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Senate

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

PRAYER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's opening prayer will be offered by Pastor Max Lucado, Pastor of the Oak Hills Church, San Antonio, TX.

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the privilege of prayer. We ask that You receive our praise and heed our requests.

We praise You for the abundant blessings of health, healing, and hope. We thank You for the grace that saves us and Your sovereign hand that protects us.

On this day, I thank You specifically for the service of our dear friend Senator JOHN CORNYN. You have blessed him with integrity, wisdom, and the heart of a servant. As he enters a new chapter, we request Your favor to be upon him and Sandy.

Let those who serve You in this chamber do exactly that—serve You as they serve this country. Fill them with humility, discernment, and strength.

May all of our lives bring You honor.

And may we be found faithful when You return to take us home.

In the name of the One who saves, we pray. 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. SHEEHY). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE RESOLUTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the following resolution.

The clerk will report the executive resolution.

The senior assistant executive clerk read as follows:

An executive resolution (S. Res. 817) authorizing the en bloc consideration in Executive Session of certain nominations on the Executive Calendar.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

ORGAN TRANSPLANT PROGRAM

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, in a bipartisan approach, about 5 years ago, we passed legislation to correct the wrongs in our organ transplant program.

So, in my two decades spent fighting for U.S. organ donation reforms, I have heard far too many stories of patients who have lost their lives due to the negligence and abuse of that transplant system.

Recently, I requested the Government Accountability Office—GAO for short—to study and to report back to me about the challenges and the opportunities to improve pediatric organ allocation and transplantation, and that is a particularly difficult operation for the people that are involved in distributing organs.

We have about 2,000 kids on a waiting list for organ transplants, and 25 percent of that 2,000 are under the age of 5.

Pediatric patients have limited time and opportunity to receive an organ

transplant, as organ size is critical to successful transplantation.

And this is especially true for kids waiting for liver transplants. Sadly, 1 in 10 infants listed for liver transplants never get a second chance at life.

The organ procurement and transplantation system could do a better job of serving kids. We know that if a child can get an organ transplant in a timely manner, their chances of living a healthy, longer life increase.

I am hopeful that GAO's findings will inform better oversight of the current organ system, and I am also hopeful that these same GAO findings will inform data-driven policymaking to improve the system for children and their families.

I yield the floor.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, 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 quorum call be rescinded.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The majority leader is recognized.

APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, next week, our top priority will be funding the government until the November election.

The American people have faced two—two—recordbreaking government shutdowns in the past 10 months. We need to ensure that they do not face a third. We owe the American people some certainty here. They should not have to be hoping and praying that on September 30, the government will get funded and that government services will continue.

I don't think I need to tell anybody in this body that government shutdowns serve no one—not Members of either party and, most of all, not the

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



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American people. Shutdowns strain our national security agencies. They threaten military, law enforcement, and civilian pay. They endanger nutrition benefits, farm programs, and a whole lot of other stuff. They are bad for our economy, and they snarl air travel. I could go on.

Shutdowns hit our country—they hit the American people—hard, and we owe it to the American people to ensure that they do not face another shutdown this fall. That is why Senate Appropriations Committee Chair COLLINS has been hard at work drafting a clean, bipartisan continuing resolution to fund the government through the November elections. I appreciate everything she has done to make this happen—engaging with Members of both parties and working through the necessary anomalies from the Office of Management and Budget—and I intend to bring the CR to the floor for a vote next week.

Again, I would emphasize that the appropriators are working in good faith to produce a clean, bipartisan product that is free of poison pills, and I hope that will ensure a robust bipartisan vote next week so that the American people don't have to spend the next 2 months wondering if the Senate is going to do its job, because that is what this is—our job. Funding the government is our most basic responsibility as Members of Congress, and we owe it to the American people to get that job done and done now.

I urge all of my colleagues to support the clean, bipartisan continuing resolution and get our government funded.

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. 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.

DEMOCRAT PARTY

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, today's Democrat Party is being driven by extremists, and there is actually an extreme group that is driving the party further and further to the left. It is called the Democratic Socialists of America. Its membership is growing, its radical candidates are winning, and its far-left vision is spreading. You may see it happening in Michigan this coming Tuesday with their primary election.

