

Contraception is a must, except Republicans in Congress have a bill, the “Life at Conception Act,” that would give an embryo so-called personhood rights, which would outlaw abortion, outlaw IVF, and, yes, outlaw some forms of contraception. That bill has the majority support of the Republican caucus, including Speaker of the House MIKE JOHNSON. On top of that, Republicans blocked Democrats from passing this very same bill to protect the right to contraception last year. But tomorrow, every Senator will have to say where they stand, proving that no matter what Republicans say about wanting to support contraception, when it comes down to it, they won’t.

Tomorrow’s vote should be a turning point. It is time we take these Republican lawmakers at their word.

Millions of people across this country are already experiencing a new form of hell thanks to Donald Trump and the extremist Supreme Court that overturned Roe, and Black, Brown, and low-income communities are feeling a disproportionate impact.

So, now, as Donald Trump continues to push for a nationwide abortion ban and says he is “looking at” contraception, Democrats are standing up and fighting back. Already, President Biden and Vice President HARRIS have taken a series of steps to strengthen access to affordable, high-quality contraception and adequate access to reproductive healthcare more generally.

Tomorrow, I will be joining my Democratic colleagues, led by my partner Senator MARKEY and by Senator HIRONO and Senator DUCKWORTH, in voting for the Right to Contraception Act. Birth control is safe, effective, and an important part of reproductive healthcare.

It is time that we fight back against the Republican war against reproductive freedom. It is time we codify the right to contraception into law.

I am furious that millions of women have lost fundamental rights. I am furious that their freedom to make their own decisions has been taken away by a small number of extremists. I am alarmed by what the extremist Supreme Court and congressional Republicans are prepared to do to unravel a future of protection for women under a Republican Presidency.

This is about the right to make decisions about our own bodies and our own futures. It is all on the line, and we need these protections written into law. That is what tomorrow’s vote is about.

I don’t want to hear from Republicans who say they support contraception but can’t make it the law of the land. If they really support contraception, then they will vote yes on the bill that comes up tomorrow. If not, actions speak louder than words. They will demonstrate that it is not only going after abortion, it is not only going after IVF, it is also all about going after contraception.

These are the decisions women should make for themselves. They

should have the freedom to do that. These are not the decisions that should be made by extremist Republican lawmakers.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

#### 19TH AMENDMENT

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, 105 years ago today, this Chamber did something truly historic: It passed the 19th Amendment to secure the right to vote for American women.

The amendment’s ratification by the States 1 year later marked the largest enfranchisement in U.S. history, extending the vote to 26 million Americans.

This incredible achievement fulfilled more than 70 years of tireless efforts by brave suffragists to make our country a more perfect Union, including many Tennessee women: Abbey Crawford Milton from Chattanooga, Ida B. Wells from Memphis, and Anne Dallas Dudley from Nashville.

On this anniversary, I am especially reminded of Febb Burn of Niota, TN. In the summer of 1920, the Tennessee General Assembly was in a heated debate about whether Tennessee would ratify the 19th Amendment. At the time, 35 States had already voted to ratify the amendment, so only 1 more was needed to make the 19th Amendment the law of the land.

On the day of the vote in Nashville, Febb Burn wrote a letter to her son, Harry Burn, the youngest member of the Tennessee State Legislature. She urged her son to support the amendment. She wrote:

Hurrah and vote for suffrage and don’t keep them in doubt.

At first, Harry pinned a red rose—the symbol of the anti-suffragist movement—to his shirt and voted to table the amendment in back-to-back deadlocked votes, but with his mother’s letter in his coat pocket, Harry ultimately listened to her advice, switched his vote, and switched to a yellow rose on that lapel, making Tennessee the 36th and final State to ratify the 19th Amendment.

As the first woman to represent Tennessee in the U.S. Senate, I have a special appreciation for the women who fought this fight, and I have worked to honor their legacy and advance their cause. But as we remember the suffragists on this anniversary, it is important to recognize that women are still fighting for a seat at the table and recognition for their achievements.

