

the SALONS Stories Act. This replicates a program, Shear Haven, that is taking place in Tennessee. Illinois, Senator DUCKWORTH's State, also has a program, and it trains aestheticians and barbers and beauticians on the signs of sexual abuse, domestic abuse, and violence and what to look for in human trafficking and then how to get people to the right resources for a rescue, for an intervention, for the help that they need.

And last month, the REPORT Act, which Senator OSSORF and I did in a bipartisan way, will give NCMEC—the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children—and law enforcement the resources that they need to crack down on child trafficking and online child sexual abuse material.

We are pleased that these are pieces of legislation that are moving forward. We are hopeful to get the subpoena on the Epstein flight logs and further information of his associates. And we are clinging to the promise—clinging to the promise—of justice for these victims by this Chamber paying close attention to what is happening with human trafficking in our country.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Mr. RICKETTS. Mr. President, one of the Federal Government's primary responsibilities—mentioned in the preamble of the Constitution no less—is to keep America safe.

Right now, the world is a very dangerous place. Russia has launched an unprovoked war on Ukraine. Hamas, a terrorist organization backed by Iran, has attacked one of our strongest allies, Israel. There have been 127 attacks on American servicemembers in Iraq and Syria. Houthi rebels are attacking shipping and our U.S. Navy in the Red Sea. The Chinese Communist Party has its eyes set on Taiwan and are violating our sovereignty with things like spy balloons and other forms of espionage.

The responsibility for keeping America safe ultimately lies with the President of the United States. But he has a team of critical advisers who are essential to ensuring that Americans are defended. One of those advisers is the Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin. The Secretary links the chain of command between the President and the uniformed military. The law is very clear: If the Secretary of Defense cannot do their job, there are protocols in place to ensure the chain of command remains intact. The law also requires proper notifications be made.

Last week, Secretary Austin went to intensive care in a hospital after complications from surgery. We wish him well in his recovery. Yet, for 3 days, the Defense Department failed to notify the President, the National Security Council, even the Deputy Secretary Kathleen Hicks that the Secretary of Defense was in the hospital and unable to perform his duties.

So let me get this right. The Secretary of Defense is in the hospital, the Deputy Secretary was on vacation in Puerto Rico, and nobody thinks to tell the President? Are you kidding me?

The Pentagon's explanation that the chief of staff was unable to do routine notifications because she was sick does not hold water. America's national security cannot be put on hold for a sick day. During Austin's secret hospitalization, the U.S. military launched a drone strike on Baghdad, returned fire against Houthi rebels, and was considering other military action in the Middle East. Given the potential implications of these actions, it goes without saying that we needed our Secretary of Defense at the helm.

Now, I am glad the Secretary's condition is improving. I know all of us want to wish him a speedy recovery from the infection and in his fight against prostate cancer. But the fact the Department did not inform Congress or the President, in contradiction to the law, is unacceptable and put Americans at risk. This shocking lack of transparency was more than just bad judgment; it was utter incompetence. But this is quickly becoming a feature, not a bug, of the Biden administration and how they run government.

This administration failed to give the American people the facts about the Chinese spy balloon. This administration failed to give the American people the facts about the catastrophic withdrawal from Afghanistan. And Biden's border policies have created a catastrophe at our southern border.

Now, we have a Secretary of Defense who went off the grid for 3 days without the President or his team even knowing, all this at a time when our adversaries are threatening American lives both at home and abroad. Americans need to be able to trust that their leaders are in charge.

Right now, we have more questions than we have answers. Why was the law not followed, and who made that decision? Was there actually a period of time when nobody was in charge of the Defense Department?

There must be consequences for this stunning incompetence. Americans deserve answers. Congress deserves answers.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

CONGRATULATING THE MICHIGAN WOLVERINES

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, as everyone knows, I am a proud graduate of Michigan State University. If I accidentally cut my finger, I am going to bleed green and white. But just for this week, I am setting aside my Spartan loyalties because, how about those national champions, the University of Michigan Wolverines? Go blue.

I speak for my entire State when I say that we are so proud of this team. They are among the best in the school's history—winning the Big Ten Championship, the Rose Bowl, and the National Championship last night. What a game.

In fact, they won every game they played during their undefeated 15-and-0 season with a suffocating defense and a relentless ground game. They are the first team in school history to reach 15 wins in one season and the first college football program in the Nation to win 1,000 games—1,000 games.

Like any team, they had their challenges, especially coming back from the 2020 COVID season. But through it all, they remained focused and, importantly, supportive of one another. And that focus and support paid off in a big way last night in Houston.

