

this CRA that would resuscitate that rule are intended to close coal-fired powerplants.

In 2020, the EPA found that the existing MATS standards are protective of public health. Let me say that again. In 2020, the EPA found that the existing—pre to the Biden rule—MATS standards are protective of public health, with an ample margin of safety, and that revisions are not necessary. This finding was reaffirmed with, by, and for the Biden administration.

According to the EPA, by 2021, mercury emissions from coal-fired powerplants were down 90 percent compared to pre-2012 levels. Despite these facts, the Biden EPA proceeded to finalize a rulemaking that had \$860 million in compliance costs, which is twice as much as the claimed benefits.

The Trump administration has rightfully repealed these unnecessary and stringent standards.

This CRA would return to the failed policies of shutting down American energy, increasing consumer costs and putting American energy workers out of business. So I urge my colleagues to vote no on this CRA.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RELATING TO “NATIONAL EMISSION STANDARDS FOR HAZARDOUS AIR POLLUTANTS: COAL- AND OIL-FIRED ELECTRIC UTILITY STEAM GENERATING UNITS: FINAL REPEAL”—Motion to Proceed

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, we are here on my Congressional Review Act motion, and I understand that the Chair of the Environment and Public Works Committee has already spoken in opposition, so I want to make the case for why we should vote yes on this.

Months before the 2024 election, President Trump offered his Big Oil and Coal cronies a deal: If they gave him a billion dollars to take the White House, he would pay them back one hundredfold. Well, he doesn't keep a lot of promises, but he seems to have kept this one. Since taking office in January, Trump has bent over backward to make big polluters happy, and Americans pay the price.

This sweetheart billion-dollar deal for polluters has meant a number of things: one, basically a driveby window handing out regulatory exemptions to individual coal plants and other toxic sources to pollute with impunity. Quite the driveby window. That sweetheart deal meant ordering coal plants to stay online so that the coal dealers can con-

tinue to fuel them even against the wishes of the local communities and even the utilities themselves.

This sweetheart billion-dollar deal meant—and this is relevant to this particular motion—rolling back toxic pollution standards for every coal- and oil-fired powerplant across the country. EPA's Mercury and Air Toxics rule established lifesaving standards, restricting emissions of the most dangerous air pollutants from coal- and oil-fired powerplants. And, naturally, the Trump EPA rolled these health standards back.

As dirty power sources go, coal is the dirtiest. Coal plants are the largest source of mercury emissions in the United States. Mercury pollution is bad stuff, and coal and oil plants also emit massive volumes of other toxic pollutants, including arsenic, lead, and cadmium—more bad stuff.

Approximately 80 million Americans, including about 17 million children, live within 3 miles of one of those toxin-spewing, fossil fuel-fired powerplants. Without strong rules limiting their toxic pollution, all those millions of Americans are exposed to unacceptable risk to their health and well-being.

But in the Trump “put polluters first” world, that doesn't matter. We can do something about it, however, because the Congressional Review Act gives Congress the opportunity to vote on such evil regulations.

With the Trump administration engaged in an effort, at breakneck speed, to tear down protections of Americans' health and safety and our environment, Congressional Review Act resolutions like this one can help hold the administration to account and protect Americans' health and safety while doing so. For those reasons, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this measure, in favor of the protection of those 17 million children in the harm zone of these toxins.

Mr. President, I now move to proceed to Calendar No. 409, S.J. Res. 188.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 409, S.J. Res. 188, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Coal- and Oil-Fired Electric Utility Steam Generating Units: Final Repeal”.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I ask for the yeas and nays.

VOTE ON MOTION

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

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. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 46, nays 53, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 135 Leg.]

YEAS—46

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

NAYS—53

Armstrong	Fischer	Moran
Banks	Graham	Moreno
Barrasso	Grassley	Murkowski
Blackburn	Hagerty	Paul
Boozman	Hawley	Ricketts
Britt	Hoeben	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	

NOT VOTING—1

Bennet

The motion was rejected.
(Mr. COTTON assumed the Chair.)

SECURE AMERICA ACT—Motion to Proceed

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 417, S. 2.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BANKS). The clerk will report the motion to proceed.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 417, S. 2, a bill to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of S. Con. Res. 33.

VOTE ON MOTION TO PROCEED

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

Mr. THUNE. 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. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 136 Leg.]

YEAS—53

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

Husted	McCormick	Scott (FL)
Hyde-Smith	Moody	Scott (SC)
Johnson	Moran	Sheehy
Justice	Moreno	Sullivan
Kennedy	Murkowski	Thune
Lankford	Paul	Tillis
Lee	Ricketts	Tuberville
Lummis	Risch	Wicker
Marshall	Rounds	Young
McConnell	Schmitt	

NAYS—46

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

NOT VOTING—1

Bennet

The motion was agreed to.
(Mr. RICKETTS assumed the Chair.)
(Ms. LUMMIS assumed the Chair.)

