

under President Obama. Ms. Haspel and others were found to have done nothing unlawful. As my colleague, the junior Senator from Arkansas, has said, Ms. Haspel did not go rogue or make these policies on the fly. She dutifully executed the approved policy as determined by the Department of Justice. Moreover, she did so at one of the most dangerous moments in our Nation's history.

I am confident that Ms. Haspel will be confirmed because if she is not, it will send a horrible message to other highly qualified people who feel the call to serve our Nation, and it will send a horrible message to other CIA officers who follow lawful orders and protect our country on a daily basis. It will make our intelligence professionals more risk averse and consequently endanger our national security and American lives.

NOMINATION OF MIKE POMPEO

Mr. President, I also commend to the Senate the nomination of Mike Pompeo as the next Secretary of State and express my support for his nomination.

After graduating first in his class at West Point and serving in the U.S. Army, Mike Pompeo attended Harvard Law School. He had a successful career in law and business before transitioning into public service as an elected official. He served as a Congressman in the U.S. House of Representatives for Kansas's Fourth Congressional District, and he served in the U.S. House on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. He was, of course, named by President Trump to lead the CIA after President Trump was elected.

Director Pompeo is smart and well respected by all. He has developed a keen sense of the delicate nature of global diplomacy and the crucial and indispensable role that America plays in world affairs. I know he has great personal rapport and the confidence of the President, and I think he will make an excellent Secretary of State.

Earlier this month, a group of influential conservatives sent a letter applauding Director Pompeo's nomination. They praised his management of the CIA and the trust he has earned of career officials there. They noted Director Pompeo's firsthand knowledge of the legislative process, something that is always handy for an executive branch official. They noted his congressional relationships—as we know, relationships are very important here, as well—but also his experience serving in the military, which gives him a unique perspective on a wide variety of issues.

I have worked with the Director on a number of occasions, including recently, when we worked together on the reauthorization of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act section 702 program, which the intelligence community uses to monitor the communications of terrorists and other people who are a threat to the national security of the United States. Without the

Director's stalwart support, we would not have been successful at renewing that program for 6 more years this last January.

The Director never waivers from a fight, even under pressure, and he understands the important role that our intelligence officials have in responding to national security threats. That characteristic of his—not backing down from a fight—is important for a Secretary of State because inevitably they are involved in controversial matters. I believe he has the personal tact, skill, and intelligence to be able to deal with our allies and to address our adversaries on the world stage in a way that would help the United States and help us lead in the world.

Once he is confirmed, Americans would be fortunate to have Mike Pompeo's critical eye trained on difficult conflicts like that in Syria, upcoming negotiations on denuclearization with North Korea, the growing threat posed by China and its dictatorship, and the new and evolving forms of Russian aggression, including meddling in our elections. Mike Pompeo is not naive about these dangers. He is thoughtful, and I expect that, once confirmed, he will be direct, respectful, and collaborative in working with the White House and the Congress.

I strongly support the President's nomination of Mike Pompeo for Secretary of State, and I urge my colleagues to do likewise.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. YOUNG). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

(The remarks of Mr. DAINES pertaining to the introduction of S. 2640 are printed in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

NOMINATIONS OF JOHN RING AND PATRICK PIZZELLA

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, I am here today to urge my colleagues to oppose the confirmation of two Trump nominees—John Ring, who has been nominated to the National Labor Relations Board, and Patrick Pizzella, who has been nominated Deputy Secretary of Labor. These two nominees have been selected to hold critical jobs to protect workers. That is what these jobs are about.

I will be blunt. I start with a pretty high bar here since, despite his campaign rhetoric from 2 years ago, the President's track record on standing up for workers has been absolutely miserable. From the day he nominated Andrew Puzder—an executive who delighted in mocking and belittling his

own low-wage workers—to run the Department of Labor, this administration has delivered one gut punch after another to America's working people.

The National Labor Relations Board is responsible for protecting the rights of workers to organize and bargain for better wages and benefits, so as we consider President Trump's latest nominee for the Board, it makes sense to look at what his nominees so far have already done.

Look at the new Republican majority's very first week back on the job back in December. In just 5 days, the Board mowed its way through a giant wish list of areas where giant companies were begging to be let off the hook for violating workers' rights.

Allowing employers to shirk their collective bargaining obligations by contracting out workers? Check.

Making it easier for employers to control the outcome of union elections. Check.

Opening the door for workplace rules that chill workers' ability to join together on the job. Check.

Allowing cases to be "settled" without input from the workers whose rights are affected by the settlement. Check.

Just as troubling as these anti-worker decisions themselves are the egregious conflicts of interest behind them.

From the moment he was nominated by President Trump, I have repeatedly raised concerns about Board Member William Emanuel's history of representing big corporations that have abused their workers and about his mile-long list of potential conflicts of interest. Sure enough, after just a few months on the Board, NLRB's inspector general determined that Mr. Emanuel participated in not one but two important decisions involving his former law firm, which directly violated his ethics pledge. In response, the Board vacated one of its most consequential decisions of the last year, and Member Emanuel lost any remaining credibility that he could be an impartial Board member. So I called on him to resign.

Now the President wants us to put John Ring on the Board. I have asked Mr. Ring to provide a list of clients and cases that might require his recusal. To his credit, he has done so. But Mr. Ring's long list of clients is a huge red flag. Either he will ignore the ethics rules when they are inconvenient—like Mr. Emanuel did—or he will likely have to recuse himself from important cases.