Michigan dominated the game under the leadership of quarterback J.J. McCarthy—amazing—running back Blake Corum, Donovan Edwards, and defensive back Will Johnson. And we can't forget that incredible late interception by Mike Sainristil that sealed the deal. The final score: a decisive 34 to 13 victory against the University of Washington team that was itself undefeated.

I am definitely looking forward to collecting some wonderful Washington products, thanks to the friendly wager I made with my dear friend and colleague Senator MARIA CANTWELL. We actually came into the Senate together in 2000. Usually, we are on the same side fighting issues; last night, on the opposite sides of the field.

I am so very proud of this team, Mr. President. Congratulations to the National Champion Wolverines. And "Go Blue."

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

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

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. RES. 169

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, my colleagues and I stand here today to demand accountability on behalf of the American people for the worst border crisis we have ever seen.

For the past 3 years, Americans have witnessed the negligence and gross mismanagement at our southern border unfold, each day worse than the day before. The consequences of this crisis have been fatal, killing 300 Americans a day, 300,000 Americans over the last 3 years due to drugs trafficked into our homeland. It has been costly, putting an undue burden on American taxpayers to the tune of \$500 billion per year. It is becoming more dangerous by the day as terrorists, Chinese nationalists, and over 1.7 million "got-aways" exploit our border at a rate higher than we have ever seen before.

The Biden administration has for all practical purposes erased our southern border and embraced a structure of complete lawlessness, letting our national security hang in the balance.

Enough is enough. Americans deserve better.

I think everyone understands that when you are running a business, you look at the numbers, you look at the goals, and when those aren't being met, you find the problem and you address it, which brings me to why my colleagues and I are here today.

I rise today in support of a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the Department of Homeland Security Secretary, Alejandro Mayorkas, no longer holds the confidence of the Senate and, more importantly, the confidence of the American people to carry out the duties of his office faithfully.

Secretary Mayorkas is derelict in his duty and has failed to uphold his oath. Over the past 3 years, Secretary Mayorkas has refused to enforce immigration law as passed by Congress, fueling the invasion at our border. He ended effective border policies like catch and release, "Remain in Mexico," title 42, and exploited parole and asylum loopholes that have allowed over 6 million migrants to live in the interior of our country without being vetted and with a court date nearly a decade away.

With over 10 million illegal migrants entering our country under this administration's watch, not to mention the 1.7 million known "got-aways," the crisis at our border is dire. Yet Mayorkas continues to lie to the American people and even under oath to Congress when he said he has operational control of our borders.

Defined in the Secure Fence Act of 2006, "operational control" clearly means the prevention of all unlawful entries into the United States, including entries by terrorists, other unlawful aliens, instruments of terrorism, narcotics, and other contraband. That is the Secure Fence Act of 2006. To claim that he has any control, better yet operational control as required by law, is not only disingenuous and insulting to the American people, who are concerned for their safety and security, it is also illegal. That is why Congress must step in and do the job that Joe Biden will not.

Secretary Mayorkas has no control of the border. How can you when, again, you have fentanyl poisoning killing 300,000 Americans on his watch? We have had 33 months of more than 150,000 illegal border crossings and 19 months with more than 200,000 illegal border crossings, including a new 1-month record of over 300,000 this past December—a month that historically sees a decreased number of crossings. According to his own DHS, they have admitted they have no way to determine if these individuals have a criminal history.

Sadly, the story that isn't being told enough is that right now, Secretary Mayorkas has misplaced approximately 100,000 migrant children here in our country.

I am honored, I am proud that so many of my colleagues could join me

here today as we outline the many reasons why there is no time to waste when it comes to firing Secretary Mayorkas.

Next, I would like to recognize the Senator from the great State of Missouri.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. SCHMITT. Thank you, Mr. President, and thank you, Senator.

Secretary Mayorkas has utterly failed to secure the border, and we are less safe because of it. Every State is now a border State, and crime and deadly drugs are flowing into our communities. There is a humanitarian crisis at the border, there is a fentanyl crisis at the border, there is a national security crisis at the border, all because Secretary Mayorkas has refused to enforce the law, refused to build a border wall, and has abused the parole process illegally.

I am joining my colleagues on the floor today to express the very sincere sense of the Senate that Secretary of Homeland Security Mayorkas does not have the confidence of the Senate and, more importantly, does not have the confidence of the American people to faithfully carry out his duties.

I am sure we have all heard the statistics, but I will reiterate a few just to illustrate how horrible the situation is right now at our southern border.

