

to the State and to the Nation. We are all better for him.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

#### UKRAINE

Mr. WICKER. Madam President, I come to the floor today to add my voice to the many who are commending President Trump as he works toward peace in Ukraine.

The President recently gave the aggressor, Russian dictator Vladimir Putin, every chance to put down his guns and end the killing. He has done that over and over, but our President is now showing that he will not wait on Mr. Putin forever. Every time Ukraine and the United States have extended the hand of peace, President Putin has responded with aggression. With one hand, Vladimir Putin always makes a show of participating in peace talks. With the other, he has repeatedly bombed civilians—a clear war crime, a war crime—including just on Sunday of last week, Palm Sunday, when he bombed worshipers and children who were playing on a public playground.

On Saturday, the day before yesterday, the President took Mr. Putin to task for this brutality, and I commend the President for doing that.

The President said:

There was no reason for Putin to be shooting missiles into civilian areas, cities and towns, over the last few days. It makes me think that maybe he doesn't want to stop the war—he's just tapping me along—and has to be dealt with differently.

Thank you, Mr. President, for saying that.

One of the President's staunchest supporters in this body echoed that statement just yesterday.

Senator KENNEDY of Louisiana said:

[P]utin thinks that America has taken the bullet train to chump town.

Chump town.

The President is right, and Senator KENNEDY of Louisiana is right. There is one man to blame for this war. If Vladimir Putin puts down his guns, there will be no more war. If Volodymyr Zelenskyy and Ukraine put down their guns, there will be no more Ukraine. That is the simple truth, and I appreciate the President expressing that forcefully.

Then, today, GEN Jack Keane, a very respected observer and officer and official in the Institute for the Study of War, expressed essentially the same sentiments as Donald Trump expressed the day before yesterday and as Senator KENNEDY expressed yesterday. On

FOX News this morning, General Keane gave the President due credit for pursuing peace in Ukraine. The general noted that President Trump, understandably, seems to be running out of patience with Putin's intransigence.

I know that many Members of this Chamber are running out of patience too.

General Keane then asked a simple question: Which side has shown that it wants a peace deal? Both sides claim they want peace, but what is the evidence?

And here is the truth: The truth is that Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has shown that he is interested in peace. He has negotiated at length with the administration. Ukraine and its President agreed to a 30-day cease-fire. Vladimir Putin rejected the idea. Instead, Putin initiated an agreement to halt attacks on energy infrastructure, and then he immediately violated that agreement. Mr. Putin did.

Worst of all, throughout these so-called peace talks, Vladimir Putin has repeatedly taken the lives of non-combatant civilians and pummeled residential neighborhoods with bombs. Every statement Mr. Putin makes should be viewed through that lens.

President Trump is right. Too many people are dying, and that includes the Russian people who are also suffering.

The Russian people do not deserve to live under a vicious, larcenous, trillionaire president-for-life like Vladimir Putin. So far, only one side has worked to end violence.

This weekend, the Trump administration set a timeline for Vladimir Putin to choose peace, and I commend them for it. I commend Secretary of State Marco Rubio who said the President will decide soon whether Putin is interested in actually working toward a just end to the war.

All signs indicate the answer will be no. The real answer from Vladimir Putin will be no. Just this morning, the Russian Foreign Ministry published words straight from the mouth of Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov. In no uncertain terms, this high-ranking Russian official rejected President Trump's peace deal.

So this is a pivotal week. I look forward to the President's decision. I would remind him and my fellow colleagues: Putin cannot be allowed to drag the United States along.

The U.S. Senate is ready to back President Trump as he stands up to Putin, on a bipartisan basis; 50 Senators—25 Republicans and 25 Democrats—recently introduced a bill called the Sanctioning Russia Act of 2025. Who says there is not bipartisanship in the Senate? Recently, 25 Republicans and 25 Democrats have introduced legislation that would introduce primary and secondary sanctions against Russia and against actors supporting Russia's aggression in Ukraine, imposing real consequences on Putin if he continues refusing to engage in good-faith talks

with Ukraine and the United States. And he has never engaged in any talks that were in good faith.

