

game. That makes no sense. The NCAA needs to stand up for young women across this country and say: No way. It just makes no sense when we have made that rule.

To fully protect women, Congress needs to pass legislation on this, as I said earlier. We have to pass it. It is the only way it is going to stop because the people out there that have lost their minds are going to continue to force this to happen.

The Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act would prevent a school from receiving Federal funding if it lets boys compete against women. That is the only way we can stop it. It also defines gender as male and female—what an idea, right?

I have seen some of my colleagues on the left voice concerns about this type of language being hate speech: This is hateful to do this. I don't see it that way. What is hateful is allowing women's scholarships and opportunities to be stripped away from their hard work and given to biological boys. I thought we left discrimination against women behind in this country decades ago, but I guess not because here we are in 2025 hanging women and girls out to dry.

Think about it. Are we going to sacrifice the rights of 50 percent of this country for the rights of a small few?

I was deeply disturbed this summer to see the videos of men boxing against women in the Olympics. You know, when I was growing up, I was taught that, hey, you should never hit a girl, but I guess that is OK nowadays. One study found that males can punch 162 percent harder than females. Perhaps that is why you rarely hear about a woman competing in men's sports. It is not politically correct to say, but it is true.

Someday, somebody is going to get seriously injured if we don't do something about this. It is unsafe, it is unfair, and it is downright wrong.

I have heard from countless parents, students, teachers, and coaches all over the country about this issue. It is a huge topic. I bet my Democrat colleagues in blue States have heard the same questions even if they won't admit it.

The American people are on the same page on this, and their verdict is in: They want men out of women's sports and women's locker rooms.

Let's do the right thing. This doesn't have to be a Republican or Democrat issue. This is about standing up for girls and women, which I know my Democrat colleagues also care about. This is long overdue. I hope we can put politics aside, and in about an hour, in 45 minutes, do the right thing and protect women and girls in sports.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The minority leader.

NOMINATION OF LINDA MCMAHON

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, before my colleagues vote on the next vote, Linda McMahon's nomination for Secretary of Education, they should re-

member that a vote for Mrs. McMahon is a vote for draconian cuts to education and rising property taxes for middle-class and suburban American families. That is why I am so proud that every Democrat will vote no to stand up for our schools, for our kids, for our teachers, for public education, and to prevent property taxes from going up further.

Donald Trump is clear. He wants to eliminate the Department and push never-before-seen cuts to public schools. Mrs. McMahon will make that happen. Her whole background is anti-public schools.

When you slash Federal funding for education, it leads to higher taxes back home. So many of our school districts—they could be urban, suburban, or rural—depend on Federal funding, and when you cut that, it leads to higher property taxes to make up for the loss of money. Communities will also be forced to slash other programs, including helping disabled kids, for funding for the schools. This is not what the American people want. This is not what they bargained for.

The Senate should reject Mrs. McMahon because funding cuts for schools, students, parents, and teachers all for the sake of billionaire tax breaks—whose kids probably don't go to public schools—is an awful idea. I am proud every Democrat will vote no.

Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

VOTE ON MCMAHON NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the McMahon nomination?

The yeas and nays were previously ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) and the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 99 Ex.]

YEAS—51

Banks	Crapo	Husted
Barrasso	Cruz	Hyde-Smith
Blackburn	Curtis	Johnson
Boozman	Daines	Justice
Britt	Ernst	Kennedy
Budd	Fischer	Lankford
Cassidy	Graham	Lee
Collins	Grassley	Marshall
Cornyn	Hagerty	McConnell
Cotton	Hawley	McCormick
Cramer	Hoeben	Moody

Moran	Risch	Sullivan
Moreno	Rounds	Thune
Mullin	Schmitt	Tillis
Murkowski	Scott (FL)	Tuberville
Paul	Scott (SC)	Wicker
Ricketts	Sheehy	Young

NAYS—45

Alsobrooks	Heinrich	Peters
Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Rosen
Blumenthal	Kaine	Sanders
Blunt Rochester	Kelly	Schatz
Booker	Kim	Schiff
Cantwell	King	Schumer
Coons	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cortez Masto	Lujan	Smith
Duckworth	Markey	Van Hollen
Durbin	Merkley	Warner
Fetterman	Murphy	Warnock
Gallego	Murray	Warren
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Hassan	Padilla	Wyden

NOT VOTING—4

Capito	Slotkin
Lummis	Welch

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. RICKETTS). 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 Wyoming.

WAIVING QUORUM CALL

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to waive the mandatory quorum call with respect to the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 2, S. 9.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

PROTECTION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SPORTS ACT OF 2025—Motion To Proceed—Resumed

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to legislative session and resume consideration of the following motion, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 2, S. 9, to provide that for purposes of determining compliance with title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 in athletics, sex shall be recognized based solely on a person's reproductive biology and genetics at birth.

