

out that the royal family of Qatar is set to gift Donald Trump a luxury 747 for him to use as his own Air Force One.

Without a shred of shame, Donald Trump will lecture families about putting up with higher prices that he himself triggered and then accept a \$400 million private jet from the Qatari royal family. His shameless self-enrichment is without equal in American history. You cannot think of another President who has been so brazen, so selfish, and so destructive of the norms of what America is about.

In truth, though, the news of the Qatari Air Force is just one tip of the iceberg. For months, Qatar and other Gulf State nationals have spent billions on deals with the Trump organizations to buy the President.

Donald Trump is using his office to enrich himself and his family. This isn't a question. This is a fact with incredible supporting data to prove it. He is putting America's national security at risk to enrich himself.

Just as concerning as the very gift are the national security implications that surround it. The deeply chilling part of this bribe and national security betrayal from the President is just how blatant and erroneous he is doing it, almost daring Republicans to stand up to him and defend our country—daring Republicans.

So where are our Republican friends with this kind of egregious, grubby, awful enrichment? Silence and total obedience.

TARIFFS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, on tariffs, early this morning, it was reported that Donald Trump caved to Xi Jinping and the Chinese Communist Party, with virtually nothing to show for American workers. Donald Trump has changed his mind, once again, on his tariffs, with a new "deal" with China to pause most tariffs for 90 days.

Sadly, it looks like China has, once again, gotten the better of Donald Trump. They hardly had to give up a thing.

It is another example of Donald Trump's chaos. Trump has one policy for his tariffs on one day and a different policy the next day. One day, he is pretending to be a tough guy with China. The next day he is caving to China and getting little, if anything, in return. Who knows what Trump's tariff policy will be in 90 days?

If I were a businessperson, I wouldn't count on what he is doing or what he says today that probably won't be in effect in the next week or the next 3 weeks.

Even under this "deal," tariffs are still significantly higher than they were before Trump's "Liberation Day." Businesses will continue to struggle. Supply chains will continue to experience chaos, strain, and unpredictability.

Again, this is only a 90-day pause. As I said before, it is impossible to predict

what will happen next, even within the 90-day period, because Trump changes his mind so quickly. Whatever seems good in front of him at the moment, he goes for.

First, he is mad at China and puts in the tariffs. Then he gets lots of blowback and backs off.

Where will he be tomorrow? Who the heck knows. But businesses can't count on reliability, only on chaos.

Donald Trump's trade war is a lose-lose-lose for American families and businesses, leaving them with increased costs and more chaos.

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, on drug pricing, a few hours ago, Donald Trump signed a new Executive order he claims will "almost immediately" bring down the costs of prescription drugs. Americans should hold their applause because Donald Trump's announcement is little more than a photo op masquerading as reform, just as he said he would bring down costs on day one, and it didn't happen—the same thing here. "Almost immediately"? Give me a break.

In case Donald Trump has forgotten, this announcement is like what he already tried to do in 2020, with little success. So Americans are right to be skeptical until they actually see their prescription drug costs go down more.

Donald Trump can say he is doing an Executive order, but we all know the odds are overwhelming that that Executive order will fail.

The real way to make drug price reform happen is to do what Democrats do and what Donald Trump is loath to do: Roll up your sleeves and do the hard work of passing legislation. That is what we did. That is why insulin is \$35 for senior citizens. That is why 20 of the most widely used drugs' prices have plummeted, because we negotiated with Medicare. That is why no family pays more than \$2,000 total for all their prescription drugs. We worked hard, we legislated, and we got prices down.

Donald Trump does a photo op, says it is going to come down immediately, but, obviously, this is a half-baked political stunt that is unlikely to bring any meaningful change.

Today's announcement is so typical of Donald Trump's Presidency: He promises a golden age, but, in reality, Americans get fool's gold.

BUDGET

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, yesterday, Republicans released the text of their plan to eviscerate Medicaid while cutting taxes for the ultrarich. The bill is as toxic as we all feared.

With a straight face, Republicans are telling the American people that they want to cut taxes for the ultrarich by trillions of dollars and pay for it with the biggest cuts to Medicaid ever—the biggest cuts to Medicaid ever. If this

bill becomes law, nearly 14 million Americans will lose their health insurance—again, the biggest cut to Medicaid in American history, 14 million losing their health insurance.

Hospital after hospital will have to lay off tens of thousands of workers. Many of them may be forced to close, particularly in rural areas.

Republicans promised for months they would protect Medicaid, but now Americans know the truth: Republicans never intended to keep that promise, and this confirms it.

Almost 14 million Americans lose insurance. Millions more see their premiums go up. Hospitals from one end of America to the other will close. Thousands will lose their jobs. Millions will lose their access to healthcare. Kids will suffer. Seniors suffer. Healthcare workers will lose their jobs. Americans with disabilities get hurt. And rural Americans are left to fend for themselves.

Hospitals and nursing homes will shutter. States will scramble with their budgets. And American families are left out to dry.

And why? Tax cuts for the billionaires. That is what happens when Project 2025 takes over the Republican mainstream.

But the cruelty doesn't stop there. Later today, we also expect Republicans to unveil their plan to cut SNAP, which feeds about 40 million Americans in need. If the reports are to be believed, Republicans plan to cut Federal food assistance by hundreds of billions. If the reports are to be believed, that is what the Republicans plan to do.

Kids will go hungry. Parents will suffer.

