

are those of us who are old enough to remember when Richard Nixon fired the special prosecutor in the Watergate matter and the great constitutional problems that followed. It was something the country suffered over for years, and we want to make sure we don't have another firing like we did in the Watergate matter. So we wrote this bill. Again, Republicans and Democrats voted for it. It could be brought up anytime by the leadership, if they wished. I am hoping that it will be brought up. I am hoping we can bring it to the floor and we can have a vote. I know we had a good debate—again, Republicans and Democrats—in the Judiciary Committee, and I would like to see it voted on.

I notice we are at the hour of 3:30, and I know the Presiding Officer has a ruling to make, so I will withhold.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 4:30 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 3:30 p.m., recessed until 4:33 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. GARDNER).

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2019—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

HONORING JOURNALISTS

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, the work that reporters do as members of a free and independent press is vital to our country and to our communities.

It is why, last week, in an unprecedented action, nearly 300 newspapers all over the country—a dozen or so in my State—came together to stand up for the free press and defend the First Amendment. There were 300 newspapers that wrote editorials—all independently written, of course, with all different takes on this—to advocate for a free press and to defend the First Amendment.

The Chagrin Valley Times, which is not far from where I live in Northeast Ohio, wrote:

We are indeed your lens into your community. We are not your enemy.

Clearly, this was a takeoff on the President's comments that the media are the enemies of the people.

The Athens NEWS, from Southeast Ohio, wrote: "Good reporting often succeeds in righting wrongs and making things better for people."

The Akron Beacon Journal, one of the great newspapers in this State, wrote:

Power . . . belongs to the people. The press thus received extraordinary protection because of its capacity to inform readers and check the powerful.

It is shameful that journalists have to defend their First Amendment rights, our First Amendment rights,

our Nation's First Amendment rights just so they can do their jobs. As these community papers show us, nothing could be further from the truth. That is why I want to highlight yet another story by an Ohio paper, informing the public, that has been reported by a journalist who serves her community.

CityBeat Cincinnati describes itself as having been "a voice in Greater Cincinnati for nearly a quarter of a century now, publishing a print edition weekly, and producing regular content throughout the week online to try to help keep you informed of what is happening in your city."

A great example of that content was in a story last week that was reported by Maija Zummo on the Black Family Reunion that took place in Cincinnati and its celebrating its 30th year. The event was founded in 1989 by the iconic Dr. Dorothy Height, who served as President of the National Council of Negro Women for more than 50 years.

As Ms. Zummo reported, the festival brings together community groups, performers, and small businesses to "celebrate the values and strengths of the black family." Ms. Zummo's reporting informed Cincinnati readers about the events they could attend that weekend, including a parade, festival, church service, and other community activities.

That kind of reporting is what journalists do every day, every week, every month across Ohio and around the country. They serve their readers, their viewers, and their communities. They deserve our respect. They don't deserve a President who calls reporters, journalists, and all kinds of people in this business the enemies of the people. Again, reporters serve their viewers, their readers, and their communities. They serve all of us. They deserve our respect.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

REMEMBERING MOLLIE TIBBETTS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I come to the floor to speak about a recent tragedy that has deeply impacted my home State of Iowa and I think all of the country because cable television is well aware of this.

Yesterday, authorities announced they found the remains of a 24-year-old University of Iowa sophomore, Mollie Tibbets, of Brooklyn, IA. After searching tirelessly for months, State and local law enforcements announced the unthinkable, Mollie was murdered in cold blood.

I would like to commend the efforts of all who were involved in searching for this remarkable young woman, including the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation, the FBI, Homeland Se-

curity, and the individual members of the community who volunteered tirelessly to find Mollie.

Americans watched the news every night, all of us, holding out hope that Mollie would soon be found and returned to her family. I extend my sincerest condolences and sympathies to Rob Tibbetts, Mollie's father, and Laura Calderwood, Mollie's mother. They spent the last month and a half searching the State for their missing daughter. Rob and Laura traveled across the State, raised awareness on TV, and handed out buttons, T-shirts, and missing person fliers at the Iowa State Fair. Both Rob and Laura showed remarkable bravery in the face of tragedy.

Know that our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time.

For those of us in Washington, we ought to try to learn something from Mollie's character and the example she set. As Mollie's boyfriend Dalton Jack said, "She's not just a missing person flyer." Mollie was an avid reader who enjoyed the choir, theater, and writing.

Mollie loved her friends and had a natural ability working with children. Her friends say she had a gift for making everyone feel like the most important person in the room. There is no doubt her nurturing character and her ability to be everyone's counselor—as a friend put it—led her to the University of Iowa to study psychology. While there, Mollie spent her summers taking classes and working at a day camp with the Grinnell Regional Medical Center, where she mentored children. It is no surprise that when Mollie went missing, over 200 people showed up for a vigil in her honor.

While we mourn the loss of Mollie Tibbetts, it is the duty of this Senator and every other Senator to act to prevent further tragedies such as this one from devastating a family and an entire community.

We now know that Mollie was murdered by a 24-year-old, undocumented immigrant who has been in the United States illegally for 4 to 7 years. That is right. For 4 to 7 years, this man was here undetected and unaccounted for. This raises questions about his immigration, employment, and criminal history, and we must receive answers.

So, today, I sent a letter to the Department of Homeland Security seeking any immigration history on this man and a briefing to better understand how he was able to get to and stay in Iowa. This isn't too different from what I have done in many cases with some undocumented person, particularly those who had been deported and returned, asking for answers when there was a tragedy such as what happened to Mollie. I think of recent cases, maybe within the last 2 years, of murders in Northern Virginia and in Maryland. The Tibbetts family, the people of Iowa as well, and I hope all of the American public feel they deserve answers.

Based on the information I do have, it seems this murder was preventable. Stricter border security measures, including increased personnel, enhanced technology, and modernized infrastructure could have prevented this man from crossing the border—in other words, secure the border.

Stronger interior enforcement and addressing weaknesses in E-Verify could have prevented this individual from working and would have allowed immigration enforcement authority to initiate removal proceedings years ago.

Earlier this week, President Trump invited officers and agents of Customs and Border Protection and Immigration and Customs Enforcement to the White House to thank them and the people under them for all they do on a daily basis to protect Americans. Recent events are a stark reminder as to how much we need these hard-working men and women.

Amidst cries from the radical far left to abolish law enforcement agencies, such as ICE, I am proud to stand in support of the brave men and women of that agency. Customs and Border Protection and Immigration and Customs Enforcement are tasked with protecting the homeland, a duty they willingly accepted on behalf of all Americans and, of course, the No. 1 responsibility, the Federal Government.

Every day, men and women of the Border Patrol and ICE, or Immigration and Customs Enforcement, put themselves in harm's way because Congress tasked them with this great responsibility.

So to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle who call for abolishing immigration enforcement, I urge caution. We have heard a lot of that lately about abolishing immigration enforcement.

Scapegoating our uniformed officers, who are simply executing the law, to launch future Presidential campaigns only moves us further away from one another and further away from a lasting solution.

To put their efforts into perspective, let's take a look at some data. During fiscal year 2017, ICE arrested more than 127,000 aliens with criminal convictions or charges. ICE made 5,225 administrative arrests of suspected gang members. Last year, the criminal aliens arrested by ICE were responsible for more than 76,000 dangerous drug offenses, 48,000 assault offenses, 11,000 weapon offenses, 5,000 sexual offenses, 2,000 kidnapping offenses, and 1,800 homicide offenses. Those statistics are just for ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations.

Last year, ICE Homeland Security Investigations made over 4,800 gang-related arrests. ICE also targets illicit drug flows, human trafficking operations, and transnational criminal and terrorist organizations.

ICE is part of our broader national security apparatus and often works hand in hand with their partners at the Department of Justice, including the

Drug Enforcement Administration, FBI, and hundreds of Federal prosecutors.

In 2017, ICE identified or rescued 904 sexually exploited children and 518 victims of human trafficking. ICE seized more than 980,000 pounds of narcotics just last year, including 2,370 pounds of fentanyl and almost 7,000 pounds of heroin.

To my colleagues who have spoken strongly about combating the moral stain of human trafficking or about ending the opioid epidemic gripping our country, I ask: How is ICE anything but an indispensable partner in this fight? How can we expect to combat the flow of lethal narcotics without the brave men and women of the Border Patrol and ICE?

