters so much whom we promote to these jobs.

I am confident that Judge Jackson will be a Justice who protects the rights of all Americans, not just the powerful, not just the privileged. She brings with her a diverse set of experiences and a perspective that has long been lacking from our Nation’s highest Courts.

We, of course, know she is the first Black woman nominated to serve on the Court. She is a daughter of a public schoolteacher. She went to public schools herself—not that common, frankly, on the U.S. Supreme Court—and she is a former public defender. The nomination is truly historic.

Her parents attended segregated primary schools, and now, their daughter will ascend to the highest levels of our government. Think about that.

Judge Jackson has a history of bipartisan support. Republicans supported her confirmation to the U.S. Court of Appeals. I am glad a few of my Republican colleagues have recognized those unimpeachable qualifications and are supporting her confirmation this week.

I don’t know how anyone could doubt her intelligence, her thoughtfulness, her knowledge of the law, and her commitment to justice. She clerked for Justice Breyer. She has shown she is the ideal nominee to carry on his legacy of building consensus, in listening to all perspectives.

It was an honor to talk with her yesterday and to hear her views. It will be an honor to vote for her later this week.

Over the coming months and years, the Supreme Court is set to make decisions on everything from Ohioans’ healthcare to workplace safety to their right to vote. If the Court makes these decisions that affect all Ohioans’ lives, I am confident that Judge Jackson understands the importance of equal justice and as a commitment to our Constitution, including civil rights and including worker rights. She will serve Ohioans and all Americans with the same grace and dignity and commitment to our country she has shown over the past several weeks—meeting with Senators, speaking to the President, and in speaking to the Nation through the Judiciary Committee hearings. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting her confirmation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.’S LETTER FROM BIRMINGHAM JAIL

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, it is my honor to—this is something I get to do once a year now—it is my honor to join Senator ROUNDS of South Dakota and Senator HIRONO from Hawaii, and then Senator COLLINS later, Senator BALDWIN, Senator ROMNEY, and Senator WARNOCK, to join my colleagues of both parties on the floor to read one of the greatest pieces of writing of the 20th century, Dr. King’s letter from the Birmingham jail.

I thank those Senators for joining us. Our former colleague, Senator Doug Jones, began this tradition. He did it in 2019 and 2020. As he left the Senate in late 2020, he asked me to continue the tradition that he began. He would have been here on the floor with us to watch and to listen, but he was called to the White House on his work with Judge Jackson.

This is a bipartisan reading. I very purposely chose three Republican