

trillion here and there, \$6 trillion for COVID, and let's spend another \$2 trillion on "Build Back Broke." The numbers just keep piling up. We talk about apprehending 170,000 people at the border in a month—not in a year but in a month. We talk about drug seizures in measures of pounds, not ounces.

I was talking with one of our sheriffs in Tennessee, and we were talking about this issue.

He said: You know, Marsha, we used to apprehend drugs, and it would be in grams or it would be in ounces, and now nearly every seizure is in pounds.

That is the change. The drug cartels are not fearful of being caught or stopped at that border. They have figured it out.

Sadly, this is life in Joe Biden's America, but none of this—none of it, nothing, not one part of what you are seeing in Joe Biden's America—is compatible with an optimistic vision for the future, with that phrase "a more perfect Union," "equal justice," "equal opportunity"—none of it. Why? When Tennesseans look at what Joe Biden and the Democrats are doing, what they are seeing is a political machine acting like they are on a deadline. They are burning through an agenda that the American people did not ask for and they definitely do not want.

Do they want higher taxes? Absolutely not.

Do they want an open border? They have said time and again, no.

Do they want higher crime? No.

Do they want drugs—fentanyl—killing 71,000 Americans in a year? No. No.

Do they want the highest inflation that we have had in 40 years? No.

Do they want a foreign policy that doesn't work? We have a disaster in Afghanistan. We have the Chinese Communist Party, after we have Russia and Putin out here, acting like they are in control. We have the axis of evil—Russia, China, Iran, North Korea—out trying to recruit friends and allies into their axis of evil to not wish us well. Is that what the American people want? No, it is not.

Do they want mandates? Do they want lockdowns? No, they do not. That is not what they want.

The people of this country still have a vision for the future, but it is hard to keep hope alive when the people in control of the government have, obviously, lost control of this country.

I love going around Tennessee, and I love having great conversations with people who will tell you they are Democrats or Republicans. They want to know if the Democratic Party is delusional. Are they obsessed with a socialist agenda? Are they out of touch with what it feels like to not have money to fill up the gas tank, to not have money to buy that full bag of groceries?

The idea that their President would allow our border to be open to drug cartels and smugglers to take advantage of us, the people, terrifies Tennesseans, but it is also something that

makes them angry because they know Joe Biden could do something about this if he wanted to. They know that the Democratic Party, which runs everything in this town—the House, the Senate, the White House—could do something about this if they chose to.

Law enforcement, Border Patrol, and advocates who work with drug addicts and the victims of human smuggling are in almost unanimous agreement on a few points.

First, what I have heard from them is this President, President Biden, must keep title 42 in place until there is a plan for how they would replace it. Title 42 is essential. This President must embrace a Remain in Mexico policy, and this President must do what the Border Patrol has asked to be done for three decades, and that is to build the wall and give them the tools they need to get their job done. These are all of the things that President Biden could choose to do right now.

So why is he refusing to take action?

If you know, the American people would really like to have an answer because they look at the chaos coming from this administration, the chaos at the border, and the chaos on our streets, and they know that this country deserves better.

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.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

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

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

The Senator from Hawaii.

Mr. SCHATZ. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the scheduled vote occur immediately.

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

CLOTURE MOTION

Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The bill 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. 599, Ashish S. Vazirani, of Maryland, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of Defense.

Charles E. Schumer, Jack Reed, Sheldon Whitehouse, Richard Blumenthal, Richard J. Durbin, Catherine Cortez Masto, Jacky Rosen, Margaret Wood Hassan, Mark Kelly, Benjamin L. Cardin, Brian Schatz, Debbie Stabenow, Angus S. King, Jr., Patrick J. Leahy, Martin Heinrich, Tim Kaine, Gary C. Peters, Chris Van Hollen.

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 Ashish S. Vazirani, of Maryland, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of Defense, 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. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF), the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA), and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSE).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) would have voted "yea."

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 67, nays 20, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 243 Ex.]

YEAS—67

Baldwin	Grassley	Reed
Barrasso	Hassan	Romney
Bennet	Heinrich	Rosen
Blunt	Hickenlooper	Rounds
Booker	Hirono	Sanders
Brown	Hyde-Smith	Schatz
Burr	Inhofe	Scott (SC)
Capito	Kaine	Shaheen
Cardin	Kelly	Smith
Carper	King	Stabenow
Casey	Klobuchar	Sullivan
Cassidy	Lummis	Tester
Collins	Manchin	Tillis
Coons	Markey	Toomey
Cornyn	McConnell	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Warner
Crapo	Merkley	Warnock
Duckworth	Moran	Warren
Durbin	Murphy	Wicker
Feinstein	Murray	Wyden
Fischer	Padilla	Young
Gillibrand	Peters	
Graham	Portman	

NAYS—20

Blackburn	Hagerty	Paul
Boozman	Hawley	Rubio
Braun	Hoeven	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Johnson	Shelby
Cruz	Lankford	Thune
Daines	Lee	Tuberville
Ernst	Marshall	

NOT VOTING—13

Blumenthal	Luján	Schumer
Cantwell	Murkowski	Sinema
Cramer	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Kennedy	Risch	
Leahy	Sasse	

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HEINRICH). On this vote, the yeas are 67, the nays are 20.

The motion is agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

REMOVAL OF INJUNCTION OF SECRECY—TREATY DOCUMENT NO. 117-3

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the following treaty transmitted to the Senate on July 11, 2022, by the President of the United States:

Protocols to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of the Republic of Finland and the Kingdom of Sweden (Treaty Document No. 117-3).

