

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. 80, David Perdue, of Georgia, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the People's Republic of China.

John Thune, Jim Justice, Ted Cruz, Bernie Moreno, Jon A. Husted, Steve Daines, Josh Hawley, Marsha Blackburn, John R. Curtis, Tommy Tuberville, Tim Sheehy, Pete Ricketts, Joni Ernst, James E. Risch, Mike Rounds, Tim Scott of South Carolina, Eric Schmitt.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. THUNE. 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. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 77.

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 legislative clerk read the nomination of Warren Stephens, of Arkansas, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

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. 77, Warren Stephens, of Arkansas, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

John Thune, Jim Justice, Ted Cruz, Bernie Moreno, Jon A. Husted, Steve Daines, John R. Curtis, Tommy Tuberville, Tim Sheehy, Pete Ricketts, Joni Ernst, James E. Risch, Mike Rounds, Tim Scott of South Carolina, Eric Schmitt, Katie Boyd Britt, John Barrasso.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. THUNE. 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. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 78.

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 legislative clerk read the nomination of Thomas Barrack, of Colorado, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Turkey.

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. 78, Thomas Barrack, of Colorado, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Turkey.

John Thune, Jim Justice, Ted Cruz, Bernie Moreno, Jon A. Husted, Steve Daines, John R. Curtis, Tommy Tuberville, Tim Sheehy, Pete Ricketts, Joni Ernst, James E. Risch, Mike Rounds, Tim Scott of South Carolina, Eric Schmitt, Katie Boyd Britt, John Barrasso.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. THUNE. 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. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 79.

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 legislative clerk read the nomination of Tilman Fertitta, of Texas, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Italian Republic, and to

serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of San Marino.

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. 79, Tilman Fertitta, of Texas, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Italian Republic, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of San Marino.

John Thune, Jim Justice, Ted Cruz, Bernie Moreno, Jon A. Husted, Steve Daines, John R. Curtis, Tommy Tuberville, Tim Sheehy, Pete Ricketts, Joni Ernst, James E. Risch, Mike Rounds, Tim Scott of South Carolina, Eric Schmitt, Katie Boyd Britt, John Barrasso.

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.

REMEMBERING RABBI MENACHEM M. SCHNEERSON

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize the life and leadership of Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, known as "the Rebbe," the head of the Chabad-Lubavitch movement.

For almost half a century, every U.S. President has proclaimed the Rebbe's birthday as Education and Sharing Day in recognition of his unwavering commitment to improving education for all people.

Throughout his decades of dedicated service and leadership, the Rebbe emphasized that education must go beyond the transfer of knowledge. It must instill the values essential for living a meaningful life, nurturing moral character, and contributing to the betterment of both individuals and society as a whole.

The Rebbe held a deep appreciation for America's unique role as the world's superpower, and he maintained meaningful relationships with many national leaders, who saw him as a

moral guide. He often pointed to the words “In God We Trust” enshrined on our currency—which is also inscribed above the doorway into the Senate Chamber—as a reflection of the American story, a nation founded on faith and moral responsibility. For the Rebbe, America was not just a great country but a beacon of light with the historical potential to inspire renewed moral clarity among all of humanity.

Under his visionary leadership, Chabad-Lubavitch became the largest Jewish educational organization and the fastest growing Jewish movement in the world. Today, there are more than 5,000 Chabad-Lubavitch centers offering educational, religious, and humanitarian services in 103 countries and in all 50 States, including in my home State of South Dakota.

The Rebbe envisioned a world at peace. He exemplified how humanity—through moral education, acts of kindness, and charitable deeds—can bring about the prophetic era when “swords are turned into plowshares” and peace and prosperity flourish across the earth.

On the Rebbe’s birthday, it is fitting that we recommit ourselves to his legacy and teachings, striving to live with greater compassion, deeper purpose, and a shared sense of responsibility for the good of all.

RECOGNIZING NATRONA COUNTY CDC’S ART A LA CARTE GALA

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the Child Development Center of Natrona County as it celebrates the 25th anniversary of its largest fundraiser, the Kids’ Art a la Carte Gala.

On May 3, 2025, the Natrona County Child Development Center will host its annual fundraiser at the Ford Wyoming Center in Casper, WY. Proceeds from this special event go directly toward supporting the CDC’s services and programming. It is a wonderful opportunity for the community to share its support for the CDC’s important mission: providing premiere, family-focused, developmentally appropriate services for Wyoming’s kids.

The child development center opened its doors in 1967. Over the years, the CDC has helped to ensure that the social, developmental, and educational needs of the children in our communities are being met. Today, this organization, led by executive director Alisha Rone, serves close to 700 children each year. Its team of 120 individuals provide support, advice, and—when needed—intervention to parents and their children.

