

And if it sounds like I am frustrated, I am. We owe it to every public servant who has taught our kids, protected our streets, run into a burning building, and more to pass this bill.

The time for theater is through. It is time to get serious and vote on legislation that matters. I am ready to vote yes on the Social Security Fairness Act and repeal WEP and GPO for people in Louisiana and for Americans across the country.

So I call upon the majority leader to schedule a vote on the Social Security Fairness Act, and I urge colleagues to join in support of it.

I yield the floor.

NOMINATION OF ANNE HWANG

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Judge Anne Hwang to the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California.

Born in Los Angeles, CA, Judge Hwang attended Cornell University and the University of Southern California Law School before entering private practice at Irell & Manella LLP. While at the firm, she worked on business disputes and Federal white collar criminal cases.

Judge Hwang then joined the Office of the Federal Public Defender for the Central District of California, where she eventually became the district's chief deputy Federal public defender. In addition to trial work, she also represented indigent clients in appellate, habeas, and postconviction matters during this time.

In 2018, she was appointed to serve as a judge for the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles. In her time on the bench, she has presided over both criminal misdemeanor trials and personal injury cases. Judge Hwang has also issued hundreds of opinions in civil matters.

Judge Hwang's deep knowledge of the Central District of California and significant experience in the courtroom ensure that she will be an asset on the Federal bench. She is strongly supported by her home State Senators and will serve honorably as a Federal district judge.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. CASSIDY. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. MURPHY. Madam President, I would ask that the scheduled vote begin immediately.

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

VOTE ON HWANG NOMINATION

Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Hwang nomination?

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) would have voted "nay".

The result was announced—yeas 48, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 304 Ex.]

YEAS—48

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

NAYS—43

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

NOT VOTING—9

Cramer	King	Rubio
Fetterman	Murray	Sinema
Hoeven	Risch	Vance

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HELMY). 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.

The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. KELLY. Mr. President, on behalf of the majority leader, I ask the Chair to execute the order of November 20 with respect to the Murphy nomination.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Brian Edward Murphy, of Massachusetts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts.

NOMINATION OF BRIAN EDWARD MURPHY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Brian Edward Murphy to the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts.

Born in Columbia, MD, Mr. Murphy earned his B.A. from the College of the Holy Cross in 2002 and his J.D. from Columbia Law School in 2006.

After graduating from law school, Mr. Murphy joined the Committee for Public Counsel Services as a public defender in the district court division in 2006. He later served the office as a public defender in the superior court division between 2007 and 2009.

Following his time in public service, Mr. Murphy worked as an associate attorney at Todd and Weld LLP from 2009 to 2011. There, his practice centered exclusively on criminal defense work in State and Federal courts. In 2011, Mr. Murphy opened his own practice known today as Murphy & Rudolph LLP. His practice centers on criminal defense, civil, and probate work. He also provides representation to indigent defendants through Criminal Justice Act appointments.

Throughout his career, Mr. Murphy has tried 41 cases to verdict as either sole or chief counsel. Additionally, he has briefed 14 cases in the appeals courts and presented oral argument in seven of those matters.

The American Bar Association unanimously rated Mr. Murphy as "well qualified," and he has the strong support of his home State Senators, Ms. Warren and Mr. Markey.

The extensive litigation experience Mr. Murphy gained while serving as a public defender and as a criminal defense attorney in private practice has equipped him with the requisite skillset to join the Federal bench in Massachusetts.

I am proud to support his nomination.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I rise in support of the nomination of Brian Murphy to serve as a judge on the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts.

Brian Murphy started his legal career as a public defender in Worcester, MA. In that role, he stood on the frontline in the fight for justice. He devoted his practice of law to ensuring that those who could not afford a lawyer—people whose very lives and liberties were at stake—received the legal representation and defense that our Constitution guarantees. In that role, Mr. Murphy gained critical courtroom and trial experience and perspective on how our system of justice operates and impacts the lives of those involved in it.

After serving as a public defender, Mr. Murphy continued to represent criminal defendants in private practice, eventually starting his own law

firm, where he also gained valuable experience on the civil side of the docket.

Mr. Murphy has also held leadership positions in the criminal defense and local bars. He has served as president of the Massachusetts chapter of the Federal Bar Association and served on the board of the Massachusetts Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. And he has served as a supervisor for the Bar Advocates of Worcester County, a private nonprofit providing legal representation to indigent clients charged with crimes.

Brian Murphy has an impressive academic background, as well. He is a graduate of Columbia Law School and Worcester's own College of the Holy Cross.

In law school, he showed academic prowess and an early passion for justice, serving as editor-in-chief of the Columbia Human Rights Law Review.

Having lived and worked in Massachusetts throughout his entire legal career, Brian Murphy understands our State and the importance we place on ensuring justice for all.

It is therefore not surprising that Mr. Murphy has received strong support from the Massachusetts legal community. A group of former assistant U.S. attorneys in Massachusetts—his courtroom opponents—wrote to the Senate Judiciary Committee that they “unreservedly” supported his nomination. They described him as thoughtful, intelligent, and compassionate and committed to justice, his clients, and the court system.

I agree with his former colleagues who told the Judiciary Committee that Brian Murphy's educational background, life experience, and temperament qualify him to be an outstanding Federal district judge.

Senator WARREN—who has been an outstanding partner on Massachusetts judicial nominations—and I are proud to have recommended Brian Murphy's nomination to President Biden. Brian Murphy's confirmation will add to President Biden's legacy of placing on our courts only well-qualified jurists from diverse professional backgrounds, who are committed to justice for all.

I urge my colleagues to vote yea on Brian Murphy's confirmation.

VOTE ON MURPHY NOMINATION

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN), and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator

from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE).

The result was announced—yeas 47, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 305 Ex.]

YEAS—47

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

NAYS—45

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

NOT VOTING—8

Cramer	Manchin	Sinema
Fetterman	Risch	Vance
King	Rubio	

The nomination was confirmed.

Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider with respect to the Murphy nomination be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. SMITH). Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 815 and 827; 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 action.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the nominations en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Shall the Senate advise and consent to Calendar Nos. 815 and 827 en bloc?

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Allan M. Pepin

IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be general

Lt. Gen. Christopher T. Donahue

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Ms. STABENOW. 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.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO MIKAYLA HULVEY

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam President, I rise today to honor Mikayla Hulvey, an outstanding young Arkansan who has earned the Civil Air Patrol's (CAP) prestigious General Carl A. Spaatz award.

Mikayla is currently a CAP cadet with the 115th Composite Squadron in Rogers, and she plans to join the U.S. Marine Corps as a pilot in the coming years.

The Spaatz award is the highest honor a cadet can receive. It requires rigorous testing, both academic and physical, where candidates demonstrate their aptitude in leadership, fitness, aerospace knowledge, and character. In winning this award, Mikayla has distinguished herself as a remarkable young woman with a bright future ahead.

During her time as a cadet, Mikayla's unwavering drive has helped her rise through the ranks of flight sergeant, deputy commander, and cadet commander in her squadron.

Outside of her time with the Civil Air Patrol, Mikayla prioritizes academics while being a devoted member of her community. She is an Honors Society member who has served as a student body representative and participates in multiple sports including archery, cross country, and track. She also volunteers at her local church as the children's church assistant and drama team participant, in addition to being a dedicated martial arts student who serves as an assistant instructor in Tae Kwon Do.

Mikayla is an exceptional young person who embodies the ideal qualities of our men and women in uniform, and I am confident she will serve our Nation well in the future.

She is certainly deserving of this distinguished award. I congratulate Mikayla and wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors.●