

Defender Services in 1991. In 1993, she became a staff attorney in the Connecticut Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities. Most recently, Justice Kahn served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Connecticut. As an AUSA, she worked in the civil division from 1997 to 1999 and the criminal division from 1999 to 2004 before being promoted to computer crimes coordinator. Across these roles, she tried dozens of cases and argued two appeals before the Second Circuit and one before the Connecticut Supreme Court.

Born in Benguela, Angola, Justice Kahn immigrated to the United States when she was 10. She earned her B.A. cum laude from New York University in 1986 and her J.D. from Fordham Law School in 1989. She also clerked for the Honorable Peter C. Dorsey on the U.S. District Court for the District of Connecticut for 2 years.

Justice Kahn enjoys the strong support of Senators Blumenthal and Murphy, and she has been unanimously rated “well qualified” by the American Bar Association to serve on the Second Circuit. I hope all of my colleagues will join me in supporting this eminently qualified nominee.

VOTE ON KAHN NOMINATION

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

Mr. HEINRICH. 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. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH).

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 52 Ex.]

YEAS—51

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

NAYS—42

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

NOT VOTING—7

Booker	Fetterman	Risch
Crapo	McConnell	
Feinstein	Moran	

The nomination was confirmed. The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHATZ). 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 Nebraska.

BORDER SECURITY

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, I am sure you have seen news reports about a group of four Americans who were recently kidnapped after driving across the U.S.-Mexico border. This week, two of them were tragically found dead. My heart goes out to the families affected by this devastating development.

This is the latest in a string of incidents that underscore just how chaotic the situation is at our southern border. I know firsthand because I visited the border last week, along with a delegation of Republicans led by my colleague Senator CORNYN. We can read about what is going on down at the border. We can watch the news. But until you travel south and see the chaos there with your own eyes, you really can’t fully understand the gravity of this situation.

The numbers we hear reported are overwhelming. Migrant encounters this fiscal year have already stretched past 770,000. December hit a record for monthly encounters, at over 251,000.

Sure, we talk about these numbers, but what really brings home what a crisis this is, is walking past an unfinished border wall, boating up and down the Rio Grande River, riding through the brush, and seeing the paths migrants use to sneak into our country. It is touring a raided stash house where a weapon was found, an illegal immigrant was detained, and a human smuggler was arrested. The faces and the voices of people on the ground in Texas who are directly hurt by border insecurity—that is what really brings home what a crisis this is.

My colleagues and I talked to Border Patrol officers, illegal immigrants, and South Texas landowners. Each of these conversations unveiled a new side of the tragic situation at the border.

Our agents are doing good and honorable work to protect migrants, to defend our national security, and to stop criminals in their tracks, but it is all with little support from this administration.

Along the border wall, we spoke with illegal immigrants, some of them single men and women and some of them with families. We met a 6-month-old baby. All had been detained by Border Patrol, and they were being identified before being sent to a processing center.

This is a sad situation, not just what these migrants face to get here, dealing with the coyotes and the cartels, but then what they will face in their future. These migrants will head north, and they will be forced to work off what they owe the coyotes for getting them across our border. Many of them will be funneled into lives of indentured servitude, some of them into human trafficking and sex trafficking.

But this is not only an enormous humanitarian crisis and a drug crisis; this is a national security crisis.

I am a senior member on the Senate Armed Services Committee. Our trip to the Rio Grande Valley reaffirmed that the frenzy at our southern border is nothing short of a national security disaster.

The United States does not have control of the southwest border. Do you know who does? The Mexican cartels. When we cannot control who is entering our country, when we cannot control what they are bringing into our country or where they are going, that is a serious national security risk.

In fiscal year 2022, border agents arrested 98 suspected terrorists who were trying to enter the country illegally between our ports of entry. During the previous administration, this number was never higher than six. Since October, border agents have arrested another 53 people on the terror watch list. President Biden’s mismanagement of the border has created a total catastrophe, and thanks to him, we are experiencing not only a homeland security crisis but also a homeland defense crisis.

This visit to the border was so frustrating because we know that the dangerous criminal activity going on there is preventable. But the President’s refusal to enforce our country’s laws, our current laws, means that trafficking of people, drugs, and weapons occurs unabated at our border.

In the Senate, we are trying to find solutions to the border crisis. I introduced a resolution with Senator BRITT, who joined us on last week’s border trip, which simply acknowledges the crisis at the southern border. Let’s just say there is a crisis that exists. That should be simple. I joined Senator BRITT to introduce the Keep Our Community Safe Act, which would close the gaping catch-and-release loophole allowing illegal immigrants to escape into our country.

I helped introduce Sarah’s Law, sponsored by my colleague Senator ERNST, to require mandatory detention of illegal immigrants charged with violent crimes in our country and, in turn, better protect the public.

I will keep urging my colleagues to join these bills, but there is a limit to

what we can do while the President and his border czar Vice President HARRIS continue to turn a blind eye to what is going on in Texas. Throwing taxpayer dollars at a smartphone app that facilitates border crossing appointments for migrants is not going to cut it. We need the President and Vice President to do their jobs and enforce the laws that keep our country safe.

Step out of the White House, President Biden, and take a look at what is happening. When you say you travel to the border, go to the border.

The administration continues to release thousands of migrants into the United States each and every month, holding onto the pipe dream that they will voluntarily show up in court next year. And there are thousands more "got-aways" who continue evading Border Patrol and entering this country illegally.

The President needed to deal with this mess yesterday. It is far past time for this administration to show us some recognition that the President understands how dangerous this is. Time is up for President Biden to move past the photo ops and to reach across the aisle to find serious solutions.

Maintaining our national security should not be a partisan goal. It should be an American goal. Neglecting our border means more drugs brought into our country, more women and children facing a life of sex trafficking, and more threats to the security of our Nation.

Let's get our border security bills passed and deal with the situation once and for all.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. 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. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 62.

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 senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Brent Neiman, of Illinois, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of the Treasury.

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. 62, Brent Neiman, of Illinois, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of the Treasury.

Charles E. Schumer, Ron Wyden, Jack Reed, Gary C. Peters, Tina Smith, Sherrod Brown, Brian Schatz, Ben Ray Lujan, Elizabeth Warren, Christopher A. Coons, Martin Heinrich, Christopher Murphy, Tammy Baldwin, Debbie Stabenow, Alex Padilla, Margaret Wood Hassan, Michael F. Bennet.

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. 65.

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 senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Eric M. Garcetti, of California, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of India.

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. 65, Eric M. Garcetti, of California, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of India.

Charles E. Schumer, Robert Menendez, Christopher Murphy, Benjamin L. Cardin, Jack Reed, Jeanne Shaheen, Christopher A. Coons, Richard J. Durbin, Tim Kaine, Mark R. Warner, Cory A. Booker, Richard Blumenthal, Chris Van Hollen, Amy Klobuchar, Peter Welch, Alex Padilla.

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. 2.

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 senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Ravi Chaudhary, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force.

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. 2, Ravi Chaudhary, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force.

Charles E. Schumer, Jack Reed, Richard J. Durbin, Sheldon Whitehouse, Martin Heinrich, Tim Kaine, Tammy Baldwin, Ben Ray Lujan, Tammy Duckworth, John W. Hickenlooper, Amy Klobuchar, Jeanne Shaheen, Brian Schatz, Benjamin L. Cardin, Edward J. Markey, Alex Padilla, Margaret Wood Hassan, 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. 18.

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 senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Laura Taylor-Kale, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense (New Position).

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: