

child care. The irony is staggering. This is all while also creating a renewable, energy-powered refuge that will protect our most vulnerable residents during extreme weather events like wildfires and winter storms. When the lights go out and the community needs critical heat and services, Republicans turn the other way, even at the risk of their own constituents' lives. Unfortunately, the \$20 million EPA grant to carry out this valuable mission was unjustly and illegally terminated last month.

Similarly, another grant in Oregon, the Chiloquin Community Resilience Hub and Municipal Center, would have remediated a brownfield site into an emergency shelter, municipal space, and community education center. We all sat here weeks ago and touted the brownfields program as a bipartisan program, and yet here we are trying to cut the funding for a brownfield site that would serve as a critical community hub in a Republican district. The center would also provide training and education opportunities for a population that lives in a rural and historically underserved area. The project was awarded a \$16.3 million EPA environmental justice grant—great job getting that for your community—but it was also illegally and arbitrarily canceled last month.

Now Republicans like that congressman from Oregon want to get rid of the program entirely. To me, the conclusion is clear. Republicans are willing to withhold nearly \$40 million from one congressional district alone, from his own constituents, to give tax breaks to those who need them the least.

So in addition to health care, we are not just talking about Democratic environmental priorities. We are talking about cutting funding for programs that will impact districts across the country, and that is why everyone should support this amendment to ensure that you bring those dollars home to your district.

Thank you, and I yield back.

The Chair. Thank you. The gentleman yields back, and I will recognize myself to speak on the amendment, and yield to my good friend from Virginia.

Mr. Griffith. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to point out that these provisions that we are talking about only apply as far, as this bill is concerned, to the unobligated balances. So if a grant was already given, as far as this bill is concerned, then that would still be going forward.

The Chair. So would you yield back to me? So everyone that was listed, if the grants had been awarded as projects or not—

Mr. Griffith. If the grant has already been granted and the money is obligated, then this—then our language does not affect that.

Mrs. Fletcher. Will the gentleman yield?

The Chair. The—yes, it is my time. Yes, I will yield.

Mrs. Fletcher. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Chair. Yes.

Mrs. Fletcher. I just want to clarify. I understand the statement to be that this particular legislation doesn't deal with the already-obligated funds. But isn't it true that the administration is rescinding the grants and pulling back the money from the projects like my colleague from New Jersey was just explaining?

I know that there have been grants under various programs in my community. One, for example, to help build sidewalks and tree canopy. It is amazing to think about. In my district there is a 17-degree difference in the temperature during the summer between the poorest neighborhoods and the wealthiest. And they have no trees, they have no tree canopy. There is this great program to try to build sidewalks, put in trees, and address some of these challenges that—it gets real hot in Houston, and this is a really impor-

tant program. But I know the funds for that have been revoked.

And so is the statement that this won't do anything to those, but there are still these grants being revoked? Or are we trying to preserve those grants in this legislation and just—the already-obligated funds, are we protecting those in this?

The Chair. Well, this legislation does not take—does not close the grants on any obligated funds, and that—the executive actions—

Mr. Carter of Louisiana. Will the gentleman yield? The Chair. My understanding—and I will yield to my friend from Virginia, if you would like to answer that.

Mr. Carter of Louisiana. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. Griffith. I am happy to say that I don't—The Chair. Louisiana, my friend from Virginia, and then I will yield to you.

Mr. Griffith. I don't know what the administration is doing, per se, to the specific—

Mr. Carter of Louisiana. I can help—

Mr. Griffith. —grants that were mentioned, but I would say that this amendment specifically talks about the unobligated amounts, as well, so that whether it be the bill or the amendment, this action that we take does not impact that action that may or may not be going on in the administration.

I know it is confusing for folks back home, as well, to understand that not—the administration does not always tell us everything they are doing because they are doing so many things.

Mr. Carter of Louisiana. Will the gentleman yield briefly?

Mr. Griffith. And while I—

Mr. Carter of Louisiana. I will address that.

The Chair. I will yield to you in a second. Let him finish, yes.

Mr. Griffith. I don't have the floor. I have been yielded time, so I have to finish and then I yield back—

Mr. Carter of Louisiana. Fair enough, sir.

Mr. Griffith. —to the chair.

And so I can't speak for the administration on this. That is a whole different ball game.

But what we are debating tonight is the bill in front of us. And what we are debating right now is the amendment. Neither the bill in front of us nor the amendment deal with the issues that the gentleman previously raised. And so that is why I ask folks to vote no on the amendment and yes on the bill.

The Chair. Thank you.

The gentleman from Louisiana, I yield to you.

Mr. Carter of Louisiana. And I am happy to have an opportunity to address that, because those comments are not exactly correct.

If the Administrator Zeldin is successful in terminating these critical grant programs in his misguided attempt to gut the agency, these grants will be subject to rescission. It is very clear. So the notion that it has been awarded, it is not going to be impacted, that is a little disingenuous. So I want to clear that up for the record.

I yield.

The Chair. Thank you. I yield, but—to the—back to the gentleman from Virginia.

You want to—okay I will—do you want to speak, the gentleman from Virginia? Go ahead.

Mr. Griffith. And what I would say, Mr. Chairman, is that that may be true for a future rescission, but we can't rescind expenditures that have already been obligated.

Mr. Carter of Louisiana. Oh—

Mr. Griffith. And for purposes of this reconciliation, we can't look at the crystal ball and decide what might happen in the future.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Ms. ROSEN. Mr. President, on July 8, 2025, due to unavoidable travel delays

because of the weather, I missed rollcall vote No. 373. Had I been present, I would have voted no on vote No. 373, cloture on the nomination of Preston Griffith to be Under Secretary of Energy.

On July 8, 2025, due to unavoidable travel delays because of the weather, I missed rollcall vote No. 374. Had I been present, I would have voted no on vote No. 374, cloture on the nomination of Bryan Bedford to be Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. President, I missed the following votes, but had I been present, I would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 301, confirmation of Stephen Vaden, of Tennessee, to be Deputy Secretary of Agriculture.

Mr. President, I missed the following votes, but had I been present, I would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 375, confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 106, Preston Griffith, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Energy.

Mr. President, I missed the following votes, but had I been present, I would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 376, motion to invoke cloture on Executive Calendar No. 81, Scott Kuper, of California, to be Director of the Office of Personnel Management for a term of four years.

Mr. President, I missed the following votes, but had I been present, I would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 377, confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 197, Bryan Bedford, of Indiana, to be Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration for the term of five years.

TRIBUTE TO MARTHA CRANLEY

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize my friend Martha Cranley, who will retire at the end of the summer after a distinguished career in service to children, families, and communities throughout Wisconsin.

After her family moved north from Oklahoma to set roots in Madison during her childhood, Martha attended St. Norbert College in De Pere. In some ways, this is where she began her career "serving" Wisconsinites: working at a restaurant where players for the Green Bay Packers dined for breakfast during their training camp. Her children still remind her that she failed to obtain a Bart Starr autograph during this time.

Following graduation, Martha returned to Madison, where she worked as a policy aide in both chambers of the Wisconsin State Legislature. While there, she formed many lasting relationships both professional and personal, the most important one being with her husband of more than 35 years Larry Martin.

Martha has spent the more than three decades since her time in State government leading community and

advocacy organizations throughout our great State. Early in her career, she served as the founding executive director of the Wisconsin Coalition of Independent Living Centers and was instrumental in the creation of a nationally recognized peer review model. Martha then led efforts to track, analyze, synthesize, and communicate data about the health and well-being of children and families in Wisconsin as director of the Kids Count project at Kids Forward. From there, Martha spent over a decade at United Way of Dane County, leading the agency's work to address family homelessness. To that end, she was instrumental in the founding of two investment funds designed to increase the creation of affordable housing in Dane County. Martha's leadership also strengthened the education, income, and health outcomes of families within the county.

Fittingly, Martha chose to sunset her career as an advocate for our State's seniors, serving as the Wisconsin State director for AARP. Martha's legacy as an advocate for families at every stage of life has been solidified through her work to encourage the civic engagement of the organization's diverse membership as a means to help Wisconsinites age with dignity and purpose.

Upon her retirement, Martha is looking forward to "doing whatever she wants," including traveling, reading even more mystery novels, attending the theater, and spending time with her growing extended family.

Martha, thank you for your positive impact on lives all over our State. I wish you all the best in your retirement.

TRIBUTE TO LARRY MARTIN

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor my friend Larry John Martin, who will retire at the end of this summer after a distinguished career in service to communities throughout the State of Wisconsin.

As a proud son of Kenosha, Larry discovered his passion for politics and public service as a teenager at Tremper High School. In 1979, he came to Washington, DC, to work as a Senate page under then-Sergeant at Arms F. Nordy Hoffman and sponsored by my predecessor Senator William Proxmire. Larry still recalls with fondness his time serving alongside his "colleagues," including Senators Ted Kennedy, George McGovern, and Joseph Biden.

After moving to Madison to attend the University of Wisconsin, he stayed to raise a family upon meeting his wife of more than 35 years Martha Cranley. Larry worked in the administrations of Wisconsin Governors Tony Earl and James Doyle and served as executive director for the Democratic Party of Wisconsin. Later, as executive director of the Wisconsin Library Association, he helped to strengthen our public library system in the State as providers

of information and welcoming spaces for the community, particularly for the South Central Library System. Most recently, Larry served as executive director for the State Bar of Wisconsin, where he enjoyed the opportunity to work with lawyers of all specialties, but particularly those who worked in public service and the most legally underserved areas of our State.

Larry has a deeply rooted commitment to ensuring that our systems of government work best when we work across the aisle. To that end, he has made it a point to create working relationships and forming lifetime friendships with those across the political spectrum. Larry has always maintained a strong belief in the power of democracy and never missed a chance to cast his ballot in person the day of an election. On many brisk November and April mornings, you could often find him waving yard signs at a busy intersection, reminding people to get out and perform their civic duty as citizens of this country.

Above all, Larry enjoys being with Martha and his family, making it a point to be home for dinner and enthusiastically support whatever events and activities his children were involved in. His family tells me that he is at his happiest during the Christmas season, enjoying movies next to the tree with his growing family of in-laws and grandchildren, preferably with an ice-cold Coca-Cola within reach.

Larry, thank you for your commitment to service, to Wisconsin and for your friendship. I wish you all the best in your retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ASHLAND

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I wish to congratulate Rev. Dan Fowler and First Presbyterian Church of Ashland on 150 years of commitment to welcoming and accepting people through all walks of life into your community of faith. Ever since Rev. Moses Allen Williams organized the First Presbyterian Church of Ashland on August 18, 1875, this church in southern Oregon has remained dedicated to—in their own words—"honoring the teachings of Jesus and being a safe haven for all who walk through its doors." First Presbyterian Church celebrates its 150th anniversary as a diverse church family that includes families, professionals of all kinds, including artists, college students, and people struggling with homelessness, all of whom come together to walk with God and serve their community.

Since 1875, First Presbyterian Church of Ashland has been committed to serving the local and global community and has prided itself on being a welcoming and affirming place for all. Their specific forms of aid include overnight parking spots for those facing homelessness, a free pantry, emergency transportation and food aid, and

free answers to medical questions. The church's continued service to our community represents the very best of Oregon's spirit of commitment, service, and dedication.

First Presbyterian Church of Ashland's impact extends far beyond just the people they have directly helped; it ripples outward to make Oregon a better place for all of us to call home. The church's willingness to remain engaged and active in service exemplifies the values that we, as Oregonians, hold dear.

It is an honor to represent First Presbyterian Church of Ashland in the U.S. Senate and congratulations again to the church on its 150th anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO EMILY WISCOMBE

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, it is my privilege to recognize Emily Wiscombe's devoted public service to the people of Utah across the past 31 years. Emily's three decades of ardent work have uplifted Utahns beyond measure, supported multiple Members of Congress, and contributed immensely to the betterment of our State and our country.

Emily's service to the people of Utah began in the office of Senator Jake Garn. Emily supported his Washington, DC, office until her heart called her back to our inimitable State, where she continued her congressional tenure in the office of Representative Howard Neilson. Emily later joined Senator Orrin Hatch's Provo office, where she handled casework of all kinds before lending her talents to the work of Senators Bob Bennett and Mitt Romney. Finally, my staff welcomed Emily as one of Utah's most experienced and committed public servants over a decade ago.

All along and in between her service to our State, Emily reared a beautiful family, helping Utahns flourish through both her work in Congress as well as in her own home.

Emily's work covered many areas throughout the years, but she found her passion in caring for our Nation's veterans. From helping veterans navigate the complexities of the Federal Government to attending monthly gatherings of those who have served, Emily's hands have uplifted and magnified many across our State. She has aided countless Utahns in need of some type of rescue, including from war-stricken nations. She is a tremendous asset to my team and an invaluable resource to her community.

Emily Wiscombe has a record of service to our great State that any public servant would find difficult to match: 31 devoted years of work, six Members of Congress supported, and countless Utahns uplifted.

The great state of Utah, the U.S. Congress, and I are indebted to her service. I express my gratitude for her dedication, her patriotism, and her demonstrated love for our people and our State.