

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 391 Ex.]

YEAS—51

Alexander	Fischer	Perdue
Barrasso	Gardner	Portman
Blackburn	Graham	Risch
Blunt	Grassley	Roberts
Boozman	Hawley	Romney
Braun	Hoeven	Rounds
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Capito	Inhofe	Sasse
Cassidy	Isakson	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Kennedy	Shelby
Cramer	Lankford	Sullivan
Crapo	Lee	Thune
Cruz	McConnell	Tillis
Daines	McSally	Toomey
Enzi	Moran	Wicker
Ernst	Murkowski	Young

NAYS—44

Baldwin	Hassan	Reed
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Rosen
Brown	Hirono	Schatz
Cantwell	Jones	Schumer
Cardin	Kaine	Shaheen
Carper	King	Sinema
Casey	Klobuchar	Smith
Collins	Leahy	Stabenow
Coons	Manchin	Tester
Cortez Masto	Markey	Udall
Duckworth	Menendez	Van Hollen
Durbin	Merkley	Warner
Feinstein	Murphy	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Murray	Wyden
Harris	Peters	

NOT VOTING—5

Bennet	Paul	Warren
Booker	Sanders	

The nomination was confirmed.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. 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.

CLOTURE MOTION

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. 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 Joseph Sullivan, of Maryland, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Russian Federation.

Mitch McConnell, Thom Tillis, Richard Burr, Pat Roberts, John Cornyn, John Hoeven, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Roger F. Wicker, Marco Rubio, John Boozman, James E. Risch, John Barrasso, John Thune, Roy Blunt, Lamar Alexander, Mike Braun, Shelley Moore Capito.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. 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 Joseph Sullivan, of Maryland, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Russian Federation, 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. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 69, nays 25, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 392 Ex.]

YEAS—69

Alexander	Gardner	Murphy
Barrasso	Graham	Perdue
Blackburn	Grassley	Portman
Blunt	Hassan	Risch
Boozman	Hawley	Roberts
Braun	Hoeven	Romney
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rosen
Cardin	Inhofe	Rounds
Carper	Isakson	Rubio
Casey	Johnson	Sasse
Collins	Jones	Scott (FL)
Coons	Kaine	Scott (SC)
Cortez Masto	Kennedy	Shaheen
Duckworth	King	Shelby
Durbin	Lankford	Sinema
Feinstein	Leahy	Sullivan
Gillibrand	Manchin	Tester
Harris	Markey	Thune
	Menendez	Tillis
	Merkley	Van Hollen
	Murphy	Warner
	Murray	Whitehouse
	Peters	Wyden

NAYS—25

Baldwin	Heinrich	Schumer
Blumenthal	Hirono	Smith
Brown	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Cantwell	Markey	Udall
Casey	Menendez	Warner
Duckworth	Murray	Whitehouse
Durbin	Peters	Wyden
Gillibrand	Reed	
Harris	Schatz	

NOT VOTING—6

Bennet	Burr	Sanders
Booker	Paul	Warren

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 69, the nays are 25.

The motion is agreed to.

The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there be 2 minutes of debate equally divided between the Senator from Washington and myself and that there be 2 minutes of debate equally divided between the two leaders prior to the following vote. I further ask that the remaining votes in this series be 10 minutes each.

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

The Senator from Washington.

NOMINATION OF STEPHEN HAHN

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, the Food and Drug Administration plays an important part in our families' everyday lives. When people across the country do anything from using a medical device, to getting a prescription filled, to sitting down together to eat,

they rely on the FDA to keep them safe and healthy.

There is a lot at stake for our families, and it is critical that we know the FDA's leadership will uphold its gold standard of safety and effectiveness and put people's health and well-being first. I am not convinced that is the case under Hahn's leadership.

I have reviewed his records and carefully considered his answers on key issues. I want the Senate to know I was particularly concerned by his evasive response when it came to how to address skyrocketing youth e-cigarette use. Just a few months ago, the Trump administration promised it would take action and pull non-tobacco-flavored e-cigarette products from the market until after the FDA had reviewed them, only to reverse its course.

We need a leader at the FDA who will fight for our families and stand up to this administration on this important policy. When Members from both sides of the aisle asked him about this, he refused to commit to follow through on the promising step President Trump decided to abandon. So given his answers—or lack thereof, really—on this concerning issue, I am voting no on this confirmation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. ALEXANDER. We have a vacancy at the Food and Drug Administration. So what if someone said: Wouldn't it be a good idea to go see if we can recruit the chief medical officer at the MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, one of the most distinguished institutions in the world, an organization that is even larger than the FDA? Wouldn't it be a good idea to go get a practicing oncologist? Wouldn't it be a good idea to get somebody who has worked at the National Institutes of Health and who has letters of recommendation from more than 80 organizations? Wouldn't it be a good idea to get someone who has been recommended and endorsed by the last five FDA Commissioners, under Presidents Trump, Obama, and Bush?

