

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. BARRASSO. 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. 38, Michael Kratsios, of South Carolina, to be Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

John Thune, Tim Sheehy, Mike Crapo, Markwayne Mullin, Joni Ernst, David McCormick, Rick Scott of Florida, Bernie Moreno, Mike Rounds, Tommy Tuberville, Katie Britt, Shelley Moore Capito, Jim Justice, John Barrasso, Steve Daines, Jon Husted.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 44.

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 Jayanta Bhattacharya, of California, to be Director of the National Institutes of Health.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. BARRASSO. 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. 44, Jayanta Bhattacharya, of California, to be Director of the National Institutes of Health.

John Thune, Tim Scott of South Carolina, Ashley B. Moody, Ted Budd, Tommy Tuberville, Jim Justice, James Lankford, Steve Daines, Ron Johnson, Josh Hawley, John R. Curtis, Tim Sheehy, Marsha Blackburn, David McCormick, Katie Britt, Todd Young, Cindy Hyde-Smith.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 45.

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 Martin Makary, of Virginia, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. BARRASSO. 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. 45, Martin Makary, of Virginia, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services.

John Thune, Tim Sheehy, Mike Crapo, Markwayne Mullin, Joni Ernst, David McCormick, Rick Scott of Florida, Bernie Moreno, Mike Rounds, Tommy Tuberville, Katie Britt, Shelley Moore Capito, Jim Justice, John Barrasso, Steve Daines, Jon Husted.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 39.

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 James Bishop, of North Carolina, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. BARRASSO. 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. 39, James Bishop, of North Carolina, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

John Thune, Tim Sheehy, Mike Crapo, Markwayne Mullin, Joni Ernst, David McCormick, Rick Scott of Florida, Bernie Moreno, Mike Rounds, Tommy Tuberville, Katie Britt, Shelley Moore Capito, Jim Justice, John Barrasso, Steve Daines, Jon Husted.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 48.

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 Aaron Reitz, of Texas, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. BARRASSO. 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. 48, Aaron Reitz, of Texas, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

John Thune, Chuck Grassley, James Lankford, Tim Scott of South Carolina, Ashley B. Moody, Ted Budd, Tommy Tuberville, Jim Justice, Steve Daines, Ron Johnson, Josh Hawley, John R. Curtis, Tim Sheehy, Marsha Blackburn, David McCormick, Mike Lee, Rick Scott of Florida.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume legislative session and be in a period of morning business for debate

only, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

HALT FENTANYL ACT

• Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I voted today against final passage of the HALT Fentanyl Act because of the unintended consequences that could have been corrected by amendments that were blocked by the majority. Our Nation and my State of Maryland are experiencing a crisis with synthetic opioids like fentanyl and related drugs, and I strongly support action to combat drug trafficking and prevent overdoses. We need public health solutions that will help American families and our communities, but instead, the bill before us could lead to harmful unintended consequences, including limiting the potential for less addictive pain therapies and treatments like Naloxone that could prevent and reverse overdose. It also expands mandatory minimums, which increase incarceration but do not reduce crime, and applies them to a broad class of drugs regardless of their actual physiological effects, so that someone could be incarcerated for a decade or more for drugs that are effectively harmless.

My colleagues Senators BOOKER and WARNOCK put forward amendments to correct flaws in the bill, and Senator HASSAN filed an amendment to address substance use disorders and prevent overdose. However, because those amendments were blocked, I could not support passage of this legislation. I hope we can take future action to address the public health opioid and fentanyl crisis and that my colleagues who claim to care about this issue do not slash dollars for Medicaid and substance use disorder treatment programs that are a lifeline to so many American families.●

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE GANGPLANK

• Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, as a member and former chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each month I recognize and celebrate the American entrepreneurial spirit by highlighting the success of a small business in my home State of Idaho. Today, I am pleased to honor The Gangplank as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for March 2025.

