

in interpretation that had the effect of worsening the problem by further lengthening the time it takes for applicants from most countries to receive their employment-based visas.

Although some progress has been made as a result of our efforts, a true and lasting fix requires an act of Congress.

I want to be clear that our bill is carefully tailored. It is extremely narrow. It does not change any requirement or bars to obtaining an employment-based visa. It does not allow entry for any person who is not already permitted under the law to enter the United States. Religious workers would continue to face the same vetting and other requirements that are applicable to other noncitizens who are seeking to work in our country.

Let me also emphasize that there is no doubt that our country has faced an illegal immigration crisis, but that is not what we are talking about here. We are talking about people who have lawfully entered the United States under a religious worker visa, and we simply provide a tailored, carefully crafted solution for those who are lawfully present in our country and serving our churches, our parishes, our synagogues—our religious organizations. They are of many different faiths, and they have developed important ties to their communities.

As we have highlighted in a letter that we sent to the Secretaries of State and Homeland Security, these employees provide basic necessities to those in need. They care for and minister to the sick and dying in hospitals. They work with adolescents and young adults to help them. They counsel those who have suffered severe trauma and hardship. They serve as educators and mentors, and they are critical as faith leaders.

Surely, this is one area where we should be able to come together as Republicans and Democrats and do something worthwhile, something that will have a real-world impact in communities across this country.

The broad support for this effort is shown by the many organizations of different faiths that have endorsed our legislation.

I urge my colleagues to support our efforts so that we can allow much needed religious workers to continue their ministry and their service in communities all across America.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Elbridge Colby, of the District of Columbia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

VOTE ON COLBY NOMINATION.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will

the Senate advise and consent to the Colby nomination?

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. McCORMICK).

The result was announced—yeas 54, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 193 Ex.]

YEAS—54

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

NAYS—45

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

NOT VOTING—1

McCormick

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CURTIS). 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 Montana.

WAIVING QUORUM CALL

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to waive the mandatory quorum call with respect to the Glass nomination.

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

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 assistant bill 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. 54, George

Glass, of Oregon, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Japan.

John Thune, Pete Ricketts, Katie Boyd Britt, Markwayne Mullin, Jim Justice, Ted Budd, Jim Banks, Mike Crapo, John Hoeven, Bill Hagerty, Mike Rounds, Josh Hawley, Todd Young, Bernie Moreno, Cindy Hyde-Smith, James E. Risch, John Barrasso.

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 George Glass, of Oregon, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Japan, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. McCORMICK).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 67, nays 32, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 194 Ex.]

YEAS—67

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

NAYS—32

Alsobrooks	Hirono	Schatz
Baldwin	Kim	Schiff
Blumenthal	Lujan	Schumer
Blunt Rochester	Markey	Slotkin
Booker	Merkley	Smith
Cantwell	Murphy	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Murray	Warren
Durbin	Ossoff	Welch
Fetterman	Padilla	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Peters	Wyden
Heinrich	Sanders	

NOT VOTING—1

McCormick

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 67, the nays are 32.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant bill clerk read the nomination of George Glass, of Oregon, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Japan.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, I ask for consent to speak for 5 minutes.

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

TRIBUTE TO CAMERON RICKER

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a true public servant, Cameron Ricker, the chief clerk of Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee, who is leaving the Senate after 8 years. And I am glad to recognize today Cameron's loving family, who is here in the Gallery: his wife Zaida, his daughter Zona, and his parents Don and Peggy, who flew all the way from Idaho to be here with us, as well as current and former banking staff.

It is not an exaggeration to say that Cameron is the backbone of the Senate Banking Committee. As chief clerk, Cameron is the person who makes sure that hearings go off without a hitch; that we are able to review paperwork from White House nominees and to fulfill our constitutional duty to advise and consent on Presidential appointments; that we are able to mark up important legislation. In short, Cameron is the reason that the Banking Committee can do the work of the Banking Committee.

I would like to ask for permission to bring Cameron to the floor while I finish my remarks.

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

Ms. WARREN. Thank you.

Can you join us, Cameron?

Cameron demonstrates public service at its very best. The role of the chief clerk on the Banking Committee is nonpartisan. A chief clerk serves both the majority and minority fairly and equally. To this day, I don't know if anyone could tell you what party Cameron belongs to and how he votes—and that is no small feat in today's Washington. All we know is that he approaches his work with the utmost professionalism, competence, and kindness every single day.

