

a bill that is entitled the “HALT Fentanyl Act.” This bill was reported out of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

This is a battle-tested bipartisan bill that passed the House of Representatives with a supermajority of votes, including 98 Democrats voting in favor of the bill. If you have been involved with this issue over the last 3 or 4 or 5 years, you would know that bipartisan fentanyl legislation has been hard to come by. But I am pleased to see that this bill has seven Democratic cosponsors here in the Senate and had nearly half the Democrats in my committee vote in favor of it.

I want to thank all my Democratic colleagues for working with us on such a vital piece of legislation. I think you all know the statistics: About 70,000 of the 100,000 people that die of drug overdose are dying because of fentanyl.

The HALT Fentanyl Act does three things. First, it makes permanent the class scheduling of fentanyl-related substances. This is the same classwide scheduling that occurred during the first Trump administration and has been continued nine times by Congress on a short-term basis. This legislation would eliminate that from time-to-time scheduling of fentanyl analogs, and that is why permanent legislation is so important.

Second, the bill confirms the sentencing penalties the Federal courts have long applied to fentanyl-related substances. And thirdly, the bill creates a streamline registration process for studying schedule I controlled substances.

Classwide scheduling has been a successful policy. It has been a success in stopping the creation of fentanyl-related substances that would have otherwise killed countless Americans.

If you don't believe me, I would like to have you listen to Dr. Tim Westlake. Dr. Westlake is the inventor of the classwide scheduling system the DEA adopted. He came before my committee and testified:

[T]hese efforts have resulted in shutting down the creation and flow and very existence of new fentanyl related substances into the [United States]. It's why Congress must act to finally make permanent this temporary policy.

I began by saying that bipartisan fentanyl legislation has been very hard to come by. I am proud to lead the HALT Fentanyl Act with Senators HEINRICH and CASSIDY. That is one Democrat and one Republican.

Our bill has the support of the leading law enforcement organizations. These 12 organizations have called on us here in the Congress to “advance this critical legislation without delay or modification.”

Our bill also has the support of an organization called Facing Fentanyl. That is a coalition supported by over 200 family groups impacted by fentanyl. They “stand in full support of the HALT Fentanyl Act as it is currently written, without amendments.”

I have also received over 100 individual letters from parents who have lost their children to fentanyl poisoning.

Our bill also has the support of the medical community.

The HALT Fentanyl Act is truly a bipartisan compromise, bringing together stakeholders and Members from across the spectrum.

During the last 4 years, Senate Democrats couldn't be bothered to bring this bill or any other permanent legislation to schedule fentanyl to the floor for a vote, and that was the situation even after HALT passed the House with 74 Democrats voting in favor and even with the Biden administration's coming out in support of the bill—all taking place in the last Congress.

So the time has surely come. This is long overdue legislation, and I urge my colleagues to move to and support this bill. If we can't come together to pass this battle-tested bipartisan legislation, then we will have failed the American people and made the environment for even more people to die of drug overdoses and fentanyl poisoning. We owe it to the hundreds of thousands of families who have lost loved ones to this very poison. We owe it to our constituents. It is time that we found the will to act, and now is that time to act.

I yield the floor.

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

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

WAIVING QUORUM CALLS

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls with respect to the cloture votes on the Chavez-DeRemer nomination and the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 18, S. 331, be waived.

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

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we move to begin the vote right now.

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

VOTE ON EDGAR NOMINATION

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Edgar nomination?

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA),

and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 108 Ex.]

YEAS—53

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

NAYS—43

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

NOT VOTING—4

Kelly	Padilla
Lummis	Sanders

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MORENO). 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 actions.

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 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. 29, Lori Chavez-DeRemer, of Oregon, to be Secretary of Labor.

John Thune, Markwayne Mullin, Cindy Hyde-Smith, John Barrasso, Mike Lee, Katie Britt, Mike Crapo, Bill Hagerty, Steve Daines, Jim Banks, Eric Schmitt, Tommy Tuberville, Chuck Grassley, Ashley B. Moody, Roger Marshall, John R. Curtis, Bernie Moreno.

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 Lori Chavez-DeRemer, of Oregon, to be Secretary of Labor, 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 Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) and the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 66, nays 30, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 109 Ex.]

