

petition for an exemption to the flight hours requirement and explicitly stated:

The FAA has previously concluded the argument that an exemption would serve to address a pilot shortage is overly simplistic and does not present a persuasive argument.

Foreign carriers that are not subject to the 1,500-hour rule are also experiencing workforce challenges post-pandemic. Yet they are not reducing their requirements. This bolsters the FAA's conclusion.

Simply put, reducing hours, even just for restricted ATPs, represent a serious risk with no reward. It represents an unacceptable backsliding, a dangerous complacency, in an industry where complacency kills. As chair of the Aviation Safety Subcommittee, as a professional aviator, and as a private pilot, I am holding the line on safety.

I want to encourage my colleagues to focus on the long list of other, more urgent aviation issues facing our country. Now is not the time to go backward on a post-Colgan safety system, and there has not been a single aviation fatality due to pilot error since the 1,500-hour rule was put into effect.

Now is not the time to put corporate profits ahead of the lives of our constituents who may want to board a commercial flight in the future. A vote to reduce the 1,500-hour rule for pilot training will be blood on your hands when the inevitable accident occurs as a result of an inadequately trained flight crew.

I urge my colleagues to uphold the 1,500-hour rule.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

NOMINATION OF JULIE RIKELMAN

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to speak in support of the confirmation of Julie Rikelman to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit.

In just a few minutes, the Senate will vote to invoke cloture on Julie Rikelman's nomination, and, soon after, we will vote on her confirmation.

Julie Rikelman has a distinctively American story. In 1979, her family emigrated to the United States from the Soviet Union—Ukraine, to be specific—settling in Massachusetts. Like so many Soviet immigrants in the 1970s, her family sought freedom, and especially, as Soviet Jews, they sought religious freedom.

As a child, Ms. Rikelman and her family left behind the only home they knew. They endured the challenges of beginning anew in an unfamiliar country, as refugees, mastering a new language and a new culture. They embraced their new home and became naturalized U.S. citizens. Ms. Rikelman's experience as a Soviet political refugee shaped her lifelong commitment to the American legal system as well as her commitment to true "justice for all" and to the fundamental principles of the rule of law.

With 25 years of experience, her legal career has been nothing short of stel-

lar. Julie attended Harvard College and Harvard Law School. She clerked for Justice Dana Fabe on the Alaska Supreme Court and for Judge Morton Greenberg on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

She has worked in private practice and in public interest law, litigating a range of issues, from reproductive rights cases across the country to civil and criminal cases at both the trial and appellate levels. She has experience in securities law, antitrust law, election law, and constitutional law. Ms. Rikelman's Federal and State court cases have involved defamation, intellectual property, and employment discrimination claims. She is a brilliant legal mind and brings deep experience to issues commonly before the First Circuit.

Julie Rikelman has dedicated her career to the protection of Americans' fundamental rights, including the rights to liberty and privacy, distinguishing herself as one of our Nation's leading reproductive rights attorneys. In 2021, she argued the Supreme Court case *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, a seminal case in the history of our highest Court's considering that issue.

I have complete confidence that Ms. Rikelman will bring a broadened perspective, steadfast integrity, and deep knowledge to the bench. And I am not alone in my enthusiasm. My office has received letters in support of Ms. Rikelman's nomination from dozens of individuals and organizations, including members of the Alaska State Bar, current and former prosecutors, law enforcement officials, the National Council of Jewish Women, and many of her former colleagues.

Colleagues describe Julie Rikelman as "brilliant, committed to the rule of law, and deeply devoted to honoring the Constitution and protecting our civil rights and civil liberties."

These are precisely the qualities we are looking for in a nominee to a Federal appeals court. We have them in Julie Rikelman.

It is essential that our Nation's courts reflect the diversity of our country, and Ms. Rikelman, when confirmed, would be the first immigrant woman and the first Jewish woman to serve on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. That is what this Nation is all about.

