

Kelly	Murphy	Scott (SC)
Kennedy	Murray	Shaheen
Kim	Ossoff	Sheehy
King	Padilla	Slotkin
Klobuchar	Paul	Smith
Lankford	Peters	Sullivan
Lee	Reed	Thune
Luján	Ricketts	Tillis
Lummis	Risch	Tuberville
Markey	Rosen	Van Hollen
Marshall	Rounds	Warner
McConnell	Rubio	Warnock
McCormick	Sanders	Warren
Merkley	Schatz	Welch
Moran	Schiff	Whitehouse
Moreno	Schmitt	Wicker
Mullin	Schumer	Wyden
Murkowski	Scott (FL)	Young

* John Ratcliffe, of Texas, to be Director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

AMENDMENT NO. 53

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 53 intended to be proposed to S. 5, a bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to take into custody aliens who have been charged in the United States with theft, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 60

At the request of Mr. OSSOFF, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 60 intended to be proposed to S. 5, a bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to take into custody aliens who have been charged in the United States with theft, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. SHEEHY, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. SCHMITT, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 152. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit kindergarten through grade 12 educational expenses to be paid from a 529 account; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 153. A bill to repeal the Protecting Americans from Foreign Adversary Controlled Applications Act; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 84

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BANKS) were added as cosponsors of S. 84, a bill to require U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to take into custody certain aliens who have been charged in the United States with a crime that resulted in the death or serious bodily injury of another person, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 21

At the request of Mr. OSSOFF, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 21 intended to be proposed to S. 5, a bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to take into custody aliens who have been charged in the United States with theft, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 24

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 24 intended to be proposed to S. 5, a bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to take into custody aliens who have been charged in the United States with theft, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 35

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 35 intended to be proposed to S. 5, a bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to take into custody aliens who have been charged in the United States with theft, and for other purposes.

The nomination was confirmed.

(Applause.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Kalbaugh, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. WICKER for the Committee on Armed Services.

*Peter Hegseth, of Tennessee, to be Secretary of Defense.

By Mr. RISCH for the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Marco Rubio, of Florida, to be Secretary of State.

By Mr. PAUL for the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Russell Vought, of Virginia, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

*Kristi Noem, of South Dakota, to be Secretary of Homeland Security.

By Mr. COTTON for the Select Committee on Intelligence.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I have four requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Monday, January 20, 2025, at 5 p.m., to vote on a nomination.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Monday, January 20, 2025, at 4:30 p.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Monday, January 20, 2025, at 5:30 p.m., to conduct a business meeting.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Monday, January 20, 2025, at 4:45 p.m., to conduct a closed business meeting.

INAUGURAL CEREMONY

Inauguration of Donald John Trump, January 20, 2025, 10 a.m.

The Architect of the Capitol, Mr. Thomas Austin, accompanied by Mrs. Shannon Austin, entered the Great Rotunda.

The Leadership of the 60th Presidential Inaugural Committee, Cochairs the Honorable Kelly Loeffler and Mr. Steve Whitcoff; and Executive Director Mr. Richard Walters entered the Great Rotunda.

The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Charles Q. Brown, Jr., entered the Great Rotunda.

Former Senate Majority Leader, the Honorable MITCH MCCONNELL, accompanied by the Honorable Elaine Chao; and the Honorable Elizabeth Dole, entered the Great Rotunda.

Former Speakers of the House of Representatives, the Honorable Kevin McCarthy; the Honorable John Boehner, accompanied by Mrs. Debbie Boehner; and the Honorable Newt Gingrich, accompanied by Ambassador Callista Gingrich, and Mrs. Heather Foley entered the Great Rotunda.

Members of the 119th United States House of Representatives, led by Majority Whip, the Honorable TOM EMMER and Democratic Whip, the Honorable KATHERINE CLARK, entered the Great Rotunda.

The Chair of the National Governors Association, the Honorable Jared Polis, the Vice Chair of the National Governors Association, the Honorable Kevin Stitt, and the Mayor of the District of Columbia, the Honorable Muriel Bowser, entered the Great Rotunda.

Members of the 119th Senate of the United States, led by Majority Leader, the Honorable JOHN THUNE; Majority Whip, the Honorable JOHN BARRASSO; and Democratic Whip, the Honorable DICK DURBIN, entered the Great Rotunda.

The President-elect's Cabinet and Cabinet-level designees entered the Great Rotunda.

The Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps entered the Great Rotunda.

Former Vice Presidents, the Honorable Dan Quayle, accompanied by Mrs. Marilyn Quayle, and the Honorable Michael Pence entered the Great Rotunda.

The 42nd President of the United States William Jefferson Clinton, accompanied by the Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton, entered the Great Rotunda.

The 43rd President of the United States, the Honorable George W. Bush, accompanied by Mrs. Laura Bush, entered the Great Rotunda.

The 44th President of the United States, the Honorable Barack H. Obama entered the Great Rotunda.

