

and doing new things and reaching out in new directions. We have been the most innovative country in the world. We should keep that.

But innovation has two senses, two parts. Both are very important to realize. One I call transformational innovation, and one I call sustainable innovation.

Transformational innovation is reaching the stars. It is the great stuff that AI could do. What if AI cures cancer? We have got to make sure we don't stand in the way of that happening.

What if AI dealt with climate change in a really strong new way or fed the hungry of the world or gave each person on Earth a teacher? Senator YOUNG mentioned this yesterday—a teacher that could just talk to them. These are great opportunities that we can't afford to miss.

But we also need sustainable innovation. That means we need innovation to produce guardrails that minimize the damage that AI could bring. How do you deal with workers who might be displaced? We don't want to repeat the mistake of globalization, where globalization did a lot of good things—it took a billion people, probably, out of poverty in the world—but no one paid attention to those who were hurt by globalization. We have to pay attention to bias because many of these big systems have bias built into them, and we can't repeat that error.

We have to deal with the creative community and intellectual property. So we need innovation in these areas as well to make sure that the liabilities of AI are dealt with.

So we need both—transformational innovation and sustainable innovation—in a sense, to maximize the benefits of AI and minimize the liabilities.

It is no easy task. It is no easy task. But our insight forums were designed to be balanced, with the input of leaders from the industry. They operate these AI complexes. We needed to hear from them, but also leaders from civil rights and labor and the creative community, sitting right next to them. And our AI forums were amazing.

There were back-and-forths. People really didn't just make speeches but tried to come up with questions we needed to answer and solutions to those questions. It is a difficult job, but I believe we achieved that balance in our AI forums and certainly in the roadmap. Balance is important.

Now, to help move forward on both forms of innovation—innovation, of course, being our North Star, transformational and sustainable innovation—we recommend a \$32 billion surge in emergency funding to secure America's dominance in AI. And let me underscore: This is a bipartisan recommendation. Senators HEINRICH and I, of course, care about it, but so do Senators YOUNG and ROUNDS, and they were quite eloquent yesterday about how we needed to spend this money or the United States would fall way behind.

Now, where do we go from here? Our policy roadmap is intended to be used by our committee chairs and ranking members as a foundation to move on good, bipartisan AI legislation. It is the committees that do the legislating. That is what has always happened around here. We need our committees to continue the bipartisan momentum of the AI gang to achieve the hope of passing legislation by the end of the year.

We don't expect every piece of AI to be addressed, every problem that is in our roadmap to be addressed. Some will lend themselves to move more quickly than others, and we are not going to hold back on some that are ready because others are not yet ready. This is a very, as I said, difficult process that we have to approach with humility.

Let me just say this: Our AI committee chairs and ranking members are ready and eager to engage in AI. Our roadmap includes many areas of bipartisan agreement that the committees can use, and, already, we are making progress in the Rules Committee, which is marking up legislation today. The Commerce Committee is looking at legislation regarding AI innovation. The Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee is considering how to leverage AI in the Federal workforce. The Armed Services Committee is leading the way on AI in the military. And the list goes on. So our committees are getting actively involved, which is what we want.

Our policy roadmap also embraces action to protect our elections from the potential risk of AI. First, the 2024 elections will be the first elections ever held in the age of AI. If we are not careful, AI could jaundice, even totally discredit, our entire system of elections as we know it. So, today, I am joining the Rules Committee, which is marking up three bills—all three with bipartisan support—to address AI's impact on our elections. I strongly support these bills, and I commend Senator KLOBUCHAR and her sponsors for their bipartisan work.

And that is just happening today, but we expect there will be other committees putting forth legislation in the near future.

Our policy roadmap also advocates for a host of regulatory recommendations that help maximize AI's potential and minimize its risks—risks like bias and job displacement and privacy invasion. These are all difficult issues to deal with, but move forward we must.

So our policy roadmap is an important step in AI regulation, and getting the committees here in the Congress to start figuring out the bipartisan legislation that they can move forward on is a good step. But I also plan to meet with Speaker JOHNSON in the near future to see how we can make Congress's effort on AI not just bipartisan but also bicameral.

