

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

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#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

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##### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, in a few moments, I will put forward a request to the Senate to take up and approve the nomination of an Oregonian, my friend Chuck Sams, President Biden's choice to lead the National Park Service.

I am just going to take a few minutes to talk about Chuck Sams and why he is the right person for this critical job.

Colleagues, we all know that the Park Service is often called America's best idea, and together those parks form a network of treasures that no other country can match.

The fact is, the National Park Service is not only about the views and the photo-ops. It is all about our country. It is what makes our country so special for so many.

The Director of the National Park Service is in charge of an organization of over 22,000 employees and almost a quarter million volunteers. The National Park System generates tens of millions of dollars of economic activity. The people of my State know particularly how important those critical outdoor treasures are for rural economies and rural jobs.

The fact also is that there are park units in every State in the country—urban parts, rural parts, historic American buildings, ancient archeological sites—and personnel at the Park Service do it all, from education to preservation, to maintenance, and even resilience against wildfire.

Chuck Sams has been a longtime Umatilla Tribal leader, and there he has served in a variety of roles. He is a member of the Northwest Power and Conservation Council, working with officials from across the Pacific Northwest. He is a veteran of the U.S. Navy. He is a role model—a role model—in so many respects, and particularly in the stewardship of America's lands, waters, wildlife, and history. And the Congress and the parkgoers are going to rely on him in the months and years ahead because we all know the Park Service faces big challenges.

I am going to wrap up and make my unanimous consent request, but, first, I want to commend my colleague from Alaska. My colleague and I have been working pretty much through the day.

I will be brief. I just want to thank the Senator from Alaska. We have been working throughout the day to resolve the whole issue of the Sams nomination.

This is a wonderful person who is going to give public service a really good name when he is confirmed.

My colleague from Alaska has raised a number of issues that he considers

very important to his State. He and I have worked together on a variety of these issues, both from the standpoint of the Energy Committee and most recently as chairman of the Finance Committee, when we have worked on some tax issues. So I want to thank him for his cooperation that is going to make it possible for us to advance this nomination tonight.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Executive Calendar No. 508, Charles F. Sams III, of Oregon, to be Director of the National Park Service, and that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, I just want to thank Senator WYDEN for his cooperation working on this nominee. Mr. Sams, I do agree, is qualified.

We had a long discussion this afternoon about some of the big issues that are impacting my State as it relates to the National Park Service.

You know, a lot of people love the National Park Service. Two-thirds of all National Park Service land in America is in Alaska—tens of millions of acres. It is bigger than almost every other State represented here on the Senate floor. That is just the National Park Service.

For decades, that Federal authority—the National Park Service authority in Alaska—has been abused. How do we know that it has been abused? Well, we recently had two—two—U.S. Supreme Court decisions that were 9-to-0 decisions, by the way, that essentially said the Park Service was not following the law in Alaska—two.

So my discussions with Mr. Sams and the commitments he made to me, I think, are going to help Alaska. I think they are going to help the National Park Service, and it is related to the National Park Service authorities.

After these two decisions—they were called the Sturgeon decisions—two in a row, at the U.S. Supreme Court, 9 to 0, by the way, and the U.S. Supreme Court telling the National Park Service: You are not following the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act. We call it ANILCA in Alaska. You are not following the Federal Government. You need to follow it.

So the commitment I got from Mr. Sams was there was a recent regulation from the Federal Government in November of 2020 providing specifics of how the National Park Service was going to implement these two U.S. Supreme Court cases—the Sturgeon case. And he committed to me to be true to these regulations and to faithfully execute these regulations in the National Park Service on implementing Sturgeon. That is a very big deal in Alaska.

He also committed to have all of his senior Alaska staff and senior staff

here in Washington, DC, take ANILCA training. This is a giant statute. The Federal Government often screws it up, and it has a negative impact on my State. So he committed to me that he will have his top leadership at the National Park Service take training to understand this complicated law. That will also help my constituents and the country very much.

So I want to, again, thank Senator WYDEN for working with me on these issues. These are important commitments that Mr. Sams has made, and I have no further objection to this nominee's confirmation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no objection, the clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Charles F. Sams III, of Oregon, to be Director of the National Park Service.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Sams nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all without intervening action or debate; that no further motions be made in order to the nomination; that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the Record; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate resume legislative session.

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

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#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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##### NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

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#### MORNING BUSINESS

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##### NOTICE OF A TIE VOTE UNDER S. RES. 27

Mr. MANCHIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to print the following letter in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

UNITED STATES SENATE, COMMITTEE  
ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES,

November 18, 2021.

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE: The nomination of Laura Daniel-Davis, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior, vice Joseph Balash, resigned, PN 761,

having been referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, the Committee, with a quorum present, has voted on the nomination as follows—

On the question of reporting the nomination favorably with the recommendation that the nomination be confirmed, 10 ayes to 10 nays.

In accordance with section 3, paragraph (1)(A) of S. Res. 27 of the 117th Congress, I hereby give notice that the Committee has not reported the nomination because of a tie vote and ask that this notice be printed in the RECORD pursuant to the resolution.

JOE MANCHIN III,  
*Chairman.*

#### VOTE EXPLANATION

Ms. CANTWELL. Madam President, on November 15, 2021, I was unable to be present for the rollcall vote No. 466 on the Motion to invoke cloture on Executive Calendar No. 401, the nomination of Graham Steele to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

However, had I been present, I would have voted in favor of the motion to invoke cloture. I supported Mr. Steele's nomination based on his strong track record as a respected expert on financial policy and consumer protection and his years of service in senior level positions here in the Senate.

#### WORLD DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR ROAD TRAFFIC VICTIMS

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam President, November 21, 2021, will mark the 26th World Day of Remembrance—WDoR—for Road Traffic Victims, commemorating the millions of people killed and injured on the world's road. It is also a day to thank emergency responders for their role in saving lives, to reflect on the impact of road traffic deaths and injuries on families and communities, and to draw attention to the need for improved legislation, awareness, infrastructure, and technology to save more families from the tragedy of losing a loved one.

More than 1 million people die from road crashes every year, and tens of millions are seriously injured. Road traffic crashes are the No. 1 killer of young people aged 15–29 and the eighth leading cause of death among all people worldwide. Rochelle Sobel, president of the Association for Safe International Road Travel, highlighted the gravity of this issue and the imperative to fix it: “Every 27 seconds, somewhere in the world, a person dies in a road crash.”

On this 26th anniversary of World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims, it is important to remember the history and recommit to the goals of this day. It was initiated in 1995 as the European Day of Remembrance and quickly spread around the globe to countries in Africa, South America, and Asia. In 2005, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution 60/2, recognizing November 15 as the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims. Since that time, the

observance of this day has continued to spread to a growing number of countries on every continent.

This year marks the start of the new Decade of Action for Road Safety 2021–2030, during which the WDoR will highlight the reasons for all of the necessary actions to be taken during this coming decade. Indeed, the day has become an important moment to focus international attention on this preventable epidemic and as an advocacy tool in global efforts to reduce road casualties. As a result of the growing awareness and global call to action that World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims has generated, in September 2020, the United Nations passed a resolution declaring the years 2021 to 2030 a new Decade of Action for Road Safety. The declaration affirms the UN's commitment to work vigorously to implement a new, ambitious agenda to halve road crash deaths by 2030.

Additionally, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 3.6 calls on governments and their stakeholders, including NGOs and private citizens, to address the personal, medical, and financial burdens associated with road traffic deaths and injuries.

The devastation of losing a child, parent, sibling, partner, friend, caregiver, or caretaker is immeasurable, as are the challenges of caring for a permanently disabled loved. Road traffic crashes are preventable, and so we owe it to our communities to work together so that the hopes and dreams of our loved ones are not shattered on the roads of the United States and the world. We must all take action to prevent these avoidable tragedies and save lives.

#### TRIBUTE TO JANET COIT

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Madam President, I rise today to honor Janet Coit, one of Rhode Island's most respected environmental advocates. Ms. Coit is the newly appointed Assistant Administrator for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service. She joined NOAA after a decade of committed service leading the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management under three Governors.

After graduating from Dartmouth College and Stanford Law School, where Ms. Coit was a member of the Environmental Law Journal, she served as counsel to the U.S. Senate Committee on the Environment and Public Works. She went on to serve as counsel and environmental coordinator for the late Senator John Chafee and, subsequently, his son Senator Lincoln Chafee.

Ms. Coit then returned to Rhode Island and began a decade of work as the State director for the Nature Conservancy, where she oversaw some of the State's largest land conservation projects.

Ms. Coit went on to be appointed by Governor Lincoln Chafee to serve as di-

rector of the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management. Governors Raimondo and McKee wisely kept her in that position. Her legacy at DEM includes streamlined permitting processes, new opportunities for families to connect with nature, and improved customer service. As the longest serving chief executive in DEM's history, she focused on public parks, promoting local food systems, Rhode Island's fishing and shellfish industries, and climate solutions. She seized opportunities to coordinate regional efforts, including addressing equity and justice issues, improving water quality, managing PFAS contamination, and fighting the climate crisis. In this capacity, she also served as chair of the Rhode Island Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council and on the board of directors for the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. She has received numerous awards for her outstanding contributions at DEM.

In June, the Biden-Harris administration appointed Ms. Coit to lead NOAA Fisheries, where she oversees fisheries management, protected species, and fisheries habitat conservation. She also serves as the Acting Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and Deputy Administrator, supporting and managing NOAA's coastal and marine programs.

We are fortunate that exceptional people like Ms. Coit choose to dedicate their careers to public service. I am proud to recognize her today and thank her for her many contributions to the State of Rhode Island and the Nation.

#### TRIBUTE TO DEBORAH SUE MAYER

Mr. COONS. Madam President, I rise as chairman of the Select Committee on Ethics, and on behalf of the vice chairman, members of the committee, and its staff, to pay tribute to Deborah Sue Mayer as she retires after 23 years of Federal service including the last 6 as chief counsel and staff director of the Select Committee on Ethics. As a paramedic, a naval officer, and attorney, Deb's career tells the story of a life dedicated to public service. She joined the Senate in January 2015 after 4 years as director of investigations for the House Committee on Ethics. From 2002 to 2011, Deb was a prosecutor with the U.S. Department of Justice; beginning as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Eastern District of New York's Organized Crime and Racketeering Section. Deb went on to serve in the Department of Justice Public Integrity Section of the Criminal Division, where she investigated and prosecuted corruption at all levels of government throughout the United States. Since 1998, Deb has served as a Judge Advocate in the U.S. Navy, first on Active Duty and continuing her career in the Reserve Force.

In her time as chief counsel and staff director, Deb personally advised members of the Committee and Senate,