Newell and Carol Walker opened The Gangplank in 1970 in Idaho Falls. Originally named Arthur Treacher's Fish and Chips, the restaurant was part of a national chain that ceased operation in the early 1980s. After an incident that knocked over the restaurant's marquee sign, the pair renamed the seafood joint to The Gangplank in 1982. When Newell decided to retire in 2002, he sold the businesses to Jeff and Sharlene

Croney, who took over the restaurant with their then-teenage son Jason.

Twenty-three years later, Jason is now co-owner of The Gangplank, bringing new ideas to the business and becoming an integral part of the restaurant's success. In 2022, Jeff and Jason purchased a mobile food truck to serve more southeast Idahoans during the summer months. The Croneys also have big plans to expand The Gangplank's operations in Pocatello, open a second Idaho Falls location, and launch an additional food truck for catering services. This family-owned business hopes a third generation of Croneys carry on The Gangplank legacy for another 55 years and beyond.

The Gangplank has been an established and reputable name in the Idaho Falls community over the last half-century. The restaurant sponsors and donates to local fundraising and charity events, including Boy Scouts of America, Festival of Trees, and the Distinguished Young Women program. The Croneys also support and encourage staff to seek further education at all of Idaho's local colleges and universities.

Congratulations to the Croneys and all of the employees at The Gangplank on their selection as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for March 2025. Thank you for serving Idaho as small business owners and entrepreneurs. You make our great State proud, and I look forward to your continued growth and success.●

TRIBUTE TO ADRIK FISHER

• Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, today I recognize Adrik Fisher, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all the hard work he has done on behalf of my office and the State of South Dakota. Mr. Fisher is originally from New Underwood, SD. He is currently attending Patrick Henry College, where he studies American politics and policy. Mr. Fisher is a dedicated and diligent individual who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience. He has been a true asset to my office. I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Mr. Fisher for all of the work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO NORA WINCKLER

• Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, today I recognize Nora Winckler, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all the hard work she has done on behalf of my office and the State of South Dakota. Ms. Winckler is a graduate of Scotland High School in Scotland, SD. She is currently attending Augustana University, where she studies government and international affairs, English, and journalism. Ms. Winckler is a dedicated and diligent individual who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience. She has been a true asset to my office. I extend my

sincere thanks and appreciation to Ms. Winckler for all of the work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF PREVENTED

• Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, I rise today to honor PreventEd in St. Louis, MO, for 60 years of reducing and preventing the harms of alcohol and other drug use.

As our country reels from the devastating effects of drug and alcohol abuse, our Nation's young people must be educated about the dangers of these addictive substances. Founded on March 16, 1965, PreventEd has been dedicated to education, intervention, and advocacy to reduce the abuse of alcohol and other drugs in eastern Missouri. Their key focus areas include school-based prevention education and early intervention efforts for K-12 programming, peer support provided by certified peer specialists to address substance abuse, assessment and referral services, community coalitions, and advocacy to provide a voice to Missourians who have been impacted by substance misuse with Federal, State, and local government and their agencies. PreventEd realizes that drug and alcohol abuse have effects on individuals and society, and both components must be addressed to substantially mitigate the devastating effects like overdose deaths, chronic health problems, family dysfunction, and involvement in crime.

When I served as Attorney General of Missouri, I sued pharmaceutical giants over their role in the opioid crisis. Missouri received \$458 million as part of that settlement which went to fund drug treatment and prevention programs. Organizations like PreventEd have stood in the gap to ensure that young people are fully aware of drug misuse and have the proper resources for recovery. In their 60 years, they have served over 55,000 young people and more than 200,000 community members in the eastern region of Missouri. I am proud of the work they do and wish them continued success as they persevere in the important work of curbing alcohol and drug abuse in eastern Missouri.●

TRIBUTE TO CARLOS AND JANELLE BERUFF

• Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I rise to congratulate Carlos and Janelle Beruff of Bradenton, FL, on their 15th wedding anniversary. Over the years, my wife Ann and I have had the privilege of becoming friends with Carlos and Janelle. Together, they have built a beautiful family and are the proud parents of two children. Carlos and Janelle are an example of what it means to be Floridians. Following success in business, they have contributed tremendously to their community. They know the challenges so