So today is immensely satisfying for our bipartisan AI gang. It has been a long, long time and a culmination of

months of listening and thinking and working on this issue. So with great sincerity and humility, I want to thank my colleagues in the bipartisan working group—ROUNDS, HEINRICH, and YOUNG. I thank my Senate colleagues who attended our insight forums. Over 70 Senators attended at least 1 forum, and many attended multiple forums. And they are beginning their work on AI through the committee process. And I thank all the staff who have put a lot of effort and a lot of hours into this policy roadmap. I have a great staff, and they have been so instrumental in getting us to the point we are at now.

Congress can't and won't solve every challenge AI presents today, but with this policy roadmap, we now have a foundation necessary to propel America into the age of AI.

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. President, now on the border, three things are true about the southern border: One, the status quo cannot continue. Two, Democrats want Congress to take action. Three, the only way we will solve this issue is with real bipartisan action, not partisan talk.

Instead of just making a lot of speeches, pointing a lot of fingers—blame, blame, blame—we Democrats want to get something done to secure our border. Democrats showed we are serious about border security when we worked with Republicans to write the strongest border security bill in a generation, to hire more border agents and asylum officers, enhance drug enforcement, and fix asylum. We had the strongest border security bill in decades ready to go here in the Senate, with a lot of support from Republicans who, when they saw it, they liked it—they said, “Wow, this is tough stuff”—until Donald Trump killed it to keep the issue alive on the campaign trail. He said it. He wanted chaos because it might help his election. Then he said: Blame it on me.

I remember when he said, “Blame the shutdown on me,” when Speaker PELOSI and I went to his office. I don't think that is a very successful strategy, and it is certainly not what is good for America.

So this bill is such a strong bill. It is a bill that would add more than 1,500 new Customs and Border Protection personnel, 4,300 asylum officers—a bill Democrats and Republicans spent months negotiating and fine-tuning and revising.

Unlike the vast majority of bills in Congress that are dubbed as “border security,” this wasn't a messaging bill. This was a product of months of bipartisan negotiation, written with the goal of reaching the President's desk—a bill supported by the people who know, perhaps better than anyone else, what it takes to address border security, the National Border Patrol Council, a very conservative group. Their president called our bill “a step in the right direction” and “far better than the status quo.”

Donald Trump's sabotage of the strongest border bill in decades makes

it obvious he cares only about this issue so long as he can exploit it for political gain, not about solving the problem that Americans want solved. If Donald Trump was genuine about wanting to fix the border, if he actually believed this was an emergency, he would have supported the Senate's bipartisan bill.

Still, Democrats have not walked away from this debate. We want to secure the border. We know it will take bipartisan action in Congress, and we call on our Republican colleagues to join us to advance border security legislation, bipartisan legislation that the people demand.

JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS

Mr. President, finally, on nominations, today, the Senate will continue processing more of President Biden's outstanding nominees. This morning the Senate will vote on cloture on the nomination of Judge Sanket Bulsara to serve as a district judge in the Eastern District of New York. I was proud to push President Biden to nominate this amazing New Yorker and exceptionally qualified legal mind.

Judge Bulsara made history in 2017 as the first South Asian-American judge to serve in any court within the Second Circuit when he was appointed magistrate judge for the Eastern District. New York's South Asian population is one of the fastest growing in our State and in our country. So I am proud to support Judge Bulsara because he will make our courts a better reflection of the communities they serve.

And, once confirmed, Judge Bulsara will represent a milestone for the Senate. He will be the 195th—the 195th—judge confirmed by this body since President Biden took office, and we are going to keep going. Americans deserve jurists they can trust to be fair, to be qualified, and who will appreciate the human impact of their decisions. Judge Bulsara perfectly fits that noble idea.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

NATIONAL PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, this week, thousands of law enforcement personnel from across America will descend to our Nation's Capital to pay solemn tribute to comrades killed in the line of duty.

The entire Nation joins them once again in honoring the service and sacrifice as we mark National Peace Officers Memorial Day and add the names of fallen heroes to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial here in Washington.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to the officers and families who are in town this week. Our Nation owes the thin blue line a great debt for their dedication to keeping our communities safe.

I am especially grateful to Kentucky's law enforcement and honored

to pay special tribute to one of the Commonwealth's finest who was killed in the line of duty just last year. Deputy Caleb Conley of Scott County Sheriff's Office was tragically shot and killed a year ago next week during a routine traffic stop in Georgetown, KY.

He leaves behind his wife and two children. And yesterday, I had the privilege of meeting with members of the Conley family and assured them that their sacrifice is not forgotten.

The loss of the heroes we honor this week leaves holes in tight-knit departments and devoted families. And their deaths are a reminder of the daily risk peace officers take to keep the rest of us safe.

Of course, in this building, we are never far from men and women who swear oaths to run toward danger. And this Police Week, I hope our colleagues join me in thanking the officers of the Capitol Police who guard this institution and honoring their comrades who have given their lives to defend it.

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Mr. President, on another matter, in cities across America, soft-on-crime policies are making the tough job of law enforcement even tougher.

Earlier this month, President Biden declared that "Americans are safer from violent crime today than a year ago." But even a quick look around our Nation's Capital shows that crime in many American cities is still unacceptably high.

As of this past week, Washington, DC, has already seen 63 homicides and much more than 1,700 car thefts in 2024. Among these crimes was the deadly shooting of a 3-year-old girl who was hit by a stray bullet in a passing car. The child who was described as "cheerful and chatty" was just one of the youngest in a long list of this crime wave's innocent victims.

Last year, Washington saw homicides rise 35 percent. The city's murder rate reached the highest level in a quarter century. And less than halfway through 2024, cities across the country are still grappling with familiar problems.

In Los Angeles, home break-ins are rising, and residents report that police are complaining that their hands are tied. In Chicago, police reports show that crime has increased 69 percent since 2021. In Philadelphia, the effort to fire a soft-on-crime district attorney has gone all the way to the State supreme court.

Surely President Biden isn't declaring victory over the lawlessness threatening American communities. Surely the fact that violent crime is hovering beneath breathtaking highs isn't a cause for celebration.

As the head of one Washington non-profit focused on preventing gun crimes put it, "I know some of the repercussions that can come from taking a victory lap too soon."

Then again, it is not surprising that from a White House to city halls across the country, Democrat leaders are

downplaying concerns about violent crime. If they looked this problem in the face, they would have to admit that their own policies are to blame.

It shouldn't have to be this way. The American people deserve safe streets, and law enforcement deserves elected leaders who back the blue.

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. President, on another matter, for three consecutive months, major national polls have ranked immigration as the most important problem facing our country. And this year, for the first time, a majority of Americans say they support erecting physical barriers—physical barriers—along our southern border.

So perhaps it is not a coincidence that the Democratic leader has indicated his intention to once again turn the Senate's focus to the border crisis and to portions of the bipartisan legislation Senator LANKFORD helped produce earlier this year.

But in his own remarks on the subject yesterday, my colleague from New York seemed to acknowledge what we all know: The keys to securing our southern border are already in the hands that created this crisis.

As the Democratic leader proudly declared, "President Biden . . . is taking action to secure our border. Last week," he said, "the President began announcing a series of administrative actions."

Last week? After 3 years on the job, apparently, it is time to give the Commander in Chief kudos on his handling of a crisis that still lets nearly 5,000 people cross our border illegally in a day.

Of course, President Biden does have the authorities he needs to start rapidly undoing the damage of the historic crisis that unfolded on his watch. How do we know? Because he voluntarily took them off the table on day one. "Remain in Mexico"? Off the table. The border wall construction a majority of Americans support? Not a chance. Any sign at all that this administration would like to actually secure the border? Don't hold your breath.

The path out of the deepening border crisis is actually not a mystery; it just requires a President who is willing to stop digging.

S.J. RES. 57

Mr. President, now, on one final matter, I would like to briefly commend several of our colleagues for their work on resolutions the Senate will consider to roll back yet another slate of Biden administration overreach.

Today, we will vote on a resolution from Senator SCHMITT to finally put the brakes on the Treasury Department's extension of massive recovery funds for a pandemic emergency that has long since passed.

The Senate will vote on another resolution under the Congressional Review Act from Senator LUMMIS that would repeal a hasty, shortsighted power grab