

To Senate staffers gathered here today, I hope you will see Luke's confirmation as an inspiration and an acknowledgment of the vital role that all of you play in shaping policy and serving this country. The strength and stability of the financial system are vital to our Nation's prosperity, to our global competitiveness, and, frankly, to the American way of life.

At the highest levels of government, we need leaders who understand the weight of that responsibility, leaders who will approach their duties with wisdom, humility, and an unshakable commitment to do what is right.

Luke Pettit is just that kind of leader.

Mr. President, I can think of no one more qualified, no one more committed, and, frankly, no one more ready to serve than Luke Pettit. Therefore, I urge all of my colleagues to support the confirmation of Luke Pettit, which is about to occur.

WAIVING QUORUM CALL

Mr. HAGERTY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to waive the mandatory quorum calls with respect to the Tata and Edlow nominations.

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

VOTE ON PETTIT NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Pettit nomination?

Mr. HAGERTY. 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 bill clerk called the roll.

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

The result was announced—yeas 69, nays 30, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 386 Ex.]

YEAS—69

| | | |
|------------|------------|------------|
| Alsobrooks | Graham | Murkowski |
| Banks | Grassley | Paul |
| Barrasso | Hagerty | Peters |
| Blackburn | Hassan | Reed |
| Boozman | Hawley | Ricketts |
| Britt | Hoeven | Risch |
| Budd | Husted | Rosen |
| Capito | Hyde-Smith | Rounds |
| Cassidy | Johnson | Schiff |
| Collins | Justice | Schmitt |
| Cornyn | Kelly | Scott (FL) |
| Cotton | Kennedy | Scott (SC) |
| Cramer | Kim | Shaheen |
| Crapo | Klobuchar | Sheehy |
| Cruz | Lankford | Sullivan |
| Curtis | Lee | Thune |
| Daines | Lummis | Tillis |
| Durbin | Marshall | Tuberville |
| Ernst | McConnell | Warner |
| Fetterman | Moody | Warnock |
| Fischer | Moran | Whitehouse |
| Galleo | Moreno | Wicker |
| Gillibrand | Mullin | Young |

NAYS—30

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------|---------|
| Baldwin | Coons | Kaine |
| Bennet | Cortez Masto | King |
| Blumenthal | Duckworth | Lujan |
| Blunt Rochester | Heinrich | Markley |
| Booker | Hickenlooper | Merkley |
| Cantwell | Hirono | Murphy |

| | | |
|---------|---------|------------|
| Murray | Schatz | Van Hollen |
| Ossoff | Schumer | Warren |
| Padilla | Slotkin | Welch |
| Sanders | Smith | Wyden |

NOT VOTING—1

McCormick

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. 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.

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 executive 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. 134, Anthony Tata, of Florida, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.

John Thune, Tim Sheehy, Thom Tillis, Markwayne Mullin, John Barrasso, John R. Curtis, Joni Ernst, Lindsey Graham, Deb Fischer, Pete Ricketts, Roger Marshall, Chuck Grassley, Tommy Tuberville, Bill Cassidy, Jon A. Husted, Mike Rounds, John Kennedy.

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 Anthony Tata, of Florida, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk called the roll.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 52, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 387 Ex.]

YEAS—52

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

NAYS—47

| | | |
|------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Alsobrooks | Blunt Rochester | Cortez Masto |
| Baldwin | Booker | Duckworth |
| Bennet | Cantwell | Durbin |
| Blumenthal | Coons | Fetterman |

| |
|--------------|
| Gallego |
| Gillibrand |
| Hassan |
| Heinrich |
| Hickenlooper |
| Hirono |
| Kaine |
| Kelly |
| Kim |
| King |
| Klobuchar |
| Lujan |

| |
|---------|
| Markey |
| Merkley |
| Murphy |
| Murray |
| Ossoff |
| Padilla |
| Peters |
| Reed |
| Rosen |
| Sanders |
| Schatz |
| Schiff |

| |
|------------|
| Schumer |
| Shaheen |
| Slotkin |
| Smith |
| Van Hollen |
| Warner |
| Warnock |
| Warren |
| Welch |
| Whitehouse |
| Wyden |

NOT VOTING—1

McCormick

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The yeas are 52, the nays are 47, and the motion is agreed to.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Anthony Tata, of Florida, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.

