

second highest annual total by pages in the *Federal Register*. On the whole, President Biden's agenda has imposed regulatory costs that, by one estimate, surpass \$1.8 trillion. That is trillion with a "t."

So it is safe to say Congress once again has an opportunity. Two weeks ago, the American people gave Republicans a legitimate, crystal-clear mandate, and come January we ought to use it to hit the brakes on runaway regulation.

#### TRIBUTE TO OFFICIAL REPORTERS OF DEBATES

Mr. President, now, on another matter, I would like to take some time today to salute the outstanding Senate staff whom my team and I have relied on during our time in the Republican leader's office.

First, I would like to offer more fulsome thanks to the Official Reporters of Debates, the ears of the Nation here on the floor—always listening, carefully recording, and much to the relief of my staff, meticulously reconciling remarks as prepared with remarks as delivered.

The Official Reporters are integral to the life of the Senate and central to the construction of the historical record. But, by definition, they fly under the radar, blending almost intentionally into the fabric of this Chamber.

So I take particular pleasure today in asking to record in all caps, as the live transcript goes, my sincere gratitude to each of the Senate's Official Reporters of Debates for their essential work.

#### TRIBUTE TO REPUBLICAN SECRETARY AND CLOAKROOM STAFF

Mr. President, now I will turn to a final group of floor staff who deserve our sincere thanks.

In both the Democratic and Republican cloakrooms, you will find consummate professionals for whom loyalty, service, and deep institutional knowledge are calling cards. Much as I know the Democratic leader leans on the work of Gary Myrick and the Democratic cloakroom staff, I would like to brag for a few minutes on the Senate's Republican Secretary and the staff of the Republican cloakroom.

During my time in the Senate, I have been the majority leader, and I have been the minority leader. The majority is better. But whether it is designing the roadmap for a Republican majority's agenda or trying to amend or slow down a Democratic majority's agenda, I wouldn't want to navigate the Senate's arcana without a procedural expert like the Republican Secretary, Robert Duncan, by my side.

Duncan, in the footsteps of distinguished predecessors, has been an indispensable adviser to me and my staff. The entire Republican conference rightly trusts in his deep knowledge of the rules and precedents that govern this institution, and his calm manner projects confidence in even the thorniest procedural battles.

I am so grateful to Duncan for his rock-solid counsel. And, of course, a

portfolio as broad as the cloakroom's draws on the strengths of Duncan's entire team: the watchful eye of Assistant Secretary Chris Tuck, whose procedural ingenuity steers the Senate out of jams and whose sharp wit brings much needed humor to long days on the floor; the air traffic control of floor assistants Tony Hanagan, Brian Canfield, and their recently departed colleague Katherine Foster, whose deep relationships with Senators and staff across the conference keep important business moving swiftly and in good cheer; the agile readiness of cloakroom assistants Max Boyd, Maddie Sanborn, and Charlotte Ueland, whose record-keeping, conference-wide communications, and stewardship of the Republican pages make the cloakroom's most essential functions appear to happen as if magic; and the managerial savvy of administrative assistant Noelle Ringel, who wears a dizzying array of hats to keep the entire operation humming.

Cloakroom staff spend nights, weekends, and every working day making the jobs of Senators easier. Their pride in a very unique set of professional skills makes them more of a family than coworkers, and I know that sentiment extends entirely across the Republican conference.

So to each of you, thank you for the hard work you do so extraordinarily well.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. 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.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The majority leader is recognized.

#### GLOBALFOUNDRIES

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, when I wrote and led passage of the bipartisan Chips and Science Act, I often spoke about days in the not too distant future when this legislation would bring manufacturing back to the United States, strengthen our national security, and deliver big for New York, particularly Upstate New York.

Today, I am proud to say, is precisely the kind of day I had in mind when I helped write the bipartisan Chips and Science Act. Today, semiconductor company GlobalFoundries finalized a \$1.5 billion award—that is \$1.5 billion with a "b"—to build a new, cutting-edge, massive chip factory in Malta, NY, and expand production in the Capital Region of New York. This award was made possible precisely because of the law I wrote and passed.

