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## Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable RAPHAEL G. WARNOCK, a Senator from the State of Georgia.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Our eternal God, we lift grateful hearts for the great heritage of our Nation. Thank You for those who purchased our freedom with blood, toil, and tears.

Lord, give us this day a vivid vision of what You expect our Nation to become as we accept the torches of integrity and faithfulness from those who have gone before us.

Give our lawmakers a reverence for Your Name and a determination to please You with their thoughts, words, and deeds. Enable them to bear with fortitude the fret of care, the sting of criticism, and the drudgery of unapplauded toil. Direct them to the sources of moral energy so that Your strength may be linked to their limitations.

We pray in Your magnificent Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, June 13, 2024.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable RAPHAEL G. WARNOCK, a Senator from the State of Georgia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATTY MURRAY,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. WARNOCK thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

### CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Judy W. Chang, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a term expiring June 30, 2029.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

### MIFEPRISTONE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, mifepristone is a safe and reliable drug that has been widely available for decades.

Though I am relieved by today's decision made by the Court, no one should be celebrating this decision. This decision should have been an obvious one. And let us not forget: This decision was based not on the merits but on a lack of standing. We are not yet out of the woods.

This shouldn't be a decision women are forced to fear year after year, case after case. These healthcare decisions must be between women, families, and their doctors, not judges nor lawmakers.

### RIGHT TO IVF ACT

Now, Mr. President, on IVF, for years, as the hard right had set their sights on Roe v. Wade, many of us kept hearing the same thing again and again: Roe can't possibly ever be overturned. We were told that worrying about Roe was sensationalism, that its repeals were so remote a prospect that worrying about it was much ado about nothing. Many on the Republican side who voted repeatedly against codifying Roe used the excuse that Roe was not in danger, and they used it as an easy way out. The same could happen to IVF.

Of course, that all came to an end 2 years ago, when a MAGA majority on the Supreme Court did precisely what the anti-abortion movement has wanted for decades—the reversal of Roe and the elimination of a constitutional right to an abortion.

Today, we live in a country where tens of millions of women are forbidden by law from making the very same personal decisions about their bodies. This is precisely what many Republicans, who are scared of their own bad views on abortion, assured us would never happen. And yet, here we are—in a modern-day dark age for women's fundamental freedoms.

Worst of all, the anti-abortion movement is not yet finished. Now that Roe is gone, they have set their sights on a new target: in vitro fertilization.

So, today, the question before the Senate is very simple: Do we agree that

● This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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Americans should be free to use IVF if they want to, yes or no? If yes, then the only right answer is to vote in favor of today's bill.

The Right to IVF Act is common sense and necessary. It establishes a nationwide right to IVF and eliminates barriers for the millions of families looking to use IVF to start and to grow a family.

Protecting IVF should be the easiest "yes" vote the Senate has taken all year. Republicans cannot say they are pro-family and then vote against protecting IVF.

It is very fitting that we take this important vote today of all days. Here in the Senate, we are voting to protect women's reproductive freedoms, but on the other side of Capitol Hill, Donald Trump and his Republican sycophants will be talking about tax breaks for the very rich, cuts to the middle class, and packing our courts with more radical judges. The contrast couldn't be clearer. Look at the contrast. Democrats are protecting IVF; Donald Trump and the Republicans are protecting wealthy tax breaks. Which side is for the American people? It is obvious.

Look, as we prepared this IVF bill, many of our Republican colleagues who hate talking about the issue have made the same panicked arguments they made about Roe: It is a nonissue; it will never happen; that we are blowing things out of proportion; that IVF, they say, is simply not under threat and today's bill is unnecessary.

Senators CRUZ and BRITT even organized a statement yesterday, signed by all Republican Senators, saying that of course they support IVF. But they certainly won't be voting on a bill that protects it. Easy to see through that one, isn't it? How strange—all 49 Republicans are willing to sign a piece of paper saying they like IVF, but none of them seem to be willing to actually vote for a bill that protects IVF. It shows you how afraid they are of the issue, how they are tied in a knot by the MAGA hard right on choice, and they can't do anything the American people want.

This is simple: If you really support access to IVF, vote to protect access to IVF.

America, watch what our Republican colleagues do, not what they say. Again, this is not a show vote; this is a "show us who you are" vote. Today, unfortunately, it seems our Republican colleagues are going to show us just who they are—people who will not protect a woman's right to IVF.

