

there. All the Democrats need to do is pick it up.

CAROL ACT

Mr. President, now on a different matter, 2 years ago Kentucky, mourned the sudden tragic loss of our friend Carol Leavell Barr.

At only 39 years old, Carol suffered a fatal heart attack likely caused by an illness known as valvular heart disease. She left behind two young daughters and our distinguished colleague, Congressman ANDY BARR. Carol Barr led an extraordinary life, devoted to serving others.

Last year, Congressman BARR channeled his grief into action and wrote the Cardiovascular Advances in Research and Opportunities Legacy, or CAROL, Act. I introduced a companion bill in the Senate alongside the senior Senator from Arizona, and last week, the Senate passed the CAROL Act by unanimous consent, moving this legislation one step closer to becoming law.

The legislation embodies Carol Barr's humanitarian spirit. It will encourage new research into valvular heart disease and greater awareness of the illness.

Eight million Americans live with this disease, many without any apparent symptoms. Approximately 25,000 of our fellow citizens lose their lives every year, often suddenly.

The CAROL Act is dedicated to sparing other families the tragedy that hit the Barrs.

It is a fitting tribute to Carol Barr's wonderful life and legacy, and it is an important piece of legislation in its own right.

So I want to thank all my colleagues for their support. I look forward to enacting the CAROL Act into law very soon.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The majority leader is recognized.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, we have 26 days left in the calendar year, and there is still a lot we have to do.

This week, the House is expected to take up the annual Defense authorization bill, priming the Senate to take action, perhaps as soon as next week.

The Senate's work on funding the government also continues. I just finished a meeting with the Republican leader about finding a constructive path forward to keep the government funded next fiscal year. Leader MCCONNELL and I have both publically affirmed the importance of getting this done, because our troops, our military, and our national security depends on it.

And this Wednesday, in fact, the Senate will hold another classified briefing

on the state of play in Ukraine, and I hope that my colleagues recognize how funding the government is inextricably tied supporting Ukraine while protecting American national security here at home. The two are tied together.

So we are going to continue negotiations until we get the job done on funding the government. Both sides recognize the importance, so now both sides must chart a path forward together.

JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS

Mr. President, on judges, the Senate is just a few confirmation votes away from reaching another milestone. Soon, we will confirm our 90th Federal judge under President Biden.

I want to thank my colleague, chair of the Judiciary Committee, Senator DURBIN for his diligence and hard work in this area of getting nominees appointed to the bench.

We vote today on judge No. 88, Doris Pryor, tapped by the President to serve as U.S. circuit judge for the Seventh Circuit. She will be the 26th—the 26th—circuit court judge the Senate confirms in the last 2 years.

These appointments are critical. Even though a conservative majority presides on the Supreme Court, the bulk of all Federal cases are still resolved by circuit court judges.

If confirmed, Judge Pryor will make history as the first woman of color from Indiana ever to sit on the Seventh Circuit. One judge at a time, the Senate continues fulfilling its mission of making sure our courts reflect the diversity and dynamism of America.

A graduate of University of Central Arkansas and Indiana School of Law, Judge Pryor served as a clerk for both the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals and for the Eastern District of Arkansas, before turning to public defense.

She has also more than a decade of experience as a Federal prosecutor, focusing on national security and prosecuting individuals who sought aid to terrorist organizations.

When not involved in donning the black robe of a jurist, Judge Pryor is deeply involved in the Indianapolis community, founding youth programs, mentoring future lawyers, and helping the formerly incarcerated to re-enter civilian life.

In short, Judge Pryor has the brains of a jurist and the heart of a public servant—a perfect combination for someone serving a lifetime appointment on the bench.

I look forward to her confirmation today, and Democrats will continue making judicial nominations a top priority in the new year.

PRESIDENT TRUMP

Mr. President, finally, Donald Trump cannot seem to go a week without doing or saying something disgusting, dishonorable, and, frankly, disqualifying for high office.

Two weeks ago, it was a dinner with a pair of loathsome anti-Semites, which to this day, he has not denounced. He says: Well, I didn't know

that one of these men, Fuentes, was coming. He still hasn't denounced him now that he knows he was there.

On Friday, he took his vile rhetoric to a new and horrible nadir when he called for the "termination" of the Constitution of the United States because he lost the 2022 election.

