

State of Oregon. That included making sure that our respective congressional and political staffs abided by that agreement. That last bit, as Senators know, sometimes can be easier said than done.

We quickly learned that Kurt's word really meant something. Trust can be awfully difficult to make happen in politics, even with those in your own political party, but we came to see that Kurt's word, in fact, was his bond. Our staffs learned to work together—occasionally through gritted teeth—and Kurt and Gordon always upheld their end of the agreement.

Those years of the Oregon bipartisan partnership with Gordon and Kurt were extraordinarily, extraordinarily important to me. I believe they were fruitful years, and we owe so much of that credit for all the collaboration to the leadership and decency of Kurt.

After Kurt left the Congress and Gordon's office, he went on to a very successful career in the financial services sector. He culminated his years there as executive vice president and vice chairman of First American Title Insurance. I know his colleagues there feel an enormous loss, too, because Kurt was the kind of individual who conducted himself professionally and lived his life daily in a way that served as an example, particularly to young people around him.

Kurt was generous with his time, his financial resources, and especially with his heart. He believed in the communities that he was a part of and he was beloved by the communities that he touched. His commitment to service was reflected in a lifelong dedication to always trying to help others. For decades, Kurt and his wonderful wife, Nancy, were sole supporters of The Children's Light Home orphanage in India. He served on the board of directors for the Opens Doors Foundation, and he helped provide mortgage and rental assistance to the many families that had disabled kids.

His support for those in need continued even in his final days. He extended help at that time to a chemo patient from out of town who lived out of the cab of his truck on his chemo days at the Mayo Clinic. Kurt helped his fellow patient with lodging. That, Mr. President—and I say this on behalf of all Oregonians who got to know Kurt—tells you what Kurt Pfothauer was always about, the Kurt we knew and the Kurt we loved.

He fought an incredibly courageous 18-month-long battle against cancer. Kurt used that time creating special memories with his beloved wife Nancy and their five kids and grandchildren. Family was everything to Kurt.

I want to extend a special thank-you to all of them for sharing Kurt with all of us here in the Senate, and I want to extend a heartfelt thank-you to Kurt's family on behalf of Oregonians and our Nation for all that he did to make our country and the great State of Oregon a better place.

Kurt's many wise and kind deeds on Earth are going to continue to create opportunity, and opportunity is what our country is all about. Opportunity is when we are at our best, and, my God, Kurt Pfothauer created a lot of opportunity for generations, in Oregon and in our country, to have a better life in the days ahead.

Kurt served as a trusted adviser and confidant to me, and that will be something I will always miss. My former chief of staff and I are always going to remember and love our friend Kurt Pfothauer. May his memory be a blessing to all who knew him and to all who have studied what he has done to make a difference. May people reflect on that in the days ahead and may it be a comfort.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democrat leader.

S. 836

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I am very glad that today the Senate is taking a major step forward to protect our kids online. Today, the Senate is passing unanimously COPPA, the Children Online Privacy and Protection Act.

The bill expands the current law protecting our kids online to ensure companies cannot collect personal information from anyone under the age of 17. This is a big step forward for protecting our kids. We hope the House can join us. They haven't thus far. But this is really important to protect kids online. To ban targeting advertising to children and teens makes imminent sense. To establish data minimization rules to prohibit the excessive collection of children and teens' data makes sense.

So this is a very good day for kids throughout America. This is a very good day for their parents as well, who can breathe a sigh of relief that some real protections for kids online are finally passing the Senate once again.

I yield the floor.

HOUSING FOR THE 21ST CENTURY ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUESTS

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, it has been nearly 6 weeks—6 weeks—since Alex Pretti was killed by masked Federal agents in broad daylight. It has been over 9 weeks since Renee Good was killed. And day after day, week after week, we have seen Americans brutalized by an out-of-control Department of Homeland Security—American citizens detained without cause, children ripped away from their families—as this administration treats them like political pawns in their sick games. We have seen peaceful protesters have their windows broken in by untrained and unidentifiable agents. And we have seen more people get hurt and even die because of how ICE and Border Patrol have been conducting themselves.

In this entire time, Democrats have been pushing for serious reform to rein in these Agencies. For months, I have been at the table in good faith, pushing to secure basic accountability measures for ICE and Border Patrol. We are talking about standards local police already follow across the country.

But even before Alex Pretti was shot and killed, Republicans and this White House, in particular, were telling us no on many basic reforms that would rein in ICE and CBP.

We pushed for commonsense steps to make sure poorly trained agents and officers do not trample the basic rights of American citizens and kill them for no reason. And we pushed for steps to prevent these rogue Agencies from hiding the facts from the public and sweeping everything under the rug.

But my colleagues across the aisle came back to us and said: Sorry, we cannot agree to those.

Sometimes, my Republican colleagues were willing to take one modest step or another, which I appreciate, only to have to come back and say the White House was not willing to do that, and they had to hold the line. Or worse, they backtracked on measures we agreed to because of fears of what the White House would think.

And now, here we find ourselves, nearly 6 weeks after Alex Pretti's brutal killing, and Republicans so far have continued to refuse to join us to pass any commonsense reforms to prevent more Americans from being hurt or even killed by masked Federal agents.

As I have said many times, we are not asking for the Moon. We are asking for basic steps to protect Americans' constitutional rights and their safety.

There is nothing new or controversial about body cameras or requiring identification be displayed. There is nothing extreme about insisting that ICE and Border Patrol follow the same standards as everyone else when it comes to use of force or needing a warrant before smashing in someone's door and dragging them away. These are common sense, and they are overwhelmingly popular.

This is what the American people are demanding. But Republicans have decided they would rather shut down DHS than work with us to rein in these rogue Agencies. Republicans know full well that Democrats do want to ensure that TSA and CISA and FEMA and other important Agencies are funded.

What Democrats have a problem with is funding rogue Agencies that are actively violating court orders and our civil rights and putting Americans' safety at risk. We cannot—we will not—cut a blank check for funding without reforms for ICE and Border Patrol.

But if Republicans keep dragging their feet on those basic reforms we are asking for to protect people from those rogue Federal Agencies, then we should at least make sure that TSA agents get paid and FEMA is fully funded while those negotiations continue.

TSA agents should not go without pay because Republicans refuse to agree to commonsense reforms instead of cutting another blank check for Kristi Noem and Stephen Miller to terrorize Americans.

So, yes, let's pay our Coast Guard and our TSA. Let's replenish the Disaster Relief Fund and support other work that we overwhelmingly all agree on. I have a bill that I will offer in a moment that will do that. We can pass it right now, while pressing ahead with negotiations on ICE and Border Patrol to get basic reforms and accountability the American people want.

All week, I have heard my colleagues on the other side of the aisle loudly say funding for DHS could not be more important in this moment. They have argued the instability this President has unleashed with his reckless war in Iran means Democrats must now fund DHS, including ICE, with no reforms at all.

Now, there are some obvious problems with that argument, like the bizarre notion that because Trump started a reckless war with Iran, Democrats now must rush and cut a blank check; or the fact that the biggest threat to cyber and counterterrorism work at DHS seems to be Kristi Noem, who, by the way, over the last year, has gutted CISA and has taken folks off the terrorism beat to deport farmworkers with no criminal history.

But put all that aside. I completely agree we should fund our cyber defense Agencies and FEMA and TSA.

So I hope my Republican colleagues, who also believe—I know they do—that these Agencies are important and have been making the case they do need funding, will join with me today to get this bill passed while talks on ICE and Border Patrol and much needed reform and accountability measures can continue.

With that, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of my bill, which is at the desk; that the bill be considered read three times and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mrs. BRITT. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I would like a moment to respond to my colleague from Washington.

Democrats claim they are no longer for open borders. Yet they are now proposing to actually defund border security. Their proposal completely defunds Customs and Border Protection, including Border Patrol.

Year over year, fentanyl deaths are down 24 percent. When you take overdoses of drug and fentanyl, that is down 24 percent because of the good work of CBP. But you want to defund that. Why?

During the Biden administration, we had a record high of overdoses. Do you know what the American people said?

They said: No more, no more. We are sick of the failed Biden border policies.

We expect the people who are elected to represent us to actually do that.

And there are moms and dads that are sitting around their kitchen table with a child who would not be here but for the courageous acts of CBP. But Democrats, today, say they want to defund them.

Additionally, Democrats claim they are no longer the party of "defund the police." Yet, today, they actually came here and asked to defund our law enforcement officers—our law enforcement officers that do a multitude of things. They are asking to defund HSI today.

