

shows its intention for peace and security, and Putin always escalates his unprovoked attacks.

In March, Russia launched drones and ballistic missiles into a residential neighborhood in President Zelenskyy's hometown. Putin fired cluster munitions into the city, sending shrapnel—where did he send it? Into restaurants, homes, a children's playground. He killed 9 children in that strike. Once again, the world saw Vladimir Putin escalate, targeting a nonmilitary town because that is where President Zelenskyy is from—the actions of a war criminal who should be in prison.

In the following months of this year, Presidents Trump and Zelenskyy remained committed to peace. But then, in May, Putin launched 273 drones against Ukraine. It was a new record, but he broke that evil benchmark a few days later in the largest combined drone and missile attack of the war so far. He launched 367 aerial weapons against Ukraine. Once again, the world saw Putin escalate, proving to be a war criminal.

Amid the brutality, Vladimir Putin has played games with peace talks. We have all seen it. With one hand, he signals interest in negotiations; with another, he lobbs bombs and kills civilians.

In early July of this year, he once again upped the ante. He sent 728 drones and 13 missiles to Ukraine, making clear his evil intention. Once again, the world saw Putin escalate, proving to be, again, a war criminal.

At this point, I need to mention that those attacks are making little progress for the invading Russians. That is a strong testament to the will and resolve of the Ukrainian people and military, who are simply defending their own country, their own soil, and doing so admirably.

In the aftermath of this attack in July, President Trump made the correct assessment that Vladimir Putin “talks nice [and] then he bombs everybody.” Those are President Trump's words, and I congratulate him on that observation. The barrage prompted President Trump to work with NATO to supply Ukraine with more arms. He also gave Russia a deadline to pursue peace.

Just this weekend, the world saw the war criminal escalate again. He dropped more than 800 Russian drones onto civilians, neighborhoods, and government buildings. Vladimir Putin sent an unambiguous message: He is not interested in peace; he is interested in conquering Ukraine. And he won't stop there.

As if this weekend's attacks were not a clear enough sign of his intentions, Putin continued his brutality just this morning—just this morning, Mr. President. He launched a glide missile into a village, killing at least 24 Ukrainians who had lined up to receive their pension payments. Nearly two dozen more were wounded, and the statistics are still coming in.

Just last week, Russia struck another hospital—this time in Donetsk—killing two people and damaging medical facilities.

I could go on with more examples, but it is worth stopping here to again make two points that former Secretary Mike Pompeo made in an interview just this morning with Brian Kilmeade on FOX News.

The first is that there is very little military objective to strikes like these. Twenty-four innocents killed is a tragedy, but it is not a resounding military success. That is because Putin is not and cannot make very many resounding military successes.

The second is that Putin clearly has no intention to stop. This morning, former Secretary Pompeo, a distinguished former member of President Trump's Cabinet, said:

Vladimir Putin has zero interest in any negotiated solution.

Zero interest.

He is going to stay at this until there is an enormous cost imposed on him.

I think that is what the President of the United States was saying just a day or so ago. In other words, there is no reason to believe that Putin wants anything less than to take the country of Ukraine successfully, and he will not stop until he is forced to stop.

The Kremlin is projecting confidence at home, but that confidence is a sham.

This morning, a Moscow newspaper was honest enough to say:

The Kremlin believes Russia is slowly but surely achieving its goals in Ukraine.

I disagree with that, by the way.

To continue the quote:

So Moscow doesn't intend—

Doesn't intend—

to stop or feel any desire for half-hearted solutions & half-baked compromises.

Could there be any doubt that this is a true statement? They have a fake confidence, but they have no intention of stopping.

Mr. Putin is regularly shutting down internet access for Russian citizens so they won't know what is going on in the war, so they won't know how slowly they are moving, allowing only approved sites that do not allow the truth to come through. This is Russian totalitarianism at its best—or worst.

Putin hopes to project enough confidence at home to sustain the war effort and wear Ukraine down. Abroad, he hopes to wait out the West with fake peace talks while he continues pummeling Ukraine with missiles and drones of death.

Where does Putin's rain of fire come from? It comes from Russia's war machine, which produces what seems to be an endless supply of deadly drones. But it does not have to be endless. Today, Russia barely has the economic capacity to continue bombarding Ukraine—barely.

