

their clients in Nepal. The President is saying: I don't want to do that. And he is right.

That is enough. You get the idea. That is why I call it spending porn. It triggers your gag reflex. You look at this stuff, and you go: What in God's name? Who decided to do this?

Well, Congress didn't. The bureaucrats did. It is money we appropriated, but we didn't tell them to go spend money—\$833,000—and give it to the sex workers in Nepal. They just took the money we appropriated and used it for that. And so the President is asking us to do what is called rescission, cancel the spending.

Now, I have been here 8 years, and I have listened to a whole bunch of people talk about the need to reduce spending. But you have to watch what people do, not what they say, because talk is cheap. And around here I have learned pretty quickly that reducing spending is like going to Heaven. I want to go to Heaven. I will bet the Presiding Officer wants to go to Heaven. I bet our guests in the Gallery want to go to Heaven. Everybody wants to go to Heaven.

Raise your hand if you are ready to take the trip today. Most people—you are, sir, and I admire that, but most people want to live a little longer. And that is the way it is with reducing spending around here: I want to reduce spending—I support it—but not just yet because I have this project.

And I have listened to that, and I have especially listened to it for the past 100 days: Go get them, President Trump. Reduce that spending. We are behind you 1,000 percent.

Well, he has. He has. One-tenth of 1 percent he is asking us to reduce. And I am not saying Senators shouldn't ask questions and make some changes if they need to be made. But here is the bottom line: It is gut-check time. It is gut-check time. You either believe in reducing spending, or you don't. And if you talk the game and say "let's reduce spending" and you vote against this bill, in my opinion, you ought to hide your head in a bag because you will be able to cut the hypocrisy with a knife. It is real, real hard to preach temperance from a barstool.

It is gut-check time. We need to pass this bill.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HAGERTY). The Senator from Washington.

#### TARIFFS

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I rise to speak about President Trump's costly trade policies and the damage that it is causing American manufacturers, businesses, and a family budget. Tariffs will cost an average household at least \$2,300 in the year 2025. And according to an analysis by the Syracuse Post Standard newspaper, ground beef, chicken breast, butter, milk, and more products are being made more expensive this year than last year.

In fact, ground beef alone is 20 percent more expensive, an average of

\$5.98 per pound. The Joint Economic Committee found that ground beef is at the highest price point since the data first became available in the 1980s.

A recent survey of the Association of Washington Businesses found that 48 percent of businesses in my State have experienced the impact from tariffs.

Mr. President, I would like to enter the survey into the RECORD: <https://www.awb.org/wp-content/uploads/AWB-Employer-Survey-041725.pdf>.

Of those businesses' studies and analysis, 76 percent say tariffs have raised their costs. Forty-five percent say tariffs have disrupted their supply chain. Twenty-one percent have had customers cancel orders. More than 1/3 of the companies already raised prices for customers. Fifteen percent are laying off people and making plans to do so more.

So, Mr. President, I rise to say that this important information needs to be considered by my colleagues. We need to be more involved in this trade debate.

American manufacturers are also seeing higher input prices, driving up the cost of production. More than half of all goods imported into the United States are manufacturing inputs, and they have highly integrated supply chains—supply chains that now are being made weaker. Tariffs are a tax on those products in your supply chain—think about aluminum or steel or other components—a tax that economists will tell you is ultimately going to be borne by the consumers.

Take one company, a Japanese-based parts manufacturer that filed for bankruptcy in June, Marelli. It was hit with an additional burden of 25-percent tariffs on the auto parts. Why should you care in the United States about this Japanese company? Because it is a major supplier of car interiors, lighting parts for various cars, like Chrysler and Dodge and Jeep vehicles built in the United States of America.

So automakers are on a roller coaster, and major car companies have reported the tariffs are expected to reduce their annual earnings by billions of dollars. And then what happens? Would you see the rise of costs domestically? Experts are predicting \$3,000 per domestic vehicle and potentially \$10,000 more for an imported vehicle.

It is not just autos; the Wall Street Journal reported that John Deere is considering production changes and price increases for farm equipment because of an additional \$500 million cost in tariffs. And according to the Copper Development Association, copper consumption for AI data centers is expected to jump to an outlandish demand, but building AI centers will cost more in the United States than any other country because of the Trump tariffs. So we know that we are building an AI infrastructure, but why are we making tariffs put that at risk? And just yesterday, the President threatened more tariffs on pharmaceutical products.

