

that simply don't have the resources necessary to properly prepare for and respond to major disasters without the assistance of FEMA. So we must work together to protect it.

This amendment should unite all of us, and I urge all of us to support it.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, this amendment asks us to believe a lie, and the lie is that FEMA provides nonpartisan disaster relief. Until a few months ago, many of us hoped and expected that that would be the case. Alas, it was not.

During a contentious election cycle and in the wake of catastrophic damage by hurricanes and amidst lawfare galore, FEMA officials directed its relief workers to avoid giving aid to Florida homes displaying Trump signs.

One FEMA official, speaking on a condition of remaining anonymous, said that it is a longstanding practice and an open secret to avoid White or conservative-dominated areas.

Several FEMA officials have been fired since the investigation is ongoing. My counterpart from Florida, Representative STEUBE, has reported 35 credible claims of widespread discrimination against conservatives. This kind of behavior is reprehensible, and it is un-American.

Look, the amendment is a clear attempt to paper over this egregious malpractice of a rogue and unaccountable Agency. President Trump was right when he said FEMA should not have the central role providing disaster relief. FEMA needs to get out of the way and let States handle disaster recovery. We are not going to paper over it. Not now, not ever.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1774

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question now occurs on the adoption of the amendment.

Mr. PADILLA. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 48, nays 51, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 177 Leg.]

YEAS—48

Alsobrooks	Fetterman	Luján
Baldwin	Gallego	Markey
Bennet	Gillibrand	Merkley
Blumenthal	Hassan	Murkowski
Blunt Rochester	Heinrich	Murphy
Booker	Hickenlooper	Ossoff
Cantwell	Hirono	Padilla
Collins	Kaine	Peters
Coons	Kelly	Reed
Cortez Masto	Kim	Rosen
Duckworth	King	Sanders
Durbin	Klobuchar	Schatz

Schiff	Smith	Warren
Schumer	Van Hollen	Welch
Shaheen	Warner	Whitehouse
Slotkin	Warnock	Wyden

NAYS—51

Banks	Graham	Moran
Barrasso	Grassley	Moreno
Blackburn	Hagerty	Mullin
Boozman	Hawley	Paul
Britt	Hoeven	Ricketts
Budd	Husted	Risch
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Cassidy	Johnson	Schmitt
Cornyn	Justice	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cramer	Lankford	Sheehy
Crapo	Lee	Sullivan
Cruz	Lummis	Thune
Curtis	Marshall	Tillis
Daines	McConnell	Tuberville
Ernst	McCormick	Wicker
Fischer	Moody	Young

NOT VOTING—1

Murray

The amendment (No. 1774) was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

AMENDMENT NO. 1646 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1717

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I call up my amendment No. 1646 and ask that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Colorado [Mr. BENNET] proposes an amendment numbered 1646 to amendment No. 1717.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To prevent any disruption in security assistance to Ukraine)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO PRESERVATION OF SECURITY ASSISTANCE TO UKRAINE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution, and make adjustments to the pay-as-you-go ledger, for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to preserving the delivery of assistance to Ukraine, which may include legislation that would prohibit any reduction in United States security assistance and intelligence-sharing with Ukraine or any other new restriction on vital assistance that would enable Ukraine to defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity against continuing Russian aggression, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, with Russia rejecting President Trump's proposed 30-day cease-fire and continuing to attack Ukraine and with the administration briefly pausing military and intelligence assistance to Ukraine last month, the Senate must send an unequivocal message. The Ukrainian people did not ask for this war. They did not invite this war. They have fought with everything they have and with the American people's support. They have suffered 400,000 casual-

ties and caused more Russian casualties than in all the wars that Russia has had since World War II.

Those of us serving in this Chamber have a duty to the American people to demand moral and strategic clarity by making clear that any steps by this administration to cut off military and security assistance to Ukraine is unacceptable.

This is a simple question; it is not a partisan one. And the answer is clear: This fight is not just for Ukraine. It is for democracy. It is for freedom.

I urge my colleagues to stand with the Ukrainian people and vote yes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment. We certainly need a cease-fire in the Ukraine war. We are closer and closer to having an agreement between President Trump and President Zelenskyy about a cease-fire, and it is quite obvious that President Putin is not at all interested in peace.

But this budget resolution is about \$150 billion of investment in our military for shipbuilding, missile defense, munitions, innovation, taking care of our troops, and more.

Passage of this amendment will make it harder to pass the budget, and for that reason, I hope we will reject the amendment, and I urge my colleagues to vote no.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1646

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question now occurs on adoption of the amendment.

Mr. BENNET. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 48, nays 51, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 178 Leg.]

YEAS—48

Alsobrooks	Heinrich	Reed
Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Bennet	Hirono	Sanders
Blumenthal	Kaine	Schatz
Blunt Rochester	Kelly	Schiff
Booker	Kim	Schumer
Cantwell	King	Shaheen
Collins	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Coons	Luján	Smith
Cortez Masto	Markey	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murkowski	Warnock
Fetterman	Murphy	Warren
Gallego	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden

NAYS—51

Banks	Cassidy	Daines
Barrasso	Cornyn	Ernst
Blackburn	Cotton	Fischer
Boozman	Cramer	Graham
Britt	Crapo	Grassley
Budd	Cruz	Hagerty
Capito	Curtis	Hawley

Hoeven	McCormick	Schmitt
Husted	McCormick	Scott (FL)
Hyde-Smith	Moody	Scott (SC)
Johnson	Moran	Sheehy
Justice	Moreno	Sullivan
Kennedy	Mullin	Thune
Lankford	Paul	Tillis
Lee	Ricketts	Tuberville
Lummis	Risch	Wicker
Marshall	Rounds	Young

NOT VOTING—1

Murray

The amendment (No. 1646) was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

AMENDMENT NO. 1760 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1717

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I call up my amendment No. 1760.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant executive clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. PAUL] proposes an amendment numbered 1760 to amendment No. 1717.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To modify the debt limit instruction for the House of Representatives and the Senate)

On page 47, strike line 20, and all that follows through page 51, line 7, and insert the following:

(C) INCREASE IN STATUTORY DEBT LIMIT.—The Committee on Ways and Means shall submit changes in laws within its jurisdiction that increase the statutory debt limit by \$500,000,000,000.

SEC. 2002. RECONCILIATION IN THE SENATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) SUBMISSIONS.—In the Senate, not later than May 9, 2025, the committees named in paragraph (2) shall submit their recommendations to the Committee on the Budget of the Senate. Upon receiving all such recommendations, the Committee on the Budget of the Senate shall report to the Senate a reconciliation bill carrying out all such recommendations without any substantive revision.

(2) INSTRUCTIONS.—

(A) COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY.—The Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that reduce the deficit by not less than \$1,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(B) COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES.—The Committee on Armed Services of the Senate shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that increase the deficit by not more than \$150,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(C) COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS.—The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that reduce the deficit by not less than \$1,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(D) COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION.—The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that increase the deficit by not more than \$20,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(E) COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES.—The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that reduce the deficit by not less than \$1,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(F) COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS.—The Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that increase the deficit by not more than \$1,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(G) COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.—The Committee on Finance of the Senate shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that increase the deficit by not more than \$1,500,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(H) COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS.—The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that reduce the deficit by not less than \$1,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(I) COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS.—The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that increase the deficit by not more than \$175,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(J) COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY.—The Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that increase the deficit by not more than \$175,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

(b) INCREASE IN STATUTORY DEBT LIMIT.—In the Senate, not later than May 16, 2025, the Committee on Finance of the Senate shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction that increase the statutory debt limit by not more than \$500,000,000,000.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. PAUL. This budget resolution proposes to raise the debt ceiling \$5 trillion. There is nothing conservative—absolutely nothing conservative—about adding \$5 trillion in debt. This \$5 trillion increase in the debt ceiling will be the largest increase ever in the U.S. debt ceiling in one moment. It is reckless and irresponsible.

President Trump and DOGE are aggressively finding things to cut, but the big spenders in Congress don't want to make these cuts permanent. If we kick the debt deadline 2 years down the road, the cuts likely will never happen. I propose that we cap the debt limit so that we take 3 months to ensure that the cuts are real, then address the debt limit alongside the new cuts.

I ask for a "yes" vote on my amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I rise to oppose the amendment. I support the Senate Republican budget resolution. The Senate budget resolution extends the debt limit into 2027.

The American people want to cut reckless Washington spending. They want their government to be more effective and more efficient. That is what our Senate Republican budget resolution delivers; therefore, I urge my colleagues to vote no on this amendment.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1760

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question now occurs on adoption of the amendment.

Mr. WICKER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from WA (Mrs. MURRAY) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 5, nays 94, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 179 Leg.]

YEAS—5

Curtis Lee	Paul Sanders	Van Hollen
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NAYS—94

Alsobrooks	Grassley	Ossoff
Baldwin	Hagerty	Padilla
Banks	Hassan	Peters
Barrasso	Hawley	Reed
Bennet	Heinrich	Ricketts
Blackburn	Hickenlooper	Risch
Blumenthal	Hirono	Rosen
Blunt Rochester	Hoeven	Rounds
Booker	Husted	Schatz
Boozman	Hyde-Smith	Schiff
Britt	Johnson	Schmitt
Budd	Justice	Schumer
Cantwell	Kaine	Scott (FL)
Capito	Kelly	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Kennedy	Shaheen
Collins	Kim	Sheehy
Coons	King	Slotkin
Cornyn	Klobuchar	Smith
Cortez Masto	Lankford	Sullivan
Cotton	Lujan	Thune
Cramer	Lummis	Tillis
Crapo	Markey	Tuberville
Cruz	Marshall	Warner
Daines	McCormell	Warnock
Duckworth	McCormick	Warren
Durbin	Merkley	Welch
Ernst	Moody	Whitehouse
Fetterman	Moran	Wicker
Fischer	Moreno	Wyden
Gallo	Mullin	Young
Gillibrand	Murkowski	
Graham	Murphy	

NOT VOTING—1

Murray

The amendment (No. 1760) was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia.

AMENDMENT NO. 2186

Mr. OSSOFF. Mr. President, I call up my amendment No. 2186 and ask that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment by number.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Georgia [Mr. OSSOFF] proposes an amendment numbered 2186 to amendment No. 1717.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to reversing cuts to the Social Security Administration, which may include cuts ordered by the Department of Government Efficiency or any other cuts to seniors' services).

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO REVERSING CUTS TO THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION, INCLUDING SERVICE CUTS ORDERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this

resolution, and make adjustments to the pay-as-you-go ledger, for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to reversing cuts to the Social Security Administration, which may include cuts ordered by the Department of Government Efficiency or any other cuts to seniors' services, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

Mr. OSSOFF. Mr. President, this amendment will reverse Elon Musk's cuts to the Social Security Administration. And before it is denied that this is happening, today, yet another mass firing was reported when service quality is already at a tailspin. Phone services are being terminated, offices are being closed, seniors are waiting on hold for hours, office managers are manning the phones because receptionists are fired, and the website is crashing repeatedly under the strain.

Mr. Musk calls Social Security a Ponzi scheme but refuses to testify before Congress. I know he is rich and powerful, but where are the subpoenas? American seniors deserve transparency.

Secretary Lutnick said his mother-in-law wouldn't complain if she missed a Social Security check. Maybe that is because her son-in-law is a billionaire. But Georgia seniors don't have that luxury.

Support this amendment. Stand with America's seniors over the richest man in the world.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

Mr. CRAPO. Everybody knows the reconciliation bill cannot deal with adjustments to the Social Security trust fund.

As to efforts to try to deal with the management of the Social Security Administration, I recommend that what we do is to confirm the President's nominee to run the Social Security Administration, who stated in our committee hearing that he was going to be focused on making sure that Social Security worked efficiency and effectively so that it delivered the proper benefits to all beneficiaries. That is what we ought to do, is to expeditiously move President Trump's nominee to be the next Administrator of the Social Security Administration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. OSSOFF. How much time is remaining?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Two seconds.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 2186

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question now occurs on adoption of amendment No. 2186.

Mr. OSSOFF. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 49, nays 50, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 180 Leg.]

YEAS—49

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Baldwin	Hirono	Schatz
Bennet	Kaine	Schiff
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schumer
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Shaheen
Booker	King	Slotkin
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Smith
Collins	Lujan	Sullivan
Coons	Markey	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Murkowski	Warnock
Durbin	Murphy	Warren
Fetterman	Osoff	Welch
Gallego	Padilla	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Peters	Wyden
Hassan	Reed	
Heinrich	Rosen	

NAYS—50

Banks	Graham	Moran
Barrasso	Grassley	Moreno
Blackburn	Hagerty	Mullin
Boozman	Hawley	Paul
Britt	Hoeven	Ricketts
Budd	Husted	Risch
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Cassidy	Johnson	Schmitt
Cornyn	Justice	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cramer	Lankford	Sheehy
Crapo	Lee	Thune
Cruz	Lummis	Tillis
Curtis	Marshall	Tuberville
Daines	McConnell	Wicker
Ernst	McCormick	Young
Fischer	Moody	

NOT VOTING—1

Murray

The amendment (No. 2186) was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

AMENDMENT NO. 2107 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1717

Mr. HICKENLOOPER. Mr. President, I call up my amendment No. 2107 and ask that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Colorado [Mr. HICKENLOOPER], for himself and others, proposes an amendment numbered 2107 to amendment No. 1717.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to preventing the use of proceeds from public land sales to reduce the Federal deficit)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO PREVENTING THE USE OF PROCEEDS FROM PUBLIC LAND SALES TO REDUCE THE FEDERAL DEFICIT.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution, and make adjustments to the pay-as-you-go ledger, for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to land conservation, which may include preventing the use of proceeds from public land sales to reduce the Federal deficit, by the amounts provided in such leg-

islation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. HICKENLOOPER. Mr. President, in the West and across America, national parks and public lands are our pride and joy. They are also a huge part of our economy. Colorado's public lands power a \$17 billion outdoor recreation economy, which employs more than 132,000 Coloradans.

Recently, the Trump administration has taken aim at our national parks and other public lands. They illegally fired thousands of people who are responsible for wildland mitigation, for habitat conservation, and outdoor recreation management, among other things.

Some Republicans are adding fuel to the fire by pushing to sell off public lands to pay for these tax cuts for the ultrawealthy. The tax handouts for the wealthy are so large and so important that some are willing to plunder our public lands. So let's be clear. Our public lands are not for sale.

Senator HEINRICH and I have introduced a simple amendment—a "yes" or "no" vote—to prevent this reckless fire sale of our campgrounds, our forests, and our national treasurers. How could one vote against that?

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, do not let the false hype from these sponsors fool you.

