

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. 620, David Huitema, of Maryland, to be Director of the Office of Government Ethics for a term of five years.

Charles E. Schumer, Gary C. Peters, Peter Welch, Debbie Stabenow, Tina Smith, Richard Blumenthal, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Tammy Duckworth, Patty Murray, Jack Reed, Tammy Baldwin, Tim Kaine, Margaret Wood Hassan, Christopher Murphy, Brian Schatz, Catherine Cortez Masto, Benjamin L. Cardin, Alex Padilla.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 714.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Cathy Fung, of California, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

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. 714, Cathy Fung, of California, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years.

Charles E. Schumer, Debbie Stabenow, Jack Reed, Michael F. Bennet, Tim Kaine, Laphonza R. Butler, Angus S. King, Jr., Richard J. Durbin, Tina Smith, Catherine Cortez Masto, Richard Blumenthal, Maria Cantwell, Patty Murray, Jeanne Shaheen, Alex Padilla, Mazie Hirono, Chris Van Hollen.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, September 25, be waived.

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

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Sen-

ate proceed to the consideration of PN587; that the nominations be confirmed; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nominations; that any related statements be printed in the Record; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

IN THE FOREIGN SERVICE

PN587 FOREIGN SERVICE nominations (2) beginning John R. Bass, II, and ending Brian A. Nichols, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 2, 2023.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nominations en bloc: Calendar No. 713, Calendar No. 715; that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc without intervening action or debate; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nominations of Jeffrey Samuel Arbeit, of the District of Columbia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years, and Benjamin A. Guider III, of Louisiana, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

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.

TRIBUTE TO RABBI DAVID SAPERSTEIN

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I come to the floor to honor a great New Yorker, a great American, and one of the greatest Jewish leaders in our country's history: Rabbi David Saperstein. This year marks his 50th anniversary at the Religious Action Center, a milestone of immense distinction and honor.

It is not possible to summarize in a single statement the breadth and depth of Rabbi Saperstein's accomplish-

ments. He is, of course a rabbi. But he is also an advocate at heart. He is a lawyer. A teacher. A diplomat who served as ambassador. He is a religious leader and a mentor to countless people over the years, of all faiths and persuasions.

But if we had to pick just one thing, it would be this: Rabbi Saperstein has always been a voice for justice and progress and decency for people around the world.

As the director of the Religious Action Center for over 40 years, he was one of Reform Judaism's greatest champions in the Halls of Congress and within the Federal Government. In his own words, he carried out this role with a mission to "make real the Jewish prophetic ideals of justice, peace, freedom, equality and compassion, in America, in Israel, in the lives of human beings everywhere."

Rabbi Saperstein is also the first rabbi in American history to serve as U.S. Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom, selected by President Obama in 2014. He advised both the President and Secretary Kerry on promoting the rights of religious minorities around the world. After serving in government, he continued his service as president of the World Union for Progressive Judaism. Today, he also serves on the Advisory Committee on Human Trafficking.

It is rare for a single person to accomplish so much and hold so many leadership positions in one lifetime. But it is even rarer to see the profound decency and thirst for justice that has motivated Rabbi Saperstein at every step of his life. Our country is blessed through his life. Jewish Americans are better off because of his good works. And Americans of all walks of life are better off because of the service, the vision, and legacy of Rabbi Saperstein.

So, on behalf of a grateful Senate, I congratulate the rabbi for celebrating 50 years with the Religious Action Center.

TRIBUTE TO DR. NANCY COX

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I rise today to congratulate my friend Dr. Nancy Cox, dean of the University of Kentucky's College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment, on her upcoming retirement. As she prepares to step down from the helm, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this distinguished Kentuckian and her 20-plus years of service to the Commonwealth.

A graduate of Furman University, the University of Georgia, and North Carolina State University, Nancy made her bones researching animal physiology. She launched her career at Mississippi State before joining the ranks of faculty leadership at UK's College of Agriculture as associate dean for research. To the great fortune of our flagship university, Nancy never left.

Serving as dean of the college of agriculture since 2014, Nancy led the school

through some of its most transformative years. She spearheaded groundbreaking programs, like the Racetrack Safety Program and the James B. Beam Institute for Kentucky Spirits, that help keep Kentucky's signature equine and bourbon industries at the forefront of the Nation. Early on, she understood the importance of research not only to the university and its students, but also to Kentucky's agricultural community, prioritizing investments for veterinary studies, equine health, and animal forage production research. As dean, she oversaw the renewal of UK's Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, and together, we worked to establish UK's first-ever animal forage production research lab in partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Nancy's work to champion research on issues ranging from equine safety to the problems facing small family farms continues to help our Nation's producers and growers succeed.

