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## Senate

### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

#### HOUSING FOR THE 21ST CENTURY ACT—Resumed

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 6644, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 6644) to increase the supply of housing in America, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

#### REMEMBERING THE U.S. SENATE'S "FAMOUS FIVE"

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I would like to again remind my colleagues and the Nation about this significant day in the history of the Senate. Of course, America's 250th celebration gives us a special opportunity to reflect on events and on the people who made a mark on our Nation's history. That, of course, would include more than 2,000 Americans who have served in the U.S. Senate since it first met on March 4, 1789.

On another occasion, on this very day 67 years ago, 2 very distinguished Members of this body presided at a special ceremony in the Senate Reception Room. That Senate Reception Room is the beautiful space located just off the floor of this historic Chamber. So, on March 12, 1959, then-Senator John F. Kennedy and then-Senate Majority Leader Lyndon B. Johnson unveiled the portraits of the five Senators who were unanimously chosen for their "statesmanship" and "leadership in national thought and constitutional interpretation." These five Senators are known as the Famous Five: Henry Clay of Kentucky, Daniel Webster of Massachusetts, John C. Calhoun of South Carolina, Robert La Follette, Sr., of Wisconsin, and Robert Taft of Ohio.

In the year 2000, which would have been 41 years after the first portraits were unveiled, another historic review

took place. The U.S. Senate approved two former Senators to join the "Famous Five." So, on September 14, 2004, the portraits of Senators Arthur Vandenberg of Michigan and Robert Wagner of New York were unveiled.

I am giving you this history. All I can do is encourage Americans to study these Senators who made a mark on U.S. history from just before the Civil War through the Cold War to make America the more perfect Union that the Constitution's preamble calls on us to do—evolve into a more perfect Union—obviously, expressing, in 1789, that they knew we were not a perfect Union and that it were to be always an evolving principle for the United States of America.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The majority leader is recognized.

#### MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 4064

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk that is due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The leader is correct.

The clerk will read the bill by title for a second time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 4064) to provide for a system of regulation of the offer and sale of digital commodities by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and for other purposes.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I would object to further proceeding.

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

#### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, You are our strength and song. Who is like You—majestic in holiness, gracious in mercy, and wondrous in mighty deeds?

Today, give our Senators understanding to legislate responsibly, discerning the difference between good and evil. As they seek to govern in a way worthy of Your goodness, guide them by the light of Your truth. Lord, infuse them with Your perfect peace as they keep their minds on You. May they overcome cynicism with civility, hostility with love, and doubt with faith. Create in them a desire to work harmoniously together.

And, Lord, be with our military servicemembers in harm's way.

We pray in Your sovereign Name. Amen.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MULLIN). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

#### CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard. So the item will be placed on the calendar under rule XIV.

### HOUSING FOR THE 21ST CENTURY ACT

#### SAVE AMERICA ACT

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, later today, we will finish up the 21st Century ROAD to Housing Act, the latest piece of legislation in Republican's affordability agenda. And next week, I will be bringing the SAVE America Act to the floor, and we will be having a full and robust debate.

So what is the SAVE America Act? It is a package of commonsense policies—the kind of commonsense policies that should get an automatic “yes” vote from literally every Member of this body.

At the core of the SAVE America Act is the requirement that individuals provide proof of citizenship to register to vote and then show an ID when they go to the polls. In other words, it would require Americans to demonstrate that they are eligible to vote and that they are who they say they are when they go to do so.

Not to keep using the word “commonsense,” but it is pretty commonsense, right? We require a photo ID for a whole lot of things in this country, for obvious reasons.

Getting on a plane? Show your official government-issued photo ID.

Go to the doctor? The same thing, provide your government-issued photo ID plus your insurance card.

Get hired for a new job? Provide your government-issued photo ID when you start.

Public libraries ask for a photo ID. In New York City you have to provide some type of photo ID to get a library card. In Baltimore, MD, it is the same thing; in Washington, DC, again, photo ID.

I will stop with the list of libraries, but I think we can all agree that if you have to show photo ID and prove where you live to get a library card, it is not too much to ask voters to show ID to vote in Federal elections. It takes about 10 seconds and protects the security of our elections.

Americans overwhelmingly agree that voters should have to show ID at the polls. Eighty-three percent of Americans—83 percent—in an August 2025 poll supported requiring photo ID at the polls for all voters. That includes 71 percent of Democrats, 76 percent of Black Americans, 77 percent of Asian Americans, and 82 percent of Hispanic Americans.