The Chief Justice of the United States, the Honorable John G. Roberts, Jr., and the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States entered the Great Rotunda.

The children of President-Elect Trump, Donald Trump Jr., Ivanka Trump, Eric Trump, Tiffany Trump, and Barron Trump, escorted by the Assistant Secretary of the Senate, the Honorable Robert Paxton; and Deputy Clerk of the House of Representatives, the Honorable Lisa Grant, entered the Great Rotunda.

The First Lady, Dr. Jill Biden, and the husband of the Vice President, Mr. Douglas Emhoff, escorted by the Republican Staff Director of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, Ms. Emily Leviner; the Senate Secretary for the Minority, the Honorable Gary Myrick; the House of

Representatives Chief Administrative Officer, the Honorable Catherine Szpindor; and Mr. Bruce Fischer, entered the Great Rotunda.

Mrs. Melania Trump and Mrs. Usha Vance, escorted by the Secretary of the Senate, the Honorable Jackie Barber; the Clerk of the House of Representatives, the Honorable Kevin F. McCumber; Mr. John Bessler; Mrs. Kelly Johnson; Mrs. Iris Weinshall-Schumer; and Mrs. Jennifer Scalise, entered the Great Rotunda.

The President of the United States, the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., and Vice President of the United States, the Honorable KAMALA DEVI HARRIS, escorted by Ranking Member of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, the Honorable DEB FISCHER; House Democratic Leader, the Honorable HAKEEM JEFFRIES; and Senate Majority Secretary, the Honorable Robert Duncan, entered the Great Rotunda.

The Vice President-elect of the United States, the Honorable JD VANCE, escorted by the Executive Director for the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, Mr. Michael Wagner; Senate Deputy Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, Jason Bell; and House Deputy Sergeant at Arms, Mr. Sean Keating, entered the Great Rotunda.

The President-elect of the United States, Donald John Trump, escorted by the Staff Director for the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, Elizabeth Farrar; House Sergeant at Arms, the Honorable William P. McFarland; Senate Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, the Honorable Jennifer A. Hemingway; Senate Majority Leader, the Honorable JOHN THUNE; and the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies: House Democratic Leader, the Honorable HAKEEM JEFFRIES; House Majority Leader, the Honorable STEVE SCALISE; Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Honorable MIKE JOHNSON; Senate Democratic Leader, the Honorable CHARLES E. SCHUMER; Ranking Member of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, the Honorable DEB FISCHER; and Chairwoman of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, the Honorable AMY KLOBUCHAR, entered the Great Rotunda.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Good morning, everyone. Welcome to the 60th Presidential inauguration.

Today, President-elect Trump and Vice President-elect VANCE will take their oaths of office, and we will witness the peaceful transfer of power at the heart of our democracy.

(Applause.)

For the past year, I have chaired the Inaugural Ceremony Committee, which includes the leadership of Congress from both parties. We thank the committee and Capitol staff and law enforcement, who worked so hard over the last year and especially the last 3 days.

You have done a beautiful job, and you have shown grace under pressure.

(Applause.)

Our theme this year is "Our Enduring Democracy." The presence of so many Presidents and Vice Presidents here today is truly a testament to that endurance.

We welcome President Biden and Dr. Biden. We welcome Vice President HARRIS and Doug Emhoff, President Obama, President Clinton and Secretary Clinton, President Bush and Laura Bush, Vice President Pence, and Vice President Quayle and Marilyn Quayle. The Justices of the U.S. Supreme Court are with us—all nine of them; I counted—and, of course, the Trump and Vance families.

This ceremony marks what will soon be 250 years of our democracy. It is the moment when leaders, elevated by the will of the people, promised to be faithful to our Constitution, to cherish and defend it. It is the moment when they become—as we all should be—the guardians of our country.

Through war and peace, through adversity and prosperity, we hold this inauguration every 4 years. And today, it falls on Martin Luther King Day—a further reminder that we must strive to uphold the values enshrined in our Constitution—the freedoms, the liberties, and as is inscribed on the entrance of the U.S. Supreme Court: "Equal Justice Under Law."

(Applause.)

But what makes this moment more than a passing ceremony is all who are watching it across the country—the people of this Nation, the ordinary people doing extraordinary things.

President Kennedy, who at one point worked as a Senator in this building and would often walk through this very Rotunda, once said:

In a democracy, every citizen, regardless of interest in politics, "holds office"; every one of us is in a position of responsibility.

With that responsibility of citizenship comes an obligation not to seek out malice, as President Lincoln once reminded us, but to view others with the generosity of spirit, despite our differences.

With that responsibility of leadership comes an obligation to stand our ground when we must and find common ground when we can.

With everything swirling around us, the hot mess of division, it is on all of us—to quote an incredible songwriter, who just happened to be born in my State—to ensure that our Nation's democracy is our shelter from the storm.