Since Joe Biden took office, there have been over 7.5 million encounters nationwide and 6.2 million encounters at the southern border, in addition to 1.7 million "got-aways." To put that in perspective, and it is hard to put those numbers in perspective—I am a St. Louis Cardinals fan—that is 160 Busch Stadiums. So for the folks who watched the national championship game last night, with a capacity of over 70,000, that is 116 of those stadiums.

In fiscal year 2023, 169 individuals whose names appear on the Terrorist Watchlist were stopped trying to cross the U.S.-Mexico border ports of entry.

In fiscal year 2023, CBP arrested over 35,000 aliens with criminal convictions or outstanding warrants nationwide, including 598 known gang members, 178 of those being MS-13 members. Those are the people we know of.

In fiscal year 2023, the air and marine operations seized over 27,000 pounds of fentanyl coming across the southern border, enough to kill more than 6 billion—billion—people.

What gets lost in the numbers, however, is that Mayorkas hasn't just presided over the worst crisis at our southern border in our history, he is directly responsible for it.

First, Secretary Mayorkas has refused to enforce real immigration laws, the ones that we have right now—not proposed language, the stuff that we have right now. He rescinded the migrant protection protocols, "Remain in Mexico," which would require illegal immigrants to wait out their asylum claims in Mexico.

This policy was working. When I was attorney general—my previous job—I took the Biden administration to court over this, and we won, just to keep that policy in place. It was a temporary injunction. We sued the administration, obtained that injunction to reinstate the program, which was upheld at the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court. But because of the lawlessness of this administration, we actually had to go back to the district court to force them to abide by the law they were ordered to abide by.

Two, Secretary Mayorkas has similarly refused to build the border wall. Again, I sued the Biden administration and Mayorkas to force them to build the wall, as the money had already been appropriated for that purpose. While that case was still pending at the district court level, Secretary Mayorkas and the Biden administration refused to do it and at the same time were selling the very materials to build that wall that were already bought. This should tell you all you need to know about how seriously they take the crisis and about their willingness to follow the law.

Secretary Mayorkas and Joe Biden have illegally paroled thousands of illegal immigrants into the interior of the United States. Parole authority requires that the Federal Government give immigrants parole on a case-by-case basis, but Secretary Mayorkas and this President have mass-paroled thousands and thousands of illegal immigrants in groups from Cuba, Haiti, Venezuela, and Nicaragua. That is illegal. Right now—existing law—to do that is illegal, but they don't care. They would rather break the law than enforce it.

While Secretary Mayorkas is refusing to enforce the law and build the wall, he is outright lying to Congress in the process and thumbing his nose at those who would dare to suggest there is actually a crisis at the southern border.

In an April 2022 House Judiciary Committee hearing, Secretary Mayorkas testified that the country had operational control of the border. That is a lie.

In November of 2022, in a House Homeland Security hearing, Secretary Mayorkas testified that the border is secure. That is a lie.

Secretary Mayorkas's record as DHS Secretary has been shameful. In his refusal to build a wall despite being directed to do so and enforce the law of the land, he alone, in his duty, where he had the responsibility to do so, has created a crisis at the southern border and proves he is not fit for the job he currently has.

He has been derelict in his duty to secure our southern border and to protect our citizens—the people we represent, the people in this country—and has completely lost the faith of the U.S. Senate and the American people.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). The Senator from Florida.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I am sick and tired of Joe Biden and

his administration pointing fingers at everyone but themselves for the crisis they created, and so are the American people.

I visited the border five times and have seen it for myself. The crisis at our border is a direct cause of Biden's dangerous and intentional policies. I have heard it from our Border Patrol agents. They are overwhelmed, and Biden has clearly abandoned them. It is sickening.

President Biden and Secretary Mayorkas swore an oath to uphold the law and protect our homeland. That means securing our border. Do they do any of that? Absolutely not. That is a fact, and anyone who says it is not true is lying to you.

People whom we don't know, including a shocking number of single, military-age men from all over the world, are illegally crossing the border. Countless amounts of drugs are being smuggled into our country and killing Americans. And the administration says the border is secure. It is pathetic. Think about that. Possible terrorists, murderers, and deadly drugs are coming to our country every single day while the President of the United States and the Secretary of Homeland Security tell us the border is secure. Have they lost their minds? Do they think the American people are dumb and don't see it on their local news each and every day?

I am from an immigration state. Florida is a beautiful melting pot with people and cultures from all over the world. We love legal immigration. What we don't want is an insecure and unsecure border that allows criminals, drugs, and dangerous individuals to come into our country unchecked.