YEAS—66

Banks	Grassley	Ossoff
Barrasso	Hagerty	Peters
Bennet	Hassan	Ricketts
Blackburn	Hawley	Risch
Boozman	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Britt	Hoeven	Rounds
Budd	Husted	Schiff
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Collins	Justice	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kaine	Shaheen
Cortez Masto	Kennedy	Sheehy
Cotton	Lankford	Slotkin
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Marshall	Thune
Cruz	McConnell	Tillis
Curtis	McCormick	Tuberville
Daines	Moody	Warner
Ernst	Moran	Warnock
Fischer	Moreno	Whitehouse
Gallego	Mullin	Wicker
Graham	Murkowski	Young

NAYS—30

Alsobrooks	Heinrich	Paul
Baldwin	Hirono	Reed
Blumenthal	Kim	Sanders
Blunt Rochester	King	Schatz
Booker	Klobuchar	Schumer
Cantwell	Lujan	Smith
Coons	Markey	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warren
Durbin	Murphy	Welch
Gillibrand	Murray	Wyden

NOT VOTING—4

Fetterman	Lummis
Kelly	Padilla

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 66, the nays are 30.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Lori Chavez-DeRemer, of Oregon, to be Secretary of Labor.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

HALT ALL LETHAL TRAFFICKING OF FENTANYL ACT—Motion to Proceed—Resumed

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to legislative session to resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 331, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 18, S. 331, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes.

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 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 motion to proceed to Calendar No. 18, S. 331, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes.

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 Husted, Markwayne Mullin, John R. Curtis, Roger F. Wicker, Bernie Moreno.

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 Calendar No. 18, S. 331, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) and the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 82, nays 12, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 110 Leg.]

YEAS—82

Alsobrooks	Graham	Murray
Baldwin	Grassley	Ossoff
Banks	Hagerty	Paul
Barrasso	Hassan	Peters
Bennet	Hawley	Reed
Blackburn	Heinrich	Ricketts
Blumenthal	Hickenlooper	Risch
Blunt Rochester	Hoeven	Rosen
Boozman	Husted	Rounds
Britt	Hyde-Smith	Sanders
Budd	Johnson	Schatz
Cantwell	Justice	Schmitt
Capito	Kaine	Schumer
Cassidy	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Collins	Kim	Scott (SC)
Coons	King	Shaheen
Cornyn	Klobuchar	Sheehy
Cortez Masto	Lankford	Slotkin
Cotton	Lee	Smith
Crapo	Lujan	Sullivan
Cruz	Marshall	Thune
Curtis	McConnell	Tillis
Daines	McCormick	Tuberville
Durbin	Moody	Whitehouse
Ernst	Moran	Wicker
Fischer	Moreno	Young
Gallego	Mullin	
Gillibrand	Murkowski	

NAYS—12

Booker	Merkley	Warnock
Duckworth	Murphy	Warren
Hirono	Schiff	Welch
Markey	Van Hollen	Wyden

NOT VOTING—6

Cramer	Kelly	Padilla
Fetterman	Lummis	Warner

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BUDD). On this vote, the yeas are 82, the nays are 12.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, I am a big Boston Red Sox fan, and one of the most famous players in Red Sox recent history is Manny Ramirez. Manny Ramirez was a good baseball player, but he had a habit of doing some pretty ridiculous things on the field and off the field that were really detrimental to the team, some really bizarre on-field behavior—cutting off throws from other outfielders before they got to the infield—and bizarre off-the-field behavior. It disrupted the team.

It became so regular that a phrase was adopted amongst the Red Sox fans: “That is just Manny being Manny.” And over the years, it just was accepted that every year, Manny Ramirez was going to do a whole bunch of stuff that was really detrimental to the team, and over time, it just kind of became accepted that that was a fact of life, a way of life with Manny Ramirez. As time went on, people reacted with less hostility. It barely got noticed in some cases when he was engaged in these detrimental forms of conduct.

I tell that story because it stands for kind of a universal concept. When bad behavior gets normalized, it no longer feels like bad behavior even if that behavior is hurting people.

Today, the world is littered with corrupt governments, governments where the leaders and the really rich men who surround the leaders—the oligarchs—they steal from people. That is what they do. The leaders and the leaders' friends just keep a hand constantly in the government treasury, and they steal taxpayer dollars. They rig the rules of the economy in order to make themselves fabulously rich. They hurt the citizens of those countries.

Vladimir Putin, for instance, has never had a job outside of government, but he is reportedly worth \$200 billion. One of his many houses cost \$1.4 billion to build. Supposedly, the landscaping costs on an annual basis for that house are \$2 million alone. That \$1.4 billion house was paid for by money he stole from the Russian treasury. In other words, he stole it from the Russian people.

Putin and his friends have been doing it for so long and doing it so openly and brazenly—Putin, for instance, wears a watch that retails for half a million dollars even though his official