Putin repeatedly bombs civilians. He has forged a trail of broken promises. He, and only he, chose—unprovoked—to start the largest land war in Europe since World War II. Putin, and only Putin, did that. Where in any of this has there been a showing of good faith?

On Saturday, the President suggested that Putin “has to be dealt with differently.” I applaud this. My Senate colleagues applaud this. Experienced military professionals like General Keane applaud this. The President has been exceedingly patient, but he is correctly stating that there should be an end.

It is time to treat Putin like the deceptive, cunning war criminal that he is.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

#### WAIVING QUORUM CALL

Mr. WICKER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call with respect to the Perdue nomination be waived.

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

The Senator from Illinois.

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the scheduled vote begin immediately.

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. 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.

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 David Perdue, of Georgia, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the People's Republic of China, 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), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

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

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH), and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 64, nays 27, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 214 Leg.]

#### YEAS—64

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

#### NAYS—27

Alsobrooks	Heinrich	Sanders
Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Schatz
Bennet	Hirono	Schiff
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schumer
Blunt Rochester	Lujan	Smith
Cantwell	Markey	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warnock
Durbin	Murphy	Warren
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Wyden

#### NOT VOTING—9

Cramer	Kaine	Tillis
Fetterman	Murray	Welch
Graham	Padilla	Whitehouse

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. RICKETTS). On this vote, the yeas are 64, the nays are 27.

The motion is agreed to.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of David Perdue, of Georgia, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the People's Republic of China.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

### 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.

#### TRIBUTE TO DENNY LAW

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I have the privilege of recognizing my good friend, Dennis "Denny" Law, who will soon retire from his position as chief executive officer of Golden West Telecommunications. Denny's outstanding leadership and unwavering dedication to connecting South Dakota's communities with high-speed broadband have ensured that families, schools, farms, and businesses—no matter how remote—have access to the networks they need to thrive.

Denny was born and raised in our great State of South Dakota. He and his wife Bonnie have two wonderful sons Andrew and Nathan and make their home in Wall, SD. He earned his bachelor of science degree from South Dakota State University and later obtained a master's degree from the University of South Dakota. For the past three decades, Denny has been a driving force in the telecommunications industry. His expertise has proven quite valuable, and I am grateful for the many times—more times than I can count—that he has testified before Congress, highlighting South Dakota's needs in Washington.

Under Denny's leadership, South Dakota has made remarkable progress in deploying broadband services. His deep personal commitment to South Dakotans has helped expand broadband access to even the most rural corners of the State. But beyond his efforts on the ground, Denny has also been a powerful advocate for rural broadband policy, ensuring that small communities always have a voice in national conversations.

Whether championing smart broadband policies, mentoring future industry leaders, serving on national association committees, or even rolling up his sleeves to help install networks, Denny has consistently led by example. While guiding national associations through difficult policy debates and spearheading the efforts of the South Dakota rural broadband industry, Denny has ensured that community-based providers across the country are well-positioned to deliver connectivity that makes a lasting difference for rural America and for the Nation as a whole.

As he embarks on a well-earned retirement, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude for his leadership, vision, and friendship. While he may be stepping away from the daily demands of

leading Golden West, his impact will endure; his legacy is hardwired into the future of rural broadband. It has been a pleasure working with you, Denny, and I pray that God blesses you and your family in the days ahead.

#### ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY  
COOPERATION AGENCY,  
Washington, DC.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH,  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 0C-25. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 21-68 of August 9, 2022.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL F. MILLER,  
Director.

Enclosure.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 0C-25

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(b)(5)(A), AECA)

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Brazil.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 21-68; Date: August 9, 2022; Implementing Agency: Army.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description: On August 9, 2022, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 21-68 of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of two hundred twenty-two (222) Javelin missiles, FGM-148; and thirty-three (33) Javelin Command Launch Units (CLU). Also included were Enhanced Producibility Basic Skills Trainers; missile simulation rounds; Security Assistance Management Directorate technical assistance; Tactical Aviation and Ground Munitions Project Office technical assistance; other associated equipment and services; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated total value was \$74 million. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted \$54 million of this total.

This transmittal reports the replacement of the previously notified thirty-three (33)