More than 8 million migrants have been encountered nationwide under Joe Biden's watch—more than 8 million. Joe Biden lets them in, and then we have no idea where they are.

Secretary Mayorkas is a pawn in Joe Biden's illegal immigration agenda, but he is just as guilty because he has not done his job, and he is doing it at the express direction of President Biden.

Millions of people are illegally crossing our border unvetted and with no information provided to State and local officials about who is entering their cities and States. They don't tell Governors, they don't tell law enforcement, they don't tell mayors where they are sending all these migrants.

When you see leaders like Texas Governor Greg Abbott doing what it takes to stop illegal immigration in his State, the Biden administration sues to stop him from enforcing the law. You can't make this stuff up.

Secretary Mayorkas has abolished border security and interior enforcement at the Department of Homeland Security, but he has replaced it. He has replaced it with the largest illegal alien resettlement program in the history of our country. It is purposeful. It is intentional. This is what the Biden

administration and Democrats want. We are dealing with a lawless—a lawless—administration that is empowered by the Members of their party in the House and the Senate to continue the carnage.

Fentanyl is killing more than 70,000 Americans a year. But until the border is secure, this battle is not going to stop; it is going to continue. That is 70,000—70,000—families being torn apart because our border is not secure. Why would anybody do this?

Our priority must be protecting American families. We have all had enough. It is time for Biden to ditch his failed policies of open borders and amnesty and secure the border now. It is also time for Secretary Mayorkas to be impeached and removed from office, and I think Joe Biden needs to be held accountable too. I am working on that, and we will have more to say on that soon.

I don't have any confidence in Secretary Mayorkas to carry out his duties as Secretary of Homeland Security and to protect our borders. That is why I joined this Senate resolution with many of my fellow colleagues, and I want to thank the Senator from Kansas for starting this. We cannot allow this lawless administration to keep doing this without consequences. The American people deserve better.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, I come to the floor to talk about the fitness for office of Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas. My remarks are not directed at Mr. Mayorkas's character—I don't know him other than in the context of the Secretary of Homeland Security—nor do I direct my comments toward any other aspect of his life: his status as a husband, father, brother, son, neighbor, or anything else. But in this context, we have to evaluate the job that he is doing, and Secretary Mayorkas does not have the confidence of the U.S. Senate or those we represent to continue to defend our border integrity and protect our country. It is the very job he is called to do.

We have to remember that we have three branches within our Federal Government: one that makes the law; one that enforces the laws, or is supposed to; and a third that interprets them where people disagree as to the law's meaning.

His role is narrowly focused on interpreting a narrow category of laws, including and especially those designed to protect our border security. He has simply refused to enforce the laws he is charged with administering.

Under his watch, we have had at least 8 million people come into this country illegally. Over 8 million unauthorized individuals are among those who we know came in unlawfully, and the numbers keep going up. We have been breaking all kinds of records—the exact wrong records to break. We broke a record just last month when we had

302,000 encounters with illegal immigrants just in December alone. Those are just the ones whom we saw, whom we are aware of. That is the highest number we have ever seen in recorded history.

Under the watch of Secretary Mayorkas, this administration has incentivized parents—parents across the globe—to send their young children, their young sons and their young daughters, on a dangerous journey to the United States, where they end up in the hands of traffickers, where many of them end up as indentured servants and many of them subjected to the sex trade. A substantial portion of them—a majority of them, according to some estimates—are subjected to sexual abuse, to rape and other atrocities. More than 430,000 unaccompanied children have come into the United States illegally under his watch.

Now, in the meantime, he has tried to paper over those, to make lawful entries out of those who have entered unlawfully. He has created 13 separate illegal parole programs designed to increase the flow into the country by the hundreds of thousands, trying to make illegal immigration look legal when it is not, using this parole authority—parole authority that is there for a specific purpose. It is there to serve a humanitarian or a public-need purpose, and it has always been understood to be something that is there only on a case-by-case basis, not categorical.

In other words, if we are aware of somebody with a humanitarian purpose—somebody's grandmother has died and they need to attend the funeral in the United States—they may come in for a short period of time and then leave. If they need a certain type of medical treatment that is available only here, they can be paroled in for a short period of time, and then they are expected to leave.

The public purpose is also individualized. Somebody speaks an obscure language. Somebody is on trial, and we need an interpreter who can't be found inside this country. We bring someone in for a short period of time, and then they leave.

It is always on an individualized basis and always on a temporary basis. He has run afoul of those by creating at least 13 of these illegal parole programs.

