

-- **IT'S WORTH NOTING:** Since assuming the top Senate leadership job after the 2016 election, Schumer has made it his leadership style to govern by consensus. Depending on how the Obamacare repeal effort plays out, this could be test for how he'll appease his frustrated left flank while not overplaying his hand.

THE JUICE ...

-- **Community Catalyst Action Fund** is launching a seven-figure TV and radio ad buy targeting Republican senators in Alaska, Maine, Nevada and West Virginia on Obamacare repeal. The TV ads, produced by GMMB, will run for the next two weeks and feature a mother whose son has chronic asthma and requires frequent trips to the doctor. The radio ad, also produced by GMMB, and digital ad component are part of the "Keep Care at Home" campaign, which is focused on Medicaid cuts, and will also include events in each state. **The TV ads** <http://bit.ly/2tglz3j> ... **The radio ad** <http://bit.ly/2seKt4W>

THE LATEST IN GEORGIA -- TOO CLOSE TO CALL: "Georgia special election hurtles toward nail-biting finish," by Steven Shepard: "As the most expensive House race in history rushes toward the finish line Tuesday, the latest public polls are unanimous: The Georgia special election between Democrat Jon Ossoff and Republican Karen Handel is too close to call. The race for the suburban Atlanta seat, closely watched for clues about the shape of the 2018 midterm elections, appears to be within a few percentage points - with perhaps the slightest edge to Ossoff, the 30-year-old Democrat seeking to wrest away a traditionally Republican seat in the first major election of Donald Trump's presidency. ... The current state of play: Of the six public polls conducted in June, Ossoff leads in five of them - and hits the 50-percent mark in each of the five - with the fifth showing a tie." <http://politi.co/2rt57uY>

-- **NYT's ALEX BURNS and JONATHAN MARTIN: "High-Stakes Referendum on Trump Takes Shape in a Georgia Special Election"** <http://nyti.ms/2rEqr50>

SUNDAY BEST, PART II -- JOHN DICKERSON speaks to **SEN. MARCO RUBIO (R-FLA.)** on **CBS'S FACE THE NATION -- DICKERSON:** "The president has called the investigations a witch hunt. What's your opinion of that?" **RUBIO:** "Well, I know he feels very strongly about it. My advice to the president is what I communicated publicly. The way I've tried to communicate to everyone on this issue. And that is this. It is in the best interest of the president and the country to have a full investigation. If I were the president, I would be welcoming this investigation. I would ask that it be thorough and completed expeditiously and be very cooperative with it. That's what

ultimately I anticipate they will do. That's in the best interest of the president. I really believe that. I think it's in the best interest of our country that we have a full-scale investigation that looks at everything so that we can move forward."

DICKERSON: "So regardless of what you may think about James Comey's firing as FBI director, you think it should be investigated?" **RUBIO:** "Well, I just think it's important to answer questions. Because otherwise, if people have any doubts, it undermines confidence in our system of government, in our elections, in our leaders. As I said, the best thing that can happen for the president and for America is that we have a full-scale investigation that is credible, that it reaches its conclusion one way or the other so that we can move on. But at the same time be knowledgeable. We have to know everything the Russians did and how they did it so that we can prevent this from happening in the future."

RUBIO talks with **CHUCK TODD** on **NBC's "MEET THE PRESS"** -- **TODD:** "The more the administration tries to soften the sanctions in the House, at any point, do you understand, if some people see that as circumstantial evidence in this probe?" **RUBIO :** "I could understand how some people would make that argument. I could also tell you though that I personally believe that at the core of the resistance is not the president. And I don't think the president himself has a problem with additional sanctions on Russia. I think the concern actually comes from the State Department and for the following reason: they argue that they are trying to get the Russians to be more cooperative on a number of fronts and that this could set us back. It's a legitimate argument, I've thought about it, I don't agree with it. And you saw the majority of my colleagues didn't agree with it this week."

POWER PLAYBOOKER - DAVID PETRAEUS to PBS NewsHour's Judy Woodruff on why Americans should support staying engaged in Afghanistan: "This is a generational struggle. This is not something that is going to be won in a few years. We're not going to take a hill, plant the flag and go home to a victory parade. We need to be there for the long haul but in a way that's sustainable. You know we've been in Korea for 65-plus years because there's an important national interest for that. We were in Europe for a very long period of time, still there of course, and actually with a renewed emphasis given Russia's aggressive actions." **Video** <http://bit.ly/2rF21IN>

**PLAYBOOK
READS**