

it means permanent tax relief. That means Americans can plan their futures with certainty. It means higher wages and more jobs. That means Americans have more money in their pockets, in their purses, and in their paychecks. The Council of Economic Advisers released new data this week. Here is what it shows: Our plan for American prosperity raises wages, lowers taxes, and grows the economy.

So let me just take a second to break down the benefits: \$10,000 more in take-home pay for American families; an extra tax cut for tipped and overtime workers; \$6,000 bonus deductions for seniors on Social Security; 7 million more jobs right here in America; \$100 billion in business investments in opportunity zones, including in rural America; an additional 4 percent in economic growth; more than \$2 trillion in deficit reduction so that the next generation isn't buried in debt.

Our plan for American prosperity will also create new savings accounts for every child. These tax-deferred investment accounts start with a \$1,000 contribution. Now, those early savings will grow over time. By the time the child becomes an adult, he can use the money to pay for college, to put down a downpayment on a home, or to start a small business. We call these Trump accounts. Trump accounts are an investment in our future generation. They are financial launch pads for the American dream.

Additionally, our plan for prosperity unleashes American energy. This will help working families who have paid for high energy costs under Joe Biden.

Now let's talk about what happens if Democrats are successful in defeating our bold Republican agenda.

If Democrats block this bill—and they say they are going to—taxes will soar; paychecks will shrink; and small businesses will get strangled. Every Democrat—every Democrat—in this Chamber has vowed to vote against our economic prosperity package. The vote of every Democrat in this Chamber will raise your taxes. If Democrats get their way, middle-class families will pay \$1,700 more in taxes next year. Small businesses will see their taxes go up by 43 percent. The standard deduction, which 90 percent of taxpayers use—well, that is going to get cut in half; so will the child tax credit. Yet that is what the Democrats are fighting for: higher taxes, fewer jobs, and heavier costs on working families.

Let's not forget why Democrats want to raise taxes. They want to continue to give free healthcare to millions of illegal immigrants.

Republicans are fighting so that waiters, nurses, police officers, seniors, and families keep more of what they earn and don't continue this Washington wasteful spending. Our comprehensive plan for prosperity is going to put America back on track.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill 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.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Democratic leader is recognized.

IRAN

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I just left the classified all-Senators briefing with the administration on Iran strikes.

One thing is very, very clear: The briefing raised more questions than it answered. It is why we need to enforce the War Powers Act.

I have always been clear: Iran must never acquire a nuclear weapon. A few days ago, President Trump claimed that Iran's nuclear program was "totally and completely obliterated." I asked what information exists to verify the President's claim, and I did not receive an answer to that question.

What was clear from today's briefing is that there is no coherent strategy, no endgame, no plan. What are we doing?

Anybody who sat in that meeting and is honest with themselves would recognize that we need to enforce the War Powers Act and force the administration to provide answers to some very important questions about Iran and our national security.

When the administration is forced to answer questions, we will get more clarity, and maybe they will get more clarity too. So it is an important thing to do.

WOMEN'S HEALTHCARE

Mr. President, let me talk about reproductive care and SCOTUS. Three years after Dobbs, the MAGA Supreme Court has once again doubled down on its war on women. The Court handed down a decision that immediately endangers funding for Planned Parenthood—one of the biggest organizations for affordable women's healthcare across the whole country. It is not just about reproductive care; it endangers women's healthcare altogether.

Clinics will close. Women will lose access to cancer screenings, contraceptives, physical exams for common illnesses, and so much more. For many women, Planned Parenthood is their only resource to get healthcare services at an affordable rate.

Make no mistake. Senate Republicans own the consequences of this loathsome decision. They packed our courts with extremists. They are the chief architects of the dismal state of women's healthcare in America. Senate Democrats will never, never relent in our efforts to ensure all women in America have high-quality healthcare.

Access to healthcare is a basic right, no matter what the radicals on the MAGA Court may think.

ONE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL

Mr. President, now on reconciliation. Everybody needs to understand exactly

what is going on with the Republican's so-called reconciliation bill. Their Big Beautiful Bill is buckling under its own weight. Republicans can't agree among themselves on just how devastating to make their own bill—should it be a lot devastating? even more devastating?

