

of Information and Regulatory Affairs at the U.S. Office of Management and Budget and, for 1 year, as the Associate General Counsel for Rules and Legislation at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. She served for 2 years as a law clerk to Judge J. Owen Forrester of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia. She received her BA degree from Davidson College in North Carolina—an outstanding institution—and her law degree from Emory University, which is one of the most renowned law schools in the United States of America.

She is a great lady and a great lawyer. She was named to the Court of Appeals in Georgia by Gov. Nathan Deal, the current Governor of the State, and will serve us in the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals with honor and privilege in the United States of America.

Most importantly, on a personal note, as I make these remarks, I am sure my father, Ed Isakson, and his best friend, Harold Russell, who is the Russell of Smith, Gambrell & Russell, are looking down from Heaven on this occasion today and recognizing it for the following reason:

When Lisa went with Smith, Gambrell & Russell, she went to work with a firm that represented my father and his company—a firm that represented me. She is not unknown to me as a person, as a lawyer, as a litigator. She is a great individual in our State and has provided a great service to our State. She will be a great judge for the United States of America. She also worked with Harold Russell, who was my dad's best friend, and Harold represented my father for years in business.

I know today, in Heaven, they are looking down during this special occasion of an outstanding Georgia jurist who is renowned in our State and is about to be confirmed by the U.S. Senate to be on the Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.

I commend to my colleagues in the Senate Elizabeth “Lisa” Branch to be confirmed, and I urge their favorable votes to see to it that takes place.

I yield the floor.

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. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum may be rescinded.

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

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I yield back all time on our side and ask unanimous consent that the cloture motion be voted on.

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

#### CLOTURE MOTION

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

The legislative 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, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Elizabeth L. Branch, of Georgia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit.

Mitch McConnell, Pat Roberts, Roy Blunt, Tim Scott, Todd Young, Richard C. Shelby, John Boozman, Roger F. Wicker, Marco Rubio, Mike Crapo, Steve Daines, Jerry Moran, Tom Cotton, Chuck Grassley, David Perdue, John Cornyn, John Thune.

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 Elizabeth L. Branch, of Georgia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. CORKER), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) would have voted “yea.”

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) is necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 72, nays 22, as follows:

#### [Rollcall Vote No. 37 Ex.]

##### YEAS—72

Alexander	Feinstein	Murkowski
Baldwin	Fischer	Murphy
Barrasso	Flake	Nelson
Bennet	Gardner	Paul
Blunt	Graham	Perdue
Boozman	Grassley	Portman
Burr	Hassan	Risch
Capito	Hatch	Roberts
Cardin	Heitkamp	Rubio
Carper	Hoeven	Sasse
Casey	Inhofe	Schatz
Cassidy	Isakson	Scott
Cochran	Johnson	Shaheen
Collins	Kaine	Shelby
Coons	Kennedy	Smith
Cornyn	King	Tester
Cotton	Klobuchar	Thune
Crapo	Lankford	Tillis
Cruz	Leahy	Toomey
Daines	Lee	Van Hollen
Donnelly	Manchin	Warner
Durbin	McCaskey	Whitehouse
Enzi	McConnell	Wicker
Ernst	Moran	Young

##### NAYS—22

Blumenthal	Heinrich	Sanders
Booker	Hirono	Schumer
Brown	Markley	Stabenow
Cantwell	Menendez	Udall
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warren
Duckworth	Murray	Wyden
Gillibrand	Peters	
Harris	Reed	

##### NOT VOTING—6

Corker	Jones	Rounds
Heller	McCain	Sullivan

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 72, the nays are 22.

The motion is agreed to.

The Senator from North Dakota.

CONGRATULATING THE U.S. WOMEN'S HOCKEY TEAM

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the U.S. women's hockey team for their outstanding victories in the 2018 Winter Olympics. All told, the team won four games, including two 5-to-0 wins over Finland and Russia, and finished as champions after a 3-to-2 victory over Team Canada. Their achievement stands as a powerful example of hard work, perseverance, and collaboration.

North Dakota is proud to be represented among the talented members of this team by two athletes, the Lamoureux twins, Jocelyne and Monique. These sisters are natives of Grand Forks, ND, and alumni of the University of North Dakota, where they played three seasons of NCAA women's hockey.

This was their third trip to the Olympics with Team USA, having won silver medals in 2010 and 2014 and, of course, now the gold in 2018. They have a tremendous collegiate record and a tremendous Olympic record now, as well. Across their Olympic careers, they have scored 13 goals and provided 17 assists, for a total of 30 points. They displayed tremendous skill, tremendous work ethic, and a tremendous team spirit as leaders of a great women's Olympic hockey team.

Jocelyne holds an Olympic record now, as well, having scored two goals in less than 6 seconds in the match against Finland. However, it was in the final game where the Lamoureux twins really shined. It was a close game throughout. While Team USA started out with the lead, Team Canada came back in the second period with a 2-to-1 lead. Remember, Canada had won gold in the last two Olympics. It was Monique who brought the game to a tie in the final period, and then Jocelyne scored the game-winning goal in the shootout. How great is that? It was unbelievable and exciting. It was such a great representation of sportsmanship for our Nation, coming back after twice seeing Canada take the gold, ending up with silver, and now coming back and winning the gold. This ended Canada's four-time gold-winning streak in women's hockey. Obviously, it was a joyous occasion—certainly for my State of North Dakota but also for our whole country. It is uplifting and positive—all the things you want the Olympics to be.

As they arrive home from South Korea, we congratulate Team USA for their historic victory and thank them for representing our Nation with their incredible dedication, tireless effort, and tremendous sportsmanship.

I yielded the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

HONORING OFFICERS ERIC JOERING AND ANTHONY MORELLI

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, this month, Ohio laid to rest two remarkable public servants, Westerville Police

Officers Eric Joering and Anthony Morelli. Together, these men dedicated decades of their lives to the police force, giving the ultimate sacrifice to keep their fellow Ohioans safe.

Officer Joering and Officer Morelli were doing their jobs, responding to a desperate 9-1-1 call when they were tragically shot and killed earlier this month. In the days since their passing, we have heard stories of their incredible service to their community, their fellow officers, and their families.

Both men were married with children. Officer Joering was 39 and had three young daughters. His pastor, Reverend Hammond, spoke to the local news about Officer Joering's dedication to his family. He said that Officer Joering would do anything for his daughters. He let them style his hair. He let them paint his nails. Reverend Hammond quipped: "I heard he drew the line at makeup."

Officer Morelli was a 30-year veteran of the Westerville police force. Westerville is a Columbus suburb. He had two children. His daughter is getting married this summer. His colleagues remembered his infectious smile and his passion for life. Westerville Police Chaplain James Meacham said Officer Morelli "went to heaven and parted."

These two heroes were laid to rest 10 days ago with services at St. Paul Catholic Church in Westerville, drawing thousands of Ohioans and fellow officers to pay their respects. Thousands of people waited in line in the cold and rain to enter the church. Officers from around the country came to honor these men, as they so often do. The church parking lot filled with patrol cars from Illinois, Texas, West Virginia, Michigan, and so many other States. They had to use a TV at a gym next door as an overflow room to accommodate everyone. After the services, a long procession of police vehicles wound its way through Westerville. Ohioans lined the streets, waving American flags and wearing blue ribbons pinned to their raincoats.

The tribute to these officers won't end with that memorial service. In times of tragedy, Ohioans always rise to the occasion. A donation page for the families set up by the local Fraternal Order of Police has raised more than half a million dollars. The city of Westerville will honor Officers Morelli and Joering with a permanent memorial in First Responders Park. The Westerville City Council voted unanimously to retire Officer Joering's K-9 partner, Officer Sam, and send him home with Officer Joering's family. They were there last week to take Sam home. One of Joering's daughters wore Sam's badge around her neck. Otterbein University, the local 4-year, private, distinguished university very nearby, will offer full-tuition scholarships to each of the three Joering girls.

While none of these gestures can ever repay them or their loved ones for their service and sacrifice, today we

honor these heroes' memories and lift up the entire Westerville community and all those who knew them.

