

If—if—my colleagues wanted to protect qualified religious institutions' exemption, they shouldn't have put it in the bill they passed or they should have introduced an amendment to knock it out. They should have done something to show that they were there.

I am hopeful this legislation that I am trying to pass on behalf of so many—so many—across this country, Americans, that it does not now get caught up in a Republican loop of trying to protect the very provisions that they voted to support in that Republican "Big Betrayal Bill."

I am disappointed, but I am not done. And I can promise you this: We will continue to work to try to get S. 2230 passed. It is just common sense, and it has bipartisan support here in the Senate.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Ms. ROSEN. Madam President, I want to start out by thanking my dear friend and colleague Senator CORTEZ MASTO for leading the effort to fix this terrible provision.

I have to say I am extremely disappointed in what just happened. Senate Republicans are, once again, showing that they couldn't care less about the impacts of their new extreme law.

Last week, President Trump signed into law Republicans' disastrous "Big Beautiful Betrayal," which, among all the terrible cuts to healthcare, to food assistance, and all of the rest, the "Big Beautiful Betrayal" included a damaging provision that will impose a higher tax burden for people who play games at casinos—casinos not just in Nevada but all around this country—and lose money.

You heard that right. Under Republicans' new law, individuals who play blackjack or poker while they are on vacation or wherever they are at—any other games at casinos—will now owe taxes to the government on the money that they lost. That is because Republicans' extreme law placed a new limit on the amount of gaming losses that Americans can deduct.

What does this actually mean? It means if someone wins a big jackpot in Las Vegas and then loses that jackpot later on, they would still be liable for paying 10 percent in taxes on gaming "income," even though they hadn't brought home anything.

Their loss equaled their win. They had no winnings at all.

How can that be right? How does it make sense? I don't know. It is Senate Republican math. That is what they seemed to use in their "Big Beautiful Betrayal Bill." It is not just bad math; it is bad policy.

What makes it even worse is that Senate Republicans snuck in this provision in this terrible bill so they can collect more money from people so that they can pay for more tax giveaways to billionaires. This is exactly what is happening, and it is shameful.

This is going to hurt people who visit casinos. It is going to hurt Nevada's gaming industry more broadly, which supports nearly a third of the jobs in our State. It generates billions of dollars for our local economy.

That is why Senator CORTEZ MASTO and I agreed that we must pass our FULL HOUSE Act and eliminate this new tax burden.

I am extremely disappointed that Washington politicians are refusing to fix the terrible policy they enacted that is going to hurt my State—our State—and our economy.

We need to restore the full wagering loss deduction and bring fairness back to our tax system. I won't stop working and won't stop pushing until this gets done.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### REMEMBERING JOHN STULP

Mr. HICKENLOOPER. Mr. President, I rise today to honor my great friend John Stulp. John passed away this past Monday, July 7. He was with his family in Lamar, out on the Eastern Plains, a place that he loved more than anything.

John was a good man—a great man, by any measure. Certainly, he was defined by his unwavering commitment to his family, his neighbors, his friends, and his home State of Colorado. He was the essence of a public servant.

His list of contributions to our State is impressively long. He served as Colorado's commissioner of agriculture during my predecessor Bill Ritter's governorship, and I appreciate Governor Ritter introducing me to him, discovering him for me.

John Stulp was a former Prowers County commissioner, a Democratic commissioner in a county that is not well-known for Democratic commissioners.

He was also a former State board of land commissioner, a State wildlife commissioner, and a member of the State board of agriculture.

And in John's mind, above all that, he was a dryland wheat farmer and a cow-calf rancher from southeast Colorado.

John's reputation for patient consensus-building is well-known throughout our State and trusted throughout our State.

In 2011, I was the newly elected Governor, and Colorado had already experienced a couple of years of drought. The years 2011 and 2012 were bad years for drought, and I was convinced that we needed a blueprint, a plan of some sort, to address the gap between the State's

projected growth and its future water supply to make sure that we had the supply that could match our needs.

I recruited John to serve as my top water policy adviser. We made it a cabinet-level position. He came to all our cabinet meetings. He was our water czar. It was clear to me that we would be hard-pressed to find anyone that could do the work he did. John understood the agricultural community in Colorado better than almost anyone.

Maybe that is why, when I first approached him with the idea of a statewide water plan, he wasn't immediately convinced. Actually, he was far from it; he was, I would say, more than skeptical. He knew how hard it would be to map Colorado's water supply, to chart a plan to conserve water that we might need in the next 50 years, and to get everybody at the table. In Colorado, we talk about how whiskey is for drinking but water is for fighting. He didn't think it was a smart idea for me politically, as a new Governor, to take on an issue that had the potential to be so divisive, but he understood that we couldn't let our rivers and farms be at risk of running dry and that we needed him, Colorado needed him.

He set aside his reservations and he rolled up his sleeves and he went to work—he and James Eckholt and a lot of other people. It was remarkable to watch them. He crisscrossed the State hosting roundtables, talking with farmers, listening to stakeholders—really hearing them—trying to resolve the issues and trying to align their self-interests.

John poured his heart and soul into that plan, and in the end, John accomplished what I think even he previously believed would not be possible. We finalized the State's first-ever water plan in November of 2015. It certainly would never have happened without his prodigious efforts. He created a framework that will evolve as our State's climate and demographics continue to evolve.

More importantly, in the process, he created an ecosystem, a network, of relationships across geographic and political boundaries. And that was one of his many great legacies—his many legacies—that he leaves to Colorado. Certainly, his family is his greatest legacy, but he did a lot for the ability of Colorado's future and water.

