

the utmost confidence in her abilities, talent, and competence for the job. The ABA agreed—they gave her their highest rating of unanimously well-qualified.

I thank Senator REID for being so prompt in scheduling this vote. I also thank Senator LEAHY for his expeditious movement of her nomination through the Judiciary Committee.

I have had the opportunity to recommend several judicial nominees for our district and appellate courts. I take my “advise and consent” responsibilities very seriously. When I consider nominees for the Federal bench, I have four criteria: absolute integrity; judicial competence and temperament; a commitment to core constitutional principles; and a history of civic engagement in Maryland. I expect our recommendations to not only meet these criteria but to exceed them, as Ms. Harris surely does. She has dedicated her career to the rule of law, achieving equal justice under the law and the perfection of appellate advocacy. She is truly an outstanding nominee.

Ms. Harris’s career spans academia, private practice, and government. But there has always been a common thread of public service. We are proud to say that she is “home-grown”—although born in Connecticut, she has called Maryland home since she was a child, eventually graduating from Walt Whitman High School in Bethesda, MD. She went on to Yale where she received her bachelor’s degree *summa cum laude* as well as her law degree. After completing a clerkship on the D.C. Circuit, Ms. Harris went on to clerk for Justice Stevens on the Supreme Court. She has served at the Department of Justice Office of Legal Counsel and at the Office of Legal Policy under two different administrations. She also spent 10 years appearing regularly before the Supreme Court while counsel and then partner at O’Melveny & Myers, taking on some of the most complex issues of our time.

Ms. Harris also has a distinguished career in academia as a Professor at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, co-director of the Harvard Appellate Practice Clinic, and later, at Georgetown, where she is today. At Georgetown she serves as executive director of the Supreme Court Institute, preparing litigants—first come, first served—and regardless of their position—for arguments before the Court. But Ms. Harris remained connected to Maryland, whether it was a pro bono appellate clinic at O’Melveny to work with Maryland’s public defender or an amicus brief in major litigation involving Montgomery County Public Schools.

Ms. Harris has a commitment to the legal profession that is unmatched. It shows in the students that she has taught, the litigants that she has prepared, the briefs that she has written, and the pro bono service that she has rendered. She has risen to the highest

levels of her education and career. Yet she has seen people in her life confront adversity and she knows the impact that the law has on people’s daily lives. I believe it is this which contributes to her very humble nature. She believes that the Court is a place for justice and not a stepping stone. Ms. Harris continues to give back to the community, serving on the board of trustees at her children’s school, and also to legal scholarship, as a member of the board of directors for the American Constitution Society and the Constitutional Accountability Center.

So I am so honored to be here today to support her nomination. I ask that you all join me in doing the same. It is critical that we have judges with commitment to public service, civic engagement, and the rule of law. And we have that in none other than Pamela Harris.

Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I would just like to again ask unanimous consent to be recognized for 1 additional minute following the Senator from Maryland being recognized for 4 additional minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Ms. MIKULSKI. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, all postcloture time is expired.

The question occurs on agreeing to the motion to proceed to S. 2569.

The motion was agreed to.

BRING JOBS HOME ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2569) to provide an incentive for businesses to bring jobs back to America.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

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 Pamela Harris, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Barbara A. Mikulski, Benjamin L. Cardin, Thomas R. Carper, Sheldon Whitehouse, Christopher A. Coons, Bernard Sanders, Dianne Feinstein, Mazie Hirono, Richard Blumenthal, Amy Klobuchar, Edward J. Markey, Tom Harkin, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Christopher Murphy, Cory A. Booker.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Pamela Harris, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the

Fourth Circuit shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BARR), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS).

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 54, nays 41, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 241 Ex.]

YEAS—54

Baldwin	Hagan	Nelson
Begich	Harkin	Pryor
Bennet	Heinrich	Reed
Blumenthal	Heitkamp	Reid
Booker	Hirono	Rockefeller
Boxer	Johnson (SD)	Sanders
Brown	Kaine	Schatz
Cantwell	King	Schumer
Cardin	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Carper	Leahy	Stabenow
Casey	Levin	Tester
Collins	Markey	Udall (CO)
Coons	McCaskill	Udall (NM)
Donnelly	Menendez	Walsh
Durbin	Merkley	Warner
Feinstein	Mikulski	Warren
Franken	Murphy	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Murray	Wyden

NAYS—41

Alexander	Graham	McConnell
Ayotte	Grassley	Murkowski
Barrasso	Hatch	Paul
Blunt	Heller	Portman
Boozman	Hoeben	Risch
Coats	Inhofe	Rubio
Cochran	Isakson	Scott
Corker	Johanns	Sessions
Cornyn	Johnson (WI)	Shelby
Crapo	Kirk	Thune
Cruz	Landrieu	Toomey
Enzi	Lee	Vitter
Fischer	Manchin	Wicker
Flake	McCain	

NOT VOTING—5

Burr	Coburn	Roberts
Chambliss	Moran	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote the yeas are 54, the nays are 41. The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF PAMELA HARRIS TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

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

The assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Pamela Harris, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit.

