

So, if we look at the summer bucket list, you will see—I talked about all of these—eliminate coal power, check; block new natural gas plants, check; add burdensome Federal staffing mandates on long-term care facilities, check; restrict Second Amendment rights, check.

The President's summer bucket list has been fulfilled already, and we don't even have summer officially here yet.

So while President Biden and his bloated bureaucracy attempt to put major restrictions on American energy, decimate the healthcare workforce for our seniors, tax and spend their way to higher prices, cast our southern border into chaos, and put restrictions on Americans' constitutional rights, Senate Republicans will continue to fight and hold the administration accountable and return authority to the American people on the issues that impact them every single day. That is why we were sent here. That is what we were sent to do.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

#### UNACCOMPANIED MINOR RULE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I am here to inform my colleagues what is wrong with our immigration enforcement involving children.

In April, the Biden administration finalized a rule governing its Unaccompanied Minors Program. They did this over the objections of this Senator and 38 others when we informed the administration in a letter. And we didn't object lightly.

For nearly a decade, my oversight has shown that the Office of Refugee Resettlement—that is ORR for short—has failed to protect unaccompanied minors. Biden's new rule cements ORR's dangerous policies.

Here is just one example of ORR's many failures. This is taken straight from a Justice Department court filing. A sexual predator smuggled a 10-year-old girl. I will call her Mary. That is not her real name. Mary was from Guatemala, smuggled to the United States on false promises of an education.

When she reached the border, ORR officials promised Mary they would find a safe sponsor for her. Then they simply trusted everything to Mary's predator and what that predator said.

Mary's predator lied about being her father. He gave ORR phony documents and phony forms approving Mary's release to his sister, who he claimed was Mary's aunt.

Under Biden's rule, ORR doesn't have to verify a sponsor's proof of identity or even guardianship. It doesn't even fully background-check the sponsor. The ORR rule takes a sponsor's representations at near face value and then puts employees on a 10- or 14-day clock to get kids into the hands of the sponsors as fast as possible.

Then, without even batting an eye, the ORR escorted Mary to her fake aunt in Chicago. There, this 10-year-old

girl was stabbed with a kitchen knife, scalded with cooking oil, and repeatedly sexually assaulted by four men.

Mary, you know, thought she was coming to America to have a better life and pursue the American dream. Instead, she was enduring a nightmare. I imagine Mary prayed every night for help. I reckon she spent every day asking God how this happened to her.

It happened because the United States turned a blind eye, and by finalizing this rule, the administration of President Biden is refusing to remove the blindfold.

ORR knows it has a problem. The Justice Department told ORR what happened to Mary.

Last December, I led 38 other Senators in demanding ORR change its policies, but our warning fell on deaf ears. Biden's ORR just finalized a rule with policies that are even worse than those that placed Mary with her abusers. Under these policies, in 2021, ORR sent another little girl to a sexual predator in the State of Kentucky who falsely claimed to be her uncle. ORR accepted fake paperwork and unverified claims. It moves kids to sponsors as if they were nothing more than products on an assembly line. We ought to protect kids from predators.

There is a process that Congress can object to these rules. It is called the Congressional Review Act. It is something that can be done in the U.S. Senate with just a majority vote. You don't have to have 60 votes to stop debate because it is limited to 10 hours of debate, and then you vote whatever the majority wants to do.

We have this whole thing of child abuse in the immigration system because we are not adequately vetting the people who bring these kids in or where they are assigned. It is very clear that child abuse of this type is not a Democrat or a Republican issue. Under the Congressional Review Act process, I am glad to have the support of Senator MANCHIN and 43 other Senators on my resolution to overturn the Biden administration's awful ORR rule. I hope to see more of my colleagues support this effort. I hope to get it to a vote and ask for their support.

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. RICKETTS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO). Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### TAILPIPE EMISSIONS AND EV MANDATE

Mr. RICKETTS. Madam President, I rise today to join my colleagues in condemning the Biden administration's continuous overreach. Specifically, today we are talking about the EPA's delusional tailpipe emissions regulations. They are effectively an EV mandate.

