

kick down people's doors without a warrant, to shoot people dead in the street without any—any—provocation, as it might well have been here, is an invitation for state-sanctioned violence, not an immigration policy.

I am calling on the Trump administration to release all information related to these two shootings, and we need to conduct independent investigations of each.

The American people need to know how and why this chaos is spreading through their streets. Republicans who refuse to go along with real reforms of ICE—reforms that we see in every police department in the country—should pivot, change their minds, realize these shootings were just awful and work with us to reform this rogue Agency. The American people need to know, of course, how and why this chaos is spreading through their streets, and we need a complete investigation that is independent.

IRAN

Mr. SCHUMER. Now, Mr. President, on Iran and the NDAA, when all the Trump administration can say about his disastrous war with Iran is that Vietnam was worse—a point Trump made yesterday—he reveals the scale of his failure. This is what Donald Trump said. The only thing he can say is that Vietnam was worse.

Oh my God, a war that killed close to 50,000 Americans, a war that lasted almost a decade, a war that ripped America apart in ways that took decades to recover is what he compares Iran to? Oh my God.

Trump's supposed cease-fire deal has completely collapsed. Our troops are coming under attack. The Strait of Hormuz is a minefield, and gas prices are going back up. Donald Trump is totally out of his depth. In fact, Donald Trump is drowning in the Strait of Hormuz because he has no plan. He had no plan when he got America into this war, and he has no plan on how to get us out. Trump started the war without authorization, without a strategy, without an exit.

The reason that we have war powers acts is to force an administration to think through the consequences of going to war ahead of time. Trump, of course, didn't listen. Finally, after weeks, bipartisan majorities in both Chambers of Congress voted to end it. We had tried and tried. Finally, enough Republicans joined us, but Donald Trump ignored them.

Now the White House has formally notified Congress that hostilities have resumed; that American strikes are underway again; and that our forces remain positioned for more. Yet Republicans want the Senate to take up the NDAA—the Defense bill—as though none of this is happening, as though Congress can debate the Nation's central national security bill while ignoring the Nation's most urgent national security crisis. We cannot.

I will be voting no.

The President is waging an unauthorized war in defying bipartisan majorities in Congress and in refusing to level with the American people about the cost, the mission, or the endgame. The NDAA cannot become a permission slip for that recklessness that we see occurring in Iran. Donald Trump does not get to drag the American people deeper into a war he cannot explain and does not know how to end and then demand Congress look the other way.

Donald Trump and the administration have no authorization, no strategy, no peace, no blank check. Therefore, a day after the President told Congress that his war is back on, I am a no—a strong no—on the NDAA.

ELECTION TASK FORCE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, on this Trump election task force—it just gets crazier and crazier with this administration. Yesterday, the White House announced that Trump and his election task force will reveal intelligence reports that supposedly corroborate his baseless lies about the 2020 election. Give me a break.

Donald, start focusing on lowering Americans' costs, not on your conspiracy theory that the 2020 elections were stolen from you. You don't have proof. You haven't come up with proof for 6 years because there is no proof, Donald Trump. You haven't come up with the proof because it isn't there. There is no proof.

Trump should get off all of this nonsense, all of this wishful thinking, all of this lunacy and focus on what people actually care about—their higher costs. If Trump thought about November 2026 half as much as he thinks about 2020, maybe his party wouldn't be scrambling right now.

Apparently, Trump also plans to say that Senators OSOFF and WARNOCK were illegitimate because of election fraud. How desperate can Trump get? He is flailing. His effort to overturn what happened in 2020 is a mission impossible. He ought to wake up, smell the coffee, and abandon this frivolous, ludicrous, diversionary effort. Trump's obvious desperation might be amusing if it weren't so dangerous. Without question, it is part of Trump's effort to subvert the 2026 midterm elections.

The whole reason Republicans are in their current mess is that Trump refuses to drop his radical SAVE Act—to strip millions of Americans of their voting rights. Trump has made clear, once again, who plans to force a shutdown—Donald Trump; yes, Donald Trump. Yesterday, Trump said Republicans have to get rid of the filibuster and pass the SAVE Act “otherwise we're going to have a shutdown.” That is what he said yesterday.

So, Americans, hear this: If there is a shutdown, it is on Donald Trump's back.

Donald, do you remember the last time you demanded a shutdown when

Nancy and I were in your office? It didn't work out too well for you then, and it won't work out too well for you now.

America, hear this: If there is a shutdown, it is on Donald Trump's back.

Unless Trump changes his course, realizes the SAVE Act cannot pass, and starts working on more productive things, we could be headed for another Trump shutdown.

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

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

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 Matthew A. Schwartz, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip.

REMEMBERING LINDSEY GRAHAM

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I rise today to honor my good friend and colleague Lindsey Graham.

Our colleague from South Carolina led an impactful life. He leaves an impressive legacy, and he left all of us important lessons for life.

The great cause to which Lindsey Graham devoted his life was the United States of America. That is what it was from day one all the way to the end. Lindsey Graham loved America. He believed that our Nation is exceptional, as do so many of us. He believed our Nation was worth fighting for. He believed especially in the American people. He fought for the people of his home State of South Carolina and the people of this great country every single day, and he did it with determination. He always believed that America was a nation that he needed to fight for every day to make us safer and stronger.

His life was shaped early on by duty and by love. Tragedy came early. At the age of 21, he lost both of his parents within 15 months. At the time, he began raising his 13-year-old sister Darline. He made sure that she stayed

in school and went on to continue her education in college. He was with her all the way. He later adopted her.

Lindsey once said that he was most proud of the woman that Darline had become. Now Darline is going to fill her brother's seat right here in the U.S. Senate, and there is nobody better to carry on Lindsey's legacy than his beloved sister.

Lindsey was a strong advocate for our military. He joined the Air Force right out of law school, and he served our Nation, in uniform, for 33 years. He remained in the Reserves even while serving in Congress. One year, over New Year's, Lindsey was serving in Afghanistan. I went and met him there, and we went and visited with the troops from my home State of Wyoming and with his troops from South Carolina. He never let anyone forget how proud he was of our servicemembers and of our country.

Lindsey's dad ran a bar in South Carolina. Lindsey talked about it often. He used to say it was good training for his life in politics. Lindsey told me that one of the key lessons he learned from his father was this: The key to being a successful bar owner in South Carolina—probably or anywhere—is you have to be funny enough that people will keep coming back, and you have to be tough enough so people won't take over your business.

That was Lindsey Graham. He was the funniest man in the U.S. Senate. His humor was like Super Glue. It brought people together. It kept them together.

Lindsey and I traveled the world, often to war zones, and when you traveled with Lindsey, you visited a lot of tough places around the world. We visited Iraq, Afghanistan, Ukraine. We traveled to show our support for the men and women of our military. Lindsey and I got to know each other on those long trips, and we shared a lot of laughs. I will never forget how much fun it was with Lindsey to sing the lyrics of the old television shows, the ones from the fifties, sixties, and early seventies. Some of his favorites—and he knew all the words—were “Gilligan's Island,” “The Beverly Hillbillies,” “The Addams Family,” “Green Acres,” “F Troop,” and, of course, “Car 54, Where Are You?”

We would sing together, we would laugh, and these moments will stay with me forever. His friendship meant the world to me.

You know, Lindsey was constantly on the move. He just returned from Ukraine this past weekend. He was scheduled to be on “Meet the Press” on Sunday morning in the studio. I think his favorite three places to be were at home in South Carolina, on the golf course with President Trump, and in front of the TV camera for Sunday morning news shows.

His greatest strength, of course, was his character. In Congress, people are often divided into show horses and workhorses. Lindsey was both. He was

a show horse and a workhorse, and he was the best at both.

As President Trump said on Sunday morning, Lindsey was uncommonly hard-working, energetic, and steadfast. When Lindsey believed in something, he fought for it, and no one was more effective. The American people remember his stirring defense of now-Justice Brett Kavanaugh. It was an incredible moment, and his words changed the course of history.

Lindsey was a true conservative, and he also believed in working across the aisle. He wanted to tackle our Nation's most pressing challenges, and he knew in many ways you had to do that in a bipartisan way. He believed in the Reagan approach: If you can't get the whole loaf at once, take it a slice at a time. That is how the Senate is supposed to work.

Lindsey chaired some of the most powerful committees in this Chamber. As chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, he led the second fastest confirmation of a Supreme Court Justice of all times—Amy Coney Barrett.

When this Congress began in 2025, he became the chairman of the Senate Budget Committee. He made clear that he would carry out the agenda that the American people had just voted for in November of 2024. He guided the Senate through some of the toughest battles we have ever had. The Working Families Tax Cut law and the Secure America Act are a direct result of Lindsey Graham's leadership.

As whip, my job is to count the votes, and I could always count on Lindsey to help when the votes were close. The Senate has taken 135 votes on hostile amendments from the Democrats in the last year and a half. They were trying to undermine the Republican agenda. Thanks to Lindsey's persistence and his help, we did not lose a single one.

Lindsey truly was a force of nature here in the Senate. From the cloakroom to the committee room, to the campaign trail, he brimmed with ideas and with energy. That is what makes his passing and the timing of it so tragic. He was at the peak of his influence and impact. He still had so much more to do and to give.

The U.S. Senate will never see anyone quite like Lindsey Graham again. He was a happy warrior, he always put service before himself, and he believed in the Senate as an institution. He continued to shape it throughout his successful and significant career. He helped make America stronger and safer.

I join the entire Senate and his friends and his family in mourning the loss of our dear friend Lindsey Graham.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SHEEHY). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

REMEMBERING LINDSEY GRAHAM

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, Lindsey Graham was a self-made American original. Born in Central, SC, Lindsey grew up in a room behind his parents' bar and pool hall, where he worked to help the family make ends meet and earned the nickname “Stinkball” from its patrons because of his sense of humor and his irrepressible nature and his rascal streak, as he called it.

I saw that in my first experience with Lindsey Graham. I traveled with him and Senator McCain to the Munich Security Conference in 2013 as a brandnew Congressman. That evening, as I was meeting some of the other Senators on the delegation—Senator Ayotte and Senator Corker—Lindsey came up to me and slapped me on the back and asked me who the hell I was. I introduced myself, and I told him a little bit about my story, my service in the Army before I was elected to the House. He told me I was great; I needed to run for the Senate; we had to win the Senate seat in Arkansas.

The next morning, we had a 08 briefing with General Breedlove, then the commander of our forces in Europe, and Lindsey stumbled in at about 8:55. Senator McCain hailed the arrival of his illegitimate son, and then we had a coffee break 5 minutes later, when Lindsey came over, slapped me on the back, and said: You were great. We have got to have you run for Senate. Now, what was your name again?

That was Lindsey, self-described rascal that he was. I often joked about it—and with him. You never knew quite what Lindsey was up to, but it probably wasn't nothing.

He became the first member of his family to attend college. After suddenly and unexpectedly losing both parents while attending the University of South Carolina, he stepped in to raise his beloved younger sister Darline. But even in the face of tragedy, Lindsey's grit, determination, and faith enabled him to finish college, earn a law degree, serve in the Air Force, and eventually make his way here to the U.S. Congress.

When Lindsey arrived in the House in 1995 as the first Republican Congressman from South Carolina's Third Congressional District since 1877, he brought with him a sense of duty and responsibility, a love for liberty, and a resolute commitment to America's national security.

He carried this with him to the Senate, where he served for more than two decades and became the first person in South Carolina history to earn more than 1 million votes in a general election. Needless to say, South Carolinians loved him, and it is not hard to see why.

Throughout my time working with Lindsey in the Senate, he fought for South Carolinians, he defended America's founding principles, and he supported the men and women of our military.