

EXECUTIVE SESSION—Motion to Proceed

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 292.

VOTE ON MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. THUNE. 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 senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. McCONNELL) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN).

The result was announced—yeas 50, nays 48, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 422 Leg.]

YEAS—50

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

NAYS—48

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

NOT VOTING—2

McConnell Mullin

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CURTIS). The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Emil J. Bove III, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

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 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. 292, Emil J. Bove III, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit.

John Thune, Lindsey Graham, Katie Boyd Britt, Eric Schmitt, Tommy Tuberville, Marsha Blackburn, Mike Crapo, John Barrasso, Rick Scott of Florida, Chuck Grassley, Cindy Hyde-Smith, John Cornyn, Kevin Cramer, Ron Johnson, Ashley B. Moody, Mike Lee, Josh Hawley.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

H.R. 3944

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I urge my colleagues to vote for cloture on the motion to proceed on the bipartisan fiscal year 2026 Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill.

I want to thank the majority leader for bringing this important legislation to the Senate floor.

This bill would address key military infrastructure needs, including housing improvements for military families, and would provide the funding to ensure that veterans receive the care and benefits they have earned through their service to our country.

Last week, the Senate Appropriations Committee reported this measure in an overwhelmingly bipartisan vote of 26 to 3.

I ask my colleagues to support the motion to allow the Senate to begin to work its will on this important funding bill and to fulfill our constitutional responsibility.

I yield the floor.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask that the Senate execute the order of July 21 in relation to Calendar No. 121, H.R. 3944, and that the mandatory quorum be waived; further, that following the cloture vote, the Senate execute the order of July 17 in relation to the Lukas and Hansell nominations.

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 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 motion to proceed to Calendar No. 121, H.R. 3944, a bill making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes.

John Thune, David McCormick, Marsha Blackburn, James E. Risch, Jon A. Husted, Jim Banks, Tom Cotton, Steve Daines, Ashley B. Moody, Cynthia M.

Lummis, Mike Crapo, Roger F. Wicker, Roger Marshall, James Lankford, Todd Young, Mike Rounds, Dan Sullivan.

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 motion to proceed to Calendar No. 121, H.R. 3944, a bill making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. McCONNELL) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 91, nays 7, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 423 Ex.]

YEAS—91

Alsobrooks	Gillibrand	Ossoff
Baldwin	Graham	Paul
Banks	Grassley	Peters
Barrasso	Hagerty	Reed
Bennet	Hassan	Ricketts
Blackburn	Hawley	Risch
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Rosen
Blunt Rochester	Hickenlooper	Rounds
Booker	Hirono	Schatz
Boozman	Hoeben	Schmitt
Britt	Husted	Schumer
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Cantwell	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Capito	Justice	Shaheen
Cassidy	Kaine	Sheehy
Collins	Kelly	Slotkin
Coons	Kennedy	Smith
Cornyn	Kim	Sullivan
Cortez Masto	King	Thune
Cotton	Klobuchar	Tillis
Cramer	Lankford	Tuberville
Crapo	Lujan	Van Hollen
Cruz	Lummis	Warner
Curtis	Marshall	Warnock
Daines	McCormick	Welch
Duckworth	Merkley	Whitehouse
Durbin	Moody	Wicker
Ernst	Moran	Wyden
Fetterman	Moreno	Young
Fischer	Murkowski	
Galleo	Murray	

NAYS—7

Lee	Padilla	Warren
Markey	Sanders	
Murphy	Schiff	

NOT VOTING—2

McConnell Mullin

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote the yeas are 91, the nays are 7.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

The motion was agreed to.

CHANGE OF VOTE

Mr. WELCH. Mr. President, on rollcall vote No. 423, I voted no. It was my intention to vote yea. Therefore, I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to change my vote since it will not affect the outcome.

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

(The foregoing tally has been changed to reflect the above order.)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Aaron Lukas, of Arkansas, to be Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence.

VOTE ON LUKAS NOMINATION

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

Mr. LUJAN. 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 Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. McCONNELL) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 424 Ex.]

YEAS—51

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

NAYS—46

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

NOT VOTING—3

Gillibrand	McConnell	Mullin
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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 actions.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will pro-

ceed to executive session and will resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Bradley Hansell, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security.

VOTE ON HANSELL NOMINATION

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

Mr. DURBIN. 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 senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. McCONNELL), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

The result was announced—yeas 61, nays 35, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 425 Ex.]

YEAS—61

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

NAYS—35

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

NOT VOTING—4

Graham	Mullin
McConnell	Tillis

The nomination was confirmed.

(Mr. HUSTED assumed the Chair.)

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 actions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

ONE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL ACT

Mr. HUSTED. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss the facts about the

One Big Beautiful Bill Act. That was my first reconciliation process as a new U.S. Senator. It was a great experience. I very much enjoyed the 36 hours straight of no sleep. I think that was a record for me. But we got a lot accomplished.

I want to share with you and the people of Ohio about why I believe it is a good bill and I supported it, because the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, as it is known, is uniquely tailored to support Ohio workers and families. I really believe that it serves them well. And the facts support it.

First of all, I think it is important to reflect on why it was necessary. The budget law that we passed extended the 2017 tax cuts, which were going to expire. They needed to be renewed. It also made important investments in national defense and border security. But if we failed to pass it, we would have seen a \$4 trillion tax hike on the American people, something that would have been devastating to their pocketbooks and our economy.

I believe that people and States do a good job spending the money that they have. I believe that people will spend smarter when they have more money in their pockets rather than putting that money in the control of the Federal Government. I come to this conclusion based on both my life experiences and 25 years of State government in Ohio. It is from that perspective I want to focus on what I believe the One Big Beautiful Bill means in real-world terms for Ohio families, workers, and taxpayers.

The BBB results in more take-home pay for Ohioans, more money in their pockets. More take-home pay means independence. Government dependency means less independence. That is why this bill focuses on really allowing workers to keep more of the money they earn.

Let's dig into this a bit. The tax cuts that were cemented for workers and job creators will leave the average Ohio household with an estimated \$7,000 more in take-home pay. And more specifically, the Council of Economic Advisers estimates the bill will increase take-home pay for the average family with two kids in Ohio between \$6,900 a family up to \$11,700 per family. That is more aftertax wages—taxes going down, wages going up, more money in your pockets. That is what it means.

We made no taxes on tips and no taxes on overtime a reality. Ohioans work hard, and that is a change that they can feel legitimately in their pockets.

I was on a telephone townhall last night. One of the ladies who called in said: Hey, I want you to know my husband is a line worker. He works a lot of overtime for the utility company, and that eliminating tax on overtime pay will mean a lot to our family—more take-home pay.

I understood that. It is another aspect of the bill that is very important for working people.