

1555, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2300 Sylvan Avenue in Modesto, California, as the "Corporal Michael D. Anderson Jr. Post Office Building".

Charles E. Schumer, Patty Murray, Raphael G. Warnock, Ben Ray Lujan, Benjamin L. Cardin, Jack Reed, Richard J. Durbin, Tammy Baldwin, Sheldon Whitehouse, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Angus S. King, Jr., Michael F. Bennet, Mark Kelly, Jeanne Shaheen, Tim Kaine, Chris Van Hollen, Debbie Stabenow.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, September 19, be waived.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. I return the floor to the Senator from Maryland for his outstanding, excellent, perspicacious remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

PROJECT 2025

Mr. CARDIN. First, let me thank my leader for those kind remarks.

Mr. President, as the Senator from the State of Maryland, I am so proud to represent so many Marylanders who are Federal workers dedicated to helping their fellow citizens with the essential work that they provide. So I come to the floor today to speak about the threat Project 2025 poses to our Federal workforce and to our Nation.

This is a plan that, if enacted, would take America back to some of the darkest chapters in our history, from a nationwide abortion ban, to eliminating civil rights for millions of Americans, to gutting the checks and balances enshrined in our Constitution by the Founding Fathers and putting unlimited power in the President's hands. This kind of extremism is deeply disturbing.

As the Senator from Maryland and chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, I want to focus on one particular reason I think these ideas are so dangerous, and that is the way Project 2025 targets nonpartisan public servants in the Federal Government.

In the State of Maryland alone, there are over 150,000 Federal employees serving our country and their fellow Americans. They are dedicated, and they believe in public service, and they have always played important roles: repatriating stranded Americans who were stuck overseas when COVID-19 hit; leading negotiations to get the release of wrongfully detained Americans in Russia and Venezuela; coordinating the resettlement of Afghan refugees who supported our mission for over two decades; global drug prevention efforts; hurricane response training; emergency food assistance; counterterrorism. In every region of the globe and in every State of our Nation, public servants, our civil servants, put principle over politics in order to serve their fellow citizens.

So that is why we need to be clear-eyed about what Project 2025 will mean

not only to our Federal workforce, but to our national security.

Project 2025 is a blueprint for a government that is so radical and disturbing even Donald Trump himself doesn't want to take credit for it. He said, "I have no idea who is behind it"—well, despite the fact that six of his former Cabinet Secretaries helped write it.

Let me quote from the president of the Heritage Foundation, the think tank organizing the project. This is what he said about the federal workforce:

People will lose their jobs.

Talk about an understatement.

Project 2025 envisions Federal employees who will be politically loyal to an individual and a cult of personality rather than loyal to the Constitution and the letter of the law.

Our Federal workforce are career diplomats, career servants, career people trying to serve their fellow citizens. We do not want to politicize our civil workforce.

As the chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, I must tell you, this is the kind of thing authoritarian governments do.

Project 2025 will weaken our country and put it in a place the United States has not seen before.

Now these ideas aren't exactly new. There is a long track record of smearing Federal employees as being part of the deep state. Back in 2020, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee produced a staff report detailing the concerning efforts the last administration had on the State Department, on its morale, and on trying to affect its professionalism.

A culture of fear and mistrust, vacant positions, nominees with extreme views and concerning records—unfortunately, that seems to be a glimpse of what could lie ahead with Project 2025.

The President and American Federation of Government Employees said:

Project 2025 will take away freedoms and rights from every American, will hurt the middle class and working families, and is a threat to our democracy.

They want to gut Federal workers' pay and benefits; they want to eliminate millions of Federal jobs; they want to make it easier to discriminate against people of color, women, and LGBTQ people. From the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to Veterans' Administration to the Environmental Protection Agency, they want to make big changes. They want to dismantle support for public education. They want to eliminate the entirety of the Department of Homeland Security.

These are extreme ideas. I believe these ideas are incredibly dangerous, and we must do everything we can to support our public servants. That is why I applaud the Biden-Harris administration and the Office of Personnel Management for issuing a rule in opposition to the previous administration's Schedule F classification.

I have also cosponsored legislation with Senator Kaine to codify the same effort.

As a longtime member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee—now its chair—I have been working to strengthen its workforce at the State Department, USAID, and other international affairs Agencies.

From making sure our personnel have the ability to compete globally to increasing recruitment and retention—that should be our focus. Let's make our civil service more competitive with the best, most innovative people leading our national security, diplomacy, and Federal Agencies—not dismantling them.

At the time of its implementation more than a century ago, our merit-based civil service was an anti-corruption initiative. President Teddy Roosevelt, who is known as the father of modern civil service, wrote that its "importance lies in the fact that it is the most powerful implement with which to work for the moral regeneration of our public life. No other force so strongly tends to increase the political weight of decent citizens."

That was the motivation behind the civil service, and it is more important today than ever.

So I agree our Federal work employees are a tremendous force of good for our community. We don't acknowledge them enough on this floor. We don't do enough to help them and to support them and give them the resources they need. We certainly don't want to make it more difficult for people to serve our country.

That is why we must say no to targeting of American public servants for doing their jobs. No to loyalty tests. No to bypassing congressional oversight. No to taking our country backwards to a time before there were civil rights and reproductive rights, and no to weakening our democratic institutions.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF PURDUE UNIVERSITY ENGINEERING

Mr. BRAUN. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate 150 years of Purdue engineering. Purdue engineering produces more than 5 percent of our engineering students in the country. Engineering alumni from Purdue have distinguished themselves for 150 years around the world and even on the moon. The first and most recent men to walk on the moon—Neil Armstrong and Gene Cernan—were both Purdue engineering alumni.

Purdue engineers have been behind many other great leaps for mankind. Some of the greatest wonders of engineering here in the United States are byproducts of Purdue engineers, such as the Golden Gate Bridge. Purdue engineering touches every aspect of our

day-to-do life. Alumni and alumnae have been behind many innovations and technologies that are foundational to our modern life, like transistors—something as basic as that.

This resolution celebrates 150 years of Purdue engineering and the significant accomplishments Purdue engineering alumni and alumnae have had on our world.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 830, which is at the desk.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 830) recognizing the 150th anniversary of Purdue University Engineering.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. BRAUN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to; the preamble be agreed to; and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 830) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

PURPLE MARTIN CONSERVATION DAY

Mr. BRAUN. Mr. President, I rise today on another topic, one that is dear to me. I have been involved in this pastime since I was 10 years old. Most of you may not know where I am going to go, but it is one of the most unique birds that the good Lord ever created. It is called a purple martin. It is a bird, about 8 ounces or so, that migrates back and forth from North America to the Amazon. Does it each year.

I became a landlord for them back many, many years ago. And it is the only bird, through adapting, that is now totally dependent on man-made housing—you have seen gourds out there. They are a bird that only lives in a colony; most song birds are territorial. A really unique bird.

There is actually an association called the Purple Martin Conservation Association, where avid supporters support it across the country.

Due to habitat loss over time, where their normal habitat would have been in the wild, many years ago Inuits lured them into their own communities because the purple martins only eat flying insects. Truly an amazing bird that has been under some pressure recently. And if that heritage isn't continued, since they are now dependent on man-made housing, we could lose one of the most unique birds that God ever created.

Efforts from conservationists across the country have been mostly behind making sure that this heritage remains. This is a resolution that celebrates the efforts of all of them. It designated this past August 10 as "Purple Martin Conservation Day" to recognize their work and to protect this natural treasure.

This resolution was endorsed by the National Audubon Society, North American Bluebird Society, the Purple Martin Conservation Association, and many other naturalists and conservation groups.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 803.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 803) recognizing the importance of purple martins to United States ecosystems, tourism, and history by designating August 10, 2024, as "Purple Martin Conservation Day".

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. BRAUN. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to; the preamble be agreed; and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 803) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of August 1, 2024, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. BRAUN. I ask that the scheduled vote occur immediately.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

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 bill 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. 700 Rose E. Jenkins, of the District of Columbia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years.

Ron Wyden, Alex Padilla, Debbie Stabenow, Catherine Cortez Masto, Mark Kelly, Jack Reed, Tim Kaine, John W. Hickenlooper, Christopher Murphy, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Richard Blumenthal, Benjamin L. Cardin, Christopher A. Coons, Margaret Wood Hassan, Chris Van Hollen, Tammy Baldwin, Tina Smith.

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 Rose E. Jenkins, of the District of Columbia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) would have voted "yea."

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 76, nays 15, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 248 Leg.]

YEAS—76

Baldwin	Gillibrand	Padilla
Barrasso	Graham	Peters
Bennet	Grassley	Reed
Blumenthal	Hassan	Ricketts
Booker	Heinrich	Risch
Britt	Helmy	Romney
Brown	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Budd	Hirono	Sanders
Butler	Hoeven	Schatz
Cantwell	Hyde-Smith	Schumer
Capito	Johnson	Shaheen
Cardin	Kaine	Sinema
Carper	Kelly	Smith
Casey	Kennedy	Stabenow
Cassidy	King	Tester
Collins	Klobuchar	Thune
Coons	Lujan	Van Hollen
Cornyn	Lummis	Warner
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Warnock
Cramer	Markey	Warren
Crapo	McConnell	Welch
Daines	Merkley	Whitehouse
Duckworth	Murkowski	Wicker
Durbin	Murphy	Young
Fetterman	Murray	
Fischer	Ossoff	

NAYS—15

Boozman	Hagerty	Paul
Braun	Hawley	Rubio
Cotton	Lankford	Scott (FL)
Cruz	Lee	Scott (SC)
Ernst	Mullin	Sullivan

NOT VOTING—9

Blackburn	Rounds	Tuberville
Marshall	Schmitt	Vance
Moran	Tillis	Wyden

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BUTLER). On this vote, the yeas are 76, the nays are 15.

The motion is agreed to.

The Senator from Connecticut.

HEALTHCARE OWNERSHIP

Mr. MURPHY. Madam President, when I was growing up, I had a pediatrician. His name was Dr. Carlton. He was kind. He was reassuring. His advice and his comfort meant a lot to my parents, who were young parents and in need of a steady shoulder to lean on