

of the 12 spending bills out of the committee on a bipartisan basis. We are doing our jobs in the Senate. Unfortunately, recent history is repeating itself in the House under the leadership of Speaker Johnson. Instead of coming to the negotiating table with their Democratic colleagues—the only way to pass meaningful legislation in a divided Congress—or following the budget deal signed into law last year, they have been crafting partisan bills full of cuts and poison pills.

Now, rather than take the Senate's lead in prioritizing responsible funding bills that can actually become law, House Republicans are once again trying to delay long-term funding agreements at the expense of the American people. House Republicans introduced a continuing resolution to push our job to fund the government until March of next year, a 6-month delay from our annual deadline of September 30.

As if this weren't already a blow to our Nation, which relies on critical programs that depend on this funding, the Speaker is once again hitching his already misguided government funding wagon to an outrageous and partisan provision. This time, it is the so-called SAVE Act. The so-called Safeguard American Voter Eligibility Act, or SAVE Act, would make it more difficult for American citizens to register to vote and would inevitably lead to eligible registered voters being purged from the voter rolls.

Two things; first, it is already against the law in every State for non-citizens to vote; second, noncitizens rarely, if ever, vote. In the extremely rare scenario when a noncitizen votes—listen to this—that individual can be federally prosecuted and sentenced for up to 5 years in prison, 5 years for a noncitizen voting.

Put simply, there is no need for additional criminal penalties to deter non-citizen voting. The reality is that the SAVE Act would create problematic barriers for American citizens who are legally eligible to vote. Instead, we should be working together on bipartisan legislation to address real threats to our elections, such as AI technologies that can be used to spread disinformation to voters.

The American people are tired of partisan bickering. They want us to do our jobs on a bipartisan basis. I encourage Speaker Johnson and House Republicans to put politics aside. Like the Senate, take your duty seriously to fund the government and avoid an unnecessary and damaging shutdown.

To the Speaker, like it or not, this requires working with the other side of the aisle to find common ground. The American people expect that of us. Let's get it done.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ECONOMY

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to discuss the need to get our Nation and our economy back on track.

We learned this morning the new numbers have come out on inflation. Prices are higher today than they were the day that the Biden-Harris administration took over—by over 20 percent. I hear about it in Wyoming every weekend; I heard about it this past weekend, how high prices have become and the crushing effect that that has had on families in my State in Wyoming and all around the country. This has been going on now for over 3 years. Prices have continued to go up. And this crisis of high prices has been cumulative. The impact on families—cumulative. And it is, regrettably, causing very hard choices for families to make. It shouldn't be this way.

Here is a recent headline from CBS News. It said: "More Americans are having to choose between food and energy bills." Clearly, this is a reflection on the Biden-Harris administration.

Now, one of those folks who talked about that—the quote is from Stacey Freeman. Ms. Freeman says her energy bills each month cost her hundreds of dollars. She told CBS News: "Sometimes I have to choose," she says, "whether I'm going to pay the light bill or . . . pay all the rent or buy food or not let my son do a sport."

That is what has happened under the Biden-Harris administration—the impact of the high prices caused by the massive amounts of government spending passed without a single Republican vote that stimulated an amount of increase in prices—the highest in 40 years.

Ms. Freeman's story is, sadly, all too common. Many Americans are feeling the high cost and the high anxiety related to the high cost of goods and services in their lives. Nearly 4 out of 10—2 out of 5—Americans say they worry about their ability to pay their own bills. Since 2019, utilities cost the average American almost \$300 more each month—not \$300 a month, \$300 more each month—than what they were paying before. These are the costly and cumulative consequences of Joe Biden and KAMALA HARRIS's war on affordable and reliable American energy.

Mr. President, you ask people anywhere around the country, and they know this is an administration that has strongly come out against American energy. They froze Federal oil and gas leases. They discouraged new energy production. They issued regulations to ban gas-powered vehicles—the kind of vehicles most Americans drive. So it is not a surprise that high energy prices continue to bother and cause pain for American families.

