

Trade negotiations with China are far too important to the future of American business and American workers to sacrifice just because a handful of American corporations are worried about their quarterly profits. Their quarterly profits are nothing compared to America maintaining its technological dominance, its technological superiority that China keeps trying to steal from us, in some ways legitimate, in many ways not.

Another point of emphasis for the President's team—this is one the President cares less about, but that is OK—is China's human rights record. China released a new policy outlining the use of force against Hong Kong's protest. Its military built up forces along the border. We have seen this movie before at Tiananmen. It was a horror movie—one that resulted in hundreds, if not thousands, of unarmed Chinese citizens being mercilessly slaughtered by their own Army under the direction of the Chinese Communist Party. We cannot have a sequel to this atrocity. The administration should push back against China's militarism and stand up for the autonomy and democratic rights of Hong Kong citizens.

I have read some of these columns where they say: Can't we get along? We can't get along because, first, China doesn't play fair and has stolen trillions of dollars and millions of jobs from America and seeks to keep doing it. They have been duping our Presidents, pushing them around, making agreements, and breaking them. Second, we can't get along with China because of what it does to its citizens—the Uighurs in Western China and now the citizens of Hong Kong.

What we have seen with China is that when we are tough and strong, they back off. When we show any glimmer of weakness—as we are showing in floating a deal, a lessening of the restrictions on Huawei—they take advantage.

Let me say this to all of those in this administration who are urging the President to back off on Huawei and let them buy some of our products. There is a bipartisan group here in this Senate who will work very hard to prevent that from happening legislatively. The most likely vehicle is the NDAA. I think we will get broad support from Democrats and Republicans in the House and Senate. So to those in the administration who are trying to back off, don't even try it.

ELECTION SECURITY

Mr. SCHUMER. Looking back on this work period, it is a shame that the Senate, once again, has made no progress—none—on the issue of election security.

Only a week ago, Special Counsel Mueller called Russia interference one of the greatest threats to democracy he has seen in his career, a threat that he said continues “as we sit here.”

Despite Mueller's warning—a warning echoed by prominent Republicans,

Trump appointees, such as FBI Director Wray, Director Coats, and our entire Senate Intelligence Committee led by RICHARD BURR, a colleague of ours—Leader MCCONNELL has not brought election security to the floor. In fact, he has blocked Democratic requests for a debate on election security, dismissing our ideas as a “partisan wish list.” That is political rhetoric to avoid a problem that shouldn't be partisan at all.

Using paper ballots is not partisan. Making sure that our election machines are safe from hacking is not partisan. Giving the States resources to better manage their elections is not partisan. That is American. Our elections are sacrosanct and these are commonsense, widely agreed-upon reforms that will make our elections safer, particularly in this dangerous new world where powers that have malice toward the United States—Russia, China, Iran, and North Korea—can use new technology to reach into our election structure.

This is not 1940 or even 2005. We need to strengthen our election security, and it should not be a partisan issue. When Leader MCCONNELL calls it a partisan issue, he is ducking to avoid it for reasons unknown to almost anybody.

Recent Republican opposition to election security has been disappointing. I say to my Republican colleagues: Where are you? Why aren't you telling the Republican leader that we ought to do something? Every one of our Republicans is complicit when Leader MCCONNELL blocks election security because they could join with us. If they began to join with us, my guess is that Leader MCCONNELL might put some legislation on the floor. We want to debate it. We want to discuss it. Leader MCCONNELL and our Republican colleagues may not exactly agree with our ideas—although many are bipartisan—but we should at least bring things to the floor, discuss them, and get something done. Unfortunately, we don't see much action.

It was precisely a year ago that the Democrats last sought to secure funding for election security when the Senate Republicans voted down our amendments. Unfortunately, it appears that Leader MCCONNELL will not take action before the August work period. Yet I assure the American people and Leader MCCONNELL that this issue is not going away. The Democrats will press for election security when we return and again when the Senate debates appropriations bills.

This is about protecting the wellspring of our democracy, the vitality of our democracy, and the sacrosanct nature of our democracy. To call it political demeans everything. Young men and young women from Bunker Hill on—for hundreds of years—have died to protect our elections. You have to protect them in a different way now with there being technology and cyber threats, but the

idea of protecting them burns just as brightly in the American heart, and Leader MCCONNELL is somehow impervious to all of that.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, on climate, I am pleased to share that the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works did something amazing and groundbreaking yesterday. It passed the first ever climate title in a transportation reauthorization bill.

Thanks to the Senate Democrats on the committee and to particularly Ranking Member CARPER's hard work, the highway bill actually includes \$10 billion that will be dedicated to climate-focused programs and policies in order to reduce emissions and improve the resiliency of our transportation infrastructure to climate change and natural disasters. It includes funds for States to reduce carbon emissions, support for electric and alternative-fuel vehicles, reductions in emissions from ports and roadways, and investments in climate-resistant infrastructure.

Less than a year ago, I said, in moving forward, the Democrats would demand that climate change be addressed in any infrastructure bill. This bill, with its \$10 billion investment in climate, is a product of that demand. This will be the first time serious money has been included in an infrastructure package to fight climate change, but it certainly will not be the last.

The clock is ticking when it comes to climate change. We need to make progress whenever we can and as quickly as we can. If the Republican leader will not bring legislation to the floor, the Democrats will be prepared to take the lead and fight for climate progress at every opportunity we get. That is precisely what this \$10 billion climate investment in the highway bill represents. Again, I thank Senator CARPER for his leadership, his skill, and his persistence in getting it done.

Protecting our country and the world from the threat of climate change is no less than a moral obligation. When we return from the recess, the Democrats will continue to look for more opportunities to make progress on climate change.

HEALTHCARE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, finally, during the debate last night, when it came to healthcare, half of the Democratic Presidential field engaged in a healthy debate, a great deal of which was focused on the No. 1 issue to American voters—healthcare.

Despite different policy proposals, the debate shows that the Democratic Party is completely united on the idea of universal healthcare coverage as well as on the need to lower the costs and improve the quality of healthcare for every American. Yet one point that should have been made during the debate but unfortunately wasn't should