But now at last, President Trump has indicated he is willing to cut off that capacity. Again, I say: Amen. We must be willing to cut it off. Again, a major-

ity—a huge bipartisan majority—of Senators have said this.

Russia's friends are only encouraging his villainy. China is buying and selling with Russia, enabling its war machine. North Korea sent its own troops to assist Russia's soldiers on the battlefield. Iran designs and supplies weapons. That is a troubling axis of aggressors.

In the face of such malicious collaboration, we must use every available tool to increase pressure on Putin's war machine. Extending the hand of peace has not worked with this dictator because this dictator is not interested in peace. He will respond only to strength. He will act only if his war machine begins running out of funds, and we can help accomplish that.

The U.S. Senate has shown broad support for increasing Russian sanctions. Eighty-four Senators have signed on to a tough sanctions bill that can help us bankrupt Putin's war machine.

I am ready to work with my colleagues and the President to put real cost on Putin for these war crimes. I congratulate the President of the United States for his strong statement this weekend. As Mark Levin said, let us “unleash an economic barrage against Putin.” Well said. Let's do it today.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

CARIBBEAN MILITARY STRIKE

Mr. REED. Mr. President, last week, President Trump gave two orders to the U.S. military that were astonishing even by this administration's standards.

First, he ordered the Department of Defense to be renamed the Department of War, a political theater exercise designed to sound tough while distracting from the real issues facing the Nation. Second, he ordered a military strike on a speedboat operating in the Caribbean, reportedly killing 11 people on board.

In response to the attack, Venezuela has placed its military on high alert, and we are one miscalculation away from a shooting war no one in this Chamber has authorized.

Rather than rebranding itself, the Pentagon should be providing to Congress and the public answers. For example, the intelligence that justified that strike on the vessel, the legal authority the President relied upon, and an assurance that we are not drifting toward another undeclared war.

The Department of Defense was named as such after World War II for a reason. It was a deliberate statement from America's military that we are not a tool of conquest but a shield designed to deter aggression, defend the

Constitution, and keep the peace. Reverting to the old name would not make us safer. It would send exactly the wrong message to the world at a time when tensions are already dangerously high.

Changing the name of the Department of Defense will not improve military readiness, will not strengthen deterrence. It will not prevent a single conflict. What it will do is signal to the world that America is abandoning its role as a stabilizing force and embracing a posture of quasi—or real—permanent warfare.

I am deeply concerned about the President's military actions in the Caribbean, which were taken without congressional authorization, without clear legal justification, and without any evidence presented that it was necessary to protect the United States or its forces from an immediate threat. Now, nearly a week out after the operation and amid threats of additional actions, the administration is just beginning to brief Congress on these issues.

I want to be very clear. We all share a commitment to protecting the American people from transnational criminal organizations. Cartels are violent and dangerous, and they cannot be allowed to traffic across our borders. But we cannot allow that Homeland Security mission to become a blank check for war, for military action directed at civilians. We cannot let one man's impulsive decision making entangle this Nation in another conflict we neither need nor want nor care for.

Last week's strike was no minor confrontation. This was a deliberate, lethal use of American military power. Press reports suggest that the operation was carried out by an attack helicopter or MQ-9 Reaper drone. Neither of those platforms are typically deployed to warn a vessel to stop. Those aircraft are designed for precision strikes. There is no evidence—none—that this strike was conducted in self-defense.

That matters because under both domestic and international law, the U.S. military simply does not have the authority to use lethal force against a civilian vessel unless acting in self-defense. At most, and only in extraordinary circumstances, warning shots or disabling fire might be used to halt the vessel posing an imminent threat. That is the standard rule of engagement for U.S. forces worldwide. And there are no indications that U.S. forces attempted to stop, board, or even contact the vessel in question.

Lethal force, particularly force that kills nearly a dozen people, is reserved for moments when there is no other option existing, when the safety of U.S. personnel or vital interests is immediately at stake. No such case has been made here.

The Trump administration has offered no proof that this vessel was engaged in an attack or even that it was engaged in drug trafficking at the

time. They offered no positive identification that the boat was Venezuelan nor that its crew members were members of Tren de Aragua or any other cartel. And even if we believe their unsupported assertions, that does not change the legal calculus.