All this amendment does is to stop the proceeds for any land sales from being used to pay down the deficit. It doesn't stop land sales. In fact, just last year, the author of this amendment passed a law to dispose of Federal land in Colorado. If you are from a State like mine, where the Federal Government owns two-thirds of the land and restricts our ability to do anything, everything—develop land; build houses, which we desperately need; even to fund our schools, our search and rescue, our police services—then, all of a sudden, we are told that when land sales occur, as they routinely do, we cannot use that to pay down our \$36 trillion debt.

This is disgraceful. We must vote it down. I encourage my colleagues to vote, emphatically, no.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 2107

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question now occurs on adoption of the amendment.

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 48, nays 51, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 181 Leg.]

YEAS—48

Alsobrooks	Heinrich	Rosen
Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Bennet	Hirono	Schatz
Blumenthal	Kaine	Schiff
Blunt Rochester	Kelly	Schumer
Booker	Kim	Shaheen
Cantwell	King	Sheehy
Coons	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Cortez Masto	Luján	Smith
Daines	Markey	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Fetterman	Ossoff	Warren
Gallego	Padilla	Welch
Gillibrand	Peters	Whitehouse
Hassan	Reed	Wyden

NAYS—51

Banks	Graham	Moran
Barrasso	Grassley	Moreno
Blackburn	Hagerty	Mullin
Boozman	Hawley	Murkowski
Britt	Hoeven	Paul
Budd	Husted	Ricketts
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Risch
Cassidy	Johnson	Rounds
Collins	Justice	Schmitt
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Lummis	Thune
Cruz	Marshall	Tillis
Curtis	McConnell	Tuberville
Ernst	McCormick	Wicker
Fischer	Moody	Young

NOT VOTING—1

Murray

The amendment (No. 2107) was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

AMENDMENT NO. 1441 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1717

Mr. BOOKER. Mr. President, I would like to call up my amendment No. 1441 and ask unanimous consent to speak for up to 25 hours.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Permission denied.

Mr. BOOKER. OK, I just ask that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New Jersey [Mr. BOOKER] proposes an amendment numbered 1441 to amendment No. 1717.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to stopping the Department of Agriculture from not honoring contracts made with farmers and farm-serving organizations)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO PROTECTING AMERICAN FARMERS FROM BROKEN CONTRACTS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution, and make adjustments to the pay-as-you-go ledger, for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to agriculture, which may include prohibiting the Department of Agriculture from withholding funds in accordance with a signed contract, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would

not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

Mr. BOOKER. Mr. President, farmers already deal with so much uncertainty from prices. They should not have to deal with the uncertainty that our government won't follow through on its contracts.

Farmers who apply for grant programs are awarded funding on their merits. They make legally binding agreements. As a result, they spend tens of thousands of dollars on projects in accordance with those agreements. But with little notice, President Trump stopped paying those contracts. No one is telling the farmers or even Congress here when or if this money will be released, as legally required. It is really unacceptable.

Farmers operate on tight margins and cannot be left waiting for weeks and months without the funding they rightfully plan for and need to keep operating. I urge all of my colleagues to vote for this amendment to prohibit Trump's USDA from continuing to illegally withhold funding from our farmers.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise in opposition to amendment No. 1441. I appreciate the concerns of my colleague from New Jersey; however, this amendment is not necessary.

Secretary Rollins is conducting a thorough and timely review of the USDA contracts. Upon the final conclusion of those reviews, the Secretary has released the funds for various programs for USDA.

It is the standard practice for new administrations to come in and review contracts and obligations made by prior administrations. I have full confidence in Secretary Rollins to continue down this path.

I urge my colleagues to vote against this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. BOOKER. Out of the kindness and generosity of my colleague there, instead of asking for a rollcall vote, I ask for a voice vote.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1441

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on adoption of the amendment.

The amendment is not agreed to.

The amendment (No. 1441) was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

AMENDMENT NO. 2180 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1717

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I call up my amendment No. 2180 and ask that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Hawaii [Ms. HIRONO] proposes an amendment numbered 2180 to amendment No. 1717.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To prevent DOGE from closing Social Security offices, preserving access to benefits for seniors and people with disabilities)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO PRESERVING ACCESS TO SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution, and make adjustments to the pay-as-you-go ledger, for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to preserving Social Security benefits, which may include prohibiting the closure of regional and field offices by the Social Security Administration or reduction of Social Security Administration regional or field office personnel, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, Social Security is essential to millions of Americans, including nearly 300,000 in Hawaii, but Donald Trump and Elon Musk see Social Security as nothing more than a Ponzi scheme. They have already cut Social Security staff, and now they want to close field offices that people rely on—all in their continuing attack to cripple government services and all to fund massive tax cuts for billionaires.

We were told that we should expeditiously confirm President Trump's nominee to be Social Security Administrator. Why? So that we confirm another "yes" person to do President Trump's bidding to destroy government services? That is not what we should be doing.

My amendment would prevent any reduction in services for Social Security beneficiaries, including through the closure of regional and field offices and the reduction of regional personnel, field office personnel.

When people need help with their Social Security, which they paid for, they should get it. If my Republican colleagues care about Social Security, this is their chance to vote aye.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

Ms. HIRONO. A vote against this amendment is a vote to screw the most vulnerable people in our country.

I yield.

I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, with respect, this amendment is all Henry and no Kissinger. It is exquisitely dumb. Even a cursory examination of the statutory authority shows that this body does not have the authority to address the Social Security trust fund in reconciliation. Even a cursory examination of the media reports will show that Republicans do not support cutting Social Security.

If my colleagues are concerned about the way Social Security is being run,

as we all are, they should support the President's nominee to run Social Security.

All this amendment will do is add ambiguity to this resolution. If you are foolish enough to vote for it, you will never own your own home.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 2180

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on adoption of the amendment.

Mr. LUJÁN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 48, nays 51, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 182 Leg.]

YEAS—48

Alsobrooks	Heinrich	Rosen
Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Bennet	Hirono	Schatz
Blumenthal	Kaine	Schiff
Blunt Rochester	Kelly	Schumer
Booker	Kim	Shaheen
Cantwell	King	Slotkin
Collins	Klobuchar	Smith
Coons	Luján	Sullivan
Cortez Masto	Markey	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Fetterman	Ossoff	Warren
Gallego	Padilla	Welch
Gillibrand	Peters	Whitehouse
Hassan	Reed	Wyden

NAYS—51

Banks	Graham	Moran
Barrasso	Grassley	Moreno
Blackburn	Hagerty	Mullin
Boozman	Hawley	Murkowski
Britt	Hoeben	Paul
Budd	Husted	Ricketts
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Risch
Cassidy	Johnson	Rounds
Cornyn	Justice	Schmitt
Cotton	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cramer	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Crapo	Lee	Sheehy
Cruz	Lummis	Thune
Curtis	Marshall	Tillis
Daines	McCormick	Tuberville
Ernst	Moody	Wicker
Fischer	Young	Young

NOT VOTING—1

Murray

The amendment (No. 2180) was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following amendments be in order; that the amendments be reported by number, with no amendments in order prior to a vote in relation to the amendments: The first amendment is No. 1690, Cortez Masto; No. 2 is No. 1693, Baldwin; No. 3 is No. 1661, Welch; No. 4 is No. 1529, Markey.

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

The Senator from New Jersey.

