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## Senate

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of John George Edward Marck, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

E15

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I am here once again like I have done at least once a week every week since the House passed year-round E15. I do it to communicate the importance of the Senate passing year-round E15.

I have talked about the importance of year-round E15 to agriculture in my previous speeches. I have also spoke about how E15 will lower gas prices in previous remarks.

I will repeat again—and I have made it clear—that E15 is not a mandate as opponents charge because E15 gives consumers a choice at the gasoline pump. And I have shown how E15 supports America's rural economy.

I would like to highlight today another reason why we need to pass year-round E15, and it is because of our national security. This was recently a point of discussion when Agriculture Secretary Rollins was before the Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee and she said this at a hearing in response to my question about year-round E15.

She said:

There is no national security without farm security.

I agree with the Secretary.

E15 protects national security by supporting American farmers and expanding homegrown fuels. When the Congress established the Renewable

Fuel Standard, it was intended in part to diversify our Nation's renewable fuels to ensure that we didn't rely on imported oil.

Expanding access to clean, American-grown fuel reduces our reliance on international sources of energy. Passing E15 is common sense for our pocketbooks, for our environment, and for our national security. I will continue to communicate with my colleagues about why E15 is good, good, good.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.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

#### WAIVING QUORUM CALL

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to waive the mandatory quorum calls with respect to the Marck, Hendershot, and Jones nominations.

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

#### DOBBS V. JACKSON WOMEN'S HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today, we mark 4 years since the Supreme Court's Dobbs decision, the landmark Supreme Court decision overturning Roe v. Wade and returning the question of abortion to the people and their elected representatives.

Roe was, quite simply, terrible constitutional law—a fact that has been acknowledged by legal scholars across the political spectrum—and the Dobbs decision reversed this decades-old error and made it clear that Roe's supposed constitutional right to an abortion simply didn't exist.

I am proud to have fought, along with my Republican colleagues, to put

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, the center of our joy, You are our strength. Thank You for Your guidance and protection. Lord, be a stronghold for our lawmakers, providing them with strength for today and hope for tomorrow. May they cast their cares on You, knowing that no one is more concerned about the things that strengthen their peace. Show Yourself to the faithful, rewarding integrity with Your bountiful blessings. Lord, arm our Senators with courage for life's battles, keeping them humble, obedient, and faithful in their work. Help us all to live in day-tight compartments doing the best we can each day and leaving the results to You.

We pray in Your precious 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. 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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Justices on the Supreme Court who focus on interpreting the law and the Constitution, instead of creating new constitutional law out of thin air, as the Justices did in Roe.

It is fitting that the Dobbs decision occurs close to our Nation's birthday, July 4, the anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. As we prepare to celebrate the 250th birthday of the declaration—the 250th birthday of our country—the proximity of these two anniversaries has been on my mind.

The declaration lays out the fundamental principles underlying our system of government, and no lines are more important than these:

We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

“That among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.”

“Unalienable rights”—rights given by God, rights that come before government and that government is required to protect.

“All Men are created equal . . . [and] endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights.”

As our country knows, to its sorrow, we haven't always lived up to the principles of the declaration, and the sad truth is that, when it comes to unborn Americans, we are failing to live up to those principles today because, in State after State around this country, it is legal to kill unborn human beings—unborn Americans—in some cases, up until the point of birth—up until the point of birth.

These babies—these human beings—will never have a chance to enjoy the rest of their unalienable rights because they are denied their most fundamental right while they are still in their infancy.

This is not, of course, something you will hear from my Democrat colleagues when they attempt to defend abortion. You won't hear about the baby whose rights are at stake.

In fact, my Democrat colleagues do everything they can to obscure the baby in this debate. They mention women and “healthcare” and “reproductive freedom,” as if killing an innocent person could ever, ever be something we are free to do.

And they never mention the other person in question, which is the unborn human being who was sacrificed in every abortion—probably because they know, at some level, that supporting the killing of an innocent human being is indefensible and completely incompatible with our Nation's creed.

