under her leadership, the FCC will make immense progress in addressing these challenges.

Americans don't want to see their internet bills go up and up and up. They don't want to have to drive long distances at late hours just so their kids can finish homework at public libraries. And they want telemedicine to be available so they can be in the best of health.

No. Every American wants and deserves fast, affordable, and reliable internet access directly in their homes. Already this year, as a result of the President's infrastructure bill, we have made tremendous strides in closing the digital divide. We will build on that progress by confirming Ms. Rosenworcel today so that Americans can rest assured that they will have an FCC fighting for them.

BUILD BACK BETTER ACT

Mr. President, on Build Back Better, Senate Democrats continue our work to pass the President's Build Back Better Act before Christmas. Making progress on Build Back Better has been no small task, but sticking to our deadline will be worth it for one simple reason: at its core, Build Back Better is the best shot we have had in decades to help families lower costs, to cut taxes for working and middle-class Americans, and create good paying jobs while fighting the climate crisis.

Economists across the ideological spectrum have said it will not—will not—worsen inflation, something we are seeing happening across the world, not just in the U.S.

Here is something just about every American can appreciate: Build Back Better will make it cheaper for parents to raise their kids. For that alone, it is more than worth the effort. By providing the largest investment in childcare in American history, Build Back Better will make it so the vast majority of families will pay no more than 7 percent of their income on childcare for kids under 6. That single investment could save parents hundreds or even thousands of dollars a year. I think it is a pretty great deal for American families.

It will also help our economy. Everywhere you go you hear about shortages of labor. One of the main reasons is inadequate childcare. We rank way low on the list of developed nations. The United States' provisions for childcare come out near the very bottom. That is something we cannot tolerate anymore. And that is just one item, childcare.

Build Back Better will also provide, for the first time ever, free universal pre-K for millions of American families. By one measure, pre-K can cost parents up to $8,600 a year per child. Under Build Back Better, many parents will pay zero. Think about that: pre-K, for the first time in U.S. history, the greatest expansion of free education that the United States has seen in a century. When we made high schools available to everyone, it made our economy the strongest in the 20th century. We have got to learn that lesson here in the 21st century with pre-K.

Build Back Better, of course, will also extend the child tax credit that Democrats passed under the American Rescue Plan. This simple lifeline—a $300 check in the mail each month for each child—can be a game changer—a game changer—during the winter months, and under Build Back Better, we can make sure this benefit stays in place.

None of this approaches the many other ways that Build Back Better will save Americans money. It will provide the largest investment in affordable housing ever. It could save Americans hundreds—even more—by making prescription drugs, like insulin, cheaper. And it will take necessary and long-overdue steps to fight the climate crisis, which costs our country tens of billions each year every time hurricanes, wildfires, and floods wreak havoc across the country.

Creating jobs, lowering costs, fighting climate change, and keeping more money in people's pockets—these are the things Americans want. These are the things Americans need, and it is what Build Back Better does. We are going to continue working to get these things done before the Christmas holiday.

REMEMBERING GIL HODGES

Finally, Mr. President, I close with a bit of joyful, long-awaited news not only for Mets fans all over the world, but for Brooklynites and those who have ancestry in Brooklyn that have spread across the country.

Sunday night, the National Baseball Hall of Fame announced that, after decades of waiting, Brooklyn's wonderful Gil Hodges—one of the great defensive first basemen of his era, a long-time member of the Brooklyn and Los Angeles Dodgers, and a manager of the Mets presiding over the ''Miracle Mets'' 1969 World Series championship—has finally, finally, earned his place in Cooperstown.

Some of the earliest memories I have are listening and watching the Dodgers with my dad. Gil was an essential figure of that era—a hero of the 1955 World Series, an eight-time All-Star, three-time Golden Glove winner. I think he was the first to win the Golden Glove. He was such an amazing fielder at first base, as well as Greg Gibbons.

And what a nice guy he was. One of the highlights of my life each year was to go trick-or-treating and knock on Gil Hodges' door. Who would come out and give us candy? The great man himself while he was a Brooklyn Dodger. That was an incredible, incredible situation. And so it shows you what a nice guy he was. He is a caring guy.

As much as he was a titan of the game, he was a central part of our Brooklyn family, and we all admired the fact that he lived in Brooklyn, right near all of us. Year after year, from one decade to another, Mets fans have waited for this great player to receive Hall of Fame recognition. The wait is over. Gil is in that hall.

I congratulate Mrs. Hodges and the whole Hodges family for receiving this honor. And I want to congratulate, of course, all the other inductees in the Hall of Fame, among them many history-making, barrier-breaking athletes who have made the sport what it is today.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

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

BUILD BACK BETTER ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, the last time Washington Democrats pushed through a huge change that disrupted families' arrangements, it earned President Obama the ''Lie of the Year'' award.

Democrats insisted that if you liked your healthcare plan, you could keep your healthcare plan. It turned out that was totally false. Their reckless government takeover threw many families into chaos.

This year, many of the same Democrats want to write a sequel. They want to ram through a radical, reckless, multitrillion-dollar taxing-and-spending spree between now and Christmas. And a huge part of their bill would completely upend childcare and pre-K as they exist for families all across our country.

If you like your childcare, you can keep your childcare. Well, buckle up, parents. What could possibly go wrong?

The Democrats have written their toddler takeover in ways that would turn families' finances literally upside down and make already expensive childcare even costlier. So let's walk through how they did it.

First, their reckless taxing-and-spending spree would make childcare dramatically more expensive through an avalanche of new mandates, regulations, and micromanagement—the usual Washington, DC, routine.

State and local governments are panicking about the childcare inflation this would cause. Here in the District, as one liberal analyst uncovered, local officials have formally estimated—listen to this—that the per-child daycare cost for a toddler or an infant would jump up $12,000 a year—increase the cost of childcare $12,000 a year; $12,000 more per child per year. President Biden's inflation is coming for daycare.

That is why the other half of their clumsy scheme is to dump subsidies onto some families. They want to borrow and print even more so they can