Our Armed Forces are not law enforcement Agencies. They are not empowered to hunt down suspected criminals and then kill them without trial. The Department of Defense's own senior leadership, including the Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict, have testified before the Armed Services Committee that the mere designation of a cartel as a foreign terrorist organization does not confer any new authority to use military force. And that is the administration speaking publicly.

Let us be candid about what this means. Eleven people were killed without any apparent justification other than the word of President Trump. If there is evidence that these people were, indeed, cartel members trafficking drugs, it needs to be made public immediately. I would point out that the U.S. military monitors maritime drug movements in this region on a daily basis. For weeks—perhaps months—surveillance aircraft and other sensors have been tracking cartel operations in the Caribbean. This strike, therefore, was not a snap decision made in the heat of the moment. It appears, frankly, quite premeditated, and it was carried out, in my view, without the legal authority to do so.

Congress received a notification from the White House on September 3 citing a number of reasons for the attack and claiming that the President acted under his article II authority. But article II is not a blank check. The President is the Commander in Chief, but Congress retains the sole power to declare war under article I, section 8 of the Constitution. The War Powers Resolution exists precisely to prevent unilateral military actions like this from dragging our country into undeclared war.

The law is also clear that any change to the legal and policy frameworks governing the use of military force must be reported to Congress within 30 days. The administration submitted its annual review in February. If President Trump issued a new order on August 8 authorizing the use of force under these circumstances, as has been reported, then Congress should have received immediate notification. And we have not. Section 1067 of the fiscal year 2025 National Defense Authorization Act further requires notification of any changes to an Execute Order, or “exord.”

Lastly, section 130f of title 10 United States Code requires a detailed justification for and description of military operations involving lethal force. The Department submitted a 130f notification to Congress, but its contents

were entirely insufficient and inconsistent with the level of detail that are normally compiled in such a report. This is a direct challenge to the separation of powers.

If we allow this to stand, then Congress will have effectively ceded its war powers to the executive branch. We will have surrendered to the authorities the Framers to the Constitution invested in us, the representatives of the people, to decide when this Nation goes to war.

And we also must reckon with the risk of escalation. Venezuela has already placed its military on high alert. President Maduro's regime has accused the United States of aggression. If they retaliate or answer by firing on our surveillance aircraft or other naval vessels in the region or responding in kind against U.S. civilians, the Trump administration has already stated that it will respond with more force. Then we are on a path for a shooting war with a foreign nation, a war that no one in this Chamber has authorized and that the American people have not been consulted about.

We have seen this pattern before. Time and again, this President has tested the limits of Executive authority. He has unilaterally ordered major U.S. military operations in Iran and Yemen, and has refused to answer to Congress about these strikes. Right now, more than 2,000 National Guard troops are deployed on the streets of Washington. And earlier this summer, more than 4,000 National Guardsmen and marines were deployed in Los Angeles.

Each time, we have seen the slow erosion of congressional oversight. Each time, we have seen the creeping normalization of unilateral military action. And each time, we have inched closer to a world in which the decision to wage war or to use the military to enforce the law is made by one person alone.

That is not the system our Founders designed. James Madison wrote:

The Constitution supposes, what the History of all Governments demonstrates, that the Executive is the branch of power most interested in war, and most prone to it. It has accordingly with studied care, vested the question of war in the Legislature.

And we forget those words at our peril. This Chamber must act immediately. Members of Congress must receive a full briefing from the administration, including the intelligence that supposedly justified the strike, the legal analysis authorizing it, and a copy of any Presidential order that reportedly expanded the use-of-force authorities. If that order exists, it must be scrutinized publicly. If the President has exceeded his authority, this body must consider all remedies available, including legislative action to limit the use of funds for further unauthorized military operations.

We cannot allow the United States to slide into another mindless conflict. We cannot risk the lives of American

servicemembers based on secret orders and dubious legal theories. We owe it to the American people, to our Constitution, and the world to stand for the rule of law. We took an oath here—all of us—not to obey the President but to support and defend the Constitution of the United States, which is being threatened right now.