And let's be very clear here. When we talk about abortion, we are talking about the killing of a human being. Everyone knows this. Even my Democratic colleagues know this, although they might like to gloss over the fact.

You don't even need to have seen a baby kicking her feet and sucking her thumb on an ultrasound to know that

she is human because human moms and human dads have other human beings. That is Biology 101.

No, the question isn't whether the unborn baby is a human being. The question is whether we value that human being, whether we really believe our American creed.

We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all [—all—] Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life. . . .

Do we really believe that, or do we believe that it is OK to say that some human beings are more important than others, that some human beings can be sacrificed for others?

I would hope history has taught us it is a very dangerous thing to say that some groups of human beings are not worthy of protection.

I am proud to be from a State that has extended the full protection of the law to unborn human beings, that has recognized that unborn Americans are also created equal and endowed by their Creator with unalienable rights.

I am proud to have supported, sponsored, and cosponsored pro-life legislation here in Congress.

The overturning of Roe has opened the door to substantive pro-life legislation, and Republicans in Congress are going to keep up the fight for real protections for unborn Americans.

I am very proud that with the Working Families Tax Cut, Congress enacted the first pro-life law in decades. Thanks to Republicans' landmark legislation this year, some of the Nation's largest abortion providers, including Planned Parenthood, were prohibited from receiving Federal Medicaid funding.

Organizations that have turned the killing of babies into a business were cut off from this source of taxpayer dollars.

The Dobbs decision was a landmark decision because it opened the door for full protection of the unalienable rights of unborn Americans, but there is a lot more work to be done.

The Democrat Party fights tooth and nail to ensure that even the most commonsense measures—like measures to protect babies who survive abortions or to ensure that pregnant college students are aware that they have alternatives to abortion—do not make it through Congress.

And, currently, mail-order abortion drugs are flooding into States in defiance of the law—thanks to the Biden administration's decision to loosen restrictions on these drugs—despite the fact that they pose a danger to women, as well as obviously to the babies.

So as I said, the fight to protect the right to life for all Americans continues, and I and my Republican colleagues will continue to do everything we can here in Congress to support moms and to protect babies.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all—[all]—men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with cer-

tain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.

May the day soon come when we fully live up to that creed.

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. 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.

DOBBS V. JACKSON WOMEN'S HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, with their dreadful, horrific Dobbs decision 4 years ago today, six far-right wing MAGA Justices broke nearly 50 years of precedent to rip the right to choose away from millions—millions—of American women.

You can sum up both the dreadful Dobbs decision and the whole far-right philosophy the same way: less freedom in your life; more government interference in your personal decisions. That is the MAGA way.

Dobbs will go down as one of the most damaging, legally dubious, and deeply out-of-touch Supreme Court decisions in American history. It is a disgrace that the Supreme Court did it. It is a disgrace on the Supreme Court itself.

Trump may not like talking about his crusade against women's reproductive rights, but he cannot hide from the pain he has inflicted on women across America. Mr. President, 20 States—20—have enacted total or near-total abortion bans, which means that nearly 40 percent of women of reproductive age live in a State with an abortion ban.

The human cost of the Republican assault on women's reproductive freedom is sickening. I have heard so many women share their stories of the horrors they have experienced in Trump's post-Roe America.

Republicans are letting women die by restricting necessary care. Some women have to travel hundreds of miles—even thousands—to get the treatment they need and deserve and are entitled to. Parents, patients, and doctors have been punished like violent criminals for lifesaving procedures that were legal just a few years ago and had been for decades before that.

The GOP is treating mifepristone like it is poison and Planned Parenthood like it is an enemy of the State. It is despicable.

Even before the Justices behind Dobbs were confirmed, anyone could see they wanted to overturn Roe. Every Republican Senator, who voted to confirm these radical Justices who stripped away these fundamental rights to choose that women have had for so long, will have to answer to the American people.