There is a reason this ceremony takes place at the Capitol. In other countries, it might be in a Presidential palace or a gilded executive office building. Here, it is traditionally held at the Capitol, the people's House. It is a fitting reminder of the system of checks and balances that is the very foundation of our government—three equal branches of government. That is how for nearly 250 years, our great American experiment, grounded in the rule of law, has endured.

So as we inaugurate a new President and Vice President, let us remember that the power of those in this room comes from the people: the construction workers who build our country, the teachers and healthcare workers who nurture us, the troops defending our freedoms, and, yes, the firefighters in Los Angeles putting themselves on the line for us.

(Applause.)

Our democracy, strength, and grit must match theirs.

May God bless our Nation.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

Mrs. FISCHER. Good afternoon.

Endurance through the years is the ultimate test. To persevere through time is the truest measure of an idea, an institution, and a nation.

Our Founders wrote the Constitution so that America could withstand all the twists and turns of time. They wrote it to guide us and to preserve forever our right of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

But as much as the truths and principles enshrined in our Constitution remain the same, our democracy promises the American people the power to change, to chart their own destiny.

That is the beauty. That is the importance of democracy. It allows the endurance, the permanence of a nation through change. It allows nations, like our United States, both to avoid the obstacles and to seize the opportunities God has placed before us, all while staying true to our founding principles.

Today is our country's 60th inauguration ceremony. Like all the others before it, it is a celebration of our right to set our uniquely American course. The past several years have been trying at times for many, many Americans and also for the nations of the free world that we humbly strive to lead.

In November, Americans chose again to steer this Nation toward greatness—the secure, safe, and prosperous future that our Founders envisioned for all of us. And today, we celebrate not only their decision to do so but also the simple right and wisdom of a free people to make their own choice so that their Nation might endure.

And now, allow me to welcome Archbishop Timothy Doland and Reverend Franklin Graham, who will deliver our invocation.

Please rise.

Archbishop DOLAND. Be still and know that I am God, supreme among the nations, supreme on the Earth. Let us pray.

Remembering General George Washington on his knees at Valley Forge, recalling Abraham Lincoln at his second inaugural: “with malice toward none, with charity for all, with the firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right,” remembering General George Patton's instructions to his soldiers as they began the Battle of the Bulge eight decades ago, pray. Pray when fighting. Pray alone. Pray with others. Pray by night. Pray by day.

Observing the birthday of the Reverend Martin Luther King, who warned, without God, our efforts turn to ashes. We, blessed citizens of this one Nation under God, humbled by our claim that in God we trust, gather, indeed, this inauguration day to pray for our President Donald J. Trump, his family, his advisers, his Cabinet, his aspirations, his Vice President, for the large blessings upon Joseph Biden, for our men and women in uniform, for each other whose hopes are stoked this new year, this inauguration day.

We cannot err in relying upon that prayer from the Bible upon which our President will soon place his hand in oath. As we make our own the supplications of King Solomon for wisdom, as he began his governance, God of our fathers, in Your wisdom, You set man to govern Your creatures, to govern in holiness and justice, to render justice with integrity, give our leader wisdom, for he is Your servant, aware of his own weakness and brevity of life.

If wisdom, which comes not from You be not with him, he shall be held in no esteem. Send wisdom from Heaven that she may be with him, that he may know Your designs.

Please, God, bless America. Please, mentor every flaw. You are the God in whom we trust who lives and reigns forever and ever.

Amen.

Reverend GRAHAM. Mr. President, in the last 4 years, there were times, I am sure, you thought it was pretty dark. But look what God has done. We praise Him and give Him glory.

(Applause.)

Let us pray.

Our Father and our God, Thou has said blessed is the Nation whose God is the Lord.

As the Prophet Daniel prayed: “Blessed be the name of God forever and ever. For wisdom and might are his. He changes the times and the seasons. He removes kings. He raises up kings. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding.”

Our Father, today, as President Donald J. Trump takes the oath of office once again, we come to say thank you, O Lord, our God.

Father, when Donald Trump's enemies thought he was down and out, You and You alone, saved his life and raised him up with strength and power by Your mighty hand.

We pray for President Trump; that You will watch over, protect, guide, direct him. Give him Your wisdom from Your throne on high. We ask that You would bless him and that our Nation would be blessed through him.

We also ask that You would bless and protect Melania, his First Lady. We thank You for the beauty, the warmth, and grace that she shows not only to this Nation but to the whole world.

We thank You for Vice President-elect JD VANCE and his wife Usha and their young family. May he be a strength to President Trump, to stand

beside him, to hold up his arms like Aaron held up the arms of Moses in the midst of battle.

The Prophet Samuel reminded the people it was You that brought them up from the land of Egypt. And he said, now stand still that I may reason with you before the Lord. So, Father, we take this moment to stand still, to remember the great things that You have done for this Nation.

Thank you for the protection, the bounty, the freedoms that we so enjoy. We remember to keep our eyes fixed on You. And may our hearts be inclined to Your voice. We know that America can never be great again if we turn our backs on You. We ask for Your help.