It kind of feels like the only Americans not to support voter ID requirements are Democrats here in Congress. That is right. We are expecting continued, full-throated opposition to voter ID and the SAVE America Act from Senate Democrats, as well as more of the unforgivable rhetoric that Democrats have already been engaging in.

The Democrat leader has been calling this bill “Jim Crow 2.0,” a phrase that

is not only deeply irresponsible and insulting for those who actually lived through that dark chapter in our history but also insults the overwhelming majority of Americans, including minorities, who look at voter ID and see nothing more than commonsense.

In fact, I can really see only two reasons for Democrats opposing this legislation: Either Democrats are just reflexively opposing this proposal because it originated from Republicans, or Democrats believe that there are, in fact, people out there voting illegally; and that it is benefiting Democrats, and they want to keep it going.

I honestly cannot think of another reason to oppose something so eminently reasonable as requiring people to demonstrate that they are eligible to vote and that they are who they say they are when they go to the polls.

Now, I will have a lot more to say about the SAVE America Act next week, including about two other commonsense measures in the bill that would prevent biological males from competing in women's sports and protect minors from gender transition procedures—two other things, I should note, that are supported by the American people.

I can't guarantee an outcome on this legislation, but I can guarantee that we are going to put Democrats on the record and that they will be forced to defend their outrageous positions on these issues and explain to the American people why common sense and the Democratic Party have parted ways.

Republicans are looking forward to this debate, and I look forward to saying much more about the SAVE America Act in the very near future.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Democratic leader is recognized.

#### DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, yesterday, for the second time in less than a week, Republicans were given the opportunity to fund TSA and to also fund FEMA, to stand up for our Coast Guard, and to make sure core DHS operations are funded while negotiations on ICE and Border Patrol continue. And for the second time in less than a week, Republicans said no. Well, we are giving them another opportunity later this morning—another opportunity to end their blockade of TSA. We are giving Republicans the opportunity to end their blockade of FEMA. We are giving Republicans the opportunity to end their blockade at CISA and to end their blockade at Coast Guard and much else.

The bottom line is very simple. It is easy. You don't have to follow politics

very closely to see it. Democrats are ready to fund TSA; Republicans are blocking it. Democrats are ready to fund CISA; Republicans are blocking it. Democrats are ready to fund FEMA and Coast Guard and most of DHS operations. We will give Republicans a chance—a chance—to say yes.

We all know that we do not have agreement on how to deal with ICE. We know, very simply, that Democrats just want ICE to behave like any police department in America and use warrants and not wear masks, but we don't have to tie that disagreement up and use people at the airports and American citizens as hostages and say: We are not going to fund FEMA; we are not going to fund TSA unless you give in to our unreasonable and unpopular demands on reforming ICE. So we are going to offer these bills one at a time and see where our Republican colleagues go.

We know the American people are on our side. We know that the only thing Republicans need to do is stay out of the way and these programs will be funded today and problems at the airports will go away.

Mr. THUNE. Would the Democrat leader yield?

Mr. SCHUMER. I will.

Mr. THUNE. So I assume the Democrat leader is aware of the fact that we have tried repeatedly to fund everything temporarily to allow the negotiations over the ICE budget to continue.

Mr. SCHUMER. I am well aware, but that hasn't worked. What can work—

Mr. THUNE. And the reason that hasn't—

Mr. SCHUMER. No, no. I—

Mr. THUNE. The reason that hasn't worked—

Mr. SCHUMER.—am not yielding back.

Mr. THUNE.—is because the Democrats are blocking it.

Mr. SCHUMER. The bottom line is, Democrats are ready today. America, watch. We will have Members on the floor saying “Let's fund TSA” with no other preconditions. What will Republicans do? They are going to see Republicans get up and block it. It is that simple.

Now, my friend—sometimes—much of the time.

My friend, the Republican leader, says: Well, we will only do it if you go along with what we want on ICE and what we want on Border Patrol—highly unpopular and wrong. So who is standing in the way, America? Look at it. We are not putting any preconditions on funding TSA. The Republicans are. And why?

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, will the Democratic leader—

Mr. SCHUMER. I will not yield.

Mr. THUNE.—yield for a question?

Mr. SCHUMER. No. In a minute.

Why? Because Republicans are in obeisance to Donald Trump's insistence on having these marauding forces of ICE go through our cities. We saw what they did in Minneapolis. We saw what