

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I had a chance a little bit earlier this evening to talk about Governor O'Malley. I just really want to compliment Senators WYDEN and CARPER for their comments.

I really want to underscore this one point about Governor O'Malley. There are a lot of things we can really harp upon, but he is going to have two people in mind as the administrator of Social Security Administration. One will be that individual who depends upon the benefits, receiving those benefits that they are eligible for in a timely way through determinations and receiving their checks on time and getting the customer information they need in regard to these benefits. That is called consumer service; that is called serving the public. He is going to be laser-focused to make sure they don't have to wait on a call line for minutes—tens of minutes, as it is today—but that it can be done in a timely way; that determinations can be made in a timely way; and that checks are received.

But the second group he will be equally focused on is the workforce of the Social Security Administration. They have been asked to do more with less over time. Governor O'Malley knows how to bring out the strength of the workforce, supporting the workforce in their mission, rewarding the good service that they perform.

So I think we are going to have a leader at the Social Security Administration who will understand the responsibilities to the recipients as well as those performing a public service on behalf of the Social Security Administration.

I am excited about his willingness to take on this responsibility. I have seen him take on incredible challenges from being a mayor of Baltimore and dealing with the challenges we have in our urban centers to taking on the responsibilities of a Governor and having to deal with 188 state legislators. That is not an easy task.

He will find this challenge one he is ready for, and I am very excited about the fact we are about ready to vote for his nomination.

I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the 5:30 time for voting, the vote begin immediately.

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

VOTE ON O'MALLEY NOMINATION

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the O'Malley 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. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr.

FETTERMAN), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), 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 Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), and the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) would have voted "nay".

The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST), the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY), the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE), the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) would have voted "nay".

The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT), the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE) would have voted "nay" and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) would have voted "nay".

The result was announced—yeas 50, nays 11, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 347 Ex.]

YEAS—50

Baldwin	Duckworth	Merkley
Bennet	Durbin	Murkowski
Blumenthal	Gillibrand	Murphy
Booker	Grassley	Murray
Brown	Hassan	Ossoff
Butler	Heinrich	Reed
Cantwell	Hirono	Rosen
Capito	Kaine	Rounds
Cardin	Kelly	Sanders
Carper	Klobuchar	Schatz
Casey	Lujan	Schumer
Collins	Manchin	Shaheen
Coons	Markey	Sinema
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Smith

Stabenow	Van Hollen	Whitehouse
Tester	Warner	Wyden
Tillis	Warnock	

NAYS—11

Cotton	Lankford	Thune
Crapo	McConnell	Wicker
Hoeben	Mullin	Young
Kennedy	Ricketts	

NOT VOTING—39

Barrasso	Fischer	Paul
Blackburn	Graham	Peters
Boozman	Hagerty	Risch
Braun	Hawley	Romney
Britt	Hickenlooper	Rubio
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	King	Scott (SC)
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Cruz	Lummis	Tuberville
Daines	Marshall	Vance
Ernst	Moran	Warren
Fetterman	Padilla	Welch

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HEINRICH). 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.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Christopher Charles Fonzzone, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. SMITH). The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam 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. 445.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of John David Russell, of Oklahoma, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Oklahoma.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam 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 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. 445, John David Russell, of Oklahoma, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Oklahoma.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Alex Padilla, Angus S. King, Jr., Mazie K. Hirono, Patty Murray, Mark Kelly, Margaret Wood Hassan, Tina Smith, Debbie Stabenow, Jack Reed, Christopher A. Coons, Brian Schatz, Gary C. Peters, Thomas R. Carper, Tim Kaine, Catherine Cortez Masto.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam 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. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 117.

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

The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Jose Javier Rodriguez, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam 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 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. 117, Jose Javier Rodriguez, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

Charles E. Schumer, Bernard Sanders, Mazie K. Hirono, Thomas R. Carper, Benjamin L. Cardin, Ron Wyden, Sheldon Whitehouse, Tammy Duckworth, Christopher Murphy, Jeanne Shaheen, Tammy Baldwin, Tim Kaine, Richard J. Durbin, Tina Smith, Brian Schatz, Margaret Wood Hassan, Jack Reed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam 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. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 142.

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

The clerk will report the nomination. The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Joseph Goffman, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam 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 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. 142, Joseph Goffman, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Charles E. Schumer, Tina Smith, Tammy Baldwin, Alex Padilla, Michael F. Bennet, Richard J. Durbin, Christopher Murphy, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jeff Merkley, Margaret Wood Hassan, Catherine Cortez Masto, Debbie Stabenow, Jack Reed, Richard Blumenthal, Chris Van Hollen, Tammy Duckworth, Peter Welch.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, December 18, 2023, be waived.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nominations en bloc: No. 407 and No. 433; that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc, without intervening action or debate; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the President's action.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nominations of Paul K. Martin, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, United States Agency for International Development; and David K. Sing, of Hawaii, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2026, en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

REMOVAL OF INJUNCTION OF SECRECY-TREATY DOCUMENT NO. 118-1

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the following treaty transmitted to the Senate on December 18, 2023, by the President of the United States: the Treaties with the Republic of Cuba and the Government of the United Mexican

States on the Delimitation of Maritime Boundaries, Treaty Document No. 118-1. I further ask that the treaty be considered as having been read the first time; that it be referred, with accompanying papers, to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed; and that the President's message be printed in the RECORD.

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

The message of the President is as follows:

To the Senate of the United States:

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith two bilateral maritime boundary Treaties: the Treaty between the United States of America and the Republic of Cuba on the Delimitation of the Continental Shelf in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico beyond 200 Nautical Miles (the "United States-Cuba Treaty"), and the Treaty between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Mexican States on the Delimitation of the Maritime Boundary in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico (the "United States-Mexico Treaty") (together, the "Treaties"), both of which were signed at Washington on January 18, 2017. I also transmit, for the information of the Senate, the report of the Department of State with respect to the Treaties.

The purpose of the Treaties is to establish our continental shelf boundaries in the eastern Gulf of Mexico with Cuba and Mexico in areas beyond 200 nautical miles from shore. The United States-Cuba Treaty establishes a maritime boundary of approximately 30 nautical miles in length, and the United States-Mexico Treaty establishes a maritime boundary of approximately 79 nautical miles in length. The boundaries define the limit within which each country may exercise maritime jurisdiction with respect to its portion of the continental shelf. The boundaries address the only remaining area in the Gulf of Mexico where the maritime boundaries between the United States and its neighbors had not been agreed.

The United States-Cuba Treaty also establishes procedures for addressing the possibility of oil and gas reservoirs that extend across the continental shelf boundary, which will help protect related United States interests. With respect to Mexico, such procedures were developed and set forth in a separate agreement that is already in force, as described in the report of the Department of State accompanying this message.

I believe the Treaties to be fully in the interest of the United States. In light of the relevant coastal geography, the Treaties allocate approximately two-thirds of the area in question to the United States, and they provide legal certainty with respect to United States sovereign rights and jurisdiction over the continental shelf.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to