

food, legislative branch, unanimous, unanimous, unanimous, 27 to 0 in each of those, passed the committee.

On July 25, Commerce-Science, Justice and Science passed, Interior passed, oh, 28 to 1. State and Foreign Ops passed, and Transportation. And then on August 1, Energy and Water Development, 28 to 0. Defense, 28 to 0. Labor-Health and Human Services, Education, Financial Services, all of them passed the Appropriations Committee. Done, passed.

Senator SCHUMER had 224 days to bring up any one of those bills on the Senate floor. He absolutely categorically refused to bring a single appropriations bill to the floor of the U.S. Senate when he was the majority leader, even though the bills came out unanimously, and one of his own Members was chairman of that committee. He ignored her. She said: Take them to the floor. He refused. Refused to put a single one of those 11 appropriations bills that came out of the committee to the floor. He refused to govern, and now he wants to shut down the government.

His burn-the-house attitude is what we are dealing with—rule-or-ruin approach. It is irresponsible, it is reckless, and he is trying to lead the entire Democrats in the Senate over the cliff and hurt the American public in the process.

But the right thing to do is to keep the government open. It costs money to shut down the government. It costs taxpayer dollars, and it costs even more to reopen the government.

The government shutdown denies the American people services that they need, that they want, that they wait for. It forces our military and our border patrol to work without pay.

It is time to move on from the Democrats' failures. It is time to get this done. Time to govern. That is what the American people elected the Republicans to do.

The business of the Senate will not stop because of Democrats' made-for-TV and made-for-their-liberal-base temper tantrums. Senate Democrats want to grandstand, we are going to continue to move deliberately and decisively and continue to work to confirm more of President Trump's well-qualified nominees.

So it is the choice of the Democrats on the other side: govern or grandstand. The American people are watching.

You know, they watched a week or so ago when the President of the United States addressed this joint session of Congress. The American people watched. What they saw was immature antics by the Democrats sitting there in the House Chamber waving their little paddles, refusing to applaud a young man with brain cancer, refusing to applaud families that have gone through great tragedy.

It was juvenile; it was wrong. That is what the American people saw. People that were watching that presentation

by the President of the United States saw a strong leader and saw a Democrat Party in disarray, acting as juveniles. And now it appears the Senate wants to do exactly the same thing by shutting down the government.

The American people that watched the President address a week ago are watching today, and they know that if there is a government shutdown, like it looks like we are heading to tomorrow night, it is going to be at the deliberate direction of the Democrat Party.

WAIVING QUORUM CALL

Mr. President, before yielding the floor, I ask unanimous consent to waive the mandatory quorum call with respect to the Pulte nomination.

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

Mr. BARRASSO. I yield the floor.

CLOTURE MOTION

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 30, William Pulte, of Florida, to be Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency for a term of five years.

John Thune, Tim Sheehy, Lindsey Graham, Cynthia M. Lummis, Dan Sullivan, Ashley B. Moody, Pete Ricketts, Bill Cassidy, Jon Husted, Mike Rounds, James Lankford, Todd Young, Joni Ernst, John R. Curtis, John Kennedy, Cindy Hyde-Smith, John Boozman.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of William Pulte, of Florida, to be Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency for a term of five years, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 57, nays 41, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 120 Ex.]

YEAS—57

Alsobrooks	Curtis	Lankford
Banks	Daines	Lee
Barrasso	Ernst	Lummis
Blackburn	Fischer	Marshall
Boozman	Gallego	McConnell
Britt	Graham	McCormick
Budd	Grassley	Moody
Capito	Hagerty	Moran
Cassidy	Hawley	Moreno
Collins	Hoeven	Mullin
Cornyn	Husted	Murkowski
Cotton	Hyde-Smith	Paul
Cramer	Johnson	Peters
Crapo	Justice	Ricketts
Cruz	Kennedy	Risch

Rounds	Sheehy	Tillis
Schmitt	Slotkin	Tuberville
Scott (FL)	Sullivan	Wicker
Scott (SC)	Thune	Young

NAYS—41

Baldwin	Hirono	Rosen
Bennet	Kaine	Schatz
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schiff
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Schumer
Booker	King	Shaheen
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Smith
Coons	Lujan	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Markey	Warner
Durbin	Merkley	Warmock
Fetterman	Murphy	Warren
Gillibrand	Murray	Welch
Hassan	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Heinrich	Padilla	Wyden
Hickenlooper	Reed	

NOT VOTING—2

Duckworth	Sanders
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The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SHEEHY). On this vote, the yeas are 57, the nays are 41.