Look no further than the National Mall right here in our Nation’s Capital. This 2-mile stretch of land—America’s front yard, as it is known—honors our Nation’s history and ideals with monuments, memorials, and statues of incredible Americans who have made tremendous sacrifices to make our country a more perfect Union. Yet, among the 40 monuments, not 1 is dedicated to American women.

That is why, alongside Senator BALDWIN, I introduced the bipartisan Wom-

en’s Suffrage National Monument Location Act, which would finally secure a monument honoring women’s history on the National Mall. This monument will commemorate the women’s suffragist movement, the passage of the 19th Amendment, and the incredible women who fought to secure the vote for millions of Americans.

The House unanimously passed this legislation in November. Now the Senate should vote to make this memorial a reality and honor the giants who paved the way for generations of American women.

I urge every Member of this Chamber to join Senator BALDWIN and me in supporting the Women’s Suffrage National Monument Location Act.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### RIGHT TO CONTRACEPTION ACT

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I am honored to join my colleagues and the Presiding Officer, whom I thank for his leadership, in voicing my support for the Right to Contraception Act.

Truth be told, we shouldn’t be here debating this issue. We shouldn’t have to vote for legislation on it. Just 2 years ago, it would have been unimaginable that we would be turning the clock back not to the early 1970s, when Roe was decided, but to the 1960s, when the U.S. Supreme Court decided a case called *Griswold v. Connecticut*—yes, *Griswold v. Connecticut*—striking down the criminal prohibition against the use of contraception.

That decision had a profound impact on women and American families, and it was all to the good. It, in effect, struck down a prohibition that was disregarded widely but still followed, with consequences that were both tragic and detrimental to women’s health.

Now we are in an era that regards the unthinkable as perfectly realistic, when my Republican colleagues here and across the country are working to ban or restrict access to abortion care and attempting to limit the ability of families to have children through IVF. No one could have thought that was possible just a couple of years ago.

But in the post-Dobbs era, it is not only possible, it is common. *Griswold v. Connecticut* is still the law of the land, but it has been undercut deeply by Dobbs, and it has undermined the ability of families to decide when and whether to have children. We are talking here, not about abortion but about contraceptive care which gives women a chance to choose their own path in life and select their own timeline to pursue or continue an education or trade or advance further in the workforce. It gives them the freedom they

deserve as to when to have children as well as whether.

This decision is deeply personal. I shouldn't have to say it. It should be a matter of assumption, but politicians in this building and in State capitols around the country take on the right to make that decision for everyone else, not just themselves.

If my Republican colleagues really care about families and children, I would suggest they turn their attention to improving their lives in this world and support families rather than forcing people to have children that maybe they are not prepared to care for. And if they really care about women, how about maternal healthcare? I am struck by the fact—in fact, I am haunted by it—that maternal mortality rates in this country have actually been rising. Maternal mortality rates in the United States of America have been rising over recent years. It seems incomprehensible. Yes, we have cut infant mortality rates, but women still face heart disease, hemorrhage, infection, other kinds of complications, either before they give birth or within the year afterward and, of course, the mental health issues that can arise.

To my Republican colleagues, if you care about women, let's support the moms who decide to have children but leave to them the decision about whether and when.

In addition to determining their own futures, access to contraception is also access to critical healthcare. Since the landmark decision in Griswold, millions of women have safely used contraception to improve health outcomes for themselves, and birth control is revolutionary to anyone who has a life-threatening condition that prevents them from having a healthy pregnancy. Restricting access to birth control puts people in danger, preventable danger. Nearly 90 percent of women of reproductive age have used some form of birth control, and an overwhelming percentage of voters believe access to contraception is a basic right. It is a basic right.

Overturning Roe represented a significant regression in our law, in morality, in practical health outcome. In the blink of an eye, younger generations were set back before their moms in their basic rights and protection, their access to healthcare.

