

assets into the mainstream and secure U.S. leadership in financial innovation. And the first rescissions package in three decades is headed to the President for signature.

We have passed measures to end 16 burdensome Biden-era regulations. We passed the TAKE IT DOWN Act to combat nonconsensual explicit images being shared online.

And, of course, 2 weeks ago on the Fourth of July, the President signed into law the Big Beautiful Bill to deliver permanent tax relief to the American people to make our country safer, stronger, and more prosperous.

We have additional bills coming down the pike. The Armed Services Committee under Chairman WICKER recently reported the National Defense Authorization Act of fiscal year 2026, and the Appropriations Committee under Chair COLLINS has reported out four bipartisan bills, which we will begin considering this week.

I said last year that I was committed to bringing appropriations bills to the floor through regular order, and we are in the process of doing exactly that.

Of course, any regular order consideration of appropriations bills is going to require cooperation from Democrats. This week, we will get a glimpse of where Democrats are on this issue.

It was deeply disappointing the Democrat leader threatened to shut down the government if Republicans dared to pass legislation to trim just one-tenth of 1 percent of the Federal budget, but I am hopeful that is not the position of the Democratic Party.

Time will tell.

The Senate also has important work to do to confirm the President's nominees. We started out this year by confirming 21 of the President's Cabinet nominees at the fastest pace in more than two decades, and we have kept up our focus on getting President Trump's team into place.

We have now confirmed 96 civilian nominees, far outpacing where the Senate was at this point in the first Trump administration. And the only reason, frankly, that we are not moving faster is because of Democrats' historic—that is right historic—level of obstruction.

Democrats have been forcing cloture votes for every civilian nominee. Something that is without precedent. President Trump is the first President on record not to have a single civilian nominee go by unanimous consent or voice vote at this point in his Presidency. The first President on record. Think about that.

And Democrats are using this strategy even on noncontroversial nominees. Almost a quarter of the nominees whose confirmation process Democrats have dragged out actually got more than 60 votes here on the Senate floor.

The American people gave President Trump a mandate, and he deserves to have his team in place to execute that mandate for the American people. Democrats can continue to drag this process out, but Republicans are going to get these nominees confirmed.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant 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 PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

BUDGET

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, today, we got the news that the Congressional Budget Office, the CBO, confirms Donald Trump's "Big Ugly Betrayal" is going to kick at least 10 million Americans off their health insurance and spike our national debt by another \$3.4 trillion. In truth, the number of people who will lose health insurance could be much higher—as many as 16 million when you account for the cuts to ACA and other forms of insurance.

This finalized, independent analysis from the CBO confirms it: Republicans' signature bill is the ultimate—the ultimate—betrayal of the American people. It betrays every single family who will lose health insurance. It betrays our financial future. It is betraying our children and grandchildren, who will pay for these billionaire tax breaks as the debt rises and rises. It betrays every family worried about paying for groceries, the mortgage, the rent, prescription drugs. All are going up because of Donald Trump and his administration. Every price is going up. It betrays every rural community from the benefits of good-paying energy jobs. Republicans' supposed signature bill betrays everyone outside of the billionaire class and the special interests.

Now, Republicans are going to spin the mother of all propaganda jobs to sell this ugly bill to the American people. But today's report reminds us of something: Facts are stubborn, and the facts are clear. The "Big Ugly Betrayal" is a loser for the country and a loser for the Republicans.

The Republicans can yak, yak, yak when they go back home. But when people lose their jobs, when people's bills go up, when they are paying more, when they are losing their health insurance, that is reality; and no amount of propaganda, no amount of going home and telling people how great this is will undo the actual damage that will be done to the American people. And we know—we know—that they will realize the Republicans have betrayed them.

APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. SCHUMER. This week, the Senate is expected to take up the first set

of appropriation bills for fiscal year 2026.

On the substance, a number of the bills negotiated in committee make significant reversals of DOGE's horrible cuts. Of particular importance are the reversals these bills make to DOGE's cuts to veterans programs, which were so vicious and so mean and hurt so many veterans. And it also makes reversals on other important Democratic priorities.