So, Mr. President, it has been 170 days since President Trump took office promising to bring back U.S. manufacturing by imposing steep tariffs, and it has been 90 days since the President promised we would see 90 deals in 90 days. I am not sure where those deals are. I am not sure whose deals he is talking about, but I know this: We are now 90 days later, and it seems that we have had all the pain of higher prices, and it seems that we haven't seen any comprehensive trade deals.

So we cannot have an endless summer of tariffs and price increases. We need, as a body here, to make sure that we are holding the President accountable on the trade turmoil that is hurting small businesses. Every day, families face higher grocery prices trying to buy a new or a used car or a new home.

And yesterday, the President also sent a letter to 14 countries. Today, he sent seven letters and basically threatened higher tariffs. In fact, one of those countries, South Korea, is a country that we have had a close partnership and been an ally with for decades. I visited them and our American troops in South Korea and have seen them guarding the demilitarized zone—DMZ—with North Korea. And most of the U.S. tariffs on South Korea were eliminated or significantly reduced under a trade agreement passed by this body: the U.S. free trade agreement with South Korea.

So the KORUS agreement was concluded in 2007 and ratified by the Senate in 2011. So why are we overturning with an ally that we work together to defend our interests in the region? Why are we tariffing them when we passed a free trade agreement here in the U.S. Senate?

So I know the President thinks he is going to get comprehensive trade agreements. We haven't seen them, but we have seen the costs go up. It is time to say no more extensions. It is time for Congress to get involved in this issue. It is time for all of us to say the tariff chaos is hurting small business.

That is the issue. According to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, 97 percent of U.S. importers are small businesses with fewer than 500 employees. They deserve to have this chaos stopped.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

#### ONE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL ACT

Mrs. BRITT. Mr. President, I rise today to talk about a number of topics. I first want to start with how thrilled I am that childcare was addressed in the bill that we passed last week. The affordability and accessibility has hung over so many Americans coast to coast that want or need the opportunity to reengage in the workforce. And we took action to make a difference—to make it easier for parents to keep more of their hard-earned money to be able to do just that.

It wouldn't have been possible, obviously, without that bill and the Republican conference coming together and

actually deciding to effect change for hard-working families across this Nation.

We worked diligently, though, before that was even an option, building a coalition in a bipartisan way to address the affordability and accessibility of childcare.

I want to take a minute to thank Senator TIM Kaine. The Britt-Kaine proposal is what much of this was pulled from. We worked together to build that coalition to make sure that we were getting it right for the American people, in that we both had team members that worked diligently and around the clock.

I want to thank Rebecca Howard from his team for the work that she put in—tireless work. She happens to be an Alabamian from Alex City, AL, working hand in glove with Maggie McPherson from our team.

Maggie dedicated so much time and energy to getting this right. As a result of their hard work—along with Stephen Newton, Sean Ross, and Caroline Moore—Americans are going to have more opportunity, parents are going to be able to rely on childcare and have it accessible to them, businesses—large and small—are going to get to be a part of the solution.

I am so proud that the Republican conference came together and finally updated the Tax Code. It had not been updated since 1986 and 2001 to double what parents get moving forward. I want to thank the team that worked so diligently for weeks and months leading up to that to make that happen.

#### LULU'S LAW

Mr. President, I also rise today to recognize and celebrate an Alabama native Lulu Gribbon and her incredible journey that led us here today.

You see, just over a year ago—a year and a month—Lulu and her family did what many Alabamians and families across our Nation do every summer—they took a trip to the beach.

As a mom of two teenagers who is fortunate to live close to the Gulf of America, we have taken many beach trips ourselves. But what happened to Lulu last summer is not something I could have ever fathomed happening to one of my children, and it is not something I can fathom happening to anyone's child.

Lulu was on a sandbar in Walton County, FL, when she was viciously attacked by a shark. The attack was nearly fatal. She lost two-thirds of her blood in her body. And if it weren't for medical professionals who, by the grace of God, were close by, the end of this story could have been very different.

This marked the beginning of a grueling journey, multiple surgeries and countless hours of physical therapy. Lulu lost her left arm and her right leg but did not lose her will to fight, to be an inspiration, to be an example to all her knew her.

