

can rapidly develop a nuclear capability. One year is not much of an insurance policy, especially against the top state sponsor of terrorism. The bottom line is that Tehran should never come close to a nuclear weapon.

Third, the bill needs to maintain restrictions in perpetuity. The so-called sunset clauses are perhaps the most flawed part of the nuclear agreement. The way it currently reads, Iran does not need to cheat. They can simply wait us out. The conventional weapons ban sunsets in 2020. The ban on receiving ballistic missile assistance sunsets in 2023. The ban on replacing old centrifuges with advanced models sunsets in 2026. And all nuclear restrictions—on centrifuges, on enrichment facilities and levels, and on heavy water production—sunset in 2031. The sunset clauses do not stop Iran but kick the can down the road—a road ending in just over a decade.

Finally, the bill cannot overlook the connection between Iran's ballistic missile and nuclear weapons programs. The legislation must severely sanction the ballistic missile program. This is another no-brainer. A nuclear warhead is effective to the extent that it can be launched on a missile. Iran is not developing long-range and sophisticated ballistic missiles to deliver conventional payloads. The architects of the Iran deal, unfortunately, took great pains to keep it focused solely on nuclear. That has to end.

These four demands constitute a sensible framework for the kind of bipartisan legislation that Congress can achieve.

The final reason for my cautious optimism is that we have a President who keeps his promises. When President Trump calls May 12 the last chance, I take him seriously. I would encourage my colleagues to do the same. This President is dead serious about countering Iran's agenda. He said that he would decertify the deal last October. He followed through. That should have erased any doubts.

We should not wait until the eleventh hour to deal with this issue. It is too important. By putting aside personal or political feelings, we can absolutely achieve a bipartisan bill that fixes the Iran deal using the President's framework.

Thank you.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

CONGRATULATING TEAM USA AND THE MINNESOTA OLYMPIC ATHLETES

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Team USA and to recognize the contributions of so many Minnesotans at the 2018 Olympic Winter Games in South Korea.

I am happy to be joined here by my Senate colleague from Minnesota, Senator SMITH. Why are Senator SMITH and I here today? We are here because we had an incredible Olympics, with Minnesota really leading the way when it came to the gold medals.

Of course, our State is no stranger to the Olympics. We have sent athletes to compete in women's basketball and cycling. But it shouldn't be a surprise that it is the Winter Olympics where the bold northern State really shines. We have a couple of things going for us. The weather is kind of cold. There is snow, so people are able to practice. We also have a great athletic program at our high schools, and we have a lot of team spirit, which is especially helpful in the teams we were a part of that won the gold, including men's curling and women's hockey.

Of the 243 athletes who were on Team USA, 23 have ties to Minnesota, making it the third highest represented State. These athletes competed at the highest level and showed the world just what our State could do. If Minnesota were competing as a country, it would be tied for 12th, globally in the number of gold medals won. But we are not a country; we are a proud State. This success is something all Minnesotans can celebrate.

Mr. President, here are some examples for you. Winning a gold medal was a first for Afton native Jessie Diggins and a first for the United States. Her road to the Olympics started on the cross-country skiing trails that cover Minnesota. Jessie worked to keep spirits high in training and during the Olympic competition. She put glitter on her cheeks as a reminder of what made her fall in love with cross-country skiing as a little girl. Her relentless energy and drive were on full display. She and her teammate, Kikkan Randall, became the first Americans to bring home a gold in cross-country team history. It is no surprise that they voted Jessie to be the flag-bearer for the closing ceremony.

Jessie and Kikkan weren't the only American women to bring home gold. The women's hockey team won their first gold medal since 1998.

It is no coincidence that the "State of Hockey" sent some serious talent. The American team included six current or former Gopher College players and two current or former Minnesota Duluth players. From Warroad to Minnetonka, the Minnesotans on Team USA brought pond hockey toughness and the experience that comes from growing up on the ice. This gold medal will help inspire the next generation of hockey players in Minnesota.

