

unaffordable, corrupting earmarks, and funding Biden's border invasion. So I invite my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join in fighting for fiscal responsibility and the best interests of the American families we are supposed to represent in Washington—after all, they elected us—because we are certainly not doing that now.

To that end, I offered up a solution. Again, whether you love this bill or hate it after reviewing it, which will take some time, you should still want it to be adequately vetted first.

And to that end, as in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 235, H.R. 4364; I further ask that the Lee amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to, the bill as amended be considered read a third time and passed, and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Reserving the right to object, as I mentioned yesterday, we really have to get a move on and close the book on fiscal year 2024. We are 6 months into this fiscal year already. It is time to take the government off autopilot.

We have a carefully negotiated package. It is bipartisan. It is bicameral. It reflects the input of nearly every Senator and the priorities of every State in America and it is ready to go. We need to focus on the deadline in front of us and get this passed in a swift, bipartisan way so we can avoid a shutdown.

I would remind all of my colleagues so we can turn to fiscal year 2025. My focus remains on working with all of my colleagues to get that package over the finish line in a timely way. Therefore, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. I will sit down in a moment to let my friend and colleague JOE MANCHIN speak.

I want to point out for a moment a couple of things. My friend and colleague from the State of Washington is objecting to this measure that would allow all Members adequate time to review the bill and to vet it with constituents and debate it and discuss it and amend it on the floor. She said that we have to get a move on; the government has been on autopilot, meaning under a continuing resolution for too long. True. Absolutely true.

But I find it stunning the suggestion that she is saying now that time is of the essence. Now, we didn't have the bill yesterday or the day before or the day before or the day before that when we were promised the bill. We didn't have it. We have it now.

She identified the precise moment in history—the precise moment in 2024—when we can no longer move forward for another day. We have to get a move

on right, right now. They are the only ones who know this.

She also says it is bipartisan, bicameral; that it is a carefully negotiated agreement. That is great. That small handful of people who actually saw this bill and were involved in its final formulation, I am sure, will find that very comforting. For the rest of us who didn't see it until 2:30 a.m. this morning and the 330 million Americans out there who will have to pay for this stuff, that is not adequate notice. That is not a carefully negotiated agreement. That is collusion among the few affecting the many adversely.

I find this very, very disturbing that we couldn't get the American people and their elected representatives a few more days so that they can understand what is in there. It begs the question, What are they hiding?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

NATIONAL INLAND WATERWAYS WORKERS SAFETY AWARENESS DAY

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of National Inland Waterways Workers Safety Awareness Day and to honor the life of Gabe White, a young West Virginian who lost his life far too soon.

Gabe was a deckhand, a Boy Scout, a graduate of Gilmer County High School, and, most importantly, he was a son, a brother, a nephew, a cousin, and a friend.

I want to thank Gabe's family for being with us here today and allowing me to share Gabe's story with the rest of the country, which underscores just how incredibly important barge safety is and must be.

Gabe was a Wheeling, WV, resident who loved music, art, video games, and sports. He was always curious and interested in learning more about the world and those around him. He appreciated history and was always starting interesting discussions with his friends and family. He engaged.

Gabe also loved the outdoors. As a Scout, he fell in love with hiking and camping, even during the winter. Gabe and his troops hiked and camped much of the Greenbrier River Trail. He had the honor of being an Order of the Eagle recipient, in addition to his rank as Life Scout. Gabe was always a leader while he was a Scout, which he typically tried to avoid because he always focused on being a team player, working with others.

Everyone around Gabe knew him as someone who was always ready to jump in and step up to the plate to lend a helping hand when needed. During his senior year of high school, Gabe decided to join the high school baseball team after only ever playing 1 year of Little League.

Later, Gabe's friends and teammates and family finally found out that Gabe only joined the team because he was worried they wouldn't have enough players to form a team and play that last season. Gabe knew it was his friends' last chance to play baseball, as

they were graduating that year. So he was adamant in helping out.

Gabe showed up with a positive attitude to every practice and game and was always prepared to do whatever his coach and teammates needed him to do. Again, Gabe was always there to show up and step up to the plate when he knew his teammates and friends needed him most.

Gabe was a true West Virginia Mountaineer through and through.

Gabe often talked about his desire to become a father and was looking forward to becoming an uncle when his brothers had children.

After he graduated high school, Gabe got a job working as a deckhand. He was proud of his job and having this new opportunity. He was excited to learn all the new things about working on a barge on the river with his team of deckhands.

However, on the morning of March 22, 2023, Gabe arrived at work as usual when an accident occurred that tragically resulted in his death at just the age of 20. Following an investigation, it was determined that not only was no safety equipment issued, but Gabe was out of line of sight of the crane operator, and no spotter was present. Gabe's death never, never should have happened. It was preventable, and we must acknowledge this.

This is why I am proud to introduce the National Inland Waterways Workers Safety Day resolution with my colleague from West Virginia, SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO. Our resolution designates March 22, 2024, as National Inland Waterways Workers Safety Day in recognition of the 1-year anniversary of Gabe's passing.

Workers in the national inland waterways play a crucial role navigating ships, barges, and tugboats that deliver the goods that we need and use. They work hard, loading and unloading barges and transport vessels, and cleaning and caring for vessels and shipyards to move the goods for America.

Our resolution recognizes the need to continue to improve the safe transportation of domestic cargo and, above all else, to reduce transportation vessel and shipyard-related incidents, fatalities, and injuries so another family like Gabe's does not have to endure such a tragic loss. And I have said, Gabe's life was not in vain. He will save many others.

The safety of deckhands, engineers, masters, mates, and shoreside workers are of the utmost importance. It is critical to equip them with the necessary knowledge and resources to perform their duties safely and effectively and return home every evening safe.

I want to applaud the efforts of the Coast Guard, American Waterways Operators, Maritime Trades Department, and other groups that are working to reduce the incidents of workplace injuries and fatalities in and around towing vessels.

I encourage industry and worker groups to observe March 22 to not only

honor Gabe's life but to also observe the day with appropriate programs and activities that increase safety awareness in and around towing-vessel employment.

I want to again thank Gabe's family, all of you who came to visit with us today and to honor Gabe in such a meaningful way and to ensure accidents like this never happen again.

May God bless Gabe and his family and keep all the workers on the waterways safe from any injuries.

MOTION TO RECONSIDER CLOTURE VOTE

The **PRESIDING OFFICER**. Under the previous order, the motion to proceed to the motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on the Rodriguez nomination is agreed to, and the motion to reconsider is agreed to.

The motion to proceed to the motion to reconsider was agreed to.

The motion to reconsider is agreed to.

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 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 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.

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 Jose Javier Rodriguez, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor, shall be brought to a close, upon reconsideration?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. **THUNE**. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. **MULLIN**).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 50, nays 49, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 99 Ex.]

YEAS—50

Baldwin	Durbin	Menendez
Bennet	Fetterman	Merkley
Blumenthal	Gillibrand	Murphy
Booker	Hassan	Murray
Brown	Heinrich	Ossoff
Butler	Hickenlooper	Padilla
Cantwell	Hirono	Peters
Cardin	Kaine	Reed
Carper	Kelly	Rosen
Casey	King	Sanders
Coons	Klobuchar	Schatz
Cortez Masto	Lujan	Schumer
Duckworth	Markey	Shaheen

Sinema
Smith
Stabenow
Tester

Van Hollen
Warner
Warnock
Warren

Welch
Whitehouse
Wyden

NAYS—49

Barrasso
Blackburn
Boozman
Braun
Brett
Budd
Capito
Cassidy
Collins
Cornyn
Cotton
Cramer
Crapo
Cruz
Daines
Ernst
Fischer

Graham
Grassley
Hagerty
Hawley
Hoeven
Hyde-Smith
Johnson
Kennedy
Lankford
Lee
Lummis
Manchin
Marshall
McConnell
Moran
Murkowski
Paul

Ricketts
Risch
Romney
Rounds
Rubio
Schmitt
Scott (FL)
Scott (SC)
Sullivan
Thune
Tillis
Tuberville
Vance
Wicker
Young

NOT VOTING—1

Mullin

The **PRESIDING OFFICER** (Mr. **PETERS**). The yeas are 50, the nays are 49.

The motion is agreed to upon reconsideration.

The Senator from Ohio.

TRIBUTE TO DIANA BARON

Mr. **BROWN**. I thank the Presiding Officer from the State just north of mine.

Mr. President, I rise today to honor a longtime member of my staff, Diana Baron, as she celebrates her 25th year serving the people of Ohio.

Diana is a dedicated public servant, a caring colleague, and an effective and indispensable member of my staff. She is on the floor right now wondering why we got her in here. I see the surprise on her face, but the camera will not show that.

Despite growing up in Oklahoma City, graduating from Tufts University in Boston—a school she still dearly loves—Diana found her way to this Ohio office 25 years ago. We are lucky that she stayed.

Today, new staff are always surprised to hear that Diana isn't from Ohio. She knows more about our State than almost anybody I know. Over the years, we have given her the title of "Honorary Ohioan."

She joined our team serving Ohioans back when I worked down the hall, when I represented the people of Lorian, Elyria, Medina, and Wadsworth, in that part of northeast Ohio. She worked her way up. After a few years serving as a legislative assistant, Diana was ready for something new.

As we moved to the Senate, Diana led the way. With her command of logistics, her efficiency, and her work ethic, she found a role that suited her perfectly and suited us perfectly: director of scheduling—one of the most important offices, as all of my colleagues know, in the U.S. Senate. She has been leading the way ever since. From making sure I can meet with every Ohioan possible to making it all over the State to roundtables and plant tours and picket lines and speeches and events, Diana is behind the scenes making it happen. Surely—pardon the cliché—she keeps the trains running every day,

every hour. She navigates ever-changing vote schedules in this body, getting staff the information they need to do their jobs. You always rely on her to get it done.

We don't always make it easy. My staff, I—none of us makes it easy. There is always another event to schedule, something to change, a meeting with an Ohioan who drops by at the last minute, or a different corner of the State to visit when I am home every weekend. Day to day, messages go long, traffic slows us down, but Diana keeps at it. She is always thinking three steps ahead of each of us. She comes ready, if plan A doesn't work, to do plan B; if plan B doesn't work, to do plan C.

We ask Diana to fit more in 1 day than 24 hours should allow. She not only makes the most of every minute, she makes an exceptionally challenging job look oh so easy. She makes it look easy on the hardest days, on the days when the stress has to be pretty overwhelming. She juggles a million different responsibilities. That doesn't go unnoticed. That is why I am here.

Ohioans, on their way in and out of meetings, express their gratitude to Diana for making it happen. They thank her for fitting them in. They thank her for making them feel welcome. They thank her for sometimes rearranging the day to do so. She goes above and beyond to carve out the time they need to share their priorities or concerns or ideas. She makes sure they know their advocacy is important and a priority for this office. This office is known for reaching out and listening to people because the best ideas don't come from me; they come from Ohioans.

Ohioans are lucky to have Diana on their side, and so am I. Diana is an invaluable resource to every department. Her work supports every single part of the office. It makes our day-to-day operations possible. She is the glue that holds it all together.

Among the Senate schedulers, Diana is a force. Everybody knows her. Everybody knows that if you want to learn how to do this job, director of scheduling, talk to Diana Baron. Staffers at every stage of their careers look to her, look up to her, seek her advice, and rely on her counsel. In our office, Diana, it goes without saying, is an institution.

As we came upon this milestone of 25 years earlier this calendar year, her current colleagues and former staff shared stories with us—with Maggie in our office and Sarah, both sitting with Diana in the back—shared stories of memories and tributes to working alongside her. While every submission mentioned Diana's effectiveness as a scheduler, the testimonials and testimony of who she is and how she engages and cares for her colleagues were just—no other way to put it—overwhelming.

Every year, she brings Ohio State and DC staff and Brown alums together