

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF SUSAN P. WATTERS TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 349.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The clerk will report the nomination. The bill clerk read the nomination of Susan P. Watters, of Montana, to be United States District Judge for the District of Montana.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Susan P. Watters, of Montana, to be United States District Judge for the District of Montana.

Harry Reid, Sherrod Brown, Richard J. Durbin, Christopher Murphy, Robert Menendez, Christopher A. Coons, Angus S. King, Jr., Martin Heinrich, Amy Klobuchar, Dianne Feinstein, Tom Udall, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Bernard Sanders, Barbara Boxer, Brian Schatz, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Thomas R. Carper, Benjamin L. Cardin, Michael F. Bennet.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF DEBORAH LEE JAMES TO BE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE

Mr. REID. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 358.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The clerk will report the nomination. The bill clerk read the nomination of Deborah Lee James, of Virginia, to be Secretary of the Air Force.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the

Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Deborah Lee James, of Virginia, to be Secretary of the Air Force.

Harry Reid, Sherrod Brown, Richard J. Durbin, Christopher Murphy, Robert Menendez, Christopher A. Coons, Angus S. King, Jr., Martin Heinrich, Amy Klobuchar, Dianne Feinstein, Tom Udall, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Bernard Sanders, Barbara Boxer, Brian Schatz, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Thomas R. Carper, Benjamin L. Cardin, Michael F. Bennet

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF HEATHER ANNE HIGGINBOTTOM TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE FOR MANAGEMENT AND RESOURCES

The PRESIDING OFFICER. I move to executive session to consider Calendar No. 444.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The clerk will report the nomination. The bill clerk read the nomination of Heather Anne Higginbottom, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Heather Anne Higginbottom, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources.

Harry Reid, Sherrod Brown, Richard J. Durbin, Christopher Murphy, Robert Menendez, Christopher A. Coons, Angus S. King, Jr., Martin Heinrich, Amy Klobuchar, Dianne Feinstein, Tom Udall, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Bernard Sanders, Barbara Boxer, Brian Schatz, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Thomas R. Carper, Benjamin L. Cardin, Michael F. Bennet.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ANNE W. PATTERSON TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS)

Mr. REID. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 406.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The clerk will report the nomination. The bill clerk read the nomination of Anne W. Patterson, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Career Ambassador, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Near Eastern Affairs).

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Anne W. Patterson, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Career Ambassador, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Near Eastern Affairs).

Harry Reid, Richard J. Durbin, Christopher Murphy, Robert Menendez, Christopher A. Coons, Angus S. King, Jr., Martin Heinrich, Amy Klobuchar, Benjamin L. Cardin, Dianne Feinstein, Tom Udall, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Bernard Sanders, Barbara Boxer, Brian Schatz, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Thomas R. Carper, Michael F. Bennet.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

JEH CHARLES JOHNSON TO BE SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Mr. REID. I move to proceed to consider calendar No. 450.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The clerk will report the nomination. The bill clerk read the nomination of Jeh Charles Johnson, of New Jersey, to be Secretary of Homeland Security.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the

Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Jeh Charles Johnson, of New Jersey, to be Secretary of Homeland Security.

Harry Reid, Sherrod Brown, Christopher Murphy, Robert Menendez, Christopher A. Coons, Angus S. King, Jr., Martin Heinrich, Amy Klobuchar, Dianne Feinstein, Tom Udall, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Bernard Sanders, Barbara Boxer, Brian Schatz, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Thomas R. Carper, Benjamin L. Cardin, Michael F. Bennet.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR TOBY M. WILLIFORD

• Mr. BEGICH. Madam President, I wish to pay tribute to MAJ Toby M. Williford for his exceptional dedication to duty and service to the U.S. Army and to the United States of America. Toby has served for the last 2 years as a congressional budget liaison for the Secretary of the Army and will soon depart for his next duty assignment.

A native of Hobbs, NM, Toby earned his commission from Tarleton State University in 2003. Major Williford's assignments have been diverse and include 24 months of combat experience. While a lieutenant, he served in F Company, 1-66 Armor Battalion and Headquarters and Headquarters Company 4th Forward Support Battalion as a platoon leader, executive officer, and support operations officer, both state-side and in combat during Operation Iraqi Freedom. After promotion to captain, Toby served in the 17th Combat Support Sustainment Battalion as commander of the 539th Transportation Company and deployed to Kuwait for his second combat tour.

After returning from his second deployment, Toby began his studies as an Army congressional fellow, earning a master's of professional studies in legislative affairs from the George Washington University. He was then assigned as a congressional fellow in my office in 2011. Toby was subsequently assigned as a congressional budget liaison officer in the office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Financial Management and Comptroller with responsibility for the ammunition and missile procurement portfolios. Toby advised the Army's senior leaders, fostering and strengthening the relationship between Congress and the U.S. Army.

Major Williford's leadership throughout his career has positively impacted his peers and superiors, soldiers and civilians alike. As a congressional budget liaison officer, he worked directly with the House and Senate Appropriations

Committees to educate and inform Representatives, Senators, and staff about the diverse and important ammunition and missile procurement initiatives of the U.S. Army.

On behalf of a grateful nation, I join my colleagues today in recognizing and commending MAJ Toby M. Williford for over a decade of active service to his country in the U.S. Army. We wish Toby, his wife Amanda, and their four children, Addison, Aubrey, Tate, and Alyssa, all the best as they continue their journey of service to our great Nation.●

WITNESSES TO HUNGER

• Mr. CASEY. Madam President, I stand today to recognize the 5-year anniversary of Witnesses to Hunger. Launched in 2008, Witnesses to Hunger is a research and advocacy project founded by the Center for Hunger-Free Communities at Drexel University in Philadelphia, PA.

In 2008, Dr. Mariana Chilton provided cameras to 42 single-parent women in Philadelphia, simply asking that they use them to take pictures to tell us about their lives and their children. These women, seeing the opportunity to spread awareness and create change, accepted Dr. Chilton's challenge and started documenting the poverty and hunger that they face on a daily basis. Their photographs provide a window into the lives of mothers who understand the challenges of raising a family on a limited income.

Since inception this project has grown, expanding throughout Pennsylvania and the country. Over the last 5 years, the Witnesses have grown by more than 29 participants. By encouraging advocacy and community engagement, Witnesses to Hunger has empowered mothers in cities across the country by uniting their voices. Living it each day, these remarkable mothers understand the trials of hunger and raising a family more than anyone else. These powerful photographs serve to start a dialogue and bring much needed attention to the issues that impact their lives daily.

Photography is an opportunity for these women to share their lives with others. I had the privilege of bringing the Witnesses to Hunger's exhibit to Capitol Hill in Washington DC, the State Capital in Harrisburg, PA and to several other cities within the Commonwealth. I am humbled to have played a small part in sharing the stories of their lives. These women have begun a movement that has inspired countless others and will inspire many more yet to come. They inspire me and challenge me to do more in the Senate. I am incredibly grateful for the guidance they provide. We need more projects like Witnesses to Hunger to continue to raise awareness of the struggles that everyday mothers go through to raise a family in communities across the country.●

TRIBUTE TO PATRICIA E. GRANT

• Mr. INHOFE. Madam President, I wish to honor the life of Patricia E. Grant, a Hall of Fame golfer, a commended veteran, and a woman some have called "the type of American our country needs to look up to."

Born March 12, 1921, her family moved to Cushing, OK, where Pat won the Oklahoma State High School Golf Championship as a 13-year old freshman, repeating the win three times before her high school graduation. While attending Oklahoma Baptist University, where she received a scholarship in exchange for teaching golf to fellow students, Pat won the Women's Oklahoma Golf Association State Amateur Championship four times and was the first female to be inducted into the OBU Athletic Hall of Fame. In 1946, she became the only person in history to win the contest 5 years in a row, and even went on to a sixth win in 1949. Ultimately, Pat won golf tournaments all over the world and was inducted into the Women's Oklahoma Golf Hall of Fame in April 2010.

When World War II broke out, Pat enlisted in the U.S. Army, alongside her sister Mary Margaret. Pat held many assignments across the globe, including that of assisting the chief legal counsel during the Nuremberg Trials. She received 23 letters of commendation while in the Army, and retired after 22 years of active duty with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, one of only 60 women to attain the rank at the time.

Not quite ready for retirement, Pat earned her law degree in 1966 and practiced family law in Texas for 30 years. She was named Woman of the Year by the Texas Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs in 1972 as a result of her service.

After retiring for good in 1995, Pat remained active, playing golf into her 70s, learning how to belly dance, and piloting an ultralight aircraft every Saturday morning. She passed away November 26, 2013, greatly loved by friends and family.

Mr. President, I ask that you join me today in celebrating the life of Pat Grant.●

AGREEMENT ON SOCIAL SECURITY BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE SWISS CONFEDERATION, CONSISTING OF A PRINCIPAL AGREEMENT AND AN ADMINISTRATIVE AGREEMENT—PM 25

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with accompanying reports and papers; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to section 233(e)(1) of the Social Security Act, as amended by the Social Security Amendments of 1977 (Public Law 95-216, 42 U.S.C. 433(e)(1)),