I heard the minority leader give a few remarks earlier. I was glad to see him down here. And he talked about the need to protect children. I wish that the other side of the aisle had that level of conviction over the last 4 years of the Biden administration, when we lost over 500,000 kids to Joe Biden's failed border policies, on which this side of the aisle said: Nothing can be done with it unless we pass a law. There are no reforms that can stop this flow further. There are no reforms.

They actually did away with a DNA policy to make sure those kids went to someone that they were related to. Do you know what you are defunding? You are defunding an Agency that found 145 of those lost children.

I agree with my colleague from Washington that children should matter. When you think about what else HSI does, they go find child predators. HSI is responsible for capturing these men, and, today, you all decided that is not worth funding. We are no longer going to go after people who are child pornographers, child predators, sex traffickers, drug traffickers. The worst of the worst is who HSI has found and gotten rid of, but, today, the Democrats came and said: We are not going to fund it.

You are defunding ERO personnel, who removed these trained national cartel members and violent criminals, and you are defunding CBP personnel.

Look, it is very clear, through their actions today, that they are still the party of open borders. They are still the party of "defund the police"—now, actually, more than ever. You can't get more radical than that. That was actually rejected at the ballot box last November.

But we know this couldn't come at a more dangerous time. We know, when we saw what happened in Austin, that there was an increased level of threat to our interior. We know that, in December 2025, the Director of the National Counterterrorism Center testified that the United States had admitted over 18,000 known or suspected terrorists as part of Biden's parole program.

When you are looking at this—when you are looking at the CBP and the fact that, in fiscal year 2025, they got 4,800 known terrorists or terrorist suspects at the border and, in fiscal year 2026, 3,950, we have work to do.

We want to work with our colleagues on the other side of the aisle. We want to find a pathway forward, but it takes actually having conversations and working together to be able to do that. This is completely moving us in the wrong direction. It would endanger the lives of our families and, ultimately, the safety of our Nation. Therefore, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, unfortunately, what has become very clear is that Republicans would rather keep the entire DHS shut down than work with Democrats to prevent more Americans from being killed by masked agents.

My Democratic colleagues and I have been very, very clear on the reforms we need. It is not secret, and we have been pushing for them for weeks on end, in good faith, to finalize a DHS bill that funds TSA and FEMA while reining in ICE and the CBP. But Republicans and the White House have now, for months, refused to agree to those basic reforms that we need to make to keep Americans safe. They have said again and again that we need to fund FEMA and TSA and other key Agencies. Well, I just tried to pass a bill that would make sure that those Agencies are funded while talks on reforms and accountability measures for ICE and Border Patrol continue. So guess what. They blocked that too.

Now, this is not complicated. Democrats want to get TSA officers paid and fund disaster relief, but we will not vote to help Republicans spend one more dime letting Stephen Miller terrorize our cities, and we will not vote to cut a blank check so that ICE can barge into Americans' homes without a warrant. We will not vote to allow ICE agents to continue wearing masks as they terrorize our communities and evade accountability. We need accountability for ICE and for Border Patrol.

It is not just Democrats' saying that. The American people overwhelmingly agree that Trump's and Noem's lawless rampage has got to come to an end. People feel that way because we have all seen what has happened. It is in plain sight. We have all seen the videos of people who are tackled and pepper-sprayed in the face and seen the protesters who are gassed for no reason. We have seen the horrific shootings of Renee Good and Alex Pretti, and we have seen Kristi Noem, ICE, and the Border Patrol blatantly lie and slander people like Renee and Alex and Marimar Martinez by falsely calling them domestic terrorists.

What we have not yet seen is accountability. That is what has got to end. No number of Republican revotes on the same failed bill is going to change that and while our bill to fund the Coast Guard and TSA and FEMA, as negotiations continue, was just objected to. So I am ready at any time to pass that. It is the right thing to do.

Instead of blocking bills to pay TSA agents or wasting time with dead-on-

arrival legislation, I hope that Republicans will listen to what we are asking for and listen to what their constituents are asking for. We need to see ICE have accountability. Work with us to pass those reforms in order to fund that full Agency.

