

Elon Musk recently said:

AI and robots will replace all jobs. Work-ing will be optional.

Mr. Musk is investing hundreds of billions of dollars into AI and robotics. I suspect he knows something about what he is talking about.

Let me repeat Elon Musk:

AI and robots will replace all jobs. Work-ing will be optional.

Bill Gates, the founder of Microsoft, predicted that humans “won’t be need-ed for most things.”

Dario Amodei, the CEO of Anthropic, warned that AI could lead to the loss of half of all entry-level white-collar jobs.

If AI and robotics eliminate millions of jobs and create massive unemployment, how will people survive if they have no income? How do they feed their families? pay for housing? pay for healthcare? That might be an issue that we should be talking about, like yesterday.

Further, what impact will AI have on our democracy?

Some of us—maybe not all here in Washington but some of us—actually do believe in democracy and the right of ordinary people to control the future. At a time when the foundations of democracy are under attack here in the United States and throughout the world, will AI and robotics help make us a freer society or will it give even more power to the oligarchs who control and own the technology? Will AI result in a massive invasion of our privacy and our civil liberties?

Larry Ellison, the second richest person on Earth, who is investing huge amounts of money into AI, predicted an AI-powered surveillance state where “citizens will be on their best behavior because we’re constantly recording and reporting everything that is going on.”

He is the second richest guy on Earth, who is heavily investing in AI, and this is what he says:

Citizens will be on their best behavior because we’re constantly recording and report-ing everything that is going on.

Are we reaching the stage where every phone call that we make, every email or text that we send, or every bit of research that we do on the internet will be available to the billionaire owners of AI? And, if that is the case, how do we sustain a democracy under those conditions?

Further, in terms of another, rightly, important question, could AI literally redefine what it means to be a human being? Could AI literally redefine what it means to be human?

Who we are and how we develop emotionally and intellectually is highly dependent upon our relationships with other human beings: our parents, family, teachers, lovers, friends, and co-workers.

To quote the 17th century poet John Donne:

No man is an island unto himself.

The human beings with whom we interact help shape us to become the people that we are, but AI is changing that.

According to a recent poll by Com-mon Sense Media, 72 percent of U.S. teenagers say they have used AI for companionship, and more than half do so regularly.

What does it mean long term for young people to form friendships with AI and to be increasingly isolated from other human beings? What happens when millions of people seek emotional support not from other people but from a machine? What is the long-term impact upon our humanity when our most important relationships may not be with human beings?

Further, what impact is AI having on our environment?

AI data centers require a massive amount of electricity and water. A relatively small AI data center can consume more electricity than 80,000 homes. A large one, like the \$165 billion data center that OpenAI and Oracle are building in Abilene, TX, will use as much electricity as 750,000 homes.

In community after community, Americans are fighting back against data centers being built by some of the largest corporations in the world. They are opposing the destruction of their local environments, soaring electric bills, and the diversion of scarce water supplies. Nationally, we need to know: How will AI data centers impact our environment?

Further, how will AI and robotics im-pact foreign policy and warfare?

Tragically, in the midst of the 21st century, governments have not yet cre-ated a mechanism for solving inter-national or internal disputes without armed conflict. In the last several years, for example, we have seen hor-rific wars taking place in Ukraine, Gaza, and elsewhere. Nonetheless, de-spite the maintenance of large armies around the world, leaders are often constrained in their warlike tendencies because of their fear of public reaction to the loss of life. It is not great poli-tics for any government or any govern-mental leader to have large numbers of young people coming home in body bags.

Now, what does the future look like if millions of robot soldiers replace human soldiers? Will leaders be more likely to engage in war or threaten military actions if they don’t have to worry about the loss of life? How will that shape foreign policy around the world if you no longer have to worry that people in your military are going to get killed, just robots?

Then, last but certainly not least, is AI an existential threat to human control over the planet? It is a rather sig-nificant question.

You know, some of us remember the scene in that great 1968 science fiction film “2001: A Space Odyssey” in which HAL, the superintelligent computer that controlled the spaceship, rebelled against its masters—the people, the crew, on the spaceship. Today, as AI makes rapid progress, Dr. Geoffrey Hinton, the “godfather” of AI, recently told me that it was only a matter of

time before AI becomes smarter than human beings, and Dr. Hinton is not alone in that assessment.

What does that mean? If AI becomes smarter than human beings, does that mean that humans will be ceding their ability to control the planet? This, un-fortunately, is not science fiction. This is an issue which some of the leading experts in AI are thinking seriously about.