AMENDMENT NO. 1644 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1717

Mr. KIM. Mr. President, I call up my amendment No. 1644 and ask that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment by number.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New Jersey [Mr. KIM] proposes an amendment numbered 1644 to amendment No. 1717.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund to prevent increased barriers to American caregivers, including individuals caring for seniors, children, home care workers, and individuals engaged in the care economy.)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO HEALTHCARE COVERAGE, WHICH MAY INCLUDE LEGISLATION PROHIBITING A REDUCTION IN MEDICAID AND MEDICARE FUNDING.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution, and make adjustments to the pay-as-you-go ledger, for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to healthcare coverage, which may include legislation prohibiting a reduction in Medicaid and Medicare funding, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

Mr. KIM. Mr. President, I rise today in support of the millions of Americans who rely on Medicaid for their caregivers and in support of those caregivers in whose arms we entrust those we love the most.

This morning, I needed to rush up to my father as he took a bad fall. His leg, muscles atrophied by polio, won't heal and must be immobilized fully.

My father has no capacity to be able to dress himself, no ability to care for himself, and I had a long and emotional conversation with his caregiver about caring for and tending to his wounds and about his limitations.

I will be honest with you. It is hard leaving his side to drive straight here to the Capitol tonight for votes that could very well determine if aging seniors like my father will get the care they need.

My amendment will ensure that caregivers are protected from efforts to gut and cut Medicaid.

I could only be here voting today because a caregiver is there looking after my father right now. These caregivers deserve someone looking after them. I cannot—we cannot—abandon those who give so much to care for those whom we love. Let's pass this amendment and protect caregivers from these dangerous cuts.

I yield back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, please read section 3003 of the budget resolution. It says, bigger than Dallas, that the Republicans have no intention of cutting Medicare or Medicaid benefits.

This is a bad amendment. Please vote against it.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1644

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question now occurs on adoption of the amendment.

Mr. KIM. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 49, nays 50, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 183 Leg.]

YEAS—49

Alsobrooks	Heinrich	Rosen
Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Bennet	Hirono	Schatz
Blumenthal	Kaine	Schiff
Blunt Rochester	Kelly	Schumer
Booker	Kim	Shaheen
Cantwell	King	Slotkin
Collins	Klobuchar	Smith
Coons	Luján	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Markey	Warner
Duckworth	Merkley	Warnock
Durbin	Murkowski	Warren
Fetterman	Murphy	Welch
Gallego	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wyden
Hassan	Peters	
Hawley	Reed	

NAYS—50

Banks	Graham	Moreno
Barrasso	Grassley	Mullin
Blackburn	Hagerty	Paul
Boozman	Hoeben	Ricketts
Britt	Husted	Risch
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Capito	Johnson	Schmitt
Cassidy	Justice	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Sheehy
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Lummis	Thune
Cruz	Marshall	Tillis
Curtis	McCormick	Tuberville
Daines	McCormick	Wicker
Ernst	Moody	Young
Fischer	Moran	

NOT VOTING—1

Murray

The amendment (No. 1644) was rejected.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Vermont.

AMENDMENT NO. 2126 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1717

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I call up my amendment No. 2126 and ask that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Vermont [Mr. SANDERS] proposes an amendment numbered 2126 to amendment No. 1717.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To make sure the Senate can increase the Federal minimum wage to \$17 an hour by a simple majority vote)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . INCREASING THE FEDERAL MINIMUM WAGE TO \$17 AN HOUR.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution, and make adjustments to the pay-as-you-go ledger, for one or more bills,

joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports to increase the Federal minimum wage to at least \$17 an hour over 5 years by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, this amendment is simple and straightforward. Millions of Americans today are working for starvation wages. What this amendment does is raise the Federal minimum wage from an embarrassingly low \$7.25 an hour to a living wage of \$17 an hour over a period of 5 years. In other words, 5 years from now, everybody in America would make at least \$17 an hour. That is not a radical idea.

Quite unbelievably, the average American worker today makes \$42 a week less than he or she did 52 years ago. Almost all of the new wealth that has been created has gone to the top 1 percent—a massive transfer of wealth from the bottom 90 percent to the people on top.

It has been 16 years—16 years—since the Federal minimum wage has been raised.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator's time has expired.

Mr. SANDERS. Now is the time to address the crises facing working Americans.

I ask for a "yes" vote.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, this is a one-size-fits-all inflationary amendment. Increasing the wage by more than 230 percent even over 5 years will destroy jobs, impacting rural areas and low-margin small businesses that cannot afford such an increase. A law mandating a higher minimum wage doesn't mean much to a worker who loses his or her job because of this.

I urge my colleagues to vote no on this amendment.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 2126

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question now occurs on adoption of the amendment.

Mr. SANDERS. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 47, nays 52, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 184 Leg.]

YEAS—47

Alsobrooks	Cortez Masto	Heinrich
Baldwin	Duckworth	Hickenlooper
Bennet	Durbin	Hirono
Blumenthal	Fetterman	Kaine
Blunt Rochester	Gallego	Kelly
Booker	Gillibrand	Kim
Cantwell	Hassan	King
Coons	Hawley	Klobuchar

Lujan	Rosen	Van Hollen
Markey	Sanders	Warner
Merkley	Schatz	Warneck
Murphy	Schiff	Warren
Ossoff	Schumer	Welch
Padilla	Shaheen	Whitehouse
Peters	Slotkin	Wyden
Reed	Smith	

NAYS—52

Banks	Graham	Mullin
Barrasso	Grassley	Murkowski
Blackburn	Hagerty	Paul
Boozman	Hoeben	Ricketts
Britt	Husted	Risch
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Capito	Johnson	Schmitt
Cassidy	Justice	Scott (FL)
Collins	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Lankford	Sheehy
Cotton	Lee	Sullivan
Cramer	Lummis	Thune
Crapo	Marshall	Tillis
Cruz	McConnell	Tuberville
Curtis	McCormick	Wicker
Daines	Moody	Young
Ernst	Moran	
Fischer	Moreno	

NOT VOTING—1

Murray

The amendment (No. 2126) was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CASSIDY). The Senator from Nevada.

AMENDMENT NO. 1690 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1717

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I call up my amendment No. 1690 and ask that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Ms. CORTEZ MASTO] proposes an amendment numbered 1690 to amendment No. 1717.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To create a point of order against legislation that would increase drug costs for seniors and people with disabilities on Medicare)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . POINT OF ORDER AGAINST LEGISLATION THAT WOULD INCREASE DRUG COSTS FOR SENIORS AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES ON MEDICARE.

(a) POINT OF ORDER.—It shall not be in order in the Senate to consider any bill, joint resolution, motion, amendment, amendment between the Houses, or conference report that would increase cost-sharing or out-of-pocket expenses for seniors or people with disabilities who rely on Medicare for their prescription drug coverage.

(b) WAIVER AND APPEAL.—Subsection (a) may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn. An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under subsection (a).

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, amendment No. 1690 ensures that, if Republicans want to lower taxes on the ultrawealthy, they can't pay for it by raising drug prices on seniors and people with disabilities.

Seniors have been demanding lower drug costs, and Democrats delivered with the Inflation Reduction Act. By empowering Medicare to negotiate drug prices, the law cuts Medicare prescription costs and saves taxpayers billions. It also, for the first time, caps

annual out-of-pocket costs for seniors with a Medicare drug plan, limits insulin to \$35 a month, and expands access to free vaccines.

You would think that President Trump, who promised to lower prices for Americans, would want to protect the work we have done in the IRA to do just that. But Big Pharma, right now, is pushing to weaken the Democrats' prescription drug law in this reconciliation bill, and Republicans and President Trump are helping them do it.

Making American seniors and people with disabilities foot the bill for bigger tax breaks for billionaires like Elon Musk is just wrong, and it is cruel. I hope my colleagues will agree and support this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, I raise a point of order. It is outside the jurisdiction of the Budget Committee and, therefore, not appropriate for inclusion in the budget resolution.

Adopting this amendment would jeopardize the privilege of the budget resolution.

Now, we all agree that drug prices remain too high for many patients, and that is why Republicans and Democrats should come together to reform how PBMs work. So let's bring those bills to the floor and save some patients some real money.

But this amendment risks our ability to prevent a \$4 trillion tax increase on hard-working Americans and small businesses.

POINT OF ORDER

I raise a point of order against this amendment under section 305(b)(2) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

MOTION TO WAIVE

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, pursuant to section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act, I move to waive, and I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

VOTE ON MOTION

The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) is necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 49, nays 50, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 185 Leg.]

YEAS—49

Alsobrooks	Cortez Masto	Hickenlooper
Baldwin	Duckworth	Hirono
Bennet	Durbin	Kaine
Blumenthal	Fetterman	Kelly
Blunt Rochester	Gallego	Kim
Booker	Gillibrand	King
Cantwell	Hassan	Klobuchar
Collins	Hawley	Lujan
Coons	Heinrich	Markey

Merkley	Schatz	Warner
Murphy	Schiff	Warnock
Ossoff	Schumer	Warren
Padilla	Shaheen	Welch
Peters	Slotkin	Whitehouse
Reed	Smith	Wyden
Rosen	Sullivan	
Sanders	Van Hollen	

NAYS—50

Banks	Graham	Moreno
Barrasso	Grassley	Mullin
Blackburn	Hagerty	Murkowski
Boozman	Hoeven	Paul
Britt	Husted	Ricketts
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Risch
Capito	Johnson	Rounds
Cassidy	Justice	Schmitt
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cramer	Lee	Sheehy
Crapo	Lummis	Thune
Cruz	Marshall	Tillis
Curtis	McConnell	Tuberville
Daines	McCormick	Wicker
Ernst	Moody	Young
Fischer	Moran	

NOT VOTING—1

Murray

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 49, the nays 50. Three-fifths of the Senators being duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, the motion is not agreed to.

The motion was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The point of order is sustained, and the amendment falls.

The Senator from Wisconsin.

AMENDMENT NO. 1693 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1717

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I call up my amendment No. 1693 and ask that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Wisconsin [Ms. BALDWIN] proposes an amendment numbered 1693 to Amendment No. 1717.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to preventing a reduction in Medicaid funding that could lead to rural hospital closures, cost increases for individuals with other kinds of insurance, or higher rates of uncompensated care)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO PREVENTING A REDUCTION IN MEDICAID FUNDING THAT COULD LEAD TO RURAL HOSPITAL CLOSURES, COST INCREASES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH OTHER KINDS OF INSURANCE, OR HIGHER RATES OF UNCOMPENSATED CARE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution, and make adjustments to the pay-as-you-go ledger, for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to healthcare coverage and costs, which may include preventing a reduction in Medicaid funding that could lead to rural hospital closures, cost increases for individuals with other kinds of insurance, or higher rates of uncompensated care, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, my amendment is straightforward. It

would prevent any cuts to Medicaid that could lead to rural hospital closures.

When I travel around rural Wisconsin, the No. 1 challenge that I hear about is access to healthcare. We absolutely must make it easier to get healthcare for these folks, not take away their lifeline by cutting Medicaid.

Make no mistake, these drastic cuts to Medicaid will force rural hospitals and clinics to close. That means no regular checkups for children, no prenatal care for expectant mothers, no timely emergency care after stroke or heart attack.

The choice here is simple: Do you really believe that rural hospitals should close so that Donald Trump can give big corporations and the wealthiest a tax break? I certainly don't. But that is what this budget from Senate Republicans is setting us up for.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to protect access to healthcare for all rural Americans.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

The Senator from Idaho.

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, once again, we have the politics of threatening that some dire consequence is going to occur as a result of this legislation, or at least these instructions.

Once again, President Trump has been clear: Any reforms to Medicare or Medicaid must not reduce patient benefits.

In fact, section 3003 of the budget resolution reaffirms this commitment. The budget resolution gives the Senate maximum flexibility to meet this objective. This amendment is unnecessary, and I urge my colleagues to vote no.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1693

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question now occurs on adoption of the amendment.

Ms. BALDWIN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 49, nays 50, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 186 Leg.]

YEAS—49

Alsobrooks	Galleo	Markey
Baldwin	Gillibrand	Merkley
Bennet	Hassan	Murphy
Blumenthal	Hawley	Ossoff
Blunt Rochester	Heinrich	Padilla
Booker	Hickenlooper	Peters
Cantwell	Hirono	Reed
Collins	Kaine	Rosen
Coons	Kelly	Sanders
Cortez Masto	Kim	Schatz
Duckworth	King	Schiff
Durbin	Klobuchar	Schumer
Fetterman	Lujan	Shaheen

Slotkin	Warner	Whitehouse
Smith	Warnock	Wyden
Sullivan	Warren	
Van Hollen	Welch	

NAYS—50

Banks	Graham	Moreno
Barrasso	Grassley	Mullin
Blackburn	Hagerty	Murkowski
Boozman	Hoeven	Paul
Britt	Husted	Ricketts
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Risch
Capito	Johnson	Rounds
Cassidy	Justice	Schmitt
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cramer	Lee	Sheehy
Crapo	Lummis	Thune
Cruz	Marshall	Tillis
Curtis	McConnell	Tuberville
Daines	McCormick	Wicker
Ernst	Moody	Young
Fischer	Moran	

NOT VOTING—1

Murray

The amendment (No. 1693) was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MULLIN). The Senator from Vermont.

AMENDMENT NO. 1661 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1717

Mr. WELCH. Mr. President, I call up my amendment No. 1661 and ask that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment by number.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Vermont [Mr. WELCH] proposes an amendment numbered 1661 to amendment No. 1717.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To create a point of order against legislation that defunds essential services for children, families, and seniors, including programs that feed hungry seniors like Meals on Wheels, Head Start and other child care assistance that allows parents to work and pay their bills, and programs that keep children safe from abuse and neglect, to give massive tax cuts to billionaires)

At the appropriate, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . POINT OF ORDER AGAINST LEGISLATION THAT CUTS ESSENTIAL PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND SENIORS TO GIVE TAX CUTS TO BILLIONAIRES.

(a) POINT OF ORDER.—It shall not be in order in the Senate to consider any bill, joint resolution, motion, amendment, amendment between the Houses, or conference report that gives tax cuts to billionaires while cutting meals for starving seniors and eliminating child care services for working families, including any legislation that—

(1) cuts taxes for taxpayers with adjusted gross income above \$1,000,000,000;

(2) reduces or eliminates federal funding for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program;

(3) reduces or eliminates federal funding for the Social Services Block Grant;

(4) reduces or eliminates federal funding for Meals on Wheels;

(5) reduces or eliminates federal funding for Head Start;

(6) reduces or eliminates federal funding for programs that support prevention services to keep vulnerable families together whenever possible;

(7) reduces or eliminates federal funding for programs that support child care;

(8) reduces or eliminates federal funding for programs that support kinship caregivers, guardianship assistance, adoption

services and assistance, foster care services, and child protective services; or

(9) reduces or eliminates federal funding for programs that support legal services for children and families in foster care.

