

contrary—being on government programs—is a life of poverty. If you want to get out of poverty, you have to be in the world of work, and that is what we are trying to accomplish through this legislation, just like we do work requirements for every other government program.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The majority leader is recognized.

ABORTION

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, today marks the third anniversary of the Supreme Court's Dobbs decision, overturning Roe v. Wade and returning the question of abortion to the people and their elected representatives.

Three years on, there is much to celebrate. New protections for unborn Americans now exist in many States, and there are babies alive today who would not be here without Dobbs.

But today is also a reminder of how much work there is still to be done. Other States have enacted aggressively pro-abortion laws, and the pro-abortion Guttmacher Institute reports that there were over a million abortions in the United States in 2024. So we still have a lot of work to do to reach a day when every—every—American, born and unborn, enjoys the full protection of the law.

I am sure my Democrat colleagues have plans to commemorate the Dobbs anniversary, not as a day that opened the door to protections for human rights but as a day that opened the door to restrictions on Democrats' most cherished "freedom," and that is the freedom to kill unborn human beings.

I have to say, it is a pretty grim indictment of the moral health of a party when one of its signature issues is promoting the right to kill the youngest and most vulnerable Americans.

As I said, there is still a lot of work to be done, but I am confident that we can get there. I look forward to the day when the life of every American, born and unborn, is protected and when being small and vulnerable does not mean that your human rights are any less respected.

ONE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL

Madam President, we are rapidly approaching floor consideration of our reconciliation bill and the opportunity to make a historic investment in our Nation's security. I think it is difficult to overstate the opportunity that we have here with this bill. With just a single piece of legislation, we have a chance to undo a lot of damage and put our country on a safer footing going forward.

I often say that if we don't get national security right, the rest is conversation. Everything else we do in government—and our very existence as a nation, I might add—depends on getting our security right. But the disturbing fact is that we have let our readiness slip—to a very troubling level in some instances.

With China beginning to outpace the United States in key defense capabilities and manufacturing, it is especially critical that we act now to prevent the United States from falling behind on the national security front.

Enter our reconciliation bill. While it is no substitute for robust, yearly defense funding, the legislation takes a major step forward in upgrading and updating our national security posture. It invests in shipbuilding, missile defense, defense manufacturing capacity, critical munitions, drones and counter-drone technology, an expanded Air Force fighter fleet, nuclear modernization, U.S. infrastructure in the Pacific, and more.

The past few years have provided an ample reminder that we live in a dangerous world. With this bill, we can put our military—and, thus, our national security—in a much better place going forward, substantially improving our ability to deter and defeat threats.

Madam President, the national defense provisions of our bill alone would make a notable and critically important piece of legislation. But our bill doesn't just make a substantial investment in our national defense. It also makes a generational investment in our border security, which is another key part of protecting our Nation.

Criminals, terrorists, and other dangerous individuals can take advantage of unsecured borders to make their way into our country and take up residence unseen. Iran's recent warning about terrorist sleeper cells in the United States is a timely reminder that there are a lot of hostile nations out there that would like to harm the United States. In the absence of the ability to strike the U.S. mainland via military methods, what better way to harm our country than by smuggling dangerous individuals through our borders to carry out a task. It is a very real danger.

So border security is a key part of national security, and our reconciliation bill makes a generational investment in border security: funding for barriers and technology to secure the border, funding for more Border Patrol agents, funding for more Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents to deport dangerous individuals who have already made their way into the United States. It is all there and more. As with the national defense components, the border security components of this bill would be an impressive piece of legislation by themselves, but we have an amazing opportunity to do them both.

And they are paired with still another security investment, this one in

our energy security. Energy security doesn't always get the same attention as border security and national defense, but it, too, plays a key role in keeping our Nation secure. As European countries discovered, to their cost, after Russia invaded Ukraine, relying on energy from hostile countries or unstable regions of the world is not a winning proposition. The best way to keep a country—and an economy—secure is to have a secure, stable, and abundant domestic energy supply. The United States is fortunate to have abundant domestic energy resources, but the Biden administration set us up for a future of limited domestic production by sharply curtailing access to those resources. Our bill will undo a lot of that damage and free up energy resources for responsible domestic production.

We have an incredible opportunity with this legislation, a seldom-seen chance to make a real difference to our national security—from military to border, to energy. I am grateful to all those who have worked so hard to develop these portions of the bill, and I look forward to passing this legislation in the very near future.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the order of June 23, the Senate not recess from 4 to 5 p.m. today.

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

Mr. THUNE. I yield the floor.

VOTE ON ZIMMERMAN NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Zimmerman nomination?

Mr. MARSHALL. 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.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BANKS).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGOS), and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 61, nays 35, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 323 Ex.]

YEAS—61

Barrasso	Curtis	Johnson
Blackburn	Daines	Justice
Boozman	Ernst	Kaine
Britt	Fetterman	Kelly
Budd	Fischer	Kennedy
Capito	Graham	King
Cassidy	Grassley	Lankford
Collins	Hagerty	Lee
Cornyn	Hassan	Lummis
Cotton	Hawley	Marshall
Cramer	Hoeven	McConnell
Crapo	Husted	McCormick
Cruz	Hyde-Smith	Moody

Moran	Rosen	Thune
Moreno	Rounds	Tillis
Mullin	Schmitt	Tuberville
Murkowski	Scott (FL)	Warnock
Paul	Scott (SC)	Wicker
Reed	Sheehy	Young
Ricketts	Slotkin	
Risch	Sullivan	

NAYS—35

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Baldwin	Hirono	Schatz
Bennet	Kim	Schiff
Blumenthal	Klobuchar	Schumer
Blunt Rochester	Lujan	Smith
Booker	Markey	Van Hollen
Cantwell	Merkley	Warner
Cortez Masto	Murphy	Warren
Duckworth	Murray	Welch
Durbin	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wyden
Heinrich	Peters	

NOT VOTING—4

Banks	Gallego
Coons	Shaheen

The nomination was confirmed.