I want to make a special note of our incredible goalie, Maddie Rooney. If anyone stayed up—which I did—to watch that shootout at the end, she showed such poise and such grace under pressure.

I also want to make a little note of Warroad, MN, which produced the incredible Gigi Marvin, along with many other gold medalists from the past.

While Americans were fans of hockey well before the 2018 games, these Olympics helped introduce the country to a sport already loved by so many Minnesotans—curling. I will note that Senator CORNYN of Texas sent out a tweet

saying that curling was an obscure sport. I don't think anyone thinks that anymore. They might think it is kind of an interesting sport, but it has gone from obscure to cool. A lot of that has to do with the men's curling team. Four out of five of the members of that team were from our home State of Minnesota. In that game, the match went from 1 to 4 in the morning or midnight to 3. I can't tell you how many Minnesotans were up all night watching that and celebrating the gold medal.

The success of Minnesotans has been inspiring, and I know Senator SMITH agrees. From frozen ponds to backyard hills, Minnesota helps bring the winter athlete out in everyone.

I congratulate Team USA and all Minnesota athletes who made these games such a success.

Senator SMITH.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Ms. SMITH. Thank you, Mr. President.

Thank you, Senator KLOBUCHAR, for organizing this colloquy on the Olympic contributions of Minnesotans. I was proud to work with you on this resolution honoring our Olympians. While I have not yet given my first floor speech—which I plan to do in a couple of weeks—I couldn't pass up the opportunity to come down and talk about our State's amazing athletes.

As I am sure Senator KLOBUCHAR knows, as you have just heard from her, once a Minnesotan can walk, you can bet that his or her parents will try to get them on skis, skates, a sled, or maybe even on the curling rink. That early start—not to mention the fact that Minnesotans are the hardest working and most resilient people I know—helps explain why 23 of our athletes took part in this year's Winter Games. As Senator KLOBUCHAR said, that is the third most of any State in the country. And, boy, did they steal the show. Minnesotans brought home gold medals in women's hockey, women's cross-country skiing, men's curling, and a bronze medal in women's downhill skiing.

I want to talk about Afton, Minnesota's own Jessie Diggins, who carried the Olympic torch for Team USA at the closing ceremony. As Senator KLOBUCHAR said, Jessie began skiing at 4 years old and started racing against high schoolers at age 11. She earned her spot on the Olympic cross-country team and was the only woman to compete in all six women's cross-country events—and compete she did.

Along with her teammate, Kikkan Randall, Jessie won the first Olympic Gold Medal ever for the United States in cross-country skiing—and in dramatic fashion. Jessie came from behind during the final stretch of the race, inching out her competitor as they crossed the finish line.

I am amazed, but not all that surprised, by the accomplishments of my fellow Minnesotans. I am so happy to be able to join Senator KLOBUCHAR in

saying we are glad the whole world had the chance to witness what we see every day in our jobs as Senators from Minnesota—Minnesotans doing amazing things.

I yield the floor.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I know Minnesotans will look forward to Senator SMITH's actual first speech, but I think it is a tribute to our State that her first appearance on the Senate floor was about all of these Gold Medals in hockey and curling and skiing.

Thank you.

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 senior assistant 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 Terry A. Doughty, of Louisiana, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana.

Mitch McConnell, Chuck Grassley, Thom Tillis, Tom Cotton, David Perdue, John Kennedy, Pat Roberts, Johnny Isakson, Mike Crapo, Roger F. Wicker, Mike Rounds, Steve Daines, Richard Burr, John Boozman, Lindsey Graham, Bill Cassidy, John Barrasso.

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 Terry A. Doughty, of Louisiana, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana, 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 Arizona (Mr. FLAKE), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) is necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 94, nays 2, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 45 Ex.]

