

artificial intelligence by staff in their Chambers. One judge blamed a law student intern and the other blamed a law clerk for generating the errors. This helps explain how it happened, but ultimately how it happened that way does not matter.

A lawyer can't excuse an error-ridden brief by blaming a paralegal or junior associate, attorneys' names go on their filings, just as judges' names go on their orders. The judges issue orders in their own name that determine the rights of the parties before them.

The buck stops at the judges. It is bad enough that the Federal court order could misstate or pervert the law to the degree that we saw it in these two judges, but I am concerned that these now-public blunders arose in cases represented by sophisticated parties who had the resources and the legal talent to push back and make sure that their clients got justice.

So at the same time, through these errors that I have pointed out, we have to fear that people without resources—that if the same thing happened to an indigent party or a pro se litigant—the truth may never have come to light. I cannot and will not stand for that. All litigants are owed a fair shake in the court.

Our Federal courts must hold themselves to the highest of standards. Our Constitution depends on it. Justice requires it. Americans deserve better from their judges.

Now, to be clear, I appreciate these two judges finally accepting responsibility for what went on in their jurisdiction, and I believe them when they say that they are deploying measures to prevent the same mistakes from happening again. But this should be a lesson, not just for these two judges but for the entire bench and the bar.

Artificial intelligence is a powerful and potentially dangerous resource. Although it may have some role in preliminary legal research, it cannot and must not be a substitute for legal judgment.

The Senate confirms Federal judges. We don't confirm computer software to perform the duties mandated under article III.

As chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, I am committed to safeguarding litigants' rights and ensuring that every party in Federal court receives fair treatment and careful review by article III judges.

I call on every judge in America to take this issue seriously and formalize measures to prevent the misuse of artificial intelligence in their chambers.

I also call upon the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts and also the Judicial Conference to quickly develop decisive and meaningful guidance on the use of artificial intelligence by our judiciary.

In the wake of my oversight, Judge Cronan, in the Southern District of New York, implemented a rule in his courtroom to ensure the accuracy of filings. He requires attorneys to dis-

close any artificial intelligence use and to certify that he or she "personally reviewed the filings for accuracy." I applaud him for taking this issue seriously, and I encourage other members of the bench to consider similar rules and to hold themselves to the same standard as they require of litigants in the court.

I am hopeful that these two unfortunate episodes by the two judges that I referred to will serve as a wake-up call across the Federal judiciary. But if it isn't, I am here today to give a warning: I am watching. All of Congress is now watching. If this issue doesn't get fixed by the judiciary, we will step in to protect the rights of the American litigants using powers available to Congress under the Constitution.

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

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

Mr. PAUL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the previously scheduled vote occur immediately.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The senior assistant executive clerk read the nomination of Rebecca L. Taibleson, of Wisconsin, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit.

VOTE ON TAIBLESON NOMINATION

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

Mr. PAUL. Madam President, 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 Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) is necessarily absent.

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

[Rollcall Vote No. 588 Ex.]

YEAS—52

Banks	Boozman	Capito
Barrasso	Britt	Cassidy
Blackburn	Budd	Collins

Cornyn	Hyde-Smith	Ricketts
Cotton	Johnson	Risch
Cramer	Justice	Rounds
Crapo	Kennedy	Schmitt
Cruz	Lankford	Scott (FL)
Curtis	Lee	Scott (SC)
Daines	Marshall	Sheehy
Ernst	McConnell	Sullivan
Fischer	McCormick	Thune
Graham	Moody	Tillis
Grassley	Moran	Tuberville
Hagerty	Moreno	Wicker
Hawley	Mullin	Young
Hoeben	Murkowski	
Husted	Paul	

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
Gallago	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden
Heinrich	Reed	
Hickenlooper	Rosen	

NOT VOTING—2

Fetterman	Lummis
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The nomination was 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.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Bill Lewis, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Alabama.

VOTE ON LEWIS NOMINATION

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

Mrs. FISCHER. 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 Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 58, nays 40, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 589 Ex.]

YEAS—58

Banks	Capito	Cruz
Barrasso	Collins	Curtis
Blackburn	Cornyn	Daines
Boozman	Cotton	Durbin
Britt	Cramer	Ernst
Budd	Crapo	Fischer

Graham	Lee	Rounds
Grassley	Lummis	Schiff
Hagerty	Marshall	Schmitt
Hassan	McConnell	Scott (FL)
Hawley	McCormick	Scott (SC)
Hoever	Moody	Sheehy
Husted	Moran	Sullivan
Hyde-Smith	Moreno	Thune
Johnson	Mullin	Tillis
Justice	Murkowski	Tuberville
Kaine	Paul	Wicker
Kennedy	Peters	Young
King	Ricketts	
Lankford	Risch	

NAYS—40

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

NOT VOTING—2

Cassidy	Fetterman
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The nomination was confirmed.