This chips award is now locked in. The agreement is signed, sealed, and delivered—in fact, ready to deliver a better future for Upstate New York and for America. Importantly, this funding is protected for years to come.

GlobalFoundries' announcement is exciting for several reasons. First, it

means thousands of new, good-paying manufacturing and union construction jobs are on the way to the Capital Region, as GlobalFoundries triples its production in Saratoga County. When we wrote the Chips and Science law, we wanted to make sure that it was union labor that built these factories.

Mr. President, the funds will also modernize a GlobalFoundries facility in Vermont, you will be happy to know. These are jobs that will help transform the region, jobs that even the children and grandchildren of workers today will hold decades from now. When your kid gets one of these jobs, you are not going to think, oh, it will be gone in 5 years, because this is a growing, burgeoning industry. Semiconductor chips are the future of our modern economy.

So it is a great thing for optimism for our future, for those ladders up that we so believe in here in America.

Second, this funding will help create a strong domestic supply of essential chips that America needs for our national and economic security. The chips made by GlobalFoundries are critical to the auto industry, to national defense, to artificial intelligence, all the way down to our smartphones. If we want to keep prices low and prevent shortages, one of the best things we can do is build chips here at home. This funding will help make that happen.

Most importantly, as I said, the \$1.5 billion award is cemented for New York and for America as long as GlobalFoundries meets its project milestones. Upstate New York, the Capital Region, can rest assured that the funding announced today will be there in the years to come.

So today is a great day for the Capital Region, a great day for New York, and a great day for American leadership in the global semiconductor industry.

#### JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS

Mr. President, now on judges, today, the Senate will keep working to confirm more of President Biden's judicial nominees. It has already been a very productive week here in the Senate.

We began on Monday by confirming Judge Kidd to serve as a circuit court judge to the Eleventh Circuit. He is the 45th circuit court judge confirmed under President Biden. Yesterday, we kept going. We confirmed two more district judges to seats in Oregon and the District of Columbia and invoked cloture on the third.

We will continue going forward today. This morning, we will vote on the confirmation of Rebecca Pennell to be district judge for the Eastern District of Washington State. We will then immediately turn to a cloture vote on the next judicial nominee, Amir Ali to be district judge for the District of Columbia.

We will continue working on judges throughout the day and into this evening. We have a lot of excellent nominees to work through. So I ask my

colleagues to be flexible, to be ready to stay late, and to keep the votes moving quickly. We did that the other night, and we got a lot of votes done relatively fast.

I have spoken at length about how proud I am of the nominees this majority has confirmed to the bench. The over 200 judges we have confirmed have a sweeping range of experiences and areas of expertise. One of our nominees, for example, has argued and won three historic civil rights cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. Another judge confirmed early in Biden's term built her career as an expert in worker protections and represented factory workers and grocery store workers and taxi drivers and nurses. She is now a circuit court judge. We have also had consumer protection lawyers elevated to the bench, including one nominee whose job was to go after healthcare fraud and deceptive marketing of pharmaceutical and medical devices. I have been proud to support nominees to the Second Circuit who have been leading voting rights attorneys. And the experiences go on and on. Our nominees have represented children who have faced abuse and individuals wrongly convicted and more.

At the end of the day, of course, what matters most in a nominee is whether or not they can render impartial judgment based on precedent and rule of law, but it is also important that judges come from different walks of life.

Judges should not operate like cold, unthinking machines, nor is the work of justice a mere theoretical exercise. Judges are better off when they can interpret the law while putting themselves in the shoes of those over whom they preside, from the privileged to the impoverished. Judges are more likely to reach an equitable and prudent ruling if they can appreciate how their decisions will play out in society. That is more likely to happen if our benches are comprised of jurists from many different experiences from many different walks of life.

I thank my colleagues for their good work this week, and we will keep working today.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THUNE. 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.

The Republican whip.