**NOMINATION OF LISA S. DISBROW
TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
OF THE AIR FORCE**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the clerk will report the Disbrow nomination.

The assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Lisa S. Disbrow, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Would it be appropriate at this time to yield back the 2 minutes of time? I ask unanimous consent to do that.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Lisa S. Disbrow, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force?

The nomination was confirmed.

**NOMINATION OF VICTOR M.
MENDEZ TO BE DEPUTY SEC-
RETARY OF TRANSPORTATION**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the Mendez nomination.

The assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Victor M. Mendez, of Arizona, to be Deputy Secretary of Transportation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Victor M. Mendez to be Deputy Secretary of Transportation?

The nomination was confirmed.

**NOMINATION OF PETER M.
ROGOFF TO BE UNDER SEC-
RETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
FOR POLICY**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the Rogoff nomination.

The assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Peter M. Rogoff, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Peter M. Rogoff, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy?

The nomination was confirmed.

**NOMINATION OF BRUCE ANDREWS
TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF
COMMERCE**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the Andrews nomination.

The assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Bruce Andrews, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of Commerce.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Bruce Andrews to be Deputy Secretary of Commerce?

The nomination was confirmed.

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

**NOMINATION OF PAMELA HARRIS
TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT
JUDGE FOR THE FOURTH CIR-
CUIT—Continued**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wisconsin.

WILDFIRE MANAGEMENT

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam President, we have an opportunity to address an issue of concern to foresting communities in Wisconsin and across the Nation in the emergency supplemental appropriations bill now pending before Congress.

The supplemental addresses a number of very urgent issues. The issue of unaccompanied minors who are crossing our southern border has rightly received much attention and there is, indeed, a crisis. I believe Congress must pass a supplemental appropriations bill to help address this humanitarian crisis.

This afternoon I wish to call attention to another emergency that Congress must address: extreme wildfires and the dysfunctional way the Federal Government manages our firefighting operations.

Devastating wildfires are raging in Washington and Oregon States, and many other States have felt the heart-breaking impact of major forest fire destruction. As I presided earlier today, I heard the two Senators from Washington State come to the floor and talk about the devastation the wildfires in their State are causing and the bravery of citizens who are facing these destructive fires. It is why I am pleased Appropriations Committee Chairwoman MIKULSKI has drafted an emergency supplemental appropriations bill that includes \$615 million for wildfire suppression. I thank her for her tremendous leadership in putting together a strong bill, and I urge Congress to take up and pass this legislation without delay to provide much needed support to these suffering communities.

But it is not just Western States that feel the impact of wildfires. In fact, a State such as Wisconsin is hurt very significantly by a broken budget process called fire borrowing. It forces the U.S. Forest Service to take funding intended to manage our forests and instead use it for wildfire suppression. In fact, fire borrowing is a misnomer. The money is never paid back. This cripples the U.S. Forest Service and diverts critical funding from my home State and many others.

In Wisconsin, over 50,000 people are employed in the forest products industry, from jobs in forestry and logging to paper makers in the State's many

mills. The industry pays over \$3 billion in wages into the State's economy and ships products worth over \$17 billion each year.

Unfortunately, fire borrowing has led to long project delays that are impacting this vital industry and jeopardizing the jobs which it supports.

The practice of fire borrowing has increased in recent years, triggered when we have a bad fire season and the Forest Service runs out of funds available for firefighting. When the firefighting funding is gone, the agency transfers funds from other parts of its budget and borrows them to pay for the fire suppression. When these funds are diverted, agency work is simply put on hold.

No business owner would select a supplier who couldn't provide a clear delivery schedule or who would routinely delay delivery of products for undetermined amounts of time. Loggers and other local businesses that partner with the Forest Service have to deal with just such uncertainty because of fire borrowing. Government can work better than this.

Fortunately, the Senate emergency supplemental appropriations bill would solve this broken process by treating the largest fires as other natural disasters such as hurricanes or tornadoes, and it would stabilize the rest of the Forest Service budget so that other essential work, ranging from timber sales to the management of forest health, can be completed on schedule.

Furthermore, the proposal is fiscally responsible, because it would help reduce long-term costs by allowing for increased fire prevention activities and because it would not increase the amount that Congress can spend on natural disasters.

Ending fire borrowing has strong bipartisan support. In fact, over 120 Members of the House and Senate, and more than 200 groups ranging from the timber industry to conservation groups, to the National Rifle Association, support the Wildfire Disaster Funding Act—the bipartisan bill that contains the fire borrowing fix included in the supplemental. The consensus is we need to get this fix done this year.

While there is strong bipartisan support for ending fire borrowing, it is unclear if the House of Representatives is going to support this fix in the supplemental appropriations bill that is being considered now. In fact, my friend, the House Budget Committee chairman PAUL RYAN, has consistently stood in the way of bipartisan solutions offered in both the House and the Senate. He has ignored the fact that the current budget structure is flawed and has resulted in the Forest Service taking the forest management funding Wisconsin's forests rely upon and instead using it to fight wildfires.

As his Republican House colleague Representative MIKE SIMPSON recently pointed out:

Unfortunately, continuing the status quo, as Chairman Ryan advocates, prevents us