

allowed themselves to propose. Last night, the President of the United States directly addressed the American people and said: Don't think, just give us control.

When he unveiled the American Families Plan, he spent a great deal of time on all of the wish list programs he hopes will eventually be sent to his desk for his signature but not a lot of time on how he plans to pay for these programs.

I think it is important to state for the record that every program President Biden asked us to endorse has a cost. The Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget estimates that the American Families Plan alone—this one program—will result in a deficit impact of \$300 billion over a decade—massive costs.

President Biden claimed he can pay for all of this with taxes. He said:

It's time for corporate America and the wealthiest 1% to pay their fair share.

And then he said that 55 of the Nation's biggest corporations made \$40 billion in profits that can and should be taxed.

But here is the problem: Even if they were taxed 100 percent of their \$40 billion in profits, that would pay for less than 1 percent of this administration's proposed \$7 trillion in total spending. And yet how did the President describe these programs? Universal pre-K, universal, free community college—free.

Look at this pricetag. Families won't have to spend a dime, won't have to spend a dime on childcare. The American Families Plan will put money in your pocket.

Now, as I said, universal, free—you won't have to spend a dime; it is going to put money in your pocket. It is taken care of. Don't think. Just take the deal. Do your part.

Where does this money come from? Every single penny that comes into the Federal Treasury comes from the pocket of a U.S. taxpayer. That is where this money comes from. And the debt, that is going to be there for our children and our grandchildren that have to sort it out long after these programs have outlived their usefulness, long after many of us are gone.

We used to talk about spending millions and billions, and now it is trillions. And, to me, I think about my grandkids, and I think about the fact that they haven't earned a paycheck yet. But you know what? With all of this spending this year, they now have \$80,000 of U.S. Federal debt that is their responsibility.

And I think it is instructive for us to look at who is it that actually holds this debt. The biggest holder of our debt—someone goes to market and buys our debt, China. You also have OPEC, the cartel, in the top holders of our debt.

My colleagues, this is an issue—not millions, not billions. This is something—this needs our best efforts and our best attention.

Since his inauguration, President Biden spent a lot of time talking about

unity. At the same time, he talks about eliminating the filibuster and passing legislation to entrench Democratic incumbents at the expense of voters. It is a power grab.

He supported using the budget reconciliation process to ram his \$1.9 billion spending package through, and it appears he may do so again to pass the rest of the multitrillion-dollar agenda.

Last night's speech could have been an opportunity for him to seek common ground with congressional Republicans. Much of the success of our country has had with the COVID vaccination is due, in large part, to Operation Warp Speed and previous administrations, as well as bipartisan efforts in Congress. There was no mention of that.

When the country was thrown into the COVID pandemic, Congress and President Trump passed the CARES Act, bipartisan, and four other major bipartisan COVID relief bills—no mention of that.

If we are going to heal, the Biden administration must recognize the achievements of administrations past and the serious contributions that congressional Republicans are ready and willing to make.

For months now, I have come to the floor to ask my Democratic colleagues to take a breath, to take away the wish lists, and to focus on what the American people need—focus on their needs.

The American people—when I am talking to Tennesseans, you know what they would like? They would like a little bit more money left at the end of their month and not too much month left at the end of their money.

They want the hope that comes from opportunity, not the tangles of an eternal safety net. They are independent. They are independent. They want a system that will, indeed, help them build their lives back better, as our President would like to say, but all that the White House has to offer is a plan that will flatten and rebuild the country and the broken image of failed policies that people have tried, and they just didn't work.

What they did do: destroyed our healthcare system, pushed tuition at public colleges and universities out of reach for low-income students, and they currently levy massive tax penalties against working-class families who depend on each other and not the Federal Government.

The Biden administration has set some lofty goals for itself. And I have to admit, the end results look pretty tempting on paper; that is, if you don't look too close.

