

or issued 40 Executive orders and Executive actions solely against Wisconsin or Maine and you guys came to me and said, "Hey, Dan, help us. Geez Louise, the war on Alaska. Help," I would help. My State is getting crushed.

Here is the specific issue that relates to this nominee. The President held a summit on critical minerals—a good example of what we need to do—on February 22, 2022, and he said: We need these critical minerals. The demand for them is going to increase 400 to 600 percent over the next several decades.

We can't build a future that's made in America if we ourselves are dependent on China for the materials that power the products of today and tomorrow.

And our national security.

That is the President of the United States on his big critical minerals summit hosted at the White House to talk about supply chains and industrial capacity and military issues.

The same day the President of the United States held that critical minerals summit, the Department of the Interior said that they were going to reverse a 7-year EIS record of decision, \$10 million by professional staff in the Federal Government, on what is called the Ambler Mining District in Alaska, one of the biggest, most extensive sources of critical minerals in the country, maybe even in the world—a project, by the way, that has been in permitting since the Obama administration.

That same day, they reversed it and said: Alaska, start over.

Nuts. Crazy.

So what I have done is I have put a hold on a couple of Department of Defense nominees who are in charge of this area, and Dr. Taylor-Kale is one. But I have been reasonable. I went to the Deputy Secretary of the Interior, the Deputy Secretary of Defense. We held a conference with White House officials. I simply said: I am not asking to reverse your crazy decision—which it was crazy. It hurts my State for sure, but it hurts the national security of our country.

I simply said: I want three simple asks—so I have been trying to work to get the nominee cleared—three simple asks from this administration: Identify a definitive, workable schedule with a clear, legitimate timeline for completing the review of this project that has already been in almost 10 years of permitting—to do it in a timely manner. That was No. 1. Clearly state the Federal Government's intent to allow the Alaska entities that are trying to move this forward to continue to complete baseline scientific data gathering and design work, such as wetland delineations and engineering reconnaissance for this road. That was No. 2. Allow these Alaska entities that are moving this road and project forward to complete its planned geological drilling and core sampling program, which is critical to advancing the project and engineering design, as this case is now being remanded.

That was it. That was it. Three simple requests. None of these are hard. None of them are hard.

I have raised this with the Secretary of Defense, the national security team, of course, Interior, and they keep telling me no. This is easy. If the Secretary of the Interior came and said, "Senator SULLIVAN, I saw your remarks on the floor. I agree with all three of those things. You are right; they are simple," I would lift my hold today.

So the ball is in the administration's court. If they really want Dr. Taylor-Kale to be confirmed, they could do it tonight. Meet my requests, which are quite reasonable. I did not ask them to review or reverse the crazy decision that they made in February of 2022. These are very simple requests. I have been very reasonable on this. No one on their side is being reasonable, so I will continue to hold her and some of the other DOD nominees who are in charge of critical minerals and industrial capacity in the Department of Defense until the simple demands that I am asking for that not only will help my State but will help the national security of America.

They won't do it, so I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Wisconsin.

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I listened carefully to my colleague from Alaska as he objected, and I just want to add a couple of comments in response.

I had a chance to share with him that there was a Wisconsin conflict between the Department of Defense and the Department of Interior, something that when I was a Member of the House of Representatives I worked on for 14 years and could not get it shaken loose—finger pointing, finger pointing. And then I had the honor of being elected to the U.S. Senate, where we have the power to place holds on nominees. And I had the opportunity, and took advantage of that opportunity, to place a hold on a nominee who was absolutely in the position to resolve the issue. And it is a powerful tool.

In this case, the person who is being held could be doing so much to advance and grow our defense industrial base and help to improve our national security and resiliency. And this particular person is not in a position to, if confirmed, resolve the issue that I heard my colleague describe. So I am disappointed that we cannot move ahead with this confirmation at this time.

I understand the power of the hold, but it is much more powerful when the person being held is also in a position to resolve the issue.

And with that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I just want to say that I certainly would be willing to work with my colleague from Wisconsin on this issue. I have been working on it in good faith with

other Members on the other side of the aisle. Maybe, perhaps, she can help me with the three simple asks we have put forward to the Department of Interior, and if they agree to those simple asks—and they are simple—then I will lift my hold. So maybe the Senator from Wisconsin and I can work together on this.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. VAN HOLLEN). The Senator from Wisconsin.

Ms. BALDWIN. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill 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.

FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS AND EXTENSIONS ACT, 2023—Motion to Proceed

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask that the Chair lay before the Senate the message to accompany H.R. 1437.

Mr. MARSHALL. 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 bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

The result was announced—yeas 75, nays 20 as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 393 Leg.]

