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## Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable RAPHAEL G. WARNOCK, a Senator from the State of Georgia.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, teach us how to act with integrity, to permit our thoughts, words, and actions to match what we profess. Lord, examine our motives, and remove even the flaws that are hidden from us, the sins of omission as well as commission. We acknowledge our total dependence on You to keep us faithful, fruitful, and fair.

Remind our lawmakers often of Your unfailing love, as You continue to be their refuge, fortress, and bulwark. May our Senators strive to serve You with reverential awe, finding their safety in trusting You completely.

We pray in Your precious Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, June 4, 2024.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable RAPHAEL G. WARNOCK, a Senator from the State of Georgia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATTY MURRAY,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. WARNOCK thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR EN BLOC—S. 4445 AND H.R. 192

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I understand that there are two bills at the desk due for a second reading en bloc.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the bills by title for the second time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 4445) to protect and expand nationwide access to fertility treatment, including in vitro fertilization.

A bill (H.R. 192) to prohibit individuals who are not citizens of the United States from voting in elections in the District of Columbia and to repeal the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, in order to place the bills on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I would object to further proceeding en bloc.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objections having been heard, the bills will be placed on the calendar.

### 105TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 19TH AMENDMENT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, 105 years ago today, Congress passed the 19th Amendment, granting women the right to vote under the Constitution for the first time ever. In the 240-year history of our country, the passage of the 19th Amendment is, without question, one of America's best moments. It was one of the greatest leaps ever in our march to become a more perfect Union, but it was also, more importantly, a great culmination of decades of sacrifice, struggle, and persistence, much of which was centered in Upstate New York, I am proud to say, in Seneca Falls and other places. We cannot possibly name the countless women and Americans who sacrificed in ways big and small to secure for women the right to vote, but we honor their memories all the same.

Today, I am wearing this yellow rose to honor that historic observance, and there will be a viewing for the original signed copy of the 19th Amendment today in the Capitol. I will be stopping by, and I encourage my colleagues to do the same, because it was truly a landmark moment for America.

Of course, we celebrate today's anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment being mindful of the great task still in front of us. More than a century stands between this generation and the generation that made it possible for women to vote, but in many ways, we still share in their struggle for greater justice and greater equality. We still carry the same moral duty they bore to make our Nation a more faithful reflection of our founding ideals. The march for equality for women and for all Americans is still not over.

When the fundamental right of women to make their own choices about their bodies has been stolen from them, the march is still not over. When women are told by hard-right politicians that their healthcare decisions

• This “buller” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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are not theirs to make and that they must travel, in some instances, across State lines and across time zones to access basic reproductive care, the march is still not over. When a radical, conservative, MAGA majority of the Supreme Court overturned decades of precedent by repealing the protections of *Roe v. Wade*, the march is still not over.

On this 105th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, we must confront the ugly truth: that women, sadly, have fewer freedoms than they did just a few years ago. Let's remember that. As we are all commemorating the right to vote on this 105th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, we must confront the ugly truth that women, sadly, have fewer freedoms than they did just a few years ago.

#### RIGHT TO CONTRACEPTION ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. So, Mr. President, tomorrow, the Senate will take action. Tomorrow, the Senate will defend the freedom of choice with a vote on the Right to Contraception Act, led by Senators MARKEY and HIRONO.

Federal protections for contraceptives are a critical piece of protecting women's reproductive freedoms, and this legislation would codify the right to contraception into Federal law. As MAGA Republicans continue to block protections for access to contraception on the State level—in States like Virginia, Nevada, and Arizona—it is all the more reason to move to protect contraception at the Federal level.

To those who think that Federal action in protecting access to birth control is unnecessary, just look at what is happening in States like Virginia and Nevada and Arizona, where Republicans are openly blocking these very protections.

I would hope that protecting access to birth control would be the definition of an easy, uncontroversial decision here in the Senate, but the vote will tell all when we gavel in tomorrow. And there will be more action to come.

Last night, I began the rule XIV process for the Right to IVF Act, led by Senators DUCKWORTH and MURRAY and BOOKER, to place it on the legislative calendar and make it available for consideration on the floor. I intend to bring this legislation protecting access to IVF up for a vote very soon.