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

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Paul Dabbar, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of Commerce.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

MAIDEN SPEECH

Mr. HUSTED. Mr. President, good afternoon. My name is JON HUSTED, and I have the distinct honor of serving the great State of Ohio as one of its U.S. Senators.

Over the past 25 years, I have been blessed to serve the people of Ohio as a State representative, speaker of the house, secretary of state, and most recently as Lieutenant Governor.

I am constantly reminded of the sacrifices generations of Americans and Ohioans have made in the hope that they will leave their country in a better place than they found it. And it is this pattern of sacrifice that I have also witnessed throughout my life growing up in the Midwest.

So I would like to take a moment to reflect on the sacrifices others have made that have led to this moment in time and our responsibility as Americans to our children and to our country.

So let me start at the beginning, at least for me. I was born in 1967, which was part of one of the most turbulent decades in American history.

My start in life reflected those turbulent times. My birth mother lost her husband in the Vietnam war, and she found herself with multiple children to care for without anyone to share that responsibility.

Then she learned that there was another baby on the way—and that baby

was me. While I can never truly know how the circumstances affected her and why she made the choice that she did, I would like to believe that out of a loving heart and full of courage and selflessness that she gave me a chance to be adopted. My birth certificate reports that I was born in Michigan, but let me reassure you: I was made in Ohio.

You see, during the fall of 1967, after 2 months in a foster home, I was blessed to become the first child of two humble, hard-working people from northwest Ohio Jim and Judy Husted. Even then, among the protests and the upheaval happening across the Nation, my parents were full of hope and optimism as they welcomed a new son into their home.

They have always embodied the American tradition: that each generation works and sacrifices today so that the next generation can climb higher mountains tomorrow.

That is the example my parents set as I grew up on County Road J near Montpelier, OH. Life was not easy for them. Like many families in the small towns in the industrial Midwest, we weathered factory closures. Several of my own family members lost their jobs when the machine tool factory they worked at shut down. But they faced hard times before, tough times make you tough and resilient, resilient enough to uproot your family, start over, and keep sacrificing for your family's well-being. And that is what they all did.

My parents worked hard and never wasted a penny. They routinely made choices that made their lives harder so that they could make my life and my brother and sister's life a little easier.

What I saw growing up in rural Ohio was simple but powerful, and it characterized communities across this country too. People worked long hours, forfeiting comfort and leisure so that their families, and especially their children, could enjoy more security and prosperity than they had.

These diligent men and women may not have called their daily responsibilities on the factory floors or in the fields the American dream, but that is what it was. That is what they were striving to achieve.

I believe this love for family and Nation, this aspirational hope that we have, has driven America's generations to risk their lives and livelihoods so that we could create the freest, most prosperous country in the world.

The early settlers didn't sail across the Atlantic's high seas for fun and adventure; they came to build a legacy of opportunity and liberty that their homeland had denied them, but nothing guaranteed their future. They earned it through courage, toil, and sacrifice.

I know this, the noise of the 24-hour news cycle makes it easy to lose perspective when you are here in Washington. I know it does. But if you step into the Capitol Rotunda and you look

up at the storied paintings all around that dome, you will be reminded of an enduring pattern: Americans built this Nation through personal sacrifice, often at a steep human cost.

In 1620, the settlers at Plymouth faced hunger, disease, and death as they launched into a new world where they hoped to establish religious freedom.

In 1776, their descendants picked up that torch by risking everything to break free of the monarchy. When the Founders signed the Declaration of Independence, they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor—a wager not just for themselves, but on behalf of their children and future generations.

At Valley Forge, liberty nearly froze to death, but those who endured did so "to form a more perfect Union." They fought not just for freedom but for justice, peace, and the blessings of liberty, for their posterity—that is us.

In 1861, Americans turned on one another so they could preserve the Nation and abolish slavery. They paid with blood. Then they returned to their fields and their towns and sought to rebuild a more cohesive nation, one capable of innovation, lasting growth, and a new hope.

By the early 1900s, Americans led a second revolution—this, the industrial revolution. In a free nation and economy, workers and entrepreneurs built new industries, fought for fair working conditions, and laid the foundations for the prosperity we enjoy today.

Immigrants came through Ellis and Angel Islands with hope in their hearts and the willingness to work hard, and America embraced them.

In World War II, young men crossed oceans to fight tyranny, and women stepped onto factory floors to build the arsenal of victory. When it was all over, they followed their forefathers' faithfulness by coming home and building schools, churches, and businesses—in other words, a future.

The "greatest generation" carried that burden for their children and for ours. The men and women who fought and endured daily hardships during the Second World War understood what I worry many Americans nearly have forgotten, which is that the heavier the load you choose to carry, the higher you can hold your head, and doing what is noble builds confidence. I believe that is true of people and of nations.

For nearly two centuries, Americans weren't focused on indulgence but on inheritance. To be clear, I am not talking about the kind of inheritance measured in dollars but, instead, the kind measured in duty, making tomorrow better than today.

Mr. President, you may be tempted to correct me here. Why would I only credit us with two centuries of discipline when, after all, we turn 250 years old next year? Let me take a moment to explain.

This American ethos endured for most of our history, but I believe something shifted in our culture around the