YEAS—75

Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Romney
Blumenthal	Hyde-Smith	Rosen
Booker	Inhofe	Rubio
Boozman	Kaine	Sanders
Brown	Kelly	Schatz
Cantwell	Kennedy	Schumer
Capito	King	Shaheen
Cardin	Klobuchar	Shelby
Carper	Lankford	Sinema
Casey	Leahy	Smith
Cassidy	Lujan	Stabenow
Collins	Manchin	Sullivan
Coons	Markey	Tester
Cornyn	McConnell	Thune
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Toomey
Cotton	Merkley	Tuberville
Duckworth	Moran	Van Hollen
Durbin	Murkowski	Warner
Feinstein	Murphy	Warnock
Gillibrand	Murray	Warren
Graham	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Grassley	Padilla	Wicker
Hassan	Peters	Wyden
Heinrich	Portman	Young

NAYS—20

Blackburn	Ernst	Johnson
Braun	Fischer	Lee
Cramer	Hagerty	Lummis
Crapo	Hawley	Marshall
Daines	Hoeben	

Paul Rounds Scott (FL)
Risch Sasse Scott (SC)

NOT VOTING—5

Barrasso Burr Tillis
Blunt Cruz

The motion was agreed to.

FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS AND EXTENSIONS ACT, 2023

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair lays before the Senate the following message from the House.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That the House agree to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1437) entitled “An Act to amend the Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act of 2017 to direct the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to provide comprehensive and regularly updated Federal precipitation information, and for other purposes”, with a House amendment to Senate amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

MOTION TO CONCUR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment, and I ask for the yeas and nays on the motion to concur.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

MOTION TO CONCUR WITH AMENDMENT NO. 6534

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to concur in the House amendment with an amendment No. 6534, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New York [Mr. SCHUMER] moves to concur with the House amendment to the Senate amendment with an amendment numbered 6534.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that further reading be dispensed with.

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

The amendment (No. 6534) is as follows:

(Purpose: To add an effective date)

At the end add the following:

SEC. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall effect on the date that is 1 day after the date of enactment of this Act.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask for the yeas and nays on the motion to concur with an amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 6535 TO AMENDMENT NO. 6534

Mr. SCHUMER. I have an amendment at the desk to amendment No. 6534, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New York [Mr. SCHUMER] proposes an amendment numbered 6535 to amendment No. 6534.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that further reading be dispensed with.

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

The amendment (No. 6535) is as follows:

(Purpose: To modify the effective date)

On page 1, line 3, strike “1” and insert “2”.

MOTION TO REFER WITH AMENDMENT NO. 6536

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to refer the House message to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report back forthwith with an amendment No. 6536.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New York [Mr. SCHUMER] moves to refer the bill to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report back forthwith with an amendment numbered 6536.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that further reading be waived.

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

The amendment (No. 6536) is as follows:

(Purpose: To add an effective date)

At the end add the following:

SEC. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect on the date that is 4 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 6537 TO AMENDMENT NO. 6536

Mr. SCHUMER. I have an amendment to the instructions, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New York [Mr. SCHUMER] proposes an amendment numbered 6537 to the instructions to the motion to refer.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that further reading be waived.

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

The amendment (No. 6537) is as follows:

(Purpose: To modify the effective date)

On page 1, line 3, strike “4” and insert “5”.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask for the yeas and nays on my amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 6538 TO AMENDMENT NO. 6537

Mr. SCHUMER. I have an amendment to amendment No. 6537, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New York [Mr. SCHUMER] proposes an amendment numbered 6538 to amendment No. 6537.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that further reading of the amendment be waived.

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

The amendment (No. 6538) is as follows:

(Purpose: To modify the effective date)

On page 1, strike “5” and insert “6”.

Mr. SCHUMER. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO). The Senator from Missouri is recognized.

NO TIKTOK ON GOVERNMENT DEVICES ACT

Mr. HAWLEY. Madam President, last night, the Senate took the important step of unanimously, on a bipartisan basis, passing legislation to ban TikTok on all Government devices.

Now, this has been a longtime coming. I first introduced this piece of legislation almost 3 years ago. But last night’s legislation is vitally important because never has the security threat to the American people from the Chinese Communist Party been more grave and never has the determination on the part of the Chinese Communist Party to leverage every possible asset, every possible platform to gather information—personal information—from the American people been more serious than it is now. That is why last night’s action by this body is so critical.

Let’s talk about TikTok for a moment, the most downloaded app in the world for the last 2 and 3 years running. Back in 2020, over 100 million Americans—100 million—used TikTok, and that was over 2 years ago. Since 2022, TikTok’s average monthly users—and this year, every quarter of this year—has increased by 234 percent. It is incredible growth. You can see why. It is a fun app to use.

Here is what Americans don’t know because TikTok doesn’t want them to know. It is that the app runs continuously in the background of your phone or device. It collects your keystrokes. It has access to your email, access to your calendars, access to the notes and clipboard functions of your computer or iPhone or tablet or device. It, of course, tracks your geolocation. It is essentially an evidence-gathering, data-gathering machine that runs on your phone.

Can you turn it off? Can you stop it from doing these things? No, you can’t, not if you want to use the app.

What is the connection to Beijing? Only this: that TikTok is owned by ByteDance. Under Chinese law that company must—must—provide all data to the Chinese Communist Party that the party wants upon its request.

We know that there are Chinese Communist Party members in TikTok leadership. We know that the Chinese Communist Party has held so-called training sessions for ByteDance and TikTok