

it is because that is where he could do the most good. And he explained why. He felt it was important for people like him to bring their experiences and backgrounds to the role of prosecutor, someone with an understanding for defendants with backgrounds similar to his own. Now Judge Simmons will bring his good work to the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California.

Finally, just last week, we also confirmed Judge Andrew Schopler to the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California. Judge Schopler earned his undergraduate degree from Dartmouth College and his J.D. from Harvard Law School. He then briefly worked as a public defender before joining a criminal defense law firm.

In 2004, he earned his spot as an assistant U.S. attorney in the Southern District of California, where he served until 2016, eventually rising to the position of deputy section chief of the Major Frauds and Special Prosecutions Unit. Given his exemplary work ethic, he was then selected to serve as magistrate judge in the Southern District.

But his service to our country extends beyond the bench. In 2014, at the age of 43, Judge Schopler chose to join the California National Guard as a judge advocate. He worked to obtain an age and medical waiver to serve. In 2018, he deployed to Afghanistan as part of Operation Freedom's Sentinel. He earned the Bronze Star for his service and was promoted to the rank of major.

He has committed his career to protecting our freedoms truly, at home and abroad, and I am proud this body came together to support his confirmation.

I am so grateful for all four of these newly confirmed judges' willingness to serve our country, and I know California and the country will be a stronger, more just place because of them and because of their service.

With that, I yield the floor.

VOTE ON CHAUDHARY NOMINATION

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

Mr. PADILLA. 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 senior assistant executive clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that 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 Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL), and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) would have voted "yea."

The result was announced—yeas 65, nays 29, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 58 Ex.]

YEAS—65

Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Bennet	Hirono	Rounds
Blumenthal	Hyde-Smith	Sanders
Booker	Kaine	Schatz
Boozman	Kelly	Schumer
Brown	Kennedy	Shaheen
Cantwell	King	Sinema
Capito	Klobuchar	Smith
Cardin	Luján	Stabenow
Carper	Manchin	Sullivan
Casey	Markey	Tester
Collins	Menendez	Thune
Cooms	Merkley	Tillis
Cornyn	Moran	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Murkowski	Warner
Duckworth	Murphy	Warnock
Durbin	Murray	Warren
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Welch
Graham	Padilla	Whitehouse
Grassley	Peters	Wicker
Hassan	Reed	Wyden
Heinrich	Romney	

NAYS—29

Blackburn	Fischer	Paul
Braun	Hagerty	Ricketts
Britt	Hawley	Risch
Budd	Hoeven	Rubio
Cassidy	Johnson	Schmitt
Cotton	Lankford	Scott (FL)
Cramer	Lee	Scott (SC)
Crapo	Lummis	Tuberville
Daines	Marshall	Vance
Ernst	Mullin	

NOT VOTING—6

Barrasso	Feinstein	McConnell
Cruz	Fetterman	Young

The nomination was confirmed. The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. OSSOFF). 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.

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. 18, Laura Taylor-Kale, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense (New Position).

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Laura Taylor-Kale, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Pennsyl-

vania (Mr. FETTERMAN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL), and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) would have voted "yea."

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 68, nays 26, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 59 Ex.]

YEAS—68

Baldwin	Hassan	Ricketts
Bennet	Heinrich	Romney
Blumenthal	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Booker	Hirono	Rounds
Boozman	Hoeven	Sanders
Brown	Kaine	Schatz
Cantwell	Kelly	Schumer
Capito	Kennedy	Shaheen
Cardin	King	Sinema
Carper	Klobuchar	Smith
Casey	Luján	Stabenow
Collins	Manchin	Tester
Cooms	Markey	Thune
Cornyn	Menendez	Tillis
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Van Hollen
Cramer	Moran	Warner
Duckworth	Murkowski	Warnock
Durbin	Murphy	Warren
Ernst	Murray	Welch
Fischer	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wicker
Graham	Peters	Wyden
Grassley	Reed	

NAYS—26

Blackburn	Hawley	Risch
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Britt	Johnson	Schmitt
Budd	Lankford	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Lee	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lummis	Sullivan
Crapo	Marshall	Tuberville
Daines	Mullin	Vance
Hagerty	Paul	

NOT VOTING—6

Barrasso	Feinstein	McConnell
Cruz	Fetterman	Young

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HASSAN). On this vote, the yeas are 68, the nays are 26.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the confirmation vote on the Taylor-Kale nomination be at a time to be determined by the majority leader in consultation with the Republican leader; further, that the cloture motions filed during yesterday's session ripen at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 16; that following the cloture vote on the Clarke nomination and notwithstanding rule XXII, the Senate resume legislative session and vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to

proceed to Calendar No. 25, S. 316; further, that if cloture is invoked on the Clarke nomination, at 1:30 p.m., the Senate resume legislative session, all postcloture debate time be considered expired, and the Senate vote on the confirmation of the nomination; finally, if any nominations are confirmed during Thursday's session, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

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

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and 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.

### REMEMBERING JUDITH "JUDY" HEUMANN

Mr. SANDERS. Madam President, I wish to commemorate the life of Judy Heumann, a leader in the disability rights movement, who passed away on March 4.

Judy was an internationally recognized leader in the disability community. She was instrumental in the development and implementation of major disability rights legislation, including the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act—IDEA—the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

She was a true public servant having served as the Assistant Secretary for the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services in the Department of Education from 1993 to 2001 and as the first Special Advisor for International Disability Rights at the Department of State from 2010 to 2017. In 1974, she helped develop legislation that became the IDEA while working on the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare—now the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, which I am proud to chair.

Judy became known as the "mother of the disability rights movement" when she fought to implement the Rehabilitation Act. Her activism was a defining moment in the disability and civil rights movement paving the way for the future legislation.

Judy changed the world for the one in four Americans living with a disability and one in six individuals with disabilities around the world. I join the disability community in honoring her contributions to the disability and civil rights movement.

Judy was feisty in her many roles fighting for disability rights. And she

will be remembered for the impacts her advocacy made to improve the lives of people with disabilities.

May the memory of Judy Heumann be for a blessing.

## ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

### RECOGNIZING IDAHO'S COMMUNITY COLLEGES

• Mr. CRAPO. Madam President, along with my colleagues Senator JIM RISCH, Representative MIKE SIMPSON and Representative RUSS FULCHER, we honor Idaho's community colleges in recognition of Community College Month and commend them for contributing to the success of Idahoans.

The designation of April as Community College Month by the American Association of Community Colleges and the Association of Community College Trustees provides an opportunity to acknowledge the important role Idaho's community colleges have in enhancing Idahoans' quality of life and contributing to Idaho's economic growth.

Idaho's community colleges prepare young people and adults throughout our great State for postsecondary education, successful careers, and productive lives. We are fortunate to have community colleges working hard to fuel the ingenuity and skill to advance students to Idaho's 4-year institutions and provide dual enrollment opportunities for students pursuing advanced learning while in high school. According to statistics from the Idaho State Board of Education, nearly 142,000 dual credits were earned at our 2-year institutions in fiscal year 2022, meaning community colleges are giving Idaho high school students considerable opportunities to kickstart their higher educations.

They also help keep pace with an ever-changing job market as they help grow the skills needed to prepare students to meet the requirements of progressing in Idaho's workforce. The Idaho State Board of Education found a notable 75 percent of graduates from 2-year institutions are employed in Idaho 1 year after graduation, and Idaho residents with an associate's degree earn \$41,197 more than those without a degree.

Our State is brimming with innovators and cutting-edge businesses. Community colleges are central partners in our communities fostering ideas and helping to meet the needs of area students and small businesses. Thank you to Idaho's community colleges for the important role they play in fueling Idaho achievement and growth.●

### REMEMBERING J.E. JAKE FISHER

• Mr. SCHMITT. Madam President, I rise today to honor the life and memory of T.E. "Jake" Fisher, of Portageville, MO.

Jake Fisher was well known for his time as director of the University of Missouri's Delta Research Center, in Portageville, MO, which was renamed the "Fisher" Delta Research, Extension, and Education Center in Jake's honor after his retirement in 2011. Jake began his career at the Delta Research Center in 1961 and worked his way up from farm worker to director by 1989, until his retirement after more than 50 years with the University of Missouri. To commemorate Jake's service to the University of Missouri, the College of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources created the T.E. Jake Fisher Scholarship Fund, to continue Jake's huge legacy of encouraging students from the Bootheel region to attend Mizzou.

Jake's devotion to his community and the State of Missouri will never be forgotten. He served on numerous boards over the years and maintained connections with folks across the State. One of his most passionate roles was president of the Pemiscot-Dunklin Electric Cooperative Board of Directors, a position he held until his retirement in September of 2022. He also held positions on the boards of the M&A Electric Power Cooperative and the Associated Electric Cooperative.

Jake was a fine man that will forever be remembered for possessing a heart of gold and an enormous friendly presence. I had the distinct honor of meeting Jake at the Annual Fisher Delta Research Center Field Days, an event where thousands of guests from across the State of Missouri gather to celebrate agriculture, Southeast Missouri, and life-long learning. I ask my Senate colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Mr. Jake Fisher, and I offer my sincerest condolences to his wife Shelly, daughter Stacey, and remaining family and friends during this difficult time of mourning.●

## EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-676. A communication from the Acting Chief of the Office of Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Factoring Criteria for Firearms with Attached 'Stabilizing Braces'" (RIN1140-AA55) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 27, 2023; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-677. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a legislative proposal entitled "Authority to Permit Continued Presence in the United States"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-678. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "General Schedule Locality Pay Areas" (RIN3206-AO40) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February