Senator WARREN and I are proud and enthusiastically recommend Julie Rikelman's nomination to President Biden and are proud to speak in favor of her nomination before the full Senate today. She will make an exceptional addition to the First Circuit.

I urge all of my colleagues to vote yes on cloture and then on her confirmation.

I yield the floor.

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 assistant bill 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. 23, Julie Rikelman, of Massachusetts, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Richard Blumenthal, Christopher A. Coons, Benjamin L. Cardin, Tina Smith, Christopher Murphy, Mazie Hirono, Tammy Baldwin, Margaret Wood Hassan, John W. Hickenlooper, Sheldon Whitehouse, Catherine Cortez Masto, Brian Schatz, Gary C. Peters, Alex Padilla, Michael F. Bennet.

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 Julie Rikelman, of Massachusetts, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit, 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 (Mrs. BLACKBURN) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 53, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 165 Ex.]

YEAS—53

Baldwin	Heinrich	Reed
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Blumenthal	Hirono	Sanders
Booker	Kaine	Schatz
Brown	Kelly	Schumer
Cantwell	King	Shaheen
Cardin	Klobuchar	Sinema
Carper	Lujan	Smith
Casey	Manchin	Stabenow
Collins	Markey	Tester
Coons	Menendez	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Murkowski	Warnock
Durbin	Murphy	Warren
Feinstein	Murray	Welch
Fetterman	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wyden
Hassan	Peters	

NAYS—45

Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Boozman	Grassley	Ricketts
Braun	Hagerty	Risch
Britt	Hawley	Romney
Budd	Hoeben	Rounds
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Cassidy	Johnson	Schmitt
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Lankford	Sullivan
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Lummis	Tillis
Cruz	Marshall	Tuberville
Daines	McConnell	Vance
Ernst	Moran	Wicker
Fischer	Mullin	Young

NOT VOTING—2

Blackburn Scott (SC)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHATZ). On this vote the yeas are 53, the nays are 45.

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 Julie Rikelman, of Massachusetts, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

TRIBUTE TO TRICIA ENGLE

Mr. SCHUMER. Just parenthetically, true to Trish's dedication to the job, she just sat down and whispered to me: We are not in a quorum call. That will probably be one of the very last of about 10,000—maybe 100,000—proper, right instructions she has given me over the years that she has been here—or given all of us. So I thought that was a moment to remember.

Anyway, today, I want to take a moment to honor one of the—the—the most beloved members of the Senate team, and that is Trish Engle, who will be leaving the Democratic cloakroom after 26 years of service.

That means you started about a year before me, 1998—1997. I came here in early 1999.

Trish is the proud mom of two boys, William and Garrison.

Wave to us, William. Who is older—William or Garrison? William. Very nice. Both are in their nice blue shirts.

They are here with us today, and I am sure they are looking—are you looking forward to spending more time with your mom? You are saying you are. I am not quite sure, at your age, that is exactly the case. But I am sure it is good quality time, knowing Trish.

Trish's mom, Melva Ongstad, is here in the Gallery.

Hello, Melva.

I am glad her family could be here, and I know how proud everyone is of Trish. We all are.

We all know that Trish is one of the most familiar faces in the Senate, but even then, it is easy to miss just how important, just how critical she has been to making the Senate agenda come to life. There are so many—and Trish is at the top of the list—of these unsung heroes who make the place work. No one notices them, no one praises them, but without them, this place would collapse.

Without Trish, the Democratic caucus wouldn't have accomplished a fraction—that is true—a fraction of all the amazing things we have gotten done over the years: drug reform, infrastructure, CARES Act, ACA—the list goes on and on. The list of bills she has had a hand in literally spans decades.

