

Now we need to mirror that same success inside America. President Trump is off to a strong start there as well. His strategic and historic deportation campaign, the largest in our history, is making our streets safer, and communities know it. The criminals that President Trump is expelling are the worst of the worst. They are the murderers, the drug dealers, the gang members, the human traffickers.

They are gone. In 100 days, 66,000 deportations have been carried out. Immigration and Customs Enforcement arrests of illegal immigrants, of the criminals, have already outpaced all of 2024 under Joe Biden. Republicans in this body, in Congress—in the House and in the Senate—are moving forward to get law enforcement the resources they need to finish the job, and that includes \$175 billion for border security that we have passed here in the Senate. We will finish the wall. We will boost Border Patrol. We will strengthen ICE, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and expand detention capacity.

The people in my home State are thrilled that President Trump is enforcing the law and restoring order. Now, the Democrats, on the other hand, they are not thrilled; they are furious. They don't like it. They like open borders.

Democrats in Congress are racing to El Salvador to defend an MS-13 gang member—or, as one of the media calls him, the Maryland man. A Member of this body led the charge.

In 2023, that Member's constituent Rachel Morin—she was a mother of five—was brutally murdered by an illegal immigrant. He did not speak out, that same Member who rushed to El Salvador. No. He didn't meet with her family. No. He refused.

You talk about a situation that the American people understand: the difference between the Democrats and the Republicans. Rush to El Salvador but won't talk to the family of a young woman, a mother of five, murdered.

That is the mindset of the Democrats: Open the borders. Let them come in. Let them kill. Let them rape.

It is astonishing.

Rush to El Salvador to fight for a gang member. And that Senator said he wasn't going to quit fighting until that thug is back in America.

So let me ask my colleagues a question: Does that make America safer? Let's remember who the Democrats are fighting for. This is a man who had no right to be here—here illegally; a man who has a lawful removal order; a verified member of MS-13, according to an immigration judge—not according to me; according to an immigration judge—a human trafficker, a man whose wife filed two restraining orders against him, a man who beat his wife, who threatened to kill her and who bragged “nobody can do anything” to him. That is who the Democrats are fighting for.

We are fighting for our safe communities. That is what we need here. They

are not defending fairness—Democrats are not. They are shielding illegal immigrant criminals from justice, and it is wrong. Democrats choose rapists and killers over American families harmed by their policies.

Why? It seems that they want the illegal immigration invasion to continue. Republicans are different. Our party is committed to protecting American families. We stand for law and order. Our mission is to restore safety for the American people—security for the American people and safety for our communities.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Hawaii.

VACCINE PLACEBO TESTING

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, yesterday, the Health Secretary, RFK, Jr., announced that the Department would subject all new vaccines—including vaccines for children and vaccines for well-researched diseases like measles and polio—to placebo testing.

So what does that mean? It means that they would take a bunch of kids, divide them into two groups and give some of the kids the vaccine for rubella and mumps or polio; and then they would take the other half and give them a placebo—a dummy vaccine that doesn't work; it is not supposed to work; and then they would study how the kids fare, to let the disease process continue.

Let me tell you something about my father. My father was the only doctor on the record for the first couple of years after the Tuskegee experiments on African-American men in which they withheld lifesaving medicine from hundreds of African-American men, believing that they were expendable, to “observe the disease process.”

What they are contemplating—and I don't know how serious this is, but what they are contemplating is that at scale with children. I am hoping that the Department clarifies today that is not what they meant; that is fake news. But as of now, they are contemplating populationwide experiments on children to see how the disease process progresses.

There should be 100 U.S. Senators opposed to that, and I pray that they back off of this by the end of the day.

H.J. RES. 75

Mr. President, the Trump environmental agenda revolves around one thing and one thing only: How do we make fossil fuel companies even richer while raising costs for everybody else?

You know, people voted for Trump for all kinds of reasons, but I don't know anybody who voted for Trump hoping that their kids and their neighbors would be more exposed to the most toxic pollutants like mercury and lead that cause cancer, cause brain damage, and cause birth defects. But through their continued rollback of fundamental environmental protections, that is what we are about to do in 10 minutes.

For decades, these regulations have made our communities safer and

healthier. You can step outside or have your kids play at the park without worrying about the air being polluted by harmful toxins. There is no reason that we should trust polluters chasing profits to responsibly self-regulate.

There are lots of problems in the government and there are even some regulations that don't make any sense, but the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, it has been very, very successful over the many, many decades. And what the Republicans are moving forward with today is a rollback of the thing that has protected our kids, our family members, and our community members just to make sure—this isn't even a climate thing—that you are not breathing in the kinds of toxic chemicals that cause brain damage and cause cancer.

