

is Pam Simpson. She was writing to me about her son, Rowan. The impact on Rowan Simpson's life, like a lot of children's lives, is incomparable. It is hard to comprehend how beneficial it has been.

As I said, his mom Pam sent me a note. Here is what she said, in pertinent part. I will not read all of it, just an excerpt. She said:

In late January 2016, I applied for Medicaid assistance.

Medical Assistance, I should say. That is the Medicaid Program in Pennsylvania, Medical Assistance.

After Rowan was awarded this assistance, we were able to obtain wrap-around services, which included a Behavioral Health Consultant (BSC) and a Therapeutic Staff Support worker (TSS). . . . The wrap-around services have been a Godsend.

Toward the end of the letter, Pam Simpson said:

Without Medicaid, I am confident that I could not work full time to support our family. We would be bankrupt, or my son—

Meaning Rowan—

would go without the therapies he sincerely needs.

Pam Simpson concludes the letter this way:

Please think of my dear Rowan and his happy face, his big blue eyes, and his lovely strawberry blonde hair. Please think of me and my husband working every day to support our family. Please think of my 9-month-old daughter, Luna, who smiles and laughs at her brother daily; she will have to care for Rowan later in her life after we are gone. Overall, we are desperately in need of Rowan's Medicaid Assistance and would be devastated if we lost these benefits.

That is one mom talking about her son in Pennsylvania, but of course they are representative of so many families across the country.

All of us here know—it is pretty evident from the data on where we are positioned in the world—that we are the strongest country in the world—meaning the strongest economy—and that we are also the strongest military power in the world. There is no question about that. But that same country, that same strong country, over time has figured out a way to take care of the American family, especially through a program like Medicaid.

Hubert Humphrey said it well years ago. He may have even said this on the Senate floor when he was representing Minnesota. Hubert Humphrey said: "The moral test of government is how it treats those who are in the dawn of life . . . those who are in the twilight of life . . . and those who are in the shadows of life." In a sense, he is talking about children in the dawn of life, those with disabilities and others who might be in the shadows of life, and those who are senior citizens in the twilight of life.

No program touches more Americans than the Medicaid Program, and we must continue to work to fight to keep Medicaid strong not just for the next 50 years or 53 years—today is the anniversary—but for many years after that.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. PERDUE. Mr. President, one of the great honors and privileges of being a Senator is that we get to confirm Presidential nominations to our country's highest courts.

President Trump has nominated an outstanding judge to fill an opening on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. That judge is Georgia Supreme Court Justice Britt Grant. Tonight, the Senate will vote to invoke cloture on her nomination so we can confirm her later this week. This is a crucial vote.

Justice Grant has served with distinction on the Supreme Court of Georgia since January 2017. In that role, she has written over 40 opinions on both criminal and civil matters and participated in hundreds of other opinions. Her positions are not a mystery. She has a long record of defending and upholding our Constitution.

She served as Solicitor General for the State of Georgia from 2015 until her appointment to the State Supreme Court. This year, she was elected to her seat on the State Supreme Court without opposition. When that happens in my State, that means people on both sides of the aisle understand how she is applying the rule of law. It is a testament to the quality of her work and the dedication she has to the Constitution and to the people for whom she works.

Prior to her public service, Justice Grant argued a commercial litigation case before the highest Court in the land, the U.S. Supreme Court. And by the way, she won.

Justice Grant attended Stanford Law School. After graduating, she actually clerked for Judge Brett Kavanaugh—another outstanding nominee who will hopefully be confirmed to the U.S. Supreme Court later this year. I might add that Judge Kavanaugh sat through Justice Grant's confirmation hearing in front of the Judiciary Committee just a few months ago. He was there for the entire hearing because she did such a good job clerking for him earlier in her career.

Clearly, Justice Grant is immensely qualified to fill this Court of Appeals vacancy, and there is no doubt in my mind that she will do a fantastic job. In fact, our country needs more judges like Justice Grant.

I couldn't be prouder of her, her husband Justin, and their three kids, Charles, Mary Elise, and Jack.

Earlier this year, I was honored to introduce Justice Grant in her confirmation hearing and to commend her nomination with my highest recommendation. Tonight, I strongly urge my colleagues to support her final confirmation to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.

With that, 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 call be rescinded.

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

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to be granted enough time to complete my remarks before the vote.

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

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I come briefly but quickly and proudly to recommend Britt Grant to this body and to the United States of America to be the next judge from the State of Georgia to be on the circuit court of appeals.

Britt Grant is an outstanding jurist. She became a judge on the Georgia Supreme Court at the age of 40. She went to Stanford University Law School, and she went to Wake Forest University as an undergraduate. After she left Stanford University, she came to clerk for Brett Kavanaugh, who is now nominated for the U.S. Supreme Court.

Throughout her legal career, whether it was practicing as an attorney, whether it was serving as a judge, or whatever she did, she was always at the top of her class, at the top of her case, or at the top of her ability. I don't remember ever having a judge come before this body, since I have been in Congress, from my home State of Georgia who had more people pulling for her, more people wanting her to win, more people who think she is the right person at the right time for the United States of America.