So with these kinds of numbers, how on Earth can he claim to have the border under operational control? He can't. He can't. Yet, somehow, he does so. To do so, he has to accept this made-up definition of “operational control”—a definition without any connection to actual statutory or operational requirements.

On his watch, CBP has decreased its vetting procedures—those designed specifically to deal with people coming from China, including military-age Chinese males, who are crossing our southern border in unprecedented, alarming numbers.

Under his watch, we have seen a dramatic increase in known terrorists who

have entered through our southern border. Mr. President, 279, in fact, have been caught at our southern border since Biden took office.

Now, by election day of 2024, we will have seen at least 10 million illegal immigrants that will have crossed over our southern border.

Under his watch, the amount of deadly fentanyl coming into this country has increased—increased dramatically. In fact, a report out in October of 2023, just a couple of months ago, indicates that there were 6 billion—with a “b”—6 billion lethal doses of fentanyl that entered our borders across our southern boundary. That means that you could kill three-fourths of the entire population of the world; you could kill every American 54 times with that. This is poisoning. This is a weaponized tool that could kill Americans and is killing Americans in droves. This is not free. This is not a victimless crime. There are victims littered all over the Western Hemisphere, all over the world, but especially here in America.

Under his watch, the administration willfully ended the carefully negotiated and very effective “Remain in Mexico” program put in place by the previous administration, which required those seeking asylum, crossing on land through our southern border, to wait in Mexico, to await final disposition of their asylum claims during the adjudication of those claims here in the United States. They just ended it, then they litigated it, then they were told by a court to reinstate it, and then they have been drawing that out in a rope-a-dope fashion.

Under his watch, the administration has decreased willfully its ability to detain those required by statute to be detained even though illegal entries have increased dramatically.

A recent CBS poll found that 75 percent of Americans say that the situation across the southern border is a crisis or at least very serious.

The House Judiciary Committee report stated that between January 20, 2021—the day Biden took office—and March 31 of last year, the Biden administration removed from the United States only 5,993 illegal aliens who were placed in removal proceedings before an immigration judge during that time.

In other words, let’s think about what this means. Of the at least 2.1 million aliens released into the United States since January 20, 2021, the Biden administration has failed to remove through immigration court removal proceedings 99.7 percent of those illegal aliens.

It is a new day. It is 2024. Secretary Mayorkas, just as he has had all along, still has the legal authority to enforce the border, but he still refuses to do so.

The crisis at our southern border, make no mistake, is not the consequence of inadequate statutory text. It is not for want of legislative authority. He has that authority, just as the previous President did, but, unlike the

previous administration, this administration refuses willfully to enforce it. I find it ironic and counterproductive that the U.S. Senate continues to negotiate with Secretary Mayorkas on border security issues even as he refuses—as he has done from the very beginning—to enforce the border, creating this humanitarian crisis and even as he is facing, as a result of that, impeachment proceedings in the House of Representatives even as we speak.

We found him not to be capable of negotiating in good faith on this. Why? Because he refuses to enforce existing law which, if he did enforce it, would bring this crisis to an end abruptly.

The crisis at our southern border—and it is a crisis—is unacceptable. Americans are demanding accountability. We must fire Secretary Mayorkas.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. BRAUN. Mr. President, the laws that govern who could enter this country are some of our most important. Those laws, from the time President Biden got elected, have been completely ignored. And as point person, Secretary Mayorkas has been the leading individual saying one thing and doing another.

You have heard the statistics—8 million illegal immigrants, “got-aways”—not even a term a few years ago—up to around 60,000 per month. And in that crowd, these are not people that are wanting to greet someone at the border. They pay the big fees to the cartels. They want to come into the country, and they are doing so with some type of a record that they don’t want to be discussing once they get here. Who knows where that ends up.

I was down there in 2021—I think April—and it was not currently where most of the traffic is coming from. Eagle Pass was down a little bit east of there. And those numbers, 50 to 60,000 per month, are now dwarfed by 200 to 300,000 monthly, plus the “got-aways,” again, that come in here not wanting to greet the Border Patrol.

It is not secure. Back then, Border Patrol said their job is, basically, triage. They are so overwhelmed.

We should, today, pass this no-confidence measure because there has been plenty of time to adjust your policies; and when you only do it because you are paying the political consequences that will be meted out here next November, I don’t think that counts. That means you are doing it thinking that you can maneuver beyond it politically when you have caused all that grief in the meantime.