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 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 motion to proceed to Calendar No. 2, S.9, a bill to provide that for purposes of determining compliance with title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 in athletics, sex shall be recognized based solely on a person's reproductive biology and genetics at birth.

John Thune, Eric Schmitt, Marsha Blackburn, Joni Ernst, Ted Budd, Katie Britt, David McCormick, Bernie Moreno, Rick Scott of Florida, Tommy

Tuberville, James Lankford, Markwayne Mullin, Jim Justice, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Cynthia M. Lummis, John Barrasso, Mike Rounds.

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 motion to proceed to S. 9, a bill to provide that for purposes of determining compliance with title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 in athletics, sex shall be recognized based solely on a person's reproductive biology and genetics at birth, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO), and the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 51, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 100 Leg.]

YEAS—51

Banks	Graham	Moreno
Barrasso	Grassley	Mullin
Blackburn	Hagerty	Murkowski
Boozman	Hawley	Paul
Britt	Hoeven	Ricketts
Budd	Husted	Risch
Cassidy	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Collins	Johnson	Schmitt
Cornyn	Justice	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cramer	Lankford	Sheehy
Crapo	Lee	Sullivan
Cruz	Marshall	Thune
Curtis	McConnell	Tillis
Daines	McCormick	Tuberville
Ernst	Moody	Wicker
Fischer	Moran	Young

NAYS—45

Alsobrooks	Heinrich	Peters
Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Rosen
Blumenthal	Kaine	Sanders
Blunt Rochester	Kelly	Schatz
Booker	Kim	Schiff
Cantwell	King	Schumer
Coons	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cortez Masto	Lujan	Smith
Duckworth	Markey	Van Hollen
Durbin	Merkley	Warner
Fetterman	Murphy	Warnock
Gallego	Murray	Warren
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Hassan	Padilla	Wyden

NOT VOTING—4

Capito	Slotkin
Lummis	Welch

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MORENO). On this vote, the yeas are 51, the nays are 45.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, the motion is not agreed to.

The motion was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 27.

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 senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Todd Blanche, of Florida, to be Deputy Attorney General.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. 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 senior assistant 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. 27, Todd Blanche, of Florida, to be Deputy Attorney General.

John Thune, Roger Marshall, Tommy Tuberville, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Tim Sheehy, Katie Britt, Tom Cotton, Pete Ricketts, Kevin Cramer, John Barrasso, James Lankford, Rick Scott of Florida, Jon A. Husted, Markwayne Mullin, John R. Curtis, Roger F. Wicker, Bernie Moreno.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume 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.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. 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. JAMES E. RISCH,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: On February 28, 2025, the Secretary of State, pursuant to section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, determined that an emergency exists which requires the immediate sale of the defense articles and defense services identified in the attached transmittals to the Government of Israel through the Foreign Military Sales process, including any further amendment specific to costs, quantity, or requirements occurring within the duration of circumstances giving rise to this emergency sale.

Please find attached (Tab 1) the Secretary of State Determination and Justification waiving the congressional review requirements under Section 36(b)(1) and 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended for the attached lists of transmittals of proposed Letters of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Israel. The determination and detailed justification are a part of each transmittal. 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.

DETERMINATION UNDER SECTION 36(b)(1) OF THE ARMS EXPORT CONTROL ACT

Pursuant to section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, 22 U.S.C. 2776, I hereby determine that an emergency exists which requires the immediate sale through the following foreign military sales cases, including any further amendments specific to the cost, quantity, or requirements of these cases, in the national security interest of the United States:

For Israel:

Bulldozers

Administrative Price Change to Munitions
1,000-lb Warheads and JDAM Kits
2,000-lb Warheads

This determination shall be published in the Federal Register and, along with the accompanying Memorandum of Justification, shall be transmitted to Congress with the applicable notifications.

(U) MEMORANDUM OF JUSTIFICATION FOR EMERGENCY ARMS TRANSFERS TO ISRAEL UNDER SECTION 36(b)(1) OF THE ARMS EXPORT CONTROL ACT

(U) On October 7, Hamas launched the worst attack on Israel since the 1973 Yom Kippur War, firing thousands of rockets, striking civilians and locations as far as Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. Hamas gunmen crossed into Israel, entering towns and communities as far as 15 miles from Gaza, slaughtering men, women, and children. More than 230 hostages were taken and dragged back into Gaza, including U.S. citizens. Hamas' act of terrorism has claimed the lives of nearly 1,200 in Israel, including at least 31 U.S. citizens, and wounded thousands more. The attack was the single deadliest day for the Jewish people since the Holocaust, and it was reminiscent of the worst rampages of ISIS. The following day, the Government of Israel formally declared war on Hamas in accordance with its Basic Law.

(U) Israel has the right to defend itself, and the United States strongly supports Israel taking necessary action to defend its country and protect its people from Hamas terrorists, consistent with international law,