

Awful Aspirations

March 27, 2019

A funny thing happened on the way to voting on the Democrats' Green New Deal (GND). With 'earth in the balance,' the proposal for fixing climate change — and so much more! — was granted its first procedural vote in the GOP-controlled U.S. Senate.

It failed, 0-57.

Sen. Edward Markey (D-Mass.), the Senate sponsor, along with 41 other Democrats* and independent Bernie Sanders, voted "present" to protest what he called "sabotage," claiming Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) "wants to silence your voice."

Au contraire! McConnell longed to hear Democrats sing the bill's praises — loud, proud, and on the record.

Rep. Elaine Luria, (D-Va.) echoes Pelosi: "[T]he Green New Deal is aspirational." Rep. Sean Casten, (D-Ill.) adds, "The aspirations of the Green New Deal are great."

After the vote, Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-N.Y.) absurdly made the opposite accusation: Republicans were "climate *delaying* . . . costing us lives + destroying communities."

Meanwhile, "If the Green New Deal came up for a vote in the Democrat-controlled House," *USA Today* reports, "it would have trouble passing."

"It's a list of aspirations," says Speaker Nancy Pelosi,

Don't think of the Green New Deal as a delusional wish-list for socialist authoritarians.

Think of it as a list of aspirations!



who does not plan to bring it to a vote. Though Democrats want to address climate change, the speaker points out that the "bill has many things that have nothing to do with climate."

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But is the GND something "great" to which Americans should aspire?

Only if they yearn for government-monopolized healthcare, free college tuition, micro-management of the economy, and government providing everyone a job, except those who don't want one . . . who would get a guaranteed income, regardless.

I aspire to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.

* In the Senate, three Democrats — Sens. Doug Jones (Ala.), Joe Manchin (W.Va.), and Kyrsten Sinema (Ariz.) — and independent Sen. Angus King (Maine) joined all 53 Republicans in voting No.

** All four House co-chairs of the New Democrat Coalition's Climate Change Task Force — Casten and Luria as well as Don Beyer, (D-Va.) and Susan Wild, (D-Pa.) — have come out in opposition to the GND.