

Sunil Harjani to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois.

After receiving his undergraduate degree and law degree from Northwestern University, Judge Harjani began his legal career at Jenner & Block LLP and later clerked for U.S. District Judge Suzanne B. Conlon on the Northern District of Illinois. He subsequently returned to private practice before working at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission from 2004 to 2008. In 2008, Judge Harjani joined the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Illinois as an assistant U.S. attorney, prosecuting a range of cases, including securities and commodities fraud, investment fraud, corporate misconduct, and other business-related crimes. Over the course of his legal career, Judge Harjani tried 13 cases before the district court and argued 14 appeals before the Seventh Circuit.

In 2019, Judge Harjani was selected by the district judges of the Northern District of Illinois to be a magistrate judge, where he presides over civil and criminal cases. He has also served as an adjunct professor, previously teaching at the University of Illinois Chicago Law School and currently at Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law. The American Bar Association rated Judge Harjani as unanimously "well qualified."

Given Judge Harjani's considerable courtroom experience—as a litigator and on the bench—Senator DUCKWORTH and I strongly support his nomination.

I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for his confirmation.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 1:26 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. LUJÁN).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 88 Ex.]

YEAS—53

Baldwin	Blumenthal	Brown
Bennet	Booker	Butler

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

NAYS—46

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

NOT VOTING—1

Shaheen

The nomination was confirmed. The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WELCH). 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. 540, Melissa R. DuBose, of Rhode Island, to be United States District Judge for the District of Rhode Island.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Alex Padilla, Tina Smith, Elizabeth Warren, Raphael G. Warnock, Gary C. Peters, Tim Kaine, Richard Blumenthal, Jack Reed, Sheldon Whitehouse, Peter Welch, Mark R. Warner, Christopher A. Coons, Tammy Duckworth, Benjamin L. Cardin, Debbie Stabenow.

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 Melissa R. DuBose, of Rhode Island, to be United States District Judge for the District of Rhode Island, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) is necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 51, nays 48, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 89 Ex.]

YEAS—51

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

NAYS—48

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

NOT VOTING—1

Shaheen

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 51, the nays are 48.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant executive clerk read the nomination of Melissa R. DuBose, of Rhode Island, to be United States District Judge for the District of Rhode Island.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

REMEMBERING ITAY CHEN

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, today, I am heartbroken to learn that 19-year-old fellow Brooklynite Itay Chen was killed on October 7 at the brutal hands of Hamas terrorists who still cruelly hold on to his remains.

Itay was serving with the IDF as a U.S.-Israeli citizen and was stationed near the Gaza border on the day of Hamas's terrorist attack.

I spoke to Itay's family earlier today to say all of Brooklyn—and all of Maryland—mourns the loss of their son, and I told them we will work relentlessly to make sure their son's body comes home.

I first met Itay's family in Israel, just a few days after October 7, when I went quickly to go to Israel to express solidarity after that awful attack, and I have spoken to the Chen family many times since.

Over time, I have gotten to know them, and I feel like I have also gotten to know a little bit of what Itay was like by hearing it through his father, his mother, and his brothers.

Itay's father Ruby has been one of the leading advocates for the return of the hostages. He has traveled to every corner of the world and has met with some of the highest ranking leaders in the world to say: Bring them home. Bring them home now.

Itay's father requested me to "please get his body back." I will do everything I can to make it happen. The family is not going to sit Shiva and observe formal Jewish burial practices until they recover Itay's body.

The family also expresses their thanks to the Biden administration and to the FBI for helping them get through these difficult months.

I will continue working with the Chen family, the administration, and others to return Itay's body back to his family so they can have the burial and Shiva in the way they desire and deserve.

When I spoke to Itay's father just a couple of hours ago, he promised me that the family would continue to fight for the release of all the other hostages. That was such an act. In the moment of their darkness, of clouds descending upon them, to still have that fortitude, that strength, that generosity to say they are going to fight for others touched my heart.

I will be working with the administration however possible until we finally bring back every last hostage and the remains of the hostages who are no longer with us are home at last.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 2801

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I rise today in hopes of passing a bill in a few minutes that would support our veterans and our servicemembers by making sure that when they want to grow their family, they can get the care and services they need, including IVF.