Well, we have such a person. That person came out of our committee 18 to 5—Dr. Stephen Hahn, the Chief Medical Officer of the MD Anderson Cancer Center. We should be grateful he is willing to take this job at this period of time.

I urge a "yes" vote, Mr. President.

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 Stephen Hahn, of Texas, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services.

Mitch McConnell, Thom Tillis, Richard Burr, Pat Roberts, John Cornyn, John Hoeven, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Roger F. Wicker, James Lankford, John Boozman, James E. Risch, John Barrasso, John Thune, Roy Blunt, Lamar Alexander, Mike Braun, Shelley Moore Capito.

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 Stephen Hahn, of Texas, 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 North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), 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 result was announced—yeas 74, nays 19, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 393 Ex.]

YEAS—74

Alexander	Feinstein	Portman
Baldwin	Fischer	Risch
Barrasso	Gardner	Roberts
Blackburn	Graham	Romney
Blunt	Grassley	Rosen
Boozman	Hawley	Rounds
Braun	Hoeven	Rubio
Brown	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Capito	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Cardin	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Carper	Jones	Shaheen
Casey	Kaine	Shelby
Cassidy	Kennedy	Sinema
Collins	King	Sullivan
Coons	Lankford	Tester
Cornyn	Lee	Thune
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Tillis
Cotton	McConnell	Toomey
Cramer	McSally	Van Hollen
Crapo	Menendez	Warner
Cruz	Moran	Whitehouse
Daines	Murkowski	Wicker
Durbin	Murphy	Wyden
Enzi	Perdue	Young
Ernst	Peters	

NAYS—19

Blumenthal	Hirono	Schatz
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Schumer
Duckworth	Leahy	Smith
Gillibrand	Markley	Stabenow
Harris	Merkley	Udall
Hassan	Murray	
Heinrich	Reed	

NOT VOTING—7

Bennet	Isakson	Warren
Booker	Paul	
Burr	Sanders	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 74, the nays are 19.

The motion is agreed to.

There is 2 minutes of debate on both sides before the next vote.

The Senator from Delaware.

NOMINATION OF AURELIA SKIPWITH

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I take no joy today in rising to urge my col-

leagues to join me in voting no on the cloture of the nomination of Aurelia Skipwith to serve as Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

To my disappointment and dismay, Ms. Skipwith has not provided information pertaining to her activities at the Interior Department that was requested by Senate Democrats during her nomination process. Despite my repeated requests for this information since August—requests made twice in writing and twice in person during her nomination process—Ms. Skipwith has refused to produce information that is routinely provided by other nominees. She even suggested—get this—that I file a Freedom of Information Act request for the basic information I seek. I worry, once confirmed, Ms. Skipwith's forthrightness will only worsen, which will severely impair our ability to conduct meaningful oversight over the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Ms. Skipwith's lack of candor has elevated questions that already existed about her qualifications, her commitment to environmental conservation, and whether she can ethically lead the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. I believe it is irresponsible to confirm a nominee given these serious outstanding issues. I urge my colleagues to join me in voting no on cloture.

I thank the Presiding Officer.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, the Senate is considering the nomination of Aurelia Skipwith to be Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The agency needs Senate-confirmed leadership in place, and Ms. Skipwith is well qualified to serve as the Director. She has a degree in biology from Howard University, a degree in molecular genetics from Purdue University, and a law degree from the University of Kentucky. For almost 3 years, Ms. Skipwith has served as the Department of the Interior's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

At her nomination hearing, Ms. Skipwith was introduced by Democratic Congressman WILLIAM LACY CLAY, of Missouri. He said Ms. Skipwith was “one of the most talented, hardest working and driven persons that I have ever known.”

I encourage every Senator to support her nomination.

I yield the floor.

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 Aurelia Skipwith, of Indiana, to be Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

Mitch McConnell, Thom Tillis, Richard Burr, Pat Roberts, John Cornyn, John Hoeven, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Roger F. Wicker, Marco Rubio, John Boozman, James E. Risch, John Barrasso, John Thune, Roy Blunt, Lamar Alexander, Mike Braun, Shelley Moore Capito.

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 Aurelia Skipwith, of Indiana, to be Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. Booker), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. Sanders), 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 result was announced—yeas 53, nays 41, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 394 Ex.]

YEAS—53

Alexander	Gardner	Portman
Barrasso	Graham	Risch
Blackburn	Grassley	Roberts
Blunt	Hawley	Romney
Boozman	Hoeven	Rounds
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Capito	Inhofe	Sasse
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Collins	Jones	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Shelby
Cotton	Lankford	Sinema
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Manchin	Thune
Cruz	McConnell	Tillis
Daines	McSally	Toomey
Enzi	Moran	Werner
Ernst	Murkowski	Wicker
Fischer	Perdue	Young

NAYS—41

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

NOT VOTING—6

Booker	Isakson	Sanders
Burr	Paul	Warren

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 53 and the nays are 41.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.