

goal is to break the system so thoroughly that Americans buy in, and they can privatize the system entirely.

Everything the Trump administration is doing is part of an agenda that is going to make families poorer, sicker, and less safe than ever before. It is not an exaggeration to say that the country is at a turning point. At no time during the history of Social Security have we come this close to the possibility of seniors and people with disabilities actually missing their Social Security checks.

Social Security is money that Americans pay from each paycheck. So when seniors and people with disabilities start missing Social Security checks, that is DOGE and Elon Musk stealing your hard-earned money.

By confirming Mr. Bisignano, the Senate will be signing a death sentence to Social Security as we know it today. Republicans will be responsible when your grandma misses her Social Security check and can't pay her month's rent.

Republicans will be responsible when your aunt living in rural Oregon can't get the help she needs because the phone lines have been shut off, and her closest field office was shut down.

Republicans will be responsible when an entire generation of seniors and disabled Americans are left unable to afford basic necessities.

At a time when costs are rising, the Federal Government ought to be focused on cutting costs and helping families and seniors afford the cost of living.

Instead, it sure looks to me like Republicans are poised to pass another bailout for billionaires and corporations while simultaneously working to dismantle the Federal programs and resources that Americans rely on. That is the Republican agenda in a nutshell, and every single Member of this body that votes to confirm this nominee is going to own the consequences.

Mr. Bisignano is unfit to be the steward of Americans' hard-earned Social Security benefits. I strongly urge my colleagues to vote no on his nomination.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. YOUNG. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the previous scheduled rollcall vote begin immediately.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Frank Bisignano, of New Jersey, to be

Commissioner of Social Security Administration for the term expiring January 19, 2031.

VOTE ON BISIGNANO NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Bisignano nomination?

Mr. YOUNG. 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.

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 234 Ex.]

YEAS—53

Banks	Graham	Moreno
Barrasso	Grassley	Mullin
Blackburn	Hagerty	Murkowski
Boozman	Hawley	Paul
Britt	Hoeven	Ricketts
Budd	Husted	Risch
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Cassidy	Johnson	Schmitt
Collins	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	

NAYS—47

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	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Fetterman	Murray	Warren
Gallego	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden
Heinrich	Reed	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume legislative session.

The majority leader.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION RELATING TO "ADDRESSING THE HOMEWORK GAP THROUGH THE E-RATE PROGRAM"—Motion to Proceed

Mr. THUNE. I move to proceed to Calendar No. 24, S.J. Res. 7.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 24, S.J. Res. 7, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Federal Communications Commission relating to "Addressing the Homework Gap Through the E-Rate Program".

VOTE ON MOTION

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

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.

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 235 Leg.]

YEAS—53

Banks	Graham	Moreno
Barrasso	Grassley	Mullin
Blackburn	Hagerty	Murkowski
Boozman	Hawley	Paul
Britt	Hoeven	Ricketts
Budd	Husted	Risch
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Cassidy	Johnson	Schmitt
Collins	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	

NAYS—47

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	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Fetterman	Murray	Warren
Gallego	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden
Heinrich	Reed	

The motion was agreed to.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION RELATING TO "ADDRESSING THE HOMEWORK GAP THROUGH THE E-RATE PROGRAM"

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BANKS). The clerk will report the joint resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 7) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Federal Communications Commission relating to "Addressing the Homework Gap Through the E-Rate Program".

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

(The remarks of Mrs. BRITT pertaining to the introduction of S. 1630 are printed in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mrs. BRITT. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

S.J. RES. 7

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I am here to speak against S.J. Res. 7.

This resolution would prevent millions of students, educators, and families from getting online—literally from enjoying the vast benefits and resources of the online world.

Today, students and educators are dependent on broadband to learn and teach, to communicate with each other, to establish relationships and communities. Digital education has allowed for more flexible learning opportunities for all of us, whatever our ages, but most specifically, for students doing their homework, doing lectures, engaging in discussions, and so much more—all of it online. It is a different world, and now S.J. Res. 7 threatens to cut off and constrict that world.

The internet can be a tremendous educational resource, opening new doors for curious students, and digital literacy skills are fundamental to succeeding in this digital economy, but that economy also creates a new system of haves and have-nots. In education, that divide is called the homework gap. It is a fundamental question of equity and fairness to close that gap. Studies have shown that without broadband at home, people earn lower grades than their connected classmates—no secret as to why. It is a resource that enables better learning and more achievement. That learning loss sets them back in career prospects and other opportunities. It sets them back for a lifetime, potentially. We saw the impact of the homework gap during COVID, when students were forced to take classes and exams from the parking lots of McDonald's. Literally, some of us saw students in those so-called hotspots, away from their homes, because it was the only way they could access their homework.