Even after two decades of service to Kentucky, Nancy hasn't shied away from new opportunities to effect change on campus. In 2020, she stepped up to join President Capilouto's leadership team as the first-ever vice president for land-grant engagement. In this role, she has helped deepen UK's commitment to its land-grant mission, finding new ways to serve and connect with communities across the Commonwealth through research, instruction, and extension programs.

Anybody who has ever worked with Nancy can vouch for her dedication to serving her fellow Kentuckians. From forging new partnerships to deepening the university's ties with important stakeholders, like the Kentucky Farm Bureau, Nancy's leadership has tangibly made life better for families, businesses, and communities across our state. As she puts it, "Every day, we try to do better than the day before." Nancy has certainly lived up to this ideal, and though we are all sorry to see her go, I am confident she will continue to make a difference in her community.

As she begins a well-deserved retirement, I have no doubt that she will be enjoying more time with her friends and family. Today, it's my privilege to join the chorus of faculty, students, and alumni praising Nancy's leadership and her work to lift up Kentucky's farmers and the next generation of agricultural leaders. I urge my Senate colleagues to join me in thanking Nancy for her remarkable service to the University of Kentucky and the Commonwealth.

TRIBUTE TO JIM IACocca

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I rise today to congratulate Brigadier General (Retired) James "Jim" T. Iacocca as he prepares to retire from the Knox Regional Development Alliance in my home State of Kentucky. It is my privilege to pay special tribute to

Jim for all his contributions to the Commonwealth and his 30-plus years of dedicated service to our Nation.

Jim entered the Army on a whim. Without speaking to his parents, he enlisted in the Army Reserve his freshman year at Lehigh University. His 29 years of Active-Duty service that followed included tours in airborne and special operations units at multiple Army installations, deployments to Afghanistan and Iraq, and numerous military awards and decorations. He served as deputy commanding general of the Army Recruiting Command and Brigade Commander for the Army's 3rd Recruiting Brigade. In 2015, Jim became the 60th Adjutant General, one of the oldest leadership positions in the Army. In this role, he oversaw over 1 million Active-Duty, National Guard, and Reserve servicemembers, keeping soldiers combat-ready to serve and execute the Army's missions.

Jim retired from Active-Duty service in 2017, but his work on behalf of the Commonwealth and the Army was far from over. As one of two civilian aides to the Secretary of the Army for Kentucky, Jim helps bridge the gap between Army leadership and our State's military communities, providing crucial counsel to the Secretary on all matters Kentucky.

Many on my staff have had the privilege of interacting with Jim through his work as president and CEO of the Knox Regional Development Alliance. In this role, Jim serves as the critical link between my office and the military base. With an eye always toward the future, Jim is constantly working with partners inside and outside the gate to identify new missions and improve the experience and well-being of Kentucky's servicemembers. He has been instrumental in some of the biggest issues Fort Knox has tackled in recent years, driving billions of dollars into the regional economy and advocating for the priorities of Fort Knox and its more than 26,000 soldiers, civilians, and families.

In all his years serving Fort Knox, Jim has never lost sight of the people he represents; that includes not only the brave men and women who serve our country but also the greater Knox region. Jim will be the first to tell you that a strong community is an irreplaceable asset to any military installation and, indeed, Fort Knox. As the unifying voice for the base and the Knox community, Jim collaborates with a wide range of people, from servicemembers to the business community to local, State, and Federal leaders across the Commonwealth. In fact, Jim's contributions recently earned him the honor of Gold Neighbor for his dedication to Fort Knox, its soldiers, and their families. I count myself among the many grateful for Jim contributing his character, humble leadership, and deep knowledge to the Commonwealth.

Jim has worn many impressive hats while serving his country, but his

proudest roles have been husband and father. As he prepares to step down from the Knox Regional Development Alliance this year, I know Jim will enjoy spending more time with his wife Sandy and their daughter—and building out that impressive bourbon collection of his. Our men and women in uniform, in addition to the people of Kentucky, are losing a tireless advocate, and though we are saddened to say goodbye to Jim, his retirement is well-earned. I urge my Senate colleagues to join me in thanking this brave American, dedicated public servant, and proud Kentuckian for his decades of distinguished service to our country.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATIONS

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 24-72, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Bulgaria for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$114 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL F. MILLER,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 24-72

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as Amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Bulgaria.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* \$79 million.
Other \$35 million.
Total \$114 million.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):