The best way for the public to honor these public servants is by supporting all Ohio officers and working to give law enforcement the resources they need to do their jobs. From the bipartisan legislation we passed last year to speed up claims processing for the families of fallen officers, to getting local police officers the resources they need to protect themselves as they fight the opioid epidemic, we must do all we can to support these women and men who sacrifice so much.

Let's honor the memory of Officer Joering and Officer Morelli by recommending ourselves to protecting and supporting their fellow officers and the families who sacrifice alongside them.

#### CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU

Mr. President, this month, the toy company Hasbro announced that it is introducing a new version of the board game Monopoly. In this version—imagine this—players get rewarded, not punished, for cheating. It is Wall Street 2018.

It might be fun to be the banker in this new, rigged version of Monopoly when you are playing with game pieces and pretend money, but it is not so fun when you are a Wells Fargo employee. It is not so fun if you have been victimized by Equifax. It is not so fun if you are one of the millions of people who have had to go through the process to get restitution from their banks. Families get ripped off by shady payday lenders and by big banks. Families lose real money, not Monopoly money.

When you think about getting away with cheating and even rewarding cheaters, pretty soon, you might not have to use much imagination at all. There have always been shady corporations trying to get away with ripping off consumers. The difference is that now they have an ally in charge of the watchdog that is supposed to be policing them. It is called the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau—a bureau that has done yeomen's work to protect consumers, to get restitution for consumers when they have been cheated by Wall Street, when they have been cheated by a payday lender, and when they have been cheated by some shady financial service operator.

In his short time heading the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, Mick Mulvaney has done the opposite of what we used to see and the opposite of what we should expect of the person whose job it is to look out for consumers. It is called the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, not the "let's protect Wall Street in one more way" bureau.

This month, NPR reported that in a new memo, Mulvaney laid out a "revised mission and vision of the consumer bureau." What is that vision? That vision is to dismantle it and stop all the work it does to hold banks accountable. These are NPR's words: He is "making radical changes to deter

the agency from aggressively pursuing its mission"—a mission designed to protect hard-working people from banks and payday lenders who look to cheat them.

In his memo, Mulvaney actually said that the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau should be "acting with humility and moderation." He is saying that the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau should be acting with humility and moderation, but does he ever admonish Wall Street to act with humility and moderation? It would be laughable because of the way Wall Street so often acts. We shouldn't want moderation when it comes to going after big banks and corporations who are cheating consumers. We should want aggressive actions.

Those two words, "humility" and "moderation," are not the first two that come to mind when you think of the administration. To the surprise of many, the White House now looks like a retreat for Wall Street executives. When you talk about humility and moderation with regard to this administration, when translated in this context, it seems as though they mean to go easy on the fraudsters who are ripping off the American people.

This is the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. This isn't a Wall Street regulator who is captured by Wall Street, where you see people from Citibank and other big Wall Street entities—the \$1 trillion, \$2 trillion, \$2 trillion-plus banks—going in and out of the revolving door, working for the regulators, and working for the banks.

This is the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. Its job was created 8 or 9 years ago to fight just as hard for American families as Wall Street lobbyists fight for their big banks. Believe me, these lobbyists don't exactly act with humility and moderation. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau can't afford to.

Since it was created, this consumer bureau has returned \$12 billion—that is \$12,000 million—to 29 million Americans who were cheated by banks and who were cheated by payday lenders, and moderating that now is literally taking money out of the pockets of working families. Because the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau has been so effective, the administration has now put the fox in charge of the chicken coop—the chicken house.

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, which helped 29 million Americans return \$12 billion because the banks were cheating them, is now run by Mick Mulvaney, who clearly doesn't even think the Bureau should exist. Nothing in this memo that he wrote should surprise anyone who has watched Mr. Mulvaney over the past few months or, frankly, his career. Although he has been running the CFPB on a part-time basis, he is supposed to be overseeing the Federal budget, so I am a little curious that the full-time Budget Director—my friend from my State of Ohio, Senator PORTMAN, used