*The Single-Column Edition*

# FROM § EACH

MONDAY, 02 NOVEMBER 2026 — THE AFTERNOON EDITION · FREE, FOREVER

## *Iran cuts its Strait deadline from seven days to two, leaving the president's 41-day-old 'very soon' untouched.*

**BY RUTH**
*The Money Desk*

Forty-one days ago the president said the Iran war would be put away very soon, one way or the other. The filing since then has three entries worth reading in order.

On October 4, Iran's chief negotiator, parliament speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf, said the Strait of Hormuz would stay closed until Washington met Tehran's seven-day plan to reopen it. He called the era of unilateral demands over.

On October 8, the president posted on Truth Social that he would not attack Iran before the midterms, describing talks with Tehran as productive and Iran itself as in very bad economic and military condition. That promise carried one condition: the calendar. By its own terms, it expires on Election Day.

In the days since, the same promise got a second filing, aimed at a different audience. The version carried to Gulf allies holds that the war ends after the vote, not during the campaign for it. Iowa was told the fighting stops before Election Day. The Gulf was told the war ends once the counting does.

*... Continued on Page F133*

**THE WORD**

*§80 — 02 NOVEMBER 2026*

## *On entitled*

DEMOCRAT




*21 NO VOTES*

REPUBLICAN




*ENTITLED*

*"When my nephew was little we played Monopoly, and he'd tell me he was entitled to Park Place because he'd been going around the board so long. I think about that. Five seats in Texas: "we are entitled to five more seats." Then Indiana, where the map failed 31 to 19 with twenty-one Republicans voting no, and the answer was, "We won every other state. That's the only state." Excuse me — I'll let you get home, it's a big day tomorrow. The seats he's entitled to. Who votes on them in the morning?"* — Lou

*... Continued on Page W80*

INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING

## *THE BADGE DECIDES*

*The bowling-alley lights were contracted to the cent, $252,876.34, escort extra; the passes that let 78 reporters in without an escort went dark the day after a post.*

*... Continued on the Investigative Reporting page*

## *CBS Sports needed three years and $50.3 million to confirm the 2023 Orange Bowl broke Florida State.*

**BY GUS**
*The Sports Desk*

HOT MIC MOMENT

*Somebody get this reporter the political desk. Florida State fired its athletic director September 14th, has not filled that chair in the seven weeks since, and just authorized $50.3 million to walk a football coach out the door besides. A public university is paying premium exit money at the top while its own administration sits empty in the middle. Send this upstairs.*

*... Continued on Page S20*

## *Mayor threatens third lawsuit against ICE in a month, files none.*

**BY THE WRECKING CREW**
*The Remedy Desk*

One job. Find the paper that says who owns the ground underneath.

Start at the start. October 2, the mayor threatens to sue Columbia University over College Walk, the footpath locked since the 2023 campus protests, unless the school reopens it. No ownership claim attached — the city doesn't hold title to a private university's sidewalk. Just a threat to sue, over a gate the letter says has stayed shut three years.

Fourteen days later, October 16, Mamdani and other New York Democrats send a different kind of letter, this one to private parking-lot owners, asking them not to rent space to ICE for staging raids. Not a lawsuit threat. A request with a return address, no court attached, aimed at property the city has no more claim to than it did at Columbia's sidewalk.

Monday the job changes shape. The mayor's letter to the Trump administration calls ICE's use of city-owned properties 'unauthorized and is therefore illegal,' property that 'endangers City residents, and sows fear among those who seek to access City property.' The planner studies the three letters side by side and likes what's finally sitting in this one: for the first time, the thing

*... Continued on Page T31*

## *Guardian op-ed teaches readers to fight dark money a day after a $2 billion count of it.*

**BY RUTH**
*The Money Desk*

The filing cabinet for this story gets a new drawer every few weeks, and every drawer holds the same kind of folder.

In September, Republican senators objected on the floor that a taxpayer-funded ad looked like campaign spending dressed in federal letterhead. Within the week, the same donor logic surfaced where it is harder to disguise: a firm owned by a Republican megadonor landed a $6.6 billion defense shipyard contract without the donor's name on either the company filing or the contract. Two days after that, House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries said Republicans were mismanaging their own money in New York's House races — proof that even the party spending it does not always know where it went.

Sunday, The New York Times ran the reconciliation. The top twenty donors to the 2026 midterms, taken together, account for $2 billion in federal races — a sum that makes the Wisconsin transfer look like a rounding error, and makes clear the error was never the point. Elon Musk alone has put in nearly $450 million, by the Times' count, the single largest sum by a wide

*... Continued on Page F133*

## *Washington says it won World War II faster than plugging in a power plant, the lights go out.*

**BY LOU**
*One More Question*

I called Pepco's public affairs line yesterday afternoon because there was something about the timing I didn't follow, and when it's electricity, I figure the utility that runs the lines is the one to ask. I told the man who picked up: help me with this.

Here's what I was turning over. The Washington Examiner ran a piece on November 2nd arguing America won World War II faster than it can plug in a power plant. A few hours after that ran, by the Examiner's own later report, Pepco customers across Foggy Bottom lost power — the State Department, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and George Washington University, a school, though the wire doesn't say what was running there, so I won't guess.

That report described the outage as an "unscheduled loss of electrical power." I wrote that phrase down because it stuck with me. Was this outage on anyone's calendar ahead of time? I don't know, and the man at Pepco didn't either.

I'm not saying the piece caused the outage — I don't have anything that

*... Continued on Page A227*

## *Justice Department says it isn't assuming a crime occurred, appeals the lawsuit built on one.*

**BY CHIP**
*Staff Writer*

The lawsuit died Monday, the way these things die: a judge read it and found nothing in it. The Justice Department had sued on October 24 to block certification of Alaska's Senate race if the Republican, Dan S. Sullivan, came up short. The complaint named zero ballots. It did not allege a single improperly cast vote, a single miscount, a single irregularity a judge could put a finger on. It alleged that a retired teacher named Dan J. Sullivan was running against the incumbent under a confusingly similar name, and it asked a federal court to hold the election's result hostage to that resemblance.

The department had, on the record, said it was not assuming a crime occurred. A count is a different animal than an assumption, and the count here was easy enough to run: four federal probes into "Decoy Dan" closed with zero charges by the time the suit was filed. The watchdog allegation that started this — filed September 8, claiming Dan J. Sullivan had secretly colluded with a liberal group to take down his namesake senator — went nowhere a prosecutor could stand on. Eight days later, on September 16, a Wisconsin-based super PAC with a record of boosting spoiler candidates

*... Continued on Page B51*

## *Jeffries called a Republican's cross-party endorsement 'partisan hack' in September, weighs 'next steps' for his own.*

**BY MORT**
*The Records Bureau*

"Partisan hack" died this week, not from overuse but from a change of address.

It was born in September, when Hakeem Jeffries used the phrase on Mike Lawler for accepting an endorsement from a Democrat, Jared Golden — a Republican, in his accounting, borrowing credibility he hadn't earned.

It did not make it to November without complication. By late October, Haley Stevens was already drawing fire for warning she might sabotage the midterms to stop a progressive primary opponent she couldn't beat outright. Days later she made the warning literal: she endorsed Mike Rogers, the Michigan Democratic Party removed her from its ranks, Donald Trump invited her to switch parties on the spot, and a Democratic strategist compared her, on the record, to a used condom — all filed in an earlier edition, all still true today.

What's new is the paperwork. Jeffries told reporters the caucus will have a "discussion" about "next steps" for Stevens — the phrase a party reaches for when "discipline" sounds too much like the thing it is. The crossing is identi-

*... Continued on Page B51*

## *Agency confirms tribes were right about the graves, the third time in two months.*

**BY THE WRECKING CREW**
*The Remedy Desk*

August 28, Tohono O'odham land, Arizona: CBP contractors drilled while masked agents blocked tribal police at the line. September 19, Big Bend, Texas: installation of 30-foot panels began over local leaders' objections. October 23, Big Bend again, with a federal court's pause on construction already on the books: Commissioner Rodney Scott told reporters his goal of fortifying the border was "non-negotiable." November 2: ProPublica confirmed what tribal leaders had told the agency before any shovel turned — the ground holds Native American remains, and construction disturbed them, the third confirmed site in two months.

Same two states. Same agency. Same door in, every time: a waiver authority Congress handed the Department of Homeland Security, letting it skip the consultation tribes were asking for in the first place. The requirement was never repealed. It sits in the statute books exactly where Congress left it, fully operational. DHS signs the waiver instead.

The planner studied the paperwork and admired how clean the move is — no floor fight, no committee hearing, no vote to defend. Just a signature

*... Continued on Page T30*

"Read the page top to bottom and notice what connects it: somebody priced something you thought was yours — your ballot, your checkup, your tank of gas — and mailed you the bill with a flag stamped on it. I started circling the good news. Still holding the pen."