We pray all of this in the name of the king of kings, the lords of lords, Your son, my Savior, and our Redeemer, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

(Christopher Macchio performed “O, America” accompanied by the Armed Forces Chorus.)

MUC EDWARDS. Ladies and gentlemen, please welcome Associate Justice Kavanaugh to administer the Vice Presidential oath of office.

The Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, BRETT KAVANAUGH, administered to the Vice President-elect the oath of office prescribed by the Constitution, which he repeated as follows:

I, JAMES DAVID VANCE, do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God.

Associate Justice KAVANAUGH. Congratulations, Mr. Vice President.

(Applause.)

MUC EDWARDS. Ladies and gentlemen, please welcome Chief Justice Roberts to administer the Presidential oath of office.

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, JOHN G. ROBERTS, JR., administered to the President-elect the oath of office prescribed by the Constitution, which he repeated, as follows:

I, Donald John Trump, do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States. So help me God.

The Chief Justice. Congratulations, Mr. President.

(Applause.)

(United States Marine Band performs “Battle Hymn of the Republic.”)

(Applause.)

Mrs. FISCHER. Ladies and gentlemen, it is my honor and pleasure to introduce to you the 45th and the 47th President of the United States of America, Donald J. Trump.

(Applause.)

The PRESIDENT. Thank you very much, everybody. Thank you very, very much.

Vice President VANCE, Speaker JOHN-SON, Senator THUNE, Chief Justice Roberts, Justices of the U.S. Supreme

Court, President Clinton, President Bush, President Obama, President Biden, Vice President HARRIS, and my fellow citizens, the golden age of America begins right now.

(Applause.)

From this day forward, our country will flourish and be respected again all over the world. We will be the envy of every nation, and we will not allow ourselves to be taken advantage of any longer.

During every single day of the Trump administration, I will—very simply—put America first.

(Applause.)

Our sovereignty will be reclaimed. Our safety will be restored. The scales of justice will be rebalanced. The vicious, violent, and unfair weaponization of the Justice Department and our government will end.

(Applause.)

And our top priority will be to create a nation that is proud, prosperous, and free.

(Applause.)

America will soon be greater, stronger, and far more exceptional than ever before.

(Applause.)

I return to the Presidency confident and optimistic that we are at the start of a thrilling new era of national success. A tide of change is sweeping the country, sunlight is pouring over the entire world, and America has the chance to seize this opportunity like never before.

But, first, we must be honest about the challenges we face. While they are plentiful, they will be annihilated by this great momentum that the world is now witnessing in the United States of America.

As we gather today, our government confronts a crisis of trust. For many years, a radical and corrupt establishment has extracted power and wealth from our citizens, while the pillars of our society lay broken in seemingly incomplete disrepair.

We now have a government that cannot manage even a simple crisis at home, while at the same time stumbling into a continuing catalog of catastrophic events abroad.

It fails to protect our magnificent law-abiding American citizens but provides sanctuary and protection for dangerous criminals, many from prisons and mental institutions that have illegally entered our country from all over the world.

We have a government that is giving unlimited funding to the defense of foreign borders but refuses to defend American borders or, more importantly, its own people. Our country can no longer deliver basic services in times of emergency, as recently shown by the wonderful people of North Carolina being treated so badly—

(Applause.)

—and other States who are still suffering from a hurricane that took place many months ago, or more recently, Los Angeles, where we are watching

fires still tragically burn from weeks ago, without even a token of defense. They are raging through the houses and communities, even affecting some of the wealthiest and most powerful individuals in our country, some of whom are sitting here right now. They don't have a home any longer. That is interesting.

We can't let this happen. Everyone is unable to do anything about it. That is going to change.

We have a public health system that does not deliver in times of disaster, yet more money is spent on it than any country anywhere in the world.

And we have an education system that teaches our children to be ashamed of themselves, in many cases, to hate our country, despite the love that we try so desperately to provide to them.

All of this will change starting today, and it will change very quickly.

(Applause.)

My recent election is a mandate to completely and totally reverse a horrible betrayal and all of these many betrayals that have taken place and to give the people back their faith, their wealth, their democracy, and indeed their freedom. From this moment on, America's decline is over.

(Applause.)

Our liberties and our Nation's glorious destiny will no longer be denied, and we will immediately restore the integrity, competency, and loyalty of America's government.

Over the past 8 years, I have been tested and challenged more than any President in our 250-year history, and I have learned a lot along the way. The journey to reclaim our Republic has not been an easy one; that I can tell you. Those who wish to stop our cause have tried to take my freedom and indeed to take my life. Just a few months ago, in a beautiful Pennsylvania field, an assassin's bullet ripped through my ear, but I felt then and believe even more so now that my life was saved for a reason. I was saved by God to make America great again.

(Applause.)

Thank you very much.

That is why, each day, under our administration of American patriots, we will be working to meet every crisis with dignity and power and strength. We will move with purpose and speed to bring back hope, prosperity, safety, and peace for citizens of every race, religion, color, and creed. For American citizens, January 20, 2025, is liberation day.