I just got back from Buffalo and Albany in Upstate New York, meeting with food banks and religious leaders and church leaders who are on the frontlines of the fight against hunger. The priests and nuns I met with spoke of the obligation Scripture imparts on us to feed the hungry and to give drink to the thirsty. But right now, Republicans want to rob the least of our neighbors to make it better for those at the top.

SNAP should not be a partisan issue. It should not be a political issue. It is a moral question: Are we going to let kids, veterans, senior citizens, and others go hungry? This is about taking care of the most vulnerable in society, especially the children, making sure every child in America is afforded basic dignity.

If a kid goes to bed hungry, they can't learn the next morning in school. They can't get along with their friends. They are off to an awful start.

So SNAP has been one of the great things that America has done until now, in a bipartisan way—but not with these MAGA people running the show and not with the Republicans here in the Senate and in the House being supine to what they know is wrong and vicious and mean and counter-productive.

I urge House Republicans to oppose these devastating cuts to SNAP, particularly those New York Republicans whose constituents I have met over the past couple of weeks. I was in or near the districts of two of them today, and the outrage against what they might do is palpable.

Given the narrow margins in the House, these swing districts in New York have the power to stop these cuts to SNAP. These Republicans can do it. They can make sure no kid goes to bed hungry. I urge them to stand up and hold the line.

When you put it all together, there is no other way to put it: This bill is a grotesque betrayal of working and middle-class families.

And a few moments ago, Republicans released the next phase of their plan: hiking taxes on electricity and raising energy costs for seniors and families. Republicans are so captured by the hard-right ideology that they are willing to cede America's energy future to China and tank domestic industries that we will need to keep energy costs low in the future.

Not a single Senate Democrat will support this destructive piece of legislation. Instead of calling this "one, big, beautiful bill," Republicans should tell the truth. This bill is a big, fat grift, and it is the American people who are getting ripped off.

STABLECOINS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, finally, I want to say a little bit about last week.

There are those on the other side of the aisle now shedding crocodile tears that, last week, the minority asserted its right not to proceed to a bill that has zero legislative text. Imagine—imagine—they said, the nerve of the Democrats not voting for a bill when there is no text. How crazy can they be?

We asserted our rights very simply to continue the legislative process to allow time to reach agreement. The majority, in an act of political stubbornness but also stupidity, asked people to vote on a bill they had never seen. They tried to force a vote before Senators even had text to know what they were voting on. And then they get upset that we all voted no?

They shouldn't be surprised—least of all, my good friend the Republican leader, who said in his first speech as majority leader: "One of my priorities as leader will be to ensure that the Senate stays the Senate."

Well, in the Senate, we have always had the text of the bill before we vote on it. I say that to my friend the majority leader.

Democrats were perfectly, perfectly appropriate, fair, and correct in asserting our rights. If this Senate is to work, the majority must allow it to work.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

QATAR

Mr. SCHATZ. Madam President, I cannot believe I have to say this, but a President should not take a \$400 million gift from a foreign country. It doesn't matter which President or what party. It doesn't matter which foreign country. It doesn't matter if there is or is not a legal justification. No President should take a \$400 million gift from a foreign country.

I shouldn't have to explain why, but it is a high principle, literally enshrined in the Constitution because people whom we represent should know—not think but know—that their representatives are focused on them and this country only; that our loyalties are not divided; that our minds are not wandering elsewhere.

The emoluments clause in the Constitution—it is a fancy phrase but a simple idea: no foreign gifts. If a foreign government offers you anything but especially something worth close to half a billion dollars, the answer is, no, thank you. End of story. Very simple. End of story. I cannot take that. First of all, I cannot take that because I can't have divided loyalties. I am going into the region; I can't take a \$400 million gift before I begin negotiations with you. But it is also explicitly prohibited by the U.S. Constitution.

And the gift in question is that the country of Qatar is going to literally provide a luxury aircraft—not just any luxury aircraft to the President of the United States but Air Force One. And why does this matter? Air Force One is not just a random luxury airplane. It is a symbol of and a projection of American power. It has flown 15 different Presidents. It carried President John F. Kennedy's body after his assassination and saw President Johnson be sworn in under unprecedented circumstances. It rushed George W. Bush back to Washington after the Twin Towers were struck. And just 2 years ago, it flew President Joe Biden to Europe for a secret trip to Ukraine during the war.

When people see Air Force One on TV, when they see it land in other countries—whether in London or Tokyo or Brazil—they immediately know that America has arrived. It represents not just the weight of the Presidency but America itself, generations of history and international leadership.

But in one fell swoop, Trump is selling out one of the most iconic symbols of American power that we have, and what people will now see is the most powerful man on Earth flying around in a plane paid for by a foreign government. It is disgusting. It is wildly corrupt. And just because they are doing the corruption in plain sight not does make it any less damning or sad or gross.

This week, several of my colleagues and I will be asking the Senate to vote to condemn this action. There should be 100 of us that agree on this fundamental principle: No President should take free stuff from a foreign govern-

ment and certainly nothing worth \$400 million.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 72.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Emil Michael, of Florida, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. THUNE. Madam 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 nomination of Executive Calendar No. 72, Emil Michael, of Florida, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering.

John Thune, John Barrasso, Eric Schmitt, Roger Marshall, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Joni Ernst, Pete Ricketts, Tom Cotton, James E. Risch, Jon A. Husted, James Lankford, Katie Boyd Britt, John Hoeven, Kevin Cramer, Bernie Moreno, Bill Hagerty, Chuck Grassley.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

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

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 82.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Eric Matthew Ueland, of Virginia, to be Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented