

hoping for us to fail. So we need to try, with everything we have, to get the job done.

I will update Senators when more information about schedule becomes available.

#### NOMINATION OF JERRY EDWARDS, JR.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Jerry Edwards, Jr., to the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Louisiana.

Born in Shreveport, LA, Mr. Edwards received his B.A. from Georgia State University and his J.D. from Vermont Law and Graduate School before clerking for Judge Scott J. Crichton and Judge Jeanette G. Garrett on the First Judicial District Court of Louisiana. He then entered private practice in Shreveport, where he maintained a diverse litigation practice. In 2019, Mr. Edwards joined the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Louisiana as an assistant U.S. attorney. He defended Federal Agencies in civil cases and also handled affirmative work on behalf of Federal Agencies. In 2022, he was appointed first assistant U.S. attorney. In that role, he oversees civil litigation and the prosecution of various Federal crimes.

Mr. Edwards has significant experience in both State and Federal court, and he has tried nine cases to verdict, including two jury trials. Mr. Edwards has also been involved in a variety of legal activities outside of his legal practice. He is a member of the Louisiana Supreme Court Committee on Bar Admissions, and he previously served on the Louisiana Judiciary Commission.

Mr. Edwards enjoys the strong support of both of his home State Senators—Mr. CASSIDY and Mr. KENNEDY—as well as the Louisiana legal community. The American Bar Association unanimously rated Mr. Edwards as “well qualified” to serve on the Western District of Louisiana. If confirmed, he will be the first person of color to ever sit on the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Louisiana.

During Mr. Edwards's confirmation hearing, Senator CASSIDY noted that “Mr. Edwards's commitment to his community and bar is a personal credit to the character required to be a successful judge.” I am confident that Mr. Edwards' character, strong ties to the Western District of Louisiana, and extensive legal experience ensure that he will be a successful judge on the Federal bench. I strongly support his nomination, and I urge my colleagues to join me.

Mr. SCHUMER. I yield the floor.

#### VOTE ON EDWARDS NOMINATION

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

Mr. SCHUMER. 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. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES), the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY), the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH), the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS), and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE).

The result was announced—yeas 66, nays 24, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 345 Ex.]

#### YEAS—66

Baldwin	Hassan	Reed
Bennet	Heinrich	Romney
Booker	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Brown	Hirono	Rounds
Butler	Kaine	Rubio
Cantwell	Kelly	Sanders
Capito	Kennedy	Schatz
Cardin	King	Schumer
Carper	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Casey	Lujan	Sinema
Cassidy	Manchin	Smith
Collins	Markey	Stabenow
Cooms	McConnell	Tester
Cornyn	Menendez	Tillis
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Moran	Warner
Durbin	Murkowski	Warnock
Ernst	Murphy	Warren
Fetterman	Murray	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Wicker
Graham	Padilla	Wyden
Grassley	Peters	Young

#### NAYS—24

Blackburn	Hawley	Ricketts
Boozman	Hoeven	Risch
Braun	Johnson	Schmitt
Britt	Lankford	Scott (FL)
Budd	Lee	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Marshall	Sullivan
Crapo	Mullin	Thune
Cruz	Paul	Vance

#### NOT VOTING—10

Barrasso	Fischer	Tuberville
Blumenthal	Hagerty	Welch
Cramer	Hyde-Smith	
Daines	Lummis	

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.

The majority whip.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to resume consideration of the Long nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Brandon S. Long, of Louisiana, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana.

#### NOMINATION OF BRANDON S. LONG

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Bran-

don S. Long to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana.

Born in Metairie, LA, Mr. Long received his B.B.A. and B.A. from the University of Texas at Austin in 1999 and his J.D. from Duke Law School in 2005. From 2005 to 2010, Mr. Long worked in the Washington, DC, office of King & Spalding, LLP, as an associate in the special matters and government investigations practice group. While in private practice, he focused on Federal criminal matters, internal investigations, corporate compliance, and civil matters involving securities law.

Mr. Long then served as an assistant U.S. attorney in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia from 2010 to 2014. There, he tried approximately 27 criminal cases to verdict, of which 15 were jury trials and 12 were bench trials. Since 2014, Mr. Long has served as an AUSA in the Eastern District of Louisiana. From 2017 to 2018, he served as deputy chief of the narcotics unit. Mr. Long also served as the office's opioid coordinator from 2017 to 2020. For a brief stint from 2020 to 2021, Mr. Long served on detail as deputy chief of staff and acting chief of staff to FBI Director Christopher Wray. In 2021, he returned to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Louisiana, where he serves as a member of the financial crimes unit.

The American Bar Association unanimously rated Mr. Long as “well qualified,” and his nomination is strongly supported by his home state Senators, Mr. KENNEDY and Mr. CASSIDY.

Mr. Long will serve the Eastern District of Louisiana with distinction.

I am proud to support his nomination and urge my colleagues to do the same.

#### CLOTURE MOTION WITHDRAWN

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the cloture motion with respect to the Long nomination be withdrawn.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The cloture motion was withdrawn.

#### VOTE ON LONG NOMINATION

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I know of no further debate on the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Long nomination?

Mr. DURBIN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

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

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the

Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAP-ITO), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES), the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY), the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. RISCH), and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE).

The result was announced—yeas 64, nays 22, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 346 Ex.]

YEAS—64

Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Romney
Bennet	Hirono	Rosen
Booker	Kaine	Rounds
Brown	Kelly	Rubio
Butler	Kennedy	Schatz
Cantwell	King	Schumer
Cardin	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Carper	Lujan	Sinema
Casey	Manchin	Smith
Cassidy	Markey	Stabenow
Collins	McConnell	Tester
Coons	Menendez	Tillis
Cornyn	Merkley	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Moran	Warner
Duckworth	Mullin	Warnock
Durbin	Murkowski	Warren
Fetterman	Murphy	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Murray	Wicker
Graham	Ossoff	Wyden
Grassley	Padilla	Young
Hassan	Peters	Reed
Heinrich	Reed	

NAYS—22

Blackburn	Ernst	Schmitt
Boozman	Hawley	Scott (FL)
Braun	Hoeben	Scott (SC)
Britt	Lankford	Sullivan
Budd	Lee	Thune
Cotton	Marshall	Vance
Crapo	Paul	
Cruz	Ricketts	

NOT VOTING—14

Barrasso	Fischer	Risch
Blumenthal	Hagerty	Sanders
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Tuberville
Cramer	Johnson	Welch
Daines	Lummis	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. FETTERMAN). 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.

The Senator from Kansas.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—H.R. 1147

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, today I rise to ask unanimous consent that the Senate pass H.R. 1147, the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act.

But before I start talking, I just want to take a quick drink of this superdelicious milk.

Here is to the dairy farmers of Kansas and across the entire country.

Now, a fun fact: Besides water, milk is the only beverage allowed here on the Senate floor. And, as you all know, milk is the most delicious, most nutritious wholesome drink known to humankind. There is nothing that has ever been made anything like it.

Now, milk is pretty special to me, and you might ask why. And it is pretty simple.

My dad grew up on a dairy, where they milked Holstein cows every morn-

ing, every day of the year, 365 days a year. And I remember, all the way through high school, my grandma still milking cows.

When your grandma milks cows, you get to have milk for breakfast, for lunch, for supper. Even in school, we got to have milk and a little snack at 10 a.m., and I was one of the lucky kids who got two cartons of milk every lunch.

And I just learned—I didn't know this. I just assumed that this is what everyone was doing—that if you didn't leave whole milk out for Santa Claus, then he wouldn't leave you presents.

Now, whole milk helps to keep growing kids and adults healthy and strong because it has 13 essential nutrients packed into one drink. And because of the fat content, specifically in whole milk, it promotes the absorption of fat-soluble vitamins A, D, E, and K.

Now, as an obstetrician, I can't stress enough the importance of drinking whole milk during pregnancy. It helps you have healthy babies. It helps with breastfeeding. It helps us all to grow strong bones.

Now, science has also shown that milk consumption provides additional positive health outcomes. It lowers blood pressure. It reduces risk of cardiovascular disease and reduces the risk of type 2 diabetes.

As medical costs skyrocket and the obesity epidemic worsens, I rise today to set the record straight: Milk is part of the solution; it is not part of the problem.

Now, many fingers have been pointed at the dairy industry, and millions of lobbying dollars have been invested in making lawmakers believe that milk is the enemy. Anti-dairy policies have resulted in decreased milk consumption and, ironically, in an increase in negative health outcomes.

In fact, the most recent "Dietary Guidelines for Americans" cites calcium, potassium, and vitamin D as three of the top four underconsumed nutrients that Americans are deficient in. Well, guess what is rich in those same nutrients? Well, of course, it is milk. All of those deficiencies can be resolved with an increase in milk consumption, and that is why I recommend at least a glass of whole milk every day.

No other food or drink has the ability to pack that kind of nutritional punch—none. But, sadly, over a decade ago, this misinformed Chamber voted to remove whole milk from our Nation's schools, and now we are facing the consequences. Because we are not encouraging our children to drink milk, we have a generation of young men and women who are going to have osteopenia and osteoporosis 10 to 15 years earlier than their predecessors.

Now, let me reiterate: Preventable diseases will occur more frequently as a consequence of a Federal Government overreaction that is based on obsolete research—research which corrects modern nutritional science and discourages healthy eating habits for children.

Today, we can right this wrong and bring back nutritious whole milk to our children's lunchtime. Let's bring back this tasty and nutritious option.

Whole milk has a litany of health benefits to offer our children. And did I mention that it tastes great? The benefits of whole milk can't be overlooked and certainly not substituted with skim milk or 1 percent, and certainly not by artificially flavored milk that is loaded with empty calories.

Bringing more healthy options back to school cafeterias is a slam dunk for American families, and delivering this to the President's desk before Christmas would help promote the consumption of healthy fats that help kids grow physically and cognitively. It supports American farmers and ranchers and promotes a brighter, stronger future for us all.

Milk—it is what is for lunch.

As if in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 1147, which was received from the House and is at the desk; further, that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there an objection?

Ms. STABENOW. Reserving the right to object, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, first of all, my friend and colleague, esteemed member of our Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee is making me hungry. I am thinking about growing up with cookies and milk.

I grew up with dairy farmers in my family. So I am certainly a supporter of milk and the dairy industry, certainly in Michigan as well. And this is a really important conversation today to have and to continue to have.

I fully support healthy options for students. Dairy is a very important part of a balanced meal. But one thing is clear, and that is that school meal standards, currently based on dietary science, should continue to be based on dietary science, not based on which individual food products we support or are in our States.

USDA is in the process, right now, of updating school meal standards. It is important that the administration rely on the latest dietary science to make decisions about what is best for our children to eat and to drink. Intervening in that process creates, I think, a very unfortunate precedent and will lead to other ideas and options that may be coming forward about individual products.

So I encourage groups to be reaching out to the USDA and to engage in the process of updating meal standards. But, at this point in time, I do not believe it is in the best interest to be able to move forward on this bill. So I object to this UC request.