(Applause.)

It is my hope that our recent Presidential election will be remembered as the greatest and most consequential election in the history of our country. As our victory showed, the entire Nation is rapidly unifying behind our agenda with dramatic increases in support from virtually every element of our society—young and old, men and women, African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian Americans, urban,

suburban, rural. And very importantly, we had a powerful win in all seven swing States, and the popular vote we won by millions of people.

(Applause.)

To the Black and Hispanic communities, I want to thank you for the tremendous outpouring of love and trust that you have shown me with your vote. We set records, and I will not forget it. I have heard your voices in the campaign, and I look forward to working with you in the years to come.

Today is Martin Luther King Day, and in his honor—this will be a great honor—but, in his honor, we will strive together to make his dream a reality. We will make his dream come true.

(Applause.)

National unity is now returning to America, and confidence and pride is soaring like never before.

In everything we do, my administration will be inspired by a strong pursuit of excellence and unrelenting success. We will not forget our country; we will not forget our Constitution; and we will not forget our God. Can't do that.

(Applause.)

Today, I will sign a series of historic Executive orders. With these actions, we will begin the complete restoration of America and the revolution of common sense. It is all about common sense.

(Applause.)

First, I will declare a national emergency at our southern border.

(Applause.)

All illegal entry will immediately be halted, and we will begin the process of returning millions and millions of criminal aliens back to the places from which they came. We will reinstate my "Remain in Mexico" policy.

(Applause.)

I will end the practice of catch-and-release.

(Applause.)

And I will send troops to the southern border to repel the disastrous invasion of our country.

(Applause.)

Under the orders I sign today, we will also be designating the cartels as foreign terrorist organizations.

(Applause.)

And by invoking the Alien Enemies Act of 1798, I will direct our government to use the full and immense power of Federal and State law enforcement to eliminate the presence of all foreign gangs and criminal networks bringing devastating crime to U.S. soil, including our cities and inner cities.

(Applause.)

As Commander in Chief, I have no higher responsibility than to defend our country from threats and invasions, and that is exactly what I am going to do. We will do it at a level that nobody has ever seen before.

Next, I will direct all members of my Cabinet to marshal the vast powers at their disposal to defeat what was record inflation and rapidly bring down costs and prices.

(Applause.)

The inflation crisis was caused by massive overspending and escalating energy prices, and that is why, today, I will also declare a national energy emergency. We will drill, baby, drill.

(Applause.)

America will be a manufacturing nation once again. And we have something that no other manufacturing nation will ever have—the largest amount of oil and gas of any country on Earth—and we are going to use it. Going to use it.

We will bring prices down, fill our strategic reserves up again, right to the top, and export American energy all over the world.

(Applause.)

We will be a rich nation again, and it is that liquid gold under our feet that will help to do it.

With my actions today, we will end the Green New Deal, and we will revoke the electric vehicle mandate, saving our auto industry and keeping my sacred pledge to our great American autoworkers.

(Applause.)

In other words, you will be able to buy the car of your choice. We will build automobiles in America again at a rate that nobody could have dreamt possible just a few years ago.

And thank you to the autoworkers of our Nation for your inspiring vote of confidence. We did tremendously with their vote.

(Applause.)

I will immediately begin the overhaul of our trade system to protect American workers and families. Instead of taxing our citizens to enrich other countries, we will tariff and tax foreign countries to enrich our citizens.

(Applause.)

For this purpose, we are establishing the External Revenue Service to collect all tariffs, duties, and revenues. It will be massive amounts of money pouring into our Treasury, coming from foreign sources. The American dream will soon be back and thriving like never before.

To restore competence and effectiveness to our Federal Government, my administration will establish the brandnew Department of Government Efficiency.

(Applause.)

After years and years of illegal and unconstitutional Federal efforts to restrict free expression, I will also sign an Executive order to immediately stop all government censorship and bring back free speech to America.

(Applause.)

Never again will the immense power of the state be weaponized to persecute political opponents, something I know something about. We will not allow that to happen. It will not happen again. Under my leadership, we will restore fair, equal, and impartial justice under the constitutional rule of law.

(Applause.)

And we are going to bring law and order back to our cities.

This week, I will also end the government policy of trying to socially engineer race and gender into every aspect of public and private life.

(Applause.)

We will forge a society that is color-blind and merit-based.

(Applause.)

As of today, it will henceforth be the official policy of the U.S. Government that there are only two genders: male and female.

(Applause.)

This week, I will reinstate any servicemembers who were unjustly expelled from our military for objecting to the COVID vaccine mandate, with full back pay.

(Applause.)

And I will sign an order to stop our warriors from being subjected to radical political theories and social experiments while on duty. It is going to end immediately. Our Armed Forces will be free to focus on their sole mission: defeating America's enemies.

(Applause.)

