

Fischer	Klobuchar	Schmitt
Gallego	Lankford	Scott (FL)
Gillibrand	Lee	Scott (SC)
Graham	Luján	Shaheen
Grassley	Lummis	Sheehy
Hagerty	Marshall	Slotkin
Hassan	McConnell	Smith
Hawley	McCormick	Sullivan
Heinrich	Moody	Thune
Hickenlooper	Moran	Tillis
Hoeven	Moreno	Tuberville
Husted	Mullin	Warner
Hyde-Smith	Murkowski	Warnock
Johnson	Paul	Welch
Justice	Ricketts	Whitehouse
Kaine	Risch	Wicker
Kelly	Rosen	Young
Kennedy	Rounds	
King	Schatz	

## NAYS—18

Blunt	Rochester	Merkley	Sanders
Coons		Murphy	Schiff
Duckworth		Murray	Schumer
Hirono		Padilla	Van Hollen
Kim		Peters	Warren
Markey		Reed	Wyden

## NOT VOTING—3

Booker	Fetterman	Osoff
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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 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. 10, Christopher Wright, of Colorado, to be Secretary of Energy.

John Thune, Markwayne Mullin, James C. Justice, Tom Cotton, John Barrasso, David McCormick, Steve Daines, Joni Ernst, Roger Marshall, Deb Fischer, Chuck Grassley, Bernie Moreno, Ted Budd, John Kennedy, John Boozman, Tommy Tuberville, Cindy Hyde-Smith.

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 Christopher Wright, of Colorado, to be Secretary of Energy, 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. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 62, nays 35, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 27 Ex.]

## YEAS—62

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

## NAYS—35

Alsobrooks	Kelly	Schatz
Baldwin	Kim	Schiff
Blumenthal	Klobuchar	Schumer
Blunt	Markey	Slotkin
Cantwell	Merkley	Smith
Coons	Murphy	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Murray	Warnock
Duckworth	Padilla	Warren
Durbin	Peters	Welch
Gillibrand	Reed	Whitehouse
Hirono	Rosen	Wyden
Kaine	Sanders	

## NOT VOTING—3

Booker	Fetterman	Osoff
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The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. MOODY). The yeas are 62, the nays are 35.

The motion is agreed to.

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Christopher Wright, of Colorado, to be Secretary of Energy.

## 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 nomination of Executive Calendar No. 7, Douglas Collins, of Georgia, to be Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

John Thune, Markwayne Mullin, James C. Justice, Tom Cotton, John Barrasso, David McCormick, Steve Daines, Joni Ernst, Roger Marshall, Deb Fischer, Chuck Grassley, Bernie Moreno, Ted Budd, John Kennedy, John Boozman, Tommy Tuberville, Cindy Hyde-Smith.

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 Douglas Collins, of Georgia, to be Secretary of Veterans Affairs, 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 Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF), are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 83, nays 13, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 28 Ex.]

## YEAS—83

Baldwin	Graham	Murkowski
Banks	Grassley	Murray
Barrasso	Hagerty	Paul
Bennet	Hassan	Peters
Blackburn	Hawley	Reed
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Ricketts
Blunt	Hickenlooper	Risch
Boozman	Hoeven	Rosen
Britt	Husted	Rounds
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Sanders
Cantwell	Johnson	Schiff
Capito	Justice	Schmitt
Cassidy	Kaine	Scott (FL)
Collins	Kelly	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Shaheen
Cortez Masto	Kim	Sheehy
Cotton	King	Slotkin
Cramer	Klobuchar	Sullivan
Crapo	Lee	Thune
Cruz	Luján	Tillis
Curtis	Lummis	Tuberville
Daines	Marshall	Warner
Duckworth	McConnell	Wicker
Durbin	McCormick	Young
Ernst	Moody	
Fischer	Moran	
Gallego	Moreno	
Gillibrand	Mullin	

## NAYS—13

Alsobrooks	Murphy	Van Hollen
Coons	Padilla	Warren
Hirono	Schatz	Wyden
Markey	Schumer	
Merkley	Smith	

## NOT VOTING—4

Booker	Lankford
Fetterman	Osoff

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 83, the nays are 13. The motion is agreed to.

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Douglas Collins, of Georgia, to be Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. THUNE. Madam 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. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 12.

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 senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Pamela Bondi, of Florida, to be Attorney General.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. THUNE. Madam 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. 12, Pamela Bondi, of Florida, to be Attorney General.

John Thune, Ashley B. Moody, Mike Rounds, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Mike Lee, Thom Tillis, Bill Hagerty, Ted Budd, Ron Johnson, Katie Britt, Deb Fischer, Rick Scott of Florida, Dan Sullivan, John Barrasso, Tom Cotton, Josh Hawley, Eric Schmitt.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. THUNE. Madam 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. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 11.

