

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Janet Dhillon, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for a term expiring July 1, 2022.

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 Janet Dhillon, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for a term expiring July 1, 2022.

Mitch McConnell, Lamar Alexander, Tim Scott, Mike Crapo, Shelley Moore Capito, John Hoeven, Roger F. Wicker, Roy Blunt, David Perdue, John Thune, Pat Roberts, Johnny Isakson, John Cornyn, Thom Tillis, John Boozman, Mike Rounds, Richard Burr.

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. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 117.

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 senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Michael H. Park, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit.

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 Michael H. Park, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit.

Mitch McConnell, Tom Cotton, John Boozman, Mitt Romney, Roy Blunt,

Joni Ernst, Mike Braun, Thom Tillis, John Hoeven, Pat Roberts, Johnny Isakson, Mike Rounds, James E. Risch, John Cornyn, Mike Crapo, Roger F. Wicker, John Barrasso.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions be waived.

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

The Senator from Georgia.

TRIBUTE TO WOODY WOODSIDE

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, one of the great honors we have in the Senate is the tradition of bringing Americans of great reputation and achievement before the RECORD of the U.S. Senate.

Today, I am proud to rise to speak about a personal friend of mine—we don't often get to do this—a man by the name of Woody Woodside. He is actually here with us today in the Senate Galleries.

Woody is the epitome of what makes America great. He is an institution in south Georgia and in my hometown. Woody has never met a stranger. He is a man of character and a joy to be around.

Woody graduated from The Citadel and spent 23 years serving our country in the Army and the Georgia Army National Guard. He later worked 13 years as a congressional staffer for Congressman Bo Ginn and Congressman Lindsay Thomas, both of whom represented Georgia's First Congressional District.

Woody then became president of the Brunswick-Golden Isles Chamber of Commerce in Glynn County, where my wife, Bonnie, and I today reside. During his 34 years at the chamber, Woody has overseen a number of major economic development projects and been a true leader not only in that community but across our entire State. Much of Brunswick's success and, indeed, the success of our entire State of Georgia can be attributed to Woody Woodside.

Woody is honest, persistent, and reliable. He knows how to get things done. He knows how to laugh.

Woody has long been an advocate for Georgia's ports, and he played a pivotal role in securing funding to deepen the Brunswick Harbor. That project was completed in 2007 and enabled the port to specialize in roll-on, roll-off cargo, like cars, trucks, and heavy construction equipment. Because of that, today, the Brunswick Port is the No. 1 port in the United States for new auto imports and the No. 2 port for roll-on, roll-off cargo in total. It is an amazing development in less than a decade. This port is a major economic driver in coastal Georgia and supports 11,000 jobs in the Brunswick area.

Woody has also worked to develop a strong and diverse base of employers in the area. Today, Glynn County is home to the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, FLETC, which is the largest homeland security training center in the United States. It is also home to companies like Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation, a major medical center, the College of Coastal Georgia, and a strong tourism industry.

One of Woody's top priorities is workforce development, and it has been throughout his entire career. In 2009, through partnerships with business and education leaders, Woody helped to open the Golden Isles College and Career Academy. It was one of the first programs of its kind in the entire State of Georgia. Last year, Golden Isles College and Career Academy was named the best career academy in Georgia. That is quite an achievement.

Clearly, our citizens, our community, and our entire state are better off because of Woody Woodside's leadership, his dedication, and his perseverance.

Woody, Bonnie, and I can't thank you enough for all you have done for us personally and for the State of Georgia. We are proud to know you and to call you our friend. We wish you and Ellen all the best in your retirement.

I know this won't be the last time we hear of Woody Woodside.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

BARR HEARING

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, yesterday, we had what I believe will be viewed as a historic hearing in the Senate Judiciary Committee. It is a committee I have been on for now about 4½ years.

The Attorney General, Mr. Barr, came before the committee to answer questions about the special counsel investigation—an investigation that took 675 days, cost more than \$25 million, had 34 people indicted, including Russian nationals, more than 2,800 subpoenas, 500 witnesses, 500 search warrants, more than 230 orders for communication records, and 13 evidence requests to foreign countries. I think by those measures, that is considered a pretty extensive investigation.

Back about 2 years ago, in August of 2017, Senator GRAHAM and I and a couple of other Members actually filed a bill to make it difficult to have a special counsel removed before an investigation had been completed. I actually took a fair amount of heat from people on my side of the aisle for doing that, but I believed we needed to have this investigation run its course, and it did. It culminated in a more than 400-page report that now is largely available to the public. In fact, of the 400—I think it is almost 440 pages—90 percent of volume I, which is the volume that talks about Russia tampering with U.S. elections, 90 percent of that is available to the American public. Volume II—the volume focused on whether there was obstruction of justice—98 percent of that was made available to the American people 3 weeks after the Department of Justice received the unredacted report.

Now, for the leaders of the Senate, 99.9 percent of the special counsel's report is available. You could say: Why not 100 percent? Because we have rules here—and I think it is also important to point out that the Attorney General

had no legal obligation to release any of this. This could have been deemed a confidential matter, and it could never have been available to the general public. The Attorney General took the extraordinary step of making sure that as much as possible could be made available, and he did a great job.

I might add that throughout the entire process, the White House had the opportunity to assert Executive privilege. They could actually have portions of the report blocked out or have it redacted, which falls short of that. The White House never reached out and requested any omissions or, actually, redactions of the report, which means you can't read it publicly—not one in the nearly 3½ weeks it took for the Attorney General to get the report ready for public consumption.

Some people are wondering, why did it take so long? Because the process of redaction has to take into account basically three different considerations. You have to determine whether there is a matter there that could be embarrassing to a party who had no involvement; they were just a witness in the investigation. It could be because there are ongoing investigations, or it could be because it is a threat to homeland security. But even with that, 90 percent of it is available to the general public, on Russian tampering—98 percent.

The reason I tell you that is at the hearing yesterday, if you sit on the Judiciary Committee—I am not a lawyer. I am a businessperson who has been on the Judiciary Committee for 4½ years. So I don't necessarily go at this debate the same way that maybe an attorney would. We had a lot of the people in the committee really trying to mislead the American people. They were saying that there was wrongdoing because the Department of Justice had to take about 3½ weeks to get the report ready for prime time. We are saying that the report is available. It took about 3 or 4 weeks to actually make it available. But they are almost suggesting that was a criminal or obstructionist act.

Some, instead of going down that tack, said that a letter—I have to explain the timeline.

On March 24, the Attorney General issued a letter saying that the bottom line of the report they were reviewing was that there was no crime committed by the President and that there was insufficient evidence to even suggest there was obstruction.

Now, you have to understand these two working in play. The crime that many of my colleagues and friends on the other side of the aisle said the President committed never happened. After 675 days and all the interviews and all the warrants and everything that I have said, there was no underlying crime.

The second half of the report is about obstruction. This would be obstruction in an investigation that concluded there was no underlying crime. The President was deemed not to have com-

mitted a crime. The President was deemed not to have committed obstruction of justice.

So now we turn to a request to have Robert Mueller come before the Judiciary Committee so they can ask him questions. What questions could he possibly answer that are not embodied in a report that took 675 days, \$25 million, hundreds of witnesses, and dozens of full-time professionals? What more could Robert Mueller possibly say in a 3- or 4-hour hearing that is not embodied in this report and within the full view of the American public? I don't think it is about that.

Actually, one of the arguments that were used in the committee was, we need his advice on how to prevent Russia from tampering in our elections. Really? I don't need an attorney's advice on how to prevent Russia from tampering in our elections. Prosecutors determine whether laws are broken. Robert Mueller is not a professional in cyber security and elections safety; he is actually a prosecutor who finished his job.

Some of the other ones said: Well, the reason we want to get his input is because the President is not interested in securing elections. Well, I would ask them to go back to the classified briefings that I have sat in and they have sat in where the administration is clearly taking aggressive actions to make sure that Russia can't penetrate our State election systems and that they can't meddle in the way they attempted to in 2016.

So what this really boils down to is theater—some of it almost to the level of comedy. Let me give an example.

There was a House hearing today, and I am about to put up a picture that actually was on C-SPAN that actually occurred in a House hearing. You tell me whether the chair of that committee is actually serious about this subject when you have a guy eating fried chicken in place of where they wanted Attorney General Barr to be. This guy didn't even have good enough sense to have Bojangles' chicken. And they have the chair and others letting him have that kind of theater in a House committee room.

Really? I mean, can you honestly say you are serious about this, or is this like a circus and a political tool because you lost? You wanted the President to be guilty. You wanted to prove he obstructed. I get that. A lot of it was a political exercise. But the bottom line is, after 675 days, almost \$30 million when it is all totaled up, 34 people indicted, including Russians, 2,800 subpoenas, 500 witnesses interviewed, 500 search warrants executed, 230 orders for communication records, and 13 requests to foreign countries to provide information—really? These folks—some of them are prosecutors—know better.

I will tell you that I think the American people want my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to focus on what Americans are really worried about.

They are worried about their economic security. They are worried about their healthcare security. They are worried about keeping a job. They are worried about sending their kids to college and putting them through school. If you want to win an election next year, stop playing games and stop the theater.

The President is not guilty of a crime. The President is not guilty of obstruction of justice. It went through one of the most rigorous investigations in modern history.

To my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, prove what policies and priorities you have for the American people, and win on the basis of your ideas on your commitments. Stop the theater, and get back to work.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

TRIBUTE TO DANIELLE RIHA

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, it is Thursday afternoon, and it is one of the times that I enjoy the most in the Senate because it is the time I get to come down on the Senate floor and talk about my State, talk about the people in my State, and talk about the people who make Alaska a great and unique State in our wonderful country.

It is the time when we talk about the person I refer to as the Alaskan of the Week. It is someone who has helped to make their community or Alaska or America—or sometimes all of the above—a better place. I think it is the pages' favorite time, too, because they get to learn about Alaska and hear all of the unique aspects that make Alaska such a great, wonderful, and unique State.

To those listening in the Gallery or on TV, I always make a plug. It is also a time to pitch Alaska for our visitors. Come on up. You will have the trip of a lifetime guaranteed. Don't put it off. It is time to book your trip to the great State of Alaska.

Today I am going to recognize an extraordinary teacher, Danielle Riha, whom I just had the privilege of meeting right here off the Senate floor, and who is in the Gallery right now. We are excited that she is hear watching. She teaches at the Alaska Native Cultural Charter School in Anchorage. That is a pre-K through eighth grade charter school. She is our Alaskan of the Week.

You might say: What is she doing? Why is she in town?

She is in town because she was chosen to be the 2019 Alaska Teacher of the Year. She is so impressive in her profession and her teaching is so impactful on her students that she was one of four finalists in America—across the country—to be chosen for the National Teacher of the Year award for the whole country.

What does that mean?

In other words, she is viewed by her peers, by her students, and by others as one of the top four teachers in the United States of America—our Alaskan teacher of the year. We are so proud of her.