

them in with a Senate-confirmed inspector general.

Now, we have proposed other ideas that have not been accepted yet, but that should be considered, if my colleagues on the other side of the aisle won't accept this one.

One of the reasons I like the Senator from Florida's idea here is because it is such a strategic, narrow way to try to get some independent eyes at the Fed. Other ways that I had considered, and that we could still consider if this idea is unacceptable, is to make the Feds subject to FOIA. We could confirm all 12 of the regional presidents of the Federal Reserve Banks so we have a say in who they are and any number of other provisions that give the people of this country some oversight over that entity, the Federal Reserve, that has become so independent that it thumbs its nose at working for and with the American people.

Look what happened in the way banks were supervised in the last 4 years. Choke Point 2.0 brought about a government-caused failure of two banks. Those banks were not insolvent. The Federal Reserve and the FDIC pushed them into insolvency because they didn't like their customers. That was it. They didn't like it that banks were providing banking services to digital asset companies, to Melania Trump, to the children of the now-President. They targeted those people. They debanked those people. Government did that by threatening the financial institutions that had them as customers, saying that the safety and soundness of the institution was going to be subject to scrutiny if they continued to bank digital asset businesses, the Trump family, and others.

That was government targeting—targeting—Americans. That was our government turned against our people for no good reason, and there is no way to get scrutiny of the Fed because they don't have an independent IG. They are not subject to the Freedom of Information Act. We don't have sufficient oversight of them. We have got to get oversight over the Fed.

And I want to applaud my colleague from Florida for taking the initial step that every other Agency is subject to: an independent inspector general.

So I urge my colleagues on the other side of the aisle who are objecting to this measured, commonsense matter, for heaven's sake, come up with a solution because the Fed is an unaccountable, run-amok place that is not responsive to the American people.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

WAIVING QUORUM CALL

Mr. TILLIS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to waive the quorum call with respect to the Rinaldi nomination.

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

VOTE ON NESVIK NOMINATION

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Nesvik nomination?

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Madam President, 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 legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGO) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 54, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 470 Ex.]

YEAS—54

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

NAYS—43

Alsobrooks	Hirono	Sanders
Baldwin	Kaine	Schatz
Bennet	Kelly	Schiff
Blumenthal	Kim	Schumer
Blunt Rochester	King	Shaheen
Booker	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Cantwell	Lujan	Smith
Coons	Markey	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Murphy	Warnock
Durbin	Murray	Warren
Fetterman	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wyden
Hassan	Peters	
Hickenlooper	Reed	

NOT VOTING—3

Cassidy	Gallego	Welch
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The nomination was confirmed.

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

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The assistant bill 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. 192, Luigi Rinaldi, of New York, to be Ambassador Ex-

traordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Oriental Republic of Uruguay.

John Thune, Tommy Tuberville, Bernie Moreno, Tim Sheehy, John Barrasso, John R. Curtis, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Mike Rounds, Katie Boyd Britt, Roger Marshall, Pete Ricketts, John Boozman, David McCormick, Tim Scott of South Carolina, Rick Scott of Florida, Eric Schmitt, Lindsey Graham.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the mandatory quorum call under rule XXII has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Luigi Rinaldi, of New York, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGO) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 52, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 471 Ex.]

YEAS—52

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

NAYS—45

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Reed
Baldwin	Hirono	Rosen
Bennet	Kaine	Sanders
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schatz
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Schiff
Booker	King	Schumer
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Coons	Lujan	Slotkin
Cortez Masto	Markey	Smith
Duckworth	Merkley	Van Hollen
Durbin	Murphy	Warner
Fetterman	Murray	Warnock
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Warren
Hassan	Padilla	Whitehouse
Heinrich	Peters	Wyden

NOT VOTING—3

Cassidy	Gallego	Welch
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The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MCCORMICK). On this vote, the yeas are 52, the nays are 45. The motion is agreed to.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Luigi Rinaldi, of New York, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Oriental Republic of Uruguay.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, what is a very bad leader? What does a bad leader do when they get bad news? Shoot the messenger. That is just what happened with the head of the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Today, we got some of the worst labor numbers that we have gotten in a long time. The economy added only a paltry 73,000 jobs last month. But that wasn't the worst of it. We learned the economy actually added less than 20,000 jobs each in May and June following 2 months of Donald Trump's "Liberation Day." That is 250,000 fewer jobs than we thought.

So, of course, that is very bad news for the economy, but what does Donald Trump do? Instead of trying to fix the economy, he shoots the messenger. The woman he fired, the head of the Bureau of Labor Statistics passed, this Senate 88 to 8. Vice President VANCE voted for her. And now, fire her.

Well, Donald Trump, firing her isn't going to relieve the chaos that you have created with your ramshackle tariff regime. Shooting the messenger isn't going to make the jobs that we are losing in healthcare and clean energy because of your so-called Big Beautiful Bill come back. None of this will change. The American people will still suffer in exactly the same way that they did an hour ago before you fired the head of the BLS.

