

safeguards, tools to disconnect from the blackbox algorithms, more transparency for those algorithms, and a duty of care and accountability for social media—for the first time, a real duty of care and accountability for them so they have to prevent harms that are destroying lives, literally destroying lives. And I think we are on the road, and we are going to keep pursuing this measure as long and hard as it takes to impose that accountability on Big Tech.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, today, the Senate takes a groundbreaking step towards ensuring our kids' online safety in the age of social media. As we all know, social media has many benefits; but with the benefits also comes risk. Many kids experience relentless online bullying. Kids' private personal data can be collected and used nefariously. Predators can exploit or target kids.

And for kids who struggle with mental health, social media can magnify their anguish. I have met with the parents over and over again who have lost children in the flower of their lives because they were manipulated—nefariously, maliciously—by social media. We must stop that. And today, KOSA and COPPA represent something very urgent. These bills will provide the appropriate guardrails necessary to protect kids against online threats.

It is not an exaggeration to say these bills would be the most important updates in decades to Federal laws that protect kids on the internet, and it is a very good first step. And we did it with both sides working together, bipartisan, as this body ought to work—and I try to get it to work that way all the time. I want to thank my colleagues who championed these bills: Senators BLUMENTHAL and BLACKBURN, MARKEY and CASSIDY, Chair CANTWELL, Chair DURBIN, Senator KLOBUCHAR, and so many others who really led the charge.

Once the Senate clears today's procedural vote, KOSA and COPPA will be on a glidepath to final passage early next week. We should not delay a moment more. We should get the job done. Getting to this point wasn't easy. It has been a long and winding and difficult road. But we all kept going because we knew the results would be worth it.

Most importantly, I want to thank the true heroes of this effort: the parents whose kids tragically took their own lives because of what happened to them on social media. Some of the parents are here today. We salute you. It has been an honor to get to know these wonderful Americans over the past few months. We have met together; we felt pain together; we have cried together. What they have endured is incomprehensible. But amazingly and beautifully, instead of curing in darkness, as the scriptures say, these parents lit a candle. They turned their grief into grace.

Today the Senate tells these parents: We hear you. We are taking action.

I ask for the yeas and nays.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

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 concur in the House amendment to S. 2073, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to require agencies to include a list of outdated or duplicative reporting requirements in annual budget justifications, and for other purposes, with amendment No. 3021.

Charles E. Schumer, Maria Cantwell, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jack Reed, Tammy Duckworth, Jeanne Shaheen, Tim Kaine, Mark R. Warner, Edward J. Markey, Gary C. Peters, John W. Hickenlooper, Angus S. King, Jr., Tammy Baldwin, Raphael G. Warnock, Cory A. Booker, Catherine Cortez Masto, Richard Blumenthal.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 2073, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to require agencies to include a list of outdated or duplicative reporting requirements in annual budget justifications, and for other purposes, with Amendment No. 3021, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE), the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) would have voted "yea," the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) would have voted "yea," and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) would have voted "yea."

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 86, nays 1, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 219 Leg.]

YEAS—86

Baldwin	Petterman	Reed
Barrasso	Fischer	Ricketts
Bennet	Gillibrand	Risch
Blackburn	Graham	Romney
Blumenthal	Grassley	Rosen
Booker	Hagerty	Rubio
Boozman	Hassan	Schatz
Braun	Hawley	Schmitt
Britt	Heinrich	Schumer
Brown	Hickenlooper	Scott (FL)
Budd	Hirono	Scott (SC)
Butler	Hyde-Smith	Shaheen
Cantwell	Johnson	Sinema
Capito	Kaine	Smith
Cardin	Kelly	Stabenow
Carper	King	Sullivan
Casey	Klobuchar	Tester
Cassidy	Lankford	Thune
Collins	Lujan	Tuberville
Coons	Manchin	Van Hollen
Cornyn	Markey	Warner
Cortez Masto	McConnell	Warnock
Cotton	Merkley	Warren
Crapo	Mullin	Welch
Cruz	Murkowski	Whitehouse
Daines	Murphy	Wicker
Duckworth	Murray	Wyden
Durbin	Ossoff	Young
Ernst	Peters	

