

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, the motion is rejected.

The motion was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order for the two leaders to enter motions to reconsider without being on the prevailing side with respect to the cloture votes on the motions to proceed to S. 2882 and H.R. 5371; further, that the mandatory quorum call with respect to the Cao nomination in S. Res. 412 be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The minority leader.

MOTION TO RECONSIDER

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I enter a motion to reconsider the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 2882.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion is entered.

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 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 motion to proceed to Calendar No. 168, H.R. 5371, a bill making continuing appropriations and extensions for fiscal year 2026, and for other purposes.

John Thune, Bernie Moreno, Mike Crapo, Chuck Grassley, Ashley B. Moody, Markwayne Mullin, John Barrasso, Tim Sheehy, Pete Ricketts, Ted Budd, Bill Hagerty, John R. Curtis, David McCormick, Tim Scott of South Carolina, John Cornyn, Steve Daines, Eric Schmitt.

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 motion to proceed to H.R. 5371, a bill making continuing appropriations and extensions for fiscal year 2026, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 55, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 537 Leg.]

YEAS—55

Banks	Collins	Daines
Barrasso	Cornyn	Ernst
Blackburn	Cortez Masto	Fetterman
Boozman	Cotton	Fischer
Britt	Cramer	Graham
Budd	Crapo	Grassley
Capito	Cruz	Hagerty
Cassidy	Curtis	Hawley

Hoeven
Husted
Hyde-Smith
Johnson
Justice
Kennedy
King
Lankford
Lee
Lummis
Marshall

McConnell
McCormick
Moody
Moran
Moreno
Mullin
Murkowski
Ricketts
Risch
Rounds
Schmitt

Scott (FL)
Scott (SC)
Sheehy
Sullivan
Thune
Tillis
Tuberville
Wicker
Young

NAYS—45

Alsobrooks
Baldwin
Bennet
Blumenthal
Blunt Rochester
Booker
Cantwell
Coons
Duckworth
Durbin
Gallego
Gillibrand
Hassan
Heinrich
Hickenlooper

Hirono
Kaine
Kelly
Kim
Klobuchar
Lujan
Markley
Merkley
Murphy
Murray
Ossoff
Padilla
Paul
Peters
Reed

Rosen
Sanders
Schatz
Schiff
Schumer
Shaheen
Slotkin
Smith
Van Hollen
Warner
Warnock
Warren
Welch
Whitehouse
Wyden

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. RICKETTS). On this vote, the yeas are 55, the nays are 45. Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, the motion is rejected.

The motion was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

MOTION TO RECONSIDER

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I enter a motion to reconsider.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion is entered.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that if any nominations are confirmed during today's session of the Senate, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

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 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. 275, Hung Cao, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of the Navy.

John Thune, Bernie Moreno, Bill Cassidy, Jon Husted, John Cornyn, John R. Curtis, Marsha Blackburn, Deb Fischer, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Joni Ernst, Shelley Moore Capito, Ashley B. Moody, Rick Scott of Florida, John Barrasso, Steve Daines, Tim Sheehy, James Lankford.

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 Hung Cao, of Virginia, to be Under

Secretary of the Navy, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) is necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 52, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 538 Leg.]

YEAS—52

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

NAYS—47

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

NOT VOTING—1

Sanders

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 52, the nays are 47. The motion is agreed to.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Cloture having been invoked, the Senate will proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Hung Cao, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of the Navy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

ANNIVERSARY OF HURRICANE HELENE

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, on Saturday, I was in Western North Carolina for the day because that marked the 1-year anniversary of the landfall of Helene in a place that a hurricane has never really been before, about 200 miles inland in the Smoky Mountain Range.

In North Carolina alone, it had an impact landwise equivalent to the

State of Massachusetts. About a dozen river basins were at historic, 100-year flood levels, and the damage was tremendous. The loss of life: 108 people in North Carolina alone, more than 250 people by the storm, and \$59.6 billion in damages.

It is actually the most expensive storm in North Carolina's history, breaking the previous record of \$30 billion by Hurricane Florence back in 2018: 74,000 homes damaged or destroyed; 5,000 miles of roads damaged or destroyed, including major portions of I-40, which are still only one lane in each direction for about a 20-mile stretch between North Carolina and Tennessee; I-26 was damaged; Blue Ridge Parkway has just opened up; 848 bridges damaged and destroyed; 20,000 farms and 800,000 acres of timber damaged; 163 water systems damaged, with Asheville not having drinkable water for almost 2 months after the storm.

When I was in Western North Carolina, I heard someone say that the one community I was in was back on its feet. But for every community that is back on its feet, there are still several communities that are on their knees or flat on their back. In fact, there are some communities that we wonder whether or not they ever will come back.

And the reason I talk about it, in addition to being the 1-year anniversary, we have got real problems in the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund and resources available.

The President, rightfully, acknowledged that there was a release of money about a month ago, but all of that is money that is already—those are reimbursements. Those are costs that have already been incurred. We haven't even gotten to a point where we are trying to become more resilient or to prepare for the next storm.

When I was riding from Old Fort to Chimney Rock, I was going down a stretch of highway—not a stretch of highway, a stretch of State road. There are still cars in the creekbeds. There are roads that are in the creekbed because they are trying to figure out where they are ultimately going to put it, back on a hillside, when they can get stabilization there and actually have the funding to build the roads.

I know a lot of people have moved on, but in Western North Carolina, we haven't moved on. We are suffering as much today as we were the day or 3 or 4 days after the storm last year.

According to the latest FEMA Disaster Relief Fund monthly report, the major disasters account balance right now is at \$1.4 billion. That is dangerously low.

Last month, FEMA approved 7.5 billion from the major disasters account.

In 2024, there were 90 FEMA-declared major disasters, nearly double the 30-year average of 55 declarations per year.

Already this year—and we are really ramping up in the hurricane season right now—we have had 40 major dis-

aster declarations in 22 States. FEMA simply doesn't have the funding needed to respond to a major disaster.

Ladies and gentlemen, we are in a shutdown posture right now. We have storms in the Atlantic and more storms forming off the coast of Africa, and we are not prepared for another major disaster should it hit this weekend, nor do we have the money that we need to help communities across this country, especially in Western North Carolina, recover from Helene.

The House-passed continuing resolution that we tried to vote on this week had \$22½ billion for the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund. But that money is not here today because we are in a shutdown posture. We are not funding any area of government, but we are especially hurting the Disaster Relief Fund and FEMA. And the only thing standing in our way is a simple vote to continue funding at levels that my Democratic colleagues have agreed to before.

Ladies and gentlemen, we don't have a CR that the President or that the majority leader has decorated with ornaments. We call it decorating some of these spending bills like a Christmas tree. This is a simple continuing resolution to spend at the level we were spending yesterday. There is nothing more to it. There is money in here to help with disaster relief, but there is nothing more.

This shutdown is hurting people in North Carolina. This shutdown will hurt more people. We lost the season last year—the tourist season—in the Blue Ridge Parkway and the Great Smoky Mountain parks. That was a hurricane. That was an inland hurricane disaster. This year, it is the disastrous vote of the Democrats, not allowing us to continue to fund at the levels that we did yesterday.

We are not asking for anything more than that. We are asking for time to negotiate the premium tax credits, the ACA credits. I am on record saying we do need to find a good place for that. It is not about canceling them. But, folks, we can't even get to that if we can't agree to something as basic as this: Can we spend today what we did yesterday?

And I know that there are several Members on that side of the aisle that would like to move with a clean CR and get to that negotiation. I am just speaking on behalf of people in North Carolina, particularly in Western North Carolina, who are struggling mightily. I hope that we can get back to funding the government where we can plus-up the Disaster Relief Fund and that I won't have to come to the floor next week to see who is going to be against this unanimous consent for doing just that.

Let's do our job. Let's get back in business. Let's get the government funded. Let's help the people in North Carolina and in dozens of disaster-declared places all across this country.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SHEEHY). The Senator from Massachusetts.

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, in July, when Republicans voted on the first spending bill for 2026, with cuts that would knock 15 million people off healthcare, I stood right here, and I asked my Republican colleagues in the Senate to grow a spine and stand up for Americans.

We are here today because the Republicans refused. Instead, Republicans bowed down to Trump, and, now, people all across this country will suffer.

Let's be clear: Republicans shut down the government because they would rather make healthcare more expensive than keep the government running. That is literally where we are right now.

Republicans control the House. Republicans control the Senate. Republicans control the White House. They are in power. It is their job to keep the government running for the American people, and they have failed. Donald Trump and the Republicans own this shutdown.

Don't take it from me. Listen to Donald J. Trump. In 2013, Trump himself said about a potential government shutdown:

If there is a shutdown, I think it would be a tremendously negative mark on the President of the United States. He's the one that has to get people together.