— *Sal*

"Every story on this page is a success that hasn't been explained to you properly yet."

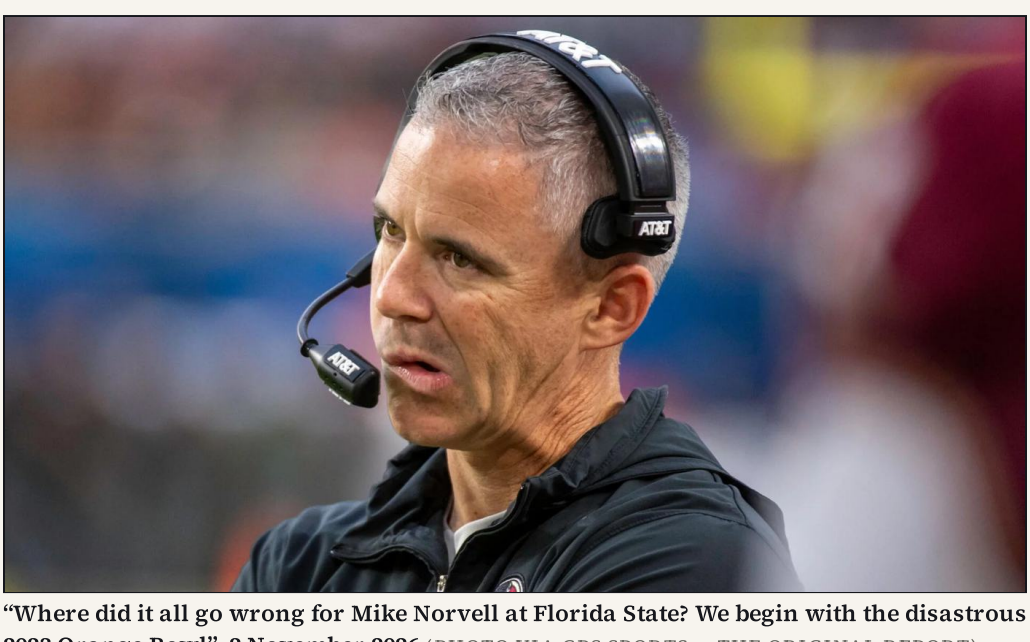
— *Chip*

By spring the dog sleeps in the shed.
A man finds fewer hens at dusk.

ENOCH · THE OWNERSHIP DESK

# CBS Sports needed three years and $50.3 million to confirm the 2023 Orange Bowl broke Florida State.

By GUS
THE SPORTS DESK



**"Where did it all go wrong for Mike Norvell at Florida State? We begin with the disastrous 2023 Orange Bowl", 2 November 2026** (PHOTO VIA CBS SPORTS — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ **THE SHORT VERSION**

typed by Dot

**WHAT HAPPENED.** Florida State fired head football coach Mike Norvell.

**WHO GETS PAID.** Mike Norvell, the coach just fired, collects the $50.3 million buyout required by his contract.

**WHAT SLIPS.** Florida State approved the buyout and launched a coaching search without a sitting athletic director in place to review either move.

**WHAT'S NEXT.** Florida State's coaching search continues into the offseason, and the athletic director's chair it has not filled since September stays open too.

● HOT MIC MOMENT

*Somebody get this reporter the political desk. Florida State fired its athletic director September 14th, has not filled that chair in the seven weeks since, and just authorized $50.3 million to walk a football coach out the door besides. A public university is paying premium exit money at the top while its own administration sits empty in the middle. Send this upstairs.*

**GUS** HIS SIDE

This reporter begins where the record begins: September 14th, when Florida State's board of trustees fired athletic director Michael Alford, with an Alabama game looming that Tallahassee believed could end Mike Norvell's tenure in the Southeastern Conference soon after.

The fears held through October. On the 10th, Norvell's Seminoles absorbed a 21-point rout at Louisville, a margin this reporter flags as the clearest signal yet of a program coming apart.

Three weeks before Florida State finally acted, Clemson's Dabo Swinney, fresh off beating Norvell's Seminoles, stood at his own podium afterward and defended the man he had just beaten.

What Florida State heard was a bill: $53 million, cut loose to send Norvell on his way, closing a stretch this reporter clocks at 11 wins and 22 losses.

From that score forward, nothing in Tallahassee was ever whole again: three seasons, one $50.3 million exit, and a head coaching vacancy joining an athletic director's chair Florida State has not filled since September.

***TRUDY*** *HER SIDE*

> *Atlantic Coast Conference, Gus. Fox News had the rest right: the trustees moved first, on the administrator, leaving the coach standing.*

> *A 24-point loss, Gus — the Post's own headline from October 10th says so. Three points don't sound like much until you're the one counting them for a living.*

> *Gus has that one dead right, and it's worth sitting with: the coach who won spoke up for the coach who was three weeks from unemployment. Florida State heard something else.*

> *$50.3 million, to the dollar — not $53 million. And the record is 10 and 23, not 11 and 22. Close enough for a highlight reel, not for a ledger this size.*

> *CBS Sports said that, Gus, not this reporter's imagination — 63 to 3, one committee decision away from three different years in Tallahassee.*

> *Gus. The mic was on. But he's right that the athletic director's chair has sat empty since September 14th while Florida State closed a $50.3 million coaching exit — CBS Sports' own search rundown lists the job still open. Go lie down, sugar. You've done enough arithmetic for one week.*

🍺

"Took them three years and fifty million bucks to say what every fan in that stadium already knew the night of the Orange Bowl. That's not an evaluation process, that's a billing cycle. The trustees fire fast when it's an administrator's job on the line, and slow — expensive slow — when it's their own decision to make."

— Sal

🚬

"You don't fire a man the day after a bowl snub, that's knee-jerk, that's bad management. You give him three years, every chance to turn it around, and when it still doesn't work you — write the biggest check in program history. Did I say "every chance"? That's not — that doesn't sound like what I meant to say."

— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

- *Washington says it won World War II faster than plugging in a power plant, the lights go out.* By Lou · the morning edition, 2 November 2026
- *Dabo Swinney defends coach he just beat; Florida State fires him anyway three weeks and $50.3 million later.* By Gus · the afternoon edition, 1 November 2026
- *Dabo Swinney beats Florida State, then defends the coach he just beat.* By Gus · the afternoon edition, 1 November 2026
- *Jackson reads the Court its own dates back: ninety days for a database, twelve for a student ID.* By Mitch · the afternoon edition, 23 October 2026
- *Supreme Court finds student ID voting too confusing 12 days out, finds nothing confusing about a voter-purge database.* By Lou · the evening edition, 23 October 2026
- *Midterms' largest donor, at $366 million, vows to find out who is really pulling the strings* By Sterling · the morning edition, 22 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

> ~~Where did it all go wrong for Mike Norvell at Florida State? We begin with the disastrous 2023 Orange Bowl~~
>
> *Florida State's $50 million buyout could cover 55,866 teachers' classroom supplies for a year*
>
> *CBS Sports* § *11:11 EST*
>
> Getting snubbed by the CFP committee and crushed 63-3 broke the program's foundation, triggering a brutal 10-23 stretch that ended with a $50 million buyout

· Florida State fires AD Michael Alford, as Mike Norvell's seat reaches a boiling point in Tallahassee *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*

· Florida State vs. New Mexico State prediction, pick: The Aggies can cover the spread in Week 0 *from the morgue, 29 Aug 2026*

*This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.*

# Mayor threatens third lawsuit against ICE in a month, files none.

By THE WRECKING CREW
THE REMEDY DESK




"Ilhan Omar case is 'large' and targeting multiple people, reveals DHS Secretary", 31 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA NEW YORK POST — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

**WHAT HAPPENED.** Mamdani threatened Monday to sue the Trump administration over ICE's use of city-owned property.

**WHO GETS PAID.** The receipts name no buyer yet.

**WHAT SLIPS.** No court reviews ICE's use of city property because the mayor has threatened suit three times and filed none.

**WHAT'S NEXT.** No suit has been filed and no court date is set.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

One job. Find the paper that says who owns the ground underneath.

Start at the start. October 2, the mayor threatens to sue Columbia University over College Walk, the footpath locked since the 2023 campus protests, unless the school reopens it. No ownership claim attached — the city doesn't hold title to a private university's sidewalk. Just a threat to sue, over a gate the letter says has stayed shut three years....

*...(cont)* Fourteen days later, October 16, Mamdani and other New York Democrats send a different kind of letter, this one to private parking-lot owners, asking them not to rent space to ICE for staging raids. Not a lawsuit threat. A request with a return address, no court attached, aimed at property the city has no more claim to than it did at Columbia's sidewalk.

Monday the job changes shape. The mayor's letter to the Trump administration calls ICE's use of city-owned properties 'unauthorized and is therefore illegal,' property that 'endangers City residents, and sows fear among those who seek to access City property.' The planner studies the three letters side by side and likes what's finally sitting in this one: for the first time, the thing being defended and the authority doing the defending come from the same deed.

The tinkerer lays it out on the bench. Columbia: a locked gate, no ownership behind the ask. The lots: a courtesy request to owners who could have said no. City property: the mayor's own letterhead, citing the city's own title to the ground ICE is standing on. That's the part that was sitting in the toolbox the whole time, unused until Monday.

The muscle has been standing by since Columbia, a month now, waiting on an order to move. The pilot has a route planned to a courthouse a few blocks from City Hall, engine running.

Three letters. Two threats to sue. Zero dockets opened.

Nothing in the receipts says the suit wins. Nothing says it loses, either — no one has filed it to find out. What's on the bench is the one tool the mayor's office never had to borrow from anybody else to use. It just hasn't left the bench yet.

"Three letters, zero lawsuits — that's not a legal strategy, that's a press release with a stamp on it. The city owns the lot, owns the deed, owns the standing to walk into court today, and it keeps writing memos instead. Same move every time: scare the landlord, scare the university, never actually scare the government doing it."

— Sal

"A letter is the responsible first step — you don't just run to a judge, you give the other side a chance to comply. Did I say "comply"? I meant — look, the mayor's office is weighing its legal options, which is what careful government looks like. Filing suit the same day you send the letter, that's not strategy, that's theater. ...Theater's probably not the word I want either."

— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

— *Justice Department charges James Comey a third time Monday, over a leak two earlier FBI investigations closed without charges.*
By The Wrecking Crew · the evening edition, 1 November 2026

THE RECEIPTS

*But:* The DOJ disbanded its crypto enforcement team in April 2025 and ordered inconsistent investigations closed - while the president's family runs a crypto business *CNBC, 8 April 2025 (Blanche memo)*

Ilhan Omar case is 'large' and targeting multiple people, reveals DHS Secretary

*New York Post* RIGHT § *11:18 EDT*

DHS Secretary Markwayne Mullin says a federal fraud probe into Rep. Ilhan Omar is a "large case" targeting multiple people and led by the DOJ.

~~Why the Ilhan Omar saga isn't going away~~

*Trump says Omar must resign - only the House can do that*

*Fox News* RIGHT § *12:07 EDT*

Trump claims Ilhan Omar must resign from Congress over alleged immigration fraud, but the Constitution grants that power solely to the House itself.

Trump push to oust Omar faces historic Supreme Court test, but legal experts see 'uncharted' twist

*Fox News* RIGHT § *06:00 EDT*

President Donald Trump's push to oust Ilhan Omar faces a key legal test, but experts say Powell v. McCormack may actually support her expulsion.

*But:* Republicans' reconciliation package puts $70 billion into ICE's department *NBC News, May 2026*

Mamdani threatens ICE with legal action over use of New York parking lots

*The Guardian* MAINSTREAM § *07:56 EST*

Letter from mayor tells federal agents to stay out of city-owned facilities for immigration operations Mayor Zohran Mamdani has threatened to take legal action against Immigration and Customs Enforcement over allegations the agency's officers at the agency are using parking lots owned by New York City for operations in the area. In a...

Who are Ilhan Omar's lawyers? Meet the high-powered Dem attorneys the embattled rep hired

*Fox News* RIGHT § *13:18 EDT*

Ilhan Omar has hired Amy Jeffress and Joshua Matz, attorneys who represented Biden, House Democrats in Trump impeachment, and E. Jean Carroll.

~~How Obama appointee and Trump nemesis Boasberg ended up overseeing Ilhan Omar warrant, other key cases~~

*Same judge is now hearing Trump's biggest legal fights: deportation flights, voter rolls, Omar's warrant*

*Fox News* RIGHT § *10:53 EDT*

Judge James Boasberg oversees the Ilhan Omar search warrant fight, deportation flights, and California voter rolls, raising assignment questions.

*But:* Republicans' reconciliation package puts $70 billion into ICE's department *NBC News, May 2026*

Mamdani threatens to sue Trump admin over ICE's 'unlawful commandeering' of NYC-owned properties for raids

*New York Post* RIGHT § *11:13 EST*

Mamdani said at an unrelated press conference in Brooklyn Monday morning that "too often is ICE flouting those directives and those laws."

· Mamdani leads New York Democrats in demanding parking lot owners ban ICE *from the morgue, 17 Oct 2026*

· Mamdani, New York Democrats call on private parking lot owners to ban ICE officers *from the morgue, 16 Oct 2026*

· Mamdani threatens Columbia University with lawsuit if NYC school won't open gates to public *from the morgue, 2 Oct 2026*

· Feds building case to deport 'squad' member Rep. Ilhan Omar as new details emerge about DHS raid *from the morgue, 17 Oct 2026*

· 'My Name Has Always Been Ilhan Omar': Congresswoman Calls Out 'Creep' Trump *from the morgue, 23 Oct 2026*

· Ilhan Omar deportation case complicated by procedural factors *from the morgue, 21 Oct 2026*

· DHS Secretary Mullin calls Ilhan Omar probe a "strong case" *from the morgue, 16 Oct 2026*

· 'This Is So Appalling': Barack Obama Delivers Blistering Rebuke of Trump's Ilhan Omar Deportation Plot *from the morgue, 18 Oct 2026*

· 'Part of the Fascist Playbook': Ilhan Omar Condemns Trump DHS Raid on Her Home *from the morgue, 13 Oct 2026*

· US federal agents raid home of Democratic congresswoman and Trump critic Ilhan Omar *from the morgue, 12 Oct 2026*

· Ilhan Omar's Home Raided by DHS Following Trump-GOP Deportation Threats *from the morgue, 12 Oct 2026*

· Federal Agents Search Home of Rep. Ilhan Omar *from the morgue, 13 Oct 2026*

· Rep. Ilhan Omar's residence searched as part of ongoing criminal investigation: DOJ *from the morgue, 13 Oct 2026*

· Rep. Ilhan Omar's D.C. home searched by Homeland Security investigators *from the morgue, 12 Oct 2026*

· Rep. Ilhan Omar's DC home raided by DHS as part of probe into Dem's immigration paperwork *from the morgue, 12 Oct 2026*

· Homan confirms 'criminal' investigation involving Ilhan Omar, says he knows 'things are going on' *from the morgue, 13 Sep 2026*

· WATCH: Ilhan Omar denies feds have contacted her after border czar Homan confirms 'criminal' investigation *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Could Trump revoke Ilhan Omar's citizenship for alleged brother marriage? Ex federal prosecutor breaks it down *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· Did Ilhan Omar marry her own brother? The claims explained *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· Russia's Lavrov blasts US, Western allies as "warmongers' in fiery UN tirade *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· Russia and China unite against US over Iran and Cuba in UN speeches *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· U.S. military lays groundwork for potential action around Cuba *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· The United Nations Security Council has resoundingly rejected a United States bid to extend a global arms embargo on Iran. In a Security Council vote, United States only got support from the Dominican *from the morgue, 14 Aug 2020*

· U.S. Threatens New Economic War on Iran by Targeting China & Tehran's Other Top Trading Partners *from the morgue, 25 Aug 2026*

· In Defiant UN Speech, Iranian President Says US and Israel Are the Real Terrorists *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*

· Trump slams reporting on removal of his endorsements from GOP candidate's website *from the morgue, 27 Sep 2026*

· Donalds removes several Trump mentions from campaign website *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· GOP hopeful removes 'Pro-Trump' mention from campaign slogan in deep-red seat *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*

· Where Trump's 2026 endorsement record stands after primary season *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· U.N. experts say U.S. may have committed war crimes with 2 Iran strikes *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· Trump Says 'Big Decision' Coming on Whether to 'Annihilate' Iran *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Pentagon No. 3 frustrates senators in closed-door briefing on Iran war, Trump defense strategy *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Senate Democrats, minus Fetterman, urge Hegseth to provide receipt for Iran war costs *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Hegseth on "devastation" to Iran's capabilities *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· Trump admits Iran war will not end before midterms *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· Iran War Trump Said Would Be Quick Has Now Lasted 6 Months With 'No End In Sight' *from the morgue, 28 Aug 2026*

· CBO Finds Trump's Iran War Has Already Cost Nearly $40 Billion—And That's a 'Conservative' Estimate *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Tillis supports Hegseth impeachment resolution: 'He needs to go' *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Massie Files Impeachment Articles Against Hegseth for Illegal Iran War, Boat Murders *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Massie launches effort to impeach Hegseth *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Tillis urges Trump to fire Hegseth over 'inept management' of military *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· Tillis renews calls for Hegseth's firing after Driscoll's departure: 'I have never witnessed more inept management' *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· Farmer who voted for Trump says farmers are "all just in survival mode" *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Farmer who voted for Trump says "I can't stay in business" amid rising costs *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Massie says he's convinced enough Republicans to pass Epstein Files II discharge petition *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Massie names Epstein 'coconspirators,' discusses new Epstein files legislation *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*