Need to know the answer to some arcane rule in the committee handbook? Cameron's your guy. Need to know how many people are in the hearing room at any given moment so your boss doesn't miss their question time? Ask Cameron. Need some help brokering peace with the chairman's team across the hallway? Go to Cameron again.

I am personally very grateful for Cameron's support in the early months of my tenure as ranking member of this committee. He spent hours meeting with my staff to make sure that they were prepared for new decisions and responsibilities, impressing every single one of them with his preparation, his thoughtfulness, and his commitment to public service.

Generations of Senators and staff who have served on the Banking Committee have been inspired by Cameron's work ethic, hypercompetence, and religious devotion to his favorite pen.

It is a Zebra F-701, for those of you who are wondering.

Cameron is humble and hard-working, but don't let his humility fool you. He is also a trailblazer. At the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, no one knew how the Senate was going to conduct its committee business. How the heck was an institution that was still firmly stuck in the 18th century supposed to hold hearings or mark up legislation when it was dangerous for people even to be in a room together? Cameron was the first to figure it out. And thanks to his persistence, the Banking Committee was the first in the Senate to hold a virtual hearing during the pandemic, laying out the roadmap for every other committee to follow.

My respect for Cameron is broadly shared. I want to read quotes that two recent leaders of the Banking Committee sent to me—one Democrat, one Republican—so that we can hear in their own words how much Cameron has meant to the Banking Committee.

Former chairman Sherrod Brown said:

Cameron Ricker served 8 years on the Banking and Housing Committee, 6 of those years as chief clerk when I was Chairman and Ranking Member. The committee couldn't have asked for a more fair, hard-working, and forward thinking colleague during a time full of transitions and challenges. We were lucky to serve with him and wish Cameron and his family all the best in the next chapter.

Then there is former ranking member Pat Toomey, who said:

Cameron Ricker's departure from the Banking Committee is a huge loss for the Senate. For over 8 years, he's gracefully kept the trains running on time at the committee, which is no easy feat. And he's always done it with a smile. As Ranking Member, I observed firsthand Cameron's can-do spirit, [his] tireless work ethic, and [his] attention to detail. He was invaluable to me, my staff, and the entire committee. I thank him for his dedicated service in the Senate and wish him and his family all the best as he starts the next chapter of his professional career.

I want to close with a story about Cameron that is close to my heart.

Marking up legislation is one of the most important things any Senate committee does. What people may not know is how much work it is behind the scenes and especially how much work it is for Cameron and his team on Banking.

By tradition, the Banking Committee requires that any member wishing to file an amendment to legislation being considered in a markup print out 50 copies of that amendment, sign each one, and drop the stack off to Cameron's office by 4 p.m. and not a second later lest Cameron nicely slam the door in your face.

In a markup last Congress, before I was the ranking member, my office had an army of outstanding interns racing stacks of amendments over to Cameron as fast as the printer would shoot out the 50 pages so that we could get them in before 4 p.m., the deadline.

Drop off a stack of amendments to Cameron; run back to my office; pick up the next batch; run back to Cameron—over and over and over again.

It was the middle of the summer, and let's just be blunt: There was a lot of sweat. Cameron offered them kindness and encouragement the entire way, and they were deeply touched.

When our interns ferried over the last batch just in the nick of time, they sheepishly asked Cameron for a photo. Cameron obliged, and that picture of sweaty people who were committed to getting their jobs done on behalf of the American people has been hanging in our office ever since.

Work on the Banking Committee can be difficult, maybe even more than on other committees. Democrats' and Republicans' views on the issues under the committee's jurisdiction are often diametrically opposed. Things get heated, and sometimes they get personal. But Cameron is a demonstration of decency and exemplary nonpartisan public service. He has made the Banking Committee better, and I am grateful for his service to the committee and to our country.

Cameron, we will miss you. Best wishes to you and your family on your next adventure.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the previous order with respect to the scheduled recess be modified so that the Senate reconvene at 2 p.m.; further, that notwithstanding rule XXII, all postcloture time on the Glass nomination expire at 2 p.m. today and the Senate vote on confirmation of the Glass nomination.

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

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 1:18 p.m., recessed until 2 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mrs. BRITT).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

VOTE ON GLASS NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Glass nomination?

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Mrs. DUCKWORTH) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 66, nays 32, as follows: