

all the challenges and threats we face, the threat of a radical, hateful ideology that can inspire people living here to take such horrifying actions, is something we should remain vigilant about.

And I want to thank my colleague Senator SCOTT for allowing me to partner with him on this resolution to remember not just that tragic day and to support the national Pulse Memorial but also to extend our continued condolences to those who suffered so greatly on that evening and to remind a nation of how we must remain vigilant against those who seek to terrorize.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I want to thank my colleague from Florida for participating in this with me. It was a devastating day 5 years ago for all of us in Florida and around the Nation.

Today, I am requesting all my colleagues join us to honor the memory of the 49 lives lost and come together to say their nation will always stand against hate and evil in this world.

I will be asking consent for the Senate to pass a resolution honoring the memory of the victims of the heinous attack of the Pulse nightclub, cosponsored by my colleague from Florida, Senator RUBIO, and legislation designating the location of the Pulse nightclub in Orlando as the National Pulse Memorial to serve as a tribute to the victims and a reminder for us to always stand for love and kindness over hate and evil in this world. It is also cosponsored by my colleague from Florida, Senator RUBIO, and my colleague from California, Senator PADILLA. I hope my colleagues join us in the effort today.

DESIGNATING THE NATIONAL PULSE MEMORIAL LOCATED AT 1912 SOUTH ORANGE AVENUE IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, as if in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be discharged from further consideration of S. 1605 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HICKENLOOPER). The clerk will report the bill by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1605) to designate the National Pulse Memorial located at 1912 South Orange Avenue in Orlando, Florida, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. 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 (S. 1605) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 1605

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF NATIONAL PULSE MEMORIAL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Pulse Memorial located at 1912 South Orange Avenue in Orlando, Florida, is designated as the “National Pulse Memorial”.

(b) EFFECT OF DESIGNATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The national memorial designated by subsection (a) is not a unit of the National Park System.

(2) USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS.—The designation of the national memorial by subsection (a) shall not require or permit Federal funds to be expended for any purpose relating to the national memorial.

DESIGNATING THE NATIONAL PULSE MEMORIAL LOCATED AT 1912 SOUTH ORANGE AVENUE, ORLANDO, FLORIDA, 32806

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, as if in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 49 and the Senate 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. 49) to designate the National Pulse Memorial located at 1912 South Orange Avenue, Orlando, Florida, 32806, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. 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. 49) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE VICTIMS OF THE HEINOUS ATTACK AT THE PULSE NIGHTCLUB ON JUNE 12, 2016

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, as if in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 265, submitted earlier today.

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 265) honoring the memory of the victims of the heinous attack at the Pulse nightclub on June 12, 2016.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 265) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, it is with heavy heart that I stand here today and remember this dark day in Florida's history. I thank my colleagues for joining me to honor the 49 lives lost far too soon in a terror attack on Pulse nightclub nearly 5 years ago. While nothing can ever bring back the lives lost, I am glad we are able to come together to stand for love and kindness over hate and evil in this world.

I yield the floor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, we have a tendency in this Chamber to talk about hindsight being 20/20, and I think that this is what we will be doing in 10 or 20 years when we look back on the Biden administration. I really expect that we will highlight all of the big talk here in DC that has led to some really bad ideas the White House has tried to legitimize through legislation and budget requests.

If you remember, even before the 2020 election, Biden's big talk on amnesty welcomed the hundreds of thousands of migrants who are currently flooding the southern border. He said: We expect to see these migrants at the border.

So, yes, they heard him say, “Y'all come,” and they are coming.

His big talk on Green New Deal programs got us the boondoggle of an infrastructure package that all but ignores roads, bridges, and broadband. The people in Memphis, TN, have not appreciated some of this talk of other items as infrastructure. They want bridge repairs immediately. Then, just before Memorial Day, we got some more big talk in the form of his \$6 trillion budget request that reads like an instruction manual on how to make our country less secure, less free, and less competitive.

Back home in Tennessee, people looked at this thing, and they didn't believe what they were seeing. At church last Sunday, I had some friends ask me if the budget proposal was supposed to be a joke or if this were serious because, when they look around, they see real need. They see communities without broadband, small businesses that are struggling to get back on their feet, and crumbling roads and bridges.

Yet what did the administration choose to do with their first budget? They turned away from those needs. They decided to throw billions of dollars at the environmental lobby to make it happy. They put in money to

abortionists and to an already bloated Federal bureaucracy.

Tennesseans are looking at their own budgets and thinking about all of the ways they have had to make tough choices over the past year, and they are wondering why the Biden administration cannot seem to bring itself to show some fiscal restraint. Why is it that they just say: Crank up the printing press. Let's print more dollars. Let's put more money in the system. Let's give everybody a check—and no worries about who is going to pay the bill?

They are used to seeing the Democrats act in a very cavalier manner about spending, and they are very much concerned about what they see happening in Washington, DC. They know, without a doubt, that this is really going to cost them and that it is going to cost their children and their grandchildren, and as someone said this weekend, it is the great-grandchildren who will bear the brunt of the Biden extravaganza. They know better than to nod along with the administration's promises that only the rich and the megacorporations will be responsible for offsetting this massive spending program.

I will tell you that they know how this works. They have seen it before. They know that there are higher taxes at the top and that higher taxes at the top of this wish list and on the top earners will mean less investment in their communities, which will lead to stagnant economic development, which will land them in the exact same place that they were during the Obama-Biden years, except there will be the added expenses of having to comply with future mandates the administration is going to pile on them.

They know, when you take from the people who create the jobs and make the investments and provide the goods that drive our economy, that you are taking from the middle class, that you are taking from small businesses on every Main Street in this country. You are making opening that business too expensive to afford because you have taken those tax dollars and you are using those dollars to grow union membership, to show favoritism, and to pick winners and losers Washington, DC, style.

That is exactly how you destroy that competitiveness that makes companies want to do business here and to emigrate here, and that makes other countries a little nervous to stand toe to toe with us on the international stage. This international element is important, and I fear the Biden administration has lost that perspective.

If you look at the budget items related to immigration, it is clear that the White House still thinks they can make it out of this border crisis without having to admit that their policies have, indeed, caused this crisis at our Nation's southern border. Yes, indeed, this is the Biden border crisis. Instead of securing the border by investing in

the technology, infrastructure, and manpower our Border Patrol agents have repeatedly asked for, the administration wants to focus on sending foreign aid to the Northern Triangle, foreign aid without accountability. This is a noble effort, but it will do nothing to mitigate the disaster on the border that has since bled into the communities that are now playing host to busloads of unaccompanied migrant children, like we see in Chattanooga.

At least they decided to invest in a few more immigration judges. Yet what we see them doing through this is making every town a border town and every State a border State. They are transferring the costs to our States and to our local communities—the costs for education, for healthcare, for children's services, for social services, for housing. The Federal Government doesn't want to admit they are incurring that cost.

So what are they doing? At taxpayer expense, they are putting these over a half-a-million illegal entrants onto airplanes, onto buses, and they are sending them to communities around this country. That is what they are doing, and that is what millions of Americans, including thousands of Tennesseans, are pushing back on.

I have to tell you, I had a telephone townhall last night. It was with some of the counties that are around Chattanooga, TN, in that area, and COVID-19 and the immigration policies of the Biden administration were the top questions that came up.

I will tell you that things don't look any better on the national security front. If you account for inflation, you find out that the topline request for the Department of Defense represents a \$7 billion decrease compared to fiscal year 2021 funding levels. That is right, a \$7 billion decrease for defense. Maybe they forgot that what we are responsible for, first and foremost, is providing for the common defense.

Talk about misplaced priorities. The Biden administration picked the absolute worst time to undercut the military and employ President Obama's demand to do more with less. We know from experience that it takes between 3 and 5 percent in annual growth to keep our military and national security programs competitive, and this budget doesn't even come close to hitting that mark. For reference, China increased their defense budget by 6.8 percent this year—oh, and who is our main competitor when it comes to great power competition? You are right. The answer is China, absolutely.