Like in 2017, we will again build the strongest military the world has ever seen. We will measure our success not only by the battles we win but also by the wars that we end and, perhaps most importantly, the wars we never get into.

(Applause.)

My proudest legacy will be that of a peacemaker and unifier. That is what I want to be: a peacemaker and a unifier. I am pleased to say that as of yesterday, 1 day before I assumed office, the hostages in the Middle East are coming back home to their families.

(Applause.)

Thank you, America will reclaim its rightful place as the greatest, most powerful, most respected Nation on Earth, inspiring the awe and admiration of the entire world.

A short time from now, we are going to be changing the name of the Gulf of Mexico to the Gulf of America, and we will restore the name of a great President, William McKinley, to Mount McKinley, where it should be and where it belongs. President McKinley made our country very rich through tariffs and through talent. He was a natural businessman and gave Teddy Roosevelt the money for many of the great things he did, including the Panama Canal, which has foolishly been given to the country of Panama after the United States—the United States, I mean, think of this, spent more money than was ever spent on a project before and lost 38,000 lives in the building of the Panama Canal.

We have been treated very badly from this foolish gift that should have never been made, and Panama's promise to us has been broken. The purpose of our deal and the spirit of our treaty has been totally violated. American ships are being severely overcharged and not treated fairly in any way, shape, or form, and that includes the U.S. Navy.

And above all, China is operating the Panama Canal, and we didn't give it to

China; we gave it to Panama. And we are taking it back.

(Applause.)

Above all, my message to Americans today is that it is time for us to once again act with courage, vigor, and the vitality of history's greatest civilization. So as we liberate our Nation, we will lead it to new heights of victory and success. We will not be deterred.

Together, we will end the chronic disease epidemic and keep our children safe, healthy, and disease-free.

The United States will once again consider itself a growing nation, one that increases our wealth, expands our territory, builds our cities, raises our expectations, and carries our flag into new and beautiful horizons. And we will pursue our manifest destiny into the stars, launching American astronauts to plant the stars and stripes on the planet Mars.

(Applause.)

Ambition is the lifeblood of a great nation, and right now our Nation is more ambitious than any other. There is no nation like our Nation. Americans are explorers, builders, innovators, entrepreneurs, and pioneers. The spirit of the frontier is written into our hearts. The call of the next great adventure resounds from within our souls.

Our American ancestors turned a small group of colonies on the edge of a vast continent into a mighty Republic of the most extraordinary citizens on Earth. No one comes close. Americans pushed thousands of miles through a rugged land of untamed wilderness. They crossed deserts, scaled mountains, braved untold dangers, won the Wild West, ended slavery, rescued millions from tyranny, lifted billions from poverty, harnessed electricity, split the atom, launched mankind into the heavens, and put the universe of human knowledge into the palm of the human hand. If we work together, there is nothing we cannot do and no dream we cannot achieve.

Many people thought it was impossible for me to stage such a historic political comeback, but as you see today, here I am. The American people have spoken.

(Applause.)

I stand before you now as proof that you should never believe that something is impossible to do. In America, the impossible is what we do best.

From New York to Los Angeles, from Philadelphia to Phoenix, from Chicago to Miami, from Houston to right here in Washington, DC, our country was forged and built by the generations of patriots who gave everything they had for our rights and for our freedom. They were farmers and soldiers, cowboys and factory workers, steelworkers and coal miners, police officers and pioneers who pushed onward, marched forward, and let no obstacle defeat their spirit or their pride. Together, they laid down the railroads, raised up the skyscrapers, built great highways, won two World Wars, defeated fascism

and communism, and triumphed over every single challenge that they faced.

After all we have been through together, we stand on the verge of the 4 greatest years in American history. With your help, we will restore American promise, and we will rebuild the Nation that we love. And we love it so much. We are one people, one family, and one glorious Nation under God.

So to every parent who dreams for their child and every child who dreams for their future, I am with you. I will fight for you, and I will win for you. They are going to win like never before.

(Applause.)

Thank you. Thank you.

In recent years, our Nation has suffered greatly, but we are going to bring it back and make it great again, greater than ever before. We will be a nation like no other, full of compassion, courage, and exceptionalism. Our power will stop all wars and bring a new spirit of unity to a world that has been angry, violent, and totally unpredictable.

America will be respected again and admired again, including by people of religion, faith, and good will. We will be prosperous. We will be proud. We will be strong. And we will win like never before. We will not be conquered. We will not be intimidated. We will not be broken. And we will not fail.

From this day on, the United States of America will be a free, sovereign, and independent nation. We will stand bravely. We will live proudly. We will dream boldly. And nothing will stand in our way because we are Americans. The future is ours. And our golden age has just begun. Thank you. God bless America. Thank you all. Thank you. Thank you very much. Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

MUC EDWARDS. Ladies and gentlemen, performing "America the Beautiful," please welcome the Armed Forces Chorus and Carrie Underwood.

(Performance of "America the Beautiful" by Carrie Underwood accompanied by the Armed Forces Chorus.)

(Applause.)

MUC EDWARDS. Ladies and gentlemen, Senator FISHER will now introduce the benediction clergy.

Mrs. FISCHER. I now call on Rabbi Ari Berman, Pastor Lorenzo Sewell, and Rev. Frank Mann to provide prayers of benediction.

Rabbi BERMAN: Let us pray.

Almighty God, your profit Jeremiah walked the streets of Jerusalem and blessed its inhabitants with:

(English translation of statement made in Hebrew as follows:)

Blessed is the one who trusts in God. Thousands of years later, this great Nation, which adopted these words as its motto, "In God We Trust," stands at a moment of historic opportunity. Americans are searching for meaning.

Our merciful Father, help us rise to meet this moment. Bless President Donald J. Trump and Vice President

JD VANCE with the strength and courage to choose the right and the good. Unite us around our foundational Biblical values of life and liberty, of service and sacrifice, and especially of faith and morality, which George Washington called the indispensable supports of American prosperity.

Guide our schools and college campuses, which have been experiencing such unrest, to inspire the next generation, to pair progress with purpose, knowledge with wisdom, and truth with virtue.

Hear the cry of the hostages, both American and Israeli, whose pain our President so acutely feels. We are so thankful for the three young women who yesterday returned home and pray that the next 4 years brings peace to Israel and throughout the Middle East.

Almighty God, grant all Americans the opportunity to realize our shared dream of a life filled with peace and plenty, health and happiness, compassion and contribution. Stir within us the confidence to rise to this moment, for while we trust in God, God's trust is in us, the American people.

America is called to greatness, to be a beacon of light and a mover of history.

May our Nation merit the fulfillments of Jeremiah's blessing, that like a tree planted by water, we shall not cease to bear fruit.

May all of humanity experience Your love and Your blessing. May it be Thy will and let us say amen.

Pastor SEWELL. Let us pray for our 47th President.

Heavenly Father, we are so grateful that You gave our 45th and now our 47th President a millimeter miracle.

We are grateful that You are the one that have called him for such a time as this; that America would begin to dream again.

We pray that we would fulfill the true meaning of our creed that "We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal."

We pray that You use our President; that we would live in a nation where we will not be judged by the color of our skin but by the content of our character.

Heavenly Father, in the name of Jesus, we are so grateful today that You will use our 47th President so we would "sing with new meaning 'My country 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing. Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrim's pride, from every mountainside, let freedom ring!'"

And because America is called to be a great nation, we believe that You will make this come true.

So let freedom ring from the prodigious hilltops of New Hampshire. Let freedom ring from the mighty mountains of New York. Let freedom ring from the heightening Alleghenies of Pennsylvania! Let freedom ring from the snowcapped Rockies of Colorado! Let freedom ring from the curvaceous [hilltops] of California!

But, God, we are asking You not only that, "Let freedom ring from Stone

Mountain Georgia! Let freedom ring from Lookout Mountain of Tennessee! Let freedom ring from every hill and every molehill [in] Mississippi"—from every State, every city, every village, and every hamlet.

And when we let freedom ring, we will be able to speed up that day, where all of your children, Black men and White men, Protestant and Catholic, Jew and Gentile, will be able to sing in the meaning of that old Negro spiritual: Free at last, free at last. Thank you, God Almighty, we are free at last.

If you believe where the spirit of the Lord is there is liberty, come on, put your hands together and give your great God great glory.

(Applause.)

Reverend MANN. Almighty and Eternal God, we gather here today in reverence, joined in our shared hopes and dreams for our beloved Nation.

In this sacred moment of the inauguration of President Donald J. Trump and Vice President JD VANCE, we turn our hearts to You, seeking Your divine assistance and abundant blessings upon this pivotal moment in history.

We come before You with profound gratitude for the many gifts You have bestowed upon our land. Thank You for the freedoms we cherish, for the strength of our communities, and for the resilience of our spirit.

As our President and Vice President embrace their newly appointed roles, we humbly implore that Your everlasting love and wisdom will envelope them. Grant them the clarity of mind to navigate the challenges that lie ahead and the compassion to serve all citizens with fairness and integrity.

May their hearts be filled with a giving spirit and sincere understanding for those whom they represent.

May they be beacons of hope in times of uncertainty and prophetic voices in defending the dignity of all created life.

We pray for a spirit of collaboration to flourish in our government and across our Nation, fostering an environment where dialogue and heartfelt listening will prevail over division or discord.

May each decision made by our President and Vice President reflect the values of justice and peace.

As we embark on this new chapter, we also seek Your comfort, O God, for those who feel lost or disheartened. In this time of transition, may Your light shine upon them, reaffirming their belief in a brighter tomorrow.

May we all strive to lift one another, supporting our fellow citizens with kindness and empathy, recognizing that together, we can overcome any adversity.

Grant us the strength to endure, the courage to face our fears, and the clarity to see the light that remains, even when clouds of uncertainty may gather.