The motion is agreed to.

The Senator from Missouri.

DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY

Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, I spoke on this topic last week, but there is just so much more to talk about this week. This is about the important work that President Trump and Elon Musk and the other folks at DOGE are doing to save taxpayer dollars.

Just this past week, DOGE canceled contracts within NIH, including \$75,000 for researching and studying structural racism; \$620,000 for an LGB+ teen pregnancy prevention program for transgender boys—let me repeat that because it is hard to follow: an LGB+ teen pregnancy prevention program for transgender boys—\$699,000 for studying cannabis use among sexual minority, gender-diverse individuals; \$740,000 for examining social networks among Black and Latino sexual minority men in New Jersey; \$50,000 for assessing sexual health among LGBTQ+ Latinx youth in an agricultural community.

The State Department, with Secretary of State Rubio, are canceling 83 percent of the programs under USAID. What is being cut: \$4 million for engineering services in Liberia, \$1.1 million for an online climate change tool, \$4 million for assessing primary education in Kenya, and much, much more.

And at the EPA, Secretary Zeldin canceled over 400 DEI and environmental justice grants across 9 grant programs that total \$1.7 billion, bringing the EPA's total savings to over \$2 billion.

And wait until you hear this: According to reports from the Daily Wire, \$2 billion in funding was directed toward a group called Power Forward Communities. Who runs Power Forward Communities? That would be Stacey Abrams.

And let me just opine, just for a second, on why my Democratic colleagues on the other side are so nervous about all this DOGE stuff. It is because of this racket that has been used to launder taxpayer dollars to their buddies and their leftwing, radical groups. The gravy train is stopping, and it is terrifying to them.

But to normal people, in real America, they think this stuff is crazy. And, finally, we have somebody in the Oval Office with a team that can root this stuff out. So keep going. We are just getting started with this stuff, and we will be back next week with more ridiculous things that the Democrats want funded with your taxpayer dollars.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to talk about how my delusional Democratic colleagues have tried to poison our country's young people with what I call a woke mind virus.

Before I got into politics, I spent 40 years working with young people, from the high school level to the college level—higher education, we call it. I coached, recruited, and mentored young people all over the country—thousands of them. I saw firsthand how hard work and a quality education can change a person's life, no matter where they come from, what they look like, or how much money they have.

I used to tell my players that, if they work hard, there is no limit to what they can achieve. It is called the American dream.

Our Founders came here because they envisioned a country where the sky is the limit and people aren't bound by the circumstances that they were born in. But, unfortunately, the Biden administration and the Democrats have spent the last 4 years communicating a much darker message to our young people.

This country was founded on merit, but instead of focusing on hiring the best and brightest, Biden, Harris, Obama, and the "woke mind virus" Democrats have spent the last 4 years dividing our country based on diversity, equity, and inclusion—or, better known to all of us, what is called DEI. This poisonous ideology says that people should be hired based on their skin color or sexual preference, not because of how they might do in a job.

And to make matters worse, the Biden administration used 1 trillion American taxpayer dollars to pay for DEI programs in the Federal Government—1 trillion. You heard that right. American taxpayers are footing the bill, and they were paying for things that were racist, divisive, and woke—a woke propaganda.

So I don't know about you; I want a refund. I want my money back. We all pay taxes. Why in the world would we do that?

Let's call DEI what it really is: a fundamentally racist, prejudice, and anti-American ideology that is designed to divide and oppress people. That is exactly what it is. It is baffling to me how Democrats don't see this. Or do they?

