

What this resolution does is condemn certain speech around the country.

Now, let me just say to my colleague from Missouri: I stand with anybody and second to none when it comes to condemning anti-Semitism, whether in words or in actions. And I have stood up throughout my time in public service to do exactly that. If the Senator from Missouri wants to bring to the floor of the Senate a resolution condemning anti-Semitism, a resolution that points out what we just saw from the most recent FBI statistics about the rise in anti-Semitism, I will join with him in that effort. But what this resolution does is attempts to smear students, many of whom engaged in anti-Semitic remarks but many who did not.

My view is that when you come to the Senate floor to pass such a resolution and you are talking about freedom of speech, it is very important not to paint a broad brush and condemn everybody engaging in speech.

This is what this resolution does. It is an attempt to say, even to those who had legitimate—legitimate—statements to make about war and peace, to smear them all as making anti-Semitic remarks.

I would also say to my colleague that there have been a lot of other anti-Semitic remarks around the country, from radio show hosts to others. And if we want to make it a practice of regularly coming to condemn remarks—hateful remarks—whether anti-Semitic or racist or anti-gay or whatever it may be, then the U.S. Senate is going to have to think long and hard about doing exactly that.

I heard you mention violence. Most of these protests—as repugnant as some of them were in terms of the words—were not violent. The one terrible violent hate crime we have seen in the United States since Hamas's awful attack was the 6-year-old Palestinian-American Muslim boy in Chicago stabbed 27 times.

You mentioned here, "Whereas Columbia University was forced to close its campus to the public after an Israeli student was violently assaulted," I ask whether my colleague from Missouri wants to also include in the resolution violent acts. They were hate crimes. The police have said these were hate crimes. He was attacked because he was a Muslim. I don't see any condemnation of that in this resolution. Nothing.

So I would stand with my colleagues in standing up to hateful rhetoric, condemning anti-Semitism. But what this resolution does—what this resolution does—is not that.

Mr. HAWLEY. Would the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. I would be happy to yield.

Mr. HAWLEY. What of the rhetoric that is cited specifically in the resolution—you talked about legitimate concerns. What, specifically, do you think is legitimate?

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. I am not suggesting to my colleague that any particular statement that he took out from these protests was a legitimate statement. No. No. But what you are doing here—what you are doing here—is smearing all of the students who engage in these protests—yes, you are—and that is wrong.

I would just invite you, again, to join with me—if we are going to get in this practice—and I don't suggest it; this is one of the reasons I am here—of when there are terrible, hateful remarks made against any group, whether they be Blacks or other minority groups, the U.S. Senate maybe will weigh in, but—

Mr. HAWLEY. Senator, what is the smear? What is the smear?

Mr. VAN HOLLEN.—on this issue—

Mr. HAWLEY. What is the smear? Point me to the language.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. There are student groups that may have legitimate concerns, for example, about—just a minute—legitimate concerns about the loss of innocent civilian life in Gaza.

Mr. HAWLEY. They are not condemned by this resolution.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. No. No. No.

But what you are doing is saying—you are questioning—based on certain remarks made by some students, you are questioning them all.

Mr. HAWLEY. Senator, we are condemning—

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Mr. HAWLEY. Mr. President,

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, if I may, I have to—

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri has the floor.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. I have got another meeting, but I object.

Mr. HAWLEY. Mr. President, it is hard to believe what we have just heard on this floor. Defense of the most vile, anti-Semitic rhetoric under the excuse that to call out specifically the specific statements, and denounce them one at a time and say this is wrong, that that is somehow a smear, what that is, is a failure of moral nerve. What it is, is a failure of moral clarity. What it is, is, frankly, sympathizing with this rhetoric.

I don't know why it is so hard, but I guess we have now found out why college presidents won't come out and say this is wrong.

We cite the specific words. Why is it wrong to say "It includes violence"? Why is it wrong to condemn this?

When students say the heroic resistance in Gaza should be praised, they are not referring to something in general. They are talking about the attack on Israel, the slaughter of innocent Israelis, and that is perfectly fine? Those are legitimate concerns?

I mean, this is—the moral equivalency that has seeped into our college campuses and, I guess, to the floor of the U.S. Senate is unbelievable.

Let there be no mistake. What has happened today is one Senator has

blocked this body from condemning the attacks against Jewish people in Israel, Jewish Americans in this Nation, and pretended that there is some moral equivalency here between this and what?

The State of Israel is under existential threat. We have students in this country who are specifically calling for and celebrating the killing of Jews, and we can't condemn that on the floor of the Senate? To say I am disappointed is an understatement. But I will say this: It is a revealing moment.

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. 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. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I have two cloture motions, and then I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to address the Senate before we vote on the resolution.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, first, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 364.

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 Michael G. Whitaker, of Vermont, to be Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration for the term of five years.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. 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. 364, Michael G. Whitaker, of Vermont, to be Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration for the term of five years.