A large number of potential conflicts of interest isn't the only thing Mr. Ring has in common with Mr. Emanuel. Like Emanuel, Mr. Ring has also spent his career representing large employers against workers, and his few public statements on the NLRB express a belief that the Board has been too friendly to workers and that corporations have gotten the short end of the stick.

After decades of stagnant wages and skyrocketing corporate profits, does

anyone other than insider lobbyists and lawyers think that Washington is working for middle-class families and that big corporations are the ones under attack? I don't think so. That is exactly why an NLRB that looks out for workers is more important than ever. President Trump's NLRB is failing miserably at that mission.

Working Americans deserve Board members with a demonstrated record of fighting for workers, not against them. They deserve Board members who aren't ethically and legally constrained from doing the job. Mr. Ring does not meet those qualifications.

Workers need an NLRB that works for them, and they need leaders at the Department of Labor who are going to be on their side, not on the side of giant employers and extreme, right-wing donors. Patrick Pizzella has been nominated to the No. 2 job at the Department of Labor, and nothing in Mr. Pizzella's resume tells us that he meets the description of being on the side of workers.

In the 1990s, Mr. Pizzella lobbied with Jack Abramoff to exempt the Northern Mariana Islands from Federal labor laws. Do you know what that did? That allowed companies to run sweatshops while slapping "Made in America" labels on their products.

Later, when Mr. Pizzella was in charge of data management and other operations at the Labor Department, the Government Accountability Office found that the Wage and Hour Division was egregiously mishandling wage theft complaints, consistently leaving vulnerable low-wage workers out to dry, because of faulty data systems and other operational failures.

After leaving the Department, Mr. Pizzella went to work for secretive, far-right donor groups, such as the Conservative Action Project, which secretly planned out the 2013 government shutdown to sabotage the Affordable Care Act and undermine many workers' access to healthcare, all while Mr. Pizzella was its highest paid employee.

The Deputy Secretary position should be filled by someone who has defended worker rights, not undermined them, someone who will make government work for the American people, not hamstringing it for political purposes. Mr. Pizzella is the wrong man for this job.

President Trump talked a big game during his campaign about fighting for workers, but after a year of corporate tax cuts and rolling back commonsense protections for workplace safety, retirement security, and more, we know that those promises have turned out not to be worth much of anything.

The Senate should send a clear message to this administration that we expect agencies like the NLRB and the Labor Department to stand up for working people, not to suck up to corporate lobbyists. Rejecting these two nominees would be a good first step.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CRUZ). Under the previous order, all time has expired.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Boom nomination?

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, 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 bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) are necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 96, nays 1, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 65 Ex.]

YEAS—96

Alexander	Gillibrand	Murray
Baldwin	Graham	Nelson
Barrasso	Grassley	Paul
Bennet	Harris	Perdue
Blumenthal	Hassan	Peters
Blunt	Hatch	Portman
Boozman	Heinrich	Reed
Brown	Heitkamp	Risch
Burr	Heller	Roberts
Cantwell	Hirono	Rounds
Capito	Hoeven	Rubio
Cardin	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Carper	Inhofe	Schatz
Casey	Isakson	Schumer
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott
Collins	Jones	Shaheen
Coons	Kaine	Shelby
Corker	Kennedy	Smith
Cornyn	King	Stabenow
Cortez Masto	Klobuchar	Sullivan
Cotton	Lankford	Tester
Crapo	Leahy	Thune
Cruz	Lee	Tillis
Daines	Manchin	Toomey
Donnelly	Markey	Udall
Durbin	McCaskill	Van Hollen
Enzi	McConnell	Warner
Ernst	Menendez	Warren
Feinstein	Merkley	Whitehouse
Fischer	Moran	Wicker
Flake	Murkowski	Wyden
Gardner	Murphy	Young

NAYS—1

Sanders

NOT VOTING—3

Booker Duckworth McCain

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:47 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. PORTMAN).

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 John F. Ring, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board for the term of five years expiring December 16, 2022.

Mitch McConnell, Mike Crapo, John Thune, Pat Roberts, David Perdue, Michael B. Enzi, Lamar Alexander, John Boozman, Thom Tillis, James M. Inhofe, John Hoeven, Mike Rounds, John Cornyn, Richard Burr, Tim Scott, John Barrasso, Jerry Moran.

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 John F. Ring, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) are necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 50, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 66 Ex.]

YEAS—50

Alexander	Flake	Paul
Barrasso	Gardner	Perdue
Blunt	Graham	Portman
Boozman	Grassley	Risch
Burr	Hatch	Roberts
Capito	Heller	Rounds
Cassidy	Hoeven	Rubio
Collins	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Corker	Inhofe	Scott
Cornyn	Isakson	Shelby
Cotton	Johnson	Sullivan
Crapo	Kennedy	Thune
Cruz	Lankford	Tillis
Daines	Lee	Toomey
Enzi	McConnell	Wicker
Ernst	Moran	Young
Fischer	Murkowski	

NAYS—47

Baldwin	Gillibrand	McCaskill
Bennet	Harris	Menendez
Blumenthal	Hassan	Merkley
Brown	Heinrich	Murphy
Cantwell	Heitkamp	Murray
Cardin	Hirono	Nelson
Carper	Jones	Peters
Casey	Kaine	Reed
Coons	King	Sanders
Cortez Masto	Klobuchar	Schatz
Donnelly	Leahy	Schumer
Durbin	Manchin	Shaheen
Feinstein	Markey	Smith