

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

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. 82, Eric Matthew Ueland, of Virginia, to be Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget.

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. 88.

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 Sean Donahue, of Florida, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

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. 88, Sean Donahue, of Florida, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

John Thune, Mike Crapo, Thom Tillis, Cynthia M. Lummis, Mike Rounds, Rick Scott, Roger F. Wicker, Katie Boyd Britt, Steve Daines, John Boozman, John R. Curtis, James E. Risch, John Barrasso, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Dan Sullivan, Bernie Moreno, Jim Justice.

WAIVING QUORUM CALL

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to waive the mandatory quorum call with respect to the Crowley nomination.

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

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

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. 76, Monica Crowley, of New York, to be Chief of Protocol, and to have the rank of Ambassador during her tenure of service.

John Thune, Jim Justice, Ted Cruz, Bernie Moreno, Jon A. Husted, Steve Daines, John R. Curtis, Tommy Tuberville, Tim Sheehy, Pete Ricketts, Joni Ernst, James E. Risch, Mike Rounds, Tim Scott of South Carolina, Eric Schmitt, Katie Boyd Britt, John Barrasso.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Monica Crowley, of New York, to be Chief of Protocol, and to have the rank of Ambassador during her tenure of service, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 53, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 241 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 PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. RICKETTS). On this vote, the yeas are 53, the nays are 47.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Monica Crowley, of New York, to be Chief of Protocol, and to have the rank of Ambassador during her tenure of service.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

ENERGY

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, today, Donald Trump's Department of Energy announced the largest deregulatory effort in the Department of Energy's history, with 47 regulations in the Department of Energy slashed in one fell swoop in the name of freedom on the same day that the House Ways and Means Committee proposed to slash clean energy tax credits and just a few days after the House Energy and Commerce Committee proposed to destroy critical programs that reduce hazardous air pollution in exchange for fast-tracking dirty fossil fuels.

This isn't one big beautiful bill, as Donald Trump calls it; it is a big billionaire bailout—that is what this whole thing is about—and the only freedom this announcement guarantees is the freedom to pollute, overcharge, and mislead the American people.

So let's be clear. These attacks are not common sense. These attacks on energy policy—on the environmental policy of the United States—is not common sense; it is nonsense which they are trying to sell. They are not about choice; they are about giving fossil fuel corporations and manufacturers a license to pollute on the one hand and to be profiteers on the other. This is not deregulation; it is the desecration of decades of bipartisan progress on public health and on the truth.

Republicans are willing to throw \$420 billion in clean energy investments and 400,000 jobs in red and blue States right down the drain. This would be a disaster for our economy and good-paying jobs. What does that look like in action? Well, let's just go through it. Let's go through what they are doing.

By the way, Chris Wright is the Secretary of Energy, and Chris Wright says: Well, I am a reasonable man.

And he seems like a very likable person. But, in fact, Chris Wright is a radical. He is an absolute, outright radical, trying to destroy the clean energy future of the United States. So while he says he believes in all of the above, we know he is an oil man; he is a gas man. He really believes in oil above all, not all of the above. That is for sure.

Chris Wright, with his radical, anti-capitalist attack upon the clean energy future of the United States is absolutely destroying our ability to be able to compete with China in the clean energy sector for the rest of eternity. He is just deciding to completely and totally eviscerate our future, and he does so at the behest of Donald Trump, who is tied to, of course, the oil and gas and coal industry and their profit-making opportunities.

Now, again, Chris Wright, that is where he made his money—oil and gas; so it is kind of natural for him to be a