Just last week, I sent a letter to Secretaries Nielsen and Pompeo about an Iraqi national who lied about his active membership in ISIS and al-Qaida in Iraq so he could claim refugee status and settle safely in Sacramento, CA. ICE played a very vital role in his arrest.

This weekend, ICE deported a Nazi prison guard who was living in Queens, NY, and yesterday ICE was immediately there on the scene in Brooklyn, IA, when State and local authorities determined the suspect was a foreign national.

Congress has been dancing around the issue of securing our borders and strengthening interior enforcement for far too long. We have told voters we will fix the problem, but we don't seem to get the bills passed. Stories like those of Kate Steinle, Sarah Root, Kayla Cuevas, and now Mollie Tibbetts continue to appear in the news, and we ought to come to the conclusion that enough is enough.

SARAH'S LAW

Mr. President, I urge the Senate to put partisanship aside and support Sarah's Law. That is a bill that some of us from the Midwest have introduced, but we also would like to see justice for Kate Steinle's murder because people who have been deported, coming back to the United States to do this killing—just for coming back and violating our law over and over and over by crossing into the country without papers, they should have mandatory sentences.

Sarah's Law is a bill I introduced with Senator ERNST in honor of a fellow Iowan, Sarah Root, who was killed by an undocumented immigrant driving drunk and was three times over the legal limit.

Sarah's Law is a commonsense bill that requires the Federal Government to take custody of anyone who entered the country illegally, violated the terms of their immigration status, and had their visas revoked and is thereafter charged with killing or seriously harming another person. It also requires ICE to make reasonable efforts to identify and provide relevant information to crime victims and their families.

I end thinking about Mollie's death, but you can continue to think about Sarah Root, Kate Steinle, and others. We haven't responded to it very well. We can and we must do better.

NOMINATION OF BRETT KAVANAUGH

Mr. President, if I may, I want to continue to speak but on another subject.

Over the past day, several of my colleagues issued statements calling for Judge Kavanaugh's confirmation hearing to be delayed. A lot of these colleagues have written me very personal letters calling for Judge Kavanaugh's hearing to be delayed. Some of them have written me very personal letters about coverups or hiding or handling documents in ways they perceive to be different from what other committee chairmen have done. In regard to the delay of the hearing, they claim that it is because President Trump's former lawyer recently pleaded guilty to criminal violations of campaign finance law, allegedly at President Trump's direction.

I am not going to delay Judge Kavanaugh's nomination hearing. There is no precedent for delaying a hearing in these circumstances. In fact, it is just the opposite. There is clear precedent pointing in the other direction. I will give my colleagues at least one.

In 1994, President Clinton nominated Justice Breyer to the Supreme Court. At that time, President Clinton was under investigation by Independent Counsel Robert Fiske in connection with the Whitewater land deal. Indeed, President Clinton's own records were under grand jury subpoena. Yet the Senate confirmed Justice Breyer by a vote of 87 to 9 during all of that.

In fact, President Clinton was under investigation for much of his Presidency and was even impeached for committing perjury. Obviously, he wasn't convicted. But through all of this, the Senate didn't stop confirming his lifetime appointments to the bench. President Trump is not even close to being in the same legal situation as President Clinton, but obviously some people around here think he is.

So my colleagues' plea to delay the hearing rings very false considering the precedent I just gave, and maybe historians can give us more precedents.

So I want to tell my colleagues why liberal outside groups and Senate Democratic leaders decided to oppose the President's Supreme Court nominee by any means necessary. They even said so. Some even announced their opposition before Judge Kavanaugh was nominated. The minority leader said he would fight Judge Kavanaugh with everything he has.

Members of the Judiciary Committee announced their opposition before giving Judge Kavanaugh any consideration whatsoever. One Member said that voting for Judge Kavanaugh is "complicit in evil." Another Member said that Judge Kavanaugh threatens "destruction of the Constitution of the United States."

The goal has always been the same: to delay the confirmation process as much as possible and hope that the Democrats take over the U.S. Senate in the midterm elections.

The Ranking Member's hometown newspaper reported on this strategy recently, and the headline called it an attempt to stall. The strategies may change, but the goal to obstruct the confirmation process remains unchanged. First, Democratic leaders tried to apply the Biden rule, which bars confirmations in Presidential elections and which many Democrats previously said doesn't even exist. They tried to apply it even to midterm elections. When they used it, it was applied just to Presidential elections.