The leader of the band is President Biden. He is the conductor. Mayorkas has just been in the orchestra, but it has clearly been orchestrated, where we are at. When you put up the welcome sign to come into our country with no consequences, sooner or later it adds up that there will be consequences. Even our northern border has got more illegal crossings than we have ever had before.

Down there a couple years ago, 50 different nationalities were crossing. Now it is up to over 150. And 170 on the Terror Watchlist have been confronted. How many others were not?

This is a dire national security threat. Those who are ignoring the problem for political reasons should bear that in mind. And, most importantly, the American public should bear that in mind when they go to the ballot box next November.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, I want to thank Senator MARSHALL for the work that he has done on this resolution, and I come to the floor today to support this resolution for a very simple reason. When you look at the job performance of Secretary Mayorkas, you have to say: He, indeed, has failed. He is a Secretary of Homeland Security who clearly does not believe in securing the homeland, because the border policy for the Biden administration which he is implementing is for an open border.

You can see it for yourself. You can look at the news reports. People are streaming across that open border between the ports of entry.

They are coming into this country illegally. And this administration, this Secretary of Homeland Security, they keep trying to be creative and find ways to make illegal legal. That is wrong.

So the Secretary has failed in his duty to secure that border. And as he has failed in those duties, he has also failed our Border Patrol agents. When you go to the border, as many of us have, what you hear from Border Patrol agents, what you see on the ground, is Border Patrol agents who are struggling to combat what is a crisis at our southern border. And it is all because of this administration’s policies.

In addition, Secretary Mayorkas has failed the communities across this country, because they are suffering with record fentanyl overdoses, with drug trafficking, human trafficking, sex trafficking; and it is our local law enforcement that is having to address these issues. The Secretary has failed them because he failed in his job, and he has failed the American people who trusted him to go in and secure the homeland. But, no, that is not what has happened.

So House Republicans are going to proceed with their impeachment against the Secretary; and, hopefully, that is going to be the first step towards ending this record of failure which is really costing the American people greatly.

You have heard much about the numbers today. And, yes, indeed, you have got 8.5 million illegal entrants into this country. Now, 1.7 million of those are what we call known “got-aways.” That means they can see them on surveillance; they can’t get to them.

There is a category of unknown “got-aways” that they find after the fact.

We do not know who is entering this country. But what we do know is: This population of illegal entry into this country is more than the population of 38 of our States.

There are hundreds of individuals on the Terror Watchlist who have been caught at our southern border. They walked in illegally and tried to claim asylum. So far this fiscal year, which began on October 1, we have had 30—30—terrorists come to our border.

Why is it that they are doing this?

They are doing it because they think they can get away with it. They think we are not going to do anything to them; that we are going to let them sashay right on into this country and welcome them, give them a plane ticket to where they want to go, give them a cell phone, give them food, give them housing. That is what they are expecting because of this failed border policy.

Now, sometimes you hear some of my colleagues across the aisle say: Well, the border has been broken for years.

It hasn't been this bad. You didn't have 302,000 people in a month. You didn't even have that in a year. You also didn't have terrorists by the hundreds.

If you go back and look at how many terrorists tried to come to our border between 2017 and 2020, there were 11. So far, this fiscal year, we have had 30. You just heard my colleague give you the statistic of 279 since Joe Biden raised his hand and took the oath of office. This is the reason that our FBI Director Christopher Wray says everywhere he looks—not just some places, but everywhere he looks—is he seeing peace and calm? No. He says he sees red lights flashing. Think about that—red lights flashing.

Dozens of terrorists, hundreds of people from countries of interest, thousands of gang members and criminals, are walking into this country. They are not coming here for a job. They are coming here because crime is what they know. This is the reason that Alejandro Mayorkas has failed in his job.

Now, we talked a little bit about fentanyl. Since Joe Biden took office, we have had 50,000 pounds of fentanyl that has come into this country being seized at that border between the ports of entry—50,000 pounds. Fentanyl death is now the leading cause of death for Americans between the ages 18 and 45. You know, we could do something about this if there was the political will in Congress to do something about it.

When you look at the fact that our Federal agents tell us they think they are only catching 5 to 10 percent of the drugs that are coming into this country and we lost over 100,000 Americans last year to drug overdoses—about 70 percent of that was fentanyl; some of it was opioids—we need to do something about this. Securing that border would go a long way.

Supporting our Border Patrol instead of blaming them, that would go a long way.

I thank the gentleman from Kansas for bringing forward this resolution. It is time that Alejandro Mayorkas be removed from his position as the Secretary of Homeland Security.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, I would like to thank my colleagues for joining me tonight to help me prosecute this case against Secretary Mayorkas.