SECURE AMERICA ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHMITT). The clerk will report the bill by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of S. Con. Res. 33.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

AMENDMENT NO. 5453

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I call up amendment No. 5453 and ask that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from South Dakota [Mr. THUNE], for Mr. GRAHAM, proposes an amendment numbered 5453.

Mr. THUNE. I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

RECOGNIZING 75 YEARS OF KRVN

Mr. RICKETTS. Mr. President, 75 years ago, the voice of rural Nebraska made its debate on air. Broadcasting from Lexington, NE, farm families officially had a voice—KRVN.

KRVN doesn't just cover rural Nebraska, though; it belongs to rural Nebraska. The station started out of necessity. Blizzards in the winters of 1948 and 1949 killed farmers and ranchers. Livestock and crops were lost, causing economic hardships. Women and children were left worrying about their husbands and dads. Farming and ranching families were also struggling to get relevant news and government updates. Our agriculture communities were facing a bleak reality: Timely, lifesaving

information was nearly impossible to come by.

In an industry that moves at the speed of information, this was unacceptable. Agricultural economist and cooperative leader Max Brown had an idea. Max believed he could organize rural Nebraskans to fill the need. He envisioned a farmer- and rancher-owned public service platform for agriculture, weather, markets, and rural education.

This idea was untested and widely doubted. Despite this, 4,719 farmers and ranchers each bought a 10-dollar share to become owners of KRVN. On February 1, 1951, KRVN had its first broadcast. From this humble beginning, the station grew. Max hired well, mentored his staff, and made sure everyone knew KRVN's vision. Max's vision continued through the stewardship of his son Eric, whom I knew when he worked at KRVN, and folks like Otto Geiger. Otto served for more than 30 years on the Nebraska Rural Radio Association board. They both guided the station through agricultural and media change while preserving its farmer-owned identity.

Since its beginning, rural Nebraskans have received the info they need when they need it. Our rural communities are safer and better informed.

Today, KRVN is the flagship of the Rural Radio Network. It is the only farmer- and rancher-owned news network in the country. The founding charter doesn't allow any of the joint owners to profit. Revenues are reinvested into the station and into agricultural education. KRVN's unique ownership model and community commitment remain strong.

We now have Nebraskans from multiple generations who can say they grew up with the voices of KRVN from dawn to dusk. The voices of radio legends like Dave Thorell kept Nebraskans company on long drives, and Jayson Jorgensen brings play-by-play coverage of local high school sports into our homes.

Even amid unprecedented disaster, Nebraskans know we can rely on KRVN for lifesaving updates. Their coverage has included special wildlife broadcasts to help ranchers recover and find resources for rebuilding. They kept us informed on State politics and ag markets, and they kept us prepared during disasters.

Over the last 75 years, KRVN has kept public service at the core of its work. Over the last 75 years, KRVN has been there for Nebraskans, and the need for KRVN still remains. AM radio stations in Nebraska and around the country are still the lifeblood of rural communities.

In the Senate, I am working to preserve this important service. Every vehicle sold in the United States should be equipped with AM broadcast radio at no charge. In Nebraska, we know this is common sense. My AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act would do that.

KRVN was a necessity at its origin, and it remains a necessity today.

Thank you to our farmers and ranchers who have made KRVN possible. I look forward to KRVN's next 75 years.

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. President, I have another matter I am going to talk about—the work that needs to be done on the Senate floor today. To protect Americans and our national security, we must fund Border Patrol and ICE.

Senate Republicans have a narrow bill to do this. Our bill only funds Border Patrol and ICE. Senate Democrats refuse to vote for it, putting every American at risk. They are falling back on the typical "defund the police" agenda and lack of support for law enforcement. Their refusal is a clear threat to our national security.

Democrats stood by while President Biden and his open border policies allowed every State to become a border State, putting communities across America, including Nebraska, at risk.

They released at least 99 illegal aliens on the Terrorist Watchlist into American communities, including 3 with potential ISIS ties.

They have prioritized the care of illegal immigrants over Americans. Let me give you two examples: When Laken Riley a 22-year-old college student was murdered by an illegal immigrant, Republicans introduced legislation to make sure no other families have to live through the same tragedy as Laken's family had to live through. The legislation was common sense. If an illegal immigrant breaks the law, they have to be held accountable, and ICE has to do their job of picking that person up.

A majority of Democrats refused to support this commonsense solution. When our brave troops successfully captured the Venezuelan dictator Nicolas Maduro, Democrats were more concerned about the operation than national security. Maduro is a narcoterrorist responsible for the deaths of countless Americans. He was a puppet of our adversaries, like Communist China, Russia, and Iran. Simply put, he was a threat to our national security. Capturing him was a win for Americans and our national security.

Democrats didn't see it that way. The reality, though, is that President Trump campaigned on securing the border. He won an overwhelming majority of votes from Americans. The American people voted for stronger national security. Republicans have worked with this administration to secure their border and deliver for the American people.

To maintain this strong national security, we need to fund ICE and Border Patrol. I am ready to vote with my Senate Republican colleagues today. Democrats cannot delay this vote any longer. We want to get this done for the American people. Everything else is a distraction.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.