

now the Federal Government is charging people who try to get an education 6 percent, 8 percent, 10 percent, 12 percent, and even higher on student loans. We have a very straightforward bill that would bring the interest rate down, put money back in people's pockets, and give people who are just trying to get a fair shot a real opportunity to build an economic future.

Mr. DURBIN. I will ask the last question through the Chair. So yesterday—so everybody can understand what happened—there was a threatened Republican filibuster to stop us from even debating this bill, and in order to stop the filibuster and begin debating the bill so 25 million students could get a lower interest rate on the student loans, we needed 60 votes on the floor. We had all the Democrats and only three Republicans—Senator COLLINS of Maine, Senator CORKER of Tennessee, and Senator MURKOWSKI of Alaska—prepared to vote. No other Republican Senator would join us in starting the debate on lowering the interest rate on student loans.

We need two more Republican Senators to join those three Republicans so we can start bringing relief to student borrowers all across the United States.

Is that where we stand today?

Ms. WARREN. That is exactly where we stand today. We are just two votes shy. What we know now is how the Republicans have voted. So now it is up to all of us to get two more Republicans to agree to just let us bring this bill to the floor. Just let us have the debate. Just let us have the vote.

Mr. DURBIN. I thank the Senator from Massachusetts for her leadership on this important issue.

Madam President, what is the order of business on the floor?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There is 3 minutes remaining prior to the Senate proceeding to executive session.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I will follow up on the dialogue I just had with Senator WARREN.

These are issues that really hit home for families. We have had four issues on the floor of the Senate in the last several months which really define the difference between the political parties.

The Democrats have argued and urged that we extend unemployment benefits for the long-term unemployed in America so they can find work, save their homes, pay their utility bills, and have a cell phone to go look for work. Unfortunately, we didn't have enough support on the other side of the aisle when it came to extending unemployment benefits.

The next issue was to raise the minimum wage—which we have not done for a long time—so that those who are struggling—primarily women—will have a basic minimum wage so they can get by from paycheck to paycheck. Many of us believe that if you are willing to get up and go to work every morning, you should not live in poverty in America.

The third issue was gender equality. If my daughter and my son work the same job, they should get the same paycheck. There should not be discrimination against women. Republicans opposed us on that.

Now comes the fourth issue: renegotiating college student loans so that some 40 million student loan borrowers across America have a chance to pay less interest on their student loans, their monthly payments would go down, and they would be able to pay off their loans sooner so they could get on with their lives. We could only get 3 Republicans out of 45 to join us in an effort to start the debate on the bill yesterday, so we fell short. We needed two Republican Senators to join Senator WARREN, myself, and others—Senator FRANKEN of Minnesota and Senator REED of Rhode Island—to join us in initiating this conversation.

I say to my Republican colleagues, when you go home this weekend, try to find some college students and their families and engage them in this conversation. You will find what we found out on the Democratic side. If you listen to working families who are struggling to put their kids through school, they will tell you they need help. We offered help yesterday, but we fell short by two Republican votes.

I hope the Republican filibuster will be overturned next week when we return.

I yield the floor.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF LAEL BRAINARD TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

NOMINATION OF JEROME H. POWELL TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

NOMINATION OF STANLEY FISCHER TO BE VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nominations of Lael Brainard, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Jerome H. Powell, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and Stanley Fischer,

of New York, to be Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Lael Brainard, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System?

Mr. HELLER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. McCASKILL), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 61, nays 31, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 189 Ex.]

YEAS—61

Alexander	Hagan	Murphy
Baldwin	Harkin	Murray
Begich	Hatch	Nelson
Bennet	Heinrich	Portman
Blumenthal	Heitkamp	Pryor
Booker	Hirono	Reed
Brown	Johanns	Reid
Cantwell	Johnson (SD)	Schatz
Cardin	Kaine	Schumer
Carper	King	Shaheen
Casey	Kirk	Stabenow
Collins	Klobuchar	Tester
Coons	Landrieu	Udall (CO)
Corker	Leahy	Udall (NM)
Crapo	Levin	Walsh
Donnelly	Manchin	Warner
Durbin	Markey	Warren
Feinstein	McCain	Whitehouse
Flake	Menendez	Wyden
Franken	Mikulski	
Gillibrand	Murkowski	

NAYS—31

Ayotte	Grassley	Rubio
Barrasso	Heller	Sanders
Blunt	Hoeben	Scott
Boozman	Inhofe	Sessions
Coats	Isakson	Shelby
Coburn	Johnson (WI)	Thune
Cornyn	Lee	Toomey
Cruz	McConnell	Vitter
Enzi	Paul	Wicker
Fischer	Risch	
Graham	Roberts	

NOT VOTING—8

Boxer	Cochran	Moran
Burr	McCaskill	Rockefeller
Chambliss	Merkley	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Jerome H. Powell, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System?

Mr. COATS. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HEITKAMP). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 67, nays 24, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 190 Ex.]

