do is go look for them—for every job in America, there are five people looking for that job. It is better than it was. Just a short time ago, it was one job for every six job applicants.

So I understand and I think the American people understand what the Republicans are doing, and I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATIONS DISCHARGED

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session and the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged en bloc of Foreign Service nominations beginning with Robin J. Brinkley Hadden and ending with Heather Louise Yorkson, which were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 24, 2010, PN1482, except for Hussein Waheed Iman; that the Senate proceed en bloc to their consideration; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc; that any statements be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate resume legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

FOREIGN SERVICE

The following named persons of the agencies indicated for appointment as Foreign Service Officers of the classes stated.

For appointment as Foreign Service Officer of Class One, Consular Officer and Secretary in the Diplomatic Service of the United States of America,

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Robin J. Brinkley Hadden, of Maryland Sharon Thams Carter, of Florida Haven G.

Cruz-Hubbard, of California Mary Pamela Foster, of Maryland Bruce

Gelband, of Virginia Mikaela Sawtelle Meredith, of Virginia

Leslie Ann Perry, of Colorado Roy

Plucknett, of Virginia Gary Robbins, of Colorado

Sarah Wright, of the District of Columbia DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Joseph Ambrose Kenny, Jr., of Maryland Eric Khant, of Florida

For appointment as Foreign Service Officer of Class Two, Consular Officer and Secretary in the Diplomatic Service of the United States of America,

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT Candace Harring Buzzard, of Washington John Joseph Cardenas, of California Holly Fluty Dempsey, of West Virginia Peter William Duffy, of Massachusetts Mustapha El Hamzaoui, of New Hampshire Rebekah R. Eubanks, of Illinois Christian William Hougen, of Virginia Sheri-Nouane Bernadette Johnson, of New York

Jonathan T. Kamin, of Maryland Karin A. Kolstrom, of Florida William C. Maclaren, of Virginia Veena Reddy, of California

DEPARTMENT OF STATE Daniel G. Brown, of Missouri Kevin A. Weishar, of Missouri For appointment as Foreign Service Officer of Class Three, Consular Officer and Secretary in the Diplomatic Service of the

retary in the Diplomatic Service of the United States of America,

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT Randolph Henri Augustin, of Georgia Shirley L. Baldwin, of Virginia Michelle M. Barrett, of Michigan James A. Berscheit, of Wyoming David M. Bogran Schrewe, of Texas Aaron S. Brownell, of Texas Leslie-Ann A. Burnette, of California Matthew Andrew Burton, of New Hampshire Tamika Cameron, of Texas Stanley A. Canton, of Maryland James Christopher Carlson, of Colorado Christina Eve Chappell, of Pennsylvania Randy Chester, of Nevada Blake A. Chrystal, of Oregon Mary R. Cobb, of Ohio Barry Collins, of New Hampshire Ananta Hans Cook, of California Bradley Cronk, of Florida Walter Doetsch, of Texas Myra Yumiko Emata-Stokes, of California Lalarukh Faiz, of Virginia Stephen Fitzpatrick, of New Hampshire Karla Inez Fossand, of Minnesota Melissa M. Francis, of Florida Stephanie James Garvey, of Texas Michael Glees, of California Garret John Harries, of Minnesota Angela Dawn Hogg, of California Cory B. Johnston, of Maine Taisha Mumtazi Jones, of the District of Columbia Michael G. Junge, of Washington Karen D. Klimowski, of California Patrick J. Kollars, of South Dakota Thomas J. Kress, of New York Ronald Jay Kryk, of Texas Christopher James La Fargue, of Louisiana Philip Lamade, of Missouri Dwaine Eriq Lee, of California Alyssa Wilson Leggoe, of New Jersey Jesse Adam Leggoe, of New Jersey Ginger Edwards Longworth, of South Carolina Leslie Marbury, of Georgia Bruce Freeman McFarland, of Washington Andrew Mckim, of California Amy B. Meyer, of California A. Aurelia Micko, of Florida Tracy Jeanne Miller, of Oregon Kerry Monaghan, of Texas Diane B. Moore, of New York Monique Mosolf, of Florida Juniper M. Neill, of Alaska Christopher D. O'Donnell, of Florida Miriam Onivogui, of Georgia Sean Joseph Osner, of Texas Geoffrey Brooks Parish, of Texas Jonathan Clayton Richter, of Florida Michael Allan Ronning, of Minnesota Michele A. Russell, of Virginia Carl Andrew Seagrave, of the District of Columbia Lorraine Sherman, of Florida Cybill Sigler, of Texas