As we introduce this historic measure, I want to close with this: You have nothing—you have nothing—if you don't have your word. As a physician, I took an oath to, above all else, do no harm. In the military, I took an oath to support and defend our Constitution. In the Senate, I reaffirmed my military oath to uphold the Constitution of the United States. Each one of these oaths I honored with integrity and exercised to the best of my ability.

On February 2, 2021, Secretary Mayorkas swore an oath to “well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office of which I am about to enter and to protect our country from enemies, domestic and foreign.”

With that oath, he promised the American people that he would defend our homeland and uphold our Constitution.

Tonight, my colleagues and I have outlined numerous ways Secretary Mayorkas is derelict in his duty as Secretary and failed to uphold this oath. We are here today because we take our oath seriously and will not stand by idly while Secretary Mayorkas threatens our national security and our democracy.

For the sake of America's safety and security, we need to impeach Secretary Mayorkas now and send a clear message to Joe Biden that in 300 days, we will fire him, too.

Mr. President, as in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 169; I further ask that the resolution be agreed to; that the Marshall amendment to the preamble, which is at the desk, be agreed to; that the preamble, as amended, be agreed to; and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, in reserving the right to object, I want to thank my colleague, who has joined me here on the floor this evening, for his service to our country.

Like him, I was just a pup. I was 17 years old when I raised my right hand and took an oath to defend our country and Constitution as a midshipman in the Navy; and there were lots of midshipmen at the height of the Vietnam

war. I went on to repeat that oath, gosh, a dozen or more times in Active Duty and in Reserve duty through the heart of the Cold War and right up to today. I took the same oath here not too many years ago. It is an oath I take seriously, and I know my colleagues do as well.

I have had the opportunity to travel to the borders of our country south of us and to any number of countries south of Mexico, all the way down to Colombia. And I have a pretty good idea why people, especially from that part of the world, have come here or have sought to come to this country in enormous numbers. Among the reasons they come here is that we are addicted to drugs—drugs that are, in many cases, trafficked to countries to the south of us. People end up living lives of misery because of our addiction to drugs, illegal drugs. The folks who live down there want to live in a place where they can have their children get an education and have access to healthcare and freedom from crime and corruption. That is what they are interested in, and because of our addiction to drugs, we have helped to make the situation worse for them.

On top of that, the poverty that is facing a bunch of places down in Central America, especially, is made worse because of drought—drought which has been caused, as our Presiding Officer knows, because of the reliance in this country on greenhouse gases, on creating greenhouse gases, which have put so many other places, including countries south of us, in harm's way.

But the challenges at our border today are the results of any number of things: the global pandemic, increased violence, corruption, authoritarian government rule, and on and on. These are issues that we have sought to help address for as long as I can remember.

Under numerous Secretaries of Homeland Security and administrations of both parties, I have had the privilege of serving on the Committee on Homeland Security for the 22 years that I have been in this Senate. I have had the privilege of leading the committee as chairman of the committee for a number of years, and I have led congressional delegations, bipartisan congressional delegations, to the areas south of us. This illegal immigration that we are seeing in the south of our country is unacceptable and unsustainable. And anyone who says it is otherwise, I think, is mistaken. The question is, What do we do about it?

I have known Ali Mayorkas for the better part of a dozen years. He is a good and decent man with a wonderful family—a wife, children—and is someone who deserves our thanks, not the back of our hand. None of us are perfect; God knows I am not. And, certainly, he has made mistakes, but if you talk to the people who are actually involved in the negotiations, the bipartisan negotiations, they are trying to find a solution with respect to the border as part of the supplemental appropriations legislation. If you talk to the

people who are involved—to the Democrats and Republicans who are involved—and ask them about how helpful or harmful has been the involvement of Ali Mayorkas, he has been very much involved in those conversations. What I have heard off the record from our colleagues, Democrats and Republicans, is that he has actually played a constructive role and a helpful role, and I hope that he will continue to do that.

If I had a magic wand, with one fell swoop, I would do one thing to help address illegal immigration: I would enact full comprehensive immigration reform. Next Monday, I will be one of the speakers at the annual State of Delaware Chamber of Commerce dinner. It is something I have done for, gosh, dozens of years now. But when I make customer calls, when I visit customers on calls to businesses large and small around our country, I always ask them three questions: How are you doing; how are we doing—this is as to the congressional delegation with Senator COONS, Congresswoman BLUNT ROCHESTER, and myself—how are we doing; and what can we do to help?

