

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.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

States the choice between regulating AI or accepting Federal funding under the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program. This means States would have to choose between freezing all regulations on artificial intelligence for the next decade or giving up specific Federal funding.

In addition to preventing new State regulations, it would make many of the laws already passed by States unenforceable regarding issues of AI, such as political deepfakes, face recognition, and algorithmic discrimination.

We are currently living with the results of our failure to regulate Big Tech when it came to social media. Let's not make the same mistake when it comes to AI.

This provision by Senator CRUZ will allow Big Tech and bad actors to prey on the lack of regulations in the AI space and develop deceptive, biased, and potentially dangerous tools that hurt ordinary Americans and diminish trust in technology.

Senator CRUZ claims the provisions would only affect a State's eligibility to receive a part of the \$500 million Federal investment, but as my Democratic colleagues Senator CANTWELL and MARKEY have pointed out, there is also a stipulation in the provision that would hold \$42 billion in essential broadband program funding hostage. This would force States to choose between protecting consumers from AI-related harm or expanding critical broadband.

Senator CRUZ's provision provides greater harm to the American people than good. And listen, it says that this will be for 10 years. I would like to say that I am confident the Federal Government would respond within 10 years, but there is still no guarantee.

I promise to support any amendment that will remove the AI pause provision from this bill, and I hope my Republican colleagues will do the same.

So now is the real test for my Senate Republican colleagues. Will they stand with President Trump and provide tax breaks for multimillionaires and billionaires or will they stand with their hard-working constituents and reject this betrayal?

What is more important, a tax break for Elon Musk or the health insurance of 16 million in America? What is more important, a tax break for the wealthiest people in America or your rural hospital?

I think people know that when it comes to the quality of life, the hospital is more important, and health insurance is critical.

I hope, for the sake of our country, four Republican Senators will have the courage to step up and choose their constituents over special interest groups.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at 5:45 p.m.,

the Senate execute the order of June 24 with respect to the Kies nomination, and following disposition of the Kies nomination, the Senate resume legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

Ms. COLLINS. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. ERNST. 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 Senator from Iowa.

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to use a prop during my remarks.

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

FOR SALE ACT OF 2025

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, Uncle Sam is the Nation's largest landlord. Yet he will never win a round of Monopoly, the classic board game where players try to make money and avoid going bankrupt by buying, renting, and selling property.

That is because Uncle Sam, who is already \$37 trillion in debt, refuses to sell off unused and unneeded properties that are costing tens of millions of dollars a year to maintain.

Many of Uncle Sam's properties are also fixer-uppers, requiring billions of dollars in much needed renovations and overdue upgrades, some of which are listed on this board.

Holding on to unaffordable properties that are nearly vacant while being just a roll or two away from going bankrupt is not only a losing strategy in Monopoly but also a bad game plan in real life.

But Uncle Sam gets away with it because Washington plays by its own set of rules. And no matter how you roll the dice, "Washington-opoly" is a losing game for taxpayers.

To demonstrate, why don't we go ahead and play a round.

OK. That was my attempt to roll the dice—so three. We rolled a three. One, two, three.

OK. We landed on the Department of Agriculture, South Building in Washington, DC. And guess what, folks. It is owned by good old Uncle Sam.

Let's look at the stats for the USDA South Building. Seventy-eight percent of this building isn't even being used on a day-to-day basis. Yet we are paying more than \$11 million for utilities every single year, and the building requires \$1.7 billion for repairs and upgrades.

We could hold on to this property and pay these costs for a nearly empty building or we could sell it and make \$261 million or more.

What would you do?

Well, Uncle Sam has decided to keep it and is passing along the costs to tax-

payers. So let's roll again. OK. Two. We got two.

Let's see. One, two. Great.

We landed on Community Chest. So let's pick a card. Community Chest. Pay \$818 million for unused property. That is right, folks. Every year, Uncle Sam pays out over \$81 million maintaining underutilized offices. This includes nearly 7,700 vacant buildings and another 2,265 that are largely empty.

No wonder the nonpartisan Public Buildings Reform Board says Washington's "wasteful real estate practices would not endure for so long in a private sector company."

But when playing "Washington-opoly," Uncle Sam doesn't pay the costs for his wasteful decisions; you do.

How about we take one more turn? Six. One, two, three, four, five, and six. This time we landed on Chance. So we get to pick another card. So there we go. There is our Chance card. Pass the For Sale Act and advance to Go.

Folks, that is exactly the type of Chance we need to protect taxpayers. Selling off Uncle Sam's unneeded property has long been tied up by overly restrictive redtape and bureaucratic barriers.

To revamp Washington's real estate rules, I introduced the For Sale Act. Passing this bill will put six pieces of prime property in the Nation's Capital on the auction block immediately. Selling just these spots will bring in at least \$400 million, while also canceling costs, including \$2.9 billion in overdue maintenance.

This is just the first step in downsizing Uncle Sam's unused, unneeded, and unaffordable real estate holdings. To any interested potential buyers, you can build a house or even a hotel on these properties and earn rent just like Monopoly. But best of all, taxpayers finally get to advance to Go and collect \$400 million. That, folks, is how you win the game.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. MURRAY. 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 Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. I ask permission to speak as if in morning business for 5 minutes.

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

REMEMBERING CAL ANDERSON

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I know people from all over Washington State have been celebrating Pride this month, and many are going to be heading to Seattle this weekend, and a lot of those celebrations will actually be taking place at Cal Anderson Park in Capitol Hill. For those who don't know, Cal was a friend of mine, so I want to