YEAS—94

| | | |
|------------|--------------|------------|
| Alexander | Casey | Duckworth |
| Baldwin | Cassidy | Durbin |
| Barrasso | Cochran | Enzi |
| Bennet | Collins | Ernst |
| Blumenthal | Coons | Feinstein |
| Blunt | Corker | Fischer |
| Booker | Cornyn | Gardner |
| Boozman | Cortez Masto | Gillibrand |
| Brown | Cotton | Graham |
| Burr | Crapo | Grassley |
| Cantwell | Cruz | Harris |
| Capito | Daines | Hassan |
| Carper | Donnelly | Hatch |

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Heinrich | Menendez | Shaheen |
| Heitkamp | Moran | Shelby |
| Heller | Murkowski | Smith |
| Hoeven | Murphy | Stabenow |
| Inhofe | Murray | Sullivan |
| Isakson | Nelson | Tester |
| Johnson | Paul | Thune |
| Jones | Perdue | Tillis |
| Kaine | Peters | Toomey |
| Kennedy | Portman | Udall |
| King | Reed | Van Hollen |
| Klobuchar | Risch | Warner |
| Lankford | Roberts | Warren |
| Leahy | Rubio | Whitehouse |
| Lee | Sanders | Wicker |
| Manchin | Sasse | Wyden |
| Markey | Schatz | Young |
| McCaskill | Schumer | |
| McConnell | Scott | |

NAYS—2

Hirono

Merkley

NOT VOTING—4

Cardin
Flake

McCain
Rounds

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 94, the nays are 2.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Terry A. Doughty, of Louisiana, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

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

ECONOMIC GROWTH, REGULATORY RELIEF, AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 287, S. 2155.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 287, S. 2155, a bill to promote economic growth, provide tailored regulatory relief, and enhance consumer protections, and for other purposes.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. I send a cloture motion to the desk on the motion.

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

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 motion to proceed to Calendar No. 287, S. 2155, a bill to promote economic growth, provide tailored regulatory relief, and enhance consumer protections, and for other purposes.

Mitch McConnell, Ben Sasse, John Cornyn, Pat Roberts, Jerry Moran, John

Kennedy, David Perdue, Tim Scott, Thom Tillis, Dean Heller, Mike Crapo, James E. Risch, Roger F. Wicker, James M. Inhofe, Tom Cotton, Richard Burr, Lindsey Graham.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call be waived.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CASSIDY). The Senator from Massachusetts.

NO UNCONSTITUTIONAL STRIKE AGAINST NORTH KOREA ACT

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I come to the floor to share my deep concern over what appears to be the Trump administration's intention to go to war with North Korea.

North Korea may have bent over backward to appear conciliatory during the recently concluded Winter Olympics in South Korea, but the Kim Jong Un regime has not stopped its dangerous activities—far from it. North Korea is a serious and ever-worsening threat to its people, to our allies and partners in the region, and to the United States, but the responsible course of action is to use all tools of American statecraft to reduce those threats.

We have an obligation to American families, servicemembers, and our allies to say, unequivocally, that we did everything in our power to curb North Korea's dangerous behavior without resorting to armed conflict. Instead, I fear that the Trump administration is beating the drums of war.

While the North Korean regime was all smiles during the Olympics, its malign behavior continued. Engineers race to perfect a nuclear-tipped intercontinental ballistic missile. North Korean laborers around the world—modern-day indentured servants—sent paychecks home to the regime, helping fund its illicit military programs. Illegal ship-to-ship transfers of refined petroleum products continued. North Korea's army of cyber warriors grew ever more capable. North Korean military officers reportedly continued to assist and empower Bashar al-Assad's chemical weapons program in Syria, and the Kim regime's thugs made no efforts to scale back rampant human rights abuses.

Many smiled as the North Korean regime won a gold medal in propaganda at the Olympics. All the while, it got ever closer to its ultimate goal of perfecting a nuclear weapon that could reach the United States of America. We missed an opportunity to engage in talks with North Korea, and we did that at our own peril.

While we must continue to ratchet up pressure on North Korea, other elements of President Trump's approach threaten to make an already bad situation even worse.

First, we are all too familiar with the President's reckless rhetoric. Promising "fire and fury" does not minimize tensions. Threatening to "totally destroy" North Korea only increases the