Robert J. Simmons, of the District of Columbia

R. Christian Smith, of Nevada Poonam Smith-Sreen, of Florida Francisco Ricardo Somarriba, of Florida Sandra Anna Stajka, of Virginia Jennifer J. Tikka, of Washington Doanh Q. Van, of Washington Caroll L. Vasquez, of Virginia Jorge E. Velasco, of Maryland Stephanie Ann Wilcock, of Washington George Zarycky, of Virginia

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Anthony P. Kujawa, of Maryland Kristi J. Mietzner, of Virginia

For appointment as Foreign Service Officer of Class Four, Consular Officer and Secretary in the Diplomatic Service of the United States of America:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Jeffrey R. Allen, of the District of Columbia Todd Anderson, of Kentucky James D. Applegate, of Michigan Maha Angelina Armush, of Texas Chuka Asike, of Texas William D. Baker, of Texas Richard C. Blackwood, of Virginia Stephanie Elizabeth Boscaino, of Texas Thomas S. Brown, of Washington Christienne Carroll, of California Jeffrey John Cary, of the District of Columbia Michael G. Cathey, of California Perry Yang Chen, of Virginia Christina M. Cheshier, of Arizona Martha Ann Crunkleton, of Florida Christopher P. Curran, of New Hampshire Roberto Custodio, of Florida Gregory D'Alesandro, of Maryland Joye L. Davis-Kirchner, of Missouri Anne B. Debevoise, of California Jaffar A. Diab, of Massachusetts Christopher R. Dilworth, of Virginia David Joseph Drinkard, of Missouri Marialice Burford Eperiam, of Illinois Jason D. Evans, of Washington Kathleen Fox, of California Kathey-Lee Galvin, of Oregon Corey Matthew Gonzalez, of the District of Columbia Grant S. Guthrie, of California Anaida K. Haas, of Alaska Adam J. Hantman, of Marvland Sara Ruth Harriger, of Alaska James Holtsnider, of Iowa Aaron D. Honn, of Texas Ludovic L. Hood, of the District of Columbia Erika Lorel Hosking, of Virginia Charles L. Jarrett III, of Tennessee Hormazd J. Kanga, of Kentucky David Kristian Kvols, of Florida Felicia D. Lynch, of Florida Mika McBride, of Texas Matthew C. McNeil, of Virginia Karen N. Mims, of Pennsylvania Judith H. Monson, of New York Roshni Mona Nirody, of Alaska Sheila Sophia O'Donnell, of Illinois Juan Carlos Ospina, of Florida Benjamin Nelson Reames, of Texas Charles Wilson Ruark III, of Georgia Sarah A. Schmidt, of Maine Heidi E. Smith, of Michigan Marc Alan Snider, of Illinois Virgil B. Strohmeyer, of California Adrienne Beck Taylor, of Virginia Rebecca S. Phelps Thurmond, of Michigan Andres Valdes, of Florida Sovandara Yin, of Oregon Madelina M. Young, of Florida The following-named Members of the Foreign Service to be Consular Officers and Secretaries in the Diplomatic Service of the United States of America: DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Vince H. Suneja, of Virginia

