

NAYS—35

Barrasso	Graham	Portman
Blunt	Grassley	Risch
Burr	Heller	Roberts
Chambliss	Hoeven	Rubio
Coburn	Inhofe	Scott
Cochran	Isakson	Sessions
Cornyn	Johanns	Shelby
Crapo	Johnson (WI)	Thune
Cruz	Lee	Toomey
Enzi	McCain	Vitter
Fischer	Moran	Wicker
Flake	Paul	

NOT VOTING—3

Boozman	Coats	McConnell
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THE PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote the yeas are 62, the nays are 35. The motion is agreed to.

Pursuant to the provisions of S. Res. 15 of the 113th Congress, there will be up to 8 hours postclosure consideration of the nomination equally divided in the usual form.

The Senator from Florida.

D-DAY

MR. NELSON. Madam President, I wish to call to the attention of the Senate the fact that there is a three-dimensional film I had the pleasure of seeing at the Air and Space Museum theater about one of the largest and obviously most successful military invasions in the history of the planet, and that was 70 years ago on June 6, 1944, what is known as D-day. The film is narrated by Tom Brokaw. He is a natural because he is well known for having written the book “The Greatest Generation” about the people who fought in World War II.

The timeliness of this documentary film is fitting in that as we go from one generation to the next, the stories told by grandfathers and great-grandfathers to their children are not necessarily being told to the next and younger generation. This film captivates in 3-D the plans, the operation, the logistics, and the enormity of the task of taking back continental Europe from Hitler’s armies and how we drove that by going onto the beaches at Normandy with our partners, the Canadians, the Brits, the French, and how it was done painfully, with a lot of loss of life, particularly on Omaha Beach—there was a lot less resistance on Utah Beach—and how the participants with us from those other nations met similar and withering fire, as they stormed on the beaches as well the night before the paratroopers dropped.

I remember when I was a young Congressman sitting at the knee of Congressman Sam Gibbons of Tampa, FL, and he would tell us about the little clickers called crickets as the paratroopers dropped in, many of them because of a mistaken landing where they landed and drowned in areas that had been flooded by the Germans.

But those who survived and then tried to regroup in the dark of night, you would determine when you ran into somebody in the dark if they were friend or foe by this little clicker. We call them crickets. You click it and it sounds like a cricket. If they clicked two times and the response was back,

they knew they were friends; otherwise, they had to protect their life.

Those are the stories that are not made up. They are real. These are the stories of the British pilots in gliders. How in the world, in the dark of night, could they bring those gliders in, landing them safely, getting out with those troops to go and secure the Pegasus Bridge which was a critical crossing point that had to be taken from the Germans?

Story after story, how next to Omaha Beach where the fires were, bloody, how to the south of it was this cliff rising straight out with these enormous German guns on top of it, and how the U.S. Army Rangers scaled those rock cliffs straight up and then took on and silenced the German guns.

These are the stories we do not want to lose from one generation to another. So this film in 3-D, narrated by Tom Brokaw, I want to commend to the Senate family. It will be shown around the country now that it has opened on the west coast and here. It is a wonderful educational lesson of American history, of how we turned back an invader that was trying to change the world. Therefore, we were able to keep America free, as well as our allies. I commend it to the Senate.

I yield the floor and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

MR. NELSON. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

MORENO CONFIRMATION

MRS. FEINSTEIN. Madam President, I come to the floor to congratulate Justice Carlos Moreno on his confirmation as U.S. Ambassador to Belize.

Justice Moreno has served on the Federal district court in Los Angeles and the California Supreme Court with distinction. I am confident he will continue to proudly serve his country as our Nation’s representative to Belize.

I have strongly supported Justice Moreno’s nomination because I know him very well. He has a powerful intellect. He has a good heart, and he has sound judgment.

The son of Mexican immigrants, Justice Moreno grew up in East Los Angeles. He was the first in his family to graduate from college, attending Yale on a scholarship and graduating in 1979. He earned his law degree from Stanford Law School in 1975.

