

There was an example of that which passed on a bipartisan basis in the previous Congress when Republicans controlled the Senate Finance Committee. But that is not being considered at this time.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I have permission to complete my remarks before the rollcall vote.

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

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I will not go long before the rollcall vote because I know how this place works. So thank you.

#### LABOR DAY

Mr. President, yesterday, we celebrated Labor Day—a day when Americans come together to honor all of the people who make this country work.

I know the Presiding Officer, the junior Senator from Massachusetts, is one of the strongest supporters not just of Labor Day but of the labor movement behind Labor Day.

Whether you punch a clock, swipe a badge, earn a salary, or make tips or whether you are caring for children or aging parents, all work has dignity. For too many Americans, we know hard work simply hasn't paid off the way that it should. We are working to change that. We are making real progress. We are taking historic steps to put workers first, to invest in American workers, and to make our economy work for every American, not just for CEOs, not just for Wall Street.

Just last week, the Department of Labor proposed a new rule to make millions of workers eligible for overtime pay. We have been working on this for years because, if you put in extra hours, you should be paid for those extra hours. It will put money in Ohioans' pockets. More than 100,000 Ohio workers will finally receive overtime pay when they put in overtime work. Imagine that they haven't—but they haven't, with the way this Congress and former Presidents have let this happen.

It has been a long time coming, but the fight is not over. We need to pass my Restoring Overtime Pay Act to provide workers with financial security by ensuring that overtime pay is permanently protected regardless of who is in the White House.

This important step forward comes after we passed the most pro-worker infrastructure bill in history with the strongest "Buy America" provisions in history. It means more opportunities for workers in the trades all over Ohio—repairing roads, laying broadband cables, replacing lead pipes, rebuilding bridges, fixing water systems. It means more work for American factories that are making the goods used to build our infrastructure.

We passed the CHIPS Act to bring our supply chains home and to ensure the technology of the future is made in

America. It provides Davis-Bacon protection. That means they get union wages and union benefits for the workers who are creating these state-of-the-art factories, like the one in Licking County, OH, just east of Columbus.

We passed the Inflation Reduction Act, with prevailing wage and strong "Buy America" rules.

These are big wins for workers—the biggest wins and the most frequent wins for workers we have seen in a generation and the biggest steps we have taken in decades to create an industrial policy that puts our most valuable resources—American workers—first.

Companies that recognize their workers who drive their success are the ones that will lead their industries into the future whether it is in Licking County, where Intel entered a project labor agreement with the trades—something we insisted on in this body—or outside of Toledo, in Fulton County, where Arche Solar is building a solar farm with union workers; or in the Mahoning Valley, where Ultium just agreed—I was there a few days ago—to raise wages by 25 percent after we pushed them to engage with the workers' union.

I was in Lordstown, talking with those workers in UAW Local 1112. There is a lot of history in that building. The pictures and the signs on the walls tell the story of the Ohio auto industry, of the decades that workers spent building this industry and building the middle class in Mahoning Valley. They tell the story of the politicians who sold out Ohio workers to corporations that wanted cheap labor. You see the "last Chevy Cruze" sign on the wall as a reminder of what trade agreements did to places like Mahoning Valley or to my home in Mansfield, OH.

Workers are resilient. Many of the workers I talked with last week worked at the old Chevy Cruze plant. Now they are making the batteries that will power the next generation of cars and trucks. They are ready to lead the auto industry of the future. They just need fair pay and a safe workplace and protections on the job.

Ultium needs—this is the GM Korea company that was formed into a company called Ultium. They need to agree to a fair, permanent union contract that will be the gold standard and template for all EV contracts. That means honoring the UAW master agreement.

A union card means higher pay. It means better benefits. It means greater retirement security. It means safer workplaces. It means having more control over your schedule. It means a middle-class life.

My wife, at the age of 16, when growing up in the far northeast corner of Ohio, in Ashtabula, had an asthma attack. Her dad's union card allowed her to have an ambulance take her to the Cleveland Clinic for 2 weeks—about an hour's drive. Without that union card, she probably would have died. He was a utility worker, and he carried that union card for 35 years.

We shouldn't have to settle for less. Together, we are laying down a new marker. The jobs of the future should be good-paying union jobs—jobs where you build a life and a career and see a future. For too long, we haven't had enough of those opportunities.

Last week, I joined the Building Futures in Columbus for the graduation of their seventh class. There is nothing quite like it. They are making more training programs, more apprenticeships, more opportunities to get people of all ages involved in the trades. Most of these were Columbus city school graduates. A few of them had union members in their families. A few of them had the kind of opportunities that the union card brings. This pre-apprentice program means that, upon their graduation from this pre-apprentice program, they will be able to become a bricklayer or an insulator or a millwright or an electrician or a carpenter or a plumber or a pipefitter or a laborer or an operating engineer. It means good-paying, skilled union jobs are accessible to everyone and that they look like America.

Of course, we know what workers are up against when they organize. Corporations unleash all of their power to fight their own workers—too often, legally. That is why I will never stop fighting, as I know the Presiding Officer has in the past, with the Protecting the Right to Organize Act. We honor the workers this week who built the country and the progress we have made.

I wear on my lapel a depiction of a canary in the cage. The mineworker of 100 years ago, 120 years ago took a canary down to the mines. The canary died. The mineworker got out of the mines. He didn't have a union, in those days, strong enough or a government that cared enough to protect who he really was—almost always a "he." He was on his own.

Look at what we have done since then. This was given to me by a steelworker on Workers' Memorial Day. But look at what we have done since then. We have passed child labor laws. We have passed collective bargaining laws. We have passed Social Security and Medicare and all of the kinds of things that have given middle-class workers the opportunities we should have as a country.

This week, we honor and celebrate that proud tradition. We recommit to fighting for the dignity of work whether it is the PRO Act, whether it is passing the Railway Safety Act, whether it is standing with workers at the picket lines. When work has dignity, every American is paid the living wage they have earned.

Just this week, a group of us took on, if you will, in a labor dispute, workers who were about to strike, workers who were on the picket line—hospital workers. They were mostly low-paid workers not offered much from their employer, their big Cleveland hospital. They came to an agreement, in part,

because of public pressure and, in part, because there was a strong organized union—organized labor—at the bargaining table. When workers have dignity, workers have retirement security and paid leave and power over their schedules and their lives.

When you love this country, you fight for the people who make it work. That is what Labor Day is about. That is what organized labor is all about.

#### NOMINATIONS

Mr. President, I urge my colleagues to join me in confirming Philip Jefferson as Vice Chair of the Federal Reserve and in confirming Lisa Cook and Adriana Kugler to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. The Senate will be voting on Dr. Cook's and Dr. Kugler's nominations in the next few days.

These three nominees are talented economists and dedicated public servants and are also all historic nominees who will bring diverse perspectives to the Fed. If confirmed, our Board of Governors will better reflect the country and the people who make it work. Our economy works better when we have people from diverse backgrounds, people who bring new ideas and different perspectives, not just the same old Wall Street, corporate consensus.

#### NOMINATION OF PHILIP NATHAN JEFFERSON

Mr. President, Dr. Philip Jefferson is a respected economist whose nomination for Vice Chair came out of our committee, the committee I chair—Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs—with unanimous support. When he was first confirmed last year, he had wide bipartisan support in the Senate.

Dr. Jefferson brings to the Fed outstanding academic credentials and years of strong leadership experience. He is a renowned scholar, and he is a leading expert in monetary policy and the economics of poverty. Dr. Jefferson possesses a strong understanding of how higher prices hurt the most economically insecure Americans and that access to good-paying jobs is the best antidote to poverty.

If confirmed, he will be the second Black man to serve as Vice Chair on the Board of Governors.

#### NOMINATION OF LISA DENELL COOK

Mr. President, Dr. Lisa Cook is a well-qualified economist who has served with distinction since having filled a vacancy last year on the Board of Governors. She brings a breadth of research and international experience in monetary policy, banking, and financial crises. Dr. Cook's expertise in international economics has immense value as we continue in our economic recovery amidst global inflation—global inflation that is higher in most of the rest of the world than it is here.

Prior to joining the Fed, Dr. Cook taught economics and international relations at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, Harvard Business School, and Michigan State University. During the Obama administration, she served on the Council of Economic Ad-

visers as a senior economist and at the Treasury Department under the administrations of both Presidents Bush and Obama.

She grew up in the South. She worked in the industrial Midwest, in a State just north of mine—Michigan. She understands the vital role that workers and local communities play in building a strong economy. I have faith in her judgment to set monetary policy that grows our economy from the middle out and the bottom up.

Last year, her character was attacked, and her credentials were questioned. It was an unfair, underhanded attack on an eminently qualified woman of color. She has overwhelmingly proven her naysayers wrong. She has brought a level-headedness and data-driven focus to monetary policymaking.

I would like to take a moment to thank Senator ROUNDS of South Dakota for his open-mindedness and support of her confirmation. He listened to her answers and looked at her record, and he enthusiastically supported her. I wish all of my colleagues would do that.

She would be the first Black woman confirmed to a full 14-year term on the Federal Reserve Board—the first in over 100 years. This was started in 1913, and there has never been an African-American woman who has been reconfirmed. She would be the first.

#### NOMINATION OF ADRIANA DEBORA KUGLER

Mr. President, the last is Dr. Adriana Kugler, who is one of the Nation's labor economists—top labor economists—with an impressive record in both government and academic service. She is unquestionably qualified. She possesses bipartisan support from top economists and civil rights organizations. She serves as the executive director of the World Bank. She was confirmed via a unanimous vote in the U.S. Senate for that job, and she has played a critical role in the global economic recovery.

Prior to serving at the World Bank, she was an economist at the Department of Labor and taught economics and public policy at Georgetown University. In being a first-generation American and the daughter of Colombian immigrants, Dr. Kugler has firsthand knowledge of runaway prices and limited employment opportunities.

During her nomination hearing testimony, she shared how witnessing adversity and poverty in the country she was born in had deepened her understanding of the need for fighting inflation and promoting full employment.

If confirmed, she would be the first Hispanic American to serve on the Board of Governors in the history of the Federal Reserve—again, beginning in 1913. Her confirmation would be a critical step forward in bringing more diverse perspectives to our Nation's central bank, not just diversity in the way these nominees look but diversity in the way they think, which is something we simply have not seen much of

in the kind of elitist institutions like the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve.

I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting Dr. Jefferson's, Dr. Cook's, and Dr. Kruger's nominations—all have bipartisan support—so we can have all seven seats on the Board of Governors filled with qualified experts helping in our economic recovery.

I spoke to Chair Jerome Powell today about this and some other things. We discussed how important it is to the Fed that we have all seven spots in the Federal Reserve confirmed. It has been a long time since we have done that. This week is our opportunity.

I ask my colleagues to move forward on these nominations.

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 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. 256, Philip Nathan Jefferson, of North Carolina, to be Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for a term of four years.

Charles E. Schumer, Sherrod Brown, Margaret Wood Hassan, Mark Kelly, Jack Reed, John W. Hickenlooper, Elizabeth Warren, Tammy Duckworth, Jeff Merkley, Richard J. Durbin, Jeanne Shaheen, Benjamin L. Cardin, Mazie Hirono, Tina Smith, Edward J. Markey, Tim Kaine, Tammy Baldwin.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it of the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Philip Nathan Jefferson, of North Carolina, to be Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for a term of four years, 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. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA), and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 83, nays 10, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 213 Ex.]

#### YEAS—83

Baldwin	Blumenthal	Budd
Barrasso	Boozman	Cantwell
Bennet	Britt	Capito
Blackburn	Brown	Cardin