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Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, the giver of every good and perfect gift, thank You for the favor which You have given to humanity.

Lord, we are grateful for the nobility You have placed in human hearts that enables us to toil until we pass the breaking point and still not break. Thank You that You have enabled us to love until even self is forgotten. Thank You also for those who willingly sacrifice even life itself for the things they hold dear. Thank You that goodness always haunts us and sin ever brings its remorse.

Thank You for the Members of this legislative body who work to be Your ambassadors of reconciliation in a divided world. May they commit their time, effort, and resources to formulate public policy in keeping with Your will for our beloved Nation and world.

We pray in Your powerful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MULLIN). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. 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 executive clerk read the nomination of Sean Donahue, of Florida, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, today, we are approaching the end of this year's National Police Week, so I come to the floor to talk about what Congress can do to support the brave men and women who protect us.

In a few moments, I will go to the Senate Judiciary Committee, where I am chair, to take up eight bills that I have worked out with Ranking Member DURBIN and members of the committee—in other words, bipartisan bills.

Each of these bills support law enforcement and gives law enforcement critical tools to protect us Americans. For example, one of these bills protects first responders from accidental exposure to fentanyl. Another bill reauthorizes the task force and helps keep our children safe online. A third bill bolsters the PSOB Program to protect first responders' loved ones, should they bravely sacrifice themselves in the line of duty. That is just a sampling of the list of bipartisan bills that we will be considering today.

I take this opportunity to thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for taking this National Police Week seriously, very seriously. I have always backed the blue, and that is why I have set these eight bills on the committee's agenda.

Once these bills are reported out of committee, I am committed to moving

them through the Senate expeditiously, and I assume, through their bipartisan sponsorship, that we will have bipartisan support on the floor of the U.S. Senate.

I call on my colleagues, then, to join me in supporting our law enforcement community by passing my Police Week bills as quickly as possible.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The majority leader is recognized.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, it is Police Week this week—the yearly observance recognizing the service and sacrifice of our Nation's law enforcement officers. They are a special breed, the men and women who safeguard our communities.

I am a dad and a grandfather, and I think every parent knows that feeling when they place that baby in your arms for the first time, that knowledge that you would do anything to protect this person. But the incredible thing about police officers is that they have that protective instinct for all of us. They don't just volunteer to step between their loved ones and danger; they volunteer to step between any of us and danger—not because they know us but simply because we are human beings and need to be protected.

It is a natural human instinct to run from danger, but police officers go out to meet it, and they go out to meet it not knowing what the day will bring—like the police officer in Sioux Falls, SD, who was shot earlier this year while pursuing a suspect with multiple outstanding warrants for his arrest; or

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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like Moody County Chief Deputy Sheriff Ken Prorock of South Dakota, who was killed in the line of duty in February of last year and who is honored in this year's Police Week resolution.

Chief Deputy Prorock was killed after reportedly being deliberately struck by a car driven by a fleeing suspect being pursued by Madison Police. He was not a member of the Madison Police, but he heard the call for assistance on the radio and went out to help. He knew that he was placing himself in danger and knew that he could be risking his life, but he went anyway.

And as I said last year, that is the heroism of Chief Deputy Prorock and all of the men and women across our country who serve in our Nation's police forces and who, when they hear a call for help, go out and answer it.

This is Police Week, and every day I am grateful for the men and women of our Nation's law enforcement community and particularly grateful for all of our South Dakota officers who work tirelessly to safeguard our communities—safeguard our communities and build them up—because police officers do more than fight crime and stand between us and danger. They are an active and supportive presence in our communities, whether leading safety classes, building relationships with local youth, or helping a stranded driver or a family in need.

I am also profoundly grateful for the service of the U.S. Capitol Police, who are on the frontlines here in Washington, DC, every day. There is no getting away from the fact that there are dangers associated with working in the Capitol, and I am tremendously grateful for the men and women who keep us safe, whether they are protecting dignitaries, standing guard on the Capitol steps, or responding to threats.

Finally, as we recognize the service and sacrifice of our Nation's police officers, we should recognize the service and sacrifice of their families as well. It is not always easy to have a police officer for a husband or a wife, a mom or a dad. The hours can be long and irregular. The job is a heavy one, and there is always the knowledge at the back of your mind that your mom or dad or your husband or wife is out there confronting danger and that there is always a chance he or she might not make it home. So as we thank our Nation's police officers, we also want to make sure to thank their families, who also serve.

To all of our Nation's law enforcement officers, thank you. Thank you for serving our communities, for putting your lives on the line every day. Thank you for all the sacrifices you make to keep us safe. God bless you all.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

The Democratic leader.

TARIFFS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, this morning, Donald Trump's trade war strikes again. Walmart announced today it plans to raise prices in stores across America because of Donald Trump's tariffs.

Here is what Walmart will say on its earnings call:

[G]iven the magnitude of the tariffs, even at the reduced levels announced this week, we aren't able to absorb all the pressure given the reality of narrow retail margins.

Walmart's raising prices is a canary in the coal mine for the devastation Trump's tariffs will have on Main Street. If a retailer as big as Walmart can't escape the pain of tariffs, what chance do small businesses have? Their customers are inevitably going to see prices rise.

Walmart's announcement is a glaring reminder that even after supposedly backtracking on some of his tariffs, significant damage will not go away. The chaos he has unleashed is eating away at retailers, restaurants, small businesses, and middle-class families' wallets. It is still estimated that these tariffs will cost thousands of dollars for each family this year.

Donald Trump's tariffs are nothing more than a tax hike on consumers. I am supporting legislation with JAMIE RASKIN to require large retailers to start displaying clearly to customers precisely how much tariffs are contributing to the total price of products.

Americans deserve transparency. If Trump's tariffs are causing prices to go up, through no fault of the retailer, the American consumer ought to know it. Walmart should start displaying in their stores and online how much tariffs actually contribute to the price of their goods. So should all other retailers.

America should know how much Trump's tariffs are hurting them. People understand it. People are beginning to understand it, but this display would hit it home every time they buy a good.

It shows you how destructive and chaotic Donald Trump's trade war has been. He should backtrack—totally backtrack—before we enter a recession. Specific tariffs that deal with how China treats us, the Chinese Government, the Chinese economy treats us, that is fine, not this “crazy, go after everybody, poorly put together, and constantly changing tariff” regime.

CARTELS

Mr. President, on cartels, well, Donald Trump and our Republican friends love to talk about border security—how they are tough on border security—more than just about anything else. So you can imagine our surprise to read that President Trump is making deals with drug cartels—El Chapo to be precise—to come into our country. Amazing.

This week—it is hard to believe. You can't make this stuff up—reports came

out that Donald Trump made a deal to allow 17 relatives of El Chapo—that is right, El Chapo, a dangerous, murderous, notorious, drug lord in U.S. custody—into the United States.

El Chapo was head of the notorious Sinaloa Cartel, which was designated a “terrorist organization” back in February—and now letting their relatives in? Republicans want to talk about importing criminals? Where is the outrage on Donald Trump letting the family of the world's most dangerous cartel into the United States?

Let's hear it from our Republican friends. This is a total disgrace. Republicans should be up in arms if they want to have any credibility about being tough against drug traffickers, drug criminals, drug cartels. This isn't just being soft on crime; it is rolling out a welcome mat to El Chapo and his family and inviting it into our country.

But if you are related to El Chapo—if you are related to El Chapo—Donald Trump says: Come right in. Welcome to America. He will roll out the red carpet.

It is lunacy. It is a disgrace.

Donald Trump has no problem deporting U.S. citizens, but he will grant parole for the family of drug traffickers. What message does this send to other drug lords? criminals? terrorists?

Where are our Republican colleagues on this? Where is the outrage from the other side of the aisle who say they want to prevent criminals from crossing our borders?

RECONCILIATION

Mr. President, now on reconciliation and SNAP, so the Republicans so-called “big, beautiful bill” is one of the most heinous, callous, and cruel proposals we have ever seen.

Republicans don't just want to ax healthcare for 14 million Americans, which is going to mean higher costs for even many more millions of Americans, they also want massive cuts to SNAP, the largest, most effective anti-hunger program in America. Republicans want to cut SNAP benefits by as much as \$310 billion, the largest cuts to anti-hunger funding in history.

This would mean the average person on SNAP would be left with just \$5 a day for food. That is morally bankrupt—\$5 a day for food when a dozen eggs alone cost more than that.

Republicans are literally stealing food away from hungry kids, from seniors, from veterans to finance tax breaks to the ultrarich. Give me a break. This is cruel. This is mean, heartless, and counterproductive. A hungry child can't learn, often grows up to have a life that is not as productive as others who are fed can have.

The Republican cuts to SNAP would cut 6 million Americans off from food. It would reduce food benefits for 5 million more Americans. Four million children—four million children—will go to bed hungry because of this cruelty to pay for tax cuts for billionaires. Isn't it incredible? I would even like to ask these billionaires who are so hell-