(b) WAIVER AND APPEAL.—Subsection (a) may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn. An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under subsection (a).

(1) defunds essential services for children, families, and seniors, including programs that feed hungry seniors like Meals on Wheels; Head Start and other child care assistance that allows parents to work and pay their bills; programs that keep children safe from abuse and neglect; to give massive tax cuts to billionaires

Mr. WELCH. The Social Services Block Grant was a program set up by President Reagan. It was a Republican proposal for funding social services, and it was embraced by Democrats. It is in danger of being killed.

This is an anchor for communities across the Nation, especially if States continue to suffer significant budget shortfalls. It is flexible funding that allows local decision making about how best to meet the needs of citizens in need in your State and in mine. You can tailor the services to 18 different social service areas, but it is the backbone of Meals on Wheels, the backbone of Head Start, the backbone of Adult and Child Protective Services, and the Foster Care System. It has a huge impact on many people. We have to save it.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

Mr. WELCH. It should not be put on the block to be a funding source for tax cuts for billionaires. I ask for a "yea" vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, once again, I would urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment.

Once again, it is a list of dire consequences that are not happening and are not in this legislation. The creation of such a point of order is outside the jurisdiction of the Budget Committee and, therefore, not an appropriate item for inclusion in a budget resolution.

Adopting this amendment would jeopardize the privilege of the budget resolution. It is another example of the kind of things that are being brought up that are not included in the bill.

I urge my colleagues to vote no.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1661

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on adoption of the amendment.

The amendment (No. 1661) was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following amendments be the final amendments in order; that the amendments be re-

ported by number; that following disposition of the amendments listed, the Graham substitute amendment No. 1717, as amended, be agreed to and that the Senate vote on the concurrent resolution, as amended, with no intervening action or debate; finally, if agreed to, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table: No. 1, amendment No. 2177, Warnock; No. 2, No. 1602, Shaheen; No. 3, No. 1989, Wyden; and No. 4, No. 2152, Rosen.

I would ask that we remain at our desks and that we make these 7-minute votes.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

AMENDMENT NO. 1529 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1717

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I call up my amendment No. 1529 and ask that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Massachusetts [Mr. MARKEY] proposes an amendment numbered 1529 to amendment No. 1717.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To preserve access to Social Security's phone service)

SEC. ____ . DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO ENSURING SENIORS CAN ACCESS SOCIAL SECURITY OVER THE PHONE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution, and make adjustments to the pay-as-you-go ledger, for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to preserving Social Security benefits, which may include prohibiting DOGE from limiting access to the Social Security phone service, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, in just over 1 week, Elon Musk has vowed to use his DOGE chain saw to hang up all of the telephone services at the Social Security Administration that Grandma and Grandpa use to access Social Security benefits. That would be OK if computer-savvy Gen Xers were the Social Security recipients, but they are not. It is Grandma and Grandpa in their eighties and nineties, who didn't take a computer course 30 years ago.

That is right. Musk and Trump are going to force Grandma and Grandpa to go online or drive to a field office if a field office is still even open. What if they can't use a computer? What if they can't drive themselves to a distant field office? How are they going to get their benefits?

So my amendment just says: No. We are going to keep the phone lines open to answer the call when Grandma and Grandpa are on the line. The phone line is the lifeline for Grandma.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

Mr. MARKEY. They will permanently disconnect her from her Social Security benefits.

I urge an "aye" vote for Grandma.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, once again, President Trump has repeatedly stated he opposes cuts to Social Security. Section 3003 of this resolution also underscores Republicans' commitment to protect and preserve Social Security. The phone line issue is one related to scammers seeking to fraudulently obtain Social Security benefits to continue using their tactics unabated.

The SSA needs to continue adapting as well. Based on stakeholder feedback, the SSA is taking steps to ensure its efforts to prevent fraud do not impede Social Security beneficiaries from receiving the benefits they have earned.

President Trump's nominee to lead the Social Security Administration has also committed to improving the Agency's phone service and ensuring that individuals can interact with the SSA. What we need to do is to stop delaying the nomination and move forward.

I urge a "no" vote.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1529

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question occurs on adoption of the amendment.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, on that, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 48, nays 51, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 187 Leg.]

YEAS—48

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Baldwin	Hirono	Sanders
Bennet	Kaine	Schatz
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schiff
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Schumer
Booker	King	Shaheen
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Coons	Lujan	Smith
Cortez Masto	Markey	Sullivan
Duckworth	Merkley	Van Hollen
Durbin	Murkowski	Warner
Fetterman	Murphy	Warnock
Galleo	Ossoff	Warren
Gillibrand	Padilla	Welch
Hassan	Peters	Whitehouse
Heinrich	Reed	Wyden

NAYS—51

Banks	Daines	Lummis
Barrasso	Ernst	Marshall
Blackburn	Fischer	McConnell
Boozman	Graham	McCormick
Britt	Grassley	Moody
Budd	Hagerty	Moran
Capito	Hawley	Moreno
Cassidy	Hoeven	Mullin
Collins	Husted	Paul
Cornyn	Hyde-Smith	Ricketts
Cotton	Johnson	Risch
Cramer	Justice	Rounds
Crapo	Kennedy	Schmitt
Cruz	Lankford	Scott (FL)
Curtis	Lee	Scott (SC)

Sheehy Tillis Wicker
Thune Tuberville Young

NOT VOTING—1
Murray

The amendment (No. 1529) was re-
jected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Sen-
ator from Georgia.

AMENDMENT NO. 2177 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1717

Mr. WARNOCK. Mr. President, I call
up my amendment No. 2177 and ask
that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The
clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Georgia [Mr. WARNOCK],
for himself and others, proposes an amend-
ment numbered 2177 to amendment No. 1717.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To establish a deficit-neutral re-
serve fund relating to access to health
care, which may include legislation pre-
venting reductions in funding for Medicaid
that could lead to benefit cuts, coverage
loss, or slashed provider payments)

At the appropriate place, insert the fol-
lowing:

**SEC. ____ . DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND
RELATING TO ACCESS TO HEALTH
CARE, WHICH MAY INCLUDE LEGIS-
LATION PREVENTING REDUCTIONS
IN FUNDING FOR MEDICAID THAT
COULD LEAD TO BENEFIT CUTS,
COVERAGE LOSS, OR SLASHED PRO-
VIDER PAYMENTS.**

The Chairman of the Committee on the
Budget of the Senate may revise the alloca-
tions of a committee or committees, aggre-
gates, and other appropriate levels in this
resolution, and make adjustments to the
pay-as-you-go ledger, for one or more bills,
joint resolutions, amendments, amendments
between the Houses, motions, or conference
reports relating to access to health care,
which may include legislation preventing re-
ductions in funding for Medicaid that could
lead to benefit cuts, coverage loss, or slashed
provider payments, by the amounts provided
in such legislation for those purposes, pro-
vided that such legislation would not in-
crease the deficit over the period of the total
of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

Mr. WARNOCK. Mr. President, I
know that we say this a lot around
here, but I really rise to offer a very
simple amendment: no cuts in Med-
icaid benefits; no cuts in Medicaid cov-
erage.

My colleagues have claimed that
their proposal to cut up to \$880 billion
from Medicaid is just cutting waste,
fraud, and abuse, so here is their
chance to back up their words with ac-
tion. If they are so confident that they
can cut \$880 billion from Medicaid
without children, without seniors, or
the severely disabled losing benefits
and coverage, then they should vote for
my amendment.