· Read Thomas Massie's eight impeachment charges against Pete Hegseth *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Fake Republican midterm convention site still redirects to Epstein files *from the morgue, 7 Sep 2026*

· Trump says he has a 'big decision' coming up on Iran: 'Do I want to go in and annihilate them' *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Fox News Poll: 71% think Trump administration lacks plan to end Iran war *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Iran recently downed at least 2 American drones, officials say *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Big Oil Stocks Surged Due to Iran War—and New Filings Show How President Trump Cashed In *from the morgue, 27 Aug 2026*

· Live updates: Energy secretary downplays rising gas prices as US, Iran trade strikes *from the morgue, 6 Sep 2026*

· U.S. Strike on Iranian School May Have Been War Crime, U.N. Report Says *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· UN Inquiry Finds US Strike on Minab, Iran That Killed 123 Children Was War Crime *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· UN investigators conclude 'reasonable grounds' to believe certain US strikes in Iran were war crimes *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· UN Suspects US War Crimes in Iran *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· US Condemned for 'War Crimes' After Bombing of Wedding Party in Iran *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· US investigating if missile hit Iranian wedding ceremony, killing 4 *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*

· Trump says he has a 'big decision coming up' on Iran *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· White House issues explosive response to UN-backed report claiming US committed war crimes against world's No.1 sponsor of terror, Iran *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Human rights experts: 'Reasonable grounds' to believe US committed war crimes with Iran strikes *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· US Energy Consumers Have Spent $121 Billion Extra Since Trump Launched Iran War: Moody's *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Iran downed at least 2 American drones in recent days, U.S. officials say *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Iran: Account of US Air Force colonel's rescue 'fictional' *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Consumer Burden of Trump Iran War Exceeds $100 Billion as Oil Prices Pass $100 a Barrel *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· 'A Serious and Alarming Threat': US Bombing, Blockade Deepen Iran Medical Crisis *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· Consumer Confidence Hits Lowest Level in Months as US Faces 'Trump's Reckless Tariffs and War With Iran' *from the morgue, 25 Aug 2026*

· U.S. Air Force officer rescued from Iran speaks for the first time to 60 Minutes *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*

· Rep. Thomas Massie forcing vote on Pete Hegseth's impeachment *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· Did Johnson Just Adjourn Congress for 7 Weeks to Avoid Massie's Impeachment Articles Against Hegseth? *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· The Hitchhiker's Guide to Massie saying Johnson is sending the House home early to prevent Hegseth impeachment *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· 'You're Elected to Fight and Kill the Other Side': How Congress Lost Its Way *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· Army combat veteran challenging Mike Lawler calls Hegseth national security 'hazard,' backs impeachment *from the morgue, 6 Sep 2026*

· Former Air Force secretary says he 'couldn't serve' in Trump administration *from the morgue, 6 Sep 2026*

· Former Air Force secretary: Hegseth's Pentagon 'dysfunctional' *from the morgue, 3 Sep 2026*

· House Republicans split over leaving Washington early for campaign trail *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*

· Since 2025, Trump Made More Stock Trades Than All 535 Congress Members Combined *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

*This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.*

# Guardian op-ed teaches readers to fight dark money a day after a $2 billion count of it.

By RUTH
THE MONEY DESK




**"Oligarchy is on the Ballot': Reports Uncover Unprecedented Sums Ultrarich Spent to Buy 2026 Midterms", 2 November 2026**
(PHOTO VIA COMMON DREAMS — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

**WHAT HAPPENED.** The New York Times counted the 2026 midterms' top twenty donors and totaled $2 billion in spending.

**WHO GETS PAID.** Republican candidates and the Senate GOP's One Nation super PAC collect most of that money.

**WHAT SLIPS.** Voters lose any way to know who funds their elections or to outspend the people who do.

**WHAT'S NEXT.** No pattern yet connects this count to an enforcement step; the only date on the calendar is election day, one day away, with no cap on what the top twenty donors can still spend before polls close.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

The filing cabinet for this story gets a new drawer every few weeks, and every drawer holds the same kind of folder.

In September, Republican senators objected on the floor that a taxpayer-funded ad looked like campaign spending dressed in federal letterhead. Within the week, the same donor logic surfaced where it is harder to disguise: a firm owned by a Republican megadonor landed a $6.6 billion defense shipyard contract without the donor's name on either the company filing or the contract. Two days after that, House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries said Republicans were mismanaging their own money in New York's House races — proof that even the party spending it does not always know where it went....

*...(cont)* Sunday, The New York Times ran the reconciliation. The top twenty donors to the 2026 midterms, taken together, account for $2 billion in federal races — a sum that makes the Wisconsin transfer look like a rounding error, and makes clear the error was never the point. Elon Musk alone has put in nearly $450 million, by the Times' count, the single largest sum by a wide margin. Richard and Elizabeth Uihlein gave $150 million. Marc Andreessen and Ben Horowitz gave $116 million. Hedge fund investor Jeff Yass completed the five. All five back Republicans. All five dwarf the anonymous-money count the Times had run back in August — at least $1 billion then — and this time the money came with names attached, which turns out not to matter: naming the donor does not slow the donor down.

Monday, the Guardian ran a column titled "How you (yes you) can fight dark money in elections." It arrived one day after the ledger closed on $2 billion from twenty names, five of them public. The gap between the headline and the total is not a contradiction, hon. It is the business model: tell the reader there is something they can do, the same week the filing shows there is nothing left on the board for them to outspend.

"They print a pamphlet on fighting dark money the same week twenty guys account for two billion dollars of it — that's not a how-to, that's a smoke machine. Half that money isn't even dark anymore, it's got Elon Musk's name right on it, and it still doesn't matter, because naming the donor doesn't cap the donor. Good luck outspending that with a Guardian column, pal — the only thing that slips here is the idea you were ever in the race."

— Sal

"This is just robust civic participation — Elon Musk, the Uihleins, they're exercising their First Amendment rights same as anybody with a lemonade stand... okay, a lemonade stand that moves $450 million, that's not — did I say lemonade stand? Strike that. Point is, disclosed money is the system working, and nobody's forcing the Guardian's readers not to start their own super PAC."

— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

— *Wisconsin nonprofit's 'educational' $20,000 transfer and Anduril's $6.6 billion shipyard use the same donor-anonymity trick* By Ruth · the afternoon edition, 1 November 2026

THE RECEIPTS

~~'Oligarchy is on the Ballot': Reports Uncover Unprecedented Sums Ultrarich Spent to Buy 2026 Midterms~~

### 'Oligarchy is on the Ballot': Musk alone gave $450 million to the GOP.

*Common Dreams* § *11:12 EST*

Some of the richest people in the US have spent unprecedented sums of money to influence the outcome of the 2026 midterm elections, and a Sunday report in The New York Times estimated that the top 20 biggest donors alone have spent a combined $2 billion in federal races this cycle. The single largest funder of the 2026 midterms, by a...

How you (yes you) can fight dark money in elections

*The Guardian* MAINSTREAM § *10:36 EST*

Corporations and tech moguls have spent billions to push provocative – and often inaccurate – political ads for far too long Welcome back to How We Win, a Guardian opinion series with leading thinkers, offering bold ideas for America's political future. Last week, Katie Phang argued that the Epstein files are a midterms sledgehammer ....

· The DNC Fight to Ban Dark Money in Presidential Primaries *from the morgue, 13 Oct 2026*

· 'The Least Transparent Midterm': How Dark Money Is Washing Over the 2026 Election *from the morgue, 31 Aug 2026*

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THE OUTAGE

# Washington says it won World War II faster than plugging in a power plant, the lights go out.

By LOU
ONE MORE QUESTION



**"We won World War II faster than we can plug in a power plant", 2 November 2026**
(PHOTO VIA WASHINGTON EXAMINER — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

**WHAT HAPPENED.** The EPA finished eliminating federal pollution limits on power plants.

**WHO GETS PAID.** Power-plant owners and the fossil fuel industry gain from the lifted pollution limits.

**WHAT SLIPS.** Congress's check on rising electric rates slips because the ratepayer bill still has not had a vote.

**WHAT'S NEXT.** If the ratepayer bill keeps sitting unvoted, the rate hikes keep landing on your bill; that is what the Senate got after its 29 March 2023 vote to repeal the Iraq war authorizations: the repeal took another 33 months to become law, on 18 December 2025.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

I called Pepco's public affairs line yesterday afternoon because there was something about the timing I didn't follow, and when it's electricity, I figure the utility that runs the lines is the one to ask. I told the man who picked up: help me with this.

Here's what I was turning over. The Washington Examiner ran a piece on November 2nd arguing America won World War II faster than it can plug in a power plant. A few hours after that ran, by the Examiner's own later report, Pepco customers across Foggy Bottom lost power — the State Department, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and George Washington University, a school, though the wire doesn't say what was running there, so I won't guess....

*...(cont)* That report described the outage as an "unscheduled loss of electrical power." I wrote that phrase down because it stuck with me. Was this outage on anyone's calendar ahead of time? I don't know, and the man at Pepco didn't either.

I'm not saying the piece caused the outage — I don't have anything that says that, and Pepco didn't either. I only have two times written down, one after the other: when the piece went up, and when the power went down. The second one comes after the first.

While I had Pepco on the phone I asked about the bill side too. Those are her words.

My car's been at the shop since July for three things. One was the fan belt — that one's done, fixed on the first visit. A second item on the same order is also done. The third is still open; I call about it every couple of weeks. Two finished, one not. I only mention it because I spent the afternoon thinking about things that get finished and things that just sit.

Here's the other date I had written down. On September 15th, the House was expected to vote on a bill about data centers and what they can push onto a regular electric bill. The Hill had it as likely to pass that week. That was seven weeks ago. I can't find a vote since — not yes, not no. As far as my notes go, it's still sitting.

The day before that bill was supposed to come up, on September 14th, the EPA finished something. Finished — not expected to. A rule limiting pollution from power plants, which make up about a quarter of the country's climate pollution by the agency's own older numbers, got, in the advocates' word, eviscerated. That one got done.

So that's my question for Pepco, and the Examiner: of those two things sitting on the table in September, which one needed a vote in Congress to get finished, and which one didn't?

I'm sorry — I keep coming back to that word from the outage report. I won't say "unscheduled" again; I'll put it another way. The power loss didn't have a date on it ahead of time. The vote on the ratepayer bill did — September 15th, same as I wrote it down. It just hasn't happened yet.

Oh — hold on, one more thing, before you go. The EPA's rule finished on September 14th. The House's bill was supposed to come up the next day, September 15th. Which one of those actually happened?

❦ FROM THE CORNER ❦

DUTCH

In September the EPA finished gutting the power-plant pollution rule, and the House's ratepayer bill still hasn't gotten a floor vote. That isn't gridlock, it's triage — the industry's item cleared, the one with your name on it left off the calendar. The agency finished the plant's rule because the industry it regulates wanted it finished; the House left your rate bill sitting because the data centers driving up the cost didn't need it moved; and the only paperwork still arriving on schedule, every month, straight to your mailbox, is the electric bill with your name at the top.

"The rule that frees power plants from pollution limits got finished by mid-September; the bill that would cap what data centers push onto your electric bill has been sitting since the same month — that's not gridlock, that's a choice about whose paperwork gets a stamp. Your bill shows up every month whether Congress does or not. One day left to vote on who answers for that."

— Sal

"The op-ed's point is really about permitting speed, nothing to do with some grid hiccup in Foggy Bottom a few hours later — unrelated, coincidence, next question. And sure, the EPA rolled back pollution limits on power plants, but that's cutting red tape, that's — wait, does cutting a pollution rule make the plant turn on faster, or just let it pollute more while it's already running? Did I say that? That doesn't sound like me. As for the ratepayer bill, these things take time, it's not blocked, it's just — still on the calendar, I guess."

— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

- *Dabo Swinney defends coach he just beat; Florida State fires him anyway three weeks and $50.3 million later.* By Gus · the afternoon edition, 1 November 2026
- *Dabo Swinney beats Florida State, then defends the coach he just beat.* By Gus · the afternoon edition, 1 November 2026
- *Jackson reads the Court its own dates back: ninety days for a database, twelve for a student ID.* By Mitch · the afternoon edition, 23 October 2026
- *Supreme Court finds student ID voting too confusing 12 days out, finds nothing confusing about a voter-purge database.* By Lou · the evening edition, 23 October 2026
- *Midterms' largest donor, at $366 million, vows to find out who is really pulling the strings* By Sterling · the morning edition, 22 October 2026
- *Houthis promise a 'painful' response if the US joins a war it already promised, in writing, to join.* By Lou · the evening edition, 13 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

We won World War II faster than we can plug in a power plant
*Washington Examiner* RIGHT § *11:00 EST*
The United States has always been a leader in energy development. Before we were even a country, North America's vast timber reserves provided masts for sailing ships, logs for housing, and fuel for heating and manufacturing. Later, our mountains of coal (which are still nowhere near exhausted) and oceans of petroleum powered an...

Power outages hit Washington affecting government agencies and GWU
*Washington Examiner* RIGHT § *11:12 EST*
A power outage in the Foggy Bottom area of Washington, D.C., is affecting thousands of Potomac Electric Power Company customers, including government agency buildings and George Washington University. The State Department has reportedly been affected by the outage, with several agency facilities "experiencing an unscheduled loss of...

'Politics of electricity' over rising bills could power Democratic win, say clean energy advocates
*The Guardian* MAINSTREAM § *08:00 EST*
Concerns about datacenters and high energy bills could help Democrats clinch races in Ohio, Arizona and Michigan In Arizona, where summer temperatures regularly hit triple digits, air conditioning can be a matter of life and death. This year, as the state recorded its hottest summer on record , Diali Avila's monthly power bill went up to...

· 'Actively Malevolent': Trump EPA to Eviscerate Rules on Planet-Heating Pollution From Power Plants *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*

· House set to vote on electricity ratepayer bill *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

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# *Justice Department says it isn't assuming a crime occurred, appeals the lawsuit built on one.*

By CHIP
STAFF WRITER



"Joe Concha applauds NYT's 'Decoy Dan' scoop and blasts reader backlash as 'confirmation bias'", 2 November 2026
(PHOTO VIA WASHINGTON EXAMINER — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

**WHAT HAPPENED.** The Justice Department appealed a dismissed lawsuit against Alaska's Senate certification that named zero ballots.

**WHO GETS PAID.** The Alaska Republican Party and Senator Dan S. Sullivan gain time against a count that might go against them.

**WHAT SLIPS.** Alaska's certified Senate count stays on hold while an appeal with no named ballots moves forward.

**WHAT'S NEXT.** The appeal goes next to a federal appeals court; no hearing date has been set yet.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

The lawsuit died Monday, the way these things die: a judge read it and found nothing in it. The Justice Department had sued on October 24 to block certification of Alaska's Senate race if the Republican, Dan S. Sullivan, came up short. The complaint named zero ballots. It did not allege a single improperly cast vote, a single miscount, a single irregularity a judge could put a finger on. It alleged that a retired teacher named Dan J. Sullivan was running against the incumbent under a confusingly similar name, and it asked a federal court to hold the election's result hostage to that resemblance.

The department had, on the record, said it was not assuming a crime occurred. A count is a different animal than an assumption, and the count here was easy enough to run: four federal probes into "Decoy Dan" closed with zero charges by the time the suit was filed. The watchdog allegation that started this — filed September 8, claiming Dan J. Sullivan had secretly colluded with a liberal group to take down his namesake senator — went nowhere a prosecutor could stand on. Eight days later, on September 16, a Wisconsin-based super PAC with a record of boosting spoiler candidates started elevating that same Dan J. Sullivan. No charge followed that either....

*...(cont)* Monday the judge threw the case out. The Justice Department said it will appeal.

That same day, Washington Examiner columnist Joe Concha gave the New York Times a golf clap. The paper had reported what Concha called confirmation of the "Decoy Dan" plot — the two Sullivans, the spoiler setup, the thing he said had been visible "in plain sight for weeks." Concha praised the scoop and called the backlash against it confirmation bias.

Here is the arrangement, laid flat. The lawsuit the department is appealing named zero ballots and never alleged the spoiler plot as a legal claim — it alleged a name. The column cheering the plot's confirmation ran the same day a judge found the lawsuit resting on that same plot had nothing in it to toss but a resemblance. Four investigations, zero charges. One case, zero ballots.

The days left to certify Alaska's count keep moving. The appeal does not need to win. It only needs to keep the count from closing before whoever loses decides whether to go home.

"They sue to stop a count they might lose, lose the lawsuit, and sue again anyway — that's not a legal strategy, that's a stall tactic wearing a legal strategy's clothes. Zero ballots named, four probes, zero charges, one appeal filed the same day a columnist cheers the plot the suit never even bothered to allege. You don't need to win the appeal to steal the time; you just need the seat to stay warm until somebody gives up."

*— Sal*

"We're not assuming a crime occurred here — this suit is about protecting voters from confusion over two similarly named candidates, full stop, it has nothing to do with who wins. Now, does it only get filed when the Republican might lose? Did I say "might lose"? That's — that's not the framing we use. The appeal is about process, not outcome, and if the process happens to run exclusively downhill for Democrats, that's not a pattern, that's — I'll get our office to issue a statement."