#### BORDER SECURITY

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, it has been clear for a while now that an enduring legacy of the Biden-Harris administration will be the historic immigration crisis at our southern border. And I don't use the word "historic" lightly, but it is appropriate, because

President Biden and Vice President HARRIS have presided over 4 years of recordbreaking illegal immigration at our southern border.

That is right: The 4 highest years of illegal immigration ever recorded at our southern border have occurred on President Biden's and Vice President HARRIS's watch.

I say occurred on their watch, but, of course, this recordbreaking illegal immigration didn't just occur on their watch. The Biden-Harris administration created this crisis. On the day he took office, the President began dismantling President Trump's border security policies, and illegal immigration began surging in response—and kept on surging.

Between official U.S. Customs and Border Protection encounters and known "got-aways"—individuals the Border Patrol saw but was unable to apprehend—there have been somewhere around 10 million—10 million—migrant encounters at the southern border during this administration.

Now, to put that number in perspective, that is larger than the population of the vast majority of U.S. States, and that is just the individuals we know about.

There are undoubtedly individuals who have made their way into our country over the past 4 years who have been neither seen nor apprehended.

The past 4 years have displayed the problems with unchecked illegal immigration. Shelters are overwhelmed. Border cities are overwhelmed. Blue cities far from the border are overwhelmed. The Border Patrol is stretched thin.

Agents pulled off field work to process the massive amounts of migrants, and the list goes on.

And, of course, it is essential to remember the situation at the border doesn't just affect the border. As I said, cities far from the border have struggled to deal with an influx of migrants.

Criminals who have made their way illegally into the country have committed crimes far from the southern border. And the effects of cross-border illegal activity are felt all around the country.

My State of South Dakota is about as far from our southern border as you can get, but law enforcement officials consistently tell me, in larger and smaller communities, that the deadly drugs they are dealing with have entered the country across our southern border.

And then there are the national security issues. The June arrest of eight Tajikistan nationals with suspected ties to ISIS who had illegally entered the country, as well as the identification of more than 400 migrants who used an ISIS-affiliated smuggling network to enter the United States, are just two examples of the kind of threats that we face—and the dangers of the chaos that President Biden and Vice President HARRIS have allowed to rage and have unleashed at our southern border.

Since October 2020, 387 individuals on the Terrorist Watchlist have been apprehended attempting to cross our southern border between ports of entry. Mr. President, 387 individuals on the Terrorist Watchlist. Those are the ones we caught. How many have come in who have been unobserved? How many terrorists or other dangerous individuals have made their way across without being apprehended?

Immigration officials are currently preparing for a possible final surge before President Trump takes office, a clear sign, if one were needed, that migrants regard President Biden as the open border President.

But final surge or no final surge, the days of this border crisis are numbered. Securing our border and removing those who have entered our country illegally are at the top of President Trump's priority list, and the Republican Congress is committed to doing everything it can to help, for the sake of our security and for the sake of our rule of law.

We sometimes forget that aspect—the rule of law. But the area of immigration should not be an exception to the principle that the law has to be respected. Immigrants have played, and will continue to play, a vital role in this country. And that won't change. But immigration has to be legal.

We need to end the notion that illegal pathways are a viable way to take up residence in this country, and we will end that notion under President Trump.

The Biden-Harris administration heralded the start of a border crisis. The Trump-Vance administration will herald the end of it. Two more months. Two more months.

I yield the floor.

#### NOMINATION OF REBECCA L. PENNELL

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Washington Court of Appeals Judge Rebecca Pennell to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Washington.

Judge Pennell's significant career as a litigator for nearly two decades and her experience as a Washington State appellate court judge will make her an excellent addition to the Federal bench.

After graduating from the University of Washington and Stanford Law School, Judge Pennell served as a law clerk to Judge Robert H. Whaley on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Washington, the court to which she has been nominated.

Following her clerkship, Judge Pennell worked as a Skadden fellow assigned as a fellowship attorney at TeamChild in Yakima, WA. She then continued her career in public service as an attorney at the Federal Defenders of Washington and Idaho for 16 years. As a public defender, she tried approximately 13 trials, handled more than 100 cases in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and helped to establish two reentry drug courts within the Eastern District.