

by hour, minute by minute, to manage this crisis, but, as the folks we talked about in McAllen reiterated, the underlying problem still exists. In other words, you can treat the symptoms, or you can treat the cause. But we shouldn't be confused. We have been maybe addressing some of the symptoms; we have done nothing to address the underlying cause.

These officers and agents work incredibly hard to enforce our laws and provide compassionate care for those in their custody, but without meaningful action from Congress, we are sending them into a losing battle. Without fixing the loopholes and repairing the broken system that facilitated this humanitarian crisis in the first place, we will find ourselves experiencing *deja vu* every few months. If you think \$4.5 billion was needed for this emergency just a couple of weeks ago, wait for 6 more months, when there will be another \$4.5 billion required and thereafter and thereafter and thereafter.

Well, what is the answer to the underlying root cause? What does Congress need to do in order to fix it and to staunch this flow of humanity across our border?

Well, there is only one bill out there with bipartisan support—with support both in the House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate—that would provide relief along the border, and that is the HUMANE Act. It is an honest, non-partisan attempt to fix the problem—no poison pills, no radical proposals, just reasonable policy designed to solve the problem.

This bill would close what has become known as the Flores loophole, which is often exploited by human smugglers as a way to gain entry into the United States. This is an effective way to stem the flow of those trying to game—to game—our immigration system without inhibiting legitimate trade or travel.

In addition, the HUMANE Act would improve the way we process individuals entering into our country. We got the recommendation for the legislation from the bipartisan Homeland Security Advisory Committee. It would, for example, establish regional processing centers, which would have personnel on hand from across the government to assist, including medical personnel and asylum officers right there at the border in regional processing centers.

Finally, it would improve standards of care for individuals in our custody—something we all want to see happen. It would require the Department of Homeland Security to keep families together during court proceedings and ensure that migrants have timely access to medical assistance, as well as recreational activities, educational services, and even legal counsel.

The HUMANE Act also requires additional training for Customs and Border Protection and ICE officers, otherwise known as Immigration and Customs Enforcement—in other words, everyone who deals with children.

The HUMANE Act is the only bipartisan bill currently proposed, and I would urge all of our colleagues to give it serious consideration.

I can only hope that this trip our Democratic colleagues took convinced them that it is time to quit playing games and get serious about finding a solution to the humanitarian crisis on our southern border.

I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Mark T. Esper, of Virginia, to be Secretary of Defense.

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, 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. VAN HOLLEN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

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

TRIBUTE TO JUDY SCHNEIDER

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam President, I rise to recognize and thank an extraordinary public servant, one who has contributed greatly to the U.S. Senate.

Next week, my constituent Judy Schneider will retire after a long and very distinguished career serving the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the Congressional Research Service, where she has earned a reputation as one of the Nation's top experts on the workings of the Congress. She has joined us in the Gallery today, so I hope all my colleagues will make sure we pay attention and play by the rules.

When I was a new Member of Congress, a Member of the House of Representatives, one of my very first meetings was with Judy Schneider. I was proud Judy was my constituent in Maryland's Eighth Congressional Dis-

trict, and I was glad to have the benefit of her advice. Since then, I have sought her counsel many times during my years in the House and the Senate.

Judy's service at the Congressional Research Service has been nothing short of extraordinary. Over the past four decades, she has educated hundreds of Members of Congress and their staff on congressional operations and procedures. As the author of numerous articles and the coauthor of the "Congressional Deskbook: The Practical and Comprehensive Guide to Congress," Judy's expertise on the intricacies of congressional structures and procedures is unmatched. Judy is known equally well for the positive personal impact she has had on each of her students. From giving lectures to countless conferences, to her "Direct Connect to Congress" series, Judy's impact has been far-reaching. Through her dynamic, informative, and humorous style, she has been described as having a life-changing impact on her students.

For her remarkable work, Judy Schneider has received a number of well-deserved and prestigious awards. She received the 1988 PLEN Mentor Award for her work educating and training women in public policy, a fellowship in the 108th Congress through the Stennis Center for Public Service Leadership, and the Distinguished Member Award from Women in Government Relations. In 2015, Women in Government Relations created the Judy Schneider Fellowship in recognition of her efforts to educate women about congressional procedure and policy. Judy has mentored thousands of women, and this fellowship will ensure that her legacy is felt by many more.

Last year, Judy received the Lifetime Achievement in Democracy Award from the Congressional Management Foundation in recognition of her outstanding impact and important work in Congress. This award truly exemplifies the role Judy Schneider has played for so many of us. Her mission has always been clear. Because of her deep love for this institution and for our country, she has used her unique talents to try to help make our democracy work better. She has trained generations of staff and Members, including a number of staff who later became Members of Congress themselves.

She represents the very best of public service. She exemplifies the spirit of service in a way few have, bringing the legislative process to life with humor and passion. Her presentations—packed with information and insight and delivered with wit and humor—were designed to train Members of Congress and their staff so we as a body function better and, consequently, so our democracy functions better. If some of us are finding that the Senate is not functioning particularly well at the moment, we can't say we weren't taught better. As they say, you can lead a Senator to "Riddick's Senate Procedure," but you can't make him or her read.