RECESS SUBJECT TO CALL OF THE CHAIR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:54 p.m., recessed subject to the call of the Chair and reassembled at 2:34 p.m. when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mrs. BRITT).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

VOTE ON TATA NOMINATION

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

Mr. CRUZ. 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 (Ms. DUCKWORTH) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 388 Ex.]

YEAS—52

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

Sheehy
Sullivan
Thune

Tillis
Tuberville
Wicker

Young

[Rollcall Vote No. 389 Ex.]

YEAS—50

NAYS—46

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

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

NAYS—46

NOT VOTING—2

Duckworth McCormick

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

NOT VOTING—4

Crapo McCormick Murkowski
Duckworth

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. 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.

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. 184, Joseph Edlow, of Maryland, to be Director of United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.

John Thune, Eric Schmitt, John R. Curtis, Tim Scott of South Carolina, Bill Cassidy, Jon A. Husted, Steve Daines, Marsha Blackburn, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Ron Johnson, John Barrasso, Tim Sheehy, Mike Rounds, Bernie Moreno, Pete Ricketts, Jim Justice, Bill Hagerty.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Joseph Edlow, of Maryland, to be Director of United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK), and the Senator from Arkansas (Ms. MURKOWSKI).

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 50, nays 46, as follows:

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BANKS). On this vote, the yeas are 50, the nays are 46.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Joseph Edlow, of Maryland, to be Director of United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

RESCISSIONS

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, also, with me today is Mr. Will McCarthy, one of my colleagues from my Senate office.

Today, we are going to start talking about and voting on the rescission package, and I want to talk about that for a few minutes.

As the Presiding Officer knows, under our Constitution, Congress passes a budget. We send that budget to the President of the United States, whoever that might be, and the President executes, or implements, our budget.

On occasion, under Federal statute, the President has the authority, after we have passed a budget in Congress, to look at the budget and say: You know, I don't need all this money to accomplish the goals that Congress established and instructed me to accomplish.

So the President can contact us and say: Congress, I would like you to rescind some of the spending in the budget that you sent to me.

It is called a rescission bill or a rescission package.

President Trump has sent us a rescission bill, or a rescission package, asking the U.S. Congress to cut the budget by roughly \$9 billion, and that is what we are going to start voting on today.

Now, \$9 billion is a lot of money—except when you compare it to the overall Federal budget. Nine billion dollars, despite the fact that it is a bucketload of money, is one-tenth of 1 percent of the Federal budget—one-tenth of 1 percent of the Federal budget. It gives you an idea of how big the Federal budget is.

I think most people—most adults, anyway—understand that in life, what you say doesn't really matter. What you say doesn't really matter. It is what you do that demonstrates what you believe. That is certainly true in politics, and that is certainly true in Washington, DC. Ignore what anybody in Washington, DC, says. Ignore it. If you want to understand their behavior, look at their behavior. In Washington, DC, as in life, what you do is what you believe, not what you say. What you do is what you believe, and everything else is just cottage cheese.

Now, President Trump—whether you voted for him or not and whether you like him or not—ran on a platform of reducing the size of government, and the people elected him. Since day one, the President, if you have paid attention to the news, has been working very hard to reduce government spending, and he has reduced a lot. He started out with the DOGE program, with Mr. Elon Musk. Mr. Musk, of course, has left, but the quest to reduce government spending—wasteful government spending, which I call spending porn—continues.

Every Republican in the U.S. Senate has voiced approval of what the President has done. Every Republican—every one of my colleagues, myself included—has said to the President: Attaboy, Mr. President. Go get 'em. Keep issuing those Executive orders. Reduce the spending. We are spending too much money. We have got a \$37 trillion debt. Keep going, Mr. President.

The President has, but he has been doing it through Executive order. There is only so much you can do through Executive order. An Executive order, issued by a President, expires when the President is no longer in office. The only way to permanently reduce spending is to have Congress act, and that is what the President is asking us to do in this rescission bill.

What you do is what you believe, and everything else is just cottage cheese.

The rescission package that the President has sent over—we are going to start considering it today. And after listening in some cases for years but certainly for the last 100-plus days since President Trump has been in office—after listening to my Republican colleagues talk about the importance of reducing spending, it is gut check