

First, Israel's neighbors must decide whether they want to be peaceful and sovereign countries or vassals of Iran and legitimate targets at war. This applies to Syria, Iraq, and Lebanon's fractured governments.

The United States, for its part, must ensure Israel has the freedom to maneuver to target and destroy Iran's military and logistical lifelines, and America should move quickly to restore Israel's munitions stockpiles. As I expect the incoming administration already knows, this means removing restrictions on the sale of needed weapons like 2,000-pound smart bombs.

But there is a broader, more fundamental lesson I hope we will take away from Israel's stunningly successful campaign against Hezbollah. It is about the credibility of threats. It was Israel's bold and decisive operations, not the overly cautious calls for restraint from Washington, that made a cessation of hostilities possible. The Jewish State has left Iran with no reason to doubt Israel's capacity and its willingness to protect its citizens and restore its sovereignty by force.

America ought to apply this lesson to our own approach to the Iran-backed groups that continue to attack American forces across the region—and to Ukraine as well. Too many in Washington still believe that the path to peace lies in restraining our friends.

The evidence of coordination between our adversaries—China, Russia, Iran, and North Korea—is incontrovertible. It is high time that America's support for our friends carried real weight.

#### TRIBUTE TO MITT ROMNEY

Mr. President, on one final matter, at the end of the year, the Senate will bid farewell to a number of distinguished colleagues who are starting well-deserved next chapters. In the coming weeks, I will single out a few of them for particular praise.

It seems fitting to begin with someone whose retirement is a departure not just from the Senate but from a long and honorable career on the national political stage.

On the bingo cards of American politics, the Governor of Massachusetts-Senator from Utah combination isn't known to hit very often, but MITT ROMNEY's repeated successes in public office are a testament to the transcendent appeal of his character.

As it turns out, uncompromising honesty, earnest humility, and evident devotion to faith and family are as compelling in Cedar City as they are in Concord. Of course, a certain telegenic quality—dare I say a Presidential aura—doesn't hurt either.

By the time our friend assumed the title of "junior Senator from Utah," his approach to life in the public eye combined the polished instincts of a professional who had played to win at the highest level and the independence and self-assurance that come only from unshakable convictions.

For MITT, the Senate was not a waiting room or a stepping stone; it was

the capstone to a life in public service. With the wisdom to discern where to devote his attention, he has managed to cram more into 6 years than many colleagues fit into 12 or 18. He made himself a linchpin for bipartisan negotiations and wound up at the center of the effort that delivered major infrastructure legislation. He poured himself into worthy fights on behalf of his constituents, navigating everything from Tribal politics to State Department bureaucracy with characteristic diplomacy. He called the Senate's attention more closely to the state of America's competition with China and the worthy demands of American global leadership. He has met moments of enormous gravity with careful contemplation and the utmost grace.

The past 6 years will not be remembered as the Senate's quietest. Observers might have wondered what more a distinguished public servant like MITT ROMNEY had to prove in coming to Washington and putting up with the demands of this body. But that would be a misunderstanding of the way our friend has ordered his life. It wasn't about what he had left to prove but what he had left to give.

With that outlook, MITT has been able to put even the most consequential business of public life in perspective. He reminds young visitors to the Capitol that the true currency of life is the people you love and spend your time with.

He is quick to explain that his life isn't defined by the outcome of elections and that his deepest meaning comes from his faith and his relationship with his family. It doesn't take much to recognize how earnestly he means that. For one thing, we know that joining the Senate was, at best, a distant second on the list of MITT's most significant events of the year 2019, behind celebrating 50 years of marriage to his sweetheart Ann. When you factor in the birthdays of 25 grandchildren and counting, even the most significant career milestone is bound to fall off the list.

Frankly, if I were on MITT's Senate staff, I wouldn't worry too much about lining up my next job. A full-time grandpa to a brood as big as the Romneys is bound to need some extra hands for scheduling and advance work.

MITT and Ann's partnership is one for the history books. It is a reminder that when you spend your life with the right people, success in business or politics is just icing on the cake, and when you ground yourself in firm beliefs, the winds of politics are easier to weather.

