

could not be treated the same as they travelled around the country. What does that say about America, that our sons and our grandsons will be treated differently than our daughters and our granddaughters? Our daughters and our granddaughters will be told by some States: You have less rights than your brothers or your fathers or your uncles.

Shame on this Senate today. I stand with women—my wife, my daughter, my granddaughters—when I say that I trust them to make the health decisions that are best for them. And I will fight against any effort to erode those fundamental, constitutional rights. That is what the Senate should do; that is what we should do if we truly are going to be the conscience of the Nation. That is what this Vermonter intends to do.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Ms. ROSEN. Mr. President, last week, we learned that the United States Supreme Court is preparing to issue a ruling that would fundamentally roll back the constitutional rights of millions of American women. It has been reported that a group of anti-choice Justices on the Supreme Court are planning to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, the landmark case decided nearly 50 years ago which recognized the reproductive rights of women.

This decision centered on one of the most fundamental rights we have as Americans—the right to control our own bodies. For nearly half a century *Roe* has protected a woman's right to make extremely personal decisions about her own body, her own healthcare, her own family. But now—now we are seeing a clear, coordinated attempt by anti-choice politicians to roll back the clock on the rights of American women, control what happens to their bodies, and strike down reproductive freedom.

If the Supreme Court moves forward with this action, it will have immediate—immediate and devastating—consequences for women's health.

So let's get something straight: overturning *Roe* isn't going to stop abortions. It is only going to stop women from getting safe abortions, and women will die as a result. This will also have a severe impact on how miscarriages and other life-threatening medical issues related to pregnancy are handled.

For example, if *Roe* is overturned, ectopic pregnancies could become a death sentence for women in States that ban abortions. This is just one example of the harm this will cause.

This will disproportionately impact women who lack the resources to go to other States to seek care, and this will

also make it harder for women of color to access the care they need.

Unfortunately, many States across our country already have rigid and extreme restrictions on the books, and if *Roe* falls, many of those laws will go immediately into effect. In the States that don't have those restrictions, extreme legislatures are pushing new, dangerous, and restrictive anti-choice laws as we speak.

In my home State of Nevada, abortion rights have been enshrined as a State law since Nevadans overwhelmingly voted for it in a ballot initiative in 1990. This means women across Nevada will continue to have access to reproductive care if *Roe* is overturned. But this year, anti-choice politicians are working to eliminate this protection from our State code and take away Nevadan women's rights to make decisions about their own bodies. This is exactly why the Senate needs to pass the Women's Health Protection Act today, to ensure that women in all 50 States continue to have the right to make their own reproductive healthcare choices.

I helped introduce the Women's Health Protection Act last year because it is the best option we have to codify *Roe v. Wade* into law. This bill will codify the right to receive and provide reproductive healthcare, and it will prohibit States from enacting rigid, medically unnecessary restrictions that make it harder—make it harder—for women to access care.

We are not living in a hypothetical anymore. We are staring a post-*Roe* world in the face and the time to act is now.

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle have also made it clear that if they regain control of this Chamber, they will pass a national ban on abortion rights and they may go even further.

I urge every Senator who cares about women, who cares about women's health, who cares about women's autonomy and their rights—I urge them all to join me in voting to pass the Women's Health Protection Act. Nevadans are watching, the American people are watching, and women everywhere are depending on us. We cannot let them down.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

INFLATION

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to talk about inflation and the impact it is having on American citizens across the board and particularly energy prices and how the energy policy of the Biden administration is a big part of the problem in terms of creating the inflation that we face.

I once again urge the Biden administration to reverse course on its harmful energy agenda and instead take the handcuffs off our domestic energy producers.

Americans are struggling to afford to fill their tanks and to keep the lights

on. Higher energy prices are fueling record inflation. We saw the latest statistic of 8.3 percent, which is driving up the costs of goods across the entire economy.

Yesterday, gasoline prices hit an all-time high of \$4.37 a gallon nationwide, and gas is up to an average of \$4.06 a gallon in my home State of North Dakota. Today, gas prices are even higher. That is about an 80-percent increase since President Biden was inaugurated, and that increase—the vast majority of that increase came before Russia invaded Ukraine.