Every Senator on our side of the aisle, every single one, and many of those who have retired, can think of some accomplishment we have been proud of at one point or another. You can bet that Trish was the one who helped make that accomplishment happen on the floor because it is Trish who comes up with these brilliant parliamentary maneuvers to achieve our

mission. She is always writing the scripts that speed up the voting process. She is something truly unique, a legislative artist who knows the inner workings of this body like few others in the country. There are probably maybe fewer than 10 people who know as much about the Senate as Trish of the whole—how many?—8 billion people on Earth, approximately 8 billion people on Earth. That is pretty good.

Over the years, she worked wonders serving—I met her when Daschle was leader. He loved her and depended on her. She worked her magic under Harry Reid. He loved her and depended on her.

Today, I want to express how grateful I am for all the good work you have done during my time as leader.

Like so many parents around here, Trish had to juggle a very demanding job where she is almost on call all the time while making sure her wonderful family got all they needed. If that wasn't challenging enough, during all this time, she is like Superwoman. She earned an M.B.A. and M.A. from Johns Hopkins while working on the Senate floor. And to do that from any college is amazing; to do it from Johns Hopkins—wow. No slouch are you, Trish. Doing it all. Doing it all.

But these are only some of the wonderful reasons we will miss her. We will miss her because of her wonderful sense of humor. We will miss her because few people put up with Senators so regularly and never—I don't think I ever saw you get mad. Anybody? Oh, you got mad at Amy once. OK, I understand.

We will miss her because she is a wonderful person to work with no matter the day, no matter the issue, no matter the outcome. She is the best.

On behalf of the Senate, Trish, of all of us, the whole big Senate family, we thank you for everything you have done for this institution and derivatively for our country. We love you. We will miss you. And you will always have a home here in this Chamber. We wish you and your wonderful family the very best.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The President pro tempore.

Mrs. MURRAY. If I could, I just wanted to also take this opportunity to thank Trish and echo the majority leader's words. All of us are grateful for her tremendous service to each and every one of us.

As one of the few Senators who were here when she first started who are still here, I just want to tell you the Senate will not be the Senate without Trish. Her smile, her ability to work with us, her knowledge of the rules, being at our back, helping us understand the process, have really helped laws pass, changed lives, and made a difference for all of us.

Trish, we are going to miss you, and I just personally want to share my thanks with your family for sacrificing you for so many years to be with us, and I wish you all the best.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I want to share the perspective of individual Senators who, at various moments, are extremely stressed over getting their amendment considered or how to deal with a particular issue that is coming up. There have been moments, for example, not too far back into last year, when I really wanted an amendment up and was asking Trish, how do I do this? How do I position this to get this done? And I know that many of us, when we are trying to do something we consider important or are concerned about something happening that is detrimental, our emotions are high. Every time that I have been in that position, you have been a calm and steady presence facilitating our efforts—maybe raising an eyebrow now and then about whether this was the right moment or the right process but giving sound guidance and taking our levels of anxiety and stress down a few notches and helping us get the job done.

So all of us who, in moments—critical moments—have come to you and asked for your help and your insight on how to proceed, thank you for being a wise and sober and calming counsel to us. And I wish you all the best in your next chapter.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as if in morning business.

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

PRIDE MONTH

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I am thrilled to join people across Washington State and across the country in recognizing Pride Month.

Pride is an opportunity every year for people across our country and across the world to mark the progress we have made and the work left to do and celebrate the LGBTQ community. It is a joyful, beautiful thing, and it stands in stark contrast to the bigotry some voices on the far right have been fanning.

It is impossible to watch a Pride parade today without seeing just how far we have come as a nation; and, unfortunately, it is also impossible to follow the news without seeing a reminder of how far we still have to go and how hard a bigoted minority of people is fighting to pull us back.

Some far-right provocateurs have been twisting the most basic mundane gestures of inclusion into so-called controversies through blatant distortions and demonization. I mean, imagine calling for an investigation into a private company because they just sent their product to a trans person with a massive online audience.

Imagine being outraged because a company cares about having a diverse, equitable, inclusive workplace.

Imagine getting worked up because of rainbow logos or a Pride sale or an adorable little rainbow baby onesie.