That is Donald J. Trump.

Now, at the same time, Trump said:

The President has to lead. You have to get people in a room, and you have to just make deals for the good of the country.

Donald Trump today should listen to Donald Trump from yesterday. Instead, Trump, Mr. "Art of the Deal," hasn't been able to cut a deal for the most basic government functions. Wow.

As Trump said, that is "a tremendously negative mark on the President of the United States."

Let me say it again. Democrats are fighting to roll back the Republican cuts that would take away healthcare from millions of people and raise health insurance premiums for millions more. That is it. That is what we are asking for. We have been asking for months to negotiate over this, and the Republicans have said no.

What are they doing right now? Are they making counteroffers? Are they saying, "We could go this far, not this far"? Nope. They are simply saying no.

So now, when a family is forced to the brink of bankruptcy from one bad medical diagnosis, Trump and the Republicans own it. Republicans insist that those healthcare cuts go through. When community hospitals have to shut down, Trump and Republicans own it. When kids with cancer can't get treatment because potentially life-saving research grants come to a screeching halt, Trump and Republicans own it. When insurance premiums skyrocket, Trump and Republicans own it.

Healthcare in America was already broken, but Trump and Republicans are making it much, much worse. They ripped away money that covers mamas

giving birth and neighbors who need wheelchairs and home health aides, and they handed it over to giant corporations and billionaire CEOs.

Democrats believe that no one should go bankrupt because they got sick and needed to see a doctor. So Democrats are here to say we are willing to fight for families who need healthcare. If Congress is going to pass a budget for the U.S. Government, then Democrats want saving healthcare for millions of Americans just to be part of that deal. Democrats have made that clear, and Republicans have refused even to talk about it.

Trump is already doing his best to shut down government or at least to shut down the parts of government that he doesn't like. Since day one, Trump has been trying to illegally wipe away millions of dollars for programs that Congress already agreed to fund. Trump and his buddy Elon Musk have fired tens of thousands of Federal workers. Trump is declaring American cities as "war zones" and sending troops to invade communities.

Trump is playing King time and time again, and Republicans in Congress are bowing down and letting him do it.

While all of that is going on, Republicans in Congress want Democrats just to sign a blank check and hand it over to Trump and let him continue to shut down whatever he doesn't like and to destroy our democracy. They want us to agree to a budget, knowing full well that Trump will then turn around tomorrow and delete this part or that part or whatever he doesn't like, just like he has already done.

Why would we play along with that farce? Why would we throw our support behind a deal that, any time, any day, Trump could just decide he doesn't feel like honoring it? And why would we do that without getting anything in return to help American families who are struggling with high costs, particularly the healthcare costs that Republicans are driving up? To do that would be a betrayal of the American people.

Senate Democrats are holding the line for families. Senate Republicans decided they would rather take orders from a wannabe King and shut down the entire government instead of helping out families who are getting squeezed on healthcare costs. It really is that simple.

Make no mistake, this Trump shutdown will hurt people. Because of Republicans, children across this country could lose access to childcare through Head Start. Because of Republicans, the National Institutes of Health Clinical Center will now stop enrolling patients in clinical trials that could be their only shot at treatment. Because of Republicans, air traffic controller hiring will stop, at a time when we are already dealing with a dangerous shortage. Because of Republicans, park rangers and thousands of other civil servants won't get paid. Because of Republicans, Donald Trump's corruption and chaos will continue.

So what is next? Well, Democrats want to keep the government open, and we want rollbacks of the Republican cuts that will cost 15 million Americans their healthcare coverage and drive up insurance costs for everyone else.

This isn't partisan. This is a righteous fight on behalf of everyone who needs healthcare, everyone who might need to go to the hospital, everyone who counts on a community clinic or a home health aide, whether they are a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent, or a "none of the above."

We are in this fight for Americans and for American healthcare, and it is only the Senate Republicans, led by Donald Trump, who stand in the way.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. President, as I was sitting and listening, I feel like I am living in an alternative universe here sometimes. I am sure the American people feel this way.

Are people being hurt today? You are doggone right they are. They are being hurt because Senator SCHUMER and his following will not, quite simply, reopen the government so we can begin negotiations on some of the issues that are a part of this disagreement.

I am a senior member of the Appropriations Committee. One of my most important responsibilities is to make sure that the government stays open and working for the people that we represent. That is why I am so deeply disappointed to be standing here today in the midst of a totally avoidable government shutdown, all because the Senate Democrats refused to join us, as Republicans, in supporting a common-sense, short-term, nonpartisan continuing resolution.