There is a reason why the President has offered so few details about how his ideas would work in practice, and it is because he knows, without a doubt, that if this shows the true cost of signing on the dotted line that the people would not be with him in this effort.

Throughout the pandemic, the American people kept each other safe and took care of their friends and neigh-

bors. When I talk to Tennesseans about church, I can tell what they really have as their values: faith, family, freedom, hope, opportunity. They understand that defending one of those virtues means defending them all for everybody. But they also understand the danger in allowing the government to step in and replace family and community with a bloated welfare state. They know it is dangerous to replace potential with sameness and to supplant community with collectivism.

That is exactly what the Biden administration put on the table last night in very vague, poll-tested language that really said nothing but threatened unprecedented levels of government control. But I suppose from their perspective, you don't need details when all you are really asking your fellow countrymen to do is to submit; just take the deal.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

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## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. KAINÉ. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

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### TRIBUTE TO SCOTT MAGERS

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, one family in Southcentral Kentucky has waited more than 70 years to give their hero a proper tribute. Last year, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, DPAA, identified the remains of Navy Seaman 2nd Class Howard "Scott" Magers from Barren County. Over Memorial Day weekend, a grateful nation will honor this Kentuckian's sacrifice as he finally comes home. I would like to take a moment today to add my personal gratitude for Scott's service and his family's sacrifice.

Those who knew Scott remembered a soft-spoken young man with a kind heart and a winning smile. In January 1941, he enlisted in the Navy at the age of 17. Like millions of other men and women of the "greatest generation," Scott put his own ambitions on pause to defend the country he loved. After completing his training and making one trip home to Kentucky before his 18th birthday, Scott was stationed aboard the USS *Oklahoma* at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

On that Sunday morning, the Japanese forces rained bombs down on unsuspecting American sailors. Torpedoes pummeled the *Oklahoma*, tearing open her hull and igniting an inferno inside. Within minutes, the massive ship capsized, and more than 400 of its crew plunged into the water below.

In the chaos, more than 2,400 American servicemembers lost their lives. The tragic events of that morning elicited a forceful response as the United States entered the Second World War. Over the next 4 years, heroes were forged on the battlefield and at home as our country defeated the forces of tyranny in defense of the American way of life.

Like thousands of families, the Magers could only wonder and pray over Scott's fate. Although he would never make it home, he had sent a telegraph before the bombing to his loved ones in Kentucky. In a message delivered on Christmas Eve, Scott shared his love and his holiday cheer. His loved ones held tight to this last compassionate connection to Scott that reflected his best qualities.

In the following years, the Navy attempted to identify the remains of those killed on the *Oklahoma*. Unfortunately, the vast majority couldn't be accounted for and were buried together in 46 plots at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, also known as the Punchbowl.

In 2015, the DPAA exhumed the USS *Oklahoma* Unknowns. Using DNA as dental, and other identifying records, they were finally able to identify Scott's remains and give his family the opportunity for proper burial in Kentucky.

Over 1,300 Kentucky servicemembers remain unaccounted for by the DPAA. We have never forgotten these patriots, and we will continue searching to bring them home. I am grateful for the ongoing efforts of the DPAA to bring closure to more families like this one.

On behalf of my Senate colleagues, I would like to send our sincere condolences to Scott's family and express our thanks for his brave service to our Nation. We are proud this Kentucky hero will receive the honor he earned.

#### VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam President, today I missed the vote on passage of S. 914, as amended, in order to attend an event related to vaccine distribution in Baltimore City with Vice President KAMALA HARRIS. Had I been in attendance, I would have voted yes on this important, bipartisan bill.

#### SAFEGUARDING AMERICAN INNOVATION ACT

Mr. PETERS. Madam President, I would like to thank my colleague from Ohio for working together on a bipartisan package of legislation that will increase our economic competitiveness and strengthen our national security. As chairman and ranking member of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, we are preparing legislation that will help our country respond to major cyber incidents, solidify our global leadership on artificial intelligence, incentivize domestic production of personal protec-

tive equipment to increase our ability to respond to pandemics, and strengthen "Buy American" laws to make sure Federal dollars support American workers and small businesses.

