

O. Bradley to form Bradley & Drendel, a premier personal injury firm in Northern Nevada. And, in 1957, in order to make their services more accessible to their clients, the two selected a converted garage in Reno, NV, to serve as their firm's office.

Now, by 1970, John had solidified his reputation by representing a diesel mechanic from Ely, NV, who suffered from a debilitating injury while at work. John won the highest verdict awarded to a single plaintiff in the United States at that point in time, providing financial security for the mechanic and his family. And, today, his firm—that firm, Bradley & Drendel—continues to serve our community in Northern Nevada, and, currently, John's son Thomas is of counsel to the firm.

Now, you have to know that John was deeply respected by so many in Nevada—by his peers in Nevada's legal community, as a founding member and former president of the Nevada Trial Lawyers Association and the Washoe County Bar Association. John was honored with countless accolades throughout the duration of his career, including the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Nevada Trial Lawyers Association, in the year 2001.

John strived for excellence throughout his career. His professional accomplishments are surpassed only by the wonderful family and community that he built in the Silver State.

He is survived by his children, Mary, John, and Thomas; their grandchildren, Sarah, Andrew, Anne, Clara, Nathaniel, Mary, and Matthew; and their four great-grandchildren.

I am honored to recognize his incredible life on the Senate floor today. He was a dear friend and an incredible advocate for so many in Nevada, and I know not only will I, but many will miss him. And I am honored to be able to recognize him today with all of you.

#### TRIBUTE TO TOM RODRIGUEZ

Mr. President, there is a second person I would like to recognize as well. His name is Tom Rodriguez. This is Tom. Tom was a friend of my father's. As Latino leaders in Las Vegas, my father and Tom worked together to promote and strengthen the Hispanic community in Southern Nevada.

As a powerful voice in my State, Tom tirelessly advocated for Latinos throughout his entire life, and I am so sad to lose his voice. But I am also proud of the positive influence and lasting political, social, and educational change he brought to our State.

Tom was born, actually, in Topeka, KS, in 1940 and grew up in a neighborhood referred to as "the Bottoms," which exposed him early on to a community rich in cultural and ethnic diversity. And after graduating from college, Tom began pursuing writing and activism.

In 1981, Tom moved to Nevada with his then-fiancee and future wife, Doris Soto, to work as the director of planning and evaluation for the Las Vegas

Clark County Consortium. For the next 5 years, Tom supported the local training and employment association of a large portion of southern Nevada.

Tom then went on to work in the Clark County manager's office, where he supported the development of the League of United Latin American Citizens' multipurpose senior center. He modernized the region's justice court system, and he ushered in the emerging television cable industry in Nevada.

Tom later served as the first executive manager for Diversity and Affirmative Action programs with the Clark County School District—which, by the way, is the third largest school district in the Nation—and for 23 years in this role, Tom worked tirelessly to ensure equality and opportunity within our education system.

Throughout his life, Tom authored and coauthored many books and articles that documented the Latino experience in Nevada, which he felt had been neglected by previous historians. Tom played a critical role in chronicling the dynamic growth and successes of Nevada's expansive Latino community.

Tom himself was essential to that success. For 6 years, he coordinated the Latin Chamber of Commerce's career day scholarship program, which awarded funds to Latino students at colleges and universities throughout Nevada; but after learning that many scholarship recipients struggled with finding a support system and adjusting to life on campus, Tom made it his personal responsibility to help them.

So, in 1994, Tom cofounded the Latino Youth Leadership Conference to bring Latino high school students together and prepare them for college. Now that conference is entering its 31st consecutive year of operating. The program's over 1,500 alumni have gone on to achieve success in their chosen fields, ranging from lawyers to educators to business owners and even Members of Congress.

I am incredibly grateful for Tom's lifelong commitment to advancing the Latino community in Nevada. Tom believed that his purpose in life was to help others achieve more than they thought possible. His professional achievements are only matched by the pride and love he had for his family and his friends.

I will say I will truly miss Tom, but I know that his impact on Nevada will be felt for generations to come.

I thank the Presiding Officer as it is an honor to come to the floor to be able to talk about these two incredible men from Nevada.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### FERC NOMINATIONS

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss three individuals who have been nominated by President Biden to serve as members of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, also known as FERC, F-E-R-C.

Just last week, climate scientists announced that our planet has surpassed the water half-degree-Celsius warming threshold for the 12th consecutive month. The signs of climate change are all around us. Alaska's rivers are turning orange as a result of rapidly melting permafrost and the resulting chemical reaction. Much of the Western United States is experiencing temperatures 20 to 30 degrees hotter than usual for this time of year, and scientists tell us that there is more carbon dioxide in the Earth's atmosphere today than ever before—in history. We are running out of time to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and slow climate change. Having said that, I have always believed that in adversity lies opportunity, and there is still time today, and there is still opportunity today.

Thankfully, last Congress, the Presiding Officer and I and a bunch of other folks on this floor passed the bipartisan infrastructure law and the Inflation Reduction Act—two once-in-a-generation investments in infrastructure and in fighting climate change. Together, these laws are making and stimulating the investments in clean energy and infrastructure that we need in order to reduce our emissions and to meet our climate goals. As a result, more clean energy projects are in the pipeline in this country than ever before. In fact, according to the Clean Investment Monitor, clean energy and transportation investment hit a record \$71 billion in the first quarter of this year—that is \$71 billion with a "b" this year—dwarfing last year's \$51 billion in the same timeframe.

We haven't stopped there. We haven't stopped there. The Biden administration is taking strong steps to build a more efficient and effective environmental review process in order to connect clean energy to the grid as soon as possible. For example, in April of this year, the Council on Environmental Quality issued their final rule to implement changes to something called the National Environmental Policy Act made by the Fiscal Responsibility Act last year. This rule reforms the permitting process and will accelerate the deployment of clean energy technologies, like solar, like wind, and like battery storage—all while advancing environmental justice and ensuring that communities have a voice in the build-out of critical infrastructure.

One might ask, how does the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission support our clean energy future? Well, that is a good question. Let me take a shot at it.

As it turns out, connecting clean energy to the electric grid and delivering this energy to consumers who demand it remains one of the major challenges

to help transition our grid to reliable, carbon-free sources.

With well over 2 terawatts of energy—I asked my staff, what is a terawatt? I think a terawatt is a billion. Two terawatts would be 2 billion. So with well over 2 billion watts of energy—most of it clean energy currently on the sidelines—FERC plays a vital role in expanding our Nation's transmission capacity in order to allow new projects to move forward quickly. To put that figure in perspective, that is 2 billion—2 billion—watts of energy. That is double the amount of electricity-generating capacity that we have today. For example, just last month, FERC finalized two rules to tackle pressing challenges in the transmission planning process.

But there is more to do. There is a lot more to do. It is up to us in this body, in this Congress and over in the House of Representatives—but especially in this body—to ensure that the Commission has a full slate of Commissioners in order to continue with their work to modernize our electric grid for the 21st century.

As we know, President Biden has nominated not one, not two, but three well-qualified individuals—two are Democrats, and one is a Republican—to serve terms on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, FERC. One is David Rosner, one is Lindsay See, and the other is Judy Chang.

We are joined here on the Senate floor by the chairman of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. He will have more to say about this in a minute, I know. Last week, his committee that he chairs and leads reported these three nominations out of committee with broad bipartisan support.

Should they all be confirmed this week, Congress will have done its job to ensure that the Commission is fully seated so that FERC can continue to advance these policies that we need to enable us to bring more clean energy off the sidelines and onto the grid.

I am grateful for the bipartisan support shown so far for these nominees in committee. I salute the committee chairman in no small part for that. I hope that in a few minutes here, they are going to receive the same kind of broad bipartisan support today and in the days to come.

With that, as a West Virginia native, I am happy to yield the floor to another West Virginia native—two former Governors who find common ground here on these nominees to FERC.

With that, I yield the floor.

Mr. MANCHIN. He meant to say two recovering former Governors, right?

Mr. CARPER. Barely recovering.

Mr. MANCHIN. Barely.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, first of all, let me thank my dear friend Senator CARPER, who heads up EPW and does a tremendous job with his staff.

We have had a great working relationship here.

We all know that having a fully staffed FERC is going to make a lot of difference in what we do in this country, so we begin work this evening on the first of three nominations for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. David Rosner is one, Lindsay See, and Judy Chang are the three that Senator CARPER mentioned.

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources reported all three of these nominations with extremely strong bipartisan support.

During their confirmation hearing, each of the nominees demonstrated deep experience on energy and legal matters, a commitment to follow the law and work within the authorities Congress has provided to FERC, and a recognition that all of our Nation's energy sources play an important role, providing affordable, reliable energy to families and businesses across our country.

Like most of our independent regulatory Commissions, by law, FERC must be bipartisan. But in protecting the public interest, Commission members must conduct themselves as non-partisan guardians, no matter what their party affiliation might be, of the public interest. That is exactly what we need from FERC Commissioners as they undertake the critical work of the Commission, and that is what I expect from these three nominees before the Senate as they come up for votes this week.

Simply put, FERC's job is to ensure the "orderly development of plentiful supplies of electricity and natural gas at reasonable prices." It must ensure adequate and reliable service while protecting customers from excessive prices. It enables us to keep the lights on and to heat and cool our homes and power our businesses and industries.

When Congress established FERC, it stipulated that members of the Commission must be able "to assess fairly the needs and concerns of all interests affected by Federal energy policy." As the Supreme Court has said, the Commission serves as the guardian of the public interest in these matters. As David Rosner said during his confirmation hearing, "None of our country's economic or policy priorities can be achieved if energy reliability is not preserved. Consumers demand it, they deserve it, and it is FERC's most sacred duty to ensure it."

I take special pride in speaking on the first of these nominations this evening.

David Rosner has been on my detail—as far as our detail—from FERC to the majority staff of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for the past 2 years, so I know David. I have seen firsthand his expert knowledge on energy issues, his fairness, his non-partisan approach to every concern and every problem we have had, and his ability to work on both sides of the aisle, and he has done that tremendously.

David Rosner has what it takes for this job. He has extensive experience with energy issues. He has been employed by FERC as an energy industry analyst for over 7 years, including his detail to our committee. He previously worked at the Department of Energy as an economist and as a senior policy adviser and at the Bipartisan Policy Center. It doesn't get any better than that.

I can personally attest to his extensive knowledge of FERC matters based on his work for the Energy Committee. I have seen his willingness and ability to work with others across the aisle on behalf of all Americans. Our committee members have come to rely on David's expertise, so we are proud that David has the opportunity to serve his country in an even more important role.

Although he will be missed by many of us here in the Senate, I have every confidence that he will make a great FERC Commissioner, and I urge my colleagues to support his nomination this evening.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MANCHIN. 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. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I ask that the next vote, the vote scheduled for this evening, start immediately.

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

#### 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. 669, David Rosner, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a term expiring June 30, 2027.

Charles E. Schumer, Joe Manchin III, Sheldon Whitehouse, Martin Heinrich, Jeanne Shaheen, Catherine Cortez Masto, Alex Padilla, Mazie Hirono, Ben Ray Lujan, Maria Cantwell, Peter Welch, Jack Reed, Benjamin L. Cardin, Angus S. King, Jr., Richard Blumenthal, Mark Kelly, John W. Hickenlooper.

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 David Rosner, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a term expiring June 30, 2027, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.