Two years ago, our country was producing almost 13 million barrels per day of oil. Today, our country is producing about 11.3 million barrels a day—again, a direct result of the Biden administration's energy policies making it more difficult to produce energy in America.

President Biden's Green New Deal policies and hostile approach to American oil and gas have curtailed production, and Americans are paying for it every day. It began with the administration's moratorium on new energy leases—closing off access to our abundant, taxpayer-owned energy reserves.

The administration continues to hold up our ability to move more oil and gas across the country by blocking pipelines like the Keystone XL Pipeline. In 2015, the Senate and the House passed my bill, S. 1, to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline. If the Obama-Biden administration had not vetoed that bill, this pipeline would have been bringing in more than 800,000 barrels of oil a day from our closest friend and ally, Canada.

We have stranded natural gas resources in North Dakota and in other parts of the country, like West Virginia and Pennsylvania, because we can't get the permits to build the gathering systems and the pipelines to get it to market, let alone to our allies. We need LNG facilities to help our allies in Western Europe and to help Ukraine as they continue their valiant fight against Russian aggression.

If we really want to cut off the Russian war machine, we need to cut off their ability to sell energy, and that means once again embracing our Nation's most critical economic and national security assets—our country's vast oil and gas reserves. A good start would be to pass my American Energy Independence from Russia Act, which is bicameral legislation that I introduced with nine of my colleagues in the Senate. Our commonsense approach takes immediate action in encouraging U.S. energy production, including increasing access to taxpayer-owned energy reserves on Federal lands, authorizing the construction and operation of the Keystone XL Pipeline, and removing regulatory hurdles to increase liquefied natural gas exports.

North Dakota and other energy-producing States can and should be empowered to unleash the full potential of our abundant oil and gas and coal reserves as well—all of these resources.

No one does it with better environmental stewardship than we do here in America, and we need to produce that energy here in America.

It is long past time for the Biden administration to get out of the way and take the handcuffs off American energy production. Producing more energy here at home is the solution to helping lower energy costs and providing hard-working families with relief from rising inflation.

I saw that either the President or one of his spokesmen talked about the large amount of energy costs and inflation. Well, we have a solution for that. Why isn't the administration taking steps so that we can produce more energy here at home? That is what needs to happen, and that will benefit every single consumer across this great Nation.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PADILLA). The Senator from Nebraska.

WOMEN'S HEALTH PROTECTION ACT

Mr. SASSE. Mr. President, abortion is a heavy issue. We are used to, in this body, debating marginal tax rates and debating spending bills, but this issue is different. This debate cuts to the heart of who we are, what we owe each other, what kind of society we want to preserve, and what kind of society we want to build. The moral weight of this debate is heavy.

Social media, of course, makes it worse; makes it ugly; makes it stupid. There is too little grace. There is not enough compassion. Honesty and genuine good-faith disagreements are really hard to come by. To talk about abortion well, we need to actually listen to each other, and we need to try to understand the best arguments of the other side's and take those arguments seriously.

For Democrats, debating well has to start with recognizing that most Americans believe that unborn lives deserve to be protected at some point during a pregnancy. It is deeply human and deeply compassionate to recognize the humanity of an unborn life. Scientific advances like ultrasounds give us a glimpse into the lives of the unborn, first in black and white and now in 3D, and it is going to be clearer and clearer over time what that little baby is. Any honest conversation about abortion must grapple with the fact that every abortion begins with two lives and destroys one of them. It is deeply wrong to ask Americans to participate in an act that they know takes an innocent life.

For Republicans to debate well, we need to be willing to be honest about the fact that, for some women, pregnancy can be frightening and painful. Many situations are not ideal situations. Pregnancy changes a woman's life in a way that is absolutely unique in the human experience. There is no equivalent to pregnancy. There is no example we can compare it to. That is why the pro-life cause is not and cannot ever primarily be about legislation

or about policy, as important as those can be. The pro-life cause must start with active compassion for moms and babies and especially women whose first thoughts upon learning that they were pregnant was: I can't do this.