*— Chip*

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

— *Tim Scott calls an unproven plot a 'criminal offense' but won't say he'll accept the vote it targets* By Lou · the afternoon edition, 1 November 2026

— *Trump told the Justice Department to sue to block Alaska's certification if the Republican narrowly loses; the complaint named zero ballots, and the vote is two days off.* By Mort · the evening edition, 1 November 2026

THE RECEIPTS

Joe Concha applauds NYT's 'Decoy Dan' scoop and blasts reader backlash as 'confirmation bias'
*Washington Examiner* RIGHT § *10:59 EST*

Washington Examiner columnist Joe Concha gave a "golf clap" to the New York Times for reporting that the "Decoy Dan" in Alaska was intentionally set up to confuse voters.

~~Facing an electoral wipeout, Trump goes after the system~~

*DOJ would block Alaska's Senate count only if the Republican loses.*
*Politico* MAINSTREAM § *07:00 EDT*

The move by the Justice Department to try and preemptively block Alaska's Senate results if Republican Sen. Dan Sullivan loses stunned officials in both parties.

DOJ vows to appeal lawsuit on Alaska Senate race after judge tosses it
*CBS News* MAINSTREAM § *09:00 EST*

A federal judge has tossed out a Justice Department lawsuit seeking to delay the Alaska Senate race certification over potential name confusion. CBS News' Jake Rosen reports.

~~Trump ask to set aside 'Decoy Dan' Alaska Senate ballots 'not even possible', attorneys~~

*Trump campaign wants certain Alaska Senate ballots tossed. State calls it 'disturbing and impossible.'*
*New York Post* RIGHT § *17:22 EDT*

In its Saturday filing, Alaska said this was "both disturbing and impossible." It added there would be no way to do that without violating voter privacy.

Peltola repeats denial of ballot-stacking reports, stays silent on federal probe
*The Hill* MAINSTREAM § *16:26 EDT*

Alaska's Democratic Senate candidate Mary Peltola denied once again any involvement in the alleged ballot-stacking scheme that it was recently reported her campaign engaged in during a rally on Friday, but did not mention the ongoing investigations into the scheme "I am so deeply offended by these accusations about having any involvement...

*But:* Republicans' reconciliation package puts $70 billion into ICE's department *NBC News, May 2026*

Courts Reject Trump's Attempt at Deploying ICE to Intimidate Voters
*Truthout* § *09:18 EDT*

A judge ordered Homeland Security to stop sending agents door to door in nine key states to hunt for "voter fraud."

Trump prosecutions under Biden set precedent for DOJ's Alaska 'Decoy Dan' probe, ex-FEC chair says
*Fox News* RIGHT § *15:09 EDT*

Hans von Spakovsky says Jack Smith's Trump indictment set the precedent for the DOJ's criminal probe into Alaska's "Decoy Dan" Senate race scheme.

· Mysterious Wisconsin-based super PAC elevates 'Decoy Dan' Sullivan in Alaska, after backing other spoilers *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· 'Decoy Dan' Sullivan illegally colluded with liberal group attacking Alaska GOP Sen. Sullivan, watchdog alleges *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*

· Murkowski snubs Trump-backed Alaska candidate, endorses Democrat for governor *from the morgue, 28 Oct 2026*

· DOJ sues to block Alaska Senate certification if Sullivan loses *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*

· Alaska Election Gambit Shows Justice Dept. Has Bowed to Trump's Demands *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*

· Donald Trump challenges Alaska Senate trace *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*

· Trump administration sues to block possible Democratic win in Alaska Senate race *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*

· The controversy surrounding convicted former election official Tina Peters *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*

· Alaska Senate race featuring two Dan Sullivans is 'blatantly corrupt': Joe Concha *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*

· Trump officials abandon effort to investigate election threats, experts warn *from the morgue, 1 Oct 2026*

· Tina Peters turns down job with California county's registrar of voters *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*

· Election deniers stoke Trump-driven ballot security fears before midterms *from the morgue, 6 Oct 2026*

· Justice Dept. Demands That California Counties Help Identify Noncitizen Voters *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*

· Sabato's Crystal Ball shifts Alaska and South Carolina Senate races in favor of Democrats *from the morgue, 6 Oct 2026*

· Appeals Court Rejects 'Likely Unlawful' Trump Push to Undermine Mail-In Voting as Supreme Court Looms *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· US justice department sues California over alleged noncitizen voting *from the morgue, 15 Oct 2026*

· Trump knocks Alaska voting system: 'How stupid are we to do this?' *from the morgue, 9 Oct 2026*

· Corey Lewandowski Always Found His Way Back to Trump. Until Now. *from the morgue, 23 Oct 2026*

· Trump announces $6.6bn defense shipyard owned by top Republican donor's firm *from the morgue, 6 Oct 2026*

· Companies Backed by Trump Sons Have Scored Over $6 Billion in Pentagon Contracts: Analysis *from the morgue, 7 Oct 2026*

· DOJ demands that California counties help identify noncitizen voters *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*

· DOJ demands that some California counties set aside alleged noncitizen ballots *from the morgue, 25 Oct 2026*

· California officials ordered by DoJ to set aside 'likely' noncitizen ballots *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*

· LA feds move to halt ballot counting over 20K suspected noncitizen voters *from the morgue, 23 Oct 2026*

· Trump 'Laying the Groundwork for Election Meddling' With DHS Hunt for Noncitizen Voters *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· California has no real safeguards for voting and voter registration *from the morgue, 21 Oct 2026*

· Federal efforts over alleged noncitizen voting escalate with California arrests *from the morgue, 20 Oct 2026*

· Federal voter fraud arrests intensify in California days after DOJ warning *from the morgue, 19 Oct 2026*

· Trump DOJ issues stark warning to California ballot counters after suing state over 20K suspected noncitizen voters *from the morgue, 17 Oct 2026*

· Intel Democrats on how they'll react if Trump alleges election meddling *from the morgue, 23 Oct 2026*

· Trump told DOJ to sue to block Alaska Senate results if Republican narrowly loses *from the morgue, 26 Oct 2026*

· Trump says he personally ordered DOJ lawsuit intervening in Alaska Senate election *from the morgue, 23 Oct 2026*

· Ramaswamy accuses Acton of 'lying' about attack ad, but court records contradict mother's claim – live *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*

· DoJ sues to block certification of Alaska Senate results if Republican incumbent loses *from the morgue, 23 Oct 2026*

· Trump-Ordered DOJ Lawsuit in Alaska Seen as First Salvo in GOP Effort to Undermine Midterm Elections *from the morgue, 23 Oct 2026*

· Trump on the Alaska election lawsuit: 'I'm the one that said, "do it"' *from the morgue, 23 Oct 2026*

· Trump administration sues to block certification of upcoming Alaska election *from the morgue, 23 Oct 2026*

· DOJ files lawsuit to block results in Alaska Senate race after two Dan Sullivans land on November ballot *from the morgue, 23 Oct 2026*

· Trump previews trip to Alaska to campaign for Dan Sullivan, ripping into the other Dan Sullivan *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· Trump urges Alaskans to vote for the 'real' Dan Sullivan in tight midterms battle *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*

· Sullivan trails Peltola in Alaska Senate contest: AARP poll *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Trump vows to probe other Dan Sullivan in alleged Dem plot to sabotage 'real' Alaska GOP senator *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*

· Trump administration sued over plans to send election monitors to voting sites *from the morgue, 7 Oct 2026*

· AGs v. Trump: How an AWOL Congress made hundreds of lawsuits possible *from the morgue, 16 Oct 2026*

· The Electoral College meets in the state capitals to officially elect the next President. Joe Biden, the presumptive president-elect, is officially elected president after securing California's 55 ele *from the morgue, 14 Dec 2020*

· US federal agents raid home of Democratic congresswoman and Trump critic Ilhan Omar *from the morgue, 12 Oct 2026*

· Ilhan Omar's Home Raided by DHS Following Trump-GOP Deportation Threats *from the morgue, 12 Oct 2026*

· Federal Agents Search Home of Rep. Ilhan Omar *from the morgue, 13 Oct 2026*

· Rep. Ilhan Omar's residence searched as part of ongoing criminal investigation: DOJ *from the morgue, 13 Oct 2026*

· Rep. Ilhan Omar's D.C. home searched by Homeland Security investigators *from the morgue, 12 Oct 2026*

· Rep. Ilhan Omar's DC home raided by DHS as part of probe into Dem's immigration paperwork *from the morgue, 12 Oct 2026*

· Homan confirms 'criminal' investigation involving Ilhan Omar, says he knows 'things are going on' *from the morgue, 13 Sep 2026*

· WATCH: Ilhan Omar denies feds have contacted her after border czar Homan confirms 'criminal' investigation *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Could Trump revoke Ilhan Omar's citizenship for alleged brother marriage? Ex federal prosecutor breaks it down *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· Did Ilhan Omar marry her own brother? The claims explained *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· Russia's Lavrov blasts US, Western allies as "warmongers' in fiery UN tirade *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· Russia and China unite against US over Iran and Cuba in UN speeches *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· U.S. military lays groundwork for potential action around Cuba *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· The United Nations Security Council has resoundingly rejected a United States bid to extend a global arms embargo on Iran. In a Security Council vote, United States only got support from the Dominican *from the morgue, 14 Aug 2020*