She embodies grit and grace and perseverance and has been an absolute force to all who had the opportunity to

know her or get a window into her story. In fact, Lulu has actually taken up some new hobbies.

She has mastered her golf swing. She is driving a car. She is shooting hoops on the basketball courts. She is surfing, now running. And if you go to her Instagram page—LuluG.strong, which I encourage all of you to do—you will see her actually slalom skiing at Lake Martin.

Like the power of resiliency, faith, and mental fortitude, Lulu's story is not only incredible, but has given us an opportunity to ensure that it doesn't happen to anyone ever again. And do you know what? That is exactly what Lulu wants.

She wanted to make sure very practical lessons of how we can work to avoid these attacks from happening in the future actually got put into law. Because, you see, 90 minutes before Lulu was attacked, a woman from Virginia was attacked just a few miles down the beach.

Elizabeth Foley of Virginia lost her hand while fighting off a shark. Again, this was less than 2 hours prior and just a few miles away. Had there been an alert system for sharks, Lulu likely would not have been in the water.

That is the nexus of Lulu's Law. The Senate has now unanimously passed Lulu's Law, legislation I was proud to lead and that Lulu has courageously advocated for for over a year now.

Lulu's Law empowers authorized local, State, Tribal, and Federal Government authorities to quickly deploy warnings via the Wireless Emergency Alert system. This will happen if a shark has attacked someone.

Preventing attacks like this is something we can all rally around, in honor of Lulu and to protect future beachgoers and families. While the Senate passage of this bill certainly calls for celebration, our work is not done. I am hopeful that our House colleagues will quickly take up this piece of legislation and begin to move it through the House and, ultimately, to the President's desk.

I will tell you God's hand is in all of this. Last night, I called Lulu's parents and talked to them about how incredible this is, and they immediately said that when they got the news, they were having their very first Lulu Foundation meeting, and the junior board was meeting, which are all of the young ladies that were in the water with Lulu when this happened.

Their resiliency, their grit, their willingness to make things better for those to come after them should absolutely be commended. But none of this would have happened without a bipartisan approach. I want to thank Majority Leader THUNE, I want to thank Minority Leader SCHUMER, I want to thank Committee Chair TED CRUZ, Ranking Member MARIA CANTWELL, and I want to thank BRIAN SCHATZ.

This is what the country sent us here to do, is to figure out where we have common ground; and where we have

that common ground, to make the lives better of the people we serve. That is exactly what we did today. This wouldn't have happened without people coming together. It is a big moment not only for Lulu but for the future safety of beachgoers from coast to coast.

#### CENTRAL TEXAS FLOODS

Mr. President, one more topic I would like to discuss today. I rise with a heavy heart in the aftermath of the flood that occurred in the heart of Texas Hill Country. Over 700 girls attended Camp Mystic this summer, excited about another year of making new friends and seeing old ones.

They looked forward to long days of swimming in the river, evenings laughing with their friends over dinner, and furthering relationships, not only with each other but with their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

As many parents know well, camp is a formative time in our children's lives. They learn independence while being away from their families, teamwork and sportsmanship as they compete in activities, and confidence in leadership as they look up to their counselors who guide them emotionally and spiritually. It is a special community to be a part of, and it is one that campers never leave.

These 700 girls had just completed their first week in a month-long term before this tragedy. I am devastated for those precious young lives that were lost and those that have been changed forever—for the parents, the grandparents, brothers, the sisters, the friends who face this unimaginable grief.

One of those girls at Camp Mystic was 8-year-old Sarah Marsh from Mountain Brook, AL. Sarah would have been a third grader in the fall at Cherokee Bend Elementary School. Her favorite color was blue. As a mother myself, reading the Marsh family's statement is heart-wrenching—losing a child is something no parent should have to endure.

In that statement, her parents said, in part:

This [is a] tragedy that no parent can prepare for, and it will never be right this side of Heaven.

Sarah's grandmother described her as a "beautiful spunky ray of light in our lives."

I join my colleagues, I join the people of Alabama, the people across this Nation in mourning today for the loss of her precious life and the lives of other fellow campers and counselors. I take comfort in the fact that I know she is with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Scripture tells us: For we know that if the tent that is our Earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. 2 Corinthians 5:1.

As we mourn this tragedy, Sarah is in a permanent and perfect home. She is there where there is no sorrow, no sickness, and where death cannot enter.