

Whereas, in communities across the United States, individuals are changing the way they care for their health by avoiding tobacco use, eating healthier, increasing physical activity, and preventing unintentional injuries at home and in the workplace; and

Whereas efforts to adequately support public health and the prevention of disease and injury can continue to transform a health system focused on treating illness into a health system focused on preventing disease and injury and promoting wellness: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Public Health Week;

(2) recognizes the efforts of public health professionals, the Federal Government, States, Tribes, municipalities, local communities, and individuals in preventing disease and injury;

(3) recognizes the role of public health in—

(A) preventing and responding to infectious disease outbreaks, such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the ongoing measles outbreak;

(B) mitigating the short-term and long-term impacts of infectious disease outbreaks on the health and wellness of individuals in the United States;

(C) addressing social and other determinants of health, including health disparities experienced by minority populations; and

(D) improving the overall health of individuals and communities in the United States;

(4) encourages increased efforts and resources to—

(A) improve the health of individuals in the United States; and

(B) make the United States, in 1 generation, the healthiest Nation in the world by—

(i) providing greater opportunities to improve community health and prevent disease and injury; and

(ii) strengthening the public health system and workforce in the United States; and

(5) encourages the people of the United States to learn about the role of the public health system in improving health across the United States.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I have six requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 8 a.m., to receive testimony in open and closed session.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 10:10 a.m., to conduct an open session hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the

Senate on Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 10 a.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 10 a.m., to consider pending nominations.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 10:15 a.m., to conduct an executive business meeting.

NOTICE: REGISTRATION OF MASS MAILINGS

The filing date for the 2025 first quarter Mass Mailing report is Friday, April 25, 2025. An electronic option is available on Webster that will allow forms to be submitted via a fillable PDF document. If your office did no mass mailings during this period, please submit a form that states "none."

Mass mailing registrations or negative reports can be submitted electronically at http://webster.senate.gov/secretary/mass_mailing_form.htm or e-mailed to OPR_MassMailings@sec.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact the Senate Office of Public Records at (202) 224-0322.

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following resolutions, which are at the desk: S. Res. 175, S. Res. 176, S. Res. 177, S. Res. 178, S. Res. 179, and S. Res. 180.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to; the preambles be agreed to; and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

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

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL IN THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER FOR A CEREMONY TO PRESENT THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDALS AWARDED UNDER THE 'SIX TRIPLE EIGHT' CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT OF 2021

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H. Con. Res. 22, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 22) authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony to present the Congressional Gold Medals awarded under the 'Six Triple Eight' Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2021.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 22) was agreed to.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, before I lock in and ask consent to recess the Senate until later this evening, I would also say, for the benefit of my colleagues, that we are scheduled to have four votes starting at 1 a.m. In order to expedite those votes, we are going to make them 15-minute votes, so Members should be prepared to get here for the 1 o'clock vote and then proceed quickly through the remaining votes in 15-minute increments.

RECESS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate recess until 1 a.m.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 5:50 p.m., recessed until 1 a.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. HAGERTY).

LEGISLATIVE SESSION—Continued

NOMINATION OF LT. GEN. JOHN D. CAINE

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise to discuss the nomination of Lt. Gen. Dan Caine to be Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. I am glad that we will soon be voting on this nominee.

The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs is one of, if not the, most important positions in the U.S. military. The Chairman serves as the principal military adviser to the President, the National Security Council, the Secretary of Defense, and Congress. They are expected

to be an unparalleled strategist, adviser, and manager, and their counsel is invaluable as we confront the multitude of national security issues before us.

General Caine testified before the Armed Services Committee last week and represented himself well. He has had a distinguished career in the Air Force and the Air National Guard as an F-16 pilot with thousands of flight hours and multiple combat deployments. He has also served in senior leadership roles at the Pentagon, the White House, and overseas, including in the special operations and intelligence communities. If confirmed, General Caine would be the first career National Guard officer to serve as the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

I appreciate General Caine's record of service and thank him for stepping forward to lead once again. However, we must be clear about the unprecedented circumstances that led to General Caine's nomination. Two months ago, President Trump abruptly dismissed Gen. CQ Brown, who was not even halfway into his tenure as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Secretary of Defense Hegseth also dismissed several other senior officers, including ADM Lisa Franchetti, the Chief of Naval Operations; Gen. James Slife, the Air Force Vice Chief of Staff; Gen. Jennifer Short, the senior military adviser to the Secretary; and all three Judge Advocates General for the Army, Navy, and Air Force. Last week, President Trump dismissed Gen. Timothy Haugh, the Commander of U.S. Cyber Command and Director of the National Security Agency, at the urging of Laura Loomer, a fringe conspiracy theorist. And on Monday, we learned that Secretary Hegseth had dismissed VADM Shoshana Chatfield, the U.S. Military Representative to NATO.