We will see how Republican leaders plan to move forward with these bills and other bipartisan bills on the floor.

Yet, yesterday, the Republican leader gave an interview where he said he would like to see more bipartisanship when it comes to appropriations. He said, rightly, that it takes cooperation from both sides to move things through the Senate, in the appropriations bills.

But, frankly, the Republican leader is talking a bit out of both sides of his mouth. On the one hand, he talks about bipartisanship and wanting to see both parties come up with an appropriations process. On the other, he is putting on the floor rescission packages with cuts demanded by Donald Trump and Russell Vought that retract many of the bipartisan agreements, with the promise by Russell Vought of more to come.

When Donald Trump and Russell Vought insist on rescissions, and an obedient Republican Congress goes along—even though many of them know how wrong it is—it makes the spending process totally partisan.

The leader's words and his actions are a complete contradiction. He can't have it both ways.

Again, not 1 week ago, Republicans jammed a rescissions package through this Chamber, axing billions in bipartisan funding to public broadcasting and foreign aid, purely on a party-line vote. Less than a day later, Russell Vought comes out and says the appropriations process should be "less bipartisan."

Frankly, I don't want to hear Republicans grouse about Democrats if they are going to give people like Russell Vought a free pass to trash the good work that takes place in this Chamber.

And now, of course, there are reports that Donald Trump and Russell Vought want Congress to agree on another rescissions package in the near future.

Then, there is Donald Trump's "Big Ugly Betrayal"—a purely party-line vote, a partisan giveaway to billionaires and special interests—paid for with the biggest cuts to healthcare, food funding, and good-paying energy jobs we have seen in our lifetimes.

Leader THUNE says he wants to see bipartisanship. That is all well and good. But Leader THUNE can't have it both ways. If Leader THUNE wants to talk about bipartisanship, he should focus on keeping his side of the street clean first, because Donald Trump and Russell Vought have made clear they want to continue launching partisan broadsides that will inflict deep harm on the American people, raising costs,

unleashing chaos, inviting even deeper corruption across the Federal Government.

NOMINATION OF EMIL J. BOVE III

Mr. SCHUMER. Now, on Mr. Bove—Emil Bove—last week, Senate Republicans on the Judiciary reported out one of Donald Trump's worst judicial nominees yet, Emil Bove; and that is saying a lot, since there are so many bad ones. Judiciary Republicans were so afraid to talk about Mr. Bove's nomination, in fact, that the Republican chair cut off debate time and refused to let all Democrats speak. And rather than being part of this farce, Judiciary Democrats, led by my friend the ranking member, Senator DURBIN, rightly walked out of the hearing.

I commend my Democratic colleagues for standing up for the integrity of our courts and refusing to participate in a compromised committee process with a deeply compromised nominee.

It is obvious why the Republicans were so eager to cut off debate. They know the arguments against Mr. Bove are telling and so unworthy of anyone nominated to a court of appeals or any judicial position in this government.

Mr. Bove is the perfect example of the type of person Donald Trump wants on the bench: political, aggressive, unprofessional, abusive, and ready and willing to put the Trump agenda over the rule of law. We all know what Donald Trump wants from judges: complete obeisance of whatever he wants, regardless of the rule of law, regardless of precedent, regardless of the Constitution.

Mr. Bove has a long history of defending Donald Trump when he was his personal attorney. He defended the President when the President was accused of inciting the January 6 insurrection, mishandling classified documents, falsifying business records, and more.

So what should that do when someone defends a President who is accused of very serious crimes? It should disqualify them from the bench. But the opposite occurs in the Trump administration. His defense of Trump's indefensible actions earned him a top spot at the DOJ, where he used his power to fire prosecutors who were working on criminal cases for the January 6 insurrectionists.

That is right. Mr. Bove helped the rioters who assaulted law enforcement officers on January 6 get off without any charges.

What is happening to this country? What is happening?

And if that is not enough to disqualify him, one whistleblower testified Mr. Bove repeatedly told DOJ lawyers to ignore court orders and even deliberately mislead judges. Mr. Bove encouraged officials not to tell judges the truth, the same sort of judges he is now nominated to serve alongside.

