

Murphy	Rounds	Sullivan
Paul	Rubio	Thune
Perdue	Sasse	Tillis
Portman	Scott (FL)	Toomey
Risch	Scott (SC)	Warner
Roberts	Shaheen	Wicker
Romney	Shelby	Wyden
Rosen	Sinema	Young

## NAYS—27

Baldwin	Klobuchar	Schatz
Booker	Leahy	Schumer
Cardin	Markey	Smith
Coons	Menendez	Stabenow
Duckworth	Merkley	Tester
Gillibrand	Murray	Udall
Heinrich	Peters	Van Hollen
Hirono	Reed	Warren
Kaine	Sanders	Whitehouse

## NOT VOTING—1

Harris

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 72, the nays are 27.

The motion is agreed to.

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Gordon Hartogensis, of Connecticut, to be Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation for a term of five years.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. MORAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the postcloture time on the Hartogensis nomination expire at 5 p.m. today. I further ask that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

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 Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.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

## MUELLER REPORT

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, the Mueller report, released earlier this month, was divided into two sections. One is detailing the concerted and coordinated effort by President Putin to interfere in our Presidential election, an effort the Trump campaign welcomed and at times amplified. It also included a second section, which laid out a pattern of dishonesty and interference with a Federal investigation by the President and his team.

Now, today I want to focus the Senate's attention on the first half of the report: the coordinated effort by President Putin to interfere in our elections, which is an unbelievable thing, a threat to our democracy, and some-

thing every American should be concerned about.

Though we have long known about President Putin's interference in the 2016 elections—we have all known about that—the conclusions of the Mueller report demand a vigorous response by this Congress to ensure that Putin pays a significant price for his actions and that Putin and other adversaries will not consider a similar action in the 2020 election cycle. What occurred in 2016 was nothing short of an assault on our democracy and an attack on our most revered traditions. It was the kind of foreign influence feared by the Framers and warned about in the Federalist Papers. It is the very reason we have an emoluments clause in our Constitution.

Even so, President Trump and his administration met these attacks with apathy. The President has routinely sought to undermine and weaken efforts by this Chamber to sanction Russia. The Treasury Department recently cut a deal to reduce sanctions on the Russian oligarch Oleg Deripaska.

Just last week, the Times reported that then-Homeland Security Secretary Nielsen was told to not even mention election security in front of the President, even though she reportedly considered it one of America's highest priorities as we head into 2020.

In the face of the administration's disturbing indifference, it is clear the Senate must act. In the past, this body has proudly come together, bipartisan, to pass sanctions on Russia. We have not done enough yet to hold the guilty parties of 2016 accountable, and we must do more to ensure that a foreign power cannot meddle in our elections ever again. With that in mind, I have three proposals for my colleagues to consider.

First, we should pass additional sanctions against President Putin, his cronies, and other adversaries considering similar malign activities. There are multiple bipartisan sanctions bills awaiting action, including the Defending American Security from Kremlin Aggression Act, called DASKA, and the Defending Elections from Threats by Establishing Redlines Act, the DETER Act. I would urge the chairmen of those committees to take up those bills and send them to the floor, where Leader McConnell should bring them up for serious consideration.

Second, we should commit serious—and I mean serious—resources to election security. FBI Director Wray and other intelligence officials have testified that 2016 was not an isolated incident. Foreign powers will try again to interfere in our elections, they posited, in 2020 and beyond. Director Wray—and this should trouble every American—called 2018 a dress rehearsal for our adversaries. It might not just be Moscow next time. It could be Beijing, Tehran, or Pyongyang. If our elections are susceptible to foreign influence, our democracy is at risk.

We know—we know right now—that another foreign influence campaign is

coming, and if we don't take steps to secure our elections, it would be astonishingly irresponsible. In fiscal year 2018, we were able to allocate \$380 million in funding through the appropriations process for States to harden their election infrastructure and help improve election administration. I thought this was very important and pushed hard to get it in that budget, that appropriation. Unfortunately, though, in fiscal year 2019, our Republican colleagues blocked us from allocating more funding to the States, despite overwhelming demand. Why? Why would Republicans want to not stop Russia or someone else from interfering in our elections? It is befuddling. Make no mistake, though, Democrats will push for more election security money in the upcoming appropriations process.

We should also take up the bipartisan Secure Elections Act. Ranking Member LEAHY and Ranking Member KLOBUCHAR are the leaders on this issue, and I hope their diligence will pay off once again.

Third, we must hear from the intelligence and defense community about the coming threats of 2020. So today I would like to request that Leader McConnell—I am officially requesting him to schedule an all-Senators classified briefing with the leaders of the Departments of Homeland Security, FBI, and the Cyber Command to inform Senators about the threat of foreign interference in the 2020 election cycle. We must be very aware of these threats and take immediate steps to avoid the repeat of 2016.

The Senate can do these three things quickly, and each one of them should be bipartisan and noncontroversial. There are no doubt other ideas and legislation along these lines we should consider, but this is a place to get started. I look forward to having discussions with my colleagues about these items in the coming days.

## SENATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Madam President, Leg Graveyard. Now, on another and related matter, the three items I just mentioned are examples of the things that the Senate could—could—be doing in a bipartisan way to address a serious challenge. I hope the Republican leader sees the value in pursuing them because so far this year the Republican leader has shown little interest in pursuing meaningful bipartisan legislation.

With over a year and a half left in Congress, Leader McConnell has turned this Chamber into a legislative graveyard, and without a shred of irony, he has proudly bragged that he is the Senate's Grim Reaper. Is that what the American people want? They urge us to work together in a bipartisan way, but Leader McConnell takes all the bills that have passed the House, puts them in his drawer, and spends his time simply doing nominations.

We are one-quarter of the way through the year, so let's do a quick