This delusional rule would require up to two-thirds of all new cars being sold in 2032 to be electric vehicles. I don't have anything against electric vehicles—they are cool to drive—but the Federal Government shouldn't be picking winners and losers in the marketplace. The free market and consumers should drive American innovation, not mandates from the Biden administration. That is why I have introduced Congressional Review Act legislation, along with Senator SULLIVAN, to overturn Biden's EV mandate.

There are a lot of reasons an EV mandate just isn't feasible. My first concern is the cost to consumers.

At an event I held last year bringing experts from across the country to Nebraska to talk about what these mandates would mean, one of our experts from Harvard and the Breakthrough Institute told us that auto ownership is the most critical tool for people getting out of poverty. Certainly in a State like Nebraska, that is true. It is the ticket to being able to get to a job. Yet buying and maintaining an electric vehicle is unaffordable to our low-income families.

The average low-income family spends \$12,000 on a vehicle. An EV costs \$53,000. A \$7,500 tax credit is not going to get you anywhere. It is an unacceptable burden and barrier to our low-income families to be able to get that car so they can get to work.

The second problem is that Biden administration officials have admitted they have no idea how they are going to be able to accomplish their goal. One person I talked to said they are going to run into two big problems: math and physics. They have no idea how they are going to be able to generate and transmit the power needed to be able to charge all these cars.

In fact, on the one hand, while they are trying to get us to use more electric vehicles and have those be charged, on the other hand, the Biden administration is passing rules that are attacking American energy. They are passing regulations for our power-generating plants that, for example, would require 78 percent of coal-generation plants to shut down between 2028 and 2040.

They are blocking the mining of critical minerals as well that we need to build the batteries—so Ambler Road, for example, in Alaska, where there is one of our major copper mine deposits, or think about all the lithium mine resources we have in this country. They are blocking our ability to get the resources and therefore are going to make us dependent on China, which processes between 60 to 80 percent of all these critical and rare earth elements that we need to be able to build these batteries.

There are also limitations on the technology that goes along with electric vehicles. It just doesn't make it feasible in States like Nebraska. For example, EVs are not reliable in cold weather. According to the AAA, when

the temperature drops below 20 degrees, EVs' driving range can be reduced by as much as 41 percent.

Nebraskans tell me they feel like Washington, DC, bureaucrats have no idea how their policies will affect them in the middle part of the country. Of our 147 communities in Nebraska, designated cities, 99 do not have chargers. In fact, if you are in places like Valentine or Bloomfield or Alliance, you are 45 minutes away from the nearest charging station. If we are going to set national standards, those standards need to work in every State.

I promised my constituents I would fight these delusional mandates with every tool I have. My Congressional Review Act resolution of disapproval would overturn Biden's EV mandate. It is a bipartisan effort that has the support of 48 of my colleagues. In the coming months, every Member of this body will have the opportunity to join in this commonsense effort.

Anyone who votes against these will have to explain to their constituents why they don't want our low-income families to be able to get a job by buying a car or why they don't want folks in rural areas to be able to get to work.

I am confident that our CRA will earn bipartisan majorities in the House and Senate so we can send it to President Biden's desk. I want to thank all of my colleagues who have joined in this effort.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

#### ENERGY REGULATION

Mr. HOEVEN. Madam President, I join my colleagues today to discuss the Biden administration's onslaught of energy regulations that will make electricity more expensive and less reliable for homes and businesses across the country.

In April, the Environmental Protection Agency finalized four new regulations specifically targeting our coal-fired electric powerplants—certainly the coal-fired powerplants in my State of North Dakota—including an expensive, unachievable new mercury and air toxics standards, or MATS, rule, despite the EPA's own regulatory analysis—their own regulatory analysis—stating that the previous rule was adequately protecting public health; the Clean Power Plan 2.0—so-called Clean Power Plan 2.0—requiring existing coal-fired and new gas-fired plants to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 90 percent when the technology is not yet commercially viable. They can't do it. That just puts them out of business, meaning less baseload electricity.

And also they put forth a new coal ash management rule and water discharge rule, imposing costly, unachievable requirements on power generators, all at a time when we need more electricity.

Now, the Biden administration's regulatory blizzard comes at a time when the North American Electric Reliability Corporation, or NERC, con-

tinues to raise concerns about elevated risks of blackouts and brownouts.

The Presiding Officer comes from a State where you know how important it is, in these really hot days—100-plus degrees—that we have power to power people's air-conditioning. It can be a life-threatening situation if we don't.

Further, multiple independent grid operators are warning that EPA's power sector rules will further threaten reliability. We need this baseload for reliability of the grid nationwide. That includes the Southwest Power Pool, which covers part of my State of North Dakota, which stated that it, meaning the Southwest Power Pool, "remains concerned . . . about the impact the Final Rule"—the findings of these final rules—"may have on the region's ability to maintain resource adequacy and ensure reliability."

Again, this is about that baseload electricity that we need for stability and reliability of the entire grid nationwide.

The PJM Interconnection, which serves 65 million Americans, noted that "the Final Rule may work to drive premature retirement of coal units that provide essential reliability services and dissuade new gas resources from coming online." Again, less power when we need more.

ERCOT, covering Texas, stated that EPA's rule poses an unacceptable risk to the reliability of the ERCOT system.

So, in all cases, these are examples where, across the country, the very institutions required to make sure that that grid is stable, the baseload power is there on the hottest day or the coldest day for reliability, they are sounding the warnings—very clear. They are sounding the warnings.

These regulations will drive up the cost of operations and force powerplants to prematurely close. This approach is in direct conflict with our Nation's energy reality. We need more energy, not less. Multiple forecasts show that electricity demand is projected to rise in the coming years as much as 27 percent in some parts of the country. Fast-growing areas, again, like the Presiding Officer's State, probably are going to see that 27 percent and maybe more as a function not only of growth but the fact that we are using more electricity in so many ways.

Much of the demand is coming from things like data centers, for example, that support cloud computing and artificial intelligence. Dispatchable resources like coal, gas, and nuclear powerplants remain critically important to meet demand, precisely because of their ability to operate regardless of weather conditions.

That is why, in North Dakota, we have been working for over a decade to crack the code on carbon capture technologies, allowing us to continue leveraging over 700 years of fuel supply in the form of coal supplies with the best environmental stewardship. We have worked to bring regulatory cer-

tainty, and, as a result, our State became the first one to be granted regulatory primacy for class VI wells to ensure that CO<sub>2</sub> is safely and securely stored below the surface. Wyoming and Louisiana are the only other States in the Nation that also have this authority.

We also recently secured \$350 million in a demonstration grant from the Department of Energy to advance Project Tundra, which will enable the coal-fired Milton R. Young facility to capture and store 4 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per year.

We also have proven that we can lead the way in producing SO<sub>x</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>—sulfur oxides, nitrous oxides—and mercury emissions, and now we are working to lead the way forward on CO<sub>2</sub>.

However, the Biden administration's regulations are adding these costly regulatory burdens at the very time we are working to deploy these new technologies. So think about it. Think about it. We are deploying these new technologies to produce more energy more reliably, baseload electricity that will stabilize the grid; and we are putting new technologies on that will enhance our ability to reduce emissions—not only SO<sub>x</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, and mercury, but CO<sub>2</sub> as well. But the regulations the administration is bringing forward are going to impede our ability to do exactly that: produce more energy more cost-effectively, more dependably—right—with better environmental standards.

And that means not only deploying those technologies here, but then other places around the world will follow our lead on this. I mean, that is the solution, and it is being impeded by these regulations that go so far that they prevent the industry from deploying the new technology. That makes no sense. That is not common sense. That is not the way to solve a problem.

So, again, Congress needs to push back against the EPA's regulations that go too far, undermining the reliability and affordability of the grid.

I am working with 12 of my Senate colleagues on a congressional review resolution of disapproval to overturn the MATS rules, and we will have CRAs to overturn other of these rules as well. For example, Senator CAPITO is leading the effort to overturn the Clean Power Plan 2.0 rule, and Senator MULLIN has also got a CRA to overturn the EPA's coal ash rule.

Our Nation is a global energy powerhouse. We have vast resources with its coal, oil, natural gas—many different sources, many different types of energy. We need to use them all. And we have the best environmental standards in the world. We lead in terms of those technologies and, again, environmental standards. It only makes sense, for all those reasons as well as national security reasons, to produce that energy here at home rather than forfeit that energy production to other parts of the world that pose either a security threat to us or, at the same time,