We also, as Senators, have responsibilities to protect the congressional powers inherent in the Constitution, not to simply surrender them to the President because of political expediency. Let us reassert Congress's role. Let us demand accountability. And let us ensure that this Nation does not stumble into war by the reckless acts of a single man.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

ROBERT F. KENNEDY, JR.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President, what the American people saw last week in the Finance Committee with Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., was not a hearing on oversight. It was a dogpile by politicians who are scared to death of questioning the status quo. It was, at its worst, a full-on blitz against one man for the simple crime of telling the truth and refusing to play ball with the swamp.

I spent 40 years in coaching before I got into this clown show. I know what it looks like when a player gets piled on. I know what it looks like when referees refuse to call a fair game. And I know what it looks like when the other team tries to run up the score. That is exactly what we saw last week—a coordinated, deep-state hit job on Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.

I have absolutely no idea what my colleagues have against R.F.K., Jr. Surely, they don't disagree with his efforts to make America healthy again. But there is one thing I know for sure: R.F.K., after that hearing, is not working for the swamp; he is fighting for the American people—people all over this country.

I have personally seen him come close to tears while talking about his passion for ending the chronic disease epidemic in this country. What is wrong with that? As a proud grandfather to Rosie Grace, I am so grateful to have someone who is so passionate about helping our young people live longer, healthier lives leading Health and Human Services. I am excited. He is working for moms and dads across this country in my State of Alabama who are sick and tired of being lied to by the so-called experts in this country.

When you are playing for the people and are willing to take on the system, you are going to take some hard hits. We have all seen that. Just ask President Trump. He took a bullet for the exact same reason—a bullet.

Although it didn't come in the form of a bullet, R.F.K., Jr., sure got hit real, real hard last week by the deep

state. But instead of folding, R.F.K., Jr., stood his ground. He got back up after every hit and responded with the truth and facts. That is toughness. That is leadership. That is why President Trump picked him for the role.

Democrats came into that hearing ready to throw every flag they could in an attempt to get 20 seconds of fame on their social media. Senator WYDEN opened up with a personal attack, calling for R.F.K.'s resignation. Senator WARNOCK piled on, calling him a hazard to public health. Senator WARREN tried to run a trick play, twisting his words to paint him as dishonest. Senator SANDERS just couldn't stomach the fact that someone finally said out loud what everybody already knows: For years, Big Pharma money has corrupted politicians and our medical institutions. Big Pharma is quietly calling way too many of the plays here in DC.

These weren't questions. They weren't oversight. They were cheap shots.

I was particularly disappointed because several of my Republican colleagues joined in on this fiasco. Something I have learned is that when you challenge the status quo, you find out real quick who is willing to stand with you and who is just concerned with getting reelected.

You might be asking, what has R.F.K., Jr., done to receive all this wrath from my colleagues? It is because he has dared to bring accountability to our health-related government Agencies. He is asking questions that are daring to challenge the status quo.

There is a lot of misinformation being spread by Democrats about R.F.K.'s position on vaccines. I have never seen anything like it. The Department of Health and Human Services is not—and I repeat: not—banning vaccines. R.F.K. is simply directing the Department to look into some of the potentially long-term effects of anything that we are putting into our bodies. As far as I am concerned, that is a great thing. It is long overdue.

He is also restoring sanity by getting rid of woke bureaucrats at the CDC—an Agency that lost the trust of the American people during COVID.

I know a lot of my colleagues have been hyperfocused on the CDC Director being fired. They obviously weren't there, and I wasn't either, but according to R.F.K., Jr., he asked the CDC Director point blank "Are you a trustworthy person?" and she said "No."

You know, I owned a small business one time, and if one of my employees had told me that, I would have immediately fired them the same way he did.

He is calling out the deep state, and that is why they are after him—the same CDC bureaucrats who told us to follow the science during COVID, the ones that shut down our schools. They shut down our churches. They told us that endless vaccines would stop the spread of COVID despite the fact that

the vaccine was not proven to do anything to stop the transmission of the virus. In other words, they lied to us. Meanwhile, liquor stores and abortion clinics were allowed to stay open. And let's not forget the violent BLM riots that broke out in blue cities across the country during the summer of 2020. What a joke.

The so-called health experts failed America, and in doing so, they revealed that the only thing they really care about is power and control. That is a scary place to be. And now they want to lecture R.F.K., Jr., about science. He has dedicated his entire career to this subject. That is like a coach who never stepped on a field trying to tell me how to run a football program. It is laughable, and we have a lot of people who should be laughed at.

