

checking are making a mess of what is going on at the southern border.

So I would say to the President: There is a much better way to address the migration issue than with tariffs. Deal with the problems in the Central American countries that are causing the migration in the first place.

The Democrats have proposed legislation that would do just that—stem the tide of migrants and help to reduce the backlog of cases. How?

First, allow asylum seekers to apply for asylum in their home countries. If the people under all of this gang violence and viciousness and economic hardship would be able to apply for asylum in Honduras or in Guatemala or in El Salvador instead of having to take a dangerous and often expensive 1,000-mile trek, they would do it. Why don't we do that? Let's increase the number of immigration judges so there could be adjudication rather quickly, and let's build the capacity of Central American countries to crack down on the violent gangs and vicious drug cartels.

Our bill would provide \$1.5 billion in security assistance to these countries, which is far more than the Trump administration has cut, but it is still nonsensical to have cut this money. This administration gets in its own way almost every day, but the solutions we proposed are the types we should debate.

So we are going to push forward with these proposals. Democrats will seek to add these policies to any package of border legislation that comes here before the Senate. If no legislation dealing with the border comes up, Democrats will seek to add security assistance for Central American countries to an appropriations bill and push for language that requires the administration to use it. This is so important that we will push hard in whatever vehicle we can find to move this proposal.

Again, all of these policies would have a far greater impact, with far less disruption, than slapping tariffs on one of our Nation's largest trading partners.

Now, frankly, I don't believe President Trump will actually go through with the tariffs. When he doesn't, we should be ready to proceed to these commonsense policies instead.

President Trump has a habit of talking tough and then retreating because his tough talk can't be implemented or doesn't make sense. President Trump has a habit of proposing asinine and dangerous policies before backing off, and President Trump has a habit of pretending that the very act of not following through on a misguided policy is somehow a victory. I wouldn't be surprised at all if President Trump didn't follow through on these tariffs either.

We Democrats have proposed a much better solution to the problems the President is talking about, and when the President backs off on tariffs, as I believe he will, this is a solution ready

to go that can get bipartisan support that can actually stem the problems we have at our southern border.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 19TH AMENDMENT

Madam President, next, on the 19th Amendment anniversary, today we observe the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment by the U.S. Senate—a critical step in the long march for equality that began at the very founding of our country, when Abigail Adams implored her husband to “remember the ladies” when drafting the Constitution, a reminder that fell on deaf ears. It was a march that gathered numbers and force at Seneca Falls, under the leadership of brave New Yorkers like Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and found expression in the abolitionist movement.

While that march for equality under the law achieved a great and long-overdue victory 100 years ago, it is still not over. We have a lot to do. Wearing the yellow rose is wonderful, but it is not enough.

When women in the workplace do 100 percent of the work but only earn 80 percent of the pay as a man in the same position, the march is not over.

When good legislation like the House-passed Violence Against Women Act to provide justice to survivors of domestic violence and stalking languishes in this Chamber in a legislative graveyard because the NRA is opposed to it, that march is not over.

When the States are passing laws making it harder for minorities to vote, when State parties gerrymander districts to limit minority representation, and when the Supreme Court pretends that discrimination no longer exists in this country and guts the Voting Rights Act, the march to equality and universal suffrage is not over.

Without universal suffrage, democracy is incomplete. That was the lesson of the women who organized, protested, and compelled their government to pass the 19th Amendment by the slimmest of margins. So let us not consider June 4 a day to look back with complacency and remark on our historical progress, but rather as a day to look forward and recognize what we still must achieve.

There is no shortage of good work we could take up here in the Senate—pay-check fairness, Violence Against Women Act, the Equality Act, voting rights, election reform—to make sure all Americans can enjoy the full blessings of liberty. These pieces of legislation have passed the House and ended up in the legislative graveyard of the Senate. I can think of no better way to honor the legacy of the suffragists than to continue their work on breaking down barriers and strengthening our democracy.

ELECTION SECURITY

Madam President, finally, on election security, today's anniversary should also be a reminder of how precious our elections are and how we must guarantee that they continue to be fair and to be free.

Last week, Mr. Mueller reminded us once again that Russia conducted a

malign campaign to interfere in our 2016 elections. Director Wray and our intelligence community leaders have issued clear and unambiguous warnings that foreign powers will try to do it again in 2020.

The Senate must act on this. How can we sit by idly with our arms folded complacently while foreign countries try to interfere with our democracy—our beautiful, wonderful democracy?

We have bipartisan legislation ready right now to harden our election infrastructure and to hold foreign powers accountable for trying to meddle in our elections, but so far, much to our dismay—much to the Nation's dismay—Leader MCCONNELL has not indicated any openness to have this body consider it.

As frustrating as that is, we have made progress on my request for an all-Senators briefing on the threats of election meddling. We should hear from our leaders of the FBI and Homeland Security about the upcoming threats. Director Wray has already said something publicly about this.

Now, the good news here is that I spoke to the Republican leader, Leader MCCONNELL, and he has agreed to hold such an all-Senators briefing. We haven't gotten a date yet. I urge him to hold it as soon as possible, and certainly it should take place during this work period. This briefing should only be the beginning—the beginning only—of a larger conversation about the steps we must take to secure our elections.

Ladies and gentlemen, Democrats and Republicans, Americans, this is not optional. There aren't two sides to this issue. Our democracy was attacked, and we—both Democrats and Republicans—must take steps to prevent an attack in the future.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 19TH AMENDMENT

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, before I begin, I would like to take just a second to mention the resolution the Senate will be passing this week celebrating the 100th anniversary of the passage and ratification of the 19th Amendment.

This was a landmark moment in the history of freedom in our country—a major step forward in realizing America's promise of liberty. It is an important moment to celebrate, and I look forward to voting for this resolution this week and honoring all the women whose courage resulted in the 19th Amendment's passage.

STREAMLINE ACT

Madam President, just a few years ago, a lot of our current technology would have been unthinkable—watching a football game on your phone, using an app to see who is ringing the doorbell at your house while you are across town at work, ordering groceries using your computer, or, with voice-activated technologies like Alexa, putting groceries in your online cart without even having to click a button.