As a particular moving hymn in MITT's church instructs, "Do what is right; let the consequence follow. Battle for freedom in spirit and might; and with stout hearts look ye forth till tomorrow. God will protect you; then do what is right."

So, MITT, I want to thank you for devoting yourself to service and letting the consequence follow. May God protect you and your family as you write the next chapter.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HICKENLOOPER). The Senator from Utah.

#### FAREWELL TO THE SENATE

Mr. ROMNEY. Mr. President, I rise today to first thank the leader for those generous comments and to mark for my colleagues the departure soon from my service here in the Senate.

During my life, I have rarely been truly alone—maybe taking tests at school or running cross country or on my uncle's tractor, cultivating corn. But I am impressed with people who have achieved great things largely on their own: Washington commanding the Continental Army, Lincoln guiding the Civil War, Edison in his laboratory. Not me. I have consistently been surrounded by others—usually smarter, often more experienced, always becoming friends.

In business, I chose partners with skills that exceeded mine, the proof of which has been their stunning success after I left. As Governor, my team helped craft the health plan that insured nearly every citizen in Massachusetts. My wingman, Bob White, counseled me in business, the Olympics, and politics. My counselor, Beth Myers, advised and managed multiple campaigns and administrations. Spencer Zwick financed and helped guide almost every one of my endeavors. My Senate chiefs of staff, Matt Waldrip and Liz Johnson, built and brilliantly led an exceptional team and, with our policy directors, Chris Barkley and Stephen Newton, crafted and negotiated more legislation that became law than could possibly have been expected for a freshman Senator.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the names of my excellent current and former staff members be printed in the RECORD.

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

Scott Albrecht, Jennifer Andelin, Victoria Anderson, Matt Anderson, Audrey Arbogast, Chris Barkley, Kelsey Berg, Chandler Beutler, Alex Christiansen, Jessica Christopher, Clay Crozier, Maggie Frankel, Angalene Gallaway, Adam Gardiner, Sharon Garn, Celeste Gold, Mandee Grant, Miriam Harmer, Scott Hatfield, Kevin Henwood, Emma Huish, Liz Johnson, Audra Kinney, Brianna Manzelli, Chris Marroletti, Dilan Maxfield, Trent McFadyen, Barry McLerran, Stephen Morris, Arielle Mueller, Tanne Murdock, Stephen Newton, Arjun Nijhawan, Samantha Onofry, Linda Patino, Jessica Pavel, Mollie Petersen, Elijah Philpot, Travis Porter, John Poulson, Megan Reiss, Scott Richardson, Meg Roberts, David Roberts, Jane Sandberg, Spencer Seal, Meagan Shepherd, Zack Shepherd, Derek Shumway, Grace Simmons, Cade Slaughter, Brennan Stokes, Sarah Stone, Kylie Tanner, Maurice Tolbert, Kathleen Traficant, Alex Vargo, Matt Waldrip, Henrie Walton, Paige Waltz, Isabel Williams, Kent Wilson, Kyle Wilson, Emily Wilson, Emily Wiscombe, Alex Yost, and Elizabeth Young.

Mr. ROMNEY. So my life's work has been a group affair. At its center, is my wife Ann. She is my most trusted adviser, my indefatigable ally, the love of

my life for 54 married years. Our five sons are just as loyal and are the source of profound pride, joy, and 25 grandchildren.

During my first months in the Senate, I was mostly on my own and, thus, mostly unproductive, and then LISA MURKOWSKI invited five Democrats to join with five Republicans at her home for a takeout dinner. With COVID then active, we were spaced far apart, with windows open despite the winter cold. Our conjecture on how to bridge the impasse between the President and Congress on COVID relief led us over the next several weeks to dig in, negotiate, draft, and eventually see our work become the basis of law. I was fortunate to also be a part of what this team worked on that followed: the bipartisan infrastructure law, the Electoral Count Reform Act, gun safety legislation, and marriage legislation that included religious protections.

Our group was Rob Portman, KYRSTEN SINEMA, SUSAN COLLINS, JOE MANCHIN, MARK WARNER, JON TESTER, BILL CASSIDY, JEANNE SHAHEEN, and LISA MURKOWSKI. We had each come to Washington to enact law that would help people, and that is just what we did. We accomplished together what we could have never done alone.

So I will leave this Chamber with a sense of achievement, but in truth, I will also leave with the recognition that I did not achieve everything I had hoped. Among other things, the scourge of partisan politics has frustrated repeated efforts to stabilize our national debt. Without the burden of the interest on that debt, we would be able to spend three times as much as we do on military procurement—three times as many aircraft, three times as many ships, three times as many drones, spacecraft, and cyber defenses. Alternatively, we could spend double the amount we spend on Social Security benefits every month. Our national credit card is almost maxed out, and America risks becoming debt poor.

My biggest surprise in the Senate has been how much I enjoy the other Senators on both sides of the aisle. The truth is that while I may not miss the Senate itself terribly much—the 10-minute votes that last an hour, the unknowable schedule of votes, the myriad meaningless votes, and the absurd passion about inconsequential votes—I will very much miss you, my fellow Senators, for among you are some brilliant, some entertaining, some kind and generous, and all patriotic. It is an honor to have been able to serve with you.

It has also been an honor to represent the people of Utah, the State of my family heritage. What sets Utah apart is not just its beauty and vibrant economy, it is the admirable character of its people.

Now, it is customary to end remarks with these words: God bless America. That has never seemed jarring or out of place to me because Americans have always been fundamentally good. From

our earliest days, we have rushed to help neighbors in need, as de Tocqueville noted. We welcomed the poor, the huddled masses yearning to breathe free. We have respected different faiths as our first President confirmed to Muslims and Jews. “United we stand” is a fitting refrain. As the leader of the free world, our sons and daughters have fought time and again for liberty, and our treasure has buoyed freedom fighters around the globe. Like all people, we have made mistakes, some grievous, but often our mistakes have come from misguided understanding. God has blessed America because America is good.

There are some today who would tear at our unity, who would replace love with hate, who deride our foundation of virtues, and who debase the values upon which the blessings of Heaven depend.

I have been in public service for 25 years. I have learned that politics alone cannot measure up to the challenges we face. Our country’s character is a reflection not just of its elected officials but also of its people. I leave Washington to return to be one among them and hope to be a voice of unity and virtue, for it is only if the American people merit His benevolence that God will continue to bless America.

May He do so is my prayer.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I rise to speak of my dear friend who is departing too early.

I am going to wait until he gets done with all of the congratulatory that he deserves.

I rise again to congratulate my dear friend MITT ROMNEY, whom I have gotten to know very well and became a very close friend to. His wife Ann and their family and Gayle and I have become very close to each other and enjoyed our company.

I have followed MITT’s career from afar for a long time. I watched the success that he had as he came up through the business ranks very successfully. I watched that. I observed the Olympics, which was going to be embarrassing to the United States of America if someone didn’t step forward and take care of the mess that it had gotten itself into, and lo and behold, MITT ROMNEY did that. I was so thankful as an American and also admiring of his skills to pull this all together because I know it is a difficult task working with that Olympic Committee. I watched his Presidential campaigns, which I thought were absolutely electrifying, and I enjoyed it because I could see in his heart that public service was what it was all about.

But my first encounter with MITT was as a former Governor. We were both Governors together at the same time. I was coming in in 2004, and he was going out in 2006. He did this unbelievable thing about giving healthcare to everybody in his State, and it was

just absolutely something phenomenal. So I called. Governors have a certain bond. It doesn’t matter who you are or where you are from or if you have never met before in person. There is a bond.

I said: MITT, tell me about this healthcare plan you have.

And he said: JOE, I was able to do this, this, and this—because he mentioned some of the good people who were smart and able to put it together. But I know one thing: Anybody who sits in that position, when you have good people around, someone has to assemble all of that material and put it in force, and MITT was able to do that.

And I told him. I said: MITT, I don’t have the economy that you have in Massachusetts, and I would love to do something for my State.

I don’t know if you remember this or not.

He said: JOE, there might be a way to work through your public employees’ insurance agency and let the small businesses buy in for group.