(Mr. MORENO assumed the Chair.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. BRITT). 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.

(Mr. MORENO assumed the Chair.)

The Senator from Nebraska.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. RICKETTS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in 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.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING INNOVATIVE MANUFACTURING & ENGINEERING

• Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, as chair of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to honor Innovative Manufacturing & Engineering of Polk County, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

Founded in 2011 by Todd Freeland, Innovative Manufacturing & Engineering grew out of a small family farm operation that began back in 2003. What started as an idea has grown into a thriving precision manufacturing company built on innovation, integrity, and collaboration. Co-owned by Todd Freeland, Matthew Sawhill, and Brandon Dahms, the business provides computer numerical controlled, CNC, ma-

chined and milled parts, which are precision-engineered components created by computer-controlled tools that shape raw materials into exact dimensions and designs. By leveraging advanced machining technology and automation systems, Innovative Manufacturing & Engineering produces components that meet demanding specifications for clients across agriculture, industrial supply, food, transportation, and the construction industries. Their flexible and collaborative approach allows them to take on both large-scale operations and specialized projects, bringing complex ideas to life with exceptional accuracy and care. Over the years, they have earned a strong reputation for combining craftsmanship with modern technology, ensuring that every part meets the highest industry standards.

At the heart of Innovative Manufacturing & Engineering is a simple yet powerful philosophy: "Precision meets people meets passion." With a team of 14 dedicated employees, the company takes pride in its close customer relationships and its efforts to build Iowa's future workforce. Through partnerships with local community colleges, the business introduces students to advanced manufacturing, helping them gain the technical skills and hands-on experience needed to succeed in a rapidly changing industry. These collaborations strengthen both local communities and the State's manufacturing sector, ensuring continued innovation and opportunity. Their commitment to innovation and continuous improvement has fueled over a decade of steady growth and earned them deep respect within the industry.

Innovative Manufacturing & Engineering continues to push the boundaries of what is possible in precision engineering, helping fuel progress in industries that keep Iowa and the Nation moving forward. Through hard work and vision, Todd, Matthew, and Brandon have built more than a successful business; they have created a legacy that inspires others in the manufacturing industry.

It is my honor to recognize Todd Freeland, Matthew Sawhill, Brandon Dahms, and the entire Innovative Manufacturing & Engineering team for their entrepreneurial spirit, outstanding work, and dedication to their community. I look forward to their continued success and wish them the very best in the years ahead. •

TRIBUTE TO STACEY MORTENSEN

• Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Stacey Mortensen, who is retiring after nearly 30 years of outstanding public service, including her noteworthy tenure as executive director of the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission.

A Fortuna, CA, native raised in Concord, Stacey developed a passion for transportation early on in her professional career. After earning a degree in

environmental planning and management from the University of California, Davis, she began her vocation by conducting traffic counts with the city of Vacaville, a humble beginning that led to Stacey's pioneering role in shaping rail service across California's Central Valley and beyond.

Stacey was at the forefront of initial efforts to develop rail service between Silicon Valley and Stockton. She was working at the San Joaquin County Department of Public Works when the manager of the rail planning section departed suddenly. Stacey stepped into that role and was soon chosen as executive director of the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission. In 1998, under her stalworth leadership, the Altamont Corridor Express, ACE, was launched. ACE connected San Joaquin, Santa Clara, and Alameda Counties with a new model of regional rail service. Stacey oversaw ACE's design, procurement, funding, negotiations, and infrastructure development.

Among her many accomplishments, Stacey was essential in the creation and expansion of the Valley Rail Program, which united more than 20 regional agencies to expand passenger rail service across Merced, Stanislaus, San Joaquin, and Sacramento Counties and led to the formation of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority.

In addition, Stacey helped formulate the Stockton Diamond Grade Separation Project, one of California's largest rail infrastructure projects that aims to eliminate one of the country's most congested rail crossings. She also assisted with the launch of the Rail Academy of Central California, a workforce development program that trains the next generation of rail professionals.

Under Stacey's exemplary guidance, the rail maintenance facility, operated by the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission, became a national model for environmental standards and efficiency. Along with supporting ACE operations, the facility provides maintenance for many different trains, establishing a regional hub of rail knowledge and expertise that employs over 200 people.

As Stacey leaves her position with the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission, her legacy as a transformative force in California's transportation arena will continue through the innovative, enduring impact of her work. I ask all Members to join me in thanking Stacey Mortensen for nearly three decades of leadership and excellence in California's regional transportation network. •

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Holstead, one of his secretaries.