Do you know what most people say and what most businesses say? Our real challenge is just getting people to come to work. That is what I hear from all kinds of businesses, large and small. We just need people to come to work, people who have a work ethic and people who are trainable and we can count on to show up every day.

There are a lot of people who like to come to this country and work. They don't necessarily want to stay here and live here and become citizens here. They just want to have the opportunity to provide a better life for their folks and make a contribution to this country.

So rather than simply laying all of these problems that we have at the border at the foot of one person—is the Secretary responsible for some of it? Sure. So are we. One of the things that we could do is to adopt comprehensive immigration reform, which the business community in my State has asked us to do for years; and across the country, they have asked us to do that for years. If we did just that one thing, that would make a difference.

The Department of Homeland Security has a bunch of missions, some of them more critical than others. One of those is to protect our Nation from harm, whether the threat is a natural disaster or an act of terror. This is a difficult mission under any circumstances, and it is one that requires strong, principled leadership; and I think we get that from Ali Mayorkas.

Moreover, our border has seen significant changes in demographics and in the populations of those seeking asylum. The people coming across our border who are trying to get into this country look a whole lot different than in the first delegations I led down there as a U.S. Senator, as a junior Senator in this body. It has changed a lot, and

we need to change the ways that we are trying to stem it.

I will close with this: I think most of us here—and I know my colleague who is offering this unanimous consent request—are people of faith. We are people of faith. We might be Democrats and Republicans, but we are also people of faith, for the most part. We might be Protestant; we might Catholic; we might be Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, whatever, but we are people of faith.

I was raised in Beckley, WV—a little coal mining town. My mom used to take my sister and me to church, God, every Sunday morning, every Sunday night, every Wednesday night, and most Thursday nights. She was interested in two things: one, in making sure we understood the Golden Rule to treat other people the way we want to be treated and, two, that we had actually read Matthew 25 and actually internalized it in that it is our obligation, our moral obligation, to the least of these. Remember there, in the Scripture, in Matthew 25, it says: When I was hungry, did you feed me? When I was thirsty, did you give me to drink? When I was naked, did you clothe me?

It also says this: When I was a stranger in your land, did you welcome me? Think about that. When I was a stranger in your land, did you welcome me? We have a moral obligation to welcome a stranger. We don't have a moral obligation to let millions of people come into our country without permission and to stay here. That is not part of Matthew 25. But there is a moral obligation that we need to look out for the least of these. I hope we will keep that in the back of our minds as we go forward.

The last thing I would say—and I have said this so many times that my colleagues are sick of hearing it—is that bipartisan solutions are lasting solutions. I am a Democrat who was raised by two Republican parents. I have always believed that the way to get things done is to work together across the aisle. I am encouraged by the negotiations that are underway that involve several of our colleagues on the Democrat and Republican sides in addressing what is going on at the border. I have talked to both Democrats and Republicans who have been part of those conversations and negotiations, and I am encouraged that progress is being made. I think, rather than just pointing fingers at one another, we should actually build on that progress and hasten the day that we can actually begin, in a serious way, in a comprehensive way, resolving this major challenge to our country.

With that, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Kansas.

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, I certainly greatly appreciate the Senator from Delaware's remarks, and I agree with him on so many things he talked about. I agree that we are a land of opportunity and that we should help

those in need. You know, personally, I have led humanitarian medical mission trips around the world. The United States spends \$80 billion a year through the USAID programs, Food for Peace, and polio vaccinations. We promote economic trade.

I am afraid my friends across the aisle see this as an immigration issue. If we open up the gates, 158 million people worldwide would like to come into the country right now, to come into our country—158 million people. That is according to a 2018 Gallup poll. There are 158 million people from around the world who would flood our gates right now if given the opportunity.

I have always supported legal immigration—legal immigration—but I see this today totally as a national security issue. That is what I am afraid of. That is what I am concerned about when the FBI Director says all the lights are blinking. When we see 100,000 people—Americans, young Americans mostly—dying from fentanyl poisoning every year; when we have 1.7 million “got-aways,” where we don't know who they are or where they are—hundreds of known terrorists, aliens of interest, tens of thousands of aliens of interest—this is a national security issue to us.

Secretary Mayorkas took an oath. He took an oath to enforce the laws of the land, to make sure that we had a secure border, and we don't have that right now. That is why we need to fire Secretary Mayorkas today, and we need to let the White House know that we are going to have a new person in there next year as well.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 375.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read nomination of Erika L. McEntarfer, of the District of Columbia, to be Commissioner of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor, for a term of four years.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented