

There were people—local elected officials, Democrats and Republicans—who were doing the work they needed to do. And the Federal Government was shut down because of Senator CRUZ from Texas. That is what happened. Those people are owed an apology for what the Senator of Texas did.

And then he came out here in 2019 pretending that he cared about trying to resolve—by the way, it wasn't CHUCK SCHUMER's shutdown. It was Donald Trump's shutdown. He was the President. It was the longest shutdown in American history. And I don't have my phone to tell me this, but if you look it up—please do—you will find it was the Trump shutdown, not the Schumer shutdown. And it went on forever—not forever, but it was the longest shutdown ever. And Senator CRUZ was coming out here with these Potemkin pieces of legislation to sort of trick Democrats or to force Democrats into taking a bad vote on the funding of the Coast Guard while the whole rest of the Government was shut down.

He might have believed that the most important thing to do at that moment, I suppose, was to fund the Coast Guard and to leave everything else shut down. I suppose that is possible.

I suspect the likelier reason was that he was trying to create a vote that said the Democrats are for shutting the government down—or shutting the Coast Guard down, not shutting the government down. Donald Trump had shut the government down, President Trump. And that is what we were out here discussing.

So you give me the opportunity to remind everyone of the 2013 events. And I won't withdraw what I said in 2019.

I will say that I want to thank the Senator from Texas for remembering that I even had a Presidential campaign at all. It is not a well-remembered event in the history of our democracy. I am grateful that he could have played a role in trying to get me off the ground. We will have to see. But that was not the great—as I have said to people—well, I won't go on.

I will say to the Senator from Texas that when I got in, even my mom said: Do we need one more Democrat in this race, MICHAEL? So that was how I started that race.

Then, I will say, finally, that the FAA doesn't end up expiring until the 31st of this month. We have time in front of us to do the work that needs to be done.

I want to congratulate the Senator from Texas for the work that he did on the Nord Stream Pipeline. I think that was meaningful work.

I remember you standing out here at a time when a lot of other people didn't even know what you were talking about and having you stand here and make that case. So I give you that, for sure.

I would say, also, that I am sure you feel passionately that the position that you took before Putin invaded Ukraine

might have had some effect on what he did. We have a disagreement about that, but that is OK. Neither of us can change what has happened in the past. But what we can do is make sure that we recognize that this tyrant has invaded Ukraine; that this tyrant has done something that is in contravention of the civil order since World War II, since my mom was born in Poland in 1938; that the world has come together to support the free people of Ukraine in their battle; that Putin's only allies in this battle today are North Korea and Iran and sort of China, which are kind of watching how this all unfolds.

So the question before us now is not, I don't think, did we have some vote in the Senate that went one way or another—and I am sorry to the Senator from Wyoming, I will stop—went some way or another or that Democrats or that Joe Biden are somehow responsible for Vladimir Putin invading Ukraine.

First of all, that is certainly not true, even if we have disagreements about what was going on here. But what is certainly true is that Vladimir Putin invaded Ukraine. He decided to invade Ukraine. The Ukrainian people have exposed the weakness of Putin's army. They have exposed the weakness of his leadership. They have exposed the weakness of his strategy. They have exposed the strength of NATO. They have exposed the importance of American leadership. They have given us the chance to rearm the American people. They have pushed back Xi Jinping. That is not bad for 2 years of work.

And we should not go home. We should stay here and do the work we need to do to support Ukraine.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—H.R. 1042

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, we heard a lot about Russia here. We heard a lot about enabling and empowering Vladimir Putin, empowering him financially.

I am here today to offer and support legislation that will defund Vladimir Putin; that will take a billion dollars of U.S. money out of his pocket. I am here today and rise in support of H.R. 1042. It prohibits Russian uranium imports.

For years, Russia's state-owned nuclear monopoly has dumped artificially cheap uranium into our American market. And as a result of all of this, Russia and Putin have gained a commanding share of the whole world's nuclear fuel supply chain.

Russia has driven America's nuclear fuel suppliers out of business—completely out of business—and Russia has put Americans out of work. That is what I am bringing here today because we are sending, roughly, a billion dollars a year to Russia for uranium. We need to stop that. We need to block it.

We are now at a point where the United States cannot even fuel our own

next generation of advanced nuclear reactors. If Congress doesn't step in, these advanced reactors will have no other choice than to be dependent on Russian uranium.

To make matters worse, we now know that Vladimir Putin is using Russia's nuclear monopoly—to use that money to fund this brutal invasion of Ukraine that we have just been discussing here on the Senate floor. Russia's nuclear monopoly has also helped Putin evade sanctions and provide equipment and materials to Russia's military in Ukraine.