Biden's budget, on the other hand, asks for \$112 billion in R&D spending, but it cuts procurement spending. Imagine that. This means, as of right now, the administration has no plan to put that R&D to good use. Keep doing the research and development, but by the way, we are not planning to purchase. Think about that. Think about the message that sends to our allies and the message it is sending to our adversaries.

They paid lip service to supporting our nuclear programs, but earlier this month, the Secretary of the Navy sent a strategic memo ordering the service to defund the development of the nuclear sea-launched cruise missiles that are essential for deterring China in regional waters. That is right. The Secretary of the Navy sent a strategic memo ordering the Navy to defund the development of the missiles that are essential for deterring China in regional waters.

The kicker? All of this is to be done before the Nuclear Posture Review is even completed. So don't wait for the report. We need an outcome, and the outcome is, Let's make ourselves less competitive.

This is astounding. Instead of following the directives that have clearly been laid out by last year's NDAA and investing in a combat-credible force, the budget guts and confuses the mission driving the Pacific Deterrence Initiative, and this has had bipartisan support. Keep in mind that this is the best set of tools we have against Chinese aggression in the Indo-Pacific region, and the Biden administration has decided to use it like some sort of slush account for projects that, in a normal year, would be funded under other categories.

They are going for an outcome. The outcome is not "America first" or an America able to defend. Their budget is cutting defense. Their budget is cutting these cruise missiles. It makes no sense.

And I can assure you, as we begin the NDAA negotiations, that this is something that will deserve and will get a full review.

I have said it before and I will say it again: The American people understand that elections do have consequences. They knew that some priorities would change with President Biden. Even my friends back home who voted for President Biden will tell me they liked what they heard on the campaign trail from him. But they will also tell you they did not vote for this.

They did not vote for what is happening, for the Executive orders that are coming out of this administration, for the ridiculousness that they see in this budget. They did not vote for tax plans that will stand in the way of local investment with small businesses. They did not vote to make things more expensive and scarce at the grocery store. They did not vote to fund a bloated and power-hungry Federal bureaucracy. They didn't vote to leave our border in shambles, to wreck our Nation's sovereignty.

They certainly didn't vote for a defense strategy that will allow the Chinese Communist Party to expand their influence into underdeveloped countries and threaten our allies in the Indo-Pacific. No, they did not vote for that.

Our National Guard men and women, our men and women who every day are in service there at Fort Campbell—God

bless them. And we worry about the lack of attention to defense.

I would remind my Democratic colleagues that any action they take on this budget proposal won't exist in a vacuum, and I ask them to reconsider their justification for asking the American people, who just survived a global pandemic and a near total economic collapse—I think they should reconsider their justification for asking them to bankroll an activist-driven, radical, fantasy budget that nobody really asked for.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. DUCKWORTH). Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. 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.

UNITED STATES INNOVATION AND COMPETITION ACT

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, the U.S. Innovation & Competition Act the Senate passed yesterday sends a loud, clear signal to the Government of the People's Republic of China and to the Chinese Communist Party: American foreign policy is grounded in our values, and we will work with our allies to defend our interests and to protect our friends. Enactment of this bill will place the United States in a much stronger position to thwart Chinese aggression, uphold human rights, increase U.S. competitiveness, and enhance our national security.

I am proud to have worked on a bipartisan basis with Chairman MENENDEZ and Ranking Member RISCH and other colleagues in both parties to put forward legislation ensuring that defense of human rights and good governance and upgrading our armory in the battle against corruption remains at the forefront of our national security policy.

This measure will complement the action President Biden took just last week to define the fight against corruption as a "core U.S. national security interest." In the National Security Study Memorandum the President released on June 3, he ordered a high-level review of how our government, our partners, and others can work to-

gether to combat illicit, corrosive corrupt activity.

The interagency review that he directed the National Security Advisor to lead should yield a robust strategy that brings all the tools at the disposal of the United States to bear on one of the most consequential problems we face. I look forward to seeing the results of this high-level report and working with the Biden-Harris administration to target corruption wherever we find it. In the meantime, the legislation the Senate has passed will provide the Executive with more tools.