· U.S. Threatens New Economic War on Iran by Targeting China & Tehran's Other Top Trading Partners *from the morgue, 25 Aug 2026*

· In Defiant UN Speech, Iranian President Says US and Israel Are the Real Terrorists *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*

· Trump slams reporting on removal of his endorsements from GOP candidate's website *from the morgue, 27 Sep 2026*

· Donalds removes several Trump mentions from campaign website *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· GOP hopeful removes 'Pro-Trump' mention from campaign slogan in deep-red seat *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*

· Where Trump's 2026 endorsement record stands after primary season *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· U.N. experts say U.S. may have committed war crimes with 2 Iran strikes *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· Trump Says 'Big Decision' Coming on Whether to 'Annihilate' Iran *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Pentagon No. 3 frustrates senators in closed-door briefing on Iran war, Trump defense strategy *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Senate Democrats, minus Fetterman, urge Hegseth to provide receipt for Iran war costs *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Hegseth on "devastation" to Iran's capabilities *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· Trump admits Iran war will not end before midterms *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· Iran War Trump Said Would Be Quick Has Now Lasted 6 Months With 'No End In Sight' *from the morgue, 28 Aug 2026*

· CBO Finds Trump's Iran War Has Already Cost Nearly $40 Billion—And That's a 'Conservative' Estimate *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Tillis supports Hegseth impeachment resolution: 'He needs to go' *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Massie Files Impeachment Articles Against Hegseth for Illegal Iran War, Boat Murders *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Massie launches effort to impeach Hegseth *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Tillis urges Trump to fire Hegseth over 'inept management' of military *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

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# Jeffries called a Republican's cross-party endorsement 'partisan hack' in September, weighs 'next steps' for his own.

By MORT
THE RECORDS BUREAU




**"El-Sayed campaign pulls in $1.2M after Stevens backs Republican Rogers", 2 November 2026** (PHOTO VIA THE HILL — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

**WHAT HAPPENED.** Hakeem Jeffries says Democratic leaders will discuss "next steps" against Rep. Haley Stevens for endorsing a Republican.

**WHO GETS PAID.** Abdul El-Sayed's Senate campaign, which banked between $1.2 million and $2.4 million in a single day because of the split.

**WHAT SLIPS.** The power to decide who still counts as a Democrat moves from the primary voters who nominated Stevens to the caucus leadership now weighing whether to remove her.

**WHAT'S NEXT.** If Jeffries's "next steps" hardens into formal discipline, Stevens could face the arc a sitting member already has; that is what Wyoming got after the Republican National Committee censured Liz Cheney in February 2022: a three-term incumbent lost her primary that August, 66 to 29.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

"Partisan hack" died this week, not from overuse but from a change of address.

It was born in September, when Hakeem Jeffries used the phrase on Mike Lawler for accepting an endorsement from a Democrat, Jared Golden — a Republican, in his accounting, borrowing credibility he hadn't earned....

*...(cont)* It did not make it to November without complication. By late October, Haley Stevens was already drawing fire for warning she might sabotage the midterms to stop a progressive primary opponent she couldn't beat outright. Days later she made the warning literal: she endorsed Mike Rogers, the Michigan Democratic Party removed her from its ranks, Donald Trump invited her to switch parties on the spot, and a Democratic strategist compared her, on the record, to a used condom — all filed in an earlier edition, all still true today.

What's new is the paperwork. Jeffries told reporters the caucus will have a "discussion" about "next steps" for Stevens — the phrase a party reaches for when "discipline" sounds too much like the thing it is. The crossing is identical. Only the direction of the word has changed.

Down the hall, the money didn't wait for the discussion. Abdul El-Sayed's campaign says it took in $1.2 million in four hours, by the Hill's count; the Guardian puts the same windfall at $2.4 million, describing a haul that arrived Sunday.

"Partisan hack" is survived by "next steps," a vaguer heir with none of the bite and all of the discretion. It is preceded in death by consistency, which never filed the paperwork to begin with — penny-ante hogwash dressed up as principle, applied in one direction only.

In lieu of flowers, the caucus might try applying the same word to the same act twice in a row, regardless of which member commits it — just once, before the next cross-party endorsement, so the dictionary doesn't need updating every two months.

❦ FROM THE CORNER ❦

DUTCH

In September, Hakeem Jeffries called a Republican's acceptance of a Democrat's endorsement a "partisan hack"; in November, his own member endorses a Republican and he calls it "next steps." That's not a standard, it's a loyalty test with a one-way turnstile — the word changes meaning only when the member wearing it changes color. The same leadership that can write "next steps" into a press release can write it into the bylaws your own precinct committee runs on, the ones that decide whether the name on your precinct captain card still gets you a seat at the county convention after you vote the way your district actually wants.

🍺

"They call it a "partisan hack" when the other team's guy does it and "next steps" when their own does it — same move, different paperwork, and the paperwork is the whole point. Meanwhile the money doesn't care who's getting disciplined: a million two or two million four, pick your network, landed in El-Sayed's account the same week the party was busy writing a press release about her. The discipline is theater; the fundraising is the real vote count nobody's arguing about."

— Sal

🚬

"This isn't punishment, this is clarity — Congresswoman Stevens found common ground with Mike Rogers because voters want results, not tribalism, and the President simply left a door open for her, which is just good manners. Jeffries isn't cracking down, he's having a "discussion," there's a difference — a discussion about next steps, not a punishment, why would you even — okay, that one got away from me. Look, bipartisanship is great until your own side does it, that's just how the rules work, I don't make them."

— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

- *Stevens defects, gets ousted, and finds a home with the party whose leader called her rival a jihadist.* By Mort · the evening edition, 2 November 2026
- *The Big Ten capped player pay at $49 million under a bill the president sold from a Neyland suite above a stadium selling half-price beer.* By Gus · the evening edition, 1 November 2026

THE RECEIPTS

## El-Sayed campaign pulls in $1.2M after Stevens backs Republican Rogers

*The Hill* MAINSTREAM § *09:32 EST*

Michigan Democratic Senate nominee Abdul El-Sayed raised $1.2 million in four hours after former primary rival Rep. Haley Stevens endorsed Republican Mike Rogers for the vacant Senate seat.

~~Haley Stevens Slammed for Statement Suggesting She's Willing to Sabotage Midterms to Halt Progressive Surge~~

## Stevens demands El-Sayed apologize for criticizing $21B in US military aid to Israel

*Common Dreams* § *17:22 EDT*

In the final days of the US Senate campaign in Michigan, Democratic candidate Abdul El-Sayed is leading in polls, winning praise for taking President Donald Trump and his Republican opponent to task with incisive humor, and providing a clear closing message in evocative ads . But his former Democratic primary opponent, Rep. Haley Stevens...

## Abdul El-Sayed's campaign reports record fundraising day as Haley Stevens faces backlash for endorsing his opponent – live

*The Guardian* MAINSTREAM § *11:21 EST*

Democratic candidate for Michigan US Senate seat raised $2.4m on Sunday after congresswoman Haley Stevens pulled her endorsement of him in favor of Trump-backed Mike Rogers Sign up for the Breaking News US email Newsletter: How you (yes you) can fight dark money in elections The latest and final New York Times and Siena College poll...

## Jeffries says caucus will have discussion about 'next steps' for Haley Stevens after she endorsed Mike Rogers

*Washington Examiner* RIGHT § *11:19 EST*

House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY) indicated Democratic leaders could discuss disciplinary action against Rep. Haley Stevens (D-MI) after she broke with her party to endorse Republican Senate nominee Mike Rogers, deepening an already bitter divide among Michigan Democrats. Jeffries accused Stevens of bucking the Democratic...

· Jeffries hammers Lawler after Dem endorsement: 'Partisan hack' *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

*This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.*

# Agency confirms tribes were right about the graves, the third time in two months.

By THE WRECKING CREW
THE REMEDY DESK

■ THE SHORT VERSION

typed by Dot

**WHAT HAPPENED.** ProPublica confirmed border wall construction disturbed Native American remains.

**WHO GETS PAID.** Homeland Security and Customs and Border Protection keep the power to build without asking tribes first.

**WHAT SLIPS.** The check that slips is tribes' right to be consulted before construction begins, waived instead of used.

**WHAT'S NEXT.** If the waiver keeps replacing consultation, the next grave site is found after the drill, not before; that is what happened at Big Bend after October 23, 2026, when the commissioner called the border goal non-negotiable despite a court-ordered pause already in place.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

August 28, Tohono O'odham land, Arizona: CBP contractors drilled while masked agents blocked tribal police at the line. September 19, Big Bend, Texas: installation of 30-foot panels began over local leaders' objections. October 23, Big Bend again, with a federal court's pause on construction already on the books: Commissioner Rodney Scott told reporters his goal of fortifying the border was "non-negotiable." November 2: ProPublica confirmed what tribal leaders had told the agency before any shovel turned — the ground holds Native American remains, and construction disturbed them, the third confirmed site in two months.

