

week, the Senate is going to move forward. The Appropriations Committee will vote again. I hope Democrats in the House of Representatives will finally realize “the resistance” doesn’t pay the bills. No more political posturing, no more automatic knee-jerk opposition to absolutely everything the administration asks for—it is way past time for action.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, let me express my appreciation to the majority leader for highlighting this crisis at the border. There is no State more directly impacted in our United States than the State of Texas.

We, obviously, share 1,200 miles of common border with Mexico, and this is a humanitarian crisis. As the majority leader said, not only the New York Times editorial page, but Barack Obama in 2014 called far fewer numbers than are coming across today a humanitarian and security crisis then, and it has gotten nothing but worse.

I appreciate the leader’s bringing this to a head and holding Members accountable. We know that people talk a good game sometimes, but there is nowhere to hide when it comes to an up-or-down vote on this emergency appropriations bill.

I would add that there are other measures taking place. The chairman of the Judiciary Committee, as the Presiding Officer knows, is working on a bill that would address the underlying asylum laws, which are being exploited by the human smugglers who are getting rich moving people across Mexico from Central America into the United States and charging them between \$5,000 and \$10,000 a head—sometimes more. It has been the unwillingness of the Democrats to engage on that underlying asylum law and a fix there that has precipitated or contributed to this humanitarian crisis.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Will the Senator from Texas yield for a question?

Mr. CORNYN. I will.

Mr. MCCONNELL. As a member of the Judiciary Committee involved in this, is there any indication there might be bipartisan support for authorizing this legislation that you all are working on in committee?

Mr. CORNYN. We hope to see. And we will see one way or the other when we vote on this legislation next week.

I am happy to say that my Democratic colleague HENRY CUELLAR from Laredo, TX, which is more directly impacted probably than any place on the border, joined me in one proposal we call the HUMANE Act, which would deal with this underlying asylum issue.

We have been working with the chairman, Senator GRAHAM, to come up with a consensus piece of legislation that will really plug the dike that has been breached now, which has caused this humanitarian crisis.

There are a number of ways we can deal with this.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I would say to my friend that the answer here is not just

the money but an actual adjustment of U.S. law to more directly affect the crisis that we have. We need to do both, correct?

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I agree with the majority leader. We do need to do both.

I would also add, for those who were disturbed by the President’s invocation of his tariff authority to try to bring the Mexican Government to the table to negotiate some changes in the way the Mexican Government deals with this flow of Central Americans coming across its country, none of that would have been necessary if our Democratic colleagues had simply worked with us both on the underlying legislation and on this appropriations bill.

Frankly, the President was put in a corner, and there was not much else he could do. I am grateful he was able to get a result. Only time will tell whether those numbers actually go down from the 144,000 last month.

But while the Democrats are sitting on their hands and maybe talking a good game, I am glad to know we at least have leadership in the White House and here in the Senate.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Would it be safe to characterize this as a situation in which we are actually getting more cooperation from the Mexicans than we are from the Democrats in Congress?

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, that is a sad but true statement. It is unbelievable to me that the Mexican Government, under President Lopez Obrador, is doing more than congressional Democrats to try to solve this humanitarian and security crisis, but that is where we are.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I would just add that I hope there is success in the Judiciary Committee to achieve some kind of bipartisan consensus so that we can solve the entire problem, not just the humanitarian crisis.

I thank the Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I thank the majority leader again for his leadership and for his comments today.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The 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 (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH). Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

ELECTIONS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, last night, President Donald Trump, in an interview with ABC News, said that if he were offered information about an

opponent from a foreign source in the next election, he would take a look at it and might not go to the FBI.

I think you might want to listen. There isn’t anything wrong with listening. If someone called from a country . . . [and said] “we have information on your opponent”—oh, I think I’d want to hear it.

That is shocking, shocking—yet, sadly, is par for the course for this President.

My predecessor, Senator Moynihan, said, “We are defining deviancy down.” No President has defined deviancy down more than Donald Trump, and his remarks last night defined deviancy down to a new low.

To say that it is OK for foreign countries to interfere in our elections, with their motives not being what are in the interests of the American people, is disgraceful, shocking. It is as if the President has learned absolutely nothing from the past 2 years of investigations into Russia’s interference of the 2016 elections. This is precisely how the whole thing started. A foreign power reached out to establish connections with a Presidential campaign by dangling the promise of information about an opponent, and President Trump said he would welcome it. He asked Russia to interfere.

When he wonders why people think there might be collusion, well, this is why. This is a President who says: Russia, come help. That doesn’t prove collusion, but it sure proves that he doesn’t mind foreign powers interfering with an election.

Again, the President’s comments are undemocratic, un-American, and disgraceful. The President’s comments suggest he believes winning an election is more important than the integrity of an election. That idea is flat-out wrong. The President’s idea that winning an election is everything and the integrity of an election is nothing is one small step away from dictators and autocrats, who manipulate the results of an election because they care more about staying in power than they care about democratic principles. Donald Trump seems to fall into that category in which winning is everything and integrity is nothing.

It is simple. When a foreign power tries to give a campaign information on an opponent, that is foreign interference in our elections. It is exactly what the Framers worried about at the very founding of our Republic.

It is up to us in Congress to protect that legacy, the wellspring of democracy—free and fair elections. It is up to all of us in Congress—Democrats and Republicans. When a foreign power interferes in our elections, the Democrats shouldn’t say “If it helps our side, we are OK with it,” and the Republicans shouldn’t say “If it helps our side, we are OK with it.”

Where are the Republicans going to be with this latest step over the line by Donald Trump? Are they going to sit and cower and do nothing?

We have multiple bipartisan elections security bills that are just languishing here in the Senate. We even