

to this very point just last week. The message was clear: White supremacists pose a dangerous and violent threat to our homeland.

Against this backdrop, the President's shocking remarks last night were, in fact, a continuation of deeply disturbing patterns of racist and anti-Semitic behavior that this President has allowed to take place on his watch.

Three years ago in Charlottesville, violent chaos and hatred were on full display for the world to see. As neo-Nazis openly marched in the streets, they chanted: "Jews will not replace us" and "blood and soil."

President Trump not only didn't denounce this anti-Semitic and racist rhetoric, he did something much worse. He did something much worse. He praised the White nationalists. He praised them as "very fine people." These were not very fine people.

Just last month, a teen vigilante asked his mother to drive him across State lines to the protests in Kenosha with a rifle. He went there to use it, and, in fact, he did. He took the life of two people and shot a third. He has been charged with homicide and rightly so. Instead of condemning this act of hatred, President Trump has hailed this murderer as a "hero."

But this is the norm for President Trump. The President's use of dog whistles and charged language gives a voice to White supremacy and empowers vigilantes. It is inexcusable, and it is indefensible.

This rise in hatred that the President fails to condemn is one of the reasons why, last year, I cofounded the Senate Bipartisan Task Force for Combating Anti-Semitism. The goal of this bipartisan, nonpartisan endeavor is to help stop hate before it starts, to call out bigotry and anti-Semitism wherever we see it—left, right, or center. I am proud of the work that we have done so far to push back on anti-Semitism right here in the United States, in Europe, in the Middle East, and around the world.

But the President's silence and his disturbing call to arms to White supremacist groups like the Proud Boys make our work that much harder.

Some of the President's defenders often write off his most troubling statements, claiming the President misspoke or that we just don't understand what he is trying to say or that is his speaking style or that he is just joking.

Let me be clear. He didn't misspeak last night. He didn't make a joke last night. And regardless of what others say, words matter. His words matter. He is the President of the United States.

Let me say today, as the President should have said last night—and I invite all of my colleagues here in this Chamber to join me in repeating this statement: I condemn White nationalism; I condemn racism; I condemn anti-Semitism; and I condemn and denounce the groups that promote these vile ideologies, the Proud Boys among them.

We must speak out, and we must take action. I urge my colleagues, again, on both sides of the aisle, not to be complicit in their silence. I want them all to join me. I want you all to join me in denouncing White supremacy, as President Trump failed to do, clearly and explicitly, in last night's debate.

This is not a partisan issue. It never will be a partisan issue.

I hope all my colleagues join me in denouncing hatred in all forms.

I yield back.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION INFORMATION ACT OF 2019

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I rise to, in a minute, ask unanimous consent to call up and pass the Intercountry Adoption Information Act of 2019, but first let me say that this is a strong bipartisan bill that was first introduced in March of 2019, with Senators CARDIN, BLUNT, KLOBUCHAR, TILLIS, BROWN, and WICKER as original cosponsors. When the House considered its version of the bill last year, it passed 397 to 0. Let me repeat that, 397 to 0. No House Member objected to it.

Our country is divided on many issues right now, but one thing that unites most of us is the belief that all children deserve to grow up in a permanent, loving home. This is a matter of justice and recognizing the intrinsic dignity in every human being. Many, many Americans have done more than just hold this belief; they have acted on it, adopting children both domestically and internationally.

According to the most recent available statistics, however, intercountry adoption has dramatically declined in recent years. Last year, fewer than 3,000 children were adopted in the United States—down from nearly 23,000 in 2004. There are numerous reasons for this decline, many of which warrant continued efforts to ensure that orphan children are given the chance to grow up in a loving home, whether in their own country or here in the United States.

We must address any barriers by examining our own policies and how they are implemented and by working internationally to help more children grow up in families.

Each year, the State Department releases its annual report on intercountry adoptions—a key document that keeps families, adoption agencies, and policymakers informed about the state of adoption. The report is publicly available, and it includes, among other things, the number of inter-

country adoptions involving immigration to the United States and the country from which each child emigrates, the time required for completion of the adoption, and the information on the adoption agencies, their fees, and their work.

But to better tackle this issue, we need to provide more transparency and accountability about some of the critical factors affecting intercountry adoption. The Intercountry Adoption Information Act adds additional key elements to this report by requiring the State Department to provide information on, one, countries that have enacted policies to prevent adoptions from the United States; two, actions the State Department has taken which have prevented adoptions to the United States; and, three, for each of these, how the State Department has worked to encourage the resumption of intercountry adoptions.

There are children around the world whose only chance to grow up in a family is through the Intercountry Adoption Program. There are families in the United States who are eager to open their arms, their homes, their hearts to these children.

I ask unanimous consent, at this time, to call up and pass H.R. 1952, to further transparency accountability and to ensure we are working toward the goal of enabling all children to have families which love them. I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1952 and the House proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1952) to amend the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 to require the Secretary of State to report on intercountry adoptions from countries which have significantly reduced adoption rates involving immigration to the United States, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (H.R. 1952) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

SENATOR KAY HAGAN AIRPORT TRAFFIC CONTROL TOWER

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I now would like to talk about a special project in North Carolina which involves my former partner from North Carolina, Senator Kay Hagan.

We are currently in the process of building a brand-new FAA tower at the Piedmont Triad International Airport in Greensboro, NC. The bill before us