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 senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Eric Turner, of Texas, to be Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. THUNE. Madam 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. 11, Eric Turner, of Texas, to be Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

John Thune, Markwayne Mullin, James Justice, Tom Cotton, John Barrasso, David McCormick, Steve Daines, Joni Ernst, Roger Marshall, Deb Fischer, Chuck Grassley, Bernie Moreno, Ted Budd, John Kennedy, John Boozman, Tommy Tuberville, Cindy Hyde-Smith.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

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

The motion was agreed to.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

#### CONFIRMATION OF KRISTI NOEM

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, had I been present for rollcall vote No. 17 of the 119th Congress—confirmation of Kristi Noem, of South Dakota, to be Secretary of Homeland Security—I would have voted nay. As a Senator who represents nine federally recognized Tribes in Oregon, I am deeply disturbed by Ms. Noem's poor relationships with Tribal governments.

In fact, Ms. Noem spread disinformation about Tribal communities in her home State which resulted in her banishment from lands held by nine different Tribes. Likewise, Ms. Noem has repeatedly peddled baseless claims about violent crime in several cities—to include my hometown, Portland, OR. Considering Donald Trump's chilling deployment of Homeland Security personnel to Portland and other cities in 2020, I am concerned by how Ms. Noem, with her prejudiced views, may implement similar orders in the coming years.

Additionally, Ms. Noem, as Governor of South Dakota, mishandled the response to devastating floods in her State, to include delaying an emergency declaration, evacuation orders, and deployment of appropriate assets. As Oregon faces worsening storms, floods, and wildfires annually, I have no confidence in her ability to lead the Federal response to disasters and emergencies.

Finally, she has fully endorsed controversial policies many of my constituents oppose, such as broad travel bans and militarizing the southern border. For all these reasons, I would have voted nay on Ms. Noem's confirmation.

#### TRIBUTE TO BETH NIELSON

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam President, I rise today to honor the service of my administrative director Beth Nielson. Soon, Beth will retire from the U.S. Senate with more than 26 years of service to the U.S. Senate and to our Nation.

Beth joined my staff as administrative director in early 2019, merely the most recent stop on a wonderful journey of service to many Senators from across our Nation. Beth brought with her a great breadth and depth of knowledge about the U.S. Senate and how this institution works for Senators and staff. She quickly garnered the trust of my staff with her cheerful attitude to service and deft ability to navigate the many rules of the Senate. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Beth

helped our team immediately pivot to working from home, providing information, support, and guidance as we learned to work together but apart.

A South Dakota native, Beth first came to the Senate to intern in the office of Senator Tim Johnson. From there, she spent time in the office of Senator Tom Daschle, learning the ropes of the Senate and managing vast volumes of mail sent to the Senator from across the country. She returned to Senator Johnson's team and served as his deputy office manager for 5 years. From there, she joined the staff of Senator Ben Nelson as his administrative director for 3 years and then took a brief pause off Capitol Hill. She quickly returned to the Senate and served in the same roles in the offices of Senator Bill Nelson and then Senator Heidi Heitkamp before joining my staff. Beth has also worked for Senator RAPHAEL WARNOCK, to aid his staff as they began their time in the Senate.

My staff and I have been reflecting over the many gifts that Beth has shared with us over these past 6 years. She has been a guide to new staff, easing their transitions into the Senate and greeting them with a welcome smile. Beth has served as a mentor and sounding board to more established staff who have taken on new positions or responsibilities, helping them succeed in their roles. She was ready to answer our calls and our questions, to celebrate our milestones and ease our sorrows. We do still question her allegiances to the New York Yankees and the Chicago Bears but have agreed to let those slide.

Beth, thank you for your service to our Nation, to all the staff and Senators you have served with, and to the U.S. Senate.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

#### TRIBUTE TO MARY SCHAUB

● Mr. WICKER. Madam President, on behalf of the people of Mississippi, I commend Mary Schaub, an educator in Hattiesburg, MS. Through her five-decade career as a speech-language pathologist, she has devoted her life to giving children a voice.

Mary was integral to the creation of the Children's Center for Communication and Development at the University of Southern Mississippi (USM), and she has faithfully served the center for many years. After completing her education at the University of Wyoming, Mary identified a crucial gap in Mississippi's education system: preschool children who needed language intervention before entering kindergarten. She designed a program to fill that divide. The initiative was first called the Preschool Language Program and served six local preschool-aged children in a small office space on USM's campus.

Since those humble beginnings, the program has blossomed. Now called the