DEPARTMENT OF STATE Kristen E. Aanstoos, of Mississippi

Kathleen Elizabeth Abner, of Maryland Hatim Nelson Ahmed, of Virginia Zia Ahmed, of Massachusetts Andrew R. Alberts, of Virginia Syed Mujtaba Andrabi, of Washington Alison Marie Ashwell, of Virginia Mark David Aubrecht, of Washington Michelle E. Azevedo, of the District of Columbia Jari D. Barnett, of Oklahoma Jacob Barrett, of Virginia Jonathan M. Barrow, of Maryland Carrie Lynn Basnight, of Kentucky Amanda K. Beck, of California Michelle Nicole Bennett, of California Andrew Berdy, of New Jersey Dustin Reeve Bickel, of Georgia Ashwin E. Bijanki, of Virginia Natalie Irene Bonjoc, of California Steven R. Bonsall, of Virginia Kathleen E. Borgess, of Virginia Ariela Borgia, of Virginia Michael D. Boven, of Michigan Benjamin Kirk Bowman, of Colorado Ryan G. Bradeen, of Maine Diedre T. Bradshaw, of Virginia Katie C. Brasic, of Virginia Steven Arthur Connett Bremner, of Minnesota Mary K. Brezin, of Colorado Matthew McMahon Briggs, of the District of Columbia Christopher M. Britton, of Maryland Sarah A. Budds, of South Carolina Evan J. Burns, of Pennsylvania John Patrick Callan, of Washington Joseph Christopher Carnes, of Ohio Melanie Rose Carter, of Illinois Christopher P. Casas, of Virginia Chris M. Celestino, of the District of Columbia. Brian M. Charmatz, of Maryland Christopher A. Chauncev, of Virginia David R. Chee, of Virginia Geoffrey Kamen Choy, of Virginia Marjorie Christian, of Virginia Heather L. Churchill, of Virginia Melanie L. Clark, of Virginia Amy Laurence Conroy, of the District of Columbia Jason A. Cook, of Virginia William R. Cook, of California William T. Coombs, of Maryland Emilio Cortes, of Virginia Gregory Roy Cowan, of Texas Christen Lane Decker, of New Hampshire Jonathan Morris Dennehy, of Massachusetts Phillip Anthony de Souza, of Maryland Jill Wisniewski Dietrich, of the District of Columbia Julia Sampson Dillard, of California Noah A. Donadieu, of Pennsylvania Melissa Ann Dorsev, of Illinois James E. Duckett, of Virginia Ruth Lillian Dowe, of New York William Echols, of Washington Jessica D. Eicher, of Colorado Jeffrey Gordon Eisen, of Wisconsin Howard E. Ennaco, of Virginia Ronald L. Etter, of Virginia Kathryn Lindsay Fisher, of Virginia Howard A. Frey, of Virginia Marc Brandon Gartner, of California Casey Thomas Getz, of Virginia Richard D. Gopaul, of Maryland Mark Ostapovych Gul, of Virginia Amanda Gunton, of New York James J. Hamblin, of Virginia Zennia D. Hancock, of New York Christine L. Harper, of Alabama Tara L. Harrison, of Utah Jennifer M. Heath, of Virginia Annaliese J. Heiligenstein, of Texas Laura Heimann, of Virginia James Michael Henry, of Massachusetts Benjamin E. Hettinga, of Virginia Michael D. Hight, of Virginia Sirli Hill, of Virginia

Duane Martin Hillegas, of Maryland Thomas Martin Hochstetler, of Virginia Ellen M. Hoffman, of Virginia Jennifer Holmes, of Utah Jacqueline Philyaw Hoskins, of Virginia Margo Marie Huennekens, of California Christian Brian Hummel, of Virginia William Hunt, Jr., of Maryland Casey Iorg, of California Jennifer J. Isakoff, of Virginia Charles L. Jewell, Jr., of Virginia Michael D. Johnstone, of Virginia Alex Jones, of Wisconsin John Boyce Jones, of Virginia Leon V. Jones II, of Virginia Lisa Kalajian, of New Jersey Marion E. Kamrani, of Ohio Ji Hong Kang, of Virginia Katherine A. Keegan, of Virginia Kathryn Kane Keeley, of the District of Columbia Alishia Kontor, of Virginia Marc N. Kroeper, of Virginia Klaudia G. Krueger, of Florida Corinne M. Kuhar, of Virginia Tammy L. Lake, of Florida Kristina Law, of Virginia Pui-Yung Law, of Virginia Michael A. Leon, of Virginia Steven Howard Lerda, of Virginia John T. Lewis, of Virginia Pierre Antoine Louis, of Florida Mike Lurie, of Virginia Matthew K. Maggard, of Virginia Andrew J. Malandrino, of Virginia Jeffrey M. Martin, of Rhode Island Leonard Frederick Martin, of Marvland Tracy L. Masuda, of Virginia Billy F. McAllister, Jr., of Virginia Bradley Thomas McGuire, of Virginia William H. McHenry II, of Virginia Charlotte I. McWilliams, of Texas Candice R. Means, of Virginia Henry Wyatt Measells IV, of Virginia Michael A. Middleton, of Virginia Amy J. Mills, of Virginia Kyle G. Mills, of Virginia Eric K. Montague, of Virginia Grant Hanley Morrow, of Pennsylvania David Jeffrey Mouritsen, of Utah Peter D. Mucha, of Virginia Amy P. Mullin, of Virginia Paul W. Neville, of the District of Columbia Albert Francisco Ofrecio, of California Jung Oh, of Virginia Stephanie Nicole Padgett, of Virginia Benjamin Parsell, of the District of Columbia Vikas C. Paruchuri, of Pennsylvania Michael Pennell, of Tennessee Severin J. Perez, of Virginia Robert A. Perls, of New Mexico Andrea Lyn Peterson, of the District of Columbia Charles Saunders Port, of Virginia Kern R. Provencio, of Virginia Michael Joseph Pryor, of California Michael G. Ramsey, of Virginia Charles Anthony Raymond, of Virginia Amy Nicole Reichert, of Colorado Anthony S. Ridgeway, of Virginia Edward Lewis Robinson III, of Maryland Seth R. Rogers, of South Carolina Jared D. Ross, of Maryland Alison Roth, of Virginia Craig Anthony Rychel, of the District of Columbia Anne G. Saunders, of Virginia Tamara L. Scott, of Maryland Timothy James Scovin, of the District of Columbia Elizabeth Sellen, of the District of Columbia Michael R. Shaw, of Virginia Roger Lanier Shields, of Virginia Craig M. Singleton, of Florida Thomas Michael Slayton, of the District of Columbia John Thomas Woodruff Slover, of Colorado

Paulette C. Small, of North Carolina Barry Daniel Smith, of Oregon Don J. Smith, of Virginia Jason A. Smith, of Virginia Scott M. Smith, of Virginia William Catlett Solley, of Virginia Michelle Sosa, of California Judith C. Spanberger, of Maryland Kenneth Sturrock, of Florida Rudranath Sudama, of Maryland Janel Lynn Sutton, of Colorado Peter J. Sweeney, of New Jersey Drew Tanzman, of California Alper A. Tunca, of the District of Columbia Tommy Vargas, of Virginia Gareth John Vaughan, of the District of Columbia Eric Vela, of Virginia Christopher Volpicelli, of Virginia John Philips Waterman, of Massachusetts Mark A. Wilkins, of Virginia Christal G. Winford, of Virginia Joanna K. Wojcik, of Virginia Hsueh-Ting Wu, of California Heather Louise Yorkston, of Maryland

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

REMEMBERING SENATOR ROBERT C. BYRD

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, the Senate has lost its most talented, dedicated, and best-informed Member about the precedents, rules, and customs of the Senate, when the distinguished President pro tempore, ROBERT BYRD, passed away to join his beloved wife Erma in the heaven he was confident existed for those who were true believers.

I had the good fortune to work closely with ROBERT BYRD as a fellow member of the Appropriations Committee for 30 years. I served as the ranking minority member when he was chairman and as chairman when he was the ranking minority member. I preferred being chairman. But I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunities to conduct the hearings, schedule the committee markups, and negotiate with our House colleagues to formulate and pass the bills that funded the departments of the executive branch, the judiciary, and the Congress.

One of the highlights of my experience with ROBERT BYRD was a trip we took to several European capitals. He was comfortable discussing our mutual interests and differences with the leaders of other nations. His mastery of European history and politics was as impressive as his well-informed understanding of American history and politics.

On one leg of our trip, Senator BYRD asked my wife Rose to come sit by him.