

percent increase on everyday goods. This deal is a 15-percent Trump tax on American consumers, plain and simple.

Trump would have you believe it is the “biggest deal ever”—those are his words—dangling \$250 billion in new energy purchases and more in new investments. There is just one hiccup. It is fake. Even today’s Wall Street Journal has pierced this miasma of distortion. Even if the EU purchased every dollar of American exports of crude oil and liquefied natural gas, it wouldn’t come close to meeting these promises—something Europe understands. Europe has admitted that this “agreement” isn’t legally binding and that they have no control over whether these investments even happen.

If this sounds familiar, it is because we have already seen this show before—in the major agreement that Trump announced with Japan last week, where he claimed Japan had promised \$550 billion in new investment, but now we know the real amount is only as much as 2 percent of the promised amount.

Again, he just fakes it; he makes it up. I know he is in a frenzy about the Epstein scandal, but that doesn’t give him the excuse to just make things up. That is what happens. A day later, after the dust settles, it is clear that so much of what he has said about these tariff deals, whether it is with Japan or Europe, is just not true.

In the meantime, American consumers now pay higher tariffs on goods from Japan and Europe. Donald Trump wants people to breathe a sigh of relief that his tariff isn’t 30 percent but now is only 15 percent. But the American people aren’t going to be fooled when their prices go up. Donald Trump was so desperate—so desperate—to get a trade deal done after falling short of his promise of 90 deals in 90 days, which is another hyped-up claim, that he sold out American families just to try and claim a win. It is not a win—not for him and not for the American people.

It means more money out of people’s pockets for everyday items like groceries, medicine, electronics, cars, and more. When you go to the grocery store, it could be 15 percent more expensive. When you buy a car, it will be 15 percent more expensive.

It also means a tighter strain for small businesses across America who are already struggling to keep their doors open due to high costs.

Donald Trump can claim all he wants that this is the “biggest deal ever made,” but American families and small businesses—the ones footing the bill—know much better.

This new “deal” with the EU is nothing more than a massive tax hike for families and small businesses, signed in desperation, paid for by the American people.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. BRITT). The Senator from Texas.

NEW WORLD SCREWORM

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, it won’t surprise anybody that the State of Texas has long been the leading State in the cattle industry, supplying the Nation with steaks, hamburgers, and other protein products that grace many of our dinner tables every night.

Texas ranks first in the Nation in cattle production, coming in at 12 million head a year, representing nearly 15 percent of the total production in the United States and generating more than \$1 billion in revenue.

Unfortunately, this essential food supply and corresponding food price are under threat from the outbreak of a particularly pernicious parasite called the New World screwworm. The New World screwworm lays its eggs in the wombs of warmblooded animals, particularly livestock. The larvae then burrow into the opening, creating infections that, left untreated, can cause animals to die within a week.

With no known vaccinations to prevent infections, outbreaks in cattle herds require labor-intensive daily inspections of livestock to make sure they have not been infested.

Since 2023, there have been outbreaks of this deadly insect in Panama, Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, Belize, El Salvador, and Costa Rica, a country that ended up declaring the New World screwworm a national emergency in 2024.

Last November, the fly made its way back to Mexico. This, of course, has raised concerns among Texas cattle ranchers that it may soon come across the border and lead to an outbreak in our State.

Earlier this month, the threat became even more acute as a case of New World screwworm was reported less than 400 miles south of the United States-Mexico border.

An outbreak of the New World screwworm in the State of Texas is estimated to cost U.S. livestock producers approximately \$1 billion and cost the general economy \$3.7 billion due to lost production of meat and milk, as well as livestock death, veterinary costs, labor costs, and more.

This would be absolutely devastating to places like Texas but also to the entire country. Knowing I was coming to the floor to speak about this, I asked my staff to look at what other States might be implicated, and it is virtually every State in the Nation, including the great State of Alabama that produces an estimated 1.2 million head of cattle on an annual basis.

Thankfully, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has snapped into action. Secretary Rollins is currently working with our international partners on an ambitious plan to slow the spread of this terrible parasite.

In May, Secretary Rollins closed U.S. ports to Mexican cattle, bison, and horses to prevent an additional spread. And while these ports were initially scheduled to begin reopening as early as this month, additional cases have delayed that timeline.