When you travel a lot with someone, you spend a lot of miles with them and you stay at their home, you share their food, you meet their neighbors, you get a real sense of their goodness. I am not sure there are gradations of goodness. But I have traveled long distances with John Stulp. I stayed at his home in Prowers County, where he and his remarkable wife Jane would cook up a barbecue and get me together with some of their neighbors. He even loaned my son Teddy a .410 shotgun so he could learn how to shoot.

If I did believe in gradations of goodness, John and Jane Stulp would be at the very top. Even with all the great

contributions he made to our State, I think John's goodness, the pureness and the deepness of his heart, is what I will miss the most.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. TUBERVILLE). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask that the scheduled rollcall vote begin immediately.

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

#### VOTE ON GOULD NOMINATION

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

Mr. KENNEDY. 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 executive clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 50, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 383 Ex.]

#### YEAS—50

Banks	Fischer	Moreno
Barrasso	Grassley	Mullin
Blackburn	Hagerty	Murkowski
Boozman	Hoeven	Paul
Britt	Husted	Ricketts
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Risch
Capito	Johnson	Rounds
Cassidy	Justice	Schmitt
Collins	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lee	Sheehy
Cramer	Lummis	Sullivan
Crapo	Marshall	Thune
Cruz	McConnell	Tuberville
Curtis	McCormick	Wicker
Daines	Moody	Young
Ernst	Moran	

#### NAYS—45

Alsobrooks	Duckworth	Hirono
Baldwin	Durbin	Kaine
Bennet	Fetterman	Kelly
Blunt Rochester	Gallego	Kim
Booker	Gillibrand	King
Cantwell	Hassan	Klobuchar
Coons	Heinrich	Lujan
Cortez Masto	Hickenlooper	Markey

Merkley	Sanders	Van Hollen
Murray	Schatz	Warner
Ossoff	Schiff	Warnock
Padilla	Schumer	Warren
Peters	Shaheen	Welch
Reed	Slotkin	Whitehouse
Rosen	Smith	Wyden

#### NOT VOTING—5

Blumenthal	Hawley	Tillis
Graham	Murphy	

The nomination was confirmed.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

#### RESCISSION

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, last week, Republicans made the wrong kind of history. That is because last week, they passed what may well be the single most expensive piece of legislation in the history of our country—all to help the rich and hurt the poor. This should go in the "Guinness Book of World Records."

Let's not forget that the history doesn't end there because they passed the biggest bill in the history of the Senate with the biggest gimmick in the history of the Senate by basically saying that trillions of dollars in tax cuts for billionaires are free.

This farce is only getting worse because now do you know what Republicans are turning to? Do you know what the next order of business in the Senate is? They are going to take up President Trump's request to slash local news and bipartisan foreign policy investments in order to "balance the debt." That is a serious case of amnesia.

Republicans just saddled the national credit card with \$4 trillion in debt—that is trillions with a "t"—so that they could give massive tax breaks to the richest people in the country. They would have added even more to that debt if they hadn't cut over \$1 trillion in healthcare and nutrition assistance for millions of Americans.

But now that it has passed, now that they have saddled the next generation with loads of debt to help billionaire donors, many Republicans want to return to talking now about getting the Nation's fiscal house in order. Are you kidding me? Do you really think we don't remember what just happened last week? Thank goodness for C-SPAN, and we all should review the tape.

One week ago, Republicans were pretending trillions in debt for tax giveaways to their corporate buddies and megadonors was nothing—literally nothing. Now these same Republicans say that local news, which provides crucial information in emergencies, is just too expensive to support. Now these same Republicans say that we can't afford to continue lifesaving aid that prevents famine and epidemics even though—keep in mind—we are talking about a sum total of less than

0.14 percent of our overall Federal budget. The irony is almost as rich as the corporate CEOs, who made out like bandits in that big, awful mess the Republicans passed last week.

This rescissions package is not just bad because many Republicans are trying to have it both ways on deficits and the debt now; it is just plain bad on the substance. These cuts hurt our communities, and they hurt our country.

Let's start with the local news.

Republicans are trying to rip away investments that support over 1,500 local public TV and radio stations. These are stations that serve rural areas and that give them local news you simply cannot find anywhere else. It is coverage that matters to people, like what community events are coming up, how the school board is preparing for next year, weather and market reports for our farmers, not to mention emergency alerts when a disaster strikes.

You do not have to look hard to find an example of how important it is that we get disaster warnings right.

When the devastating wildfires hit Southern California earlier this year, public radio broadcasts let millions of people know how to stay safe.

When Hurricane Helene battered North Carolina, a local public radio station was the only source of information for many people.

Then, of course, there was the recent tragedy in Texas and a flooding in New Mexico. These were incredibly deadly floods. My heart goes out to all of the families who were affected, especially those who lost loved ones, and my deep gratitude goes out to our first responders. I am committed to helping those communities recover, to coming together like we always do as a nation after a tragedy.

While we learn more now about what is needed, one thing that all of our communities need is a strong emergency response system. One thing I can tell you is, when dangers arise, cutting local news stations, silencing trusted sources that can push out important warnings when cell towers fail and your home internet connection goes out, won't make anything better.

Don't even get me started on how this rescissions bill will hurt free educational programming for countless kids. We are talking about shows that kids and parents love. But after saddling our country with trillions in debt for billionaires, many Republicans are saying: There is just not a penny left for our kids. Sorry. We are going to feed Big Bird to the fat cats.

That is the message Republicans are sending here. This isn't quite how they would put it on "Sesame Street," but America knows that message is brought to you by the letters "BS," and it is so dangerously shortsighted. Talk to any parent. They will warn you that if the Republicans' cuts end up canceling free, high-quality programming that is thoughtfully developed to get kids thinking and growing their curiosity, there is an alarming amount of