Let me tell you, the CDC, from top to bottom, needs to be cleaned out. That Agency was supposed to protect us in 2020 until the end of COVID. Instead, it became a political mouthpiece. It censored doctors and nurses, and it worked with Big Tech to shut down free speech. People lost their lives because of the CDC—lost their lives. And when R.F.K., Jr., fired some of those folks, this town acted like the sky was falling. They needed to be fired because the swamp protects its own. That is why they went crazy.

Thank goodness he hasn't stopped there. Secretary Kennedy has already delivered results. He worked with me in the MAHA Caucus to push the FDA to finally—finally—ban red dye No. 3—a dangerous chemical that was banned from cosmetics. It was banned from cosmetics because they found it causes cancer. But what did we do? We left it in our food. Now, that makes a lot of sense. We left it in our kids' food and in the food that we eat every day, but they couldn't put it in cosmetics. There is no common sense there.

R.F.K., Jr., is fighting for families.

Another major problem is that he is cracking down on the revolving door between NIH, the CDC, and Big Pharma. It is corrupt, and it is wrong.

He is focused not only on preventing diseases, but he is helping people live longer lives. Under his leadership, HHS is focused on increasing access to healthy, affordable, nutrient-dense foods instead of just pumping more drugs into sick people. These are real wins for the American people. Yet what does he get in return? Attacks and smears.

R.F.K., Jr., told the truth last week when he said we are the sickest country in the world. He is exactly right. He goes by facts, not by the so-called science. Despite spending more on healthcare than anybody else, we are leading in obesity, diabetes, cancer, and mental health problems. Don't believe me? Then explain why you can go to Italy and eat nothing but bread and pizza and pasta for a week and not gain a pound. It is because of all the chemicals and toxins we have here in our food in the United States that we get

obese. That is not winning; that is losing. And you don't fix a losing team by running the same plays over and over. You fix it by changing the culture. You fix it by changing accountability. Make people accountable for what they do. You demand results. That is what R.F.K., Jr., is doing.

He is also daring to ask questions, which apparently isn't allowed in the deep state here—commonsense questions like: Why are American kids required to get dozens more vaccines than we did when we were all growing up? We have gone from a few to almost 100. Yet, by every metric, we are sicker as a country, as 6 out of 10 Americans have a chronic disease in this country—6 out of 10, which is most of us. Our food is filled with chemicals and things that other countries won't even allow. That is why we have these diseases. Why are we protecting Big Pharma's bottom line while our families are getting sicker?

These are fair questions and questions we should be asking if we actually care about the people we represent. But in this town, when you ask fair questions, you get labeled "dangerous," "anti-science," and "conspiracy theorist."

R.F.K., Jr., is not your typical politician. He is blunt. He is not very comfortable around people. He doesn't toe the line. And that is exactly what the doctor ordered because if all you do is follow the deep state's demands—what happens up here—you will never get the change in this country we desperately need. Sometimes you have to call out the mistakes, push harder for answers, and not be afraid to shake things up. That is how you build a winning team. That is what R.F.K., Jr., is doing. He is not playing it safe, and he is getting real results.

Since R.F.K. took over at HHS, companies like Hershey, Kraft, Pepsi, Steak 'n Shake, and In-N-Out Burger have made meaningful changes to their ingredients. He is delivering major wins, and the swamp can't stand it because they can't control him. That is what happens up here—they want to have control.

But let's not forget the American people are watching. There are 77 million Americans who voted for President Trump and his agenda. That is the most votes a Republican running for President has ever received. President Trump campaigned on making America healthy again, along with R.F.K., Jr.

Now, if some of my colleagues want to keep running defense for Big Pharma, that is their choice. But I didn't come to Washington to protect the swamp; I came here to fight for the great State of Alabama and the people across this country—for the parents who are trying to raise healthy kids, for families who have felt lied to by their government, and for the hard-working folks who lost their jobs simply because they chose not to take the COVID vaccine.

I am proud to stand shoulder to shoulder with R.F.K., Jr. He is not per-

fect—none of us are—but he is in the fight for the right reasons. He is fighting for accountability, transparency, and for the health and freedom of the American people, and that is a team I am proud to be on.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CURTIS). The Senator from Arkansas.

