

Perhaps most importantly, the legislation before us is not only designed for continued advances in areas where the U.S. energy sector has seen success, it is also meant to take a sober assessment of where we are falling short.

As my colleague Chairman MURKOWSKI noted yesterday, the United States currently relies on foreign imports to meet our demand for dozens of mineral commodities. We are talking about rare substances with critical applications in manufacturing, energy production, and national security. These are critical products, but at present, domestic production does not satisfy domestic demand. That is why this legislation provides for new survey and cataloging efforts to identify new domestic supplies of important materials. It invests in extraction technologies that would harness existing mining infrastructure in places like Appalachian coal country to help meet the demand.

As the senior Senator from Kentucky, I know the importance of these investments firsthand. The working families and job creators in my State know that clean coal technologies and longstanding mining operations can continue to add tremendous value to the security and prosperity of our Nation.

There is a reason why this legislation has earned widespread praise from the researchers and energy industry leaders who would be affected the most. It is a product of serious, good-faith, bipartisan work. That is why organizations from the National Mining Association to the Environmental Defense Fund have found common ground in endorsing it.

I will have more to say about this legislation in the coming days, but right now, I am grateful for our colleagues on the Energy Committee for their work in bringing it to the floor. I look forward to considering their important legislation in the days ahead, and I would encourage all Members to join me in supporting this excellent work.

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#### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

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#### CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

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#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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#### ADVANCED GEOTHERMAL INNOVATION LEADERSHIP ACT OF 2019—MOTION TO PROCEED—RESUMED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to

proceed to S. 2657, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to S. 2657, a bill to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes.

Mr. MCCONNELL. 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. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic Leader is recognized.

#### CORONAVIRUS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, the number of confirmed coronavirus cases in the United States has recently surpassed 100. As more Americans are tested in the days and weeks to come, that number is expected to increase. Just this morning, we learned that a second New Yorker, from New Rochelle in Westchester County, has contracted the virus and is in serious condition and currently in a New York hospital. Our prayers are with him and his family.

This only underlines the urgent need to respond to the coronavirus on a national scale. The only appropriate response in Congress is to come together quickly and in a bipartisan fashion to deliver the resources and authorities our Federal agencies need to track and combat the virus, treat Americans with the disease, and develop a vaccine and additional treatments. We also must aid the States and localities in their efforts to deal with the disease because they are on the frontlines.

I am glad that Congress is headed in that direction. I expect that, today, appropriators will announce an agreement on an emergency, bipartisan funding package to deal with the coronavirus. The agreement is expected to include between \$7 billion and \$8 billion of funding—very close to the \$8.5 billion that we Senate Democrats requested last week—and over four or five times the amount of new funding initially proposed by the administration.

That is good news. When it comes to Americans' health and safety, there is no reason to be penny wise and pound foolish. If the bean counters at OMB unnecessarily cut the money we need, it will cost us more in the long run. It is far better to get our public health professionals, experts, and agencies the funding they need, up front and all together, rather than be forced to pass additional appropriations in the coming months. We may have to, but we ought not skimp now. If we did skimp, the scenario would make no sense. Yet, left to its own devices, that is what the administration would have done. So I

am glad we pushed them earlier, despite the fact that President Trump didn't want to hear anything contrary to what he was proposing.

I am pleased that both parties in Congress, in both Houses of Congress, are coming together to do the responsible thing. I hope and expect that we can pass the emergency appropriations through the Senate before the end of the week.

As Congress does what is necessary to respond to the coronavirus, unfortunately, the Trump administration's efforts leave much to be desired. While the Trump administration's response is slow, halting, loose with the facts, and President Trump blames everyone but himself, Congress—Democrats and Republicans, House and Senate—are acting like the adults in the room. We are not letting President Trump's accusations and nastiness, his false statements and his inability to really grapple with the problem—and, instead, try to brush it away—get in our way of doing what America needs to have done and done immediately.

Congressional appropriators have had to include provisions in the emergency bill to prevent the administration from stealing funds from other public health and disease programs to fight the coronavirus. That is what the White House wanted to do. Test kits were not as widely available or accurate as they should have been in the early days of the coronavirus outbreak. POLITICO reported this morning that the administration was very slow to develop an accurate test for coronavirus and slow to allow hospitals and public health labs to develop that on their own.

The emergency funding bill seeks to deal with these two issues. It explicitly funds laboratory testing. We may have to do even more in the weeks to come, but that is no reason not to immediately give a generous appropriation so that testing can be done. Every day we delay testing, every time a person who needs a test doesn't get one, is a day and a time when the virus gets worse and worse and worse and can spread.

There are still major issues with the lack of testing infrastructure that is being provided by the administration. States and cities still don't have enough tests, and yesterday we heard from the National Indian Health Board that the Indian Health Service and Tribal health facilities are being left behind in the coronavirus response and have received few, if any, resources. That is unacceptable.

Meanwhile, as Congress works—Democrats and Republicans, House and Senate—to come up with a strong, comprehensive bill with the necessary dollars, President Trump continues to spread rumor, loose speculation, and happy talk. If any member of the administration tells the President something optimistic, he repeats it and exaggerates it to the point of absurdity. The President said the disease might magically “disappear” once the weather gets warmer and promised that the