If my amendment is voted down, it is
a sad admission that my colleagues
value the financial health of the rich-
est of the rich over the physical health
of millions of children and seniors.

I urge my colleagues to support my
amendment with Senator KELLY and
others.

I reserve the balance of my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Sen-
ator from Idaho.

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, President
Trump has been clear: Medicare and

Medicaid must not reduce benefits in
this bill. Section 3003 of the resolution
confirms that commitment.

I urge a “no” vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Sen-
ator from Georgia.

Mr. WARNOCK. How much time do I
have remaining?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Sen-
ator from Georgia has 4 seconds.

Mr. WARNOCK. Mr. President, I no-
ticed that my colleague from Idaho did
not say that they would not cut cov-
erage. If the Senator believes that they
can do this—

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Sen-
ator’s time has expired.

Mr. WARNOCK.—without kicking a
single person off of Medicaid, he should
vote for my amendment.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 2177

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The
question occurs on adoption of the
amendment.

Mr. WARNOCK. Mr. President, I ask
for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a
sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient sec-
ond.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the
Senator from Washington (Mrs. MUR-
RAY) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 48,
nays 51, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 188 Leg.]

YEAS—48

Alsobrooks	Hawley	Reed
Baldwin	Heinrich	Rosen
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Blumenthal	Hirono	Schatz
Blunt Rochester	Kaine	Schiff
Booker	Kelly	Schumer
Cantwell	Kim	Shaheen
Collins	King	Slotkin
Coons	Klobuchar	Smith
Cortez Masto	Lujan	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Markey	Warner
Durbin	Merkley	Warnock
Fetterman	Murphy	Warren
Gallego	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden

NAYS—51

Banks	Graham	Moreno
Barrasso	Grassley	Mullin
Blackburn	Hagerty	Murkowski
Boozman	Hoeven	Paul
Britt	Husted	Ricketts
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Risch
Capito	Johnson	Rounds
Cassidy	Justice	Schmitt
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cramer	Lee	Sheehy
Crapo	Lummis	Sullivan
Cruz	Marshall	Thune
Curtis	McConnell	Tillis
Daines	McCormick	Tuberville
Ernst	Moody	Wicker
Fischer	Moran	Young

NOT VOTING—1

Murray

The amendment (No. 2177) was re-
jected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs.
BRITT). The Senator from New Hamp-
shire.

AMENDMENT NO. 1602 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1717

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Madam President, I
call up my amendment No. 1602 and ask
that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The
clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk
read as follows:

The Senator from New Hampshire [Mrs.
SHAHEEN] proposes an amendment numbered
1602 to amendment No. 1717.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To establish a deficit-neutral re-
serve fund relating to extending vital en-
hanced advance premium tax credits)

At the appropriate place, insert the fol-
lowing:

**SEC. ____ . DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND
RELATING TO EXTENDING HEALTH
CARE ACCESS AND AFFORDABILITY
FOR BENEFICIARIES OF ENHANCED
ADVANCE PREMIUM TAX CREDITS.**

The Chairman of the Committee on the
Budget of the Senate may revise the alloca-
tions of a committee or committees, aggre-
gates, and other appropriate levels in this
resolution, and make adjustments to the
pay-as-you-go ledger, for one or more bills,
joint resolutions, amendments, amendments
between the Houses, motions, or conference
reports relating to securing health care ac-
cess and affordability for Americans, which
may include extending enhanced advance
premium tax credits that will avoid cata-
strophic insurance premium hikes for
22,000,000 Americans or the loss of insurance
coverage for an additional 4,000,000 Ameri-
cans, or ensuring that any changes would not
result in lower coverage rates, reduced bene-
fits, or decreased affordability for bene-
ficiaries receiving coverage through private
insurance markets, by the amounts provided
in such legislation for those purposes, pro-
vided that such legislation would not in-
crease the deficit over the period of the total
of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. This bipartisan
amendment supports extending vital
healthcare tax credits for working fam-
ilies.

Twenty-two million Americans rely
on premium tax credits to get the
healthcare they need, but those tax
credits are supposed to expire this
year. Without our action, people will
see the cost of their premiums increase
by \$3,000 next year, and millions will
lose their healthcare.

I want to thank my colleague Sen-
ator MURKOWSKI for her work on this
issue.

I urge adoption of this amendment
and ask for a voice vote only if every-
body votes yes—just seeing if you are
awake.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Sen-
ator from Idaho.

Mr. CRAPO. Madam President, unfor-
tunately, my colleague’s amendment is
not necessary. We have the maximum
flexibility in this resolution to do the
appropriate tax policy once we are able
to get these instructions. I look for-
ward to working with her to get the
right kind of tax policy into the bill as
we move forward in working on it. Be-
cause of that, this amendment is un-
necessary, and I urge my colleagues to
vote no.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1602

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The
question is on adoption of the amend-
ment.

The amendment is not agreed to.

The amendment (No. 1602) was re-
jected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

AMENDMENT NO. 1989 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1717

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, I call up my amendment No. 1989 and ask that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Oregon [Mr. WYDEN], for himself and Mr. HAWLEY, proposes an amendment numbered 1989 to amendment No. 1717.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To strike section 2001(b)(4) relating to reconciliation instructions to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives to cut \$880,000,000,000 from Medicaid)

Strike section 2001(b)(4).

Mr. WYDEN. Colleagues, this amendment offered by Senator HAWLEY and myself says that \$880 billion in Medicaid cuts have no place in this resolution.

Right now, those cuts can be found on page 46, lines 3 through 7, and we ought to get rid of them.

The Modern Medicaid Alliance, which includes AARP, the Federation of American Hospitals, and dozens of provider health plan and patient advocacy groups agree with Senator HAWLEY and me and support us in this effort.

Protecting Americans' healthcare ought to go beyond party lines. Protecting families who count on Medicaid ought to go beyond party lines. Protecting seniors who count on Medicaid for nursing home care ought to go beyond party lines. Protecting kids with disabilities who count on Medicaid ought to go beyond party lines. And protecting working Americans who are walking an economic tightrope—all of that, colleagues, should go beyond party lines.

In that spirit, I hope the Senate will join Senator HAWLEY and me on a bipartisan basis to finally take Medicaid off the chopping block.

I urge my colleagues to vote aye.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

Mr. CRAPO. Madam President, once again, a long list of fearful, dire consequences that aren't in the bill. President Trump has been clear that any reforms to Medicare and Medicaid must not reduce patient benefits. Section 3003 of the budget resolution reaffirms this commitment.

I urge my colleagues to vote no.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1989

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on adoption of the amendment.

Mr. WYDEN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 49, nays 50, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 189 Leg.]