To the pro-life movement, I want to recognize your patience and your perseverance over decades. We should commend the ethic of love, persuasion, and prudence that has brought us to the place we are today.

Pro-lifers show up for women and for babies every single day. I see it all over Nebraska, and I know that it is true across all 50 States.

Pro-lifers and especially pro-life women support women through pregnancy care centers. They work in local communities to build support networks. They are persuading their neighbors and are growing a movement that supports life.

We don't have the massive war chest, the army of lawyers, or the fancy PR shops that Planned Parenthood does, but what we do have is truth and love.

Thousands of pregnancy care centers provide women and their babies with free help—with lots of free help. The volunteers who show up every day to help these women obviously don't do it for money; they do it out of love.

Thousands of pro-life families adopt kids every year, and their hearts overflow with love as they welcome a new child into their families. That is the core meaning of the pro-life movement. It is not about legislation first or about legislation second or about legislation third.

Advocates for abortion-on-demand are doing a lot of fearmongering. We have heard some bizarre speeches on the floor in the last couple of days that are so disconnected from the reality of the text of the legislation that is before us. So much of what they are pushing is wildly out of touch with the public and wildly out of touch with modern science.

We already know that America's abortion laws are far, far more permissive than Europe's and that, on this subject, our laws have a lot more in common with the human rights abusers China and North Korea than with anything in French law. The legislation before us today would make our laws even more extreme. Depending on how you count, we have the fourth to seventh most extreme pro-abortion laws of any of the 200 nations on Earth, and the legislation before the Senate today would make the U.S. position even more extreme.

There was a time when the Democratic Party talked about abortion as being safe, legal, and rare—safe, legal, and rare. Not anymore. This legislation is not from your mom's Democratic Party.

In recent years, we have taken votes on my legislation, the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act. It is a pretty simple, straightforward bill that aims to protect babies who survive botched abortions. There are no

restrictions on abortion access in my bill, just a simple requirement that, if a baby is born alive in an abortion clinic, she must receive the same level of care she would have received had she been born in a hospital. That is it. Yet Senator SCHUMER and the abortion lobby have filibustered this legislation over and over. It is so weird.

So here we are today. The abortion industry's lobbyists have bullied Leader SCHUMER and all but one courageous Democratic Senator, my friend JOE MANCHIN, into an extreme position that doesn't reflect even the majority opinion of the Democratic Party today, let alone the position of Americans.

This bill today is ugly, winner-takes-all politics. It is full of aggressive pro-abortion provisions. Let's consider just a few.

One, it would formally create a national right to abortion up until the moment of birth in all 50 States, and it would undo even State-based partial-birth abortion bans.

Two, today's legislation would prohibit States from requiring parental consent to perform abortions on a child.

Three, it would prohibit States from passing any laws to ban sex-selective abortions. It would ban any laws that States would have to try to prevent sex-selective abortions.

It would create a right for nondocors to perform abortions, putting women at severe risk of complications and botched procedures.

It would remove conscience protections that keep Americans from being forced to perform or fund abortions if they have moral objections. Think about that. It would force Catholic hospitals to perform abortions. That is new. That is gross.

Where is the tolerance? Where is the compassion? Where is the humanity? Where is the attempt to understand that the majority of Americans want there to be prohibitions on abortions at some point in the pregnancy?

Americans don't want the kind of radicalism we see in this bill before us today. In recent polling, 65 percent of Americans say they support banning abortion in the second trimester, and 80 percent of Americans support banning abortion in the third trimester. Why? Well, one of the reasons is because they have seen a lot of images of what a baby looks like in utero in the second and third trimester.

Just to reiterate, contrary to the last, I guess, couple of speeches ago, the last speech on this topic on the floor, 80 percent of Americans want to see abortion banned in the third trimester. It is hard to get 80 percent of Americans to agree on anything, and yet 80 percent agree that third-trimester abortions—the kind of thing that this bill wants to make sure is explicitly championed—States could not prevent and prohibit third-trimester abortions. That is what this bill is about.