

He would love any excuse to divert attention. And doing it this way is—he does it all the time. This is one of the most shameful, awful ways you can do it.

Our troops don't deserve to be exploited in this way, to be used as pawns in a nakedly political fight. It is a deep disservice to them and to all service-members and law enforcement who serve our country and protect our community.

And why is Donald Trump doing this? To divert attention. He knows that his "Big Ugly Bill" is highly unpopular with the American people. The more they learn about it, the more they hate it. He knows he has got big trouble with his fight with his erstwhile friend Musk. He knows that the tariffs are hurting the American people. So he seeks to divert attention. That is his MO. But what it does is create chaos. And the American people don't like chaos.

And so I urge the President to immediately reverse course at once, remove all of the troops and the marines, and let local law enforcement do their jobs to keep the peace, as the Governor of California and the mayor of Los Angeles said they are perfectly capable of doing.

ONE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL ACT

Mr. President, when Republican Congressmen went home after voting for their Big Beautiful Bill, they got a lot of flak from people back home because the more Americans look at this, quote, "Big Beautiful Bill," the more they realize it is an ugly mess.

By now, we have heard from so many Republicans in the House saying they didn't like this provision, they didn't like that portion of the bill. Some say it cuts Medicaid too deep. Some say it adds too much to the debt. Some say they didn't even get to read the bill, and particularly the energy provisions, clean energy provisions—very popular, creating hundreds of thousands of jobs, reducing our dependence on China—was done in the dark of night at the last minute so it virtually kills clean energy tax credits that have been so popular in this country.

The bottom line is this, though, a Congressman's core power is the power to vote. That is what the Constitution gave them. And House Republicans who say they don't like the bill should exercise that power today.

They have a unique opportunity to make the very changes they have been talking about for weeks. Because of technical mistakes that we Democrats pointed out, the Republicans have to take their bill back and not send it over here until they make those technical corrections.

But if even a handful of Republican Congressmen who say they don't like this provision or that provision vote no until those other provisions, those much more serious provisions are changed, they could get it done. They could stop the vicious cuts to Medicaid. They could stop the closures of rural

hospitals. They could restore the clean energy tax credits and save jobs in their own districts. Remember, at least 70 percent of those clean energy projects are in red States.

Whatever policy they told the people back home they didn't like, they can now change it. It is a golden opportunity. If House Republicans mean what they say—those who say they don't like the bill, this part of it or that part of it—if they truly want to change the bill, now this is their chance. This is the golden key, Republicans in the House. You have a chance—a real chance—to change the bill. It is in your hands. But don't go home and tell your constituents you are really against this provision if you don't act on it.

This vote will show whether House Republicans are actually worried about the cuts to SNAP, to Medicaid, to Medicare, to clean energy jobs like they claimed or if it was just empty talk.

House Republicans vote no, and you can change the bill for the better, but if you go along and vote yes after all that complaining, you will show people back home that when push comes to shove, you will cave to Donald Trump.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. President, on climate, this week Republicans continue their tortured efforts to ram Donald Trump's Big Beautiful Bill through the Senate. Now some Senate Republicans are starting to balk at the fact that their bill is a clean job killer. It virtually ends all of the tax credits that we gave to wind, solar, and other clean energy.

If Senate Republicans have any desire to lower energy costs and avoid shipping energy jobs overseas, they should hit the eject button on this Big Beautiful Bill and start over. Experts from across the political spectrum are starting to agree that Donald Trump's bill is far too radical and deeply flawed and, to boot, it was passed in the dark of night, where many Republicans didn't know what is in it, and a few even admitted that publicly.

On jobs, their bill would kill over 800,000 good-paying clean energy jobs by 2030 alone. That would be a disaster for the economy, just as clean energy is taking off. These jobs will last for generations. Clean energy tax credits made them possible, and 85 percent of the investment generated by these credits have gone to red States.

Did you hear that, Republican colleagues? If Republicans proceed with the bill, they will put Americans out of work in their own States, and the American people, and these workers in particular, are starting to see it.

Just last week, a battery plant in South Carolina paused a billion-dollar project because of "policy uncertainty"—in other words, because of Republican sabotage.

And the closure in South Carolina is a canary in the coal mine if there ever was one. If Donald Trump's bill passes, more jobs disappear.

And talk about costs, it is going to add \$32 billion on household energy costs.

And, today, we got the news that Donald Trump's bill is worse than we thought. Americans will now pay up to \$170 billion—not \$32 billion—more on energy.

Let me say that again: \$170 billion more for the American consumer to pay on electric bills, for small business to pay on electric bills.

Republicans, because they just want to so embrace the radical, anti-clean energy, fossil fuel group, they will raise American's costs by a dramatic amount.

They also make us dependent on China. China is gaining in solar energy. If we cut it off, China will dominate the world, and our children and grandchildren will be at China's behest.

It will push about \$80 billion in solar and battery manufacturing jobs overseas—more jobs in Chengdu, fewer in Cleveland and Charleston.

We all know that AI and crypto are going to cause American energy demand to spike in the coming years. Why the heck would you cut off one of the sources? There are many who say: all of the above. OK. But why cut off one part of that "all of the above" because the radicals—not the mainstream, but the radicals—in the fossil fuel industry are almost religious in their hatred of clean energy because they know it is the future and will eventually displace them.

And that is why, this week, I have been working 24/7 with so many different people—whether it is workers or companies or Governors—to spread the word on how bad this is and ask all of America: If you don't like these provisions, if you think you will lose your job, if you think it will raise your costs, call your Republican Senator and tell him to change it.

Most of the Republicans didn't like it to begin with, but it was rushed through in the dark of night.

NOMINATION OF WILLIAM LONG

Mr. President, finally, on the IRS nomination, Mr. Long at the IRS would be a gut punch to the American taxpayer. It is clear to anyone with a pulse that Long was only suggested to run the IRS because of his long-time fealty to Trump. We all know that Donald Trump prioritizes loyalty over experience, but even by the President's standards, Long is a shockingly bad nominee.

Ideally, at the very least, you want the person in charge of collecting Federal taxes to be independent, qualified, and free of scandal. When it comes to independent, qualified, and free of scandal, Long is 0 for 3. He is neither independent nor qualified nor free from scandal. His only quality for the job is his fealty to Donald Trump.

During his time in Congress, Long didn't amass any credible tax experience. He didn't serve on the Ways and Means Committee, never authored a single original piece of legislation, and

instead advocated for the IRS to investigate his political opponents.

And after leaving Congress, Long lined his pocket in the tax scam industry, where he peddled fake tax credits and took advantage of small businesses.

The American people don't want the IRS to be run by a tax cheat. They don't want the IRS to be motivated by politics. They don't want an IRS that looks out only for the ultrawealthy. So the Senate should reject Mr. Long's nominations.

I thank leader THUNE for his courtesy in letting me go ahead.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

GENIUS ACT OF 2025

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, a significant number of Americans are engaging with cryptocurrency. That includes Americans who use stablecoins, and then there are the individuals and business around the world that access the American dollar through the use of dollar-backed stablecoins.

Stablecoins are a relatively recent financial innovation, but they have quickly caught on. They offer easy payments with the speed and security of the blockchain and the stability and usability of the dollar bill. There are roughly a quarter trillion dollars of them now in circulation.

Traditional financial institutions are said to be considering getting into the stablecoin business, and companies like Uber and Airbnb are reportedly exploring integrating them into their businesses. It is clear that cryptocurrency is here to stay, and it is time that we bring it into the mainstream.

Passing the GENIUS Act is a good first step. The GENIUS Act would provide a clear regulatory framework for stablecoins. It would ensure Americans can trust who they are doing business with when they purchase stablecoins, allowing the American people to exercise financial freedom with confidence.

The GENIUS Act would also protect against threats to our national security and from criminal activity. It would require stablecoin issuers to uphold the same standards as other financial institutions to monitor and report suspicious activity, comply with U.S. sanctions, and block illicit transactions.

Plus, the vast majority of stablecoins are backed by the U.S. dollar, which means this bill will create demand for the U.S. dollar and U.S. Treasuries, something that is good both for our national security and our fiscal house. It is yet another reason why we should want stablecoins to be made in America.

The GENIUS Act represents the bipartisan consensus on clear rules of the road for this new financial innovation. Today, stablecoin issuers are operating in a legal gray zone. Companies that want to follow the rules can't be sure what rules to follow.

And the Biden administration didn't help matters with its numerous lawsuits, which left many U.S.-based companies contemplating moving out of the United States altogether.

We want America to lead in financial innovation. We want to bring cryptocurrency into the mainstream, and the GENIUS Act will help us do that.

It is time to pass this bill. The version of the GENIUS Act that we will invoke cloture on today reflects months of hard work and negotiations from Members on both sides of the aisle. It is a good product that, as I said, represents the bipartisan consensus on the way forward.

And I appreciate the leadership of Senators HAGERTY and LUMMIS and Chairman TIM SCOTT in getting the GENIUS Act to this point.

It has been a long haul. It began in March, with a 3-hour markup in the Banking Committee, where Senators considered 40 different amendments to this bill. It ultimately passed out of the committee by a vote of 18 to 6.

Before we began floor debate, negotiations on the bill continued, and a number of changes were made to the bill, most of them to accommodate demands from Democrats, while maintaining the full-throated support of the administration.

Three weeks after the bill finally came to the floor, it is time to move forward and pass this legislation. I hope that we will see another strong bipartisan vote on the GENIUS Act later today and in the coming days as we conclude our work. And I hope that the House will quickly take up this bill and send it to the President, who is eager to sign this legislation.

As I said last month, at the beginning of the floor process, the GENIUS Act will not be the last word on crypto legislation. There is more work to be done, including on market structure legislation. I know our colleagues have already begun work in that area as well. This remains a priority for many in our conference, and it is the next logical step in making the United States the crypto capital of the world.

And I am looking forward to continued progress in bringing cryptocurrency into the mainstream and securing American leadership in financial innovation. Digital assets are the future, and we are working to ensure that future is one where America leads.

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

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

LOS ANGELES PROTESTS

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, when Americans turn on their TV sets and

see what is happening on the streets of Los Angeles, I believe the American people feel sickened, horrified, and outraged. Yet we stood here and saw the minority leader of the U.S. Senate come to this floor this morning and he said that these were overwhelmingly peaceful. NANCY PELOSI yesterday said they were just moments of exuberance. Do they not see the news? Do they not watch the news?

Let's look at the New York Times front-page story. This is a burning police car. These are people on an overhead looking down on it. The headline is "Protesters burned a Highway Patrol vehicle . . . in Los Angeles."

Peaceful protests? Absolutely not. These are riots. They threaten the public safety, and my Democrat colleagues call them peaceful.

I have been saying for the last 4 years the Democrats are wrong on this, that, and the next thing, and this is something that the American people absolutely understand: The Democrats are wrong. These are not peaceful. These are attacks upon the law enforcement community of our Nation, and Republicans will not stand by as the violence rages in our country's second largest city.

The California Governor and Los Angeles mayor—call them out: Gavin Newsom and Karen Bass—are unable and unwilling to restore the law. They refuse. They have coddled the criminals from day one, and many of these criminals are illegal immigrants. But who do Democrats stand by again and again and again? They stand by the guy on the roof of the burning car waving a Mexican flag instead of standing with law-abiding citizens who just want to live a life with safety. That is what the American people want—safety, prosperity. It is not what the Democrats are standing for, no.

Americans are seeing local police officers as well as members of Immigrations and Custom Enforcement being brutally attacked with rocks, with bricks, with bottles, with concrete. Additionally, looters are using the unrest to break into local businesses.

Oh, yeah, the police are occupied. Let's break into local businesses, including gas stations, the Apple store, jewelry stores. Let's go where the money is.

The mayor of L.A. thinks it is fine, mostly peaceful. The Governor—same thing. The minority leader of the U.S. Senate this morning: "mostly peaceful." That is not what the people are seeing when they turn on their TVs or turn to the front page of the New York Times.

So this rioting in Los Angeles is because President Trump has rightfully deported violent, illegal immigrant criminals. The L.A. Times, the local newspaper in the area, reported this week: "L.A. officials struggle to curb 'disgusting' vandalism."

This is the L.A. Times. This is the New York Times. What are the Democrats not seeing that the rest of America is seeing? Theft, fire, violence in