

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 668) commemorating the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center's 50th Anniversary.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mrs. LOEFFLER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, that the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 668) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

Mrs. LOEFFLER. Madam President, 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. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. YOUNG). Without objection, it is so ordered.

MULTIEMPLOYER PENSION SYSTEM

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, the public health crisis and the economic crisis that are happening right now are not happening in a vacuum.

All the damage caused by the coronavirus and the President's failures is layered on top of all the existing problems of our country, including the crisis we have been facing for years in the multiemployer pension system.

More than a million American workers and retirees were already in danger of losing the retirement security that they earned. These are people who did everything right. They spent years working on assembly lines, bagging groceries, driving trucks, working hard to keep this economy going and to provide for their families. Money came out of every single one of their paychecks to pay into a pension system.

People in Washington don't understand the collective bargaining process. They either don't understand it or don't care to understand it. People give up dollars today at the bargaining table for the promise of a secure retirement, with healthcare and a pension.

This crisis affects thousands of Ohioans and people in Indiana, the Presiding Officer's State. It affects the massive Central States Pension Plan, the Bricklayers Local 7, the Ironworkers Local 17, the Ohio Southwest Carpenters Pension Plan, the Bakers and Confectioners Pension Plan, and on and on and on.

It touches every single State in the country. We are talking about our entire multiemployer pension system. If it collapses, it will not just be retirees who feel the pain. Current workers will be stuck paying into pensions they will never receive. Small businesses will be left drowning in pension liability they can't afford. Small businesses that have been in the family for generations could face bankruptcy.

I have seen those companies: Spangler Candy in Williams County, OH; Smucker's Preserves in Orrville, OH. We have seen these companies that have been family companies paying into this pension plan for generations, and workers lose jobs if businesses close up shop.

The effect will ripple through the entire economy. It is not only union businesses that participate in these plans that will close their doors. It would devastate small communities across the industrial heartland. Small businesses in these communities already are hurt because of this virus.

These pension plans were already in danger prior to February or March, or even April or May, when the President decided that this was a crisis. Now the economic emergency we are in has put them in a worse position.

The House did its part repeatedly. First, they passed the Butch Lewis Act. More than 2 months ago, they passed the Heroes Act, which includes a pension solution.

But under Senator MCCONNELL, the Senate has done nothing. It is time for us to do our part.

Leader MCCONNELL has refused to do anything on pensions. We could have fixed this last year. He chose not to. He didn't address it in the HEALS Act that he introduced last week, and he didn't address it in the CARES Act that we passed back in March.

There are reports the President, who has not been a friend of workers—putting it mildly—was fine with including a multiemployer pension fix in the CARES Act if Leader MCCONNELL wanted it. But Leader MCCONNELL stopped it, and the President wasn't willing to step in. He is supposed to lead the country, but he has outsourced his decision making to Senator MCCONNELL.

The Senate must act. If the entire multiemployer pension system collapses, it will make our economic crisis worse. We knew before this pandemic that the pension system could collapse. It is only more likely to fail now. If that happens, we know who gets hurt the most. It is not the Wall Street banks that squandered workers' money. It is small businesses. It is workers. It is employees who did everything right. Their lives and livelihoods will be devastated if Congress doesn't do our job.

Workers and retirees in Ohio and around the country have rallied in the name of Butch Lewis, a great Ohioan who helped lead this fight and passed away far too soon, fighting for his fel-

low workers. His wife, Rita Lewis, has continued his fight and has become a leader and an inspiration to so many of us.

Rita once told me that retirees and workers struggling with this crisis feel like they are invisible. These Americans aren't invisible to me. They shouldn't be invisible to this body.

They aren't invisible to Speaker PELOSI or Leader SCHUMER. They are not invisible to Senator SMITH, who is from Minnesota and has done yeoman's work on this; or Senator PETERS from Michigan, who has spoken out and fought for better laws; or Chairman NEAL in the House; or Chairman SCOTT from Virginia in the House; and many of my colleagues who worked for years now trying to find a bipartisan solution.

We are not giving up. As we know, it comes back to the dignity of work. When work has dignity, we honor the retirement security people earn. When you love this country, you fight for the people who make it work.

I urge my colleagues in this body—colleagues with healthcare and retirement plans paid for by taxpayers—to think about these retired workers and the stress—on top of the stress of the coronavirus—they are facing.

Join us. Let's pass a solution that honors their work, that honors the dignity of work, and that keeps our promise.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, all postcloture time has expired.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Cronan nomination?

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

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) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN).

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

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) is necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 55, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 157 Ex.]

YEAS—55

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

NAYS—42

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

NOT VOTING—3

Alexander	Blackburn	Duckworth
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The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. 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.

The Senator from Alaska.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SULLIVAN. 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.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 494

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I wanted to come down and speak today about a very important sector of the economy for Alaska and for America—that is, our fishermen—and some important, very bipartisan legislation that I am trying to move right now that I am hopeful everybody can agree to. The Senate has agreed to it previously, and I am really hopeful that we can do it again right now.

I talk about the great State of Alaska being the superpower of seafood. Over 60 percent of all seafood—commercial, recreational—harvested in America comes from my great State. Sixty percent. So this is a vital industry in my State but also a vital industry in the country.

As my colleagues know, our fishermen are some of the hardest working Americans. They are also some of the Americans who have been hit the hardest by this pandemic. The Saltonstall-Kennedy Act helps these hard-working men and women across the country by providing consistent funding for fisheries research and development and related programs, grant programs—very popular.

Decades ago, Congress authorized a group of experts from all around the country—Alaska, the east coast—and vessel owners, fishermen, and distributors to advise the Secretary of Commerce on how to distribute these funds. It makes sense. They are the closest to the action. Over time, unfortunately, this group was disbanded. Nobody thought that was a good idea—abolishing this advisory committee.

Then you had the National Marine Fisheries essentially determine how all of these Saltonstall-Kennedy funds would be distributed to fishermen. So, with all due respect to the DC bureaucrats, they are the ones making the decisions.

So we have a bill—my bill—which, by the way, passed the Senate previously, unanimously, that members in the fishing community from all over the country be chosen to determine how to get these funds out to our fishermen, whether in New York or North Carolina or Alaska, and everybody thinks that makes sense.

Our fishermen need support right now; there is no doubt. They are being hammered by this pandemic. So the legislation that I am hopefully going to be able to pass in the Senate here in a couple of minutes has cosponsors across a broad political spectrum in the Senate: Senators CANTWELL, MARKEY, WARREN, MURKOWSKI, and myself.

I am aware of no policy objections to this important piece of legislation. To the contrary, it has already passed the Senate unanimously. I am, however, aware of an unrelated dispute between the Democratic leader and some of my Senate colleagues from the east coast regarding an entirely different bill. I respect disagreements over regional issues, and I certainly hope my colleagues can work them out, but this issue is thousands of miles away from Alaska and my constituents, the people I represent, who are hurting.

Moreover, the bill I am getting ready to introduce, S. 494, helps all fishermen nationwide—New York, North Carolina, Alaska.

The American Fisheries Advisory Committee Act, S. 494, should not be collateral damage or hostage taken in an unrelated fight. If my colleagues want to try and work together, I will certainly help them work out their differences, but I don't think it is constructive to hold hostage this important legislation for a fight that is thousands of miles away from Alaska.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No.

179, S. 494; that the bill be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Objection.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from New York.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I ask unanimous consent that the request be modified so that in addition to the request of the Senator from Alaska, the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 317, S. 908, the Fluke Fairness Act.

I request that the bill be read a third time and passed and that motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the modification?

Mr. TILLIS. Reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, I have been in the Senate now for 5½ years, and I don't consider somebody a better friend, an advocate for his State than Senator SULLIVAN. I have actually spent a lot of time—even though Senator GILLIBRAND and I have differences in certain situations, we find ways to work together.

What I have before me, though, is something that is very important for people to understand. I agree with everything Senator SULLIVAN said. His measure, I suspect, has broad support, probably support on its own. But what we have here is the addition by the motion of Senator GILLIBRAND that affects my State, North Carolina. It has to do with reallocation of quotas. It would particularly affect the flounder industry in North Carolina.

I hope that we are able to work out our differences. I hope that we can get Senator SULLIVAN's bill passed. But because it has been amended to include something that hurts my fisheries in North Carolina and my commercial fishermen at the worst possible time, when they are suffering like everybody else from the COVID-19 crisis and all the challenges that that produces, I do object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Is there objection to the original request?

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, while I am disappointed, these are two good friends of mine on the Senate floor right now, whom I have worked with on numerous pieces of legislation. They both represent their States very well, but this is a missed opportunity for the fishermen of America—America, not