

2023 and 2024 in different categories. And they say it might even be later than that.

That is what they are using. That is the gimmick. That is the legal strategy to, basically, usurp the law. Then the IRS can break the law, implement it in a way in which it was passed, and possibly avoid any judicial review.

They are trying to push into the market, quicker than what we can basically produce and rely on ourselves, EVs. That is the bottom line.

Car companies have changed and done that to put themselves in a position where, without the credits and without the incentives from the American taxpayers, who are giving them money for the cars, they think it is going to be actually destroying their business plan. This is wrong. This is not America. This is not capitalism as we know it. This is not the market-driven performance that we have seen over our lifetimes. It is absolutely ridiculous and not the way the government and this country should operate.

I intend to hold the IRS accountable. I will support anyone who attempts a legal challenge to these proposed rules. If you have been damaged by what they are doing, and it is basically putting you in jeopardy of not having your market shares, not being able to get your product to market quick enough, and basically China is overrunning you with lower prices because they are keeping you out of the market, then you should sue the Federal Government—the Treasury—and I will do an amicus brief behind it because they are breaking the law.

Although we can't normally do a Congressional Review Act resolution for proposed rules—they know that. That is their strategy: We will just do proposed rules. That gives us all of the flexibility that we need.

This situation is unique. Credits are being awarded as if proposed rules were final. That is what they are doing. That has never been how we have operated.

Then-Senator Biden knew exactly, and he knows it now, and I am hoping he gets involved and stops this ridiculousness by some of his administration and some of the heads of his Agencies.

The Congressional Review Act should apply here. Xi Jinping has already shown that he will use critical minerals as leverage to put Americans and the free world at risk with new restrictions on exports of several critical minerals. I would expect that from Xi Jinping and China. What I never could have expected was our own government to give up so easily and continue to let foreign nations control our Nation's transportation.

The administration is breaking our promise to the American people that this bill will reduce our debt. These proposed rules are breaking the law and blowing past the CBO cost estimate. The biggest mistake that we made—the biggest mistake that I made—was not putting a cap on the

money. If you want to know how we have accumulated \$33.8 trillion of debt so quickly, it is that, when we pass a piece of legislation and there is a 10-year period on that, the CBO scores it. We have to find pay-fors. We want to show that we are prudent, that we are paying for things.

How can you accumulate this? I came here in 2010. The debt was at \$13 trillion. We are now at \$34 trillion. How can you accumulate that much debt that quick if you are paying for things?

Let's just quit kidding ourselves.

The bottom line is this. They put a piece of legislation. The CBO scores it. It becomes very popular. So we have 10 years of spending authority. We run out of money in 3 or 4 years. Guess what happens. Rather than coming back to the legislature—because it was such a successful program—and expanding upon that and making sure that we have new appropriations and new ways to pay for the additional services that people want, what happens then? We debt-finance it. It is basically added to the debt for the next 6 years, if you run out of money in 4. That is what is happening, and no one seems to really care about that.

I need my Republican colleagues, I need my Democratic colleagues and everyone to be serious. The debt we have now, we have accumulated it.

If we do two things, do this: Stop. Stop this craziness of allowing pieces of legislation to have a CBO score. Make it stop when the money runs out. If the money runs out in 4 years, then the spending authority should run out in 4 years. Even though we intended for it to last 10, it didn't. Don't wait until the next party or the next political movement changes it. Do it ourselves so we never get ourselves in this deficit spending and keep accumulating more debt.

The second thing, proposed rules—don't let temporary rules basically rule the day. Don't let any credit score out the door, don't let any incentives take effect until you have permanent rules in place. Then the Treasury would do its job on time.

We are not holding anybody accountable whatsoever, and that is what we need to do.

Let me be clear. There is no question that the IRA is bringing more investment to this country than ever before, and it will work the way it was intended to work.

Electric vehicle and battery makers announced \$52 billion in investments in North American supply chains before the IRS started loosening rules.

