

doing right now is not. We can do better. We must do better.

I think of so many young people I have talked to and met in Cuba who want a different world and can't understand why the United States slams the door on them. We can do better. We have to do better. I pray we will do better.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. JOHNSON. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the quorum call be rescinded.

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

### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination Ebony M. Scott, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

#### VOTE ON SCOTT NOMINATION

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

Mr. JOHNSON. Madam President, 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. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

The result was announced—yeas 55, nays 38, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 36 Ex.]

#### YEAS—55

Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Romney
Bennet	Hirono	Rosen
Blumenthal	Kaine	Sanders
Blunt	Kelly	Schatz
Booker	King	Schumer
Brown	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cantwell	Leahy	Sinema
Capito	Manchin	Smith
Cardin	Markey	Stabenow
Carper	McConnell	Tester
Casey	Menendez	Tillis
Collins	Merkley	Van Hollen
Coons	Murkowski	Warner
Cortez Masto	Murphy	Warnock
Duckworth	Murray	Warren
Durbin	Padilla	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Peters	Wyden
Graham	Portman	
Hassan	Reed	

#### NAYS—38

Blackburn	Grassley	Paul
Boozman	Hagerty	Risch
Braun	Hawley	Rubio
Burr	Hoeven	Sasse
Cassidy	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Inhofe	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Johnson	Shelby
Cramer	Kennedy	Sullivan
Crapo	Lankford	Thune
Cruz	Lee	Tuberville
Daines	Lummis	Wicker
Ernst	Marshall	Young
Fischer	Moran	

#### NOT VOTING—7

Barrasso	Luján	Toomey
Feinstein	Ossoff	
Heinrich	Rounds	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). 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.

### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Donald Walker Tunnage, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for a term of fifteen years.

#### VOTE ON TUNNAGE NOMINATION

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

Mr. WYDEN. 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. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senators from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) and (Mr. LUJÁN), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

The result was announced—yeas 54, nays 39, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 37 Ex.]

#### YEAS—54

Baldwin	Duckworth	Menendez
Bennet	Durbin	Merkley
Blumenthal	Gillibrand	Murkowski
Blunt	Graham	Murphy
Booker	Hassan	Murray
Brown	Hickenlooper	Padilla
Cantwell	Hirono	Peters
Capito	Kaine	Portman
Cardin	Kelly	Reed
Carper	King	Romney
Casey	Klobuchar	Rosen
Collins	Leahy	Sanders
Coons	Manchin	Schatz
Cortez Masto	Markey	Schumer

Shaheen	Tester	Warnock
Sinema	Tillis	Warren
Smith	Van Hollen	Whitehouse
Stabenow	Warner	Wyden

#### NAYS—39

Blackburn	Grassley	Moran
Boozman	Hagerty	Paul
Braun	Hawley	Risch
Burr	Hoeven	Rubio
Cassidy	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Cornyn	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cramer	Kennedy	Shelby
Crapo	Lankford	Sullivan
Cruz	Lee	Thune
Daines	Lummis	Tuberville
Ernst	Marshall	Wicker
Fischer	McConnell	Young

#### NOT VOTING—7

Barrasso	Luján	Toomey
Feinstein	Ossoff	
Heinrich	Rounds	

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 Minnesota.

### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 721 and 722; that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc without intervening action or debate; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nominations of Sharon Bradford Franklin, of Maryland, to be Chairman and Member of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board for the remainder of the term expiring January 29, 2024; and Beth Ann Williams, of New Jersey, to be a Member of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board for a term expiring January 29, 2026?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the following nomination: Calendar No. 648, Alice P. Albright, of the District of Columbia, to be Chief Executive Officer, Millennium Challenge Corporation; that the Senate vote on the nomination without any intervening action or debate; that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Alice P. Albright, of the District of Columbia, to be Chief Executive Officer, Millennium Challenge Corporation.

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

The nomination was confirmed.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### MORNING BUSINESS

Ms. SMITH. 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.

### TRIBUTE TO SECRETARY OF THE SENATE SONCERIA ANN BERRY

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, serving in the U.S. Senate for as long as I have, I have seen dedicated, talented staffers come and go from my team. Some come to my office fresh out of college, spend some time, and move on to other opportunities or to further their education. Some have come to stay for years. And others join my team, already seasoned veterans of the Senate—and leave for higher office.

So is the story of my dear friend, Sonceria Ann Berry, the 34th Secretary of the Senate, and my former deputy chief of staff. It was with great pride when, on March 1, 2021, I administered the oath to Ann as she became our own Madam Secretary. And it should come as no surprise that Ann brought to the esteemed position decades of experience in the Senate. A seasoned professional who has seen changes in leadership through the Congresses, Ann has counseled and mentored, quite literally, hundreds of staffers young and old. Her appointment as the Secretary of Senate was a source of great pride for me, and I am sure the other Members for whom she worked, including Senator CARPER and former Senator John Edwards, as well as the late Senators Daniel Patrick Moynihan and Howell Heflin, share that pride.

Secretary Berry is a 1978 graduate of the University of North Alabama, where she earned her bachelor degree in education. She recently returned to the University of North Alabama to de-

liver the fall commencement address. I found her words inspiring to the new graduates she addressed and instructional for those embarking in post-graduate life.

I would like to ask unanimous consent that Secretary Berry's commencement remarks be printed in the RECORD.

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

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS—SONCERIA ANN BERRY, SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

FALL 2021 COMMENCEMENT, UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA

Thank you for that wonderful introduction, and let me begin by congratulating the Class of 2021 for sticking with it, overcoming unprecedented challenges, and graduating with a well-earned degree in resilience, in addition to what you majored in.

College graduation is always a remarkable achievement, but nobody has ever been through what you've been through to get here, and you can wear this experience and this hard-won success like a badge of honor for the rest of your life.

Congratulations also to your families and friends who have helped you get to this day.

They are heroes, just like you, and they have made their own sacrifices to support your ambitions. And I think they deserve their own round of applause.

I graduated from the University of North Alabama, with a degree in secondary education, in 1978.

As it happened, I didn't spend a minute of my career in secondary education.

Life had other things in store for me, and because of those completely unexpected things, earlier this year, this fine university honored me with its Lifetime Achievement Award.

They said it was because I was the first African American ever to serve as Secretary of the Senate—the chief administrative, legislative and financial officer of the world's greatest deliberative body.

Or they may have just been looking for someone who graduated a really long time ago.

Either way, it was very special to me, because it was this university that set me on a path of life I would never have dreamed of before coming here.

Before UNA, my ambition was to get a good office job.

I was a pretty good typist and I was hoping for a career in an office as a secretary.

I was poor. I wanted to work and make money and have some security for myself and my family.

But after high school, I found work at the Home Insurance Company in Homewood, Alabama.

They call it a "gap year" now when you take a year between high school and college to figure yourself out.

But, for me, it wasn't anything so fancy. It was a year of making a living.

But it was also when I first learned about the University of North Alabama.

And the more I learned about it, the better I knew that it was the place for me.

UNA was not only the State's oldest public university, with a heritage of training some of Alabama's finest teachers.

In an era when it was still quite unusual for women to go to college, UNA had already opened its doors to women for a hundred years.

And this year, UNA proudly celebrates its 150th anniversary of co-education with the Year of the UNA Woman.

I was also impressed by the academic rigor built into the tradition of UNA.

In its days as Florence Wesleyan University, prospective students had to demonstrate an ability to translate four books of Caesar's Gallic Wars from the original Latin, and six books of Virgil from the original Greek, into English.

I think all of us feel fortunate that those particular skills are no longer required for admission to the University of North Alabama.

I know I did, and yet I quickly discovered that this university's academic standards remained commendably high, and so were its standards of conduct and ethics.

It was also a community, where people cared about each other, helped each other, encouraged each other, nurtured each other.

The course of my life was changed in just this way.

After graduation, when I couldn't find work as a teacher, I took a job as a secretary in the engineering department of South Central Bell.

But a year later, in 1979, I was contacted by the office of Alabama's newly-elected United States Senator Howell Heflin about a position in the Senator's Washington office.

I didn't know Senator Heflin, or how his office had found me.

But I learned later that Dr. Robert Guillot, the president of UNA for whom I had served as a student aide in the Admissions Office, had recommended me to the Senator.

And I was off to Washington, DC—a city I had never seen—for what Dr. Guillot correctly called "the opportunity of a lifetime."

That was forty-two years ago, and in the decades since, I have been proud to work not only for Senator Heflin but later for five other United States Senators in positions of increasing responsibility.

I was thinking seriously of retiring earlier this year when I was offered the position of Secretary of the Senate—a position for which I was nominated by the Majority Leader, Chuck Schumer of New York, and to which I was elected by the full membership of the United States Senate.

Today I manage the Senate as an institution, supervising 26 departments, nearly 240 employees and a \$25 million budget.

My team and I are responsible for everything from recording each day's Senate debates to running the Senate gift shop.

The Parliamentarian of the Senate, the Senate Historian, the office of inter-parliamentary services, and the people who pay 100 Senators and thousands of staff people report to me.

And I am proud to be the first African American, and the eighth woman,