Inspire our new leaders to be champions for the vulnerable and advocates for those whose voices are often silenced. May they pursue policies that

promote the well-being of all, seeking to build bridges that will foster unity and belonging.

As we stand witness to this inauguration, we hold fast to the faith, to our faith, and the goodness of each of us and the possibility of change.

We trust that with Your guidance, O God, our Nation can move forward to a future filled with promise, prosperity, and understanding.

And, finally, we lift our hearts in gratitude for the beloved parents of President Trump. Without Mary and Fred Trump, this day would never be the miracle that has just begun. From their place in Heaven, may they shield their son from all harm by their loving protection and give him the strength to guide our Nation along the path that will make America great again.

Let us go forth now with these words of President Trump's emblazoned on our hearts: As long as we have pride in our beliefs, courage in our convictions, and faith in our God, then we will not fail.

We stand tall. We stand proud because we are Americans. And Americans kneel to God and to God alone.

Amen.

(Applause.)

MUC EDWARDS. Ladies and gentlemen, please remain standing for our national anthem.

(Performance of the national anthem by Christopher Macchio, the Naval Academy Glee Club, the Armed Forces Chorus, and the United States Marine Band.)

(The inaugural ceremony was concluded at 12:58 p.m.)

LETTERS OF RESIGNATION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the letters from Senator RUBIO regarding his resignation from the Senate be printed in the RECORD.

The letters follow:

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. SENATE,

Washington, DC, January 20, 2025.

Hon. J.D. VANCE,

Vice President of the United States,
Washington, DC.

MR. VICE PRESIDENT: I have enclosed a letter of resignation, addressed to the Governor of Florida, announcing my resignation from the office of U.S. Senator effective January 20, 2025. As the President of the U.S. Senate, I bring this letter to your attention.

Sincerely,

MARCO RUBIO,
U.S. Senator.

U.S. SENATE,

Washington, DC, January 20, 2025.

Hon. RON DESANTIS,

Governor of the State of Florida,
Tallahassee, FL.

DEAR GOVERNOR DESANTIS: This is to advise you that I hereby resign as U.S. Senator for the State of Florida effective January 20, 2025 in order to assume the responsibilities of U.S. Secretary of State. It has been an honor

and privilege to represent the State of Florida for the last 14 years in the U.S. Senate. Sincerely,

MARCO RUBIO,
U.S. Senator.

BORN-ALIVE ABORTION SURVIVORS PROTECTION ACT—Motion to Proceed

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 4, S. 6.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 4, S. 6, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit a health care practitioner from failing to exercise the proper degree of care in the case of a child who survives an abortion or attempted abortion.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk for the motion to proceed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 4, S. 6, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit a health care practitioner from failing to exercise the proper degree of care in the case of a child who survives an abortion or attempted abortion.

John Thune, Steve Daines, John Kennedy, Jim Justice, James E. Risch, Tim Sheehy, Mike Crapo, Deb Fischer, Tommy Tuberville, Rick Scott of Florida, Pete Ricketts, Katie Britt, Ted Budd, Roger F. Wicker, Mike Rounds, Roger Marshall, Eric Schmitt.

Mr. THUNE. And I ask consent that the mandatory quorum call be waived.

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

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2025

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 11 a.m. on Tuesday, January 21; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; further, upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 4, S. 6; finally, that the Senate recess from 12:30 to 2:15 p.m. to allow for weekly conference meetings.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 11 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:53 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 11 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

SCOTT BESSENT, OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO BE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

PAMELA BONDI, OF FLORIDA, TO BE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DOUGLAS BURGUM, OF NORTH DAKOTA, TO BE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

LORI CHAVEZ-DEREMER, OF OREGON, TO BE SECRETARY OF LABOR.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

DOUGLAS COLLINS, OF GEORGIA, TO BE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SEAN DUFFY, OF WISCONSIN, TO BE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

PETER HEGSETH, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

ROBERT F. KENNEDY, JR., OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

HOWARD LUTNICK, OF NEW YORK, TO BE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

LINDA MCMAHON, OF CONNECTICUT, TO BE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

KRISTI NOEM, OF SOUTH DAKOTA, TO BE SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

BROOKE ROLLINS, OF TEXAS, TO BE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MARCO RUBIO, OF FLORIDA, TO BE SECRETARY OF STATE.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

ERIC TURNER, OF TEXAS, TO BE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

CHRISTOPHER WRIGHT, OF COLORADO, TO BE SECRETARY OF ENERGY.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

TULSI GABBARD, OF HAWAII, TO BE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

JAMIESON GREER, OF MARYLAND, TO BE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE, WITH THE RANK AND STATUS OF AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

KELLY LOEFFLER, OF GEORGIA, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

JOHN RATCLIFFE, OF TEXAS, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ELISE STEFANIK, OF NEW YORK, TO BE THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS, WITH THE RANK AND STATUS OF AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY, AND THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS.