

I am very pleased that our legislation includes an additional \$20 billion in funding to allow the Department of Agriculture to continue to assist ag producers and processors.

We have also made sure to include liability protections for schools and businesses that are doing their best to protect others from the virus. Predatory trial lawyers are already lining up to exploit the COVID crisis for financial gain. We need to protect our economic recovery by ensuring that schools, businesses, and medical professionals aren't subjected to frivolous lawsuits for coronavirus infections that were beyond their control.

I would love to be able to say that Republicans will pass our coronavirus bill in the next couple of weeks, but, unfortunately, that depends on my Democratic colleagues. The Democratic leadership hasn't shown much inclination to work with Republicans. In fact, it has shown the opposite.

Speaker PELOSI spent more than 3 months—3 months—supposedly negotiating a coronavirus relief package that never arrived. Why? Because Democrats refused to put a reasonable offer on the table.

Members of the Speaker's own party pleaded with her to arrive at an agreement, but the Speaker wouldn't listen, and she is still not listening.

Despite the fact that her party lost a number of seats in the House in the election, the Speaker and the Democratic leader in the Senate are still refusing to come to the table to work with Republicans. In fact, the Speaker and the leader have doubled down—doubled down—on their unreasonable demands.

I get that Democratic leaders would like to be able to design their own coronavirus bill with no input from anyone else, but that is not what happens in a divided government.

In a divided government, both sides have to compromise in order to pass legislation. Republicans know that, and we are willing to compromise to get relief into the hands of the American people, but Democrats are not. Even as the coronavirus surges around the country, Democrats continue to insist on their way or the highway.

It is hard not to think that the Democratic leadership is more interested in exploiting this crisis for political gain than in actually getting relief to Americans.

We could have another COVID relief bill ready for passage tomorrow if Democrats would just come to the table. It is inexcusable that they haven't. But Republicans aren't giving up. We will continue to invite our Democratic colleagues to work with us to develop compromise legislation.

I hope that at least some of my colleagues from the other side of the aisle will decide that a pandemic is not the time to play politics and will work with us to deliver a bill to the American people.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. LOEFFLER). Without objection, it is so ordered.

VOTE ON JOHNSON NOMINATION

Under the previous order, all postcloture time on the nomination has expired.

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

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I request 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), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT).

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

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 230 Ex.]

YEAS—53

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

NAYS—43

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

NOT VOTING—4

| | |
|-----------|------------|
| Alexander | Harris |
| Grassley | Scott (FL) |

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.

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 Benjamin Joel Beaton, of Kentucky, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Kentucky.

Mitch McConnell, Mike Crapo, Tom Cotton, David Perdue, Mike Rounds, Pat Roberts, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Kevin Cramer, Lindsey Graham, Thom Tillis, Tim Scott, James E. Risch, Michael B. Enzi, John Cornyn, Roger F. Wicker, John Thune, John Boozman.

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 Benjamin Joel Beaton, of Kentucky, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Kentucky, 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 Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT).

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

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) is necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 52, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 231 Ex.]

YEAS—52

| | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|
| Barrasso | Enzi | McConnell |
| Blackburn | Ernst | McSally |
| Blunt | Fischer | Moran |
| Boozman | Gardner | Murkowski |
| Braun | Graham | Paul |
| Burr | Hawley | Perdue |
| Capito | Hoeven | Portman |
| Cassidy | Hyde-Smith | Risch |
| Collins | Inhofe | Roberts |
| Cornyn | Johnson | Romney |
| Cotton | Kennedy | Rounds |
| Cramer | Lankford | Rubio |
| Crapo | Lee | Sasse |
| Cruz | Loeffler | Scott (SC) |
| Daines | Manchin | Shelby |

Sinema
Sullivan
Thune

Tillis
Toomey
Wicker

Young

NAYS—44

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

NOT VOTING—4

Alexander Harris
Grassley Scott (FL)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The yeas are 52, the nays are 44.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Benjamin Joel Beaton, of Kentucky, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Kentucky.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:17 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mrs. CAPITO).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

VOTE ON BEATON NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All postcloture time has expired.

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

Mr. INHOFE. 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 senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT).

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

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) is necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 232 Ex.]

YEAS—52

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

NAYS—44

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

NOT VOTING—4

Alexander Harris
Grassley Scott (FL)

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 actions.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call with respect to the Shelton nomination be waived.

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

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 Judy Shelton, of California, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for the unexpired term of fourteen years from February 1, 2010.

Mitch McConnell, John Thune, Marsha Blackburn, Joni Ernst, Pat Roberts, John Cornyn, Lindsey Graham, Deb Fischer, Tim Scott, Lamar Alexander, Kevin Cramer, Mike Braun, John Hoeven, Mike Crapo, Michael B. Enzi, John Boozman, Thom Tillis.

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 Judy Shelton, of California, to be a

Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for the unexpired term of fourteen years from February 1, 2010, 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 Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT).

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

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

[Rollcall Vote No. 233 Ex.]

YEAS—47

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

NAYS—50

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

NOT VOTING—3

Alexander Grassley Scott (FL)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 47, the nays are 50, and the motion is not agreed to.

The motion was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

MOTION TO RECONSIDER

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I enter a motion to reconsider the vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion is entered.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call with respect to the Crouse nomination be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the