The recent chaos in Alabama caused by far-right ideology put a national spotlight on just how crucial IVF is to so many women and families who are desperately hoping and trying to have children. The first thing we heard after IVF was thrown into uncertainty in Alabama was the horror of women and their families who had their dreams turned into nightmares as appointments were canceled—tens of thousands of dollars, months of appointments were callously tossed out of the window by the Alabama Supreme Court. Its decision rested on extreme ideology—an ideology Republicans are working right now to enshrine into law nationwide.

Next, we heard Republicans tripping over themselves to proclaim that they stand for IVF even while still standing by the same extreme fetal personhood laws that caused all of this chaos in the first place.

I have said this before, but given how Republicans refuse to publicly disavow fetal personhood, it clearly bears repeating: When Republicans support legislation that says a fertilized egg has

the same rights and protections as a living, breathing, human person, that is fundamentally incompatible with supporting IVF. That is the very ideology that caused the disaster in Alabama, and right now, the majority of House Republicans are cosponsors of a national abortion ban that would enshrine fetal personhood in Federal law, endangering IVF treatments everywhere.

But if Republicans really do now want to support IVF, if they really do want to help people who are trying to grow their families, why not start with our veterans and our servicemembers? These are the men and women who fought to protect our families. Why don't we make sure they all have the support they need to grow theirs?

I reintroduced a bill with Senator DUCKWORTH last year—the Veteran Families Health Services Act—and it would do just that. I have been working to pass this bill for well over a decade now. It has gone through countless rounds of technical edits and reviews and is more than ready for prime time.

This is exactly the kind of straightforward legislation that we should pass through unanimous consent. It hasn't just passed committee before; it actually passed the Senate before.

The goal of this bill is very simple. It expands the fertility treatments and family-building services that are covered under servicemembers' and veterans' healthcare. That means finally having the coverage that gives servicemembers and veterans the option to freeze eggs or sperm before deployment, it means expanding adoption assistance at the VA, and it means expanding access to IVF for all of our veterans and servicemembers. Current coverage policies for VA and DOD still leave out many committed, loving people who want to start a family. We are talking about a bill that would help our wounded warriors get the care and coverage they need to start a family.

I am really glad DOD and VA have been taking some steps under President Biden to offer this care to more people, including the expansion that the VA announced just yesterday, but we still have a long way to go.

I hope that every one of my colleagues would agree that our country should keep that basic promise we make to our servicemembers to take care of them when they come home; that when a soldier comes home with injuries and subsequently needs IVF because of that to start a family or really when any soldier needs IVF to start a family, they should be able to get it. So how about we take action right now, today, to make that a reality. It should not be controversial, especially if Republicans are serious even in the slightest about supporting IVF.

This bill is just saying: Yes, we want to make sure that all of our veterans, all of our servicemembers have access to the family-building services and fertility treatments they need. Given all

that we have heard in recent weeks, this should be hugely bipartisan.

We stand by our veterans. If you stand by IVF, if you want to see our military families growing and thriving, we need to send that message now and send this legislation that I will be asking unanimous consent on shortly to the President's desk as soon as possible.

Mr. President, I know I have a number of Members who are coming to the floor to speak to this, so I will suggest the absence of a quorum until that time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I am very proud to be here today to join my great colleague from the State of Washington to support the Veteran Families Health Services Act.

At a time when there are many, many complex and difficult issues—some of them nowhere near black-and-white; a lot of gray areas of policy abroad and at home—there is one issue that ought to be absolutely clear, unequivocally, in terms of what we should do—the right thing to do—really, the obligatory thing to do. And that is to make sure that our men and women who serve in uniform and our veterans have access to the healthcare they deserve and, in particular, reproductive healthcare and, most especially, IVF treatment.

The Alabama Supreme Court in the LePage decision is another step in the assault on women's rights and women's healthcare and, in fact, on women. The kinds of restrictions placed on IVF treatment have been, essentially, disowned and disavowed by many Republicans who want to run away as far as they can as quickly as they can from that decision and are saying: Well, we are in favor of IVF but not against laws that restrict IVF.

They can't have it both ways. Here is a chance for them to show, in supremely important terms, that they are in favor of this kind of treatment for our men and women who, in some sense, have earned it and deserve it more than or as much as any other American because they are the ones who put on uniforms and defend our rights and our freedoms. And they are the ones who, afterwards, come back to their community as veterans and continue to serve us.

This measure, essentially, provides guarantees for Active-Duty servicemembers and veterans access to IVF. It expands adoption assistance at the VA and counseling services for couples navigating that process. There is very little to be said that wouldn't repeat the basic common sense of this proposal, and it shouldn't even be needed