So I come to the floor as the senior Senator from Georgia to tell my colleagues this: You have the chance to invoke cloture tonight with your vote and to vote tomorrow for the confirmation of the Honorable Britt Grant of the Georgia Supreme Court to be on the U.S. Circuit Court for the Eleventh Circuit of the United States of America.

I urge my colleagues to vote yes for cloture and yes for Judge Grant tomorrow.

I yield back the remainder of my time.

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 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 Britt Cagle Grant, of Georgia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit.

Mitch McConnell, Cindy Hyde-Smith, David Perdue, Mike Crapo, Mike Rounds, John Boozman, Ron Johnson, John Barrasso, Steve Daines, John Cornyn, Johnny Isakson, John Thune, James E. Risch, Richard Burr, Lindsey Graham, Thom Tillis, Roy Blunt.

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 Britt Cagle Grant, 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 Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) are necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 52, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 172 Ex.]

YEAS—52

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

NAYS—44

Baldwin	Gillibrand	Murray
Bennet	Harris	Peters
Blumenthal	Hassan	Reed
Booker	Heinrich	Sanders
Brown	Hirono	Schatz
Cantwell	Jones	Schumer
Cardin	Kaine	Shaheen
Carper	King	Smith
Casey	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Coons	Leahy	Udall
Cortez Masto	Markey	Van Hollen
Donnelly	McCaskill	Warren
Duckworth	Menendez	Whitehouse
Durbin	Merkley	Wyden
Feinstein	Murphy	

NOT VOTING—4

Flake	Nelson
McCain	Warner

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 52, the nays are 44.

The motion is agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DAINES). The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

CENTENNIAL OF FORT KNOX

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, today I am proud to recognize Fort Knox, an important asset of our national defense infrastructure in my home State, as it celebrates its centennial anniversary. Located in Bullitt, Hardin, and Meade Counties, the installation was established by Congress in 1918 and has taken an active role in the defense of our Nation ever since. Today Fort Knox is a source of pride for the community and our Commonwealth, and I would like to take a look back at its century of accomplishment.

Named in honor of the Revolutionary War major general and the first U.S. Secretary of War, Henry Knox, the site began as a field artillery training range for Camp Zachary Taylor in Louisville. Congress purchased 40,000 acres of land in Kentucky to accommodate approximately 60,000 soldiers. Construction began in July 1918 under the supervision of quartermaster W. H. Radcliffe, and Camp Knox served as a facility to support troops returning home at the conclusion of the Great War.

In subsequent years, Camp Knox became a training facility for thousands of troops from the National Guard, Reserve Officers Training Corps, and Citizens Military Training Camps. One of the citizens who trained there was author Robert Penn Warren of Guthrie, KY. Before he gained enduring fame for writing "All the King's Men," Warren's first published poem "Prophecy" appeared in the "Camp Knox Mess Kit" in 1922.

In 1931, the Army revolutionized our Nation's Armed Forces and formed a mechanized cavalry regiment at the facility. The next year, Congress gave the installation the name we call it today. Fort Knox was at the center of the mechanization of the cavalry, and it can proudly take credit for developing many of the tactics that helped win World War II.

As a vital contributor to our national security, Fort Knox has served wide-ranging roles throughout its 100 years. For instance, in 1937, it became the home of the U.S. bullion depository and the guardian of our Nation's most valuable assets and, at times, some of the world's most precious possessions. During the darkest days of the Second World War, the depository guarded the U.S. Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

Fort Knox is also the proud home of the General George Patton Museum and Center of Leadership, a tourist destination honoring one of the giants of American military history.

While we celebrate the installation's remarkable history, we also recognize that Fort Knox continues to play a dynamic and integral role in our conventional force structure and our State's economy. In 2009, the Army Human Resources Command relocated to Fort Knox and led to the construction of the Army Human Resources Center, the largest project in the base's history. It's also the home to the Army's Recruiting Command and Cadet Command, which hosts thousands of Army

cadets each year for Cadet Summer Training. Most recently, the First Theater Sustainment Command moved to Fort Knox in 2017. These units add an indispensable benefit to our national security, and I am proud to have each one of them in Kentucky. Further, the installation has been recognized on numerous occasions in the Army's Communities of Excellence program and has developed a highly recognized energy savings program. At the same time, the surrounding community has established a number of supportive initiatives to help military families and transitioning Army personnel pursue regional employment opportunities.

From its origin as a camp with 40,000 acres, this multifunctional military installation has grown to cover approximately 109,000 acres and is the sixth largest urban area in Kentucky. The centennial celebration is bigger than the Army, involving a passionate community that supports the installation and the men and women serving there. It is my utmost privilege to join each of them in sending my congratulations to Fort Knox and to all of the Army personnel there for reaching this milestone. During the many events planned to mark the occasion, I wish them all the very best and would like to once again thank them for all they do to keep our nation safe. I urge all of my Senate colleagues to join me.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, family obligations unfortunately have kept me from being present for the cloture vote today on the nomination of Britt Grant, of Georgia, to be a U.S. circuit judge for the Eleventh Circuit. I have grave concerns about Justice Grant's qualifications and her record, and, had I been present, I would have voted against cloture on her nomination.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows: