

Last month, an illegal migrant from Mexico was caught with a blowtorch near the side of the Kenneth fire—one of the deadly fires that was ravaging Los Angeles. This is a man who was already on probation and had violated that probation.

If it is proven that he had started the fire, this would be a slap in the face to everyone whose world has been rocked by the devastation we have seen from these terrible fires out in California. If it turns out that he was one of the ones who started the fire, that would be another indictment of the policies of the Biden administration for the last 4 years.

Then 2 weeks ago, Boston ICE officials arrested multiple MS-13 gang members and criminals on a worldwide law enforcement “wanted” list for serious crimes. They arrested murder and rape suspects, including a member of the Haitian gang who had 18 convictions. These were the types of people that the Biden administration allowed loose in our country.

We know that ICE—Immigration and Customs Enforcement—has now arrested criminals who have committed sexual assault, domestic violence, and drug- and weapon-related crimes, but these are just a few examples of the hundreds of criminal arrests made just in the few short weeks since President Trump took office.

To the Democrats who would decry these arrests, would you want these criminals to be your neighbor? I am going to guess the answer is no.

With criminal illegal migrants running rampant throughout the country, it is no surprise that Americans voted overwhelmingly for a President who pledged to reverse the course from the reckless open border policies of the Biden administration.

We know last week President Trump signed the Laken Riley Act. I was honored to be present at the White House with our friend and colleague Senator KATIE BRITT to watch him sign this legislation into law.

Laken Riley, for whom this law was named, was a 22-year-old woman who went missing after going on a run. She was killed by a Venezuelan national who was also a gang member. He should have never been running loose in our country in the first place. It was President Biden’s open border policies that led to this horrific murder of Laken Riley.

The Laken Riley Act will now, having been signed into law, require the Department of Homeland Security to detain noncitizens charged with or convicted of theft-related crimes or any crime that results in death or serious bodily injury. I introduced an amendment during the deliberations on the bill that would add assaulting a law enforcement officer to that list.

As we know here in the Senate, there is a 60-vote threshold to be able to close off debate and to actually move on to pass legislation. It ensures that we have bipartisan consensus. I am

glad to say that the Laken Riley Act passed the Senate with bipartisan support. I appreciate the recognition that the status quo during the previous administration could no longer exist.

The Laken Riley Act is not an example of some extremism, but it is an issue that affects the day-to-day safety and livelihoods of regular Americans.

I think it is perfectly fair to say that the deportations or repatriations that the Trump administration has already begun are very much in the spirit of the Laken Riley Act.

Department of Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem made clear over the weekend that the Trump administration’s first priority will be to detain and deport what she called the “worst of the worst”; that is, bad actors with warrants out for arrest for murder, rape, assault, and drug trafficking.

After the criminal aliens are deported, she said the next priority will be individuals under final orders of deportation; in other words, those who have exhausted all possible legal recourse to be able to stay in the United States, having lost their claim for asylum.

There are more than 1½ million—1½ million—immigrants who have exhausted their legal remedies in a court of law and are under final orders of deportation, but the Biden administration simply did nothing about it. So removing these individuals who have no legal right to remain in the United States and who have been given due process and have lost their case—deporting them is a commonsense next step and one that is long overdue.

So when the mainstream media and our Democratic colleagues engage in fearmongering about these so-called mass deportations, I hope people remember we are talking primarily about criminals, and we are talking about people who have no legal right to remain in the United States, having exhausted all of their legal remedies in order to do so. I hope we can all agree that these are not people who deserve to remain in America.

America naturalizes about 1 million people a year. I personally believe and I think Americans generally agree that legal immigration has been the secret sauce for America. It is what helped make us the great country we are today, prosperous and strong. But it is illegal immigration that has been a scourge and has created much heartache and misery and, frankly, makes us a laughing stock when we talk about the rule of law.

Removing and deporting en masse the criminals and gangs who have entered our country illegally over the last 4 years and faced no consequences means that Americans will have less to fear, and they will be safer in their communities and in their homes. They will no longer have to fear that one of their children will accidentally take a fentanyl-laced pill—make it less likely. We still have work to do there, obviously. They no longer will have to fear

that their daughter will go on a run around her college campus or walk to the grocery store and never return home because she has been abducted and murdered by somebody who had no legal right to be here in the first place.

By ending President Biden’s open border policies and deporting criminals and gang members and people under final orders of deportation, President Trump is making our Nation safe again. That is not something we should fear; it is something we should welcome.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON TURNER NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time has expired.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Turner nomination?

Mrs. MURRAY. 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 executive clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Maryland (Ms. ALSOBROOKS) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 55, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 35 Ex.]

YEAS—55

Banks	Graham	Mullin
Barrasso	Grassley	Murkowski
Blackburn	Hagerty	Paul
Boozman	Hawley	Ricketts
Britt	Hoeben	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	Welch
Daines	McCormick	Wicker
Ernst	Moody	Young
Fetterman	Moran	
Fischer	Moreno	

NAYS—44

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	Murphy	Warner
Gallago	Murray	Warnock
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Warren
Hassan	Padilla	Whitehouse
Heinrich	Peters	Wyden
Hickenlooper	Reed	

NOT VOTING—1

Alsobrooks

The nomination is confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. RICKETTS). 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.

The Senator from South Dakota.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST

Mr. THUNE. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call

with respect to the Vought nomination be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. SCHUMER. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

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. 13, Russell Vought, of Virginia, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

John Thune, Roger Marshall, John Barrasso, Lindsey Graham, Tommy Tuberville, Jon Husted, Rick Scott of Florida, Katie Boyd Britt, Bernie Moreno, David McCormick, Ted Cruz, Tom Cotton, Markwayne Mullin, Ashley Moody, Mike Lee, Cynthia M. Lummis, Bill Hagerty.

QUORUM CALL

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair now directs the clerk to call the roll to ascertain the presence of a quorum.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll, and the following Senators answered to their names:

[Quorum No. 3]

Banks	Grassley	Moreno
Barrasso	Hagerty	Mullin
Bennet	Hawley	Murray
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Paul
Blunt Rochester	Hickenlooper	Ricketts
Britt	Hirono	Risch
Budd	Husted	Rosen
Cantwell	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Cassidy	Johnson	Sanders
Collins	Justice	Scott (FL)
Coons	Kaine	Slotkin
Cortez Masto	Kelly	Sullivan
Crapo	Kennedy	Thune
Daines	Kim	Tillis
Duckworth	King	Warner
Ernst	Klobuchar	Whitehouse
Fetterman	Lee	Wicker
Fischer	McConnell	Wyden
Gallago	McCormick	Young
Graham	Moody	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. A quorum is present.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Russell Vought, of Virginia, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget, 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.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 53, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 36 Ex.]

YEAS—53

Banks	Britt	Collins
Barrasso	Budd	Cornyn
Blackburn	Capito	Cotton
Boozman	Cassidy	Cramer

Crapo	Justice
Cruz	Kennedy
Curtis	Lankford
Daines	Lee
Ernst	Lummis
Fischer	Marshall
Graham	McConnell
Grassley	McCormick
Hagerty	Moody
Hawley	Moran
Hoehen	Moreno
Husted	Mullin
Hyde-Smith	Murkowski
Johnson	Paul

NAYS—47

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SHEEHY). On this vote, the yeas are 53; the nays are 47.

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 Russell Vought, of Virginia, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Mr. KING. Mr. President, I yield 30 minutes of my postcloture debate time on the Vought nomination to Senator SCHUMER.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Duly noted.

The Senator from South Carolina.

CONFIRMATION OF ERIC TURNER

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina. Mr. President, the Department of Housing and Urban Development's mission is to create strong, sustainable communities and support of affordable homes. Yet under President Biden and his administration, the Department failed to serve our Nation's most vulnerable.

Here is the truth: We are facing a homelessness crisis in America. The latest homelessness survey found an 18-percent increase in homelessness year over year, increasing the number of homelessness in our country to nearly 772,000 Americans not able to find a place to lay their heads. This is unacceptable.

On top of that, we are facing an affordability crisis in our country as well. During President Biden's tenure, mortgage rates ballooned 150 percent and rents 20 percent.

Over the last 4 years, far-left housing policies and burdensome regulations have put the American dream out of reach for millions and millions of hard-working, dedicated patriots throughout our Nation. It is no secret that HUD is in serious need of new leadership.

Fortunately, there is good news: Help is right over there, and it is on its way.

My good friend, Scott Turner, has a remarkable life story, a tremendous life story. Scott is a native Texan who has had an exceptional journey from professional athlete to public servant. Scott came from humble beginnings, but he never let those circumstances define who he is. Actually, Scott, in high school, I believe it was, worked at a barbecue shop. What I love about Scott is he has this affection for the truth. He told me himself—he conceded—that South Carolina barbecue is better than Texas. I am glad he has no microphone to say anything right now. I am just telling you that that is a man I can appreciate.

He went on and had a successful career in the NFL: nine seasons as a cornerback playing for the Denver Broncos, the San Diego Chargers, and, yes, the Washington Redskins. And I note that he did not play for America's team, the Dallas Cowboys. Nobody can be perfect.

After hanging up his cleats, Scott served two terms in the Texas State legislature and then went on to work in the Trump administration.

As the Executive Director of the White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council, Scott helped implement the opportunity zones initiative I created, directing over \$50 billion in private sector capital into hard-hit, typically majority minority communities, breathing hope and opportunity not only to the neighborhoods but into the lives of people who desperately, passionately were praying for hope, and with less than a 5-percent gentrification. That is what I call success.

His story and his perspective are essential tools that he will bring to the table to fight the increase of homelessness, to fight the 150-percent ballooning of our mortgages, and to fight back against the 20-percent increase in rents.

As HUD Secretary, Scott will make himself known. He will create access to quality, affordable housing as a top priority. He will work to reverse decades of failed housing policies, and make targeted reforms across all segments of the U.S. housing market.

It is time to make America's economy work for working-class Americans. It is time for a blue-collar comeback. And I am so thankful that we have a man prepared to put in 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, if necessary, so more people—not 772,000 Americans, but more Americans—will have a place to lay their heads because they are no longer homeless. More Americans will be able to afford a home because the interest rates will come down, the housing supply will increase. And we will thank God Almighty that we live in a land where opportunity is more available because the right person, at the right time, in the right place, says yes.

I am very thankful that Scott Turner is the Secretary of Housing and Urban