We have a responsibility in this body, at the pinnacle of our Federal system, to make sure that there is Federal protection against the attacks on reproductive care and ensure that generations of Americans don't have fewer rights than their parents. This bill is urgent in light of the continuing attack in State legislatures on women's access to healthcare and reproductive rights.

I wish we weren't here, but we are, and we need to do the right thing. My colleagues have a choice. They can either support a woman's right to access contraception or they can oppose this

bill and oppose that right. I think there really is no question about how that choice should be made, and I hope they will make it tomorrow when we vote on this measure.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

### TRIBUTE TO JEFF ANDRIEU

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to offer my sincere gratitude and appreciation to Jeff Andrieu, a lieutenant colonel in the Air National Guard for his exemplary service and unwavering commitment. From his beginning as a civil engineer in the Louisiana Air Guard, to his current role as an Air National Guard military construction liaison, he has attained a mastery of the military construction process benefiting Congress, the Department of Defense, and the National Guard.

Lieutenant Colonel Andrieu has been a trusted adviser and source of knowledge bridging the conversation between the National Guard and Congress. During his time as a congressional liaison, he consistently demonstrated unparalleled commitment and his expert level knowledge was instrumental in advancing congressional objectives and intent regarding our military facilities. His commitment to excellence and his support of staff and the mission should be a model for all.

As Jeff transitions from the National Guard Bureau legislative liaison to his next assignment, I want to recognize him for over 26 years of distinguished service and wish him the best in his next chapter of service to our Nation. His presence here will be missed.

### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

#### RECOGNIZING FARMERS HEN HOUSE

• Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize Farmers Hen House of Kalona, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

In 1997, Eldon T. Miller started Farmers Hen House in Kalona. The business produced and distributed organically

grown eggs and partnered with three local Amish and Mennonite farms to create a pathway for farmers across Iowa to sell their eggs. Eldon is well known in the organic farming community and founded Organic Growers Group in 1995 to help farmers learn about organic farming and obtain organic grower certifications. In 2000, Eldon's neighbor Mark Miller acquired Farmers Hen House, and in 2004, Mark's son Ryan joined the company. Under Mark and Ryan Miller's leadership, the business has grown into a full-service producer, processor, and distributor of Iowa-grown eggs.

Today, Farmers Hen House works with over 90 farms to sell certified humane, organic, and free-range eggs. The business is dedicated to maintaining quality standards in their eggs and has a rigorous egg grading facility. In 2014, Farmers Hen House partnered with the Farmers Electric Cooperative to install solar panels at their processing facility, and it has been running entirely on solar power since 2016. Following Mark Miller's retirement in 2021, Ryan Miller became president of the business.

Ryan has led the way in implementing outreach for Farmers Hen House, collaborating with culinary experts to develop a variety of healthy egg recipes, creating a podcast called "The Scramble," and writing a community blog to inform farmers about sustainable farming techniques and other tips and tricks.

Farmers Hen House is an integral part of the community in Washington County. Along with educating and assisting local farmers, the business donates over 12,000 eggs a week to local food banks around the State. In 2023, the Federation Bank of Iowa spotlighted Farmers Hen House for their significant investment in Iowa and small local farms. The small business continues to modernize and emphasize the quality and sustainability of their eggs. Due to their hard work, Farmers Hen House will celebrate its 27th business anniversary this year.

Farmers Hen House's commitment to providing high-quality eggs in Kalona, IA, is clear. I want to congratulate Mark and Ryan Miller, Eldon T. Miller, and the entire team at Farmers Hen House for their continued dedication to Iowans. I look forward to seeing your continued growth and success.●

#### REMEMBERING COLONEL WILEY M. POPE

• Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the legacy of Colonel Wiley M. Pope, who fought to free his family from slavery and secured the first emancipation in the history of Kansas.

In 1860, Colonel Pope fled from Mississippi to Kansas with his wife and 13 children. Because his wife was Black and his children were biracial, Mississippi law dictated that they could be seized from him and sold as slaves to