

required that the International Committee of the Red Cross have access to detainees in U.S. Government custody—a law that stands today.

Senator Feinstein was also a tireless champion for women, including the Violence Against Women Act, legislation to fight human trafficking, and our freedom to make our own reproductive health decisions. She was a leading voice for decades on behalf of our LGBTQ+ friends and neighbors. She fought to protect California's forests and water infrastructure.

Beyond her many, many accomplishments, she was also my friend, and I so enjoyed hearing the stories from colleagues in the last number of days about her.

Yes, Mr. President, I, too, have a seersucker suit, which she bought for each of us to make sure that the women of the Senate could participate in seersucker suit day.

Yes, I also have a piece of art. In addition to watercolors, she drew beautiful pictures with colored pencils, and I am so honored to have one of those hanging in my house.

Yes, Dianne also used to say: Are you staying in DC this weekend? Why don't you come over for dinner?

I was grateful for the times I was able to join her.

Dianne was always giving people, particularly all of us as women, items of hers that we admired. We had to be careful what we were admiring or we would end up getting one.

One day, I got the opportunity to return the favor in a very small way. We were on the floor, and Dianne said to me: I love your lipstick, the color of your lipstick. Where did you get it?

And I thought, aha, this is a moment for me to give Dianne something, as small as it was. So I came in a couple of days later with a package with several of the lipsticks she had admired, and the smile on her face was priceless.

She said: You don't have to do that. I said: Yes, I do. You do so much for us every day that this is just a small token I can give in return.

Senator Feinstein once said this:

Women have begun to see that if I go through that doorway, I take everybody through it.

Today, I am remembering my friend for all of the barriers she broke, the glass ceiling she shattered, the doors she held open so that so many others could follow.

May her memory be a blessing to her family, to the people of California, and to all of us who are feeling her loss.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

TRIBUTE TO ADAM WAINWRIGHT

Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, I rise to honor a St. Louis great who, al-

though he has thrown his last pitch for the St. Louis Cardinals, has left a lasting impression on Cardinal Nation.

In 2003, the St. Louis Cardinals acquired Adam Wainwright, Ray King, and Jason Marquis in exchange for J.D. Drew and Eli Marrero. Little did we know the impact that trade would have on the Cardinals—the crown jewel of the National League, of course—for years to come.

Wainwright—or Waino, as we call him—just recently notched his 200th win, a huge milestone, which, by the way, in the game today may never be reached again. Starters just generally don't pitch that many games and don't get as many wins. So it is a big milestone. And he is retired from baseball now. He did that in front of thousands of fans at Bush Stadium.

But his career was more than just 200 wins; it was 18-plus years of just nasty curveballs and heart-stopping wins, years of camaraderie and postseason excellence, and countless memories for all of us Cardinals fans.

In his first full season in the majors with the Cardinals, Waino pitched in 61 games and boasted an impressive 3.12 ERA. It was in that first full season that he showed the ice in his veins that he became known for, as he became closer at the end of the season due to an injury to Jason Isringhausen.

In the bottom of the ninth in game 7 of the 2006 NLCS, Wainwright stood on the mound, bases loaded, with the mighty Carlos Beltran at the plate. Historically, Beltran had kind of owned the Cardinals, even back to his Astros days. You have two strikes on Beltran, and Wainwright kicked back and delivered a knockout curveball that Beltran watched all the way into Yadier Molina's glove. Strike three. The game was over. The series was over. In that moment, the Cardinals headed to the World Series, and St. Louis knew they had a star.

On a personal note, I know exactly where I was when that pitch was delivered. I was at a bar in Kirkwood, near my home. I was at the very last seat of that bar. For every clinching away game for the next 15 years, I and a couple of friends went back to that same place. It had some magic for a while. It ran out, as these things often do.

But it was a great moment and a great way to start his career with the Cardinals.

He would go on to secure the final out in the 2006 World Series with a strikeout by way of his signature 12-to-6 curveball—otherwise known as Uncle Charlie—becoming the only player to close out the World Series in the 21st century as a rookie and delivering a World Series championship that the Cardinals hadn't had since 1982.

Bolstered by his batterymate and self-professed “brother,” the legendary Yadier Molina, who retired last year, Wainwright delivered countless gems and showed up at the most crucial moments.

Wainwright tossed seven innings and won his first MLB start against the

Astros in April of 2007. While he was injured during the Cardinals' storybook run in 2011, he was a monumental presence in the clubhouse, as he was for over 18 years. He hit a home run on the first pitch of his first at bat in the majors. He pitched a complete game in the winner-take-all game 5 of the 2013 NLDS, fanning six and catapulting the Cardinals into another deep October run.

During the 2022 season that saw the return of Albert Pujols to St. Louis and the end of the Yadier Molina era, Wainwright and Molina set an alltime record for the most starts as a battery at 325. I am pretty sure that record will never be broken either.

Two of the most beloved St. Louis Cardinals, starting there as mere teammates, had an incredible run together, and they are best friends and St. Louis legends.

Although this season has been a difficult one for the Cardinals and not everything we had hoped for, we at least got to see Adam Wainwright reach one more milestone—200 wins—in his farewell season.

A three-time All-Star, a two-time World Series champion, a two-time Gold Glove, and a Silver Slugger, Wainwright's success on the mound is well-documented. But aside from all of those accomplishments on the field, he also shined as an ambassador for the city of St. Louis and the sport of baseball.

The 2020 Roberto Clemente Award winner, which is given to the player who best exemplifies the game of baseball, sportsmanship, and community involvement, Wainwright had an unrivaled passion for our community in St. Louis and helping others. He founded a nonprofit in 2013, Big League Impact, which has since raised over \$8 million for a host of charitable organizations and foundations. He served as the unrelentingly optimistic beating heart of Cardinals teams that have seen stunning victories and heart-breaking losses.

Despite growing up in Georgia, Wainwright truly embodies what it means to be a St. Louis Cardinal and has served brilliantly as an ambassador for the beloved franchise—a franchise that is steeped in rich history, and some of the greatest players of all time have proudly worn the birds on the bat. It is a franchise that has won more World Series than any other, save the Yankees. I have been blessed, along with family members—my dad and my kids—to watch a lot of those greats over the years. Wainwright is undoubtedly one of those greats, not only for his prowess on the field but for his philanthropy and dedication to St. Louis off the field.

Today, I think I speak for all of Cardinal Nation when I say: Thank you, Waino. It has been a pleasure watching you all these years. Congrats on a fantastic career, and good luck in your next chapter.

I yield the floor.

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

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

NOMINATION OF BRENDAN ABELL HURSON

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Judge Brendan Hurson to the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland.

Born in Washington, DC, Judge Hurson received his B.A. from Providence College and his J.D. from the University of Maryland Carey School of Law. After clerking for Judge Margaret B. Seymour of the U.S. District Court for the District of South Carolina, Judge Hurson began his legal career at Schulman, Hershfield, and Gilden, PA as an associate, where he worked on a variety of civil and criminal litigation matters on behalf of individuals, small businesses, and small to mid-size corporations. He then went on to work as an assistant Federal public defender in both Maryland and the U.S. Virgin Islands, where he appeared in court routinely, litigated substantive motions in close to 40 Federal cases, and tried 18 cases to verdict. In February 2022, Judge Hurson was appointed to serve as a U.S. magistrate judge for the same district to which he is nominated. In his time on the bench, he has written approximately 77 opinions.

The American Bar Association unanimously rated Judge Hurson “well qualified” to serve on the district court, and he has the strong support of Senators CARDIN and VAN HOLLEN.

Judge Hurson’s deep ties to the Maryland legal community, combined with his significant courtroom experience, make him an excellent addition to the Federal bench.

I thank my colleagues for supporting his nomination.

NOMINATION OF SUSAN KIM DECLERCQ

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Susan DeClercq to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Born in Seoul, South Korea, Ms. DeClercq received her B.A. from the University of Michigan and her J.D. from Wayne State University School of Law. After clerking for Judge Avern L. Cohn of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, Ms. DeClercq worked at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meager & Flom, LLP as an associate, where she worked on a variety of matters, including white collar defense and commercial litigation. During her tenure at Skadden, she coauthored an amicus brief on behalf of Members of Congress in the 2003 Supreme Court case *Grutter v. Bollinger*, which considered the use of affirmative action policies in college admissions. She then went on to serve as a Federal prosecutor in the U.S. Attorney’s Office for

the Eastern District of Michigan for 18 years, where she led substantial investigations and handled hundreds of cases at every stage of litigation, from inception to post-judgment.

The American Bar Association unanimously rated Ms. DeClercq “qualified” to serve on the district court, and she has the strong support of Senators Stabenow and Peters.

With more than two decades of litigation experience—the vast majority of which has been in government service—Ms. DeClercq is well positioned to handle the demands of the Eastern District of Michigan from day one.

I thank my colleagues for supporting her nomination.

NOMINATION OF BRENDAN ABELL HURSON

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I rise today in strong support of the nomination of Brendan Hurson to be a U.S. district court judge for the District of Maryland. I urge my Senate colleagues to confirm his nomination.

I joined with Senator VAN HOLLEN to recommend Judge Hurson to President Biden. President Biden nominated Judge Hurson for this position in March of 2023. Senator VAN HOLLEN and I worked to establish a judicial selection committee in Maryland, including an open application process. In particular, we sought out a highly qualified and diverse application pool. Our committee interviewed several dozen applicants. Senator VAN HOLLEN and I then personally interviewed the finalists, those who were considered to be the top candidates, before making any recommendation to the White House.

I strongly agree with President Biden’s goal to nominate judges with excellent legal credentials from diverse backgrounds, from both a professional and demographic perspective. Today, we have such an example in this excellent nominee for this district court judgeship.

Judge Brendan Hurson lives in Baltimore and serves as a U.S. magistrate judge in Baltimore. He has been nominated to fill a current vacancy in the U.S. district court for the District of Maryland after the retirement of Judge George Hazel in February of 2023.

Judge Hurson received his undergraduate degree in 2000 from Providence College in Providence, RI, where he majored in public and community service studies with a minor in Black studies. After college, he served in the Jesuit Volunteer Corps in California as an advocate for poor and marginalized communities in San Francisco’s Tenderloin neighborhood. In 2005, Judge Hurson graduated Order of the Coif from the University of Maryland School of Law.

After completing a judicial clerkship, in 2007, Judge Hurson joined the Office of the Federal Public Defender in Baltimore, where he defended individuals charged with felonies and misdemeanor offenses in Maryland’s Federal court. He was named senior litigation counsel in 2015.

In 2017, Judge Hurson joined the Office of the Federal Public Defender for

the U.S. Virgin Islands, where he represented people charged with violating Federal and territorial laws on the islands of St. John, St. Thomas, and St. Croix. In 2008, he returned to the Public Defender’s Office in Baltimore.

In February of 2022, Judge Hurson was sworn in as the U.S. magistrate judge and sits in Baltimore. As a sitting magistrate judge, he presides over both preliminary and criminal proceedings, civil lawsuits by consent of the parties, and also coordinates the District of Maryland’s Social Security appellate docket. Judge Hurson, therefore, brings a remarkable experience to this position, having served as a Federal public defender for over a decade and a half and now serving as a magistrate judge for over a year and a half.

If confirmed, Judge Hurson will continue to serve in the same Federal court where he now sits as U.S. magistrate judge and where he practiced as a public defender for many years.

The Judiciary Committee favorably reported Judge Hurson by a bipartisan vote in May of 2023, and the American Bar Association Standing Committee on Federal Judiciary awarded Judge Hurson a unanimously “well-qualified” rating—its highest possible rating.

I was delighted to recommend the nomination of Judge Hurson to President Biden, along with Senator VAN HOLLEN. Judicial nominees must meet the highest standards of integrity, competence, and temperament. I am confident Judge Hurson will safeguard the rights of all Marylanders, uphold the Constitution and rule of law, and faithfully follow the judicial oath to “do equal right to the poor and to the rich.” Judge Hurson will serve the people of Maryland well.

Let me conclude by saying I know that public service is a family affair and sacrifice, and I particularly want to thank Judge Hurson’s family for agreeing to share him with the people of Maryland in the interest of public service.

I urge my colleagues to vote to confirm his nomination.

I yield the floor.

VOOTE ON O’BRIEN NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the O’Brien nomination?

Mr. CARDIN. 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 bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) would have voted “nay.”