We have seen Leader THUNE pick it up in his hands. It is very simple. Let's just keep the government open until November 21, discuss key issues, finish the appropriations process, and move on.

Let me be clear on what that short-term continuing resolution was designed to do. It is not a gimmick. It is not a gimmick. It is the same legislation that the Senate Democrat leader brought before this body 13 times and had it passed. It is not a partisan maneuver. It is a straightforward measure to keep critical services in operation, while giving Congress the time that we need to finish our work on appropriations through regular order, the way that we used to do it. Some of our Democratic colleagues have agreed with us in the last several votes.

So the bottom line: We don't have to be where we are, and we really shouldn't be here because this position is untenable. We have a path forward. It is so easy. It is so easy.

When people are watching this, they are hearing us try to blame one person or the other. The easy thing is to turn around and vote to reopen up the government, and we can begin to have

other conversations. We have a path forward. It requires the Democrats to come to their senses, quite frankly, and vote for this reasonable measure.

The Senate has already passed three appropriations bills, which is three more than we passed under their leadership last year. And we have five more that have received heavy bipartisan support in committee and are ready for a full Senate vote. That would be CJS, Defense, Interior, Labor, which I chair, and T-HUD, which is the Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development bill.

That is progress. That is responsibility. That is what we are here for. That is us doing our job. But in order to complete the process, we need time. The continuing resolution is that bridge of time to keep the government open while we finish our work.

So, unfortunately, the Democrats have chosen a different path. They have chosen to shut down the government. That is where we are today. The government is shut down. They made a political calculation all based on politics, appeasing their far-left base instead of doing the right thing for the American people.

Unfortunately, hard-working families all across this country who rely on critical government services are the ones who are suffering. Government shutdowns have real consequences. In West Virginia, our businesses and our Federal workers face uncertainty about their pay. Families who rely on essential benefits are put in limbo. It is scary for people. Some people with children with disabilities or folks that rely on services daily are concerned about where this is going to lead. Small businesses are waiting on Federal permits or loans. They are going to have to wait longer.

And so many others are told, yet again, as we see, that the politics of Washington come before the people.

My State of West Virginia has the third largest number of Federal employees, and we are situated quite close to the District of Columbia.

So, to all of those public servants who are bearing the brunt of this nonsense, please know how much I value your contribution every day and that I will work tirelessly to get you back to work, to get you back to that certainty that you need.

You know, this shutdown is just so avoidable, and it is so unacceptable. But do you know what? As Republicans, we are not giving up because we never do. As Leader THUNE has indicated, we will continue bringing forward opportunities for the Democrats to join us in reopening the government. We will keep voting to do the right thing and giving them a chance to do the same.

The American people expect Congress to be responsible stewards of their tax dollars. I know that is what my constituents in my home State of West Virginia want me to do. They expect us to keep the government functioning. I

can't even believe I am having to say this because it is just such a given: They want the government open while we debate our differences. That is what we are supposed to be doing. We are supposed to be debating, not shutting down the government, and that is what the Republican CR would have allowed us to do.

So I urge my colleagues across the aisle to quit playing the political games, to end the shutdown, and join us in funding the government. Let's finish our work on the appropriations process, and let's return to the regular order process that we had begun at the beginning of the summer because it brings transparency, accountability, and bipartisanship back to the appropriations process. We have it in committee. We need to have it on this floor. That is what West Virginians deserve. That is what the American people deserve. It is what they expect, quite frankly. That is what they expect every day.

These young people on the floor are getting to hear a debate. I am sure it is one that they will remember, and I am sure they are thinking to themselves: It is a simple thing. Reopen the government. Reopen the government. Why was it closed in the first place? For a political stunt that is not working. They are boxed in.

Let's just say: OK. Let's open. Let's begin our discussions, and let's solve the problems that we have in front of us.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LAS VEGAS MASS SHOOTING

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I rise today to mark the eighth anniversary of the worst mass shooting in modern American history.

Today, as I give this speech, far too many Americans across the country are reeling from the pain of shootings in their own communities. This country is seeing a horrifying increase in mass violence that doesn't just destroy the lives of the victims; it tears apart families; it leaves loved ones with an unfillable hole in their hearts; and it brings communities to the breaking point. I have seen it firsthand.