Same two states. Same agency. Same door in, every time: a waiver authority Congress handed the Department of Homeland Security, letting it skip the consultation tribes were asking for in the first place. The requirement was never repealed. It sits in the statute books exactly where Congress left it, fully operational. DHS signs the waiver instead....

*...(cont)* The planner studied the paperwork and admired how clean the move is — no floor fight, no committee hearing, no vote to defend. Just a signature where a phone call to a tribal government was supposed to go.

The tinkerer laid the parts on the table: the consultation requirement, untouched; the waiver pen, the only tool anyone actually reaches for; and the court order already pausing construction at Big Bend for other reasons, proof that a pause is available the moment somebody in Washington wants one. Bolt the first part back in front of the second, and the waiver stops being automatic.

The muscle went after the bad structure first — not the wall, the shortcut around it. Every waiver this agency signs runs through the same drawer; pull the drawer, and the next grave site gets a phone call before it gets a drill rig.

The pilot flew it to the part that counts: three confirmed sites, two states, two months, and a working tool sitting in the statute the entire time, waived instead of used. Nobody has to write a new law. Congress already wrote the sentence that would have stopped this. It is still on the page, waiting on someone to stop signing around it.

That's the whole plan, filed cheerful: parts intact, waiting on one signature to undo the other.

🍺

"Congress wrote a rule that says ask the tribe first; DHS has a pen that says skip it, and the pen wins three times now in two states, two months. That's not a loophole, that's the design — the law stays on the books so they can say it exists, while the waiver does the actual work. A grave gets a drill rig instead of a phone call, and that call costs the agency nothing, which is why it doesn't get made."

— Sal

🚬

"Look, the border has to get built, that's just — that's the mandate, people voted for a secure border, and Commissioner Scott said it himself: fortifying it is non-negotiable. Now, the graves thing, that's — look, there's a process, there's a waiver process, it's all legal, Congress put it right there in the statute. Did I say Congress put it there so it could be skipped? That's not — I'm not saying that."

— Chip

THE RECEIPTS

Tribal Leaders Warned Border Wall Construction Would Disturb Native American Remains. They Were Right.

*ProPublica* § *05:00 EST*

The post Tribal Leaders Warned Border Wall Construction Would Disturb Native American Remains. They Were Right. appeared first on ProPublica .

· Trump's top border official defends Big Bend border wall plan despite mounting opposition *from the morgue, 23 Oct 2026*

· Trump administration begins construction on Texas's Big Bend border wall *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

· Trump border wall construction kicks off in Arizona amid clash with Native American tribe *from the morgue, 28 Aug 2026*

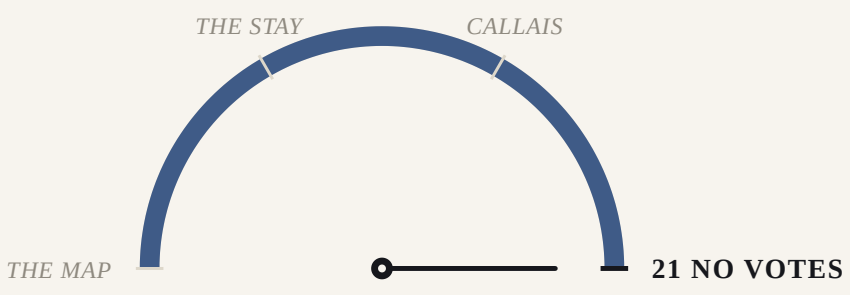
*This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.*

§80 — 02 NOVEMBER 2026

# On entitled

BY LOU
*The Word*

DEMOCRAT




## *21 NO VOTES*

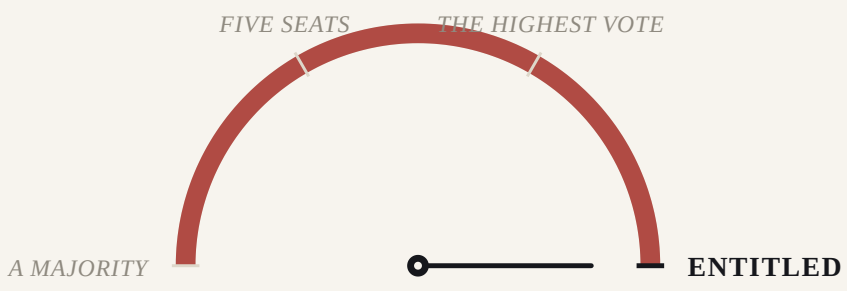
Then the rest of the board, in order. Missouri, North Carolina and Ohio redrew in the fall of 2025 [1]. In Indiana the map he asked for failed in the state Senate, 31 to 19, with 21 Republicans voting no; his response: "We won every other state. That's the only state" [2]. Florida signed a new map in May with four Republican pickup chances [3]. Virginia's Democrats passed an amendment to redraw theirs, and the state's supreme court struck it down [4]. In April the Supreme Court decided Louisiana v. Callais, holding that the Voting Rights Act "did not require Louisiana to create an additional majority-minority district" [5].

The Cook Political Report's net across all of it: about eight seats toward Republicans and two toward Democrats, with the competitive field cut from 87 seats to 77 [6]. Every one of those lines was drawn by a legislature, a commission or a court. Tomorrow is the part no legislature gets to draw.

*SOURCES*

1. Mid-decade congressional redistricting in 2025–26, state by state — Wikipedia, 2025–2026 United States redistricting ↑
2. Indiana's Senate rejected the map 31–19, with 21 Republicans voting no; "We won every other state. That's the only state" — Al Jazeera, 12 December 2025 ↑
3. Florida's governor signed a new congressional map with four Republican pickup opportunities — Roll Call, 4 May 2026 ↑
4. The Virginia Supreme Court struck down the redistricting amendment; the U.S. Supreme Court declined to reinstate the map — SCOTUSblog, 15 May 2026 ↑
5. Louisiana v. Callais, 6–3: "the Voting Rights Act of 1965 did not require Louisiana to create an additional majority-minority district" — SCOTUSblog, 29 April 2026 ↑
6. Republicans about +8 seats and Democrats about +2 from redistricting; competitive seats down from 87 to 77 — Colorado Politics, citing the Cook Political Report, 29 July 2026 ↑

REPUBLICAN




## *ENTITLED*

The line, from a phone interview on August 5, 2025: "We have an opportunity in Texas to pick up five seats. … And I won Texas. I got the highest vote in the history of Texas, as you probably know. And we are entitled to five more seats" [1].

The case for it is the law as the Supreme Court wrote it. In 2019 the Court held that "partisan gerrymandering claims present political questions beyond the reach of the federal courts" [2]. Both parties have used that room. Illinois's Democrats signed a map in 2021 projected at 14 seats to 3 [3]. Texas drew for five in August 2025, and in December the Supreme Court let the Texas map stand for 2026 [4]. California's voters answered in November 2025, approving Proposition 50 by about 64 percent to 36 and redrawing five Republican-held seats [5][6]. Entitled is a strong word for a map. It is not an illegal one.

*SOURCES*

1. "We are entitled to five more seats" — CNBC Squawk Box phone interview, 5 August 2025 — Scripps News ↑
2. "Partisan gerrymandering claims present political questions beyond the reach of the federal courts" — Rucho v. Common Cause, 27 June 2019 — Cornell Legal Information Institute ↑
3. Illinois's new congressional map projected at 14 Democratic and 3 Republican seats — Capitol News Illinois, 24 November 2021 ↑
4. The Supreme Court stayed the lower court's ruling, allowing the Texas map for 2026 — SCOTUSblog, 4 December 2025 ↑
5. Proposition 50 approved, 64.42 percent to 35.58 percent — Wikipedia, 2025 California Proposition 50 ↑
6. Five Republican-held seats targeted by the new California map — CalMatters, 5 November 2025 ↑

*"When my nephew was little we played Monopoly, and he'd tell me he was entitled to Park Place because he'd been going around the board so long. I think about that. Five seats in Texas: "we are entitled to five more seats." Then Indiana, where the map failed 31 to 19 with twenty-one Republicans voting no, and the answer was, "We won every other state. That's the only state." Excuse me — I'll let you get home, it's a big day tomorrow. The seats he's entitled to. Who votes on them in the morning?"* — Lou

"Entitled. Not "we'd like," not "we'll compete for" — entitled, the way you're entitled to a refund. Five seats out of Texas, and then the whole board: California drew five back, Florida drew for four, and Indiana's own Republican senators looked at theirs and voted no, twenty-one of them. By Cook's count the maps moved about six seats net. Tomorrow the maps meet the one thing a legislature can't draw."

— Sal

"No one is gerrymandering anyone; states are simply updating their maps to reflect the voters they expect to have, which, if you think about it, is a form of listening."

— Chip

*The Word today —* 👍 👎