I further ask that the treaty be considered as having been read the first time; that it be referred, with accompanying papers, to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed; and that the President's message be printed in the RECORD.

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

The message of the President is as follows:

To the Senate of the United States:

I transmit herewith, for the advice and consent of the Senate to its ratification, the Protocols to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of the Republic of Finland and the Kingdom of Sweden (the "Protocols"). The Protocols were signed in Brussels on July 5, 2022, on behalf of the United States and the other Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty. Also transmitted for the information of the Senate is an overview of the Protocols by the Department of State. Full ratification of the Protocols will allow Finland and Sweden to become Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty and members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

Article 10 of the North Atlantic Treaty, which outlines NATO's Open Door policy, is part of the doctrinal foundation of the Alliance. It states that Allies may, by unanimous consent, invite any other European State in a position to further the principles of the Treaty and to contribute to the security of the North Atlantic area to accede. As further explained in the reports on the accession of Finland and Sweden to NATO, transmitted to the Congress on May 19 and July 1, 2022, in light of section 3(2)(E) of the Resolution of Advice and Consent to Ratification of the Protocols to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic of April 30, 1998, Finland and Sweden more than meet these qualifications. They will be net contributors to the Alliance, in both capabilities and resources, and they share critically important values with the United States. Finland's and Sweden's accession will help further United States priorities within NATO.

I ask the Senate to continue working with my Administration in advancing a strong and free Europe by providing its prompt advice and consent to ratification of the Protocols. We are encouraging all Allies to act expeditiously in their own ratification processes as well, given current global consider-

ations. My Administration stands ready to brief and assist you in your deliberations.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, July 11, 2022.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

RECOGNIZING THE KENNEDY SPACE CENTER

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I would like to recognize the John F. Kennedy Space Center—KSC—for celebrating its 60th anniversary, which we observed on July 1, 2022. While the complex was not named after President Kennedy until November 29, 1963, it was on July 1 six decades ago that the launch operations center on Merritt Island, FL, was created.

Since the Apollo program in 1968, every U.S. crewed orbital spaceflight has launched from the Kennedy Space Center property, making it the unambiguous leader in American spaceflight. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration—NASA—has carried out launch operations for its Apollo, Skylab, and space shuttle programs from Launch Complex 39, managed by KSC's personnel. For the past 60 years, millions of Americans have visited the area to watch astronauts slip the face of Earth and explore the final frontier.

After the retirement of the Space Shuttle program in 2011, the Kennedy Space Center transformed from a government-focused launch base to a multi-user spaceport. Today, it provides a home to more than 90 private-sector partners and nearly 250 partnership agreements in support of different vehicles, systems, and launch providers, enabling a new era of space exploration. The Kennedy Space Center further contributes to our Nation's space program through the Exploration Ground Systems, as well as the Commercial Crew, Exploration Research and Technology, and Launch Services Programs.

As NASA prepares for the launch of Artemis I at KSC, the center remains a cornerstone of Florida's economy by employing thousands of civil servants and government contractors throughout the State's Space Coast.

I express my thanks and deepest gratitude to the many hard-working men and women at the Kennedy Space Center as they continue to advance American space exploration further into the 21st century.

RECOGNIZING ST. JOSEPH HEALTHCARE

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, St. Joseph Healthcare of Bangor, ME, was founded in 1947 by the Felician Sisters with a mission to support the wellness and healing of a patient's mind, body, and spirit. On this 75th anniversary, I congratulate this outstanding institution for carrying out that mission with expertise and compassion.

St. Joseph is a 112-bed acute care community hospital that brings together primary care providers and specialists focused on delivering personalized medicine in more than 30 departments. It is a member of Covenant Health, an innovative, Catholic regional health delivery network that is a leader in values-based, not-for-profit health and elder care.

The St. Joseph story began in 1855 in Warsaw, Poland, when Blessed Angela founded the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Felix, an order dedicated to serving the poor, the sick, and the disabled. The Felician Sisters were founded with a particular focus on serving the Polish countryside. St. Joseph Healthcare continues that tradition by its efforts to ensure healthcare services for rural Maine.

St. Joseph's contributions as a healthcare provider are enormous but only part of its mission. The hospital's facilities have been applied to such needs as providing laundry and food services to the area's homeless shelters. A food pantry, an elementary school backpack program, and a community vegetable exchange stand help alleviate food insecurity. St. Joseph's Closet provides patients who are being discharged with needed clothing. The Blessing Bag program provides food, winter clothing, and basic personal hygiene items to homeless emergency room patients.

Countless other acts of kindness complement the St. Joseph mission of meeting the spiritual and religious needs of patients regardless of their beliefs and traditions or spirituality. The 16th century Capuchin friar canonized St. Felix was known in his time as "the saint of the streets of Rome" for his daily journeys through the city dispensing food, medicine, and comfort to the poor, the sick, and the troubled. The dedicated staff and leadership of St. Joseph Healthcare continue that legacy through the streets of Bangor and the country roads of Maine, and I thank them for their blessed service.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF HONOR THE EARTH HOMECOMING CELEBRATION AND POWWOW

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Honor the Earth Homecoming Celebration and Powwow. The story of Honor the Earth begins with a small group of Lac Courte Oreilles who wanted a better future for their tribe and their people.