Aside from the pettiness and the ego of that, it is as if Donald Trump is on a mission to find new ways to sink lower and lower to the detriment of America. How can anyone hope to take the Presidential oath of office to preserve and protect the Constitution while simultaneously calling for the Constitution's termination? It is wholly disqualifying on its face.

And now that Donald Trump is being rightfully criticized for attacking the Constitution, his response is to double down and deny he ever did so in the first place rather than have the decency to own up to it.

I am glad some Republicans seem increasingly willing to condemn Trump's lunacy, but we need more voices filling the silence. We need nothing less than an avalanche of condemnation from Republicans; but, sadly, all we have gotten so far are just a few flurries here and there.

Republicans need to speak up, because if America doesn't extricate itself from Donald Trump and his MAGA ideology, it could undercut our American way of life. This isn't a partisan scuffle. When a former President calls for the termination of the U.S. Constitution, there can be no silence, no equivocation—nothing less than total and fierce condemnation.

So to my Republican colleagues, enough is enough. Reject MAGA, reject Trump, condemn these awful attacks on the U.S. Constitution.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

NOMINATION OF DORIS L. PRYOR

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, at the outset, I want to join the majority leader in his kind words related to Judge Doris Pryor, who is seeking a seat on the Seventh Circuit of Appeals.

Today, the Senate will vote to confirm Judge Doris Pryor to serve on the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Pryor is an outstanding nominee to the appellate bench. She is a graduate of the University of Central Arkansas and the Indiana University Maurer School of Law. Following law school, she clerked for Judge Lavenski R. Smith on the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals and for Judge J. Leon Holmes on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas.

Judge Pryor then served for a short period of time as a deputy public defender in Texarkana, AR. In 2006, she joined the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Indiana as an Assistant U.S. Attorney. During her time as a Federal prosecutor, Judge Pryor handled all types of criminal matters and argued several Federal appeals. She also served as national security chief and as the office's reentry

and prevention coordinator. In 2018, she was selected by the district judges of the Southern District of Indiana to serve as a magistrate judge, a position she holds to this day. In this role, Judge Pryor oversees a wide range of judicial proceedings in both civil and criminal matters.

She was unanimously rated “qualified” by the American Bar Association, and she has received blue slips from Senators Young and Braun, her two Republican home State Senators. She also received a bipartisan vote in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Judge Pryor has significant Federal experience and a proven track record of neutral decision making on the bench. I strongly support her nomination, and I encourage my colleagues to do the same.

NOVEMBER JOBS REPORT

Mr. President, relating to the great news that we received Friday, the jobs report showed that our economic recovery under this President is continuing, with 263,000 jobs created during the month of November.

But more than strong numbers, what caught my attention is that there was very little response from the other side of the aisle.

Well, it is good news, and I want it to be part of the RECORD.

It is funny, it wasn't so long ago that our Republican colleagues couldn't wait for monthly jobs numbers to drop. And I can understand why: When the President took office, things were in rough shape. The pandemic was more persistent than any of us would have liked, and job growth started off slower than expected.

Back then, Republican lawmakers—like House minority leader KEVIN MCCARTHY—were the first to send out press releases slamming President Biden for the sluggish state of the economy—and downplay any economic progress.

But now, crickets. We haven't heard a word from KEVIN MCCARTHY about Friday's job numbers. Why have Republicans been so quiet? I will tell you why: The numbers are not on their side.

Since President Biden took office, the U.S. has added 10.5 million jobs—more than any administration in history at this point in a Presidency. And our unemployment rate remains near record lows. We have added more than 750,000 manufacturing jobs alone since the President took office—sectors boosted by legislation like the Chips and Science Act and the bipartisan infrastructure bill.

It is proof that the historic policies this Democratic majority has enacted over the past 2 years are working. In fact, next month, Medicare beneficiaries are going to start saving money thanks to the Inflation Reduction Act we passed this year. It is going to cap the cost of insulin at \$35 for Medicare beneficiaries starting January.

But we have got a lot more work to do, and that is why the American peo-

ple re-elected a Democratic majority in this Senate: to get things done. So let's keep the victories coming.

