

in the last 6 months. They are scared to death of what this is going to do to rural hospitals because the debt is so huge in this bill, it actually triggers some rules on Medicare that will cut \$500 billion in Medicare, in addition to the Medicaid cuts I already laid out, which are now up to \$900 billion. That is devastating for rural hospitals. It is projected 300 rural hospitals will close. This is the lifeline—the lifeline—for people in rural America.

When they get something, a very, very serious illness, yes, they will go to another hospital in maybe a bigger area, bigger town, metro area, but when they need emergency care, unless they are going to get a helicopter coming in to get them or they break a leg—and there are a lot of people working outside in rural areas, farming, logging, you name it—they need to have a local hospital there. They need to have local doctors there.

There is no avoiding the facts: 16 million people cut off healthcare, closing over 300 rural hospitals and 500 nursing homes across the country.

Republicans want to say the updated text will help rural providers with additional funding, but the bill is now making over \$900 billion in cuts instead of the \$800 billion when it comes to healthcare.

I have heard from a working mom of two whose parents rely on Medicaid for healthcare. She told me she doesn't think it is fair to shift the cost of care to families like hers to pay for tax cuts for the wealthy. Duh. She said we need to draw the line and say this is enough.

I have heard from so many people across my State about the food assistance cuts: 4 million people off of food assistance. Do you know who are the majority—vast majority—of people on food assistance? Veterans, seniors, people with little kids, old people. Those are the people on food assistance.

Grocery stores, in rural areas, you may have one grocery store in a town, more likely in a county, more likely in four counties. They are operating already—many of them are independent groceries—on thin margins. You make these kinds of cuts, you make these kinds of cuts to SNAP, the results are going to be that you are going to lose these grocery stores.

As ranking member of the Senate Ag Committee, I have heard over and over again from farmers who are already facing headwinds—the Trump tariffs—they don't have markets now that they had markets before; the cuts to the international food assistance that we were always so proud of in this country, that was other organizations buying American farmers' food; the input costs; what is happening with avian flu and other things, and now you add this? This is food that is produced by American farmers when you cut \$200 billion, as the Senate bill does, from the SNAP program.

The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office has confirmed that the Senate bill would end SNAP for 2.9 million

Americans, including over nearly a million seniors and 270,000 veterans. The bill passed by the House would add \$3.4 trillion, as I noted, to the national debt, and this Senate bill is now up to \$4 trillion. And it uses this funky budgeting, which let me just explain an easy way, it is called baseline budgeting.

Everyone that looks at this from the outside says this is a \$4 trillion debt adder, but they use something where they say: OK, let's say—the Washington Post did this today. You go to a movie and you buy a movie ticket. Let's say it is \$10. Then you get some popcorn. And you do that one week because you want to see that "F1" movie, the new movie. Then, 2 weeks later, you go and you want to see it again, but you get some popcorn for \$5—small popcorn for \$5. OK.

Instead of saying, "You are paying your 10 bucks for the ticket and your 5 bucks for the popcorn," they say, "Oh, it is only 5 bucks because that is how much it went up over the last few weeks." That is the funky budgeting. That is the joke. That is the faux budgeting that is going on, on the other side.

So \$4 trillion in 10 years—that is what it costs. This is not what Americans voted for.

The President promised to lower costs and stand up for the middle class. This bill does the opposite. It raises costs. It takes from working people to pad the pockets of the wealthy, and that is why this bill is so unpopular.

Whether it is a mom from Louisiana whose son has Down syndrome and counts on Medicaid or a busdriver from Kansas, like the one I met, who uses SNAP to feed her kids, the American people are speaking out against this bill.

We will have the weekend to fight this bill, and I think people, in the middle of the summer, maybe they are not tuned in, but they better tune in because we should be protecting healthcare, not taking it away; defending food assistance, not raising grocery costs. We should not be giving tax breaks to the wealthy. We should be helping out the middle class and hard-working Americans.

That is what our job should be. It is not what this bill is.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

ONE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, we have before us today a once-in-a-generation opportunity to deliver legislation to create a safer, stronger, and more prosperous America. With one bill, we can deliver on a number of priorities: tax relief for hard-working Americans; eco-

nomie growth; a stronger national defense; a more secure border; a more reliable energy supply; and reductions in waste, fraud, and abuse across the Federal Government. We seldom have an opportunity to take the kind of action that we are planning to take on just one of these priorities, let alone all of them.

When was the last time we considered legislation like this to give a \$150 billion boost to our defense spending?

After serious declines in our military readiness, we are on the verge of a notable investment in a number of critical military priorities: 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.

And while it is no substitute for robust yearly defense funding, our bill represents a real chance to start to turn our readiness deficiencies around. There is no time in which we can afford to let our military readiness slide, but, above all, at this time of increased global instability, it is especially vital that we ensure that our military has the resources it needs to deter our enemies and defend our country.

So just by itself, the national defense section of our reconciliation bill represents a historic opportunity, and that is just one section of the bill.

We are also looking at historic investment in border security—\$160 billion. Yes, that is right—\$160 billion to undo the damage done by the Biden border crisis and secure our border for the long term. More Border Patrol agents, more Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents, funding to complete the border wall and implement critical border technology—it is all there.

We have the opportunity to take the gains the Trump administration has made in securing our border and deporting criminals and make that progress permanent. Like the defense section, the border security provisions of this bill would be an impressive and historic piece of legislation all on their own. But, again, they are just one section.

We are also looking at the chance to increase our energy independence, making us safer and more prosperous, and we are looking at an exceedingly rare opportunity to root out waste, fraud, and abuse, including the first real entitlement reform in decades—reform that will put these programs on a more sustainable path for today's recipients and for tomorrow's.

Once again, these are impressive opportunities all on their own, but even more incredible when you consider that we are looking at the prospect of being able to do all of these things in one bill.

And then, of course, there is the tax relief. Talk about a section of the bill that would be an achievement all on its own. We are looking at the opportunity

to make the 2017 tax relief permanent. That means permanently extending the lower tax rates; permanently extending the increased standard deduction; and not only permanently extending the enhanced child tax credit but enhancing it even further to \$2,200 per child and linking it to inflation so its value will never go down.

But not just that, there is more. We are eliminating taxes on tips for millions of tip workers. We are eliminating taxes on overtime for millions of hourly workers. We are putting in place an auto loan interest deductible when you buy a new car manufactured here in the United States. And we are increasing the standard deduction for millions of low- and middle-income seniors, making their retirement a little easier and more prosperous.

We are also implementing a program to create saving accounts for newborns, with an initial deposit of \$1,000 to help parents save and invest for their children's future needs.

And that is still not all. We are also looking at the chance to grow our economy by making the rest of the Tax Cuts and Job Act's business tax relief permanent. That means lower effective rates for small and medium-sized businesses—the job-creating 199A small business deduction and full expensing for new equipment and for domestic research and development. And we are adding to the 2017 tax relief with new pro-growth provisions, like a provision to boost domestic manufacturing by implementing full expensing for new factories and factory improvements.

Thanks to the pro-growth provisions in our legislation, we can expect to see GDP as much as 4.9 percent higher as a result of our bill. And that, of course, means more jobs and opportunities and better wages for hard-working Americans.

Republicans made some promises to the American people last November. We promised to grow our economy, to extend the 2017 tax relief and prevent a \$4 trillion tax hike on the American people, to secure our border and enhance the safety of our communities, and to unleash American energy.

We made those promises, and the American people elected us to office. Now they expect us to deliver. The opportunity is before us to deliver on our promises and make America safer, stronger, and more prosperous.

Fifty-three Members will never agree on every detail of legislation; let's face it. But Republicans are united in our commitment to what we are doing in this bill: securing our border; strengthening our national defense; growing our economy; unleashing American energy; cutting waste, fraud, and abuse; and preventing tax hikes on hard-working Americans.

Mr. President, it is time to get this legislation across the finish line.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 1

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk that is due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the bill by title for a second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of H. Con. Res. 14.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I would object to further proceeding.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

Mr. THUNE. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

(Mr. YOUNG assumed the Chair.)

(Mr. MORENO assumed the Chair.)

(Mr. BANKS assumed the Chair.)

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

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

ONE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL ACT— Motion to Proceed

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 107, H.R. 1.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion to proceed.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 107, H.R. 1, a bill to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of H. Con. Res. 14.

VOTE ON MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion to proceed.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, 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 legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 49, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 329 Leg.]

YEAS—51

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

Moreno	Rounds	Sullivan
Mullin	Schmitt	Thune
Murkowski	Scott (FL)	Tuberville
Ricketts	Scott (SC)	Wicker
Risch	Sheehy	Young

NAYS—49

Alsobrooks	Hirono	Sanders
Baldwin	Kaine	Schatz
Bennet	Kelly	Schiff
Blumenthal	Kim	Schumer
Blunt Rochester	King	Shaheen
Booker	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Cantwell	Lujan	Smith
Coons	Markey	Tillis
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Murphy	Warner
Durbin	Murray	Warnock
Fetterman	Ossoff	Warren
Gallego	Padilla	Welch
Gillibrand	Paul	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden
Heinrich	Reed	
Hickenlooper	Rosen	

The motion was agreed to.

(Mr. CURTIS assumed the Chair.)

ONE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MCCORMICK). The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of H. Con. Res. 14.

AMENDMENT NO. 2360

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I call up amendment No. 2360.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from South Dakota [Mr. THUNE], for Mr. Graham, proposes an amendment numbered 2360.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have the reading dispensed with.

Mr. SCHUMER. Reserving the right to object—and I will object—Senate Republicans are scrambling to pass a radical bill, released to the public in the dead of night, praying the American people won't realize what is in it. If Senate Republicans won't tell the American people what is in this bill, then Democrats are going to force this Chamber to read it from start to finish.

I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The clerk will read the amendment.

The legislative clerk continued with the reading of the amendment.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.") (Mr. MCCORMICK assumed the Chair.)

(Mr. MULLIN assumed the Chair.)

(Mr. LANKFORD assumed the Chair.)

(Mr. BUDD assumed the Chair.)

(Mr. SHEEHY assumed the Chair.)

(Mr. CURTIS assumed the Chair.)

(Mrs. MOODY assumed the Chair.)

(Mr. CASSIDY assumed the Chair.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MORENO). Pursuant to the order of February 29, 1960, the hour of 12 noon having arrived, the Senate having been in continuous session since yesterday, the Senate will suspend for prayer by the Senate Chaplain.