YEAS—49

Alsobrooks	Heinrich	Rosen
Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Bennet	Hirono	Schatz
Blumenthal	Kaine	Schiff
Blunt Rochester	Kelly	Schumer
Booker	Kim	Shaheen
Cantwell	King	Slotkin
Collins	Klobuchar	Smith
Coons	Lujan	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Markey	Warner
Duckworth	Merkley	Warnock
Durbin	Murkowski	Warren
Fetterman	Murphy	Welch
Gallego	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wyden
Hassan	Peters	
Hawley	Reed	

NAYS—50

Banks	Graham	Moreno
Barrasso	Grassley	Mullin
Blackburn	Hagerty	Paul
Boozman	Hoeven	Ricketts
Britt	Husted	Risch
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Capito	Johnson	Schmitt
Cassidy	Justice	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Sheehy
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Lummis	Thune
Cruz	Marshall	Tillis
Curtis	McConnell	Tuberville
Daines	McCormick	Wicker
Ernst	Moody	Young
Fischer	Moran	

NOT VOTING—1

Murray

The amendment (No. 1989) was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

AMENDMENT NO. 2152 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1717

Ms. ROSEN. Madam President, I call up my amendment No. 2152 and ask that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment by number.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Ms. ROSEN] proposes an amendment numbered 2152 to amendment No. 1717.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To provide tax relief for the middle class)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO PROVIDING TAX RELIEF TO THE MIDDLE CLASS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution, and make adjustments to the pay-as-you-go ledger, for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to middle class tax relief, which may include providing tax cuts for the middle class and small businesses while ensuring corporations and the ultra-wealthy pay their fair share of taxes, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2025 through 2034.

Ms. ROSEN. Madam President, middle-class families are being squeezed by high costs, particularly now that President Trump has essentially enacted a

sweeping national tax through his tariffs.

Instead of giving billionaires more tax giveaways, we need to give hard-working families financial relief.

My amendment is simple. It will level the playing field by cutting taxes for the middle class and small businesses, while ensuring big corporations and the ultrawealthy pay their fair share.

It is time we put hard-working families first, and it is about time to give those tax breaks to middle-class families and small businesses in each of our States.

I urge my colleagues to support my amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

Mr. CRAPO. Madam President, you have heard it before. It is probably fitting that we end on this today before final passage. But contrary to what you have heard today, extending the Trump tax cuts would prevent a multi-trillion-dollar tax hike on millions of middle- and working-class Americans. To be clear, if the Trump tax cuts expire at the end of this year, taxes will go up on families and small businesses across the entire income spectrum, hitting middle-income earners hard.

The reality is the Trump tax cuts reduce taxes for the overwhelming majority of Americans, and middle-class households receive the largest proportional benefits of the cuts. The highest income earners, actually, pay a greater share of the total taxes than they did before.

Because of that, I urge my colleagues to vote no on this amendment.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 2152

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question now occurs on adoption of the amendment.

Ms. ROSEN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 47, nays 52, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 190 Leg.]

YEAS—47

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

NAYS—52

Banks	Grassley	Mullin
Barrasso	Hagerty	Murkowski
Blackburn	Hawley	Paul
Boozman	Hoeben	Ricketts
Britt	Husted	Risch
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Capito	Johnson	Schmitt
Cassidy	Justice	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Sheehy
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Lummis	Thune
Cruz	Marshall	Tillis
Curtis	McConnell	Tuberville
Daines	McCormick	Wicker
Ernst	Moody	Young
Fischer	Moran	
Graham	Moreno	

NOT VOTING—1

Murray

The amendment (No. 2152) was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, amendment No. 1717, as amended, is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 1717), in the nature of a substitute, as amended, was agreed to.

VOTE ON H. CON. RES. 14

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question occurs on the adoption of the concurrent resolution, as amended.

Mr. TILLIS. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 48, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 191 Leg.]

YEAS—51

Banks	Graham	Moran
Barrasso	Grassley	Moreno
Blackburn	Hagerty	Mullin
Boozman	Hawley	Murkowski
Britt	Hoeben	Ricketts
Budd	Husted	Risch
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Cassidy	Johnson	Schmitt
Cornyn	Justice	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cramer	Lankford	Sheehy
Crapo	Lee	Sullivan
Cruz	Lummis	Thune
Curtis	Marshall	Tillis
Daines	McConnell	Tuberville
Ernst	McCormick	Wicker
Fischer	Moody	Young

NAYS—48

Alsobrooks	Heinrich	Reed
Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Bennet	Hirono	Sanders
Blumenthal	Kaine	Schatz
Blunt Rochester	Kelly	Schiff
Booker	Kim	Schumer
Cantwell	King	Shaheen
Collins	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Coons	Lujan	Smith
Cortez Masto	Markey	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Fetterman	Ossoff	Warren
Galleo	Padilla	Welch
Gillibrand	Paul	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden

NOT VOTING—1

Murray

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 14), as amended, was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, Donald Trump has betrayed the American people. Tonight, Senate Republicans joined him in that betrayal.

In voting for this bill, Senate Republicans sided with billionaires against the middle class in total obeisance to Donald Trump. The odds of a recession in America are surging because of Donald Trump's tariffs, and Senate Republicans have gone along.

In fact, they are aiding and abetting it. It is a brutal Republican pincer move: Donald Trump's tariffs raise costs on the one side, and Senate Republicans are cutting Medicaid and pushing billionaire tax breaks on the other.

Tonight, Senate Democrats gave Senate Republicans the chance to hit the kill switch on Donald Trump's tariffs, on DOGE, on the attacks against Social Security and Medicare and Medicaid. At each opportunity, Republicans refused.

If Republicans ever chose to snap out of their Trump hypnosis for even a minute, they could immediately use this Senate procedure to halt the tariffs, halt DOGE, halt all of Donald Trump's chaos. They know deep down his policies are a disaster. Instead, Senate Republicans are chaining themselves to the MAGA anchor and leaping into the ocean.

But for all their difficulty in passing this bill over the past week, the hardest part for Republicans is still in front of them. They are going to even have more trouble in the weeks ahead.

Republicans' obeisance to Donald Trump's increasingly unpopular agenda will cost them dearly in the future.

Madam President, I would like to thank the staffs for the great jobs they have done, all the incredible staff for making this possible.

Thank you to the floor staff who has been with us many hours. Thank you to the cloakrooms. Thank you to the doorkeepers, the Capitol Police, the pages, the custodian and maintenance staff and everyone else.

I want to thank, particularly, Nate Oursler in the Democratic cloakroom who has been the hero of the past couple of days, working relentlessly to keep things moving for Senate Democrats from the moment we gaveled in to the moment we have adjourned.

And a particular thank-you to my great staff. They have done an amazing, amazing job and made this very difficult effort run smoothly as our Members depart at an earlier hour than they are used to, and we accommodated as many amendments as we possibly could.

I would like to thank them all and a particular shout-out. It is a great staff. I could name so many, but to Meghan Taira because she is the chief cook and bottle washer on our side who gets this all done so smoothly and so effortlessly.

This will be—and I am sure she is happy about this—her last reconcili-

ation, her last budget reconciliation—but we know what a great job she has done not just for me, not just for Senate Democrats, not just for the whole Senate but for the country over the decades. So, Meghan, we wish you the best.

I yield the floor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations en bloc: Calendar No. 57 and all nominations on the Secretary's desk; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to any of the nominations; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

NOMINATIONS

IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be Lieutenant General

Lt. Gen. Christopher C. LaNeve

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

IN THE AIR FORCE

PN1 AIR FORCE nomination of Christopher A. Ridlon, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 8, 2025.

IN THE ARMY

PN2 ARMY nomination of Mark D. Goodwin, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 8, 2025.

PN3 ARMY nomination of Carlos J. Ramirez Jimenez, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 8, 2025.

PN4 ARMY nomination of Jeffrey W. Buckner, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 8, 2025.

PN5 ARMY nomination of Shawn P. Polonkey, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 8, 2025.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

PN6 MARINE CORPS nomination of Joseph R. Petkus, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 8, 2025.

PN7 MARINE CORPS nominations of Bijan C. Derakhshan, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 8, 2025.

PN8 MARINE CORPS nomination of Jonathan W. Landers, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 8, 2025.