NAYS—1

Paul

NOT VOTING—13

Cramer	Marshall	Sanders
Hoeven	Menendez	Tillis
Kennedy	Moran	Vance
Lee	Padilla	
Lummis	Rounds	

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOKER). On this vote, the yeas are 86, the nays are 1.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

Cloture having been invoked, the motion to refer and the amendments pending thereto fall.

The senior Senator from Connecticut.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that all postcloture time be deemed expired; further, if cloture is invoked on the Neumann nomination on Tuesday, July 30, that upon disposition of the nomination, the Senate vote on the motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 2073 with amendment No. 3021; further, that if cloture is not invoked on the Neumann nomination, the vote on the motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 2073 with amendment No. 3021 occur at 2:15 p.m. on Tuesday, July 30.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate 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.

TRIBUTE TO THE SHEPPARD FAMILY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the

Sheppards of Eastern Kentucky, a family renowned in basketball and across the Commonwealth. This month, Laurel County will gather to honor the Sheppards and their impact on the community and dedicate a new monument to celebrate Laurel County's highest achieving basketball players. I would like to join my home State in recognizing Jeff, Stacey, Madison, and Reed Sheppard for their many accomplishments and contributions to Kentucky.

For decades, the Sheppard name has been a staple of Kentucky basketball. These days, most are familiar with the youngest, Reed—a No. 3 NBA draft pick and one of the Nation's top collegiate players while at the University of Kentucky—but his mom and dad, Stacey and Jeff, are both UK greats in their own right. Jeff played on two championship-winning seasons with the Cats and, in 1998, helped lead UK to one of its most unexpected victories in overtime against Stanford, securing the seventh NCAA title for the Big Blue Nation. Here on Kentucky's campus, Jeff met Stacey Reed, a fierce competitor on the women's basketball team and one of the university's best point guards.

Stacey and Jeff bonded over their faith and love of basketball and their shared experience as successful collegiate athletes. They soon married and moved their family back to Laurel County to raise their kids in Stacey's lifelong hometown. Madison and Reed eventually made their own names in basketball playing on their high school teams.

Like so many young athletes across the Commonwealth, Reed dreamed of one day wearing UK's blue and white uniform. His start on the team was met with unmatched enthusiasm in the Bluegrass, as one of the few native Kentuckians to suit up under Coach John Calipari. He quickly captured the attention of basketball fans across the Nation, named the Southeastern Conference Freshman of the Year and the National Freshman of the Year, the first player in Kentucky basketball history to earn this honor.

While basketball certainly runs in their blood, serving Kentucky is just as much a part of the Sheppard DNA. As young parents, Jeff and Stacey established the Backpack Program, an organization that prepares bagged lunches for hungry children across Laurel County. The Sheppard's charitable work for their church and their hometown and Stacey's perseverance in battling breast cancer set an enduring example of giving and helping others, of the power of community in times of need. When catastrophic floods swept through Eastern Kentucky in 2022, killing 45 people, Reed and his family joined together to help flood victims and raise money for relief efforts across the region. Today, the entire family continues to give back to Eastern Kentucky, whether volunteering their time, raising funds for those in

need, or mentoring the next generation of young ball players.

The Commonwealth has long been home to the biggest and best in basketball. But it is players like Jeff, Stacey, Madison, and Reed who bring passion and purpose to the sport that set our teams and our State apart. I am proud to join Kentuckians in congratulating the Sheppard family for receiving this well-deserved honor and in thanking them for all their contributions to the Commonwealth on and off the court.

TRIBUTE TO ASHLI WATTS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Ashli Watts, president and CEO of the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce and a leading voice in my home State's business community.

From an early age, Ashli had an affinity for public policy. Like me, she got her start in politics through a congressional internship on Capitol Hill. This early experience in our Nation's Capital cemented Ashli's interest in policy and public advocacy even further. Upon graduating from Campbellsville University, where she remains an active and involved alumna, Ashli went on to pursue her graduate degree in political science/public policy and administration at my alma mater, the University of Louisville.

Ashli put her public policy experience and education to good use on behalf of Kentucky's workers and job creators when she joined the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce in 2012, our State's largest business association. Her hard work and yearslong dedication eventually earned her the top post at the chamber in 2019.

Not long after taking the helm, the coronavirus pandemic turned daily life in America upside down and our Nation's business community flat on its back. The health and economic crisis that unfolded wrought widespread destruction on Main Street America, shuttering businesses and forcing millions out of work. During this time of upheaval, Kentucky's job creators fortunately had a strong advocate in Ashli. As chamber president and CEO, she worked to ensure employers in my home State were informed and that their priorities were always heard in Frankfort and Washington.

Ashli has certainly wasted no time working hard to improve Kentucky's business landscape and has never shied away from an opportunity to help her home State. Her leadership on issues ranging from tax reform to supporting our workforce to navigating the regulatory environment has laid a solid foundation for the future success of Kentucky's many businesses. Just recently, I was pleased to see her appointment to chair the U.S. Chamber's Committee of 100, which represents the top 100 chamber leaders in the Nation.

As the chamber's first female president, Ashli has also used her platform to highlight other female leaders in the

Commonwealth. She helped establish the chamber's first annual women's summit in 2020 to celebrate Kentuckians who are making a big impact at the local, State, and national levels. This yearly event has gained widespread recognition for its work to amplify the remarkable careers and accomplishments of Kentucky's women.

Mr. President, Spectrum News recently published an article highlighting Ashli's impact on my home State. I ask unanimous consent that a copy of the article be printed in the RECORD.

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

FRANKFORT, KY.—Being a chamber president has always felt like an accidental career for Ashli Watts. It's not that Watts, the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce's first-ever female president and CEO, was unintentional in her professional ascension or that she fell into the role; in fact, her incredible journey to the top of the state's largest business association has always been guided by thoughtful intentionality.

An Elizabethtown native and lifelong Kentuckian, Watts always had an interest in politics and public policy. Following in the footsteps of her grandmother and mother, Watts attended Campbellsville University after high school, where she majored in political science and history. She learned her way around the Capitol during an internship at the legislature, a role that only strengthened her passion for politics.

"I always knew my career would probably be centered around politics or public policy but I didn't really know that there was a career that was available where you could influence policy, you could convene stakeholders, and you could make a difference and not have to put your name on a ballot," Watts said, recounting her path to the Chamber. "I think that's what I found with the chamber world."

Watts has been with the Chamber for almost 12 years now, starting out as a lobbyist. She successfully led the organization's efforts to pass major legislation for tax reform, workers compensation reform and right-to-work legislation. Her work gave her a front-row seat to the real-life effects of public policy. She helped to get felony expungement legislation passed in 2016, a bill that will always hold a special place in her heart.

Watts says, through their research, the Chamber learned past convictions were potentially preventing thousands of Kentuckians from getting their lives back on track. The organization identified felony expungement as a workforce issue, which proved to be transformative in getting the legislation passed.

"We realized that almost 80,000 Kentuckians had one single, non-violent Class D felony on their records that were really holding them back from the workforce. We were able to get it across the finish line, get it signed into law—and this is after other groups had been trying to do this for about 20 years," Watts said.

The personal stories Watts has heard since the bill's passage stick with her the most.

"[They've] been able to get better jobs and they've been able to gain better employment. They've been able to take their kids on field trips, where before they were not able to do that," Watts said. "Sometimes policy seems really wonky and in the weeds, but then you see really what impact you have. It really does make a big difference."