

need to help people in mental health crises, to increase cross-border trade with Canada and Mexico, and to beef up security for cargo at ports of entry. There are bills to cut redtape, to increase payments to the child support program, and to ensure noncustodial parents have the opportunity to spend more time with their children.

Our colleagues have even refused to pass a bill naming the post office in Arlington, TX, after their late colleague and my friend Congressman Ron Wright. There is no particular reason for it. They just haven't done it, with no explanation.

All of these bills I have named are just a handful of the ones I have introduced that are waiting in House purgatory. Add in the long list of bills led by our colleagues on both sides of the aisle, and you have got a major legislative pileup in the House.

Unlike the Senate, the House has not been in continuous session, and the House is only scheduled to be in for 6 more weeks this year. Unless Speaker PELOSI allows movement on these commonsense bipartisan bills, we are going to have to start all over again come January. It is time to get these bills moving.

I know our colleagues in the House don't necessarily embrace all the legislation that is passed by the Senate, but when commonsense legislation passes with unanimity or broad bipartisan support, there just doesn't seem to be any excuse for not acting.

These aren't controversial bills. We are talking about preventing child sexual abuse, breaking the cycle of drug abuse, strengthening disaster relief, supporting people in crisis, and so much more.

As I said, these bills are just one step away from heading to the President's desk for his signature. So I implore Speaker PELOSI to please take up these Senate-passed bills and allow the House to vote on them, pass them, and send them to the President for his signature.

I yield the floor.

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.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

NOMINATION OF DAVID P. PEKOSKE

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to ask my colleagues to vote on the nomination of Admiral David Pecoske to serve a second term as Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration.

We recently commemorated the anniversary of the 9/11 attacks and the 3,000 lives lost here in the United States when tragically the Pentagon was struck, downtown Manhattan, and

Shanksville, PA. In response to that, Congress created the TSA—Transportation Security Administration—to strengthen the Nation's security and our transportation system.

And every day that TSA works the frontlines to protect the traveling public, it is working to also prevent future attacks. It is safeguarding our Nation's infrastructure and certainly working every day to make sure that the flying public continues to move through a successful process.

TSA's mission lies in the commitment of professionals and highly skilled individuals. Admiral Pecoske's confirmation and continued leadership of this team will enable the TSA to further its ongoing and important mission.

Over the past two decades, the TSA has had to deal with many challenges: facing the continued threats of concealing weapons in shoes and underwear and even in soft drinks. And in 2010, the TSA began detecting explosives in electronics and countering attacks on the public side of airports.

Today, the landscape is even more sophisticated with state and nonstate actors and cyber attacks. Unique challenges posed to us during the COVID pandemic have made these challenges to the aviation security landscape even greater.

We know that we need to have continued experienced leadership. And Admirable Pecoske is well qualified for this position. He will continue to make transportation security and its modernization the Nation's No. 1 priority as it relates to the sector.

Each day, at over 430 airports across the country, TSA screens over 2 million passengers and 1.4 million checked bags for explosives and other dangerous items. This helps ensure the security for over 24,000 domestic flights and nearly 3,300 outbound international flights per day.

Security demands for the Agency are returning and every day are continuing to grow. Over the Labor Day weekend, TSA screened nearly 11 million people, or 3 percent more, over the corresponding period in 2019. In fact, TSA screened more people on 4 of the 5 days, from September 1 to 5, marking the first sustained period of checkpoint throughput during a holiday weekend above prepandemic levels.

So the traveling public is back, and, obviously, we need dedicated TSA officers and individuals to continue to work. We are not saying that there aren't improvements to that process—there certainly are—but TSA has been charged with a critical, obviously, responsibility to make sure that we continue to work to ensure the safety of our air transportation system.

Last year's ransomware attack on Colonial Pipeline threatened nearly 50 percent of the east coast's fuel supply. So we must harden all of our targets and make sure the TSA has leadership to make sure that they, too, are helping us address these emerging threats.

Admiral Pecoske's experience in leading TSA in these critical missions deserves support for renomination to this position again.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

INFLATION

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss the harmful economic consequences Americans are seeing from President Biden's reckless tax-and-spend agenda. Earlier this week, the Bureau of Labor Statistics released the latest Consumer Price Index figures for the month of August, showing that inflation increased 8.3 percent compared to August 2021. Inflation has now exceeded 8 percent for 6 straight months. This persistent high inflation is causing price increases for American families at the grocery store, the gas pump, and for basic housing needs, leaving many Americans struggling to make ends meet.

Rather than getting government out of the way, increasing domestic energy production, securing our border, and taking meaningful action to reduce inflation, the Biden administration is instead doubling down on its failed economic policies. Gas prices are \$1.34 per gallon higher than when President Biden took office, and diesel fuel prices are even higher, at nearly \$2.40 per gallon more than January 2021. A gallon of diesel now costs more than \$5 a gallon.

Yet, last month, as followup to the massive \$2 trillion spending package from March 2021 that fueled the inflationary fire we are now dealing with, Democrats jammed through another package on a party-line vote, a tax-and-spend bill that imposes new energy taxes and Green New Deal-style subsidies that will only worsen our energy crisis and weaken our Nation's economic and national security.