But don't be fooled. Republicans absolutely agree that one way or the other, they want Medicare cut to the bone. So now Republicans are scrambling behind closed doors trying to rewrite the bill just enough to keep their Medicaid cuts alive.

Why are they doing this? We know why. They want tax cuts for billionaires.

But here is a thought: Instead of finding new ways to pass the same old cuts, why don't Republicans keep promises they have been making for weeks not to cut Medicaid? The dissonance is head-spinning because, on the one hand, we have been hearing the same talking points for weeks that somehow they are not going to cut people's Medicaid; that they are "not in favor of cutting benefits regarding Medicaid"; that "no one's losing their healthcare"; that there "should not be any cuts."

These are real statements I just read from our Senate Republican colleagues in the last month—from Senators BLACKBURN and BOOZMAN and CASSIDY and CORNYN. And there is plenty more where that came from.

But their words, unfortunately, don't match their actions. The Republican bill does exactly the opposite of what they are saying. It doesn't save Medicare and healthcare; it eviscerates it.

Independent studies show the Republican bill would cut healthcare for 16 million Americans. It would decimate rural hospitals. It would harm nursing homes. It would kill nearly a million jobs. And it would raise healthcare costs for everyone, even those with private insurance. That is the bill the Republicans are working on right now, and that is what it would do.

Apparently, Republicans are OK with the consequences. Former Leader MCCONNELL shrugged off people's concerns, saying folks worried about Medicaid cuts will "get over it." They will have to get over it. Isn't that cruel?

Meanwhile, Senator ERNST told people to stop fussing because "We're all going to die."

What planet are they on? Is this how Republicans talk to people back home worried about seeing a doctor, taking care of their kids, and affording prescription drugs?

Now, a few Senate Republicans have shown some flickers of lucidity in closed-door meetings and in hallway conversations. A few, at least, claim they recognize what the rest of us already know: Their own bill would decimate their own constituents.

The senior Senator from North Carolina was handing out fliers at a recent Republican lunch detailing how his own State—and nine others—would

lose tens of billions in funding and see hundreds of thousands of people lose insurance.

The senior Senator from Missouri acknowledged:

It's just not the right thing to do to shut down a bunch of rural hospitals to pay for tax cuts.

The Senator from Wisconsin warned:

We are mortgaging [our children's] future. It's unconscionable. It's immoral. It has to stop.

These are all nice words, but they mean nothing if the only thing Republicans do over the next few days is find new ways to pass the same old cuts. New lipstick; same pig. That is what is going on right now with the Republican bill.

So Republicans have a choice to make: They can keep chasing arbitrary deadlines. They can keep making edits and changes in the hopes that some combination of Medicaid and SNAP and clean energy cuts will make it to the floor. They can keep rewriting a bad bill into a slightly different bad bill. Or they can ask the obvious question: Should we pass this bill at all?

The answer is no. They should abandon Donald Trump's so-called Big Beautiful Bill.

It makes no sense whatsoever for Republicans to pass a bill that even they admit will kick millions of hard-working Americans off health insurance. It makes no sense for Republicans to pass a bill that will kill good-paying energy jobs—most of them in Republican States—while surrendering American energy independence to China.

It is morally bankrupt to take food away from kids to give to the ultrarich and morally bankrupt to saddle future generations with insurmountable debt. And it is morally bankrupt to ask working and middle Americans to bankroll tax breaks for billionaires at a time they are struggling to pay for groceries and rent.

The Senate Republican bill is not just flawed, it is irredeemable.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HUSTED). Without objection, it is so ordered.

ONE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, the Senate Judiciary Committee Democrats have successfully challenged several controversial Judiciary provisions from the Republican so-called One Big Beautiful Bill. One example: The Republicans included a provision that would have limited the ability of individuals to challenge the Trump administration's Executive actions by potentially putting them on the hook for millions of dollars when they try to defend their constitutional rights and go

to court. Fortunately, the Senate Parliamentarian struck this provision.

