

out there in the public are like “I can’t sort this all out.” Think of this it way: They got rid of the watchdogs, and then they stormed the building and took control of the servers and the data.

Mr. SCHUMER. If the gentleman will continue to yield, if you remember, for instance, say a group that gets veterans’ healthcare, and all of a sudden, they said: The money is not being spent right. We are cutting it off.

You almost have no recourse unless we get rid of this.

As I may have mentioned to my friend from Hawaii, the leader in the House HAKEEM JEFFRIES and I will be introducing legislation to undo this, and we are going to fight like the devil to get this undone because this is just a crisis from one end of America to the other. It is this shadow government of people. We don’t know who they are, what they believe in, and they have just come and stormed in. It is outrageous and dangerous.

Will the gentleman agree with those two assessments?

Mr. SCHATZ. Yes, absolutely. And I think that is one of the things that everyone has to wrap their mind around, is that you might have voted for Donald Trump for whatever set of reasons, but I don’t think you signed up for a bunch—it is not just that billionaires are influencing the government—that would be one thing, but it wouldn’t be that unusual—but billionaires are in charge of the mechanics of the government. That is different. That is very scary stuff.

Mr. SCHUMER. And we don’t even know if these billionaires have any understanding of how a feeding program works, how Medicaid works, how a veterans program works, how we fund the police, how we help our firefighters—almost no understanding; just with the idea “Oh, we want to slash”—which was in DOGE and, I think, in Project 2025—“\$2 trillion. We don’t care how, where, or when we get there, who it hurts. We just want to do it” because very wealthy people don’t want to pay taxes, and so they just want to cut spending. But the spending is not just wasteful spending; it is things that help American families day in and day out.

One of their other proposals—I love this one—is to get rid of—privatize Fannie and Freddie. They are the people who give lower mortgages. Because there is a government guarantee, there is a lower mortgage rate. So many younger families really want to buy a home. They can’t because it is expensive. This will make it even more expensive.

You go issue after issue after issue with Project 2025, and then you look at the power these five unknown people will have over the entire budget, many of them trying to implement 2025—and this is the way they do it—and it is frightening.

Mr. SCHATZ. It is really frightening. And I think about last week before the

Federal funding freeze was deemed unlawful and suspended. People couldn’t get their VA home loans.

Mr. SCHUMER. Yeah.

Mr. SCHATZ. We have all had that moment where you are like: OK. It is closing day. And the VA home loan office was not available for you to execute on your loan.

Mr. SCHUMER. In New York, the Medicaid portal was shut down. People who desperately needed Medicaid, needed to get some information and get some help, were told to go home. Now they have put it back up, but who knows when they will shut it down again.

Mr. SCHATZ. Yeah. Look, I think our job over the next couple of days—and the leader has been very strong on this—is to point out that, look, I have never seen a floor fight over the OMB Director. And there is a reason for that. It is because that is usually some nonpartisan job. And they might have—they are important. You want them to be good at it.

But this guy views OMB as a consolidated locus of power on behalf of the President to fight woke or whatever.

Mr. SCHUMER. I would say he would use it as a bludgeon, as a consolidated bludgeon, when he can just cut, cut, cut, and hurt people in so many different ways, you can’t even count them.

And I am so glad that we had—and the Democrats—every Democrat who was here tonight voted against Vought. But every Republican voted for him. And people have to realize that they are voting for the guy who said what he would do in Project 2025, hurt all of your constituents if you are in a red State, a blue State, a purple State. And they are going along with it—going along with it. It is amazing. So I really thank my colleague for all the good work and the talk he has given here. And I wanted to come out and lend some support and say “right on,” and we are going to keep fighting.

Mr. SCHATZ. We are not done, but I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 11 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 11 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 8:47 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, February 4, 2025, at 11 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

TRISTAN ABBEY, OF FLORIDA, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENERGY INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION, VICE JOSEPH F. DECAROLIS, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

LESLIE BEYER, OF TEXAS, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, VICE JOSEPH BALASH, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

BENJAMIN DEMARZO, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, VICE KIMBERLY ANN MCCLAIN, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

WILLIAM L. DOFFERMYRE, OF TEXAS, TO BE SOLICITOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, VICE ROBERT T. ANDERSON, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

THEODORE J. GARRISH, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF ENERGY (NUCLEAR ENERGY), VICE KATHRYN HUFF.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

PIERRE GENTIN, OF NEW YORK, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, VICE LESLIE B. KIERNAN, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

BRADLEY HANSELL, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY, VICE RONALD S. MOULTREE, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

KYLE HAUSTVEIT, OF OKLAHOMA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF ENERGY (FOSSIL ENERGY), VICE BRAD JOHN CRABTREE, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

NEIL JACOBS, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR OCEANS AND ATMOSPHERE, VICE RICHARD W. SPINRAD, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MICHAEL JENSEN, OF ARIZONA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE CHRISTOPHER PAUL MAIER, RESIGNED.

ROBERT KADLEC, OF NEW YORK, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE DEBORAH G. ROSENBLUM, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

JEFFREY KESSLER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INDUSTRY AND SECURITY, VICE ALAN F. ESTEVEZ, RESIGNED.

WILLIAM KIMMITT, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE, VICE MARIA LOUISE LAGO, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

WILLIAM KIRKLAND, OF GEORGIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, VICE BRYAN TODD NEWLAND, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MATTHEW LOHMEIER, OF ARIZONA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE, VICE MELISSA GRIFFIN DALTON, RESIGNED.

DALE MARKS, OF FLORIDA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE BRENDAN OWENS, RESIGNED.

EARL MATTHEWS, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VICE CAROLINE DIANE KRASS, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MARCUS MOLINARO, OF NEW YORK, TO BE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATOR, VICE NURIA I. FERNANDEZ.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

MATTHEW NAPOLI, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR FOR DEFENSE NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION, NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION, VICE COREY HINDERSTEIN, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

JUSTIN OVERBAUGH, OF FLORIDA, TO BE A DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE MILANCY DANIELLE HARRIS, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

SCOTT PAPPANO, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE PRINCIPAL DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR, NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION, VICE FRANK A. ROSE.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

LUKE PETIT, OF WASHINGTON, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, VICE GRAHAM SCOTT STEELE.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

CONNER PROCHASKA, OF TEXAS, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY—ENERGY, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, VICE EVELYN WANG, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

PAUL ROBERTI, OF RHODE ISLAND, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE PIPELINE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY ADMINISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, VICE HOWARD R. ELLIOTT.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

ARIELLE ROTH, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION, VICE ALAN DAVIDSON, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

ANTHONY TATA, OF FLORIDA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PERSONNEL AND READINESS, VICE GILBERT RAY CISNEROS, JR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

ANDREA TRAVNICEK, OF NORTH DAKOTA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, VICE TANYA MARIE TRUJILLO, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DEVON WESTHILL, OF FLORIDA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE, VICE JOE LEONARD, JR.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate February 3, 2025:

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

CHRISTOPHER WRIGHT, OF COLORADO, TO BE SECRETARY OF ENERGY.