Ironically, the so-called Inflation Reduction Act does nothing to reduce inflation. Analysis by economists at Penn Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, the Federal Reserve, Moody's Analytics, the Congressional Budget Office, and others, all agree that this bill will do nothing to help reduce inflation.

Meanwhile, the cost of food at the grocery store has increased 13.5 percent over the last 12 months—the largest 12-month increase since March 1979. Yet the Biden administration has done nothing to help alleviate these inflationary price increases on Americans.

This week, we neared the brink of another inflationary supply chain disaster as railroad unions threatened to go on strike. Obviously, shutting down freight rail movement throughout the country would be a huge disruption to

our economy. It cannot be overstated how significant a rail strike would be to our national supply chain. With fall harvest, particularly for my State, that is a huge concern, and it is vitally important that we avoid a rail strike.

On the energy front, North Dakota is a huge provider of energy for this Nation. So it is very important. Whether it is our energy producers or energy producers across this country, we need to empower our domestic energy production. We also need to get our debt and deficit under control. We need to help our farmers and ranchers produce the highest quality, lowest cost food supply in the world. We need to address the supply chain issues that continue to be disruptive to our economy and create more inflation.

The Biden administration needs to stop with the tax-and-spend agenda if we are to get this inflation under control.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

VOTE ON PEKOSKE NOMINATION

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the vote scheduled for 1:45 p.m. commence.

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

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

Mr. HOEVEN. 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 North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT).

The result was announced—yeas 77, nays 18, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 338 Ex.]

YEAS—77

Baldwin	Coons	Kaine
Barrasso	Cornyn	Kelly
Bennet	Cortez Masto	Kennedy
Blumenthal	Crapo	King
Blunt	Duckworth	Klobuchar
Booker	Durbin	Leahy
Brown	Feinstein	Lujan
Burr	Fischer	Lummis
Cantwell	Gillibrand	Manchin
Capito	Graham	Markey
Cardin	Grassley	McConnell
Carper	Hassan	Menendez
Casey	Heinrich	Merkley
Cassidy	Hickenlooper	Murkowski
Collins	Hirono	Murphy

Murray	Sasse	Tillis
Ossoff	Schatz	Toomey
Padilla	Schumer	Van Hollen
Peters	Shaheen	Warner
Portman	Shelby	Warnock
Reed	Sinema	Warren
Risch	Smith	Whitehouse
Romney	Stabenow	Wicker
Rosen	Sullivan	Wyden
Rounds	Tester	Young
Sanders	Thune	

NAYS—18

Blackburn	Hawley	Lee
Boozman	Hoeven	Marshall
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Paul
Cotton	Inhofe	Rubio
Daines	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Hagerty	Lankford	Tuberville

NOT VOTING—5

Cramer	Ernst	Scott (SC)
Cruz	Moran	

The nomination was confirmed. (Mr. VAN HOLLEN assumed the Chair.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table. The President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate will resume legislative session.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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

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

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

BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I thank my colleagues from Oklahoma and Nebraska for letting us go forward.

In a few moments, I will file cloture on a measure that will get the Senate to approve the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol.

This important amendment, which already has been agreed to by 120 countries, will affirm our Nation's commitment to curb the use of dangerous hydrofluorocarbons, HFCs. These hypertoxic chemicals are regularly found, unfortunately, in everyday appliances from air conditioners to refrigerators.

In December of 2020, we passed the AIM Act, which took a drastic step to limit HFCs and was one of the most significant climate accomplishments ever, of course, until we passed the Inflation Reduction Act a month ago.

HFCs need to be dealt with as soon as possible because they are thousands—thousands—of times more damaging to our atmosphere than carbon dioxide. So this is a very important opportunity for the Senate to make official America's intention to phase these dangerous chemicals out of use.

Approving this amendment will require two-thirds of the Senate. Reduc-

ing our country's use of HFCs has been a bipartisan priority in the past, so both parties should work together to accelerate passage of this measure.

Also, I will file on the nomination of Judge Florence Pan to serve as a circuit court judge for the D.C. Circuit, one of the most important judicial appointments we can make. After the Supreme Court, the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals is the most important Federal court in the country with jurisdiction over cases involving Congress and the entire executive branch. The judges who preside on the D.C. Circuit must be individuals of high character, unsailable qualifications.

A few months ago, we elevated someone who meets these standards when confirming Michelle Childs to the bench, and we intend to do it again with Judge Pan's nomination.

Looking ahead, confirming even more of the President's judicial nominees will be a priority for the Senate.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1067.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Florence Y. Pan, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

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 Executive Calendar No. 1067, Florence Y. Pan, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Charles E. Schumer, Christopher Murphy, Tammy Baldwin, Tina Smith, Christopher A. Coons, Elizabeth Warren, Jeanne Shaheen, Jeff Merkley, Alex Padilla, Richard J. Durbin, Jack Reed, Gary C. Peters, Edward J. Markey, Sherrod Brown, Tim Kaine, Ben Ray Lujan, Mazie Hirono.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.