The CDC’s early intervention services are key to ensuring the lifelong success of our children. Offering free screenings and educational materials, the CDC provides children in Natrona County with a solid foundation. The center’s certified teachers and therapists help provide a plan tailored to every child and their needs. Its accred-

ited preschool prepares kids ages three through five for kindergarten.

For children who need extra assistance, there is the CDC+ program. In addition to providing speech, occupational, and physical therapies, the program offers audiology services and reading coaching.

The teachers, therapists, support staff, and leadership continue demonstrating selflessness and compassion. This year, the CDC received the Daniels Fund Medal of Excellence and a \$250,000 grant. The grant will fund its continued operations and expansion of its services at no cost to participating families.

Providing the excellent service the CDC is known for takes a team of talented people. This team includes the CDC’s senior leadership, board of directors, foundation board, and dedicated employees. The Child Development Center’s Senior Leadership team includes: Alisha Rone, executive director; Lori Kapeles, program director; Jan Hinz, special education director; Geoff Dean, finance director; Shannon Hillibush, human resources director; and Renate Pullen, compliance director.

Members of the CDC Board of Directors are: Bryce Row, president; Michelle Larsen, vice president; Patricia Cloud, treasurer; Anna Birch DeWitt; Tayla Trujillo; Ally Orr; Nikki Hawley; Scott Wells; Tony Hager; Bobby Pickle; Brad Diller; and Fleur Tremel.

Those serving on the CDC Foundation Board include: Mark Zaback, chairman; Jeff Bishop, treasurer; Robyn Landen; Shannon Orr; Peter Van Houten; Pete Fazio; Isaac Swanson; Dave Dundas; and Alisha Rone.

Mr. President, it is an honor celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Child Development Center of Natrona County’s annual Kids Art A La Carte Gala. The positive impact the CDC has made on the families and children of our community is genuinely remarkable. I offer my appreciation for all those who support the CDC. Your efforts ensure children in Wyoming have a strong foundation to prepare them for a lifetime of success.

REMEMBERING ROYCE POLLARD

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, Mayor Royce Pollard, a dedicated public servant and champion for Vancouver, WA, passed away on February 24, 2025.

Before his time in local government, Mayor Pollard led a distinguished career in the U.S. Army that included two tours during the Vietnam war. During his nearly 27 years in the military, he attained the rank of lieutenant colonel and numerous awards and decorations, including the Bronze Star for Valor, Purple Heart, Expert Infantryman’s Badge, and Combat Infantryman’s Badge during his time in Vietnam. His final post was at the Vancouver Barracks, where he retired as commander in 1988. His dedication to

public service was immediately on display as he joined the Vancouver City Council the following year, beginning a 21-year career serving the citizens of the city of Vancouver.

Mayor Pollard served on the city council for 7 years and then as mayor for 14 years. During his tenure, Mayor Pollard revitalized Vancouver’s downtown core, transforming it into a vibrant center of community and commerce. The revived Esther Short Park and the beautiful waterfront development stand as enduring symbols of his bold leadership and love of community. He also oversaw the annexation of the Vancouver Mall, the creation of the Hilton Hotel and Convention Center project, and the historic Cascade Park annexation.

Mayor Pollard was a proud champion of “America’s Vancouver,” a move to make the city distinct from Portland, OR, just across the river. He was so committed to the cause that when he smashed two Portland-themed mugs sold in Vancouver at a coffee shop, newspapers around the Pacific Northwest ran the story. In Washington, DC, he was known to talk to people unfamiliar with his city and tout its many attributes. Even after his tenure as mayor, he continued to help the community grow and thrive by serving on 22 different city boards.

He was a strong and vocal advocate for civic duty, serving one another, and honoring those who serve their communities. His contributions have left a lasting impact on the city, cementing its place as a vibrant and forward-thinking community.

My heart goes out to the mayor’s family, friends, and all who had the honor of knowing and working alongside him. I was proud to work with him on behalf of his community, and he will be missed. His life’s work will be felt by generations to come.

In honor of Royce’s life and legacy, I respectfully submit this statement to the RECORD.

TRIBUTE TO DOW CONSTANTINE

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and commend the distinguished public service of King County executive Dow Constantine, who concludes 16 years of exemplary leadership at the helm of King County government.

Since first taking office in 2009, Executive Constantine has dedicated himself to the advancement of King County and the well-being of its more than 2 million residents. Over the course of four terms, he has consistently demonstrated a profound commitment to public service, principled leadership, and effective governance.

Under his tenure, King County emerged as a national leader in environmental sustainability, public health innovation, and equity-focused policymaking. Executive Constantine spearheaded ambitious initiatives to combat climate change, expand regional transit, preserve open space, and reform the