Now, I am proud of what we accomplished in eliminating some harmful provisions, but there are still a lot of problems with the Big Beautiful Bill. The more we learn about this bill, the worse it looks. Perhaps that is why there is a hurry to get this done before the Fourth of July and people can take a close look at the details. I cannot stand idly by as my Senate Republican colleagues try to steamroll this bill through Congress because the President wants to do something before the Fourth of July.

We all know the provisions relative to healthcare and what they mean. The version that came over from the House of Representatives would have stricken health insurance coverage for 16 million families in America. What a wonderful idea. What are the Republicans thinking? There must be some real emergency reason to take health insurance coverage away from 16 million families. Well, it turns out the reason is to give a tax break to the wealthiest people in America.

Oh, you Democrats; you always say that. It just can't be true.

Listen, it is true. If you take people making \$400,000 a year, the tax breaks that are being given by the Republicans—60 percent of them go to people making more than \$400,000 a year; and at the highest levels of income, the Elon Musk part of the world, \$346,000 a year in tax breaks.

I have to say, I have met Mr. Musk. I don't know him very well, but I don't think he will miss it if \$346,000 in tax breaks don't come his way. But I do think 16 million families will miss health insurance coverage. I know I would.

In 2021, when I was chairman of the Judiciary Committee, the Parliamentarian ruled against our efforts—Democratic efforts—to include immigration policy in a reconciliation bill even though the budget impact was more than \$100 billion. At the time, the Parliamentarian wrote:

The reasons that people risk their lives to come to this country . . . cannot be measured in Federal dollars.

That is still true.

Despite this precedent, Republicans' Judiciary title in the Big Beautiful Bill is a wish list of policy changes to help carry out mass deportations of immigrants who have lived in our country for years and pose no threat to our safety.

Let's get down to the bottom line here. If someone is living in this country, seeking citizenship, and they are dangerous, they commit a serious crime, as far as I am concerned, they are gone; they have forfeited any right to consider staying in this country or acquiring citizenship. But there are so many others who came to this country and overstayed a student visa, overstayed a tourist visa, and they are technically in violation of the law. What have they done with their lives?

Look around, America. They are everywhere. They are working in your hospitals. They are working in your hotels. They are working in your restaurants. They are living next door to you, and they are going to church with you and your kids. These are people who are making America a stronger nation, and to brand them as criminals or rapists or terrorists without any proof whatsoever is just plain wrong. It is a shame that we have reached this point.

Don't take my word for it. Listen to what White House Deputy Chief of Staff Stephen Miller said: Wow. It is amazing what this bill, the Big Beautiful Bill, accomplishes—the full border agenda, the full immigration agenda.

These policies of mass deportation of immigrants are cruel and mean, and they go beyond any question of public safety.

This bill would impose exorbitant fees that would make it impossible for vulnerable immigrants to access humanitarian relief in the United States. This includes a \$1,000 fee on asylum and a \$5,000 bond for parents seeking to be reunited with their child. The fees also place barriers on due process: a \$900 fee for an appeal in an immigration court. These fees are not just unconscionable, they are unfair.

The Republican reconciliation bill increases State and local law enforcement grants funding. That sounds good, doesn't it? Well, you are wrong. This provision specifically prohibits using grant funds for community violence intervention and prevention programs, which are proven, evidence-informed strategies to reduce violence.

We have a gun violence epidemic in America. Currently, guns are the No. 1 cause of death for American children and teens. Let me repeat that. In America, guns are the No. 1 cause of death for American children and teens. Not auto accidents, not cancer—guns.

We need to support and strengthen community violence intervention and prevention programs. I have seen them, and I have seen them work in the city of Chicago and all around the State of Illinois to stop violent incidents before they happen. And we need to connect people with treatment and tools that decrease the risk of future violence.

But instead of supporting valuable public safety measures, the Republican Big Beautiful Bill removes taxes and regulations on certain rifles, shotguns, and gun silencers. That is just what we need in America, isn't it—cheaper guns.

Combating this epidemic takes ingenuity and funding, not the reversal of lifesaving gun violence prevention policies. But Republicans' reckless reconciliation bill will jeopardize the progress that has been made in our communities.

To make matters worse, Senator CRUZ of Texas has added a provision that would leave the U.S. AI—artificial intelligence—industry an unregulated Wild West. This provision would give