Protecting our communities is one of the most basic jobs of a U.S. Senator, and this resolution does the opposite. For that very simple reason, I urge my colleagues to vote against it.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we start the vote now.

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

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE OFFICE OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY RELATING TO “ENERGY CONSERVATION PROGRAM: ENERGY CONSERVATION STANDARDS FOR COMMERCIAL REFRIGERATORS, FREEZERS, AND REFRIGERATOR-FREEZERS”

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the clerk will report the joint resolution.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 75) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy relating to “Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Commercial Refrigerators, Freezers, and Refrigerator-Freezers”.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the title of the joint resolution for the third time.

The joint resolution was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

VOTE ON H.J. RES. 75

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The joint resolution having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the joint resolution pass?

Mr. SCHATZ. 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 senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 228 Leg.] YEAS—52

Table with 3 columns: Name, Name, Name. Lists Senators present for the yeas vote.

NAYS—45

Table with 3 columns: Name, Name, Name. Lists Senators present for the nays vote.

NOT VOTING—3

Table with 3 columns: Name, Name, Name. Lists Senators not voting.

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 75) was passed.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RELATING TO "REVIEW OF FINAL RULE RECLASSIFICATION OF MAJOR SOURCES AS AREA SOURCES UNDER SECTION 112 OF THE CLEAN AIR ACT"—Resumed

S.J. RES. 31

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SHEEHY). Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of S.J. Res. 31.

Under the previous order, all debate time is expired. The clerk will read the title of the joint resolution for the third time.

The joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

VOTE ON S.J. RES. 31

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The joint resolution having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the joint resolution pass?

Mr. DURBIN. 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 bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 229 Leg.] YEAS—52

Table with 3 columns: Name, Name, Name. Lists Senators present for the yeas vote.

NAYS—46

Table with 3 columns: Name, Name, Name. Lists Senators present for the nays vote.

NOT VOTING—2

Table with 3 columns: Name, Name, Name. Lists Senators not voting.

The joint resolution (S.J. Res. 31) was passed, as follows:

S.J. RES. 31

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress disapproves the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Review of Final Rule Reclassification of Major Sources as Area Sources Under Section 112 of the Clean Air Act" (89 Fed. Reg. 73293 (September 10, 2024)), and such rule shall have no force or effect.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HAGERTY). Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Frank Bisignano, of New Jersey, to be Commissioner of Social Security Administration for the term expiring January 19, 2031.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION FIRST 100 DAYS

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise to discuss my concern about the chaos that is roiling the Department of Defense. Sunday will mark the 100th day of Pete Hegseth serving as Secretary of Defense.

During his confirmation hearing, Mr. Hegseth said:

President Trump wants a Pentagon laser focused on warfighting, lethality, meritocracy, standards, and readiness. That is it. That is my job.

Well, Secretary Hegseth is failing the mission President Trump gave him. His actions over the past 100 days have done nothing but distract the Pentagon and undermine warfighting, lethality, meritocracy, standards, and readiness.

In the first 100 days, Secretary Hegseth has terminated or weakened programs and processes that are the bedrock upon which our military recruits personnel and trains servicemembers to go into battle.

For example, in February the Secretary announced his plan to slash the civilian workforce by 5 to 8 percent, terminate probationary workers, and institute a hiring freeze.

These severe measures have only meant more work for the remaining employees and more costly work for military officers and contractors to cover the gaps, or simply not to carry out the missions.

The Secretary has also launched a number of efforts to eliminate diversity and inclusion programs, which have led to more limited recruiting efforts, attempts to separate honorably serving transgender servicemembers, dissolving social clubs at the military academies, banning and removing books from the Naval Academy, and inspiring walkouts by students at DOD schools abroad over book bans and curriculum changes.

Frankly, I joined the Army in 1967 and served on Active Duty for 12 years, and the idea that dependent children of military personnel in DOD schools would protest the Secretary of Defense to me was inconceivable, but it has happened, showing, I think, great anxiety in the ranks of our military personnel all across the globe.

The Secretary is also failing his duty to lead the Department by example. That is one of the key touchstones of any military leader: "Do what I do" and "Follow me."

For example, on March 24, Mr. Hegseth demonstrated a severe lack of judgment when he texted classified military intelligence on the unclassified and unsecured Signal app to at least two group chats, including one with his wife, brother, and personal lawyer, which raises the question: Why would they have access to, or should have access to, highly classified information? That information, if intercepted by an adversary, would endanger the lives of our servicemembers deployed downrange.

The Secretary also installed a "dirty line," which is an unsecured internet connection into his Pentagon office so he could more easily send texts and personal emails. Such actions violate the laws and protocols that every other military servicemember is required to follow.

When military leaders bring in enlisted personnel and junior officers and tell them about the boundaries of proper cyber use, they make it very clear: It is completely inappropriate—indeed,