Now, to combat that homework gap, Congress established a fund in 2021 for schools and libraries to loan Wi-Fi hotspots to students and educators. The program was an enormous success, ensuring nearly 18 million students at over 10,000 schools and libraries could get online. In Connecticut, that Federal support, in addition to State funding, was wildly successful to our closing the homework gap. We made sure that every single student had access to a laptop and to high-speed broadband. I am so proud of everyone in Connecticut who was responsible for this program of combining Federal and State resources in the best way; but, unfortunately, Federal funds ran out.

Rather than leave students behind, the Federal Communications Commis-

sion issued a rule last summer that would allow schools to continue providing Wi-Fi hotspots under its E-Rate program. The E-Rate program exists to help schools and libraries provide affordable internet access; so that was a natural step for the FCC last summer. In Connecticut, funds from the E-Rate hotspot rule are supporting hotspot lending programs in Hamden, Norwalk, and at countless other libraries. I have visited them. I have seen the faces of educators and students excited about this enormous potential that brings together communities, frankly, from all different political parties.

There is nothing partisan about this program, but, today, my Republican colleagues are trying to cut off those students in Hamden, Norwalk, and elsewhere in Connecticut and millions and millions of their peers all around the country. This resolution would nullify the FCC's rule that allows schools and libraries participating to join Wi-Fi hotspots to students.

I have to ask, Really? Are schools and teachers crying out to repeal this rule? Really? No, they are not. How does this proposal make any sense for them or for families? for the parents? for the community? It makes no sense.

This resolution would undo, in fact, all of the hard work in closing the digital divide in States like Connecticut, where people have devoted lives and careers to helping students close that homework gap and do better. It will renew and exacerbate those inequalities of access for rural and low-income communities. It will set back millions of students in the name of—what? In the name of what? What is the rationale? There is none. It is an embarrassment. It is a disaster. It is a self-inflicted wound that we can avoid here on the floor of the U.S. Senate.

I want to remind everyone here that once we vote in favor of this rule, we can't go back, literally. You all know the rules. We can't go back. The FCC may not adopt a similar rule in the future. This is an irreversible, self-inflicted wound. So I urge my colleagues to reject this misguided, wrong-headed resolution. It would be a disgrace if we deprive those students and their families of this vast resource, of literally life-changing access to a really necessary service that helps them not just now but throughout their futures. We ought to expand internet access, not constrict it. We ought to be enhancing it, not cutting it off.

And this effort is in the name of what? It makes no sense except that it exemplifies some of the cruelty and meanness and stupidity of the Elon Musk approach to public service and public access and fairness in our society.

I urge my colleagues to take the positive step—and it would be a positive step—of continuing this enormously important program in the name of educational future, tomorrow and in the days afterward, for our students in Connecticut and around the country.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CURTIS). The Senator from Hawaii.

MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN AWARENESS WEEK

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, this week is Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Awareness Week, and it is a sobering reminder of both the breathtaking scale of this tragedy that has plagued Native communities for generations and how far we still have to go to bring justice and healing to the victims and families affected by it.

This crisis is likely out of view for most Americans, but it stares us in the face. Murder is the third leading cause of death for American Indian and Alaska Native women and girls, which is 10 times the national average—10 times the national average. American Indians and Alaska Natives are more than twice as likely to experience violent crimes, including rape and sexual assault, than any other group of people in the United States. In Hawaii, 64 percent of human trafficking survivors are Native Hawaiian.

Even so, we still don't know the true extent of the crisis because for so long, the Federal Government failed to take it seriously. It was more convenient to pretend as if it didn't exist than to dedicate Federal resources to investigating the crimes and prosecuting those responsible. As a result, in far too many instances, justice has not been served and families have not been able to begin the process of healing.

To experience the tragedy of a loved one gone or a neighbor suddenly found dead is horrific in and of itself. But worse, these communities often have to shoulder the burden of finding answers all by themselves while they are grieving. For that to happen anywhere else or to anyone else, we would be rightly outraged.

The fact that it is happening to Native Americans in cities like Anchorage or Albuquerque, on remote reservations, and on Hawaiian homelands should not change our outrage.

After decades of underinvestment, Congress finally took steps to address this crisis when we reauthorized the Violence Against Women Act in 2022. As chair of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs at the time, I was proud to work with Native leaders and advocates and especially my good friend the vice chair at the time, LISA MURKOWSKI, to restore Tribal jurisdiction for certain violent crimes and increase Federal resources to keep Native families safe.

No one bill or action is going to remedy generations of neglect and injustice, but it was an important step forward, along with other laws, in turning the tide on this shameful and longstanding problem.

There remains a lot of work to be done to ensure that Native people feel safe in their homes and in their communities. And it is a priority that we continue to advance on the Indian Affairs Committee with the chairman,

LISA MURKOWSKI, and many others. But today we remember the many victims lost to this devastating epidemic of violence and recommit ourselves to helping to find justice and healing for all of those affected.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE RELATING TO "GLEN CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA: MOTOR VEHICLES"—Motion to Proceed

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 65, H.J. Res. 60.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 65, H.J. Res. 60, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Park Service relating to "Glen Canyon National Recreation Area: Motor Vehicles".

VOTE ON MOTION

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

Mr. CRAPO. I ask unanimous consent the rollcall vote begin immediately.

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

The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 236 Leg.]

YEAS—53

Banks	Graham	Moreno
Barrasso	Grassley	Mullin
Blackburn	Hagerty	Murkowski
Boozman	Hawley	Paul
Britt	Hoeven	Ricketts
Budd	Husted	Risch
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Cassidy	Johnson	Schmitt
Collins	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	

NAYS—47

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

Smith	Warnock	Whitehouse
Van Hollen	Warren	Wyden
Warner	Welch	

The motion was agreed to.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE RELATING TO "GLEN CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA: MOTOR VEHICLES"

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the joint resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 60) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Park Service relating to "Glen Canyon National Recreation Area: Motor Vehicles".

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

GUIDING AND ESTABLISHING NATIONAL INNOVATION FOR U.S. STABLECOINS ACT—Motion to Proceed

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 66, S. 1582.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 66, S. 1582, a bill to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 66, S. 1582, a bill to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes.

John Thune, Ted Budd, Katie Boyd Britt, John Cornyn, Deb Fischer, Roger Marshall, Jim Justice, Tim Scott of South Carolina, Mike Crapo, Tommy Tuberville, Bill Hagerty, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Markwayne Mullin, Mike Rounds, Steve Daines, Cynthia M. Lummis, Rick Scott of Florida.

MORNING BUSINESS

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO DENNIS STERNBERG

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Mr. Dennis Sternberg for his exceptional and transformative leadership as the executive director of

the Arkansas Rural Water Association (ARWA) as he ends his successful career.

Thanks to Mr. Sternberg's selfless service and steadfast advocacy for improved water infrastructure, Arkansas communities are better suited to provide safe and reliable drinking water.

Over the past 22 years with Mr. Sternberg at the helm, ARWA has become Arkansas' largest water and wastewater utility membership association, with more than 600 utility members today.

Mr. Sternberg prioritized daily educational trainings and assistance programs to support the State's utility operators. He was an active advocate for legislation advancing water and wastewater issues both at the State and Federal levels. With every occasion, Mr. Sternberg championed the development of systems in small and rural communities.

During his tenure, Mr. Sternberg made numerous trips to Washington, DC, to testify on the behalf of Arkansas water infrastructure. His guidance and support were vital in the crafting and implementation of legislation such as the 2020 Water Resources and Development Act, Small and Rural Community Clean Water Technical Assistance Act, and America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018.

ARWA has remained an active affiliate of the National Rural Water Association (NRWA) and State Rural Water Associations. Under Mr. Sternberg's leadership, ARWA staff were always on the frontlines when natural disasters struck to meet the needs of residents and help restore water services in a timely manner.

ARWA works vigorously to meet two critical needs: to provide Arkansans with safe water sources by building cost-effective and modest-sized water systems and to help rural communities address new contaminants and overcome regulatory hurdles. These two goals were always the highest priority under the direction of Mr. Sternberg, and his vision ensured they were consistently attained.

While Mr. Sternberg's time has come to close at ARWA, he has certainly left American water infrastructure better than he found it, and for that, we are all grateful.

I congratulate Mr. Sternberg on his exceptional tenure at ARWA and thank him for the impact he has made to strengthen water sources across our State.

I wish him the very best as he transitions into retirement.●

RECOGNIZING NIMROD MEATS

• Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, as chair of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This National Small Business Week, it is my privilege to recognize Nimrod Meats of