It was working. It didn't need all this. They are placating—just a few players here—the large carmakers that basically want this advantage. They want it to be quicker because they put so much investment into electric vehicles, and we can't supply them. They got way ahead of their skis, and they want the taxpayers of America to pull them out. That is it in a nutshell.

Numbers like this show that breaking the law doesn't get us more invest-

ment. It just makes the cost go up for American taxpayers, and it also keeps jobs in China, not bring them back to America.

This administration knows the deal they made, and the intent of the IRA was to secure our energy, reduce our debt, and rebuild our critical supply chain. They are attacking all three of those principles. You have never heard about the good that the bill did and the reason and the purpose of the bill: reduce our debt—reduce our debt; secure energy—we are doing that; and, basically, rebuild our critical supply chains so that they are reliable and not dependent on foreign supply chains that, basically, are unreliable.

I am going to do everything in my power to hold them accountable, protect the American taxpayers, and secure energy supply chains.

This is something we all should be concerned about. I say that because of this: If we work hard, and we pass a piece of legislation, and we have an understanding that we all have agreed to on what a bill does, then every Agency should adhere to the intent of the legislation. They should not be able to look for loopholes and find loopholes and even write them in when there are no loopholes. But they are doing that, not just the Democrat administration or Republicans. They have all done this.

You can't accumulate \$33 trillion of debt or an additional \$20 trillion of debt in 12 years, 13 years. You can't do that unless something is critically wrong. We have been able to show it. We have seen this, and it has to stop.

So I am asking the President: Please, get involved, Mr. President. Hold your Agencies to the letter of the law the way you would if you were still a Senator.

I yield the floor.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PADILLA). Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative 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. 263, Loren L. AliKhan, of the District of Columbia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard Blumenthal, Margaret Wood Hassan, Mark Kelly, Jack Reed, John W. Hickenlooper, Elizabeth Warren, Tammy Duckworth, Jeff Merkley, Richard J. Durbin, Jeanne Shaheen, Benjamin L. Cardin, Mazie Hirono, Tina Smith, Edward J. Markey, Tim Kaine, Tammy Baldwin.

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 Loren L. AliKhan, of the District of

Columbia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 50, nays 50, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 327 Ex.]

YEAS—50

Baldwin	Heinrich	Rosen
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Blumenthal	Hirono	Schatz
Booker	Kaine	Schumer
Brown	Kelly	Shaheen
Butler	King	Sinema
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Smith
Cardin	Lujan	Stabenow
Carper	Markey	Tester
Casey	Menendez	Van Hollen
Coons	Merkley	Warner
Cortez Masto	Murphy	Warnock
Duckworth	Murray	Warren
Durbin	Ossoff	Welch
Fetterman	Padilla	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Peters	Wyden
Hassan	Reed	

NAYS—50

Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blackburn	Grassley	Ricketts
Boozman	Hagerty	Risch
Braun	Hawley	Romney
Britt	Hoeben	Rounds
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Capito	Johnson	Schmitt
Cassidy	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Collins	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Lee	Sullivan
Cotton	Lummis	Thune
Cramer	Manchin	Tillis
Crapo	Marshall	Tuberville
Cruz	McConnell	Vance
Daines	Moran	Wicker
Ernst	Mullin	Young
Fischer	Murkowski	

(Mr. HICKENLOOPER assumed the Chair.)

The VICE PRESIDENT. Are there any Senators in the Chamber who wish to vote or change their vote?

If not, on this vote, the yeas are 50, the nays are 50. The Senate being equally divided, the Vice President votes in the affirmative, and the motion is agreed to.

The motion was agreed to.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam Vice President, today is historic. Vice President HARRIS has just cast her 32nd tiebreaking vote—the most tiebreakers ever. I join all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, thanking the Vice President for her leadership and for making the work of the Senate possible.

The record Vice President HARRIS sets today is significant not just because of the number but because of what she has made possible with tiebreaking votes. Without her tiebreaking votes, there would be no American Rescue Plan, no Inflation Reduction Act, and we would not have confirmed many of the excellent Federal judges now presiding on the bench. Every time duty has called, Vice President HARRIS has answered more than any other Vice President in our Nation's long and storied history.

