

cut funding, they increase redtape, they rail against bureaucrats and bureaucracy, but they make it harder with more redtape. They come up with rule after unnecessary rule to dissuade young women from coming to these clinics.

These rules aren't really about patient health; they are about closing health clinics. Again, who made these laws? It is always the same. It is men who don't listen, men who don't understand how women's bodies' work. It is men who don't understand how preventive care, like birth control, works. It is time for old White men in Washington and in courtrooms to stop trying to take away women's healthcare.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

#### 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 John Rakolta, Jr., of Michigan, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the United Arab Emirates.

Mitch McConnell, David Perdue, John Cornyn, John Barrasso, Mike Crapo, John Thune, Tim Scott, John Hoeven, Shelley Moore Capito, Kevin Cramer, John Boozman, Steve Daines, Richard Burr, James E. Risch, Roy Blunt, Thom Tillis, Martha McSally.

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 Rakolta, Jr., of Michigan, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the United Arab Emirates, 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. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY), and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from

California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBACHER), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 55, nays 27, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 282 Ex.]

#### YEAS—55

Barrasso	Graham	Perdue
Blackburn	Grassley	Peters
Blunt	Hassan	Portman
Boozman	Hawley	Rounds
Braun	Hoeven	Rubio
Burr	Inhofe	Sasse
Capito	Isakson	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Collins	Jones	Shaheen
Coons	King	Shelby
Cornyn	Lankford	Sinema
Cotton	Lee	Stabenow
Cramer	Manchin	Sullivan
Crapo	McConnell	Tester
Daines	McSally	Thune
Enzi	Moran	Tillis
Ernst	Murkowski	Young
Fischer	Murphy	
Gardner	Paul	

#### NAYS—27

Baldwin	Durbin	Reed
Blumenthal	Feinstein	Rosen
Brown	Heinrich	Schumer
Cantwell	Hirono	Smith
Cardin	Kaine	Udall
Carper	Leahy	Van Hollen
Casey	Markey	Warner
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Whitehouse
Duckworth	Merkley	Wyden

#### NOT VOTING—18

Alexander	Hyde-Smith	Romney
Bennet	Kennedy	Sanders
Booker	Klobuchar	Schatz
Cruz	Murray	Toomey
Gillibrand	Risch	Warren
Harris	Roberts	Wicker

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 55, the nays are 27.

The motion is agreed to.

The majority leader is recognized.

#### ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, the postcloture time on the Rakolta nomination expire at noon on Tuesday, September 17; further, that if cloture is invoked on the Howerly nomination, the postcloture time expire at 3:30 p.m., and if either of the nominations are confirmed the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; finally, that notwithstanding rule XXII, following disposition of the Howerly nomination, the Senate vote on the cloture motions for the Destro, McIntosh, and Callanan nominations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Sen-

ate proceed to legislative session to be in 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.

#### TRIBUTE TO JAMES MIDDLETON

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, Dr. James Middleton has spent nearly every day of his adult life caring for others. As a family physician in Hart County, KY, he has dedicated himself to promoting the health and well-being of his community. When he inherited the family farm and its 150-year-old history, James also made a pledge to conserve that land for all those who might enjoy it.

Recently, my friend was recognized for the exceptional care he has provided to his community with the Kentucky Leopold Conservation Award. I would like to take a moment to congratulate him on this prestigious recognition and to thank him for his years of conservation to protect our environment and benefit Kentucky communities.

Our Commonwealth is blessed with a rich ecosystem and picturesque landscapes. James' home, including the years-old tobacco farm, is near two of our most remarkable natural treasures: the Mammoth Cave system and the Green River. In an effort to help protect these magnificent features, James chose to participate in the Tobacco Buyout, which was created by legislation I introduced to free Kentucky farmers from a Depression-era tobacco quota system. He set out on a new agricultural path and focused on crops that would protect his region and one of the most bio-diverse rivers in the world.

James designed a new style of land management specifically to benefit the natural environment of his community and our country. He began growing hay, raising pasture-fed cattle, and harvesting hardwoods. By his estimation, he has planted more than a million trees, and the majority of his farm is now forestland. As a result, his 600 acres of vegetation have formed a natural barrier to protect the Green River from runoff and other threats.

I would like to congratulate my friend for his remarkable leadership in Hart County and his important conservation work that has benefited Kentucky and our environment. He is certainly deserving of this distinguished award, and I ask my Senate colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. James Middleton for his passionate protection of our heritage.

#### TRIBUTE TO PATSY SMULLIN

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, today I want to recognize and honor a quintessential Oregonian and legendary figure in our State's media circles, Patsy Smullin.

On September 12, Patsy earned well-deserved honors from the National Association of Broadcasters for her long-time leadership as president and owner of California Oregon Broadcasting, Inc., COBI.

As association president and our former Senate colleague Gordon Smith put it in presenting Patsy with its Chuck Sherman Television Leadership Award for local TV in medium and smaller markets, “Patsy’s passion for excellence in small market local television is unmatched. She exemplifies the best of broadcasting by running the longest continuously-owned and operated, independent broadcast organization in the West.”

Like former Senator Smith and countless elected officials throughout our State, I have come to know Patsy from regular visits to southern Oregon for townhalls, community meetings, and more.

When I visit TV station KOB1 in Medford, I can always count on a wide-ranging and thought-provoking set of questions from her station’s journalists, and of course, that steadfast commitment to serious and fair journalism starts at the top with Patsy.

