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## Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O God, we pray many prayers for many reasons, and we thank You for hearing us. Today we ask You to give our Senators a spirit of wisdom that will save them from despair and provide them with a straight path on which to walk without stumbling. Set a seal upon their lips so that no thoughtless words shall stain or harm others. May they meet today's tasks with courage and kindness, showing that they are truly Your children.

Lord, empower them to see clearly solutions they couldn't discover without Your help, as You remind them that all things are possible to those who believe in You. Inspire them to commit to You the challenges and decisions they will face, believing that You will enable them to serve with excellence.

We pray in Your marvelous Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MULLIN). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

### CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Brian Nesvik, of Wyoming, to be Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

#### VETERAN FLAGPOLE INITIATIVE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I have often said that our veterans have sacrificed so much for our Nation, so it is our responsibility to take care of them when they come home. We owe a debt of gratitude to these brave Americans.

I have been proud to work alongside my colleagues in the Senate to strengthen mental health resources, increase access to healthcare, and ensure that the Department of Veterans Affairs is managing Federal resources effectively to serve our veterans well.

While I work in Congress on behalf of our Nation of veterans, many organizations work daily to support this selfless group of people. There is one Iowa organization that I would like to highlight. It is called the Veteran Flagpole Initiative. The Veteran Flagpole Initiative started with a group of passionate Iowans who would install flagpoles for veterans at no cost to the veteran.

The group started their work to provide veterans with a permanent, visual reminder of their appreciation—our constituents' appreciation for the veterans' service and sacrifice. The goal is to ensure at least one veteran in all of Iowa's 99 counties has a flagpole by 2028, and I am sure that their goal is to go well beyond that.

Their work continues at a time when the flag and what it stands for is con-

tinually under attack, both here and abroad. It serves then as a reminder that change begins at home, and one individual in America can make a difference—some of them making big differences, maybe some making smaller differences.

And we don't know the end result of the Veteran Flagpole Initiative, but they are trying to make a big difference. Looking after those around us provides a valuable lesson because you never know what someone else may be facing, and the very small acts—as well as big acts—of service may turn out to have monumental impact. So thank you to the Veteran Flagpole Initiative and the many other organizations and individuals that support our veterans daily.

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. 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 Democratic leader is recognized.

#### TARIFFS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, this morning, we got some more troublesome news about the economy under Donald Trump. Today, we learned the economy added only 73,000 jobs last month, far below expectations.

But that wasn't the worst of it. We also learned the economy actually added less than 20,000 jobs, each in May and June, the 2 months following Donald Trump's Liberation Day. That is more than 250,000 fewer jobs than originally thought. Let me say that again. We learned this morning that the economy actually added over a quarter million fewer jobs than originally thought. We also learned that unemployment has gone up.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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It is disturbing to say, but the chickens are coming home to roost on Donald Trump's destructive trade war and the American people are paying the price.

You sow chaos, Donald Trump, you reap chaos.

And that is what the President is finding out this morning. A quarter million fewer jobs is a significant revision and a flashing red light. Donald Trump's chaotic tariffs are already bleeding our economy of good-paying jobs. In fact, aside from the pandemic, this job revision is the largest since 1979. In other words, the revision saying we lost jobs is more than any since 1979 except for the period of COVID. That is what tariff whiplash looks like.

Businesses—small, large, medium—always need stability. But businesses are waving around their arms in the dark without a clue of what Donald Trump is going to do next. And we now have clear evidence that it is stunting hiring and growth. If Donald Trump's tariffs have created this much trouble just 4 months after Liberation Day, imagine the trouble Americans will have 8 months after Liberation Day, a year after Liberation Day, when the effects of tariffs go further and more deeply into the economy.

Remember, this jobs report comes a day after we learned inflation accelerated over the last month, and it comes 2 days after we learned growth slowed down in the first half of this year and that business investment is down—down—3 percent.

But what is Donald Trump doing about all this? As bad as his previous trade policies have been, today he is doubling down on his awful trade policies. Last night, he imposed a slew of tariffs on 68 countries around the world, including some of our most important trading partners.

Again, if the effects of Liberation Day have been this bad just in 4 months, imagine the pain and harm Americans will feel 8 months, 12 months from now with these new tariffs just imposed yesterday.

Well, if this is what Liberation Day was supposed to look like, then God help us. Hiring is down; prices are ticking up; families are paying more than \$2,400 a year because of these tariffs—\$2,400 is a lot of money, even to families way into the middle class.

Businesses have no clue of what Donald Trump is doing next. Worse, we still don't have any idea what Donald Trump is actually agreeing to with partners like Japan, the European Union, and South Korea.

Typical of this administration, this President mistells the truth. He lies more than any other President we have seen. He just makes it up as he goes along and then changes, retracts—we know all about those cartoons, that he never did cartoons. That happens over and over again. And somehow too many of the American people forgive him for baldly lying.

Look at these trade breakthroughs. Look at the pattern. Donald Trump

hails the agreement as a major breakthrough, announces huge amounts of money coming into the United States. Then the next day, the people he has made the deals with, the countries he made the deals with retract. They say that didn't happen. He just makes it up.

But Donald Trump, you pay the price for making it up because businesses don't know what you are doing and so they cut back. Business investment was down 3 percent in the last quarter. Before Donald Trump was President—let's not forget, he is trying to sell a 15-percent tariff as a great thing. Before Donald Trump was President, these countries had tariffs in the 1 percent to 2 percent range. Now it is 15 percent.

Do you know what that is? That is a price hike on American families. Asking Americans to bear the brunt of 15-percent tariffs is no sane person's definition of victory.

Instead of cutting off five of your fingers, we are only cutting off three. Don't you want to congratulate us? That is the kind of thing Donald Trump says.

We have no clue what America is actually getting in return. In fact, we don't even know what these deals are because Trump lies about them. There is a pattern here. As I said, there is a pattern. One day, Donald Trump comes out bragging that his so-called deals are somehow major victories. But the next day, reality sets in, and it is abundantly clear when you look at the details, he lied, exaggerated, hyped what was in the deals. One day, he said Japan is going to invest \$500 billion in the United States. You know what Japan says the next day? It is, at most, 2 percent of that \$500 billion—2 percent.

How does this guy get away with it?

But he doesn't get away with it because the chaos he creates, the mistrust he creates hurts businesses and hurts the country.

So we want to know—the administration refuses to be transparent, refuses to provide the details, and that is very bad for the American people and for the economy. So, today, my colleagues and I are urging transparency from the administration. We are writing Secretary Bessent, Secretary Lutnick, and Ambassador Greer to immediately come clean with answers to a number of important questions about Donald Trump's trade deal.

First of all, how are any of these deals going to be actually verified and enforced? How do we know these investments Donald Trump has bragged about are going to take place because it seems the countries who are making the deals have a different story than what Trump tells? Second, what system or mechanism exists to track any of this information? What industries will see the benefit? What kind of investments are we talking about? Have they thought these things through or does this pop up in Donald Trump's

head, and it then comes out of his mouth?

Finally—especially crucially—how do we know that these investments, even if they happen, are going to benefit the public and not just benefit the businesses and industries owned by Donald Trump and his friends?

We have seen over and over again that what they do in the White House doesn't benefit the American people but benefits the people who work in the White House, their cronies, and Donald Trump, himself, who is gaining millions and millions of dollars from his Presidency by taking advantage of the laws they passed. No other President would do it. Ronald Reagan would turn over in his grave if he saw what Trump was doing to benefit himself as President. It causes Americans to just lose faith in democracy.

It has been 4 months since Donald Trump's so-called Liberation Day. By now, we have enough evidence to show these chaotic tariffs are inflicting real damage to the economy. We would be foolish to think doubling down is somehow going to make it better, but that is what Trump did yesterday.

Donald Trump needs to reverse course because the only deal he has actually struck is a raw deal for American families. The only deal Donald Trump has struck is a raw deal for American families, consumers, and businesses. Today's jobs report is the latest warning sign that this tariff chaos must end.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Mr. President, on the Smithsonian Institution and impeachment, we all know that Donald Trump loves to rewrite and erase parts of history he doesn't like.

Yesterday, though, we saw a shameful new low. Yesterday, we learned that Donald Trump quietly forced the Smithsonian to remove him from the impeachment exhibit at the American History Museum. You can't make this up. This is a man rewriting history or thinks he can rewrite history. He can't, but he thinks he can. He is censoring the American History Museum.

It is Orwellian—downright Orwellian—and it is something you would see in an authoritarian regime. It is something the head of North Korea would do, not America. Quite frankly, it is sad; it is pathetic; but it is beyond that. Donald Trump is so egotistical, so angry that he is the only President in American history to have been impeached twice that he wants to try and change the past, change the truth, and trade history for propaganda.

But Donald Trump, you can't change history. You can't avoid the truth. History will haunt you. You are the only President to be impeached twice. You can run, but you cannot hide from the judgment of history.

Here is my message to the President: No matter what exhibits you try to distort, the American people will never forget that you were impeached, not once but twice.