Today, I also want to thank the Vice President for doing all of this while

juggling the immense responsibilities of her office. She has led the charge on protecting freedom of choice. She has fought for climate justice, criminal justice reform, and commonsense gun safety. Our children—our children—will live in a healthier, more secure, more prosperous nation thanks to her lifetime of service.

So thank you, Vice President HARRIS. This is a great milestone, and yours is an even greater legacy. Let us continue working together to make life better for all Americans.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Thank you, majority leader.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. SCHUMER. As for a little house-keeping after that history, I ask unanimous consent that I be recognized to speak, followed by Senators HAGERTY and Kaine, prior to the recess; further, that all postcloture time be considered expired at 2:15 p.m.; and further, that following the confirmation vote on the AliKhan nomination, the Senate recess for the all-Senators briefing until 4:30 p.m.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Without objection, it is so ordered.

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

Mr. HAGERTY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to engage in a colloquy with my colleague from Virginia, Senator Kaine.

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

MEXICO

Mr. HAGERTY. Mr. President, I am here today to discuss worrying developments in Mexico, one of the United States' most important international partners and our neighbor to the south.

The nearly 2,000-mile border that our nations share both binds us together and presents a series of challenges, including illegal migration, drug trafficking, and human trafficking. As we work through those difficult issues, our robust economic relationship has provided a firm foundation to strengthen and stabilize our efforts with an eye toward the future. The innovative United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, or USMCA, deepened the connections between our economies such that Mexico is now one of our largest and most strategic trading partners.

However, actions over the past 2 years by the government of Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador have weakened that bond and are threatening the economic and diplomatic ties between our nations. Through increasingly arbitrary and aggressive moves against companies based here in the United States and their lawfully owned assets in Mexico, the Mexican Government has abused its permitting and regulatory powers in ways that violate the letter and the spirit of our trade agreements, not to mention the special relationship historically enjoyed between our two countries. These decisions directly impact critical sectors of the U.S. econ-

omy from agriculture to energy and mining and from transportation to tourism.

These capricious actions, which are falsely labeled as "reforms," risk substantially undermining confidence in the commercial rule of law in Mexico. They also jeopardize the essential economic relations between North American partners. Further, these actions likely violate our trade agreements by abrogating contracts, stripping investors of value, and eliminating private competition and oversight, thereby sending a clear message to U.S. capital markets that Mexico is no longer safe or profitable for investing.

I want to highlight the specific case of Vulcan Materials. For almost 2 years now, President Lopez Obrador has personally harassed, interfered with, and obstructed Vulcan's lawful operations in Mexico.

Vulcan is a U.S.-based construction aggregates company with a strong Tennessee and, I might add, a strong Virginia presence that has more than a 30-year track record of responsibly operating in Mexico and investing in the community that surrounds its Mexican facility.

In May of 2022, President Lopez Obrador ordered the illegal shutdown of Vulcan's operations, which had an immediate and detrimental impact on the supply of construction aggregates to the United States.

Then, in March of 2023, President Lopez Obrador ordered a military invasion of Vulcan's property and occupied the company's quarry and port for 2 weeks. As shocking as this sounds, video footage of this invasion is available online.

President Lopez Obrador has initiated a process to illegally take the company's property by declaring it a supposed naturally protected area.

The President of Mexico is abusing a process designed to protect regionwide ecosystems in order to illegally expropriate land that, coincidentally, exactly matches Vulcan's property lines. This is an egregious abuse of the law that undermines the very trust that should be foundational to the U.S.-Mexico relationship.

By illegally closing Vulcan's business and now attempting to steal their property, the Mexican President is signaling to other American companies that Mexico cannot be trusted when it comes to foreign investment.

If not quickly corrected, actions like these risk choking off the economic relationship between our two nations.

Many important supply chains stretch across the U.S.-Mexico border, supplying millions of good jobs and making both countries more attractive for capital investment.

This is certainly true for my home State of Tennessee. Because of the successes that I witnessed between my home State of Tennessee and Mexico, I have been a strong advocate for reshoring integrated supply chains from Communist China to North America.