Now, when this strategy failed, because it was completely and flatly false, they changed strategies. They tried pushing for an unprecedented disclosure of Judge Kavanaugh's executive branch documents, even though we have already received more pages of such documents than any previous Supreme Court nominee. This is on top of Judge Kavanaugh's 12-year judicial track record and other more relevant publicly available materials.

Now they are trying to latch on to the legal troubles of President Trump's former associates, but, as I just explained, there is no precedent or logical reason for the Senate to decline to proceed on Judge Kavanaugh's nomination in these circumstances. It is just another attempt to block Judge Kavanaugh's confirmation by any means necessary.

On a related note, we are working to make available as many of the documents relevant to Judge Kavanaugh's nomination to the Supreme Court when we receive them—to make them publicly available as soon as possible.

It is common practice—I hope everyone knows—to receive documents with a restriction called “Committee Confidential” until we can assure ourselves that we will not disclose sensitive, confidential information to the public in violation of the Presidential Records Act. Chairman LEAHY, who is here on the floor with me, did so during Justice Kagan's confirmation process, and I am doing the same. This gives Judiciary Committee members a jump start on reviewing documents because, otherwise, if you had to wait until they were all cleared, you wouldn't even be reading them yet.

The goal is to make as many publicly available as possible as soon as possible.

I have promised to work with President Bush and President Trump to waive committee confidentiality, when the law requires it, for specific documents that my colleagues would like to use at the confirmation hearings. This is also consistent with how the Judiciary Committee has handled this issue in the past. And, of course, all of my Senate colleagues are welcome to review committee-confidential documents at their convenience. Simply get

in touch with my staff. The staff there will make sure that they have full access to the range of committee-confidential documents.

One of my colleagues tweeted, and I am not going to name this colleague because there is no point in embarrassing anybody to make a very strong point here about how ridiculous some of this argument has become. This is the tweet:

Chairman Grassley unilaterally deemed Kavanaugh records Committee Confidential. Penalty for release could include ‘expulsion’ from the Senate, which hasn't happened since the Civil War, for disloyalty to the Union. GOP is going that far to keep them secret.

I hope all of my colleagues see the absurdity of that tweet.

Now, that person is kind of acting like the Senate has never received committee-confidential documents before. It is common practice, and it has happened in previous Supreme Court nominations, even under Democratic chairmen.

So to sum up, it is so regrettable that some of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have politicized this process so much, but also, at the same time, they have short memories. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LEE). The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the Defense appropriations bill that we are now debating. I congratulate Senator SHELBY and Senator LEAHY, and other Senators for working together in a cooperative manner to fashion and advance this important legislation.

For my home State of Colorado, this legislation means critical funding for our men and women in uniform at installations such as Peterson, Buckley, and Schriever Air Force Bases, the Air Force Academy, and Fort Carson in Colorado Springs, and beyond.

This bill provides the first significant pay raise—the first significant pay raise—for soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines for close to 10 years, and it is well deserved and long overdue.

As the chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy, I want to highlight several provisions related to these areas. The bill provides \$356 million in additional funding to expand and accelerate cyber research across the Department of Defense, including \$117 million for Army cyber security research efforts and \$116 million in Missile Defense Agency cyber security enhancements.

This legislation will support critical cyber security programs, including CyberWorx at the Air Force Academy, DIUX in Silicon Valley, and the Army Futures Command in Austin, TX.

The bill focuses on our ability to modernize not only what we might use in conflict but also to understand how conflict might be waged through technology.

Through a fully funded and equipped Cyber Command, we will be armed not

only with new funded capability and technology but with new titles and authorities to be able to downgrade, disrupt, and destroy cyber attacks on our infrastructure and economy.

As our force evolves and changes, the Cyber Command will continue to be a vital stakeholder in our defense communities.

I am also pleased that the legislation supports the administration's concept of a “free and open Indo-Pacific” by fully funding our military activities in the Indo-Pacific region, including U.S. Pacific Command theater cooperation activities with partner nations.

I am also pleased that the bill specifically includes funds to support activity with the Pacific Island nations, including Palau. These nations are at risk of falling under more and more Chinese influence, and it is important for the United States to exert an active leadership role to keep these allies engaged.

Countering China's rise represents a grave challenge for U.S. national security, but it is a challenge that we must absolutely rise to meet. According to the “National Security Strategy,” released in December of just last year, “for decades, U.S. policy was rooted in the belief that support for China's rise and for its integration into the postwar international order would liberalize China. Contrary to our hopes, China expanded its power at the expense of the sovereignty of others.”

According to the 2018 “National Defense Strategy,” “it is increasingly clear that China and Russia want to shape a world consistent with their authoritarian model—gaining veto authority over other nations' economic, diplomatic, and security decisions.”

According to the annual “Department of Defense Report on Chinese Military Power,” released just last week, “China's military modernization targets capabilities with the potential to degrade core U.S. operational and technological advantages. To support this modernization, China uses a variety of methods to acquire foreign military and dual-use technologies, including targeted foreign direct investment, cyber theft, and exploitation of private China nationals' access to these technologies.”

I am pleased that both the administration and Congress are now recognizing this reality and taking steps to rebuild our military to stand up to China.

I am leading a bipartisan effort in the Senate called the Asia Reassurance Initiative Act, or ARIA, which will set a generational policy toward the Indo-Pacific. I expect that the Senate Foreign Relations Committee will mark up ARIA in September, and I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this very important effort.

We know that China will continue to bully its neighbors and to test U.S. resolve, and we must respond accordingly.

On Monday, we heard the disturbing news that the nation of El Salvador,

under Chinese pressure, has decided to sever diplomatic ties with Taiwan in favor of Beijing. This is an outrageous and unwarranted move for El Salvador, which has enjoyed official relations with the Republic of China since 1933.

In response, I have introduced an amendment with Senator RUBIO to this legislation that will restrict U.S. funds to the government of El Salvador.

It is our sincere hope that this amendment will send a direct message to Taiwan's allies that the United States will use every tool to support Taiwan's standing on the international stage and will stand up to China's bullying tactics across the world.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 994.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Lynn A. Johnson, of Colorado, to be Assistant Secretary for Family Support, Department of Health and Human Services.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

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

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 Lynn A. Johnson, of Colorado, to be Assistant Secretary for Family Support, Department of Health and Human Services.

Mitch McConnell, Richard C. Shelby, Cory Gardner, John Boozman, Johnny Isakson, John Thune, John Cornyn, Pat Roberts, Ron Johnson, James M. Inhofe, Chuck Grassley, Lamar Alexander, Richard Burr, Lisa Murkowski, Michael B. Enzi, Roy Blunt, Bob Corker.

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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 910.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Richard Clarida, of Connecticut, to be Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for a term of four years.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

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

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 Richard Clarida, of Connecticut, to be Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for a term of four years.

Mitch McConnell, Richard C. Shelby, Cory Gardner, John Boozman, Johnny Isakson, John Thune, John Cornyn, Pat Roberts, Ron Johnson, James M. Inhofe, Chuck Grassley, Lamar Alexander, Richard Burr, Lisa Murkowski, Michael B. Enzi, Roy Blunt, Bob Corker.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 911.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Richard Clarida, of Connecticut, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for the unexpired term of fourteen years from February 1, 2008.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

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

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 Richard Clarida, of Connecticut, to

be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for the unexpired term of fourteen years from February 1, 2008.

Mitch McConnell, Richard C. Shelby, Cory Gardner, John Boozman, Johnny Isakson, John Thune, John Cornyn, Pat Roberts, Ron Johnson, James M. Inhofe, Chuck Grassley, Lamar Alexander, Richard Burr, Lisa Murkowski, Michael B. Enzi, Roy Blunt, Bob Corker.

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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 783.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Joseph H. Hunt, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

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

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 Joseph H. Hunt, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

Mitch McConnell, Richard C. Shelby, Cory Gardner, John Boozman, Johnny Isakson, John Thune, John Cornyn, Pat Roberts, Ron Johnson, James M. Inhofe, Chuck Grassley, Lamar Alexander, Richard Burr, Lisa Murkowski, Michael B. Enzi, Roy Blunt, Bob Corker.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we move to proceed to legislative session.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 720.