To all those who claim that IVF is not under any threat, facts are stubborn things. Look at what happened yesterday when one of the most powerful anti-abortion voices in America officially came out against IVF. Look at what the Alabama Supreme Court did 4 months ago. Their decision on IVF led to a temporary halt on IVF services across the State of Alabama. This is a disastrous thing to see in 21st-century America.

Senate Republicans who like to pretend that IVF is not under threat should have a word with the likes of the Heritage Foundation and Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America. These organizations are some of the most influential authorities in conservatism and on the Republican Party, and they are making it plain as day that IVF is the hard right's next project.

Just 1 week ago, the Susan B. Anthony league wrote to Senators telling them to oppose the Right to IVF Act. They said our bill protecting IVF was "irredeemable" and described IVF as a "free for all." Their opposition to IVF uses identical language as those who oppose abortion.

The Heritage Foundation—one of the most important conservative and most powerful conservative, most influential conservative organizations—is against our bill protecting IVF. They were even against the fig leaf messaging bill pushed by Senators CRUZ and BRITT, which didn't actually protect IVF at all. It seems the senior Senator from Texas, up for reelection, is running scared.

One senior policy analyst at the Heritage Foundation predicted a generational shift in how the right views IVF, saying:

Many of these pro-life Republicans are going to have to think more deeply about what it means to be pro-life.

The hard right is saying it as plain as day. First they targeted abortion, and now IVF is next. Sooner or later, Republican Senators are going to fall in line.

That brings me back again to the very important vote happening today here on the Senate floor. As Donald Trump talks about protecting tax cuts for the rich, we Democrats in the Senate are talking about protecting women's reproductive freedoms. It is a fitting encapsulation of what is at stake this year.

Finally, let me finish with this: Starting a family is one of the most sacred decisions a person can ever make. For many, it is what makes life worth living. Infertility makes that impossible for tens of millions of couples. About 10 percent of couples struggle with this medical condition. That is a heavy burden to carry if your deepest wish is to become a mom or a dad. It can be a source of worry, concern, even shame.

IVF has thus been a miracle cure for generations of parents and kids. It has been part of my family's story. My beautiful grandchild was born thanks to the help of IVF, and I thank the Good Lord for it.

So it is the stuff of nightmares that today the hard right in America is beginning to set their sights on preventing people from using IVF. We have a chance today to stop this madness before it takes full flight. We have a chance to pass a bill that says something very simple: IVF is a basic right and will be protected under law.

To my Republican colleagues: The choice is yours. Americans are watch-

ing, parents back home are watching, and couples who want to become parents are watching too.

Republicans cannot say they are pro-family but vote against protecting IVF. That is what is at stake today.

I urge everyone to vote yes.

Remember, America, this is not a show vote; it is a "show us who you are" vote.

#### ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Now, Mr. President, on AI legislation, artificial intelligence is already reshaping our world as we know it. Every industry—healthcare, finance, manufacturing, and others—will in some way be impacted by AI and must be prepared when that moment comes. That includes the Federal Government.

As more Federal Agencies begin to incorporate AI into their operations, it is critical that they have a clear and established set of guidelines to manage this technology safely and effectively. So I was pleased that yesterday Chair PETERS and Senator TILLIS introduced a bipartisan bill to make sure the Federal Government is proactive in harnessing AI's potential while managing its very real risks.

This legislation will establish some of the first guidelines for the responsible procurement of AI by the Federal Government. The guidelines in this bill will be essential for the Federal Government to deploy AI so it protects people's civil rights, prevents bias, and ensures people's privacy.

These protections are critical not just for the application of AI in the Federal Government, they are important for the application of AI in every industry.

I commend Chair PETERS and Senator TILLIS for introducing this legislation. It is a great example of both sides working together to legislate effectively on AI.

As we have said, we first had our AI forums. We then put out our roadmap. Now our committees are beginning to work on specific legislation. I am very, very proud that we are moving forward in this regard.

We had another opportunity to work together to pass AI legislation last night when Senator DURBIN tried to pass his DEFIANCE Act, which cracks down on nonconsensual AI pornography and holds those responsible for the sharing of graphic images and videos.

Sadly, despite the bill having bipartisan support, one Member—only one Member—from the other side of the aisle stood in the way and blocked its passage. I hope this is not the norm moving forward. I hope both sides can continue working together—like Chair PETERS and Senator TILLIS did—to harness the potential of AI while protecting against its risks.

#### DONALD TRUMP CAPITOL HILL VISIT

Mr. President, finally, on the Trump visit, later this afternoon, Senate Republicans will welcome former President Donald Trump to Capitol Hill for a meeting about some of the top priorities of the Republican agenda moving