

to lose a constitutional right that we have relied upon for almost 50 years.

Make no mistake, these radical Justices are just getting started. Alito's draft opinion, which denigrates any privacy basis for Roe, casts doubt on other privacy rights. Without privacy rights, the States are basically unfettered in what they do.

And now that the radical rightwing Justices are on the cusp of getting what they wish regarding abortion rights, Justice Alito is already signaling what is next: revisiting Obergefell, the marriage equality decision. And we know so much more is at stake.

We cannot sit back and accept this as our new normal. We cannot go back to a time when women had no autonomy over our own bodies. We cannot go back to a time when members of the LGBTQ+ community were treated as second-class citizens. And we cannot go back to a time where basic human rights were left up to the States—to the States—to decide.

Since when do States get to decide whether or not a constitutional right exists? That is what we have the Supreme Court for, and that is what the Supreme Court is not making sure that we continue to protect.

So here we are. Not only do we have to push to codify Roe nationally, but we have to take this fight to the ballots in November. As Justice Alito, in his draft opinion, cavalierly said, basically: All you women out there, go out and vote. So, yes, he is calling on the women of this country to use our energy and our resources to fight for a right, a constitutional right, that women in this country relied on for nearly 50 years. And, yes, that is exactly what we are going to do.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

#### NOMINATION OF ANN CLAIRE PHILLIPS

Ms. CANTWELL. Madam President, I rise today to urge my colleagues to support the nomination of RADM Ann Phillips to be Administrator of the Maritime Administration.

Rear Admiral Phillips served in the U.S. Navy for 31 years, served in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and held leadership positions such as the Director of Surface Warfare for the Chief of Naval Operations. Most recently, she served as special assistant to former Governor of Virginia Ralph Northam, where she focused on coastal adaptation and protection.

This nomination is so important to our maritime industry, especially as we are facing unprecedented challenges in the maritime supply chain. The Maritime Administration is responsible for

supporting America's maritime transportation industry, including supporting the health of the U.S. merchant marine fleet, investing in port infrastructure, supporting American shipyards, and growing and training the maritime workforce.

Never before have maritime and shipping issues been more important to the health of our economy and consumers. Our ports are handling record amounts of cargo as COVID-19 has caused consumers to shift their spending habits to e-commerce. The arrival of these imports has led to record volumes at our U.S. ports.

In 2021, the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach moved 10 million containers for the first time ever. In my State, the State of Washington, the Northwest Seaport Alliance saw a 15-percent increase in container volumes over the last year. So this unprecedented volume continues to cause massive challenges of ships backed up offshore and vessels anchoring or loitering in waiting areas near the Ports of L.A. and Long Beach. Twenty-two percent of sales have been lost by agricultural exports due to transportation delays and cancellations, with products like potatoes, milk, wheat, and seafood that are literally rotting on our port docks.

My colleagues and I have been working hard to pass the Ocean Shipping Reform Act. And we did that out of the Senate, and now, obviously, our colleagues in the House—we have different bills—hopefully, will either resolve this in USICA or, with the passage of one of these bills, with the Senate bill maybe being passed by the House.

But the Federal Maritime Commission needs tools to crack down on bad actors in the shipping industry and reduce costs facing consumers. Our bill that passed in March that, as I said, we are working to reconcile, we believe needs to become law as soon as possible.

But the bill is only a piece of the supply chain challenge. We need to make serious investments in our port infrastructure to handle the increasing capacity and get goods moving, and MARAD is charged with overseeing the Port Infrastructure Development Program, the primary grant program used to invest in our ports and help move our products. That is why it is so important to have this position.

President Biden's bipartisan infrastructure law included 2.25 billion MARAD port infrastructure development dollars for the next 5 years. I want to thank my colleague Senator WICKER for working with us on this—this is such critical infrastructure investment—and all my colleagues who supported those programs. This huge economic opportunity and the volume of our trade needs the infrastructure at our ports to continue to increase.

We need Rear Admiral Phillips confirmed to make sure those dollars get out the door and get them to our ports now. We need the leadership of this or-

ganization to improve the resiliency of our ports, which are vulnerable to climate change and extreme storms. And we need Rear Admiral Phillips' experience in coastal resiliency as we have charged MARAD with building a maritime industry for the future that makes sure that we are looking at shore power issues and operating on cleaner fuels.

And we need Rear Admiral Phillips' experience in the Navy that will bring the expertise to the workforce mission. MARAD is tasked with ensuring that the United States has a strong merchant marine workforce to support the U.S. Sealift Program. The events in Ukraine have shown us that we must deal with the shortage of merchant mariners. It is estimated that we are over 1,800 merchant marine officers short of the need in case of a conflict. With the rise of China and the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, we cannot take another minute for granted for the need for U.S.-flagged ships and U.S. mariners to support the logistics of the U.S. military. I know the Presiding Officer knows this very well.

In addition to strengthening our workforce, we need to invest in our shipyards, maintain our national defense needs as well as strengthen the U.S. flag fleet. This means investing in modern shipyards and identifying incentives to build new generations of U.S.-flagged ships.

These U.S. merchant mariners are also vital to the maritime industry. My State and various States face a workforce shortage and many of our other maritime sectors also. We need to skill and train a workforce for tomorrow.

Maritime jobs are good, family wage jobs, but we need to have a talented workforce that is inclusive, and we need to have an inclusive environment and work with the Coast Guard and the maritime industry to address issues of sexual assault and harassment to keep people safe in the workplace at sea.

Rear Admiral Phillips is the right person for this job to help the industry, the maritime unions, the shipping companies, and the Coast Guard to foster change. She has been a trailblazer in her career because she has been the first woman to command a destroyer squadron, the first woman Director of Surface Warfare, and now the first woman Maritime Administrator.

I urge my colleagues to support her nomination.

#### 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 the cloture motion 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 Executive Calendar No. 708, Ann Claire Phillips, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Maritime Administration.

Charles E. Schumer, Sheldon Whitehouse, Mark Kelly, Jack Reed, Catherine Cortez Masto, Patty Murray, Margaret Wood Hassan, Mazie Hirono, Tim Kaine, Tammy Baldwin, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Patrick J. Leahy, Ron Wyden, Amy Klobuchar, Richard J. Durbin, Jeff Merkley.

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 Ann Claire Phillips, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Maritime Administration, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The Senior Assistant Executive Clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), and the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 72, nays 20, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 161 Ex.]

#### YEAS—72

Baldwin	Hassan	Risch
Bennet	Heinrich	Romney
Blackburn	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Blumenthal	Hirono	Rounds
Blunt	Hoeven	Sanders
Booker	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Brown	Kaine	Schatz
Burr	Kelly	Schumer
Cantwell	King	Shaheen
Capito	Klobuchar	Sinema
Carper	Leahy	Smith
Casey	Lujan	Stabenow
Collins	Manchin	Sullivan
Coons	Markey	Tester
Cortez Masto	McConnell	Thune
Cramer	Menendez	Tillis
Crapo	Merkley	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Moran	Warner
Durbin	Murkowski	Warnock
Feinstein	Murphy	Warren
Fischer	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Peters	Wicker
Graham	Portman	Wyden
Grassley	Reed	Young

#### NAYS—20

Barrasso	Ernst	Marshall
Boozman	Hagerty	Paul
Braun	Hawley	Rubio
Cornyn	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cruz	Lankford	Tuberville
Daines	Lee	

#### NOT VOTING—8

Cardin	Lummis	Shelby
Cassidy	Murray	Toomey
Kennedy	Padilla	

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HEINRICH). On this vote, the yeas are 72, the nays are 20.

The motion is agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

#### UKRAINE

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to talk again about the illegal, totally unjustified, unprovoked, and brutal attack on Ukraine by Russian forces.

This is the 11th week in a row I have come to the Chamber to talk about this because I think it is really important that the American people know what is going on over there and that we rally to the defense of our allies in Ukraine.

This week is the 77th anniversary of what is called V-E Day. That is the day the war in Europe ended—World War II—when the United States finally led the allies to defeat the tyranny of Nazi Germany and liberated millions of people. Then, in the Cold War, we led the world again to defeat the encroachment of Soviet communism on Eastern Europe. Again, millions of people were liberated, including Ukrainians.

We cannot forget this because, as we look at Ukraine, what do we see? The same thing—people who yearn to be free. That is all they want is to live in freedom in their own sovereign, independent country. Once again, the United States and our allies in Europe are standing with these Europeans in fighting to hold onto their freedom in the face of this illegal, unprovoked, and brutal attack.

When Vladimir Putin spoke at ceremonies in Russia this week to commemorate the same V-E Day, he used it to justify Russia's invasion, saying:

The danger was growing day by day, [so] Russia [gave] a preemptive response to an aggression.

Of course, nothing could be further from the truth. The Ukrainians were never the aggressors. The Ukrainians just want to live in peace with their neighbors, including with Russia.

Here is a map of Ukraine today, and this is what has been going on.

In the dark red, what you see here is what the Russians took in 2014—the year that Ukraine decided definitively they wanted to turn to the West to be a free, democratic country. Russia responded with this: taking over Crimea and taking over the Luhansk and Donetsk parts of the Donbas.

The light red is what they have taken in this latest invasion, and what they intend to take, according to their military generals who have spoken, is a much bigger area here.

The blue, of course, is where the Ukrainians have pushed back, where they have gone on the counteroffensive. They have actually pushed the Russians out around Kyiv, around the northern part of the country and other parts and, right now, as you can see, in various parts of the Donbas region, including around this town of Kharkiv.

Now, Kharkiv is an interesting situation. It is actually a sister city to Cincinnati, OH, my hometown, and I was on the Sister City Committee decades ago when we developed that relationship. They have a beautiful river running through the city. It was and will

be, in the future, a beautiful city; but now, as these Ukrainians are in the fight of their lives just to keep their democracy, you see what is happening in Kharkiv.

The Ukrainians are beginning to make progress both to the north of Kharkiv and here to the south and to the east. It is possible that the Ukrainians could actually push the Russians back far enough so that the city itself would be out of artillery range of the Russians. That would be great because, right now, the people of Kharkiv, like so many other people in places like Mariupol, of course, are being attacked by the Russians with artillery every night, every day. So, if they could get the Russian forces pushed back beyond that period, they could get relief services in to the civilians—food, water—that were previously denied by the Russians.

I think it might also force the Russians to make a decision. They would have to decide between addressing Ukraine's counteroffensive near Kharkiv—that is here—and expanding their forces over here, which they have said they want to do. I think if they do that—expand their forces—they are going to be risking their communications and supply lines here being cut off by the Ukrainians.

So we will see what happens, but this is a crucial time in the battle. We are at a turning point. I guess that is really my point.

We are being asked to look at legislation that has been sent to us by the administration—called the Ukraine Supplemental Funding bill—at a time when there is a crucial battle going on and when there could be a turning point in this broader war.

Last week, I spoke with the Ukrainian Ambassador to the United States, Oksana Markarova. I will be speaking to her again tomorrow morning. She made the point that the Presidential drawdown authority—that is the funding they are currently using from the United States—is just about depleted. It was about \$3.3 billion in military aid that the President had, with the authority given to him by Congress, to draw down some of our resources to be able to provide to Ukraine. As of last week, she told me that \$3.3 billion is just about depleted; therefore, a new authority is critically needed right now.

You don't want to have a gap—particularly with regard to munitions—in being able to ensure that they have the more effective weaponry—the heavy weaponry—that they are now using in places like this and here and here and can continue to have the ammunition that is needed to be able to continue the fight.

I also spoke late last week to Bridget Brink. She is the current Ambassador to Slovakia and is a seasoned Foreign Service professional whom the Biden administration has now nominated to be the U.S. Ambassador here in Ukraine. We haven't had an Ambassador there for well over a year, maybe