

for disaster funding, and we have sent it over to the House.

Regretfully, they are gone.

The President has indicated he supports it. So the Senate's bipartisan vote is a big step toward making law and actually delivering the relief that communities across our Nation sorely need.

I am sorry that our House Democratic colleagues blocked commonsense efforts to include funding in this legislation for the ongoing humanitarian crisis down on the southern border. Despite days of negotiations, House Democrats insisted that we could not provide more funding for our overwhelmed agencies, which are running on fumes, without including other poison-pill policy riders. As a result, today's agreement omits those needed resources.

This wasn't money for the wall or even law enforcement. It was money so that the Federal Government can continue to house, feed, and care for the men, women, and children showing up along our southern border—money for agencies that are currently, literally, running on fumes.

This is money that is so uncontroversial—so uncontroversial—that even the New York Times published an editorial titled, “Congress, Give Trump His Border Money.”

Even the New York Times blasted the “political gamesmanship [that] threatens to hold up desperately needed resources.” That is what they called it—political gamesmanship.

Well, I am sorry to say their political gamesmanship did hold up these resources. Apparently, our House Democratic colleagues heard “President Trump” and the word “border” in the same sentence and decided they preferred no action at all to the sensible compromise that even the New York Times had called for.

It is too bad that partisan spite has infected even such blindingly obvious priorities as the humanitarian efforts on our own southern border. I am sorry that our Democratic friends have become so committed to “the resistance” that they are now to the left of the New York Times editorial board.

Nevertheless, we should celebrate the progress we are making today. The Senate passage of this legislation marks a huge step forward for communities across the United States that have gone far too long without receiving this Federal assistance to help them get back on their feet.

Finally, the millions of Americans who have grappled with nature's worst are closer to receiving the supplemental aid they urgently need for the western communities that are still sorting through the ashes of last year's record-breaking wildfires; our coastal states in the Southeast and Puerto Rico, where hurricane damage punched holes in homes, businesses, and critical infrastructure; the Deep South communities victimized by tornadoes; and for those still grappling with the flood-

waters that have surged over farms and towns across the Midwest and in my own State of Kentucky.

So I am grateful and relieved that Chairman SHELBY, Senator LEAHY, and colleagues of ours, including Senators PERDUE, ISAKSON, RICK SCOTT, RUBIO, ERNST, THUNE, BLUNT, SASSE, and others have brought us to this point with their tireless work on this subject.

I am grateful to the President for his leadership and focus on getting an outcome. I am glad we passed this legislation and sent it to the House. I urge our colleagues over in the House to support it.

#### SETTING FORTH THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET FOR THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 78, S. 1332.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 78, S. 1332, a bill to set forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2020 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2021 through 2029.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk for the motion to proceed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant 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. 78 S. 1332, a bill to set forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2020 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2021 through 2029.

Mitch McConnell, John Thune, Johnny Isakson, Jerry Moran, Mike Crapo, Roger F. Wicker, Steve Daines, Roy Blunt, Richard C. Shelby, Richard Burr, Mike Lee, James Lankford, John Cornyn, James E. Risch, David Perdue, Tim Scott, Rand Paul.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 157.

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

The clerk will report the nomination. The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Andrew M. Saul, of New York, to be Commissioner of Social Security for the term expiring January 19, 2025. (Reappointment)

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant 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 nomination of Andrew M. Saul, of New York, to be Commissioner of Social Security for the term expiring January 19, 2025. (Reappointment)

Mitch McConnell, Pat Roberts, Steve Daines, John Barrasso, Tim Scott, Lindsey Graham, John Boozman, Roger F. Wicker, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Richard Burr, Mike Crapo, David Perdue, John Thune, Tom Cotton, Rick Scott, Mike Rounds, John Cornyn.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

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

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 224.

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

The clerk will report the nomination. The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of David Schenker, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Near Eastern Affairs).

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant 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 nomination of David Schenker, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Near Eastern Affairs).

Mitch McConnell, Pat Roberts, Steve Daines, John Barrasso, Tim Scott, Lindsey Graham, John Boozman, Roger F. Wicker, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Richard Burr, Mike Crapo, David Perdue, John Thune, Tom Cotton, Rick Scott, Mike Rounds, John Cornyn.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

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