

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 56, nays 38, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 49 Ex.]

YEAS—56

Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Rounds
Bennet	Hirono	Rubio
Blumenthal	Kaine	Sanders
Booker	Kelly	Schatz
Brown	King	Schumer
Butler	Klobuchar	Scott (FL)
Cantwell	Lujan	Shaheen
Cardin	Manchin	Sinema
Carper	Markey	Smith
Casey	Menendez	Stabenow
Collins	Merkley	Tester
Coons	Murkowski	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Murphy	Warner
Duckworth	Murray	Warnock
Durbin	Ossoff	Warren
Gillibrand	Padilla	Welch
Graham	Peters	Whitehouse
Hassan	Reed	Wyden
Heinrich	Rosen	

NAYS—38

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

NOT VOTING—6

Cramer	Fetterman	Risch
Crapo	Ricketts	Tillis

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HEINRICH). On this vote, the yeas are 56, the nays are 38.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 441 and 442; 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.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the en bloc nominations of Summer K. Mersinger, of South Dakota, to be a Commissioner of

the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for a term expiring April 13, 2028 (Reappointment); and Basil Ivanhoe Gooden, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Ms. SMITH. Mr. 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.

200TH ANNIVERSARY OF ALBION

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the town of Albion, ME. Albion was built with a spirit of determination and resiliency that still guides the community today, and this is a time to celebrate the generations of hard-working and caring people who have made it such a wonderful place to live, work, and raise families.

The date of Albion's incorporation, February 25, 1824, was but one milestone in a long journey of progress. For thousands of years, the Kennebec River Valley was the home of the Abenaki Tribe. The reverence the Abenaki had for the natural beauty and resources of the region is upheld by the people of Albion today.

In 1790, following America's independence, an early village called Free-town was established by Congregational Church minister Daniel Lovejoy with settlers drawn by the fertile soil and abundant forests. The prosperity produced by hard work and determination was invested in schools and churches to create a true community.

In 1802, a son was born to Daniel and Elizabeth Lovejoy who would grow up to become one of the most inspiring and influential figures in American history. A journalist and fervent abolitionist, Elijah Parish Lovejoy founded a newspaper in the slave State of Missouri and fearlessly stood up to repeated threats and attacks. His murder by a pro-slavery mob in 1837 electrified the Nation and strengthened the anti-slavery movement. Since 1952, the prestigious award that bears his name has been presented annually by his alma mater, Colby College, to journalists who demonstrate uncommon courage. In addition, his brother Owen was a leader of the Underground Railroad in Illinois and a close adviser to Abraham Lincoln.

Albion provides an outstanding example of the Maine tradition of people working together. In 1894, construction began on a narrow-gauge railroad to connect cargo ships on the coast to the

crops and lumber produced inland. The line grew town by town and reached its northern terminus at Albion a year later, and for decades, the unique "Maine Two-Footers"—a reference to the reduced width of the locomotives and cars—helped bring prosperity to the region. Today, the Wiscasset, Waterville, and Farmington Railway is a National Heritage Railroad with excursions that keep alive this fascinating era.

That tradition of working together is evident in the energy and planning that are going into Albion's yearlong bicentennial celebration that demonstrates the pride townspeople have in their community. This 200th birthday party is a time to congratulate the people of Albion who have built a great community with a wonderful history and a bright future.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING WELLS HOMETOWN DRUG

• Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize Wells Hometown Drug of Bloomfield, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

Mylo Wells grew up near Bloomfield, IA, on his family dairy farm in Milton. In high school, Mylo had the opportunity to work with his mother, Jana, who is a pharmacist. This experience inspired him to join the industry, and in 2018, Mylo graduated from the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy with a doctorate of pharmacy with the goal to open a pharmacy in his hometown community. When Mylo returned to Bloomfield and learned the local pharmacy had gone out of business, he opened Wells Hometown Drug that same year. Wells Hometown Drug fills a vital role in the area by providing access to critical prescriptions for Bloomfield and surrounding rural residents. In particular, Mylo has worked to develop a relationship with the Amish community and serves them while also respecting their culture. In 2022, Wells Hometown Drug opened a second location in Keosauqua and has grown from a staff of 5 employees to 28 between the two locations.

Wells Hometown Drug also gives back to the community through their Community Rewards Program. The program was established to donate a percentage of Wells Hometown Drug's sales to charities in both the Bloomfield and Keosauqua communities. In the past, they have donated to the Friends of Lake Wapello and Christmas for Kids charity events. In addition to serving his local communities, Mylo Wells served on the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services Medical

Assistance Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee.

Mylo Wells and the team at Wells Hometown Drug have also been awarded for their hard work. In 2022, the Iowa Pharmacy Association named Mylo Wells the Distinguished Young Pharmacist of the Year. Mylo continues to give back to both the pharmacy practitioner-industry and the University of Iowa by hosting University of Iowa College of Pharmacy students for rotations as they pursue their education in the field.

I want to commend Mylo Wells for his hard work and incredible commitment to his local community. Wells Hometown Drug is providing vital pharmacy access for rural Iowans. Congratulations to Mylo Wells and the entire team at Wells Hometown Drug as they continue to achieve the American dream. I look forward to seeing your continued growth and success in Iowa.●

TRIBUTE TO JACK WINSTEAD

● Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, it is an honor to pay tribute to Mr. Jack Winstead who, for years, has shown an overwhelming dedication to serving the Friends of Mississippi Veterans nonprofit as a member and former board president. I have had the honor of knowing Mr. Winstead and seeing firsthand the valuable impact his service has on communities throughout Mississippi. Jack has gone above and beyond the average citizen in honoring our Mississippi veterans, and I have the highest admiration for his work.

Jack's commitment to service and being a positive influence in his community has a significant track record that started long before his appointment as board president of Friends of Mississippi Veterans. A native of Neshoba County, MS, Mr. Winstead received his undergraduate degree in agriculture from Mississippi State University. In addition to being the owner and operator of a purebred beef cattle farm for more than 20 years, he was the past chairman of Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission, vice-chairman of the board of trustees of East Central Community College, and president of Mississippi Association of Conservation Districts. He also served 37 years at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resource Conservation Service, which benefited from Mr. Winstead's profound knowledge on soil and water conservation. Today, Jack is a consultant to the Mississippi Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce and is a board member for multiple organizations.

As a Mississippi Air National Guard veteran, Jack has worked tirelessly to advocate for and help other veterans in Mississippi. He was instrumental in the 2007 founding of the Friends of Mississippi Veterans, which set an initial goal of establishing a veterans cemetery. Thanks to their leadership and hard work, our brave soldiers can now be laid to rest in two beautiful, State-

operated veterans memorial cemeteries in Newton and Kilmichael. Mr. Winstead's work to not only ensure our veterans have a respectful final resting place but also to see to it that their families have a hallowed place to honor their loved ones is truly laudable.

The Friends of Mississippi Veterans has become a crucial voice and support organization for the veterans in my State, particularly those residing in four veterans' nursing homes, where it offers assistance for construction and improvements and helps cover expenses related to the veterans cemeteries. It also actively promotes the Wreaths Across America national program.

Mr. Winstead has time and time again stepped up as a leader in his community. He has shown true commitment and passion for everything he does, and for that, he has earned numerous special recognitions. In 2007, Jack was named to the Southeastern Association of Conservation Districts' Hall of Fame. In 2008, Jack was recognized as Newton County Citizen of the Year, and he was named East Central Community College's Alumnus of the Year the following year.

In conclusion, I am so grateful for Mr. Jack Winstead's years of service to Mississippi and for being able to consider him a dear friend. I applaud him for his many accomplishments and commitment to our veterans, and I commend him for the positive impact that is felt throughout Mississippi thanks to his influence.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:52 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 533. An act to amend the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 to modify certain provisions of that Act.

H.R. 2766. An act to support the human rights of Uyghurs and members of other minority groups residing primarily in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region and safeguard their distinct identity, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3016. An act to amend the Anti-Boycott Act of 2018 to apply the provisions of that Act to international governmental organizations.

H.R. 3202. An act to prohibit any official action to recognize or normalize relations with any Government of Syria that is led by Bashar al-Assad, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4039. An act to prohibit the use of funds supporting any activities within the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of the People's Republic of China.

H.R. 5375. An act to require a strategy for bolstering engagement and cooperation between the United States, Australia, India, and Japan and to seek to establish a Quad Intra-Parliamentary Working Group to facilitate closer cooperation on shared interests and values.

H.R. 5856. An act to reauthorize the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 533. An act to amend the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 to modify certain provisions of that Act; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 2766. An act to support the human rights of Uyghurs and members of other minority groups residing primarily in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region and safeguard their distinct identity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 3016. An act to amend the Anti-Boycott Act of 2018 to apply the provisions of that Act to international governmental organizations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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H.R. 5375. An act to require a strategy for bolstering engagement and cooperation between the United States, Australia, India, and Japan and to seek to establish a Quad Intra-Parliamentary Working Group to facilitate closer cooperation on shared interests and values; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 5856. An act to reauthorize the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-3547. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Raisins Produced from Grapes in California; Temporary Suspension of Continuance Referendum" (Docket No. AMS-SC-23-0007) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 5, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3548. A communication from the Chairman, Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Corporation's Strategic Plan for fiscal years 2024 through 2029; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3549. A communication from the General Counsel, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Cyber Risk Management" (RIN3052-AD53) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 13, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3550. A communication from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "United States Standards for Soybeans" (Docket No. AMS-DA-23-0003; 23-J-0019) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 12, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.