As the son of a journalist, I very much appreciate her unshakable dedication to independent journalism that continues in the very best tradition of both her profession and in the legacy established back in 1933 by California Oregon Broadcasting, Inc.

As a Senator, I appreciate in equal measure her rock-solid devotion to local journalism that serves viewers so well in all of southern Oregon.

In Patsy’s remarks accepting her award, she noted that “Television in medium and smaller markets is a business where the hours are often long, the pressure to get it right is heavy, and the monetary compensation is not equal to the responsibilities.”

Then with classic Patsy modesty, she added, “I have been very fortunate throughout my career to be surrounded by individuals who might not make a lot of money, but who make a positive difference in their community each and every day and love their work.”

I will conclude my remarks by saying all of southern Oregon is incredibly fortunate that Patsy has set the bar high both for working long hours and love of her profession to make a positive difference in her community each and every day.

#### TRIBUTE TO PETER B. EDELMAN

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I want to recognize the work that Professor Peter B. Edelman, faculty director of the Center on Poverty and Inequality at Georgetown University, has done and for his decades-long career fighting for working families. Along with his equally if not more impressive wife, Marian Wright Edelman, it is not an exaggeration to say the two have improved the lives of millions of Americans.

A key figure in planning Senator Robert F. Kennedy’s memorable tour of the Mississippi Delta, Professor Edelman continues to help expose the crippling poverty that still permeates through our country. His books “So Rich, So Poor: Why It’s so Hard to End Poverty in America” and “Not a Crime to Be Poor. The Criminalization of Poverty in America” have been important in shaping my view on the lack of economic mobility in America. A dedicated public servant who has worked in various administrations and organizations, Professor Edelman has been on the forefront of promoting and implementing social justice policies.

While I recognize we live in a time where politicians and special interests groups have tipped the scales in favor of corporations and the wealthy, I am encouraged to know that Professor Edelman is educating the next generation of anti-poverty advocates.

As the Coalition on Human Needs honors Professor Edelman as a recipient of its 2019 Human Needs Hero award, I want to express my thanks for his work as an advocate of working families. He has improved countless lives, and his pragmatic yet principled approach serves as a model for those pursuing social change now and for years to come. For these reasons, it is my honor and privilege today to recognize the achievements of Professor Peter B. Edelman.

#### 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF JOURNEY HOUSE

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Journey House in Milwaukee, WI, on its 50th anniversary. For five decades, Journey House has been a beacon of hope in the city’s Clarke Square neighborhood. Since its founding in the summer of 1969, Journey House has made tremendous strides in helping families move out of poverty on Milwaukee’s near Southside. I am delighted to honor this remarkable community organization and commemorate this significant milestone.

Through its four core programs, Journey House has helped low-income community members achieve their greatest potential. Its adult education program provides basic skills and GED education in both English and Spanish to lay the foundation for a successful career path. Its youth development programs focus on keeping children and young adults away from drugs and violence. Its emphasis on workforce readiness builds the skills and motivation employers seek. Its family engagement events offer the simple but important gift of spending time together in a safe and welcoming environment. Programming also includes community learning centers, housing for homeless youth aging out of foster care, and affordable family housing.

Journey House began with a staff of two local teenagers, Zlan Kleczewski and Rudy Rosas, working as codirec-

tors. With funding from VISTA—Volunteers in Service to America—they organized programs for youth engagement and development. As Journey House started to grow and as Zlan and Rudy returned to school, the organization sought permanent leadership.

After receiving its first VISTA grant in 1969, Journey House hired its first full-time director in 1971. Today, Journey House is led by Dr. Michele Bria who, since her start in 1998, has been the inspiration behind the agency’s success. Under her leadership, the agency has grown from a small operation with two sites and a \$200,000 budget to a multimillion dollar organization that serves thousands daily. Her hard work and commitment are reflected in the achievements of countless youth and families who have broken the cycle of poverty.

From its humble beginnings five decades ago, Journey House has played a transformative role in one of Milwaukee’s most ethnically diverse and economically challenged neighborhoods. I am proud to recognize the contributions made by Journey House over the past 50 years, and I am grateful for the work the staff do every day to change lives for the better.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### RECOGNIZING HIGH STREET CHURCH

• Mr. JONES. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of High Street Church of Christ in Tuscumbia, AL. For over a century, this church has been a source of hope and inspiration to the city of Tuscumbia and the State of Alabama. Through their ministry and outreach, they have transformed the lives of so many Alabamians.

Last year, on September 28-30, High Street Church of Christ hosted their centennial celebration with 2 days of events commemorating 100 years of tireless work and dedication. The speakers for the event included Brothers Michael S. Robert, Mansel Long, and Stanley Hubbard, many of whom who have been longstanding members of the church. I am proud to be able to honor the High Street Church here on the U.S. Senate floor and to let the congregants of this church know that they have my support and good wishes.

In is written, “Upon this rock I will build my church.” High Street Church of Christ has proven to be a rock—a pillar of the local community in Northwest Alabama—since its inception in 1918. High Street Church has been a trailblazer as one of the first minority congregations in north Alabama. Under the current leadership of Brothers Eddie Goodloe, William Long, Roderick Metcalf, and Thomas Sledge, the church’s good work continues.

As they approach their 101st celebration, I congratulate the church on its first 100 years, and I look forward its continued growth and watching its