

That is not a better indicator of policy success.

So the people of my State, particularly in the North Slope Borough region, Northwest Arctic Borough region, Aleutian Islands chain region—they are living longer. That is great. Everybody should applaud that.

Why do you think they are living longer? Here is why they are living longer. It is responsible resource development. On the North Slope, starting around 1980, we discovered and started developing the largest oil field in North America, Prudhoe Bay. In the Northwest Arctic Borough, they discovered and started developing the biggest lead-zinc mine on the planet.

By the way, this is all great for America. It makes us stronger. But it is really great for the people of the region.

In the Aleutian Islands chain, because of Federal law, the Magnuson-Stevens Act, we started developing our own fisheries—American fisheries—out to the 200-mile limit. In all of these areas, people started living longer. Why? They got good jobs. They got revenues for schools, for health clinics, for running water and flushed toilets. A lot of these places don't even have running water and flushed toilets. Yet my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are going to block this kind of development.

For the senior Senator from New Mexico, his State is "drill, baby, drill,"—2 million barrels a day. They are now using that oil money for everything under the Sun—infrastructure, childcare, healthcare—but for Alaska, no way. We are going to shut you down.

Do you know what? You are going to actually make the people I represent not live as long.

So that is why I come down to the Senate floor. I get a little bit hot under the collar because I just see this blatant hypocrisy on the other side. I just need one Democrat beyond Senator FETTERMAN to vote with the people of Alaska, the Native people—for their livelihoods, for an increase in how long they live. That would be a courageous vote. That would be the right thing to do.

I hope that all of my Republican colleagues will stand strong with us on voting yes on this important resolution, and I hope that maybe one or two of my Democratic colleagues will. By the way, they know it is the right thing to do. This resolution will help people live longer. It will help our country be stronger in terms of American energy. It will vindicate the rule of law after Joe Biden and Secretary Haaland blatantly violated it.

I hope all of my colleagues will join me in supporting "yes" on this important resolution for the Native people of Alaska, for my State, and for our great Nation.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BANKS). The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. MORENO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the rollcall vote commence immediately.

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

VOTE ON ORSO NOMINATION

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

Mr. MORENO. Mr. 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 bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 57, nays 41, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 629 Ex.]

YEAS—57

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

NAYS—41

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

NOT VOTING—2

Coons	Cramer
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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.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The Senator from Oklahoma.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT RELATING TO "COASTAL PLAIN OIL AND GAS LEASING PROGRAM RECORD OF DECISION"—Motion to Proceed

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 280, S.J. Res. 91.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 280, S.J. Res. 91, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to "Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program Record of Decision".

VOTE ON MOTION TO PROCEED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion to proceed.

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. 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 Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) would have voted "yea," the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) would have voted "yea," and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 49, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 630 Leg.]

YEAS—49

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

NAYS—47

Alsobrooks	Durbin	Kim
Baldwin	Fetterman	King
Bennet	Gallego	Klobuchar
Blumenthal	Gillibrand	Lujan
Blunt Rochester	Hassan	Markey
Booker	Heinrich	Merkley
Cantwell	Hickenlooper	Murphy
Collins	Hirono	Murray
Cortez Masto	Kaine	Ossoff
Duckworth	Kelly	Padilla

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

NOT VOTING—4

Blackburn	Cruz	Schmitt
Coons		

The motion was agreed to.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT RELATING TO "COASTAL PLAIN OIL AND GAS LEASING PROGRAM RECORD OF DECISION"

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HUSTED). The clerk will report the joint resolution.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 91) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to "Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program Record of Decision".

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Susan Courtwright Rodriguez, of North Carolina, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of North Carolina.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator WELCH be recognized to speak up to 10 minutes following my remarks for up to 5 minutes prior to the scheduled rollcall vote.

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

HEALTHCARE

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Mr. President, we are 12 days away from the deadline for Americans to get healthcare coverage starting January 1—12 days. Time is running out for us in Congress to act.

Ultimately, we can all agree on one thing: Healthcare in America is unaffordable for families, for farmers, and for small businesses alike.

This morning, the HELP Committee held a hearing called Making Health Care Affordable Again: Healing a Broken System. Many ideas were shared. But walking out of that hearing room only heightened my sense of urgency. You see, just 2 weeks ago, Senator COONS and Representative MCBRIDE and I met with the Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce, and the high

cost of healthcare took up three quarters of the meeting.