And we were able to do something that had never been done before that helped an awful lot of small businesses and people who had no insurance to get insurance because of MITT. I remember that vividly.

Then he comes to the Senate, and that is when my personal relationship began. I had admired him from afar for a long time, and we just clicked.

But I have got to say this: He was involved from day one. On day one, he hit the ground running, and MITT brought so much institutional knowledge and so much, basically, support that he could bring to any conversation. He could bring you the contents; he could bring you the graphs; he could bring you everything that you wanted and even a lot more that you didn’t want. He just engulfed us with all of this.

And I am thinking—one day, when we were working with the bipartisan infrastructure bill—MITT, I don’t know if you recall—you kept telling us what wouldn’t work because you had better facts than we had, and you were right, but we were trying to take your facts and work with them and put them in the situation we were in—back and forth, back and forth, back and forth.

And here was MITT. He comes in, and he says: Here is why. Here is what you should do. Here is why. Here is what needs to be done.

And he would explain everything to us, and I am thinking: We are never going to get through this. We are just not going to get through this.

One day, we just made the final decision: We are going to do this.

He comes in, and he says: I like it.

I am thinking: What the heck did we just go through? He just beat the living crap out of us for about 30 days, showing us how—giving us a roadmap of how to do something and thinking that he wasn’t going to agree with it. And, you know, his basic comment was this: This is better than what we have got. We are moving the ball forward.

That, to me, is the clarity of purpose. The clarity of what he came for is to move the ball forward and to make it better, to try to make a more perfect Union. We knew we couldn't be perfect.

And Rob was in there, working it back and forth, and everybody was moving. When we finally got to the end, MITT says: This is good. Could it be better? Sure, but it is good. Let's go.

That was the signal we needed, and it moved from there.

MITT, being a freshman 6 years, I have been here longer—maybe I should have left 6 years ago—but I am just telling you that you have made my life so much better in the Senate. I enjoyed it—my relationship, of course, on both sides of the aisle, working together, and bringing people together. But it has been just an absolute pleasure and joy having you as a Member of the U.S. Senate, the most deliberative body in the world, the strongest body in the world, and the body that is supposed to make common sense out of things that sometimes don't make reason. This body is much better off, and this country is much better off because of your service here, and it is going to be missed.

Most importantly, I am a better person. I know that Gayle and I are much more enriched because of your and Ann's friendship, and we appreciate that more than you know.

I wish you only the best in the future. I wish you the best as far as what you are going to do, and I hope you don't change your phone number because we still need your advice no matter where we may go.

God bless, my friend. Enjoy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, it is with a combination of pride and sadness that I rise to pay tribute to a truly extraordinary Senator and a good friend, Senator MITT ROMNEY.

I rise to praise his intelligence, his imagination, and most of all his integrity. That is what has marked and characterized his service throughout his life but particularly here in the Senate. It is a day of sadness because I can't imagine the Senate without MITT ROMNEY.

As a Senator and as a Governor, as a Presidential candidate, as the founder of a successful business, as the savior of the 2002 Winter Olympics, and as a pillar of his faith, MITT ROMNEY has brought intelligence, knowledge, experience, and, once again, integrity to every task he has undertaken. He meets every challenge with determination and a talent for bringing opposing sides together to forge solutions. He is always focused on getting to yes, on using common sense, and on achieving a result.

I have had the pleasure of teaming up with MITT on so many important issues, many of which he has mentioned. He was among the group of 10 Senators who negotiated the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of

2021. From transportation to broadband, the most significant investment in infrastructure since the interstate highway system in the 1950s is bringing lasting benefits to our Nation.

MITT was also key in crafting the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act—landmark, commonsense gun safety legislation that helps to protect America's children, keep our schools safer, and reduce the threat of violence across our country, while preserving the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding gun owners.

MITT's unshakable belief that the American people must have faith in our elections and that they are free and fair was evident in his countless contributions to the Electoral Count Reform Act, which ensures an orderly transition of Presidential power.