I would like to briefly discuss one of the bills we are working on—my colleague's Safeguarding American Innovation Act, which takes on the threat of foreign governments stealing American taxpayer-funded research and intellectual property developed at U.S. colleges and universities. This is a serious, complex problem, and we need to make sure we get the response right. This is why we plan to advance this bill out of committee and continue working through additional changes before this bill is incorporated to the Endless Frontier Act on the Senate floor.

We intend to move a number of bills out of our committee, including the Safeguarding American Innovation Act after the recess and include them in bipartisan competitiveness legislation. If this broader package is considered on the Senate floor during the first week of the next work period, we will focus on preparing a bipartisan package from our committee's jurisdiction to be added during floor consideration.

I know my colleagues and the administration have concerns about potential overlapping authorities, visa restrictions, and the reporting requirements for foreign gifts to colleges and universities, among other issues, I believe we must work through these in a bipartisan manner. As a result of Senator PORTMAN's important work and others in Congress, there has been positive movement already to address these issues by both the U.S. Government and institutions of higher education, which have been educating their staff and faculty about their serious responsibilities to disclose any foreign research support they receive. I will yield to Senator PORTMAN to discuss the process we have agreed to undertake in the coming weeks and thank him again for engaging in this collaborative process.

Mr. PORTMAN. Thank you. I am committed to advancing our committee's competitiveness legislation in the manner laid out by my colleague from Michigan. I appreciate the work we have put into this package to date. As we prepare to dramatically increase investment in our research institutions and emerging technologies, the Safeguarding American Innovation Act must be a part of any competitiveness legislation. We must protect the intellectual property behind the revolutionary discoveries and advances being made across our Nation. This whole-of-government approach to get the Federal Government's house in order addresses a far-ranging problem and implicates the jurisdiction of other committees including the HELP Committee and the Foreign Relations Committee. I appreciate that the chairs and ranking members of those committees want to continue negotiations on this bill. I understand some changes to this

legislation will be needed before it passes the Senate floor. That said, this legislation is the result of several years of bipartisan investigatory work by Senator CARPER and myself during our time as chair and ranking member of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations.

I am committed to working with committees of jurisdiction, the majority leader, Chairman PETERS, and the administration to reach an agreement on this text in the coming weeks before it will be added to the Endless Frontier Act. I am also committed to continuing to engage with key stakeholders including our institutions of higher education. I am ready to put in the work and find a path forward here. The threat is real, and we need to address it now. I look forward to working with my colleague from Michigan to pass this legislation, along with other important measures before our committee, as soon as possible.

While I am a cosponsor of Endless Frontier Act and believe it provides an important increase in funding to the National Science Foundation, if we don't take the basic steps outlined in the Safeguarding American Innovation Act, these funds may contribute to China's rise instead of improving the competitiveness of the United States, as intended.

Mr. PETERS. Thank you, Senator PORTMAN. You have my commitment to work closely together on this multi-committee process. I believe we can find common ground with our colleagues and an agreement with the administration and Leader SCHUMER in the coming weeks. Thank you for your partnership on these important issues. I look forward to advancing an important, bipartisan Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee package and ensuring our priorities are included in the final bill passed by the Senate.

Mr. SCHUMER. Let me take a moment at the end to make a few points. First, the issue of China's predatory actions against American intellectual property is one that we must address as part of the competition bill. Second, my friends from Ohio and Delaware, Senators PORTMAN and CARPER, are to be commended for their work on this issue in the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations. Third, I have committed to work with Chairman PETERS, Ranking Member PORTMAN, and other relevant committee chairs and ranking members to reach an agreement on the text of the Safeguarding American Innovation Act so that it can be included in the Endless Frontier legislation.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO ABIGAIL CHILDS

● Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Abigail for her hard work as an intern in my