They claim to be a very tolerant, inclusive party rooted in equality, but as

we have all learned, Democrats are only tolerant as long as you agree with them. I thought we left the stain of discrimination and race-based hiring practices behind in our country a long, long time ago, but apparently not. It is clear that Democrats would rather divide Americans based on their race, gender, creed, or sexual orientation than live in a world where people are hired based on intellect, experience, work ethic, and merit—what a thought.

So let's set the record straight. This country owes you nothing except for the opportunity to succeed. That is what is great about this country. And if you don't succeed, you can get back up and go again. We are the only country that allows that. For generations, Americans understood this—all Americans: an opportunity to pursue your dreams, to use your God-given talents to contribute to making this country the greatest place to live in the world.

I have always said this: If you were born in the United States of America, you hit the lottery, 100 percent. And I guarantee you, the other 7 billion people in this world would give anything to take the place of any of us, from the poorest to the richest.

To my new granddaughter of just 2 weeks, Rosie Grace, if there is any one thing I can teach her as a grandfather, it is the value of hard work and determination. There is nothing that takes the place of that—nothing. With a strong work ethic and a commitment to excellence, opportunities will open up for her, or anybody, to live a happy, successful life. And that is all a grandfather like me now can ask for—hard work and determination.

So what kind of message is it if we are teaching our young people that they are victims of their circumstances and the American dream is only for people who have a certain skin color? That is the opposite of the American dream.

But Democrats don't care one bit about that—not one bit. I have listened to it for 4 years. Obama started a horrible trend that Democrats carry on to this day. He used racism to divide the Americans and politically enrich themselves. Look at the money they have made. The woke mind virus has taken hold of them. They have lost their ever-loving mind. They would rather promise racism and promote it—sexism, divisiveness—than support solutions that empower, unify, or uplift our country and our people.

Democrats are obsessed with hating this country and tearing it apart. They want a different United States of America. If it is anything that is pro-American or pro-traditional values—it doesn't matter—Democrats will attack it, demonize it, and demonize us for supporting it.

These people have zero respect for human life. They have shown their true colors in the past few years, ever since *Roe v. Wade* was overturned, which sent abortion back to the States, where it could be voted on by the people, in-

stead of politicians. They have raised Cain. Since then, Democrat politicians have said the quiet part out loud, admitting that they think there should be no limits to abortion. How can you believe that?

That means that they are OK with aborting a baby at 9 months of pregnancy.

Former Virginia Governor Ralph Northam, a Democrat, said that he supports post-birth—after-birth—abortions. Are you kidding me?

And other Democrats, like Minnesota Governor Tim Walz—remember him, flash in the pan?—signed a law to allow abortions after birth—signed a law in Minnesota for abortions after birth.

What do they do with that? They cut these babies up and sell the body parts. It is never talked about too much, is it? Can you believe that this is who the Democrats picked as their Vice Presidential candidate? I can believe it. That means that, in Minnesota, a doctor can kill a baby after he or she is born, right there on the delivery table. It is evil, and it is absolutely sick.

But it isn't just babies Democrats have no respect for. They also have gone out of their way to attack women and girls. Just last week, every single Democrat in this body voted against my bill to protect women and girls in sports.

Oh, we have got to give these transitional boys an opportunity to participate.

Really? How about giving, in fairness to young girls and women, the opportunity to compete at a level that they are in; give them an opportunity not to play for second or third but to play for first. How about that?

The woke mind virus has struck again. Democrats who claim to be pro-women would rather protect a few transgender people than protect the millions of women and girls who make up half of this country.

Oh, we have to be nice. We have to be nice to everybody.

No. We need a mental health program in this country. That is what we need.

Democrats who claim to be pro-women would rather protect a few transgender people than protect the entire country of women and girls. It is backward, it is disgusting, and it is downright wrong.

You would have to be dumber than a box of rocks to celebrate this, but that is what they did. They celebrated the handful of transgenders participating against women.

Oh, we knocked it down because it was supported by Donald Trump, who wrote out an Executive order protecting women and girls.

Thank you, President Trump.

By the way, 79 percent of Americans and 67 percent of Democrats support that men do not compete against women—a huge majority. Every single one of my Democratic colleagues went against their constituents and voted against this commonsense bill to protect women and keep men out of women's sports.