You know, Donald Trump sometimes admires dictators. He admires them. Well, he sometimes acts just like them. It is classic Donald Trump: When he gets the news he doesn't like, he shoots the messenger.

Now, there is a word for this when the Soviet Union does it, when the dictators of the Russians did it. They called it "pripiski." It meant "Fire the messenger. Don't change your policies."

As long as Donald Trump keeps firing messengers who bring him truth—he hates truth when he doesn't agree with it—as long as he does that, this economy will not improve, inflation and costs to the American people will not go away, and new jobs will not return to this country. He ought to start governing like a leader, not like someone who imitates authoritarian leaders.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Carolina.

REMEMBERING LLOYD WAYNE COPPEDGE

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina. Mr. President, I rise today to talk about two important topics. One is the loss of a remarkable South Carolinian. Mr. Lloyd Wayne Coppedge of Myrtle Beach went to be with the Lord on July 19 at the young, spry age of 80. Lloyd

Coppedge was a great American, a great friend of mine. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and a dedicated friend.

He had a business career marked by both heart and integrity. Lloyd purchased Wolverine Brass in Myrtle Beach, where he not only led the company to success but also created a work culture built on compassion and respect.

His legacy lives in the lives he has touched, whose lives are better because of him. Lloyd was a giant of a man, and he will be missed by me and thousands and thousands of South Carolinians.

ONE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL

Mr. President, I also wanted to talk about the success of the One Big Beautiful Bill. We are nearly at the 1-month mark, and the benefits to South Carolinians and Americans are remarkable.

Let me just talk first for a few minutes about the success of historic firsts in the bill. The Trump accounts for every child is fantastic, but I wanted to spend a minute or two on the success of the tax credits for school choice embedded in that One Big Beautiful Bill.

I will tell you, as a kid growing up in poverty, I went to four elementary schools by the fourth grade, so I know firsthand the importance of making sure that every single child in South Carolina and I dare say every single child in America deserves a quality education. I don't care whether that is at a private school, public school, home school, charter school—I want every child to have a choice in education.

I believe the old motto is correct: When a parent has a choice, their child has the best chance at success in this Nation because education is the closest thing to magic in America.

We can also celebrate the continuation of opportunity zones made permanent in that Big Beautiful Bill. I will say, without any question, in 2017, in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, we passed, for the first time, my opportunity zone legislation. And as a result, over the last nearly 10 years—less than 10 years—we have seen over \$90 billion invested in high-poverty communities across our Nation. At home in South Carolina, we have 135 designated areas. And in those areas, we have seen over 18,000 jobs created, almost 4,000 housing units since its inception, and all of that nationwide with less than a 5-percent gentrification.

We also wanted to target education in a different way, making sure that we would allow coaches and athletic staff to claim out-of-pocket, job-related expenses on their taxes just like we do for classroom teachers. So many American educators, too many coaches have to reach into their own pockets to make sure their students and their athletes have what it takes, not only on the field but in the classrooms and even at home.

There are benefits in the Big Beautiful Bill for every single South Carolinian. Whether it is job creation, lower taxes, or stronger communities, the

One Big Beautiful Bill brings home so many resources for thousands of South Carolinians.

I think about the campaign promises on the trail. Those same promises are producing for hard-working, middle-class Americans. I think about my good friend who has a professional career waiting as a waitress. Jackie States is her name. She benefits tremendously from lowering taxes on tips. This is a campaign promise that President Trump made on the trail, and we delivered for the American people by reducing—nearly eliminating—tax on tips for so many people in the service industry.

I was walking through the airport, and officers of the law—thank God for the law enforcement officers across this country who dedicate their lives to keeping all of us safe. But I will never forget the comments made just a week or so ago by a few officers who are now more excited than ever to work overtime because President Trump has made it easier to keep more of their overtime wages in their pockets and not in Uncle Sam's coffers. This is good news for public safety, and it is great news for law enforcement families.

Our President Trump went a step further when he said he wanted to reduce the taxes on our senior citizens living every day, some of them, paycheck to paycheck. So what did our President do? He lowered taxes on Social Security, making it easier for our senior citizens on fixed incomes to make those very difficult ends meet. This is a big win for our seniors.

I could also go on about the expanding tax credits for beauty salons and barber shops, the legislation that I wrote that helps more than a million small businesses—many of them minority businesses and rural businesses that desperately needed the assistance.

I could go on about the importance of President Trump's work on securing our border, finishing the border wall with the extra resources, or talk about stopping the flow of fentanyl coming through our southern border or ports of entry.

I could spend some time being thankful that we have Border Patrol agents that will be better resourced with better tools, restoring law and order in our Nation because of that One Big Beautiful Bill.

I could also talk about how our military is better equipped with the tools of the future—not the 21st century but the 22nd century—how, through the funding of the Golden Dome or improving the quality of life for our men and women in uniform by having more resources deployed to make sure that our military remains the finest fighting force on the planet or how we modernized our military or "drill, baby, drill," the ability to find more resources in the energy sector.

As energy production goes up, prices come down, not just prices at the pump but prices at the grocery store. Whatever it takes to bring to the American