Perhaps most impressive, his support for the Respect for Marriage Act demonstrated his fundamental fairness by helping to ensure that millions of loving couples in same-sex marriages will continue to enjoy the freedoms, rights, and responsibilities afforded to all other marriages, while strongly protecting religious liberty. And I give MITT so much credit for forging the religious liberty protections that, combined with the protections for same-sex marriages, enabled the enactment of the Respect for Marriage Act. He was the one who drafted the religious liberty provisions that were so key.

There are other areas where MITT has been a key player and ahead of his time. From identifying the threat posed by Russia more than a decade ago to pushing Congress and the administration to develop a strategy to better counter the challenge presented by China, MITT has worked extensively on American foreign policy and national security. He has been a champion for Ukraine and a strong supporter of supplying aid to that brave country in its time of peril.

Most of all, MITT has reminded us over and over again of our \$36 trillion national debt and the need to put our trust funds on solid ground. In fact, I think that a great post-Senate responsibility that MITT could take on is a commission to look at all of those trust funds. He has proposed legislation to do just that. I can't think of a better person to head that commission.

MITT announced his decision to step down from the Senate with these words:

While I'm not running for reelection, I'm not retiring from the fight.

As he and his wonderful wife Ann move on to this next phase of their lives, I am sure that this outstanding leader will continue to fight for the core values that have made America great.

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. BOOKER. Did I miss that? The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. TILLIS. We look so much alike.

Mr. BOOKER. Will the Senator yield?

Mr. TILLIS. Yes.

Mr. BOOKER. Mr. President, I rise to object. I will not let this man go quietly into the night. I would ask for unanimous consent to force him to stay in the Senate, but like all of my unanimous consent requests over the last 10 years, none of them have ever passed.

Mr. ROMNEY. I object to that.

Mr. BOOKER. Case in point.

I didn't necessarily expect to speak, but I found myself sitting there getting sad and angry that we are losing MITT ROMNEY, first of all, because we have—obviously, to the naked eye—so much in common: I am Black, and MITT ROMNEY is Black adjacent. MITT ROMNEY is a man of great personal net worth, and I am a man of great personal net girth.

The reality is, the more I served with MITT ROMNEY, the more I found myself hoping to have more in common with him. I have watched somebody from this seat for years now give a master's class in what I believe America needs most. I ran for President because of this drive and this feeling that our Nation was becoming too tribalistic. I watched time and time again from this seat a person who put aside the desires for partisan adoration for a deeper conviction to stand up for our Nation. I watched a man not confuse tribal celebrity with leadership significance. I watched time and time again and saw it with my own eyes him being harassed in airports and being scorned for taking principled stands that he saw as the best way to try to hold our country together.

I disagree with him, even though I see him now from one of his colleagues getting great approbation for a moment I remember when I was a mayor watching him run for President where he was asked what the great national security threat is, and he said Russia. At the time, many people made fun of him, and I now have been in classified briefings with him and other Senators where his wisdom in perceiving a threat was not only appreciated, but I literally saw in a classified briefing people applaud the insight of the man.

But I disagree with him now. I disagree with him because, to me, the greatest threat to America, despite other comments that have been made here, including from one of my esteemed colleagues yesterday who said it was our national debt, I think the greatest threat to America is our inability to come together as a country, because when Americans are united, there is nothing we can't do. We can beat the Nazis. We can send someone to the Moon. But, indeed, the greatest calling of our country right now is to put more indivisible back into this one Nation under God.

I have sat here for years now, and I have watched, perhaps, someone show with clarity of purpose that I have got to be what his faith and mine call for: Blessed are the peacemakers. Blessed are the people who stand in the breach. Blessed are the people who heal, who try to weave together the torn threads

of our great Nation back into a mighty whole.

This body is lesser, is lesser with this loss. When I heard the news that he wasn't running again, I wasn't happy for him and his family. And I know his values start with that core of faith and family, but I do worry about this body. I do worry about our Nation. The one thing that gives me hope is the light that he has shined into this place will endure. And perhaps many of us, as he departs, will try our best, despite the forces that pull us apart, to pick up the work that he has left behind to do more to affirm a principle that he clearly has kept centered in his eyes, as is in the center of the aisles of this great institution, which is those words from a dead language: "e pluribus unum."

MITT ROMNEY, thank you for being my friend. Thank you for being someone who has inspired me to be better. And thank you for being a great American patriot.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, my folks were wondering why I am sitting so close to MITT ROMNEY. He and I are seat mates. These are our assigned seats.

I told MITT that I had not prepared a single comment, but I did want to come down and say a few things about him.

I hope that we use this opportunity and remember it over the next 2 years. Here is a question we can all ask or we can all talk about and thank him for the incredible work that he has done. And to his staff, the problems he has caused for you by being so honest, so forthright, and so direct. Right?

How many times, MITT—you can't answer it because I think it is against the rules—but how many times have your staff gone: Boss, we wish sometimes you just weren't so forthright and honest?

But that is who this guy is. We have been battle buddies in a lot of the bipartisan efforts that have gone along. He is the reason why some of them passed, quite honestly. Without his support and the support of a handful of others, stuff that has enduring generational value would have never happened.

I would ask everybody here who is thanking MITT ROMNEY for his role model behavior in the times he has been in the Senate and the times that I have known him—the first time I met him was the December before his election, when I was a fairly newly minted legislator—and there is no reason why he would have known me or remembered that meeting. But I have been impressed with him since that moment in Charlotte, NC, when he was running for President—let us go forward and hopefully ask ourselves, as we come together as a nation, as we solve problems that can only be solved by people on both sides of the aisle coming together and taking the heat that comes

along with that, let's ask ourselves over the next 2 or 4 years what would MITT ROMNEY do and let that be a guiding post for those of us who are going to be here who may be put into those situations to do right by this country.

We are going to have one less person in MITT here, but I believe it is in all of us to emulate what MITT has done. I hope that that is a part of the legacy that we will honor as he is gone.

Finally, if you don't know about MITT—I am going to miss him for those reasons. Those are all legitimate reasons to miss MITT, but I am going to miss his fast wit and his ability to just call things quickly. Having a seat mate like that when you are in the middle of vote-arama is gold, folks. Nobody is going to know that except for the conversations we have had back here in the middle of the night.

He is a good man, a good father, a great grandfather.

I know I am not supposed to do this either, but by show of hands, who shares DNA with MITT ROMNEY up there in the Gallery? Yes. Well, congratulations to all of you and the dozens of other family members who have to be hugely proud of MITT ROMNEY. I am.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, we have a vote coming up real quick, so I am going to be very, very, very brief.

First of all, MITT, you have been an incredible U.S. Senator. We are losing some good ones this time around, but you are at the top of the list.

My father was born and raised in Utah, the State that you represent. My father and mother were both really good Democrats. But I am going to tell you that they would have loved MITT ROMNEY. The reason they would have loved MITT ROMNEY is because MITT ROMNEY is a realist, not an idealist; somebody who looks at issues and tries to solve them, tries to get to yes, not to get to no, without giving up his principles.

Your time here in the U.S. Senate, the gift that the good Lord gave to me to work with you and eight other folks besides us on that infrastructure bill, is something that I will never forget in this body. And you stood up time and time again and talked realism to all of us.

As you go out, just know that there is not a soul in here that doesn't know you are a man of faith, and I appreciate that because you exhibit that faith. You don't preach. You walk the walk.

I just want to say, as others have said before, because it is true, the U.S. Senate will be diminished because of your absence. And I appreciate the opportunity to get to know you and work with you and get some stuff done.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wisconsin.

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call be waived.

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

# CLOTURE MOTION

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. 842, Anthony J. Brindisi, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Tammy Duckworth, Ben Ray Lujan, Patty Murray, Alex Padilla, Peter Welch, Jeff Merkley, Richard Blumenthal, Amy Klobuchar, Christopher A. Coons, Debbie Stabenow, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Elizabeth Warren, Margaret Wood Hassan, Jack Reed, Tim Kaine.

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 Anthony J. Brindisi, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York, 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 Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 50, nays 48, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 309 Ex.]

# YEAS—50

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

# NAYS—48

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

# NOT VOTING—2

Sinema Vance

(Mr. HEINRICH assumed the Chair.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO). On this vote, the yeas are 50, the nays are 48.