

Constitution, attack our most important institutions, ignore the law, enable corruption, and slander their fellow countrymen as violent racists.

Tennesseans take issue with that and with the judges and the bureaucrats whom President Biden has nominated to write this partisan rhetoric into law. Over the past several years, this body has considered nominees to some of the most critical positions in government who were little more than political activists, and that is putting it mildly.

We have questioned judicial nominees who are unfamiliar with the Constitution, potential Agency heads with almost no experience in the industries they seek to regulate, and Cabinet nominees who have demonstrated their commitment to burning down institutions and norms that conflict with their radical views. But the one thing they all have in common is they have agreed to rubberstamp the Biden agenda.

The local leaders I see in my county tours see the chaos this is causing. They see two tiers of justice at work, and they are very concerned about it, especially when they see administration officials egging on leftist fanatics seeking to undermine the rule of law at any cost.

For example, Federal law makes it clear that it is illegal to protest outside of a judge's home with the intent of influencing a ruling. It is common sense. But after the Supreme Court's Dobbs opinion leaked, far-left protesters immediately began demonstrating outside of the Justices' homes. The Biden DOJ has yet to arrest a single protester, which means that the Biden DOJ has in effect endorsed the intimidation of Supreme Court Justices who refuse to rubberstamp the Biden agenda.

Earlier this year, I introduced the Protecting Our Supreme Court Justices Act, which significantly increases the maximum jail time for any individual who violates this law. I am sure that under a future administration, it will serve as an effective deterrent to this disgusting behavior.

But imagine being a law enforcement officer in Tennessee and seeing this complete breakdown of law and order in our Nation's Capital at the highest levels of government. How much faith do you think they have in this administration to help them control the flow of drugs and violent criminals into their communities? How seriously do you think they take the Democrats' promises to fight for safe streets when this body continues to confirm judicial nominees who promise to undermine the rule of law? Unlike the Biden administration, they can't change the rules whenever they feel like it, they can't use the bureaucracy to stack the deck in their favor, and they can't put their friends in charge to cover for them if they get caught breaking the law.

Our local law enforcement officials deserve better. Tennesseans deserve

better. The American people deserve better. But right now, they have to do the best they can fighting a losing battle on two fronts—against criminals trying to exploit them and against a President who knows exactly what is happening but just doesn't care enough to do something about it.

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.

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

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

The majority leader.

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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 34.

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 legislative clerk read the nomination of Myong J. Joun, of Massachusetts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. 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 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. 34, Myong J. Joun, of Massachusetts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts.

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.

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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 114.

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 legislative clerk read the nomination of Kalpana Kotagal, of Ohio, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for a term expiring July 1, 2027.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. 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 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. 114, Kalpana Kotagal, of Ohio, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for a term expiring July 1, 2027.

Charles E. Schumer, Tina Smith, Tammy Baldwin, Alex Padilla, Michael F. Bennet, Richard J. Durbin, Christopher Murphy, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jeff Merkley, Margaret Wood Hassan, Catherine Cortez Masto, Debbie Stabenow, Jack Reed, Richard Blumenthal, Chris Van Hollen, Tammy Duckworth, Peter Welch.

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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 141.

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 legislative clerk read the nomination of David M. Uhlmann, of Michigan, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

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 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. 141, David M. Uhlmann, of Michigan, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Charles E. Schumer, Catherine Cortez Masto, Sherrod Brown, Jack Reed, Benjamin L. Cardin, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jeff Merkley, Michael F. Bennet, Christopher A. Coons, Brian Schatz, Mazie Hirono, Tim Kaine, Richard J. Durbin, Christopher Murphy, Patty Murray, Tammy Duckworth, Margaret Wood Hassan.

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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 21.

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 legislative clerk read the nomination of Rachel Bloomekatz, of Ohio, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth 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 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. 21, Rachel Bloomekatz, of Ohio, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, July 10, be waived.

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

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

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

CLOTURE MOTION

Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The 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. 178, Xochitl Torres Small, of New Mexico, to be Deputy Secretary of Agriculture.

Charles E. Schumer, Gary C. Peters, Tammy Baldwin, Patty Murray, Tim Kaine, Christopher Murphy, Debbie Stabenow, Alex Padilla, Elizabeth Warren, Tina Smith, Brian Schatz, Benjamin L. Cardin, Mark R. Warner, Martin Heinrich, Sheldon Whitehouse, Richard J. Durbin, Raphael G. Warnock.

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 Xochitl Torres Small, of New Mexico, to be Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ), and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 79, nays 8, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 173 Ex.]

YEAS—79

Baldwin	Collins	Graham
Bennet	Coons	Grassley
Blumenthal	Cornyn	Hagerty
Booker	Cortez Masto	Hassan
Boozman	Cotton	Heinrich
Braun	Cramer	Hickenlooper
Britt	Crapo	Hirono
Brown	Cruz	Hoeben
Budd	Daines	Hyde-Smith
Cantwell	Duckworth	Kaine
Capito	Ernst	Kelly
Cardin	Feinstein	Kennedy
Carper	Fetterman	Klobuchar
Casey	Fischer	Lankford
Cassidy	Gillibrand	Lee

Lujan	Padilla	Tuberville
Lummis	Peters	Van Hollen
Markey	Reed	Warner
Marshall	Rosen	Warnock
McConnell	Rounds	Warren
Menendez	Sanders	Welch
Merkley	Schumer	Whitehouse
Moran	Sinema	Wicker
Mullin	Smith	Wyden
Murphy	Stabenow	Young
Murray	Tester	
Ossoff	Thune	

NAYS—8

Blackburn	Paul	Scott (FL)
Hawley	Rubio	Vance
Johnson	Schmitt	

NOT VOTING—13

Barrasso	Ricketts	Shaheen
Durbin	Risch	Sullivan
King	Romney	Tillis
Manchin	Schatz	
Murkowski	Scott (SC)	

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HEINRICH). On this vote, the yeas are 79, the nays are 8.

The motion is agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

NATO

Mr. SCHUMER. First, a few words on just a good recent development. We have just heard that Sweden will be allowed to join NATO, that Mr. Erdogan has released his hold, and that Sweden will be joining NATO.

The fact that Sweden is joining NATO is great news for the West. It strengthens the Western alliance significantly, and it shows Mr. Putin that the West is strong, united, and growing stronger against his aggression in Ukraine.

Any thought that the West is giving up, any thought that the West is divided, is shown to be false by today's development of Sweden joining NATO and of Turkey relenting.

So this is good news for freedom. This is good news against the forces of autocracy, and it is very good news for a strong Western alliance.

I want to salute President Biden, who has worked so much in the foreign policy sphere—as well as domestic—but speaking about the foreign policy sphere, he has done so much to advance the United States' interests. He has a real grasp of it, a real handle on it, and is very effective. This is victory for America, for the West, for freedom, and for President Biden.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in 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.

(At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

● Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No.