He then worked at the city attorney’s office, in private practice, and as a judge at two levels of our State’s judicial system.

In 1997, I recommended him to President Clinton for appointment to the district court in Los Angeles.

I knew then that he was a “ten,” and I was very proud to introduce him to my colleagues on the Judiciary Committee and to support his nomination on the floor of the Senate at that time.

In fact, I was not the only member to speak on Justice Moreno’s behalf on the floor. Senator HATCH did so. Senator LEAHY did so. And he was confirmed 96-0.

The reason is, to quote a letter from then-Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block, that Justice Moreno “is an extremely hard working individual of impeccable character and integrity.”

In 2001, Justice Moreno was appointed by Governor Gray Davis to serve on the Supreme Court of California.

I was sorry to see him leave the Federal district court, but I knew Governor Davis had chosen an outstanding individual to serve on our State’s highest court.

Anyone who has followed California law since then knows that Justice Moreno served with great distinction, writing with a clarity and passion that served as an inspiration to our State.

In 2008, I invited him to serve on my bipartisan Judicial Advisory Committee in Los Angeles. I use these committees to advise me on whom to recommend to the President for seats on the U.S. district courts.

Over the last 6 years, I have come to rely on Justice Moreno’s fine judgment and sound advice in making these important appointments.

Unfortunately, his nomination to be an ambassador meant that that Justice Moreno had to leave my Judicial Advisory Committee behind.

I will miss his advice on judicial appointments a great deal. But I believe very strongly that Justice Moreno’s record shows he has the intellect, judgment, compassion, and temperament to serve our Nation very well as an ambassador.

I am very pleased my colleagues agreed to confirm Moreno’s nomination. He is certain to make us very proud.

MARSHWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

MS. COLLINS. Madam President, I rise today to recognize the impressive performance of students from Marshwood High School in South Berwick, ME, at the 27th annual “We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution” National Finals. These students, who are members of Marshwood’s Advanced Placement U.S. Government and Politics class, earned first place for the Northeast Region during this competition that tested their knowledge of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. I am so proud of them as I know how

hard they worked to achieve this ranking.

Under the direction of their dedicated and talented teacher, Mr. Matt Sanzone, the class spent the school year studying the history and principles of American democracy in preparation for the competition. Each student developed a broad understanding of the Constitution. The class also divided into smaller units to analyze in depth specific constitutional concepts.

The Marshwood team met its first challenge in March when it won the State-level competition and earned the right to represent Maine in the National Finals. Through simulated Congressional hearings, they demonstrated their knowledge of the Constitution before a panel of Maine Supreme Judicial Court justices, constitutional scholars, lawyers, and public officials.

The team's keen interest in our democracy serves as an example to other students in Maine and around the country. I know that these students will use the lessons they have learned in the classroom and in competition to guide them throughout their lives, to inspire others, and to be grateful for the rights and freedoms we enjoy as Americans. I congratulate these talented students from Maine on their extraordinary achievement.

TRIBUTE TO EDWARD BLAU

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, I rise along with my colleague, the ranking member of the Budget Committee, Senator SESSIONS, to pay tribute to Edward Blau, who is retiring at the end of this month after more than 32 years of distinguished service to the Congress at the Congressional Budget Office.

Since joining CBO's Scorekeeping Unit in 1982, Mr. Blau has worked side by side with the Budget Committee, helping us keep track of the status of legislation and committee allocations. As an all around expert on budget process and the Congress, Mr. Blau has been invaluable in helping the Budget Committee execute our responsibilities to the Senate.

Mr. Blau is well-regarded by both Democrats and Republicans for his tireless and diligent work—as well as his patient and easygoing manner. His attention to detail includes reviewing each and every Congressional Record to ensure that the database he maintains to help us with managing the Senate budget process is up-to-date at all times. It is an incredibly important task and one that we are grateful to Mr. Blau for his help in overseeing the past three decades.

In short, Mr. Blau exemplifies CBO's high standard of professionalism, objectivity, and nonpartisanship. In fact, he twice has received the CBO Director's Award, the agency's highest recognition for outstanding performance.

