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| Sullivan | Tillis | Wicker |
| Thune | Tuberville | Young |
| NOT VOTING—5 | | |
| Bennet | Hawley | Sanders |
| Booker | McConnell | |

The motion was rejected.
The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BANKS). The Senator from Florida.

CONDEMNING THE DICTATOR OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, XI JINPING, FOR DECEIT, UNDERMINING PROSPECTS FOR PEACE AND SECURITY, AND ORCHESTRATING CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I rise today and ask the Senate to pass my resolution, S. Res. 444, a resolution condemning the dictator and General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party Xi Jinping.

There is no greater threat to America's way of life and peace and prosperity in the world than Xi Jinping and the CCP. Xi Jinping hates us. Communist China wants to destroy us. He is not a partner. He is not a competitor. He is a brutal dictator leading a criminal organization that lies, cheats, steals, exploits slave labor, and commits genocide and crimes against humanity on an industrial scale.

Don't take my word for it. Let's look at what he has done. He and his Communist Party lied about the origins of COVID, and they keep lying about it. They used the World Health Organization to spread lies while over a million Americans died. And their incompetent and malicious response to COVID isn't the only way communist China killed Americans.

Their unwillingness for years to completely curb the export of fentanyl precursors is directly responsible for the deaths of tens of thousands of our fellow citizens.

Where communist China hasn't killed, it cheated. For decades, they have cheated on trade, causing millions of Americans to lose their jobs.

Communist China's currency manipulation continues to threaten our economy and destabilize the world global order, as well as their hundreds of billions of dollars' worth of intellectual property theft.

They don't treat other countries any better. In one egregious case last year, in the African nation of Zambia, communist China dumped toxic waste into Zambia's main river, poisoning the drinking water of 5 million innocent people. It also destroyed the livelihoods of up to 12 million people. It was intentional. They knew what would happen, and they did it anyway because they don't care.

I have not seen a peep of outrage from the international community. Rather than help, communist China coerced the Zambians into signing non-disclosure agreements, offering them next to nothing in cash in exchange for never talking about it.

That story of how communist China literally destroyed an entire country

overnight should tell everyone exactly who we are dealing with. As the Zambian Government hopefully learned, with friends like communist China, who needs enemies.

It is clear that Beijing doesn't care about the damage they inflict on others, and, of course, we know that Xi Jinping and his goons couldn't care less about their own people either. In Xinjiang, Xi's communist China is committing a horrific genocide against the Uighur people, putting over a million innocent Uighurs in camps and forcing women to share beds with Han Chinese men sent by the state.

They harvest organs from political dissidents, including the Falun Gong. And in one case mentioned in the State Department's 2022 Country Report on Tibet, the CCP literally beat a Tibetan man to death for the crime of delivering food to a home for the elderly.

Communist China apparently saw a basic act of charity as an attack on the state's inability to take care of its own people, a task they repeatedly fail at. But Xi isn't above physically attacking and beating his own people. Just look at what happened in Hong Kong in the summer of 2020.

Six years later, they continue to unjustly imprison my friend Jimmy Lai. We will never stop fighting for his release.

The CCP doesn't care about cooperation or respect. They constantly attack anyone they don't agree with, including our allies in the Philippines and Taiwan.

They fly thousands of their military jets in Taiwan's airspace, utilize slave labor in their distant water fleet, and prop up terrorists and dictators from North Korea to Iran, to the Taliban.

The CCP, especially under Xi Jinping's tyranny, has a particular brand of evil. They seek to control the world, and in their mind that means destroying anyone who stands in their way, whether it is their own people or not.

We cannot be afraid to stand up to our enemies and hold the line for the next generation of Americans. The numerous policy mistakes we made in the last few decades, including the idea that if only every Chinese citizen could get an F-150 and a Coke, they would eventually abandon their communist system and become more like us.

Instead, the opposite has happened, where we have literally subsidized the CCP's military modernization, economic development, genocide, and crimes against humanity.

Despite everything Communist China has done to our Nation and to the world, we continue to invest over a trillion dollars into Chinese companies listed on our exchanges, to include newly designated Chinese military companies like Alibaba.

I hope that no one who cares about human rights and confronting our Nation's foremost enemy would prevent this resolution's passage. We cannot afford to abandon our responsibility to

our people and to the world to denounce the evil agenda of the Chinese Communist Party. I hope my colleagues will join me in that effort.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 444.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant executive clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 444) condemning the dictator of the People's Republic of China, Xi Jinping, for deceit, undermining prospects for peace and security, and orchestrating crimes against humanity.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. I know of no further debate on the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

Hearing no further debate, the question is on adoption of the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 444) was agreed to.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. I ask unanimous consent that the preamble be agreed to and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of October 9, 2025, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

21ST CENTURY ROAD TO HOUSING ACT

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, America is in a full-blown housing crisis. Across this country, home prices are sky high, rent is through the roof, and the median age of a first-time home buyer is now at an alltime high. But for too long, the Federal Government has been asleep at the switch, and that changes today.

I stand here in support of the historic 21st Century ROAD to Housing Act. This landmark bill will boost housing supply, bring down costs, and, for the first time ever, stop private equity from buying up single-family homes.

Yes, we are about to do it—pass the biggest housing bill in more than 30 years.

This bill has more than 45 total housing provisions designed to help increase housing supply and bring down costs. Here are just a few of the things that this housing bill will do.

It removes regulatory barriers and streamlines environmental reviews to speed up affordable housing development and to speed up the construction process.

It rewards communities that build more housing, and it prods those that

are not building to step up and build more.

It makes it easier and cheaper to build new manufactured housing by removing outdated chassis requirements, and it brings down the cost of the new unit by up to \$10,000.