This organization has issued a manifesto. That is right—a manifesto. In a recent interview with FOX News, the cochair of the Democratic Socialists of America admitted that this manifesto is filled with policies and politics that are extreme. She admitted it. Let me say it again. The cochair of the Democratic Socialists of America admitted on national television that their manifesto is filled with extreme policies. She has now become the face of today's Democrat Party all across the country.

She was asked whether her organization wants to abolish the U.S. Senate. She said, "True."

She was asked whether they want to replace the Presidency and the Supreme Court.

She said, "Yep."

She was asked whether they want to abolish ICE, Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

She said, "Absolutely."

She was asked whether they want to abolish borders and give amnesty to every illegal immigrant in America, including illegal immigrant criminals.

She said, "As a long-term plan, yep."

She was asked whether they want to defund our military.

She replied, "Absolutely."

She was asked whether they want to abolish prisons.

She said, "Yeah."

She was asked whether they want government control of private companies.

She said, "Yeah. Absolutely."

There you have it. Those are some of the policies of the liberal left.

Today's Democrat Party is being driven by its activist wing. These are people who are radical, extreme, dangerous, and scary. They have put it in writing—they include it in their manifesto—and they are admitting it out loud on television.

Here in the U.S. Senate, Democrat Senators are embracing these radical policies. They are campaigning and will be campaigning this weekend for extremists in their parties. One sitting Democrat Senator, whose desk is right over there, said, clearly, we are seeing "the future of the Democrat Party."

Their manifesto is being reflected in the votes of the Democrats on this floor of the U.S. Senate.

For 65 years, the National Defense Authorization Act has passed with bipartisan support in the Senate. This month, every single Democrat in this body voted to block funding for our military. Our servicemembers are paying the price, and they are paying the price because the Democrats have turned to the radical left. Even the New York Times admits Democrats have crossed a red line by blocking defense funding.

The same radical agenda that targets America also targets our closest ally, Israel. One of the leaders of this anti-Israel campaign is the current mayor of New York City. He has called for the arrest of Israel's Prime Minister. This is exactly what their radical manifesto demands. The liberal, extreme mayor of New York City wants to hand over the Prime Minister of Israel to an unaccountable group called the International Criminal Court. It is not a real court. It lacks legitimacy. It lacks credibility. In its 24 years of existence, it has never charged a single leader of Iran for Iran's atrocities against the world. Yet this group claims the right to arrest and punish America's men and women in uniform.

The United States is not a member of the so-called International Criminal Court nor is Israel.

The mayor of New York City is a loyalist of the United Nations, not the United States.

From the campaign trail to the cloakroom of Congress, the far left has revealed its radical beliefs. Democrats are determined to tear down our country and tear up the Constitution. They want to open the borders and control the economy. They want to weaken our military and abandon Israel.

These policies would be disastrous for our Nation. There is no part of America that they do not want to destroy.

The American people reject Democrats' radical policies. The American people demand and deserve better.

Republicans are going to continue to fight for freedom, for liberty, and for continued American greatness.

As long as there is a Constitution, Republicans will not abolish the Senate. No State will lose its equal voice without its consent, and we will not silence the voice of the people who we represent.

Republicans will not end immigration enforcement. Our priority is safety for law-abiding citizens, not illegal immigrant criminals. Republicans will never allow America to become a sanctuary country. Republicans will not abolish prisons. Republicans will not release criminals back into our communities.

Democrats' pro-crime policies are dangerous, and they are dangerous all across the country.

We have a Constitution, and that Constitution and secure borders and law and order and military strength and economic freedom—they are not optional. They are the foundation of a free society, one that Democrats want to tear down.

Without these fundamental foundations of a free society, there really is no safety, no security, no prosperity, and no self-government. Republicans and most Americans know that. Without them, there is no United States of America.

Let me end where I began. Today's Democrat Party is being driven by the radical left. They have a movement. They have a manifesto. And they mean to do great harm to our country. We cannot allow it to happen.

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.

ECONOMY

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, today, the disastrous Trump economy delivered another one-two gut punch to the American people: Growth is down. Costs are up.

The American people don't need government reports and economists to tell