Month after month, year after year, Americans watch their costs go up and, regrettably, see their savings, if they have savings, go down.

The Biden-Harris administration has offered no solutions to our Nation's cost-of-living crisis. Democrats, instead, tell the American people: Don't believe the pricetags at the grocery stores or the price at the gas pump. They want you to believe everything is OK. Americans know that isn't so.

We learned last month that the Bureau of Labor Statistics, which is supposed to keep accurate unemployment data—well, they reported faulty numbers. A million jobs touted by the Biden-Harris administration do not actually exist. They never existed. They never were created. Yet the Biden-Harris administration claimed credit for jobs that do not exist.

Meanwhile, we have had 2 straight months where job growth was lower than expected.

America, today, has fewer manufacturing jobs than we did last year. In Michigan, autoworkers are getting laid off. Last month, the carmaker Stellantis announced plans to lay off more than 2,000 American workers from its plants in Detroit. This is the same carmaker that received hundreds of millions of dollars in subsidies—a tidal wave of electric vehicle grants—from the Biden-Harris administration, and they are laying off people. Take the money from the government—from the Biden administration, from the Harris administration—and lay off workers.

It is no surprise that last night in the debate, KAMALA HARRIS couldn't even answer the first question when they asked: Are you better off now than you were 4 years ago—are the American people better off now than they were 4 years ago? She could not defend herself, could not say yes, because people are not better off now than they were 4 years ago.

These recent layoffs—they come as they switch their assembly lines from gas-powered vehicles to electric vehicles. Thousands of American workers will soon be put in the unemployment line as a result of what HARRIS and Biden and the Democrats are continuing to promote.

Democrat regulations, Democrat rhetoric—a rhetoric of impending climate doom—are crushing American jobs. It is no wonder that Biden and HARRIS are now running from their record, and it is a record of ruin for the economy. Their flip-flops, walk-backs, the coverups—all too apparent.

The American people know that the policies of Vice President HARRIS have had a chilling impact on our American economy. When then-Senator HARRIS was rated the most liberal Member of the U.S. Senate, Americans listened. When Vice President HARRIS said recently that her values had not changed, people listened again. Americans are struggling, and Biden-Harris policies and the Democrat policies are to blame.

Remember how we got here: Democrats passed trillions of dollars in reckless, radical, runaway spending. It was

so unpopular, not a single Republican voted for it. It had to pass with a tie-breaking vote. Who broke the vote? Well, the Vice President of the United States comes to the Senate to cast the tie-breaking vote, and that would be KAMALA HARRIS, now the candidate of the Democrats for President of the United States. Vice President HARRIS came to this Chamber, sat in that chair, and cast the vote that broke the tie that brought us record-high inflation, 40-year-high inflation.

Americans cannot afford 4 more years of failure. Americans need a break from the damaging policies of Vice President HARRIS. What HARRIS is proposing is more wasteful Washington spending. HARRIS wants to raise taxes on the middle-class, impose socialist-style price controls. She supports banning fracking. She supports banning gas-powered vehicles. She wants to make energy more expensive. That is how she voted, that is what her rhetoric has been, and, as she said, her values haven't changed. Vice President HARRIS would continue the nightmare of high prices and high taxes.

Let's remember, it was different 3½ years ago under the Trump administration. Back then, paychecks were going up. Inflation was nonexistent. Americans were breaking free of poverty. Americans were energy dominant. Our southern border was safe and secure. Not anymore. People want to go back to those days of American prosperity again.

So it is time to turn the page from the disastrous policies of Joe Biden and KAMALA HARRIS. Republicans will work to lower prices, to unleash American energy, and to get this Nation back on track.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I rise today to speak in favor of the nomination of Heather Cahoon to be a member of the Board of Trustees of the Udall Foundation.

Congress created the Udall Foundation in 1992 as an independent executive branch Agency to honor Morris K. Udall, affectionately known as "Mo," who had a terrific and enduring impact on our Nation's environment, and his commitment to supporting the rights of American Indians and Alaska Natives.