Charles E. Schumer, Maria Cantwell, Christopher A. Coons, John W. Hickenlooper, Sherrod Brown, Richard Blumenthal, Tim Kaine, Sheldon Whitehouse, Martin Heinrich, Christopher Murphy, Alex Padilla, Gary C. Peters, Chris Van Hollen, Brian Schatz, Jeanne Shaheen, Patty Murray, Catherine Cortez Masto.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. 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. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 116.

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 Jessica Looman, of Minnesota, to be Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. 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. 116, Jessica Looman, of Minnesota, to be Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor.

Charles E. Schumer, Bernard Sanders, Christopher Murphy, Mazie K. Hirono, Tammy Baldwin, Margaret Wood Hassan, Richard J. Durbin, John W. Hickenlooper, Tina Smith, Sheldon Whitehouse, Catherine Cortez Masto, Brian Schatz, Gary C. Peters, Jacky Rosen, Alex Padilla, Michael F. Bennet, Jeff Merkley.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, October 19, be waived.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

STANDING WITH ISRAEL AGAINST TERRORISM—Continued

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I have a brief statement on this very important resolution we are about to vote on.

Mr. President, October 7, 2023, will go down as a day of infamy. As Israel faces the darkest hour of its 75-year history, the bipartisan resolution we are about to vote on proclaims that so long as there is a United States of America, the people of Israel will never stand alone. So long as there is a United States Senate, the people of Israel will never stand alone.

Today's bipartisan resolution shows exactly where the United States Senate stands. We stand firmly with Israel and her right to defend herself. Today's bipartisan resolution shows exactly where the United States Senate stands. We condemn the heinous, vicious attacks by the terrorist group Hamas. It is rare that all 100 Senators agree on anything, but every one of the 100 of us is here today, united, saying that we are behind Israel. Today's bipartisan resolution shows where we stand.

We demand Hamas stop their attacks and release all hostages, including American hostages. We urge the world to unite against Hamas and against nations like Iran that support global terrorism.

This resolution is not the end; it is the beginning. The Senate will back up this resolution with real, swift, decisive action and resources.

Let the entire world see that today Democrats and Republicans alike stand in total unity. We support Israel's absolute right to defend itself.

To the Israeli people, we say: We stand with you, we feel your pain, we ache with you, and we will act.

To any actor that seeks to take advantage of Israel, the United States Senate says with one unified voice: Don't.

The resolution also does what everyone in this country in elected office and the press should do: condemn Hamas as a heinous terrorist organization.

This resolution is momentous. The entire Senate today is unified in our support of the Israeli people and against Hamas. And again, to repeat, this resolution is just the start. We will follow it up with swift action and get Israel the help and resources she needs.

In conclusion, I want to thank Leader McCONNELL for joining me in this statement and championing the measure. I want to thank Chairman CARDIN of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, as well as Ranking Member RISCH, for helping draft this resolution. I thank every Senator, all 99 of my colleagues, for supporting this. We needed to stand united, and today, we are. In the Senate, we will not waiver in our friendship with the Israeli people.

I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

VOTE ON S. RES. 417

Under the previous order, the question is on adoption of S. Res. 417.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. I announce that the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT).

The result was announced—yeas 97, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 261 Leg.]

YEAS—97

Baldwin	Hagerty	Reed
Barrasso	Hassan	Ricketts
Bennet	Hawley	Risch
Blackburn	Heinrich	Romney
Blumenthal	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Booker	Hirono	Rounds
Boozman	Hoeben	Rubio
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Sanders
Britt	Johnson	Schatz
Brown	Kaine	Schmitt
Budd	Kelly	Schumer
Cantwell	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Capito	King	Shaheen
Cardin	Klobuchar	Sinema
Carper	Lankford	Smith
Casey	Lee	Stabenow
Cassidy	Luján	Sullivan
Collins	Lummis	Tester
Coons	Manchin	Thune
Cornyn	Markey	Tillis
Cortez Masto	Marshall	Tuberville
Cotton	McConnell	Van Hollen
Cramer	Menendez	Vance
Crapo	Merkley	Warner
Cruz	Moran	Warnock
Daines	Mullin	Warren
Duckworth	Murkowski	Welch
Ernst	Murphy	Whitehouse
Fetterman	Murray	Wicker
Fischer	Ossoff	Wyden
Gillibrand	Padilla	Young
Graham	Paul	
Grassley	Peters	

NOT VOTING—3

Butler Durbin Scott of (SC)

The resolution (S. Res. 417) was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHATZ). Under the previous order, the preamble is agreed to, and motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

Mr. SCHATZ. The President pro tempore.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate 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.

Mrs. MURRAY. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MERKLEY. 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 MATT SQUERI

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, Ralph Waldo Emerson once wrote: The purpose of life is . . . to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you lived and lived well. It is not the length of life, but the depth of life that matters.

In that spirit, I rise today to bid farewell to a member of my team, Matt