To this day, no credible explanation has been given for the dismissal of a single one of these officers.

We cannot pretend that this is normal or acceptable behavior by the Commander in Chief and Defense Secretary. One by one, they are purging officers, threatening others, and undermining the fundamental principles of our military.

I will speak more about this later, but I am deeply concerned that these officers were dismissed for political reasons. I have long warned about the dangers of firing military servicemembers as a political loyalty test, and I will continue to sound the alarm about this behavior. I must say that the silence from my Republican friends on this issue is very troubling. Even as Republicans vote to confirm General Caine, I hope they recognize the dangerous message that President Trump and Secretary Hegseth are sending throughout the ranks: Don't speak your mind or give your best military advice, or you may face consequences. I urge my Republican colleagues to join me in demanding an explanation from the President and Defense Secretary.

I would take a moment to salute Gen. CQ Brown, who served this Nation honorably for more than four decades and led the Joint Chiefs with dedication and skill. He and each of the officers who were dismissed had outstanding careers in the military and represented our Nation with great courage, honor, and distinction. We owe all of them a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

We are fortunate that General Caine understands the fraught situation within which he has been nominated to be Chairman of the Joint Chiefs. During his hearing, General Caine repeatedly agreed that the military must remain apolitical. When he was asked how he would guard against politicization of the military, General Caine said, "It starts with being a good example from the top and making sure that we are nonpartisan and apolitical and speaking the truth to power every day."

I was also relieved by General Caine's response to my question about President Trump's claim that that he once said he "loved" President Trump and would "kill" for him while donning a "Make America Great Again" hat. During the hearing, General Caine categorically denied that this incident happened and stated, "I've never worn any political merchandise or said anything to that effect."

As the Nation's seniormost military officer, it will be his responsibility to understand the needs of America's servicemembers and to be their greatest advocate. If confirmed, he will be the most visible military officer in the Nation. It will be critical for him to represent the force with total professionalism and trustworthiness. In my conversations with General Caine and after speaking with those who know him best, I have found him to be an honest, smart, and principled military officer. He understands the momentous national security challenges we face and has pledged to represent our servicemembers with professionalism and discipline.

Ultimately, I am optimistic that General Caine will provide his best military advice to the President and the Secretary of Defense, even if that advice not what they would want to hear. The Senate Armed Services Committee approved his nomination by a wide, bipartisan margin, and I intend to vote in favor of General Caine now.

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. 75, the fol-

lowing named officer for appointment to the permanent grade indicated in the Regular Air Force under the United States Constitution, article II, section 2, clause 2: to be Major General, Lt. Gen. John D. Caine (Retired).

John Thune, John R. Curtis, Mike Rounds, John Cornyn, Ted Budd, Kevin Cramer, John Hoeven, John Barrasso, Joni Ernst, Markwayne Mullin, Tom Cotton, Pete Ricketts, Dan Sullivan, Tommy Tuberville, Todd Young, Roger F. Wicker, John Boozman.

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 the following named officer for appointment to the permanent grade indicated in the Regular Air Force under the United States Constitution, article II, section 2, clause 2: to be Major General, Lt. Gen. John D. Caine (Retired), 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 Tennessee (Mr. BLACKBURN), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS), and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 59, nays 25, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 210 Leg.]

YEAS—59

Banks	Grassley	Moody
Barrasso	Hagerty	Moreno
Britt	Hassan	Murkowski
Budd	Hickenlooper	Reed
Capito	Hoeven	Ricketts
Cassidy	Husted	Risch
Collins	Hyde-Smith	Rosen
Cornyn	Johnson	Rounds
Cortez Masto	Justice	Schiff
Cotton	Kaine	Schmitt
Cramer	Kelly	Scott (FL)
Crapo	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cruz	Kim	Sheehy
Curtis	King	Slotkin
Durbin	Lankford	Sullivan
Ernst	Lee	Thune
Fetterman	Lummis	Warner
Fischer	Marshall	Wicker
Gillibrand	McConnell	Young
Graham	McCormick	

NAYS—25

Alsobrooks	Blumenthal	Booker
Baldwin	Blunt Rochester	Cantwell