In April of this year, President Biden nominated Ms. Cahoon, Heather Cahoon, to serve as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Udall Founda-

tion. Ms. Cahoon is a highly qualified nominee. She has devoted her professional career to the study of Federal Tribal law and policy. She is an associate professor of Native American studies at the University of Montana.

At the University of Montana, she cofounded the American Indian Governance and Policy Institute, a Native-led independent think tank that provides Tribal nations in Montana with in-depth research and analysis of Tribal-level policies. She would be a valuable—a valuable—addition to the Udall Foundation Board.

Over a decade ago, the Congress created the privileged nomination process to speed the confirmation of nominees to fill approximately 280 positions on Boards and on Commissions, including nominees to the Udall Foundation Board of Trustees.

Ms. Cahoon's nomination moved to the Executive Calendar on May 16, and we should have considered her nomination on the floor soon thereafter. It is disappointing to me—and I know to others—that her nomination has languished for over 16 weeks, with no word of any objections from either side of the aisle. Inexplicable delays undermine the improvements we have made to Senate procedures to improve non-controversial nominees and to do so quickly. Today, I have come to the floor myself to see if we have an agreement to confirm Ms. Cahoon.

NOMINATIONS OF HEATHER M. CAHOON, EN BLOC

I, therefore, ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 666 and 667, for Heather M. Cahoon, of Montana, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation for a term expiring October 6, 2024, and for a subsequent full 6-year term; also, that the nominations be confirmed en bloc; the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; and that no further motions be in order to any of the nominations; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the en bloc nominations of Heather M. Cahoon, of Montana, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation for a term expiring October 6, 2024; and Heather M. Cahoon, of Montana, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation for a term expiring October 6, 2030. (Reappointment)?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, could I have another minute or 2 to make some personal comments, if I could?

I had the privilege of serving as Governor before I came to serve 24 years ago as a Senator. Before I was a Gov-

ernor, I was a Congressman for some 10 years. One of the people I served with in the House of Representatives was Morris Udall—Mo Udall—who was a giant in the House and a giant in the country, a great environmentalist, great conservationist, and a wonderful human being, a wonderful servant. People are probably saying, what is this Udall Foundation? The Udall family—not only Mo Udall but also our colleagues who served here in the Senate, and one of them, if I am not mistaken, may still serve as our U.S. Ambassador to New Zealand. I think of them and I think of the Udall family and what they have meant to this country, to this body over many, many years.

I am pleased to be here to put in a good word for Ms. Cahoon, who I think is well-qualified. And I am pleased we will be able to act on that nomination today.

I yield the floor.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO). The Senator from West Virginia.

23RD ANNIVERSARY OF THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2001, ATTACKS

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam President, as the Presiding Officer knows, today marks 23 years since the 9/11 terrorist attacks on our Nation.

Although we are now over two decades removed from one of the greatest tragedies in our Nation's history, the memories remain in our minds as if it had just happened yesterday. Those horrific events in New York City, Washington, DC, and Shanksville, PA, forever changed national security in the United States of America. It also changed many of our families, our fellow Americans' families. Our Nation banded together—we supported one another, and we rebuilt and recovered—but we will never forget.

Many of us were here on that day. I was here in Washington, DC, in my office building on the House side. I certainly will never forget that awful and tragic day.

AUGUST WORK PERIOD

Madam President, I rise today to talk about another topic—or a few topics, for that matter, which are of the many issues that I heard from my constituents back home during my visits across West Virginia—from Weirton to Morgantown to Parsons to Ranson to Huntington and all other points in between in West Virginia. As the Presiding Officer and many of our colleagues did, I spent the last 5 weeks traveling every corner of my State—touring businesses, celebrating wins for our State, and meeting with local leaders, business owners and constituents.

Most importantly, this was a time for me to hear about the issues that are directly impacting them, the solutions that are working for them, and also the challenges that they face. I heard a lot, but there were common