But, of course, halting our imports will increase costs for all consumers; and while it is an important part of stopping this parasite, it is not a permanent solution.

For that, we can look to history as our guide. The last time North America faced a similar outbreak of the screwworm was back in the 1960s.

During that contagion, we were able to eradicate these deadly infestations, countering the spread by producing sterile male flies. The sterile male flies mate with the female flies who can only mate once during their lifetime; so, by releasing large numbers of these sterile male flies, the population growth of this parasite can be stopped in its tracks.

This approach worked in the 1960s, and I am hopeful that it will work again in this decade.

As we speak, there is only one sterile fly plant in North America, located in Panama. This plant is operated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and by COPEG, or the Panama-U.S. Commission for the Eradication and Prevention of Screwworm Infestation in Livestock, which was established in 1998.

As the New World screwworm continues traveling north, we need another plan to prevent population spread. A sterile fly plant will cost as much as \$300 million according to some estimates, and that is certainly not just pocket change. But it pales in comparison with the cost of not doing anything to eradicate this terrible threat.

The economic impact of the devastation that continued spread would cause my State is estimated to be as high as \$10 billion, and this would not be limited to Texas, as I said. It would include other cattle-producing States, including Kansas, Nebraska, California, and New Mexico, who, along with Texas, are the primary cattle-producing regions in the country.

Recently, the U.S. and Mexican Governments have partnered to invest in renovating the existing fruit fly-producing facility in Mexico, aiming to further the long-term goal of eradication.

In addition, USDA is building a sterile fly dispersal facility in Hidalgo, TX, in the Rio Grande Valley.

To build on top of these efforts, I will be offering an amendment during the appropriations process on the floor to ensure that the United States is prepared to combat the threat of this parasite.

I am grateful to Secretary Rollins for her leadership. As a Texan, perhaps she understands this threat better than most, and I am confident in her strong and decisive leadership toward eradicating this parasite and that it will reap rewards.

But it is not going to happen by itself. We are going to have to, unfortunately, not only authorize the production of this sterile fly capability—which we have done in the One Big Beautiful Bill—we are actually going

to have to appropriate money to help get this started.

I look forward to continuing to work with her and all of my colleagues to ensure that Texas cattle ranchers and our country's food supply are kept safe from this pesky parasite.

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.

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

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

The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

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

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 182.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Thomas Gaiser, of Ohio, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 182, Thomas Gaiser, of Ohio, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

John Thune, Eric Schmitt, John R. Curtis, Tim Scott of South Carolina, Bill Cassidy, Jon Husted, Steve Daines, Marsha Blackburn, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Ron Johnson, John Barrasso, Tim Sheehy, Roger F. Wicker, Mike Rounds, Bernie Moreno, Pete Ricketts, James C. Justice.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

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

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 95.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Joseph Kent, of Washington, to be Director of the National Counterterrorism Center, Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 95, Joseph Kent, of Washington, to be Director of the National Counterterrorism Center, Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

John Thune, Dan Sullivan, John Barrasso, Mike Rounds, Todd Young, Cynthia M. Lummis, Tom Cotton, James Lankford, Bernie Moreno, John R. Curtis, Ted Budd, Mike Crapo, Katie Boyd Britt, Jim Banks, Markwayne Mullin, Jon Husted, Steve Daines.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

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

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 113.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Tyler Clarkson, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of Agriculture.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 113, Tyler Clarkson, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of Agriculture.

John Thune, Markwayne Mullin, Ted Budd, Tom Cotton, Mike Crapo, James E. Risch, Joni Ernst, Rick Scott of Florida, Mike Rounds, Bernie Moreno, Kevin Cramer, Roger Marshall, Tommy Tuberville, Jim Banks, John Boozman, John Barrasso, John Hoeven.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

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

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 172.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Gadyaces Serralta, of Florida, to be Director of the United States Marshals Service.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 172, Gadyaces Serralta, of Florida, to be Director of the United States Marshals Service.

John Thune, Markwayne Mullin, Ted Budd, Tom Cotton, Mike Crapo, James E. Risch, Joni Ernst, Rick Scott of Florida, Mike Rounds, Bernie Moreno, Kevin Cramer, Roger Marshall, Tommy Tuberville, Jim Banks, John Boozman, John Barrasso, John Hoeven.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

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

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 282.