

Now, the Biden administration may be fine with abandoning migrant children in order to avoid a bad news cycle, but I am not, and I think all fair-minded Members of the Senate and the Congress are not.

I really question whether people are aware of what the situation is, which is why I am here on the floor of the Senate today to talk about it. I hope that once they become aware, they will become like me—concerned that something has to change, that people need to be held accountable, and that these children need to be protected.

If you were an American citizen and you treated an American citizen child like the Biden administration has treated these migrant children from other countries, you would be charged and convicted of the reckless endangerment of a child or of human trafficking. In other words, you would go to jail or prison if you treated an American citizen child this way. So how is it the Biden administration gets off with treating these migrant children with any less dignity and safety?

Well, in light of all of this reporting in the New York Times and elsewhere, we need answers, we need accountability, and we need policy changes to ensure that these practices come to an end. The Biden administration owes the American people answers, not just Members of Congress and not just members of the Senate Judiciary Committee. They need to tell us what is being done to keep track of these children. How are they ensuring their welfare? What is going to change to ensure that these migrant children are not victims of inhumane labor practices or worse?

Given everything that has happened over the last 2½ years, I have no confidence in Secretary Becerra, Secretary Mayorkas, or President Biden, because they know about the problem. They were warned about the problem, but they didn't do anything about it, which tells me they just don't care.

President Biden lives in a very nice government-provided house—the White House. He is not personally affected by this unprecedented level of human migration and the baffling pace of drug trafficking. He is not personally affected by the fact that 108,000 Americans died last year after consuming drugs that came across our southwestern border, and he is certainly not personally affected by the mistreatment of these migrant children, but it is his job. It is his responsibility. It is our responsibility to make sure this comes to an end because this is simply unacceptable.

Children endure abuse and exploitation on their journeys to the United States. The current system is not compassionate, but they sure shouldn't be met here on American soil with more of the same. We need to prioritize the safety of these children as they await their immigration court hearings. President Biden and his administration must change and take responsibility

for this gross exploitation of these vulnerable children, and they need to take immediate action to end 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. MARKEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for up to 3 minutes.

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

#### NOMINATION OF MYONG J. JOUN

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to speak in support of the confirmation of Judge Myong Joun to the U.S. Court for the District of Massachusetts.

In a few minutes, the Senate will vote to invoke cloture on Judge Joun's nomination. And this afternoon, once we have invoked cloture, we will vote on his confirmation.

When Judge Joun was a child, his family immigrated to the U.S. from South Korea with only a few dollars in their pockets. He was raised by his single mother who earned a living as a seamstress. He attended New York City Public Schools, served in the Massachusetts National Guard, and graduated from the University of Massachusetts Boston and Suffolk University Law School in Boston.

In private practice, including at his own law firm, Judge Joun litigated extensively before the Massachusetts State and Federal courts, eventually earning an appointment as a justice of the Boston Municipal Court.

Judge Joun has shown a steadfast commitment to civil rights and access to justice. In private practice, he often took on cases involving police misconduct, wage theft, and housing violations. As one of his many colleagues writing in on his behalf put it, Judge Joun's "professional life has been devoted to working with people who need legal assistance but are unable to navigate the system because of language, financial, or educational barriers."

Judge Joun has also consistently and generously given his time to service, holding leadership roles in organizations such as the Asian American Lawyers Association of Massachusetts, the Massachusetts Bar Association, and the National Lawyers Guild. For many years, he has taught trial advocacy to law students.

Over the course of his career, Judge Joun has exemplified the highest standards of the legal profession. He is a dedicated public servant who will bring knowledge, experience, and compassion to the Massachusetts Federal district court. As the first Asian-American man and first Korean American to

serve on the district court of Massachusetts, Judge Joun will be a trailblazer. I have no doubt that he will continue to serve the people of Massachusetts with distinction, and I look forward to his confirmation.

Senator WARREN and I absolutely endorse his candidacy with the strongest possible recommendation to the full Senate, and I urge all of my colleagues to vote yes on cloture and on his nomination.

#### NOMINATION OF TIFFANY M. CARTWRIGHT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Tiffany Cartwright to the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington.

Ms. Cartwright is an accomplished litigator who has dedicated her career to protecting the civil rights of all Americans. She received her Bachelor's degree from Stanford University and her law degree from Stanford Law School.

Ms. Cartwright began her legal career as a law clerk—first with Justice Dana Fabe on the Alaska Supreme Court, and then with Judge Betty Fletcher on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Most recently, she has worked as a trial lawyer at MacDonald Hoague & Bayless, where she has handled a number of cases on issues ranging from employee discrimination to voting rights.

In addition to her litigation practice, since 2016, Ms. Cartwright has served on the Local Rules Committee of the Federal Bar Association of the Western District of Washington, a role in which she has gained significant expertise in the District's rules and practices.

The American Bar Association has unanimously rated Ms. Cartwright "Qualified," and she has the strong support of Senators Murray and Cantwell.

Given her considerable trial experience and deep knowledge of the Western District, Ms. Cartwright will be an excellent addition to the federal bench.

I strongly support her nomination and urge my colleagues to join me in voting for her confirmation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 30 seconds before we take the vote.

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

#### CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume

consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Tiffany M. Cartwright, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington.

VOTE ON CARTWRIGHT NOMINATION

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

Mr. PETERS. 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 executive clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 50, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 180 Ex.]

YEAS—50

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

NAYS—47

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

NOT VOTING—3

Fetterman Sanders Welch

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.

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 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. 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.

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 Myong J. Joun, of Massachusetts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 51, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 181 Ex.]

YEAS—51

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

NAYS—46

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

NOT VOTING—3

Fetterman Sanders Welch

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO). On this vote, the yeas are 51, the nays are 46.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Myong J. Joun, of Massachu-

setts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that, notwithstanding rule XXII, all time on the Joun nomination be considered expired; that the confirmation vote on the Joun nomination occur at 4 p.m.; that the cloture motions on the Kotagal, Uhlmann, and Bloomekatz nominations ripen upon disposition of the Joun nomination; and that the order with respect to the postcloture time on the Kotagal nomination be vitiated.

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

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.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 119, S. 2226.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 119, S. 2226, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Kotagal nomination.

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

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.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

THE ECONOMY

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam President, I rise today to talk about something we have been hearing a lot about recently, and that is Bidenomics. The President and his Cabinet have been traveling the country trying to convince the American people into believing that the President's economic vision for the