How can someone who has such disregard for our judges and our courts be

trusted on the bench? Mr. Bove's nomination previews the dark, ominous plan Donald Trump and Republicans have for the Federal Judiciary. They want to fill our courts with partisan operatives who will protect and serve Donald Trump, not protect the rule of law.

Experience doesn't matter. Judicial independence doesn't matter. Understanding the law and applying it without fear or favor doesn't matter at all. In fact, there is fear of Donald Trump among so many of the Republican nominees for judges and so many of our Republican Senators. For Donald Trump, the only thing that matters, when it comes to judges, is unyielding fealty to himself.

We have never seen—never—such a disastrous mandate for our Federal courts in all of American history, and if the Republicans proceed, the damage to our Judiciary will be irreversible.

Mr. Bove's nomination is an insult to every single qualified, independent judge who has ever sat on the Federal courts. He should never have been nominated. He should never have been reported out of committee, and he should never, ever be confirmed by the Senate to such an important job.

NVIDIA

Mr. SCHUMER. Finally, on Nvidia and China, Donald Trump's trade war has created a mess for U.S. businesses. Now, he is rushing to clean up that mess, and he is getting played by Beijing.

Last week, the Trump administration handed President Xi and the Chinese Government a major win, approving chipmaker Nvidia to resume selling American H20 chips, used to develop AI, to China.

When these chips were blocked, Americans breathed a sigh of relief. China would not get the basic tool to catch up and even surpass us on AI and so many other important technological advances. Not 4 months ago, for that reason, the administration blocked the sale of these chips.

Now, typical of Donald Trump—there is no consistency, just what he feels is good for himself at the moment—they are making a costly, troubling U-turn. Flip-flops like this show weakness to the Chinese Government, and that is the last thing we can afford.

What is more, the chips are vital in the race to dominate AI. These H20 chips are among the best on the market and were critical for China's development of DeepSeek.

We all wondered: How did China catch up with DeepSeek? Well, by using these chips.

Now, Donald Trump is green-lighting the sale of even more of these chips. If you are worried about allowing China to dominate in AI, with all of the troubling prospects of that domination, then this reversal from the administration is a huge step toward enabling that Chinese dominance. Every chip

Donald Trump allows Nvidia to sell to Chinese competitors is one more boost to Beijing in the race for AI dominance.

The administration's capitulation keeps going. As part of trade talks with Beijing, they are also undermining export controls of U.S. technologies deemed to be critical for our national security. This sends an unmistakable message to adversaries around the world: America's national security is open to negotiation under Donald Trump's government.

The administration should revert to its original decision, in April, to block the sale of these chips to the Chinese Government. Donald Trump should stop giving the Chinese Government leverage in the race for technologies of the future.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic whip.

RESCISSIONS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, last week, both the House and the Senate voted to pass what is known as a rescissions bill. That is a term which a lot of people aren't familiar with. What it basically means is that Congress appropriates money, the President signs that appropriations request into law, and it is the policy which is supposed to guide, under the Constitution, the President of the United States and the activity of the executive branch. This is the ordinary course of events.

However, there may come a time when a President decides that we don't need this expenditure, even though it has been approved and it is the law. He then goes through the rescinding of his decision to spend the money. It is called a rescissions bill. In this case, the Trump administration came to Congress and said: The \$9 billion that you appropriated and directed me to spend, I don't want to spend. I want your permission not to spend it—\$9 billion.

That is what we voted on and the House voted on last week. What was in this bill were primarily two major elements. One element was foreign aid, humanitarian assistance around the world paid for by the United States. The other element was public broadcasting—National Public Radio, for example. So \$8 billion was taken out of foreign aid, and \$1 billion was taken away from public broadcasting.

It was a close vote in the Senate. Two Republicans joined the Democrats in opposing it, but there were enough Republicans to support it. It barely passed the Senate and was sent back to the House. After some turmoil in the House, the decision was made also to pass the rescissions bill.

I thought this was a particularly important bill. As a Member of the Senate—I am honored to represent the State of Illinois—I have cast over 9,000 votes. The Presiding Officer from Utah is new to the Senate. It will take him