With that, I want my colleagues to know I will continue to work to get that done.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mrs. BRITT. Mr. President, we would love to listen. That would be great because we passed a continuing resolution for 2 weeks, and to my knowledge, there were no conversations between elected Democrats and elected Republicans to try and find a pathway forward. Then, in the last 2 weeks, we have been asking to have those conversations, and we have been asking to listen because we believe that this is important. So I am calling on my Democratic colleagues to be a part of that, to be a part of the solution. I certainly know that we want to.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 156, H.R. 4553. I further ask that the Britt substitute amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, in reserving the right to object, look, I, too, am frustrated this body has not been able to reach an agreement on the DHS funding bill. In particular, I am frustrated that my colleagues across the aisle and in the White House are still refusing to agree to work with us on commonsense measures to protect our constituents from being shot and even killed by unidentifiable, untrained ICE and Border Patrol agents.

Democrats have been very clear on this for weeks. We want to fund FEMA and TSA, and we want to protect Americans from the violence at the hands of rogue Federal Agencies. This is not complicated. We can and we must do both.

I have always been very clear about what we cannot do, which is cut another blank check for Kristi Noem to terrorize our communities. Unfortunately, that is what the bill from the junior Senator from Alabama would do. It would kick the can down the road and give more money to ICE and Border Patrol to trample American rights. That is not an acceptable outcome.

If Republicans won't agree to the commonsense measures we have been pushing for weeks—measures that police departments across America already adhere to—then I am absolutely willing and ready to fund the rest of DHS while talks on ICE and CBP continue. In fact, that is what the bill did that I just offered.

I object to this measure, and I really hope our Republican colleagues will join me in supporting the bill I called up a few moments ago to fund the TSA and FEMA and CISA while those talks continue. So I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The majority leader.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026—Motion to Proceed to the Motion to Reconsider

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to the motion to reconsider the cloture vote from February 12 on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 311, H.R. 7147.

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

MOTION TO RECONSIDER

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the cloture vote on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 311, H.R. 7147.

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

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 311, H.R. 7147, a bill making further consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes.

John Thune, John Barrasso, John R. Curtis, Bill Hagerty, Tim Sheehy, Thom Tillis, Tom Cotton, Joni Ernst, Jim Banks, Markwayne Mullin, Tommy Tuberville, Steve Daines, Josh Hawley, Tim Scott of South Carolina, Jon Husted, Pete Ricketts, Susan M. Collins.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the mandatory quorum call under rule XXII has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to proceed to H.R. 7147, a bill making further consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close, upon reconsideration?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) is necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 51, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 47 Leg.]

YEAS—51

Banks	Fischer	Moody
Barrasso	Graham	Moreno
Blackburn	Grassley	Mullin
Boozman	Hagerty	Murkowski
Britt	Hawley	Paul
Budd	Hoeven	Ricketts
Capito	Husted	Risch
Collins	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Cornyn	Johnson	Schmitt
Cotton	Justice	Scott (FL)
Cramer	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Crapo	Lankford	Sheehy
Cruz	Lee	Sullivan
Curtis	Lummis	Thune
Daines	Marshall	Tillis
Ernst	McConnell	Wicker
Fetterman	McCormick	Young

NAYS—45

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

NOT VOTING—4

Cassidy	Moran	Tuberville
Hassan		

(Mr. BARRASSO assumed the Chair.)
The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. LUMMIS). On this vote, the yeas are 51, the nays are 45.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, the motion, upon reconsideration, is not agreed to.

The motion was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. BOOKER. Madam President, your mic wasn't on. What did you call me? What was the name that you used?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. BOOKER. Madam President, thank you. I truly appreciate the Presiding Officer.

I hope that was recorded by the stenographer that the Presiding Officer called me a gentleman.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Duly noted.

TRIBUTE TO CAROLE DARCHÉ

Mr. BOOKER. Madam President, to my colleagues in the Senate, to the Senate President, to all those assembled here, I am rising to give this speech, and I feel such privilege because I get to recognize someone whose work most Americans never see but whose contribution is woven into the very history of this institution.

When a Senator comes to the floor to speak, whether it is daily routine address or a moment that will echo through generations, there is always someone standing just off camera, often unnoticed, a stenograph machine hanging from their neck, capturing every word we say. They record our arguments and our aspirations, our disagreements and our dreams, our long