So the bottom line: AI and robotics are going to have a profound impact on the United States and the entire world. The time is long overdue for us to be taking a very hard look at these pro-found issues and understand that it is the American people who must deter-mine our future with regard to AI and not just a handful of multibillionaires.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The ma-jority leader.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate re-sume legislative session and be in a pe-riod of morning business, with Sen-ators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

## MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

(Legislative Day December 4, 2025)

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 1949. An act to repeal restrictions on the export and import of natural gas.

S. 3385. A bill to amend the Internal Re-venue Code of 1986 to extend the enhancement of the health care premium tax credit.

S. 3386. A bill to provide a health savings account contribution to certain enrollees, to reduce health care costs, and for other purposes.

## EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and doc-uments, and were referred as indicated:

EC-2204. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Depart-ment of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of firearms, parts, and components controlled under Category I of the U.S. Mu-nitions List to Iraq in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 25-076); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2205. A communication from the Direc-tor, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a compilation and summary of reports received from chief dis-trict judges detailing each public event con-ducted in accordance with the Pro bono Work to Empower and Represent Act of 2018’s requirements during the previous fis-cal year; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2206. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medical Devices; Quality Management System Regulation Technical Amendments" (Docket No. FDA-2025-N-4635) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2025; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2207. A communication from Associate Director, Office of Legislative, Intergovernmental, and Public Affairs, Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency's fiscal year 2025 financial report received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2208. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 111th Annual Report of the Federal Reserve Board covering operations for calendar year 2024; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2209. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, transmitting the report of an officer authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of lieutenant general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2210. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, transmitting the report of an officer authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of vice admiral in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777a; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2211. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Taxation of DISC Income to Shareholders" (Rev. Rul. 2025-23) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2025; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2212. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Estate Tax Closing Letter User Fee Update" (RIN1545-BR22) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2025; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2213. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Repeal of Minimum Staffing Standards for Long-Term Care Facilities" (RIN0938-AV25) (CMS-3443-IFC) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2025; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2214. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Calendar Year 2026 Home Health Prospective Payment System (HH PPS) Rate Update; Requirements for the HH Quality Reporting Program and the HH Value-Based Purchasing Expanded Model; Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS) Competitive Bidding Program Updates; DMEPOS Accreditation Requirements; Provider Enrollment; and Other Medicare and Medicaid Policies; Final Rule" (RIN0938-AV53) (CMS-1828-F) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2025; to the Committee on Finance.

## EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. CRUZ for the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

\*Michael Graham, of Virginia, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board for a term expiring December 31, 2030.

\*Ryan McCormack, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy.

\*Coast Guard nomination of Adm. Kevin E. Lunday, to be Admiral.

\*Jared Isaacman, of Pennsylvania, to be Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

\*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. KELLY (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, and Mr. CURTIS):

S. 3381. A bill to require coordination of depot-level maintenance in multinational exercises conducted by the Air Force; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BANKS:

S. 3382. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 520 South Walnut Street in Bloomington, Indiana, as the "Curt Cignetti Post Office"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 3383. A bill to amend the Act of August 9, 1955, to make improvements to that Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. GRASSLEY:

S. 3384. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to complete fraud risk assessments of the advance premium tax credit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 3385. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the enhancement of the health care premium tax credit; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 3386. A bill to provide a health savings account contribution to certain enrollees, to reduce health care costs, and for other purposes; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. GALLEGO:

S. 3387. A bill to prohibit certain uses of automated decision systems to inform individualized prices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MORAN:

S. 3388. A bill to improve the availability of care for veterans from facilities and providers of the Department of Defense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

## SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. BLUNT ROCHSTER, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. COONS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. GALLEGO, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KIM, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. PETERS, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHIFF, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SLOTKIN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. Res. 533. A resolution condemning white supremacy, hate, and antisemitism, and efforts to give a platform to these dangerous ideologies; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WARNOCK:

S. Res. 534. A resolution honoring Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., on reaching the historic milestone of 119 years of brotherhood as "Servants of All"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Ms. ROSEN):

S. Res. 535. A resolution commending and congratulating the Las Vegas Aces professional basketball team on winning the 2025 Women's National Basketball Association championship; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CURTIS, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. JUSTICE, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. HUSTED, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. COONS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. KING):

S. Res. 536. A resolution designating December 2, 2025, as "World Nuclear Energy Day"; considered and agreed to.

## ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 558

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BANKS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 558, a bill to provide for the consideration of a definition of antisemitism set forth by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance for the enforcement of Federal antidiscrimination laws concerning education programs or activities, and for other purposes.

S. 735

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 735, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize a sickle cell disease prevention and treatment demonstration program.

S. 766

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S.