None of this should surprise us. That is who Vladimir Putin is. He has created—created—Russia's nuclear monopoly. We shouldn't be shocked that he has turned it into his piggy bank and his toolkit for his regime.

It is time the American people in this country stop funding Russia's nuclear monopoly. We can do this, and we could do it right here today, by ending Russian imports of uranium into the United States.

Ending Russian imports would provide certainty to America's nuclear fuel suppliers—those suppliers that Russia cannot undermine again. We cannot allow that to happen. It would also ensure that we are not financing and continuing to finance Putin's war in Ukraine.

On Monday, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 1042 with unanimous support. This bill would end imports of Russian uranium within 90 days and, therefore, end this billion dollars a year of American money going to fuel Russia's war machine.

H.R. 1042 is a companion to a bipartisan bill that I have introduced along with my bipartisan cosponsor, Senator MANCHIN, as well as Senator RISCH—both of whom are on the floor right now.

The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee unanimously passed out our bill in May. It is a bill that we developed in collaboration with America's nuclear industry and the Department of Energy and other Agencies.

As I get ready to offer a unanimous consent request, I would yield to Senator RISCH for a brief statement.

Mr. RISCH. Thank you, Senator.

I want to join my good friend from Wyoming in this really important issue.

We are talking here today about enriched uranium, a commodity that is absolutely critical to America. Not only is it an energy security issue, it is a national security imperative.

Right now, we get about one-fifth of our enriched uranium out of Russia. What is that doing? It is doing a number of things. No. 1, it gives Russia control over the supply, but just as importantly, at the same time, it is helping finance Russia's war against Ukraine.

It is past time that we end this dependence on or even use of any kind of Russian-enriched uranium.

Congress took a tremendous step by passing the Nuclear Fuel Security Act,

which Senator BARRASSO, Senator MANCHIN, and I introduced to enhance domestic uranium conversion and enrichment capacity, which is desperately needed. Now we have to provide a pathway to enhance domestic nuclear fuel production.

We need to provide certainty both here at home and to the world that a reliance on Russian fuel is over, once and for all. This is our opportunity to do it here.

Russia is going to suffer consequences from its attack on Ukraine for generations to come. I don't think they have fully figured that out yet. But this is just a tip of the iceberg as to what is coming for them. We need to cut it off.

I strongly urge my colleagues to pass H.R. 1042, which, as the Senator from Wyoming mentioned, was unanimously passed out of the House of Representatives earlier this week. It will be a companion to the bill that we passed earlier this year.

This is a really, really good step forward and an incredibly good step forward.

With that, I will yield to Senator MANCHIN.

Mr. MANCHIN. I yield back to Senator BARRASSO.

Mr. BARRASSO. Thank you, Senators.

Madam President, as in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 1042, which was received from the House; further, 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. Is there objection?

Mr. BROWN. I reserve the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I agree with my colleagues Senator MANCHIN, Senator BARRASSO, and Senator RISCH. We need energy independence, whether it is West Virginia natural gas, Wyoming coal, Ohio solar, or whatever you do in Idaho.

Mr. RISCH. Uranium.

Mr. BROWN. OK. It means stopping Russian uranium imports into the United States. It means expanding our domestic enrichment capabilities. We need to do both. It is a matter of national security. It is a matter of economic security.

There are Ohioans doing important work with companies like Centrus and Oklo in Piketon in Southern Ohio. In an industry like this, they need the support to get off the ground and be successful—not far from Senator MANCHIN's home State.

If we do this right, it will mean good jobs in the energy industry in Appalachia, where union workers have powered our economy for generations.

To do that, we have to pair these policies together: stopping Russian im-

ports and—and—investing in the domestic enrichment industry and all the jobs and opportunities that come with it.

My question is—and I will then drop my objection, of course—to ensure the action we take today is successful, Senator BARRASSO and Senator MANCHIN, do I have your commitment to work together to pass real resources to strengthen our domestic supply chain?

Mr. BARRASSO. You do.

Mr. MANCHIN. Absolutely.

Mr. BROWN. Thank you.

With your leadership, we took an important step forward in the National Defense Authorization Act we passed last night. I thank Senator RISCH for his work on that. We need to finish this job.

I want to see American companies—in Ohio—enriching uranium in the United States, creating jobs, supporting communities like Piketon, Waverly, Pike County, making our energy supply more secure.

I withdraw my objection.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. MANCHIN. Madam President, I also rise to join my friend from Wyoming Senator BARRASSO and my friend from Ohio. And I know that my friend from Texas has some concerns, but it is something different.