Like many Senators here, my office has received phone calls and emails about how devastating a lapse in ACA tax credits would be for our constituents. James from Selbyville, DE, reached out this morning to tell me his story. He said:

My family's ACA premium will increase 110 percent without the continuation of the enhanced premium subsidy.

One hundred ten percent.

Let's break this down. The average income for a family of four in Sussex County, DE, is \$78,000 a year. With a 110-percent increase, their premium could jump from \$241 a month to \$507 a month. That is a monthly increase of \$266. That is more than the current premium cost. The increase cost works out to an additional \$3,192 a year.

How are families supposed to afford this? How is James supposed to keep his family healthy and pay the rent, utilities, groceries? Costs are already high and through the roof for all of these things.

It is time we approach the healthcare crisis with the urgency our constituents deserve, which is why tomorrow I will be introducing a new bill, the Restoring Patient Protections and Affordability Act.

Here are five ways that this bill will help people like James: First, it would extend the ACA tax credits for 3 years, which would prevent health insurance premiums from spiking; second, it would make it easier for working people who want coverage to enroll by cutting redtape because we all have enough on our plates, and no one needs more paperwork to fill out; third, it would force insurance companies to be transparent about enrollment opportunities so that no one falls through the cracks; fourth, it would protect consumers from surprise premium bills; and fifth, it would lower out-of-pocket costs for consumers by reversing the harmful Trump administration regulations that increase premiums, deductibles, and cost sharing back in June.

Senator WYDEN and I are introducing this bill because it is time for Congress to stand up for people like James and his family because no one should have to choose between rent and healthcare, between groceries and a checkup, between keeping the lights on or paying for chemo.

It is long overdue we address the health crisis and lower costs for everyday Americans. We have 12 days—12 days—to ensure that people get their healthcare coverage. We have no time to waste, and I urge my colleagues to consider my bill. The clock is ticking. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

UKRAINE

Mr. WELCH. Mr. President, 4 years ago, on February 4, 2022, Vladimir Putin initiated his full-scale invasion of Ukraine. The question that Ukraine

faced then was this: Could they defend themselves? Could Ukraine hold against a far more powerful enemy?

Most thought the answer to that was no, including our own Central Intelligence Agency that predicted that Kyiv would fall in a matter of weeks.

The questions the United States faced at that time were: Would we choose, the United States of America, to aid a sovereign country that was defending itself from a brutal attack by an aggressor? Would the United States remain steadfast with our European allies in defending a world where borders cannot be changed by force, where nations do not invade and seize territory of their weaker neighbors, and where might does not make right?

Nearly 4 years later, we face the same question today. We faced that question within those 4 years. We have seen the bravery, the resilience, and the effectiveness of the Ukrainian people who are standing up to the Putin aggression. What Ukraine has done is create the largest army in Europe. With approximately 1 million in arms, what the Ukrainians have done is build a remarkably adaptive military fighting machine with innovation that would rival Silicon Valley. Long-range Ukrainian-designed drones and cruise missiles are now striking thousands of miles into Russia against oil facilities and strategic air force bases. Ukrainians have changed naval warfare. With their stealthy naval drones, they have pushed the feared Russian Navy out of Crimea.

Ukraine is now producing close to 100 percent of its own drones. More than 200 new homegrown Ukrainian tech startups are producing millions of drones annually, all while they are being bombarded by Russia.

Also, we have seen in those 4 years that our European allies have stood strong and rallied to help Ukraine. In many cases, the European countries together, on a per capita basis, have contributed more to Ukraine than even the United States. While it is true that the United States has been, by far, the largest single nation contributor, Europe overall, our allies, have contributed more in both military aid and financial aid.

Even our own defense has benefited. We have now two new allies in NATO, Sweden and Finland—also, the contributions of our allies. Denmark gave Ukraine advanced F-16s that are shooting down Russian drones and cruise missiles. Italy gave Ukraine critical air defense missiles and artillery systems. Greece is contributing to regional economic integration by signing an agreement just last month to supply American LNG to Ukraine. These are just a few of the coordinated actions taken by the United States and its allies.

On the other hand, when we see what Russia has done, what Putin has done, we see that Putin's war plan is to directly target civilians, including innocent women and children, and send soldiers into the meat grinder of certain