Millions of Americans have relied on IVF to have children, but after a stunningly radical decision by the Alabama Supreme Court jeopardized access to IVF, families are rightfully worried that this option could be stripped away. So Senate Democrats will act to safeguard and strengthen IVF access for all Americans so that everyone has a chance to start a family.

In the coming weeks, Senate Democrats will put reproductive freedoms front and center before this Chamber so that the American people can see for themselves who will stand up to defend their fundamental liberties.

#### BORDER SECURITY

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, on the border, later today, President Biden is expected to issue an Executive order addressing the problems happening at our southern border.

As the President makes his announcement, let's be very clear about one thing: Legislation would have been the more effective way to go. President Biden has been clear from the beginning that he prefers legislation, but given how obstinate Republicans have become, turning down any real opportunity for strong border legislation, the President is left with little choice but to act on his own. Republican intransigence has forced the President's hand.

For years, Republicans have insisted, again and again and again, that the border was in crisis, but when they had the opportunity to correct it, they killed the strongest bipartisan bill Congress has seen in decades. Why did they kill it? At the behest of Donald Trump, who said he wanted chaos at the border until after the election.

Shame on our Republican friends. They say they want to protect the border. Donald Trump comes out with a very crass statement—"Let's keep in chaos so I might win the election"—and they go along? They do a 180-degree turn? That is a disgrace, and it has forced President Biden to act the way he does, which is a lot better than doing nothing but not as preferable as passing legislation, as the President admits.

We had an opportunity to pass a strong bipartisan border bill back in February and just over a few weeks ago. Both times, Republicans put politics ahead of bipartisanship and blundered the best chance we have seen in decades to pass a border security bill America urgently needs. Americans will not easily forget it.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

THE ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

#### BORDER SECURITY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, 1,231. That is how many days it has taken President Biden to do something—anything—about the humanitarian and security crisis that has consumed our southern border and is engulfing our country.

Here is another number: There are 154 days until election day. In other words, the Biden administration has waited nearly its entire term before lifting a finger to address the open borders anarchy that it invited. In that amount of time, the CBP has reported more than 7.8 million encounters with illegal migrants at the southern border, and that is not counting the 1.6 million known "got-aways."

Fentanyl poisoning is now the leading cause of death among American adults between 18 and 45. The lethal pipelines that began with Chinese chemical makers flow north across a broken U.S.-Mexico border.

And perhaps most disturbing is the increasing number of individuals on the Terror Watchlist who have exploited the border chaos to set foot on American soil.

With an election just months away, the President hopes that an issued Executive order will demonstrate that he cares about this crisis and is trying to fix it, never mind that his order would still allow more than 900,000 illegal aliens to come in every year at the southern border. This is on top of the half-million illegal parolees President Biden intends to continue waiving into the country. Combined, that is more than the population of 10 States. It is a new Dallas, TX, every year. This is like turning a garden hose on a five-alarm fire. And the American people are not fools. They know that this play is too little, too late.

#### NOMINATION OF NANCY L. MALDONADO

Mr. MCCONNELL. On a different matter, I have spoken repeatedly about how Adeel Mangi, President Biden's nominee to the Third Circuit, is unqualified for the bench. But the red flags on this administration's nominees aren't limited to radical associations and ethical lapses.

Judge Nancy Maldonado, a trial judge nominated to the Seventh Circuit, has distinguished herself with sheer—sheer—incompetence.

Thanks to reforms put in place by then-Judiciary Committee Chairman Biden, Federal courts keep track of how many fully briefed motions have been sitting without a decision for at least 6 months, a report often known among judges in Chicago as the Biden list.

It was a good reform because justice delayed is justice denied. And as it turns out, Judge Maldonado has by far the largest number of motions pending for more than 6 months among the judges of the Seventh Circuit, with 125. She would need to rule on one of these motions every workday for the next 6 months just to clear her existing Biden backlog.

There are only a handful of judges in the country who are this far behind on their work. Judge Maldonado's Biden backlog puts her beyond the 99th percentile of all district judges nationwide in terms of slowness.