CELLPHONE JAMMING REFORM ACT

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, when a criminal is convicted of a crime and locked away in prison, you would think that would put a stop to their illicit activity, but sadly, in too many tragic cases, criminals just continue their wicked ways behind bars. That is because tens of thousands of contraband cell phones are smuggled into and throughout prisons, enabling convicted criminals to carry on with their criminal business as usual from behind bars.

Contraband cell phones in prisons pose a severe threat to public safety. After all, these convicted criminals aren't using cell phones to order take-out, to check the weather, or to watch NFL highlights—no. They use contraband cell phones to order hits on criminal rivals, to traffic drugs, and to run extortion schemes.

Convicted criminals who are sitting in a prison cell shouldn't be able to endanger correctional officers, members of law enforcement, and innocent Americans outside of prisons by using contraband cell phones. If we opt to stand idly by, we might as well hand these criminals the keys to their prison cells.

That is why I have introduced again the Cellphone Jamming Reform Act—to allow State and Federal correctional facilities to use targeted cell phone jamming equipment in prison housing facilities. The key word here is "targeted." The technology is so precise that it does not interrupt with the regular communications of law enforcement or emergency first responders in the vicinity.

However, there is more than one way to skin a cat, and at the end of the day, I simply care about delivering results for every Arkansan. That is why I am proud to support President Trump in his efforts to bring back law and order to neighborhoods and communities across our country. I applaud the Trump administration's efforts to crack down on crime and specifically Federal Communications Commission Chairman Brendan Carr's announcement that the FCC will vote on a proposal allowing prisons to jam contraband cell phones for the first time. As I am sure many of my Republican colleagues and friends would agree, this action is both a welcome step forward and a long-overdue development.

For years, I have repeatedly urged Democrats to take action, but they didn't—instead, prioritizing and coddling criminals as usual. Consider that in the final hours of the Biden Presidency, Joe Biden commuted the sentences of nearly 1,500 convicted criminals, robbing hundreds of thousands of

victims of the closure and justice they deserved. To be clear, these were not sympathetic figures; these were criminals, such as a drug dealer responsible for killing a relapsing addict; a fraudster who stole millions of dollars intended for hungry Arkansas kids and low-income families; and the so-called "kids-for-cash" judge, who accepted kickbacks in exchange for his role in sending thousands of children to private detention centers.

Sadly, that is not all. Last year, just 2 days before Christmas, Joe Biden announced he was commuting the death sentences of 37 depraved rapists and murderers. While we still don't know how many of these pardons were signed by Joe Biden and how many were signed by his radical aides using his autopen, this is a reminder that, unfortunately, the Democratic Party is the party of soft-on-crime.

As further evidence of this, consider the so-called George Floyd Justice in Policing Act, which would have handcuffed law enforcement instead of dangerous criminals. Further, consider that every single Soros prosecutor is a Democrat. Finally, consider that the jurisdictions with the worst crimes at the local level are all controlled by Democrats.

Now, you may have heard some Democrats argue that cities with the highest homicide rates are in Republican States, but look a little closer. In almost every case, those cities—like Jackson, MS; Birmingham, AL; and St. Louis, MO, are run by Democrats.

Look at Democrat-led Charlotte, NC. Just last month, an innocent, 23-year-old Ukrainian refugee was heinously murdered by a crazed career criminal while riding a light-rail train. Thanks, in part, to the soft-on-crime policies of the liberal former Governor, Roy Cooper, this deranged murderer had been arrested 14 times, had been convicted of crimes, including robbery with a dangerous weapon, and had assaulted his own sister. Yet he was still allowed to walk free and take the life of Iryna Zarutka.

I want to extend my condolences to her family and loved ones and assure them that we will pursue justice in her tragic case. President Trump and Republicans are working on behalf of innocent individuals like Iryna, who have a right to be safe and secure in their homes, neighborhoods, and communities.

Compare Charlotte to Washington, DC, where more than 1,900 arrests have been made and more than 200 illegal guns have been seized since President Trump deployed the National Guard and Federal law enforcement last month. While the Democratic DC Mayor admitted that President Trump's strategy is working, other Democratic leaders in places like Chicago and Baltimore are resisting assistance and putting up a big stink.

But let me remind everyone that Chicago mayor Brandon Johnson and Baltimore mayor Brandon Scott aren't the