As chairman, I greatly appreciate the sacrifice that Mr. Blau has made in assisting the Budget Committee and the Congress. I wish him well in his future

endeavors, including, as I understand it, a plan to spend more time following in person his beloved Nationals—the other Washington baseball team.

I would like to now turn to my colleague, Senator SESSIONS, for his remarks.

Mr. SESSIONS. I thank Chairman MURRAY and join her in commanding Mr. Blau for his many years of dedicated and outstanding service to CBO, the Congress, and the American people. We wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement.

We hope our colleagues will join us in thanking Mr. Blau—and really all of the hardworking employees at the Congressional Budget Office—for his and their service.

BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION ANNIVERSARY

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, on May 17, 1954, U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren delivered the unanimous ruling in the landmark civil rights case Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas. The Court declared segregation of public schools unconstitutional under the equal protection guaranteed by the 14th amendment. In delivering the opinion, Chief Justice Warren stated that "in the field of public education the doctrine of 'separate but equal' has no place. Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal." May 17, 2014, marks the 60th anniversary of the Supreme Court's landmark decision. This historic ruling began our great Nation down a path toward providing all children with equal access to education.

Education is a basic human right, and all students deserve equal access to education. I would like to acknowledge the courageous students who attended desegregated schools during the years following the ruling on Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas. African-American students in the South endured verbal and physical abuse just for attending school. Their actions to attend desegregated schools not only demonstrate their remarkable bravery but also the importance of education.

Equal protection under the law is a fundamental right in our country. No one should suffer discrimination because of their race, religion, national origin, age, sex, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity. Whether applying for a job, finding a home, eating in a restaurant, or attending school, we must ensure all citizens are treated fairly and equally. To me, the fight for equality is a fight for what it means to be American. That is why the 60th anniversary of the Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas, decision is so important. May 17, 1954, was a momentous day for the civil rights movement and moved America a step closer toward justice and equality for all.

Sixty years later, thanks to the Supreme Court's decision, students from all walks of life are guaranteed equal

access to public schools. Yet there is still more work to be done. Although 60 years have passed since the Court declared separate is never equal, many schools across our country remain divided by race and socioeconomic status. A child's access to a world-class education should not be determined by their ZIP code or parents' income. So, as our country reflects on the historic importance of the decision in Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas, we must also look to the future, to continue the fight to ensure all children, regardless of race, have equal access to high quality education.

STRONG START FOR AMERICA'S CHILDREN ACT

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam President, the question is not whether but how best to make early childhood education available to the largest number of children.

The approach that I am offering is quite different than the Democratic proposal.

Last year this time around, the Senate HELP Committee held a markup on another bill which was the Senate Democrats' proposal to reauthorize No Child Left Behind.

I said then that over the last decade, the combination of No Child Left Behind, Race to the Top, and the Obama administration's use of waivers has created a congestion of Federal mandates and rules that amount, in effect, to a national school board for elementary and secondary education.

The proposal that the HELP committee approved last year on a partisan vote would have "doubled down" on those mandates by setting performance standards, giving the Secretary of Education the authority to tell 100,000 public schools what their standards and tests should look like, how to measure their students' progress, and how to evaluate their teachers. And I said, then too, that if we wanted anyone to serve as chairman of the national school board, Arne Duncan would be a terrific one but Congress has said repeatedly that we don't want a national school board.

Unfortunately, the bill that Senate Democrats are proposing today has a familiar ring to it. It would, in effect, create a national school board for 3- and 4-year-olds.

It would spend \$27 billion in new funding over 5 years with Washington making the decisions about how States should run their preschool programs.

For example, it includes a lot of requirements for States that I don't think the Federal Government has ever even attempted with elementary and secondary education, such as: determining teacher salaries—that all preschool teachers be paid at a rate that is comparable to K-12 school teachers; class sizes, student-teacher ratios—class sizes can't be larger than 20 children, the ratio of students to teachers may be no higher than 10 to 1; length of