YEAS—67

Alexander	Hagan	Murray
Baldwin	Harkin	Nelson
Begich	Hatch	Portman
Bennet	Heinrich	Pryor
Blumenthal	Heitkamp	Reed
Booker	Hirono	Reid
Brown	Isakson	Schatz
Cantwell	Johanns	Schumer
Cardin	Johnson (SD)	Sessions
Carper	Johnson (WI)	Shaheen
Casey	Kaine	Shelby
Coats	King	Stabenow
Coburn	Kirk	Tester
Collins	Klobuchar	Udall (CO)
Coons	Landrieu	Udall (NM)
Corker	Leahy	Walsh
Donnelly	Levin	Warner
Durbin	Manchin	Warren
Feinstein	Markley	Whitehouse
Flake	Menendez	Wicker
Franken	Mikulski	Wyden
Gillibrand	Murkowski	
Grassley	Murphy	

NAYS—24

Ayotte	Fischer	Paul
Barrasso	Graham	Risch
Blunt	Heller	Roberts
Boozman	Hoeven	Rubio
Cornyn	Inhofe	Sanders
Crapo	Lee	Scott
Cruz	McCain	Thune
Enzi	McConnell	Vitter

NOT VOTING—9

Boxer	Cochran	Moran
Burr	McCaskill	Rockefeller
Chambliss	Merkley	Toomey

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Stanley Fischer, of New York, to be Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System?

Mr. COATS. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER),

the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER), and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 63, nays 24, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 191 Ex.]

YEAS—63

Alexander	Franken	Menendez
Baldwin	Gillibrand	Mikulski
Begich	Hagan	Murkowski
Bennet	Harkin	Murphy
Blumenthal	Hatch	Murray
Booker	Heinrich	Portman
Brown	Heitkamp	Pryor
Cantwell	Hirono	Reed
Cardin	Isakson	Reid
Carper	Johanns	Schatz
Casey	Johnson (SD)	Schumer
Coats	Johnson (WI)	Shaheen
Coburn	Kaine	Stabenow
Collins	King	Tester
Coons	Kirk	Udall (CO)
Corker	Klobuchar	Udall (NM)
Cornyn	Landrieu	Walsh
Donnelly	Leahy	Warner
Durbin	Levin	Warren
Feinstein	Manchin	Wicker
Flake	Markley	Wyden

NAYS—24

Ayotte	Grassley	Roberts
Barrasso	Heller	Rubio
Blunt	Hoeven	Sanders
Boozman	Inhofe	Scott
Crapo	Lee	Sessions
Cruz	McConnell	Shelby
Enzi	Paul	Thune
Fischer	Risch	Vitter

NOT VOTING—13

Boxer	McCain	Rockefeller
Burr	McCaskill	Toomey
Chambliss	Merkley	Whitehouse
Cochran	Moran	
Graham	Nelson	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, with respect to the nominations just confirmed, the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

VOTE EXPLANATION

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I was unable to attend the rollcall votes on the following nominations: Crystal Nix-Hines to be Ambassador to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization; Lael Brainard to be a member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; Jerome H. Powell to be a member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; and Stanley Fischer to be Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. Had I been present for these votes, I would have voted aye. •

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume legislative session.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

Ms. WARREN. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. WARREN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR JIM BUNNING

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I rise to pay tribute to a great friend of mine and a friend of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, former Senator Jim Bunning. Jim has been an inspiration to Kentuckians for decades in many different roles—as a public servant, a man of integrity, a devoted father of 9 children, grandfather of 35, and a great-grandfather of 12, with 1 more on the way. But few public servants or family men can also claim to be in the Baseball Hall of Fame. Jim Bunning can, for his extraordinary Major League pitching career with the Detroit Tigers and with the Philadelphia Phillies.

With Father's Day approaching this weekend, I thought it appropriate to remember what Jim Bunning accomplished on Father's Day 1964. The date was June 21, and in front of his wife Mary, his eldest daughter Barbara, and more than 32,000 cheering fans, Jim Bunning delivered the perfect Father's Day gift by pitching a perfect game.

Let me take a moment to explain, for those who do not spend their youth playing baseball and collecting baseball cards as some of us did, what pitching a perfect game means and why it is such a legendary feat. To pitch a perfect game, a pitcher must pitch a full nine innings without allowing a batter to get on base for any reason—no hits, no walks, no hits by a pitch, and no errors. Twenty-seven batters must step to the plate and all 27 must sit down. It is an achievement that has been accomplished only 23 times in more than 135 years of Major League Baseball history—23 times in the history of Major League Baseball.

At the time Jimmy's pitching perfection was only the seventh perfect game in Major League Baseball history. It was the first perfect game in regular season play in more than 42 years and the first in the National League since 1880. As the Philadelphia Phillies were the visitors against the New York Mets, it was also the first-ever perfect game pitched in Shea Stadium.

Jimmy's day started as did any other Sunday. He went to 9 a.m. Mass and