TRIBUTE TO JESSE WHITE

Mr. President, this is a statement I have been reluctant to make because it relates to a dear friend of mine and my fellow colleague from Illinois, Senator DUCKWORTH. I am sure what I am about to say, she agrees with completely because I have talked to her many times about the subject.

But in our State of Illinois, we are home to a select group of elected leaders who have done what many people consider to be politically impossible. It is a feat that only three elected officials have achieved in modern history: winning all 102 counties in the State of Illinois, from Cairo—as we pronounce it—all the way to Chicago.

Even more impressive, there is only one of these three leaders who has continually won by landslide margins in one election after another. His name is Jesse White.

He has served as secretary of state in Illinois for more than two decades; and, really, it is no wonder that he has won the hearts and minds of the voters across our State.

Secretary White is a rare leader: a legend and truly a humble man. He loves his work because he works for the people he loves, the people of Illinois.

Throughout his life, he has been a model of integrity, compassion, and unwavering commitment to public service. Later this month, unfortunately for us, he is going to be stepping aside from his recordbreaking sixth and final term as secretary of state.

On behalf of everyone in Illinois, I want to say thank you to one of the most beloved leaders in our State's history, my friend Jesse White.

There is a simple explanation for his unrivaled record of political success: He really cares for people. He has devoted his life to building a better State for our kids, and he radiates a warmth and sincerity to everybody he meets. And it is hard to keep up with him. Whenever Secretary White enters a room, he won't leave until he shakes every hand, whether it is a foreign dignitary or a person clearing the tables. Even cultural barriers don't hold him back. He points with pride to the fact that he can express a greeting in seven different languages, and I think I have heard all seven.

I will tell you, personally, he is one of the most loyal friends you can count on. When I ran for the Senate in 1996 as a downstate Congressman, nobody in Chicago knew who I was. Well, lo and behold, it was Secretary Jesse White who spent Sunday after Sunday introducing me to parishioners in Black churches throughout the city. And even though we were both on the ballot that year, he acted like I was the only candidate who needed a helping hand. It was an act of generosity that I am going to always remember.

Really, this is the most consistent thing throughout Secretary White's en-

tire career—service to others. In every role Secretary White has undertaken, he has done his part to build the “Beloved Community” envisioned by the man who mentored him in his early life, none other than Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

As a student at Alabama State in the 1950s, Jesse White leaned on the wisdom of Dr. King, who was his minister at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church. In fact, under Dr. King's leadership, Secretary White participated in the Montgomery bus boycott, one of the earliest demonstrations in our country of the power of nonviolent direct action. It was a formative experience that molded Jesse White into the inspiring leader he is today.

In the decades since, Secretary White has carried Dr. King's legacy forward by practicing the mantra the members of his staff know all too well: “Do something good for someone every day.”

His political career began with his election to the Illinois General Assembly in 1974. For 16 years, he brought together an eclectic group of communities in Chicago from what he called the Gold Coast to the Soul Coast. Whether his constituents lived along Lake Shore Drive or in the Cabrini-Green Homes housing project, they all knew Jesse White was on their side.

In 1992, he moved up to be Cook County Recorder of Deeds. It is a role in which his reputation as a miracle worker began to take shape. Secretary White put painstaking efforts into modernizing the office. In the words of his former chief of staff, and one of my lead employees, Margaret Houlihan, “It was like a social service agency. Everyone would line up outside the office to wait and see” if Jesse could help them in any way, “even when it had nothing to do with his role as Recorder of Deeds.”

Jesse White would listen and do everything he could to find housing, find a job for someone, help a young child who was in trouble.

Jesse White was elected our secretary of state in 1998—the first Black Illinoisan to occupy the office. Today, he remains the longest serving secretary of state. He transformed an office that had been marred by corruption and greed into an efficient and effective agency.

When he was first elected, he declared that he would “strive to be the best Secretary of State” that we had ever seen. Safe to say, he lived up to that aspiration.

He cleaned the office up, first, by banning the solicitation of campaign contributions by employees. He has made our streets safer by imposing tougher rules and regulations for drivers as well as implementing a comprehensive teen driving program that has saved lives.

His integrity has shined every step of the way, and he has kept the promise he made when he first ran in 1998; that the secretary of state's office would be his “last stop in the political arena.”