It creates an innovation fund, something I have been proposing for years, to help reward communities that are successfully building more housing with new funds for community infrastructure or to build even more housing.

It will make long-needed improvements to rural housing programs to preserve affordable housing for 400,000 rural families.

It strengthens the Community Development Block Grant—CDBG—and the HOME Programs to get more affordable housing built. It finally authorizes the CDBG Disaster Recovery Program to get money out to disaster-stricken communities faster. It offers new and streamlined funding opportunities for cities and towns to bolster local infrastructure and to convert abandoned buildings into new housing, for homeowners and landlords to make structural home repairs, and for homebuilders to finance new manufactured and modular housing.

There is so much more. This bill supports more housing opportunities for veterans, it takes action to reduce homelessness, and it helps end appraisal bias.

Finally, for the first time ever, Congress is acting to stop private equity's housing grab. I have been calling for this for years, and even 6 months ago, nobody thought this was possible. With this bill, we will get single-family homes back into the hands of American families, not corporations. An overwhelming majority of Americans across party lines want to stop private equity from snapping up single-family homes, and this bill does exactly that.

This bill also makes sure that corporate landlords who don't follow the law pay up, and it invests any money they pay in fines to build more housing and to help first-time home buyers with direct assistance for downpayments, with closing costs, and with interest rate buydowns.

There is so much in this bill, each piece directing us toward increasing the supply of housing, bringing down the cost, and making housing something that is not just a Wall Street investment but is actually there for American families.

I want to say a very special thank-you to Senator TIM SCOTT for his partnership on this historic bill in leading the Senate Banking Committee.

I also want to give a very special thank-you to Ranking Member WATERS and to Chairman HILL for their work over on the House side to get this bill across the finish line.

I want to say especially MAXINE WATERS—she has led so many of us for so many years and tried to expand housing all across America, tried to

make sure housing is affordable and safe and available for every American. This bill is just a little downpayment on the promise she has offered for decades. I am grateful for her leadership and grateful for her helping get us here today.

I also want to note that every single member of the Banking Committee—Republican and Democrat—added ideas and specific provisions that made it into this bill. I thank them for their very thoughtful and creative contributions.

I also want to thank Senators who are not on the committee who also helped participate and helped us get good housing ideas into this bill, particularly Senator MERKLEY and Senator KLOBUCHAR, neither of whom is on the Banking Committee, who also joined with Senator WARNOCK, who is on the committee, in pushing to get private equity out of the housing market. I want to say a very special thank-you to them.

I also want to thank Senator SCHATZ, who is not on the committee, who helped us with the disaster relief provisions.

I have one more thank you that dates back for years now, and that is a very special thank-you to State and local officials, including the mayors across Massachusetts and around the country, who helped shape this bill, who really told us about places where we could change Federal law that would make a difference for them in their local communities, in being able to bring down the cost of housing. I am grateful to them for the content they helped put into this bill, and I am grateful to them for raising their voices to help us get it passed.

So here we are in a moment when the U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives may actually get something done, get it over to the President's desk. And it is something that is good for the American people.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

21ST CENTURY ROAD TO HOUSING ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I have come to address our ROAD to Housing bill, which we will vote on in a few minutes.

At the top of the list, I want to thank Senator WARREN for her diligence, her hard work, her intelligence, and her ability to reach out and take good ideas and synthesize them into outstanding legislation. I want to thank all of my colleagues—my Democratic colleagues in particular on the Banking Committee—who worked so hard on this bill, and there are inputs from every one of them that make housing more affordable and easier to afford for so many people across the country. I want to thank Senator SCOTT for cooperating, and I want to thank all of the leaderships for getting this bill to the floor.

This is such a crucial issue for Americans, and it had been forgotten and neglected for too long until our Banking Committee Dems turned their attention to it, until our caucus turned its attention to it. For too long, Americans have struggled with rising housing costs. It hurts renters and homeowners alike.

Most Americans don't know this tragic fact—that the median age for a new home buyer in America is now 40 years old—40 years old. The housing shortage is nothing less than an existential threat to the American dream. Americans feel financially stuck as renting and buying a home keep getting more and more expensive, more and more out of reach.

Lowering housing costs is absolutely essential to ending the affordability crisis plaguing working families across the country. The ROAD to Housing bill is a very important and good, strong first step to making housing more affordable. The bipartisan package includes, as I said, many bills led by Senate Democrats over the years to expand housing supply and lower costs.

The bill tackles local zoning and permitting that have kept housing supply from growing. I have long spoken out against the NIMBYism that kills so many projects in our communities that are desperately needed.

Our legislation supports new manufactured and modular housing so we can build more, faster, and it will revitalize blighted properties and convert these buildings into new housing. That includes building more housing in rural communities that need more housing than ever before. The bill also increases housing fairness and access, including addressing housing needs for veterans and reducing homelessness. Crucially, our bill will bring more certainty in our disaster response to help communities recover. This bill makes sure people are not squeezed out of the market of buying a home by institutional investors.

I want to reiterate that this isn't the end of the road—far from it; it is just the start. In future years, we need to do even more to make that dream of owning a home a reality for more and more and more Americans. We need to do so much more, and much more will be needed to address the Nation's housing cost crisis as well.

Senate Democrats will continue to make this a priority. We have wanted this to be a priority for a long time, and finally, we have taken that first step with the cooperation of our Republican colleagues. We need to make a priority downpayment assistance, reducing mortgage insurance costs, and doing even more to expand housing supply as well as to lower costs.

So congratulations once again to Senator WARREN, to the many Senate Democrats who have led crucial pieces of this bill, and to the whole Chamber, Democrats and Republicans, for finally taking a much needed step in reducing costs of housing and increasing its supply.