

lot are not taught this. But they have been marinated in woke ideology since grade school at a lot of our public schools. Leftwing groups are siding with terrorists because of this.

Today, there are protests happening here at the Capitol, right here on Capitol Hill. The appropriations hearings with Secretary Austin and Secretary Blinken have been repeatedly—repeatedly—every few minutes, interrupted by leftwing, pro-Hamas protesters. Pro-Hamas leftists shut down a building in the House just a couple of weeks ago—shut it down. Now they want to shut down the Appropriations Committee. Many of these groups are funded by Democrat dark money groups.

These leftwing groups are calling for a cease-fire over in Gaza. This is like calling for a cease-fire after Pearl Harbor, as some of the leaders in Israel have said.

To me, a cease-fire is a surrender. A cease-fire means Hamas gets to kill civilians without any consequences after what they did on October 7. Every single Democrat in the Senate needs to condemn these leftwing groups—everybody. We all need to condemn these groups.

The left is making excuses for these terrorists. It is immoral, and it is un-American what is going on across our country and with these protests. We need to ensure that terrorists never ever attack anybody like this again. This requires, again, wiping off Hamas from the map. And as you listen to the Israeli leaders, that is exactly what they plan to do.

Israel is going to be able to do this. They are going to be able to do it themselves. They are not going to need our help, but they will need supplies. We need to ensure that they have what they need to wipe Hamas off from existence.

I support sending Israel more weapons if they need them. But, unfortunately, there is already an effort to tie Israel funding to Ukraine funding right here in this building.

President Biden sent over a request for a supplemental funding bill just this past week, and it includes \$14 billion for Israel. But it also includes \$60 billion for Ukraine. That is \$230 million a day. That is four times as much for Ukraine than it is for Israel. The war in Ukraine has nothing to do with the war in Israel. Israel is our No. 1 ally. Sometimes people forget that. Ukraine is not our No. 1 ally. They are not even in NATO.

The war in Israel is about killing terrorists who want to kill not only people in countries like Israel but also Americans. There is no reason Ukraine and Israel aid need to be in the same bill. I am against that. I am for funding Israel, first and foremost. So we need to vote on them separately. We ought to support Israel, and we need to supply Israel. We need to stand with them as they take on the terrorists. It is going to be a very, very tough and grueling job, but we support them.

SUNSHINE PROTECTION ACT

Mr. President, I also come to the floor today to talk about something a little bit different. This weekend, Americans are going to fall back. Daylight saving time, it is coming to an end. This should be the last time we ever have to fall back.

Senator RUBIO and I have introduced legislation the last 2 years that would do just that. It is called the Sunshine Protection Act, supported by a lot of people. Over the past 2 years, I have received countless calls from all over the State of Alabama to make daylight saving time permanent. We are living in the past.

Many Alabamians—including parents, senior citizens, farmers, and mental health professionals—have called my office in support of more sunshine in the evening. This is probably one of the top issues I get phone calls about, and we deal with a lot of them. But it is amazing how many phone calls we do get over this one topic. People across America agree that changing our clocks back and forth twice a year really makes no sense. It makes no sense sometimes and, as I said earlier, people call and say they are just sick of it.

The idea of daylight saving was originally known as “war time.” That is when it was started. It was first introduced as a temporary measure to save energy during World War I. Many studies have proven that extra sunlight in the evening has benefits for mental health, physical fitness, economic growth, and overall well-being. It is a simple way we could positively impact the day-to-day life of all Americans.

This bill is also a way to get something done that a lot of people care about. It affects everybody’s life in this country. Shifting clocks can disrupt sleep patterns. It is kind of like a jetlag. We are giving the entire country jetlag twice a year. But a permanent daylight saving time will have Americans maintain a consistent sleep schedule.

Studies show disrupting sleep patterns increases the risk of cardiovascular disease and other diseases. Northwestern’s medical school found that the “fall back and spring forward” comes with 9 percent spike in fatal car accidents and 24 percent higher risks of heart attacks. The long-term effects of sleep disruption include weight gain, headaches, and depression.

The time switch in the fall increases seasonal affective disorder. One study found that the transition from daylight saving time to standard time increases the number of hospital visits of depression by 11 percent. You would think we would listen to that.

Permanent daylight saving time with extra sunlight in the evening will also encourage more physical activity. Kids will be able to enjoy the outdoors more. Older Americans will be able to increase their vitamin D. Longer daylight hours in the evening have been proven to stimulate economic activity.

People are more likely to shop, dine out, and participate in group activities when there is light outside.

For one thing, it really affects our farmers. More sunshine during working hours means more time to work in the fields, which can translate into more profits, which our farmers desperately need. Permanent daylight saving could help farmers save energy.

In my State of Alabama, along with 17 other States, they have already passed legislation to end the outdated practice of changing the clocks. But the Federal Government must act to allow these State laws to go into effect. Making daylight saving time permanent would improve our health, bolster our economy, benefit our farmers, and put America on the path to a brighter future. It makes a lot of sense. It is time to move America forward and stop falling back.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

NOMINATION OF JACOB J. LEW

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I come to the floor today in support of Jacob Lew to be our Ambassador to Israel. We will have a chance to vote on that in a few moments, first on cloture and then, hopefully, on the confirmation, with the cloture being imposed.

The attack by Hamas on Israel earlier this month was heinous. It was evil. It was indescribably brutal.

I was just in Israel with 10 Senators—5 Democrats, 5 Republicans—and saw firsthand the scars and devastation. I saw the grief and the shock. We were there to make it clear that Israel has the right to defend itself; it has the obligation to defend itself.

We recognize that the ground campaign has started to eliminate Hamas. Hamas is evil. They are equivalent to ISIS and maybe, in some cases, worse. Israel’s security depends upon the demise of Hamas, as does the Palestinians’ future in Gaza depend upon Hamas being eliminated.

We have ongoing challenges. Two hundred-plus hostages are being held by Hamas. Their safe return is one of our highest priorities. We are all working very hard. President Biden has made it clear with the positioning of U.S. assets, as well as his engagement in the Middle East to prevent the escalation of this conflict. For those enemies of the United States and Israel trying to take advantage of the combat in Gaza to escalate the conflict, we have to make sure that does not happen.

We have a real challenge with the humanitarian assistance to the Palestinians in Gaza who are trying to escape the brutality of Hamas. We are now fortunate that we are able to start getting humanitarian trucks into Gaza. We hope to be at about 100 trucks a day through the Rafah gate. More is needed. We need to provide for the medical needs and safe passage for Palestinians trying to avoid the conflict. All of this is made much more difficult because of Hamas.

These challenges require a U.S. partnership. We need a confirmed ambassador. We need to work together on operations. We need to work together on tactics. We need to work together on strategy with Israel. It is so much more difficult for us to be able to do that without a confirmed ambassador in Jerusalem.

How are we going to diplomatically engage at the highest levels in the region if we don't have a confirmed ambassador? It makes it much more difficult. Who is going to lead our mission to help the more than half a million American citizens who live in Israel? It is made much more difficult without a confirmed ambassador.

I want to make it clear that our Chargé d'Affaires in Jerusalem, Stephanie Hallett, is doing a phenomenal job, as are the men and women of our mission in Jerusalem. And they deserve our thanks, our appreciation for being on the frontline to represent America's interest. There is no question about their loyalty and their dedication to the mission. The U.S. team at Mission Israel is the best in the field, but that is no substitute for a confirmed ambassador.

Jacob Lew is eminently qualified to serve in this post. He has extensive experience. He has the political acumen that we need for our Ambassador at this time. He has the respect of the Israeli officials.

The Foreign Minister tweeted that they look forward to working with Jack Lew in "the spirit of our close cooperation and alliance."

The Jerusalem Post said:

Jack Lew is a worthy nominee and a mensch.

Support for his nomination ranges from the Orthodox Union Advocacy Center to the Anti-Defamation League.

Last week, he advanced out of the Foreign Relations Committee on a bipartisan vote. I want to thank my colleagues who worked so hard to get him through the committee.

Of course, this would not be the first time that Secretary Lew has had the support of the Senate. He has been nominated for a number of positions, and this body has confirmed him with overwhelming support in the past.

Now, with Israel at war, with Hamas holding hostages in their tunnels in Gaza, with the entire world watching, given the stakes of the situation, given that Israel is fighting to defend itself, given that American lives are at risk, we cannot afford any delay. Israel cannot afford a delay.

Mr. President, I urge my colleagues to support cloture on Jack Lew's nomination so we can get the confirmation vote without delay. I hope that you will support these efforts.

I yield the floor.

NOMINATION OF MATTHEW JAMES MADDOX

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

A native Marylander, Judge Maddox received his B.A. from Morgan State University and his J.D. from Yale Law School before clerking for Judge Gerald Bruce Lee on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia. Following his clerkship, Judge Maddox worked as an associate at Holland & Knight LLP, where he primarily represented business clients in civil litigation, regulatory compliance, and risk management matters. He then completed a second clerkship with Judge Andre Davis on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. Judge Maddox spent the bulk of his legal career working in public service as an assistant U.S. attorney in the District of Maryland. Last year, he was appointed by the judges of the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland to serve as a magistrate judge. The American Bar Association unanimously rated Judge Maddox as "well qualified," and his nomination is strongly supported by his home state Senators, Mr. CARDIN and Mr. VAN HOLLEN.

With significant experience in both criminal and civil matters and a proven dedication to equal justice under law, Judge Maddox will serve the District of Maryland with distinction.

I am proud to support his nomination.

Mr. CARDIN. 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.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, for the information of the Senate, when the Senate resumes consideration of H.R. 4366, the following amendments are expected to be made pending, as provided under the order of October 24: Hawley No. 1200, Cruz No. 1296, Blackburn-Warner No. 1349, and Budd No. 1243.

I further ask unanimous consent that there be up to 10 minutes debate, equally divided, prior to the vote on amendment No. 1296, with all previous provisions remaining in effect.

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

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, for the information of the Senate, Senators should expect four rollcall votes beginning at 2:30 p.m. today.

I ask unanimous consent that the vote scheduled for 11:30 begin immediately.

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

VOTE ON MADDOX NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Maddox 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 legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

The Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) would have voted "nay."

The result was announced—yeas 55, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 274 Ex.]

YEAS—55

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

NAYS—42

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

NOT VOTING—3

Lee	Scott (SC)	Tillis
-----	------------	--------

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HICKENLOOPER). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table. 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. 370, Jacob J. Lew, of New York, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the State of Israel.

Charles E. Schumer, Benjamin L. Cardin, Debbie Stabenow, Tammy Duckworth, Mark Kelly, Tina Smith, Tammy Baldwin, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Elizabeth Warren, Christopher A. Coons, Tim Kaine, Christopher Murphy, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jeanne Shaheen, Richard Blumenthal, Chris Van Hollen, Richard J. Durbin.