Eight years ago today, a man gunned down 58 people at the Route 91 Harvest Music Festival in Las Vegas, NV. More than 800 people were wounded in that chaos, and 2 people later succumbed to their injuries. That day and those that followed were some of the toughest for all of us. For me, personally, my niece was attending that festival, and I remember the overwhelming relief that I felt to learn that she was safe and OK.

I also remember spending time at the reunification center with the families of the missing festival attendees, praying with those families, crying with those families, watching them as they were hoping and praying that their loved ones would return to them. Some were lucky but many were not.

Our city—our entire State of Nevada—felt lost, but I will tell you, out of this horror came something miraculous. In the aftermath of 1 October, Nevadans came together to support each other. People came out in droves to give blood. There were lines around the block. They donated money, food, clothing, and they lent a helping hand to those who had lost so much.

I will tell you that businesses, community organizations, and law enforcement did what they could to ease the burdens of the families who had been impacted, and I worked across the aisle with my colleague the Republican Senator, at the time, Dean Heller, to get financial relief for the victims. Our city united in the face of this tragedy, and we came out of it Vegas Strong. I am forever touched by those incredible efforts to shine a light in the darkness.

But even all that good cannot erase the scars left behind by this massacre. Its victims were innocent people who went to a music festival to enjoy themselves. It didn't matter what they did for work or what they believed or whom they loved. They were actually gunned down indiscriminately. In the 8 years since that tragedy that shook my State to its core, we have, sadly, seen more violence erupting across the country. We have seen it in places of worship, in schools, and in grocery stores.

As Americans, as Members of Congress, we have to continue speaking out against it. Violence is never the answer. We cannot survive in a country where this is the norm. We have to do better in our rhetoric and our actions. For me, that means coming together to work on commonsense solutions, like finally banning bump stocks, passing comprehensive background checks to make sure that criminals can't exploit loopholes to buy deadly weapons, and delivering more support for, yes, mental health in this country.

It also means always remembering the victims of the Route 91 Harvest Festival massacre. Grieving the lives that they never got to live and the families they never got to come home to or to create serves as a stark reminder of the horrors violence like this can cause. We owe it to them and to their loved ones to keep working together to end it.

In the aftermath of this tragedy, Las Vegas has rebuilt. We have risen from the ashes stronger than ever. We will never forget the trauma inflicted on us that day. That pain must fuel us to work together toward a better future for our children, for our families, and for our country.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

HONORING SERGEANT SCOTT HEIMANN

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, it has been a sad day—a set of sad days—in my hometown of Kansas. I rise today to mourn the loss and honor the sacrifice of Hays Police Officer Sergeant Scott Heimann, who was shot and killed in the line of duty while responding to a domestic violence call. He passed away in the early morning hours of Sunday, September 28.

My hometown of Hays, with a population of about 21,000, is a tight-knit community, where people look out for their neighbors; they care for those in need; and they protect the vulnerable. Sergeant Heimann embodied the best of smalltown Kansas values in living a life of integrity and devotion and courage despite the dangers he faced each and every day.

He, too, from a young age, called Hays his home. He grew up there, and he graduated from Thomas More Prep-Marian High School, which is our hometown Catholic school. He attended the University of Kansas before returning home to the place he was raised. Sergeant Heimann first began his service with the Hays Police Department in 2016, and after 9 years with the department, his watch ended way too soon. He was an Eagle Scout and a member of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church. He was a son, a father, a husband. He was devoted to his wife, Beth, and was a loving dad to his children Patrick and Victoria.

My prayers—our prayers—are with his family and his parents Bill and Teresa Heimann.

It is such a difficult time. Every day, law enforcement officers risk their safety, putting their lives on the line to protect and serve both their neighbors and strangers. Kansas is a home to so many brave men and women who have answered the call to serve, and too many have given their lives to fulfill this mission.

In small towns across Kansas, law enforcement officers, as they are in Hays, are well-known in their communities, and they are well-loved by their communities. We see them in the grocery stores, at the football games on Friday nights, and in church on Sundays. They are members of our communities, and they are familiar faces.

This courageous young man died with honor while protecting his community and the people he had sworn to serve. In Hays and across Kansas, the sacrifice he made will not be forgotten, and we resolve to forever honor his service to the community he loved.

I ask the U.S. Senate to join me and my family and my hometown in expressing our sympathy and gratitude—our respect—for this officer, for a life served in service to others, and to a community that mourns his loss.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, preventing people from losing their