The only thing I would say about this is, as troubled as our House colleagues are—435—they passed this unanimously, unanimous consent. They can't agree on anything. They passed this because of the need for what we are trying to do here.

What we are trying to do is build initiatives I worked to include in the Energy Act of 1020. What we are doing is operating nuclear powerplants that are dependent on Russian enrichment. We are operating our nuclear fleet based on Russian enrichment and conversion capacity, which represents half of the global capacity. We let them capture the market.

Russia is currently the world's only—I will repeat. They are the only commercial source of high-assay low-enriched uranium—or, as we refer to it, HALEU—which is the fuel needed for advanced reactors, such as the SMRs and the micros that were coming in, the new technology.

It is shameful and dangerous to our country, which led the world in developing nuclear energy—we led the world—and once was capable of producing all the fuel that we could ever need, and it has become reliant on one of the most notorious adversaries we have ever had, Russia.

Uranium production in the United States peaked in 1980. And since 1992, the majority of uranium purchased by the U.S. nuclear powerplant operators was imported mostly from Russia.

Russia has used its state-owned nuclear monopoly to help fund Putin's unlawful war against Ukraine that has completely upended energy supply

chains and harmed European and American energy security.

For years—for years now—Russia has unfairly flooded the market. We have seen that happen so many times with China in different products and Russia also with cheap uranium to undercut U.S. and other Western producers. Being the capitalist country that we are, we just basically allowed our entrepreneurial businesspersons to go buy wherever they needed. We cannot continue to reward Putin for bad behavior.

The United States cut off imports of Russian oil and gas and coal in March of 2022. We cut off all of our needed, basically, supplies that we were using and supplementing with imports of Russian oil, gas, and coal. And it is long past time to finally cut Russian uranium out of the U.S. market as well.

Senator BARRASSO, myself, Senator RISCH, all the Senators who come from the areas that are involved in this but have been producing it—Senator BROWN from Ohio, basically, has a plant that I have visited that has produced all of the uranium that we ever needed during the war efforts and has been forced out of the market. They are coming back, but they are going to need our help to get back into the market also.

We have supported a two-part strategy to fix this, pairing an increase in domestic production with a ban on Russian fuel. To accomplish the first part, we included our Nuclear Fuel Security Act in the Defense bill that we passed last night.

That law will create the programs that we need to reshore our domestic nuclear supply chains and establish a new revolving fund at the Department of Energy to be used for uranium procurement. I am proud that lawmakers in both Chambers recognized that this issue is so important to our security, and it has been included in the NDAA. And when we get back in January, Senator BARRASSO and I are going to work together to ensure that the new DOE program is appropriately funded and paid for.

So today, again, I am asking my dear friend: We have got to take the second step—banning Russian uranium imports—to provide a clear signal to our domestic market so they will basically get back into the game and start increasing the fuel they walked away from because of unfair trade practices.

This uranium ban has had strong bipartisan support, as you know, in the House and over here. Then, today, we have the opportunity to send this commonsense legislation to the President's desk and move closer to realizing our energy independence from Russia by passing this ban.

I, again, ask all of you to consider this. I ask my good friend from Texas, Senator CRUZ, if he would consider maybe other ways that we might be able to help. I am committing to you that I will help you, and I think I know what your concerns are. I am certain it

doesn't have anything to do with this, but I know what it can be, and I know where I can help you. I am offering that assistance.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CRUZ. Madam President, reserving the right to object, I appreciate everything that my friend from Wyoming, my friend from Idaho, and my friend from West Virginia said, and I agree with what they said. I agree with the policy goals of this bill, and I am strongly committed to curtailing Russia's ability to use nuclear energy as a geopolitical tool.

Indeed, I have repeatedly introduced sanctions targeting Rosatom activities, and I am currently working on legislation that would go even further. We should absolutely end our dependence on Russian uranium, and the United States should not be dependent on any nation for our energy—nuclear or otherwise.

I know that my friend from Wyoming shares my conviction on American energy independence, and as the ranking member of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, he understands better than most anyone how the zealots in this administration have shackled our domestic energy producers.

And let me just say, I understand and appreciate how important this bill is to you, and I commit to work with you on this bill to get it passed into law.

But this bill is also important to the House. That was made clear by just how quickly they took it up and passed it on suspension with only a voice vote last week—even as, at the same time, the House stripped out and disregarded a number of the priorities of this Chamber which had been included in the Senate NDAA. One provision, which I worked very hard on with Senator KELLY, was to streamline permitting requirements for new semiconductor plants, and which 120 Senators and House Members—a little over a sixth of the entire Congress—had signed a letter supporting. That was one of the casualties of their casual disregard.

The House even stripped out of the bill my bill with Senator CANTWELL—the Senate version of the Informing Consumers About Smart Devices Act—despite the House having already passed their version of the bill earlier this year by a vote of 406 to 12.

Neither of these were partisan measures, and they are not wild policy changes. Instead, they are broadly bipartisan, widely supported priorities of Members of the Senate, and they have enormous impact. Unfortunately, our House colleagues—in particular, the leadership of the Energy and Commerce Committee—decided that they did not matter, and they insisted they be stripped from the bill.

Now we have come up with an important priority that they care about—and, to be clear, a policy with which I agree—asking for the blessing of the Senate.

The consequences of their stripping that legislation from the NDAA is they hurt thousands of jobs across this country. They have benefited communist China at our expense, and they have hurt our national security by making us more vulnerable to China, and they undermined the privacy of Americans across this country.

I hope and believe the House and Senate should work together cooperatively. I am eager to do so. I have extended an olive branch to the House for us to work cooperatively, but it is a two-way street. Until the House begins to take seriously the priorities of the Senate with overwhelming bipartisan support and until they change course on the Senate priorities they disregarded arbitrarily, this bill and potentially others from the chairman of this House committee will not be moving in the Senate by unanimous consent.

I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. MANCHIN. Madam President, just briefly, I want to correct one thing that was said.

Because of the 117th Congress, when we all worked together, today we are producing more energy than ever in the history of the United States. We are producing 4.6 billion barrels of oil this year, 37 trillion cubic feet of gas, 13.5 billion cubic feet a day of LNG. In 2016, we didn't do anything.

So what we have done with all of the bills—the bipartisan infrastructure bill; the IRA bill, or the Inflation Reduction Act—is forced this administration to start taking seriously U.S. energy independence and security. They cannot just move them in one direction. It is a balanced approach, and it is working.

This is the part, now, that we need to shut down. We should not be relying on foreign supply chains, unreliable foreign countries of concern. You have China, you have Russia, you have North Korea, and you have Iran—four of the most notorious. To depend on anything that comes from those four countries that we need for our building blocks is a sin.

That is the only thing I am saying on the hold you have here. There are going to be other things that we can work together on to make sure that we all—I think you have them on this. I don't know if that is a No. 1 priority. They just didn't have any objection because they knew it was something that should be done. We are all for it.

You are using it because you need something else, and we are committing to help you on something else. This is desperately needed for our country. It really is. We have to center the market because, if not, they won't get invested. They just won't move. If they think Russians can dump enriched uranium, HALEU, on us, they will continue to do it, and it basically stymies the market for anyone that is invest-

ing the amount of money that needs to be invested to get our enrichment program up and running. That is really what the concerns are.

And we already have an NDAA. We would like for it—as far as the money, we are prepared to make sure that we have the necessary resources. But we can't do it unless we ban that because, if we don't ban it, people will, in this marketplace, buy wherever they can, the cheapest they possibly can. And, I guarantee, Russia needs the money for their war machine, and they will keep dumping and dumping on us.

So I would hope you would reconsider, sir. That is all I can ask. But I am committed to helping you. But this is the wrong one, I believe, to use.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOKER). Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Now, Mr. President, over the last few days, negotiations on a path forward to getting a national security supplemental done have made good progress. As I have said, if we believe something is important and urgent, we should stay and get the job done. That is certainly the case with the supplemental. It is important. It is urgent.

I spoke with Leader MCCONNELL this morning about the plan for next week and making sure the Senate continues to do our work.

So, for the information of all Senators, after we finish today, the Senate will return on Monday. That will give negotiators from the White House, Senate Democrats, and Senate Republicans time to work through the weekend in an effort to reach a framework agreement. It will then take some time to turn that framework into text.

To prevent unnecessary delays, I intend to move to reconsider the shell for the supplemental, as a vehicle, to move an agreement forward. The plan is for the Senate to act as soon as we are ready to move forward on the supplemental.

Members need to be here next week. We have to get this done. Our Republican colleagues who have said action on the border is so urgent should have no problem with continuing to work next week. We hope to come to an agreement. But no matter what, Members should be aware that we will vote on a supplemental proposal next week.

Mr. President, it is not easy to reach an agreement on something this complicated. This might be one of the most difficult things we have ever had to work through. But we all know that so much—so much—hangs on our success. We know the world is watching. We know autocrats like Putin and Xi are