While corruption is a global issue—no country is immune from the disease that is corruption—it is important that we bring this fight directly to the Chinese Government. S. 1260 calls for a report to Congress on the corruption and corrupt activities of the senior officials of the Government of the People's Republic of China so that the United States can expose these individuals and hold them accountable.

Congress cannot—and must not—turn a blind eye to the People's Republic of China's shocking, systematic abuse of its Uighur population, as well as of ethnic Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, and other Muslim minority groups in the Xinjiang Uighur autonomous region. This ongoing genocide demands a forceful U.S. response.

The U.S. Innovation and Competition Act protects the innocent victims of these atrocities by authorizing appropriations for protecting human rights to include programs that prioritize the protection and advancement of the freedoms of association, assembly, religion, and expression for women, human rights activists, and ethnic and religious minorities in China. The bill also authorizes and encourages the imposition of sanctions relating to forced labor and with respect to systematic rape, coercive abortion, forced sterilization, and involuntary contraceptive implantation in the Xinjiang Uighur autonomous region.

Beijing's plan to circumvent Hong Kong's independent legal system with a far-reaching, oppressive national security law is dangerous and in complete disregard of the principles of the "one country, two systems." S. 1260 ensures that we stand with Hong Kong's citizens for their freedoms, democracy, and basic human rights by authorizing funding for the promotion of democracy in China and specifically in Hong Kong.

Until the Chinese Communist Party changes its behavior, we and our allies and partners must hold it accountable. This bill reiterates our strong, bipartisan commitment to working together to call out brutal regimes and use tools like the Global Magnitsky Act to hold individuals accountable for their violations of human rights and corrupt practices.

The bill permanently reauthorizes the Global Magnitsky Act, allowing the U.S. Government to continue to utilize this valuable tool. While this is a crucial step, I also hope we signifi-

cantly expand the Global Magnitsky sanctions authority by adopting parameters used to implement Executive Order 13818.

The United States can counter Chinese threats to our national security by upholding our values, emphasizing transparency, and exposing corruption, but other nations must see that we live, as well as preach, our values.

I am gratified that S. 1260 includes my proposal to expand a ban on postemployment by senior State Department officials on lobbying the U.S. Government on behalf of any foreign governments and state-owned entities. Doing so ensures that the U.S. Government practices what we preach, removing the appearance that our diplomats might be doing less than their best on behalf of the American people in order to position themselves for immediate postemployment jobs advocating for foreign interests.

I was pleased to join many of my colleagues in supporting several specific initiatives to hold the Chinese Communist Party and other regimes accountable.

The Transnational Repression Accountability & Prevention, TRAP, Act, which I am proud to co-lead with my colleague Senator WICKER, who is also ranking member of the U.S. Helsinki Commission, takes aim at the pervasive and pernicious problem of authoritarian abuse of INTERPOL. Dictators regularly submit to INTERPOL abusive red notices and diffusions based on false or trumped-up charges in an effort to coerce law enforcement agencies in democratic countries to harass and even extradite those who have spoken out against oppression and corruption.

Bill Browder, who ensured that Sergei Magnitsky's courage and integrity became known to the world and who worked closely with me on the Magnitsky Act, has been subject to no fewer than eight abusive INTERPOL red notices submitted by the Russian Government. While Bill Browder's case is emblematic of the wider problem, he is by no means alone. Countries such as Russia, China, and Turkey regularly file abusive red notices to go after those individuals who have fallen afoul of these regimes, despite this being a clear violation of INTERPOL's constitution.

Adding the TRAP Act to S. 1260 would do three things. First, it sets priorities for the United States in responding to INTERPOL abuse and promoting reform within INTERPOL. It is critical that the United States use its voice, vote, and influence within the organization to reestablish its rule of law foundation. Second, it identifies areas for improvement in the U.S. Government's response to INTERPOL abuse and mandates that the Agencies tasked with managing U.S. engagement at INTERPOL examine and determine who the abusers are, their tactics, and how the United States can best respond. Finally, it protects the