

ago that there was a letter—2017—from a lot of U.S. Senators on both sides—Democrats and Republicans; and many on the Democratic side of the aisle who are still here today—that basically said:

We are mindful of the unique role the Senate plays in the legislative process, and we are steadfastly committed to ensuring that this great American institution continues to serve as the world's deliberative body. Therefore, we are asking you to join us in opposing any effort to curtail the existing rights and prerogatives of Senators to engage in full, robust, and extended debate as we consider legislation before this body in the future.

The legislative filibuster—part of the Senate's heritage as an institution—the way the Founders intended for it to operate. And in 2017, there were 32 Democrat Senators who signed that letter, a number of them who are here today. And I think you probably know who you are.

Well, it didn't take very long when you had a little change in the power, where you had the Democrats, everyone who was here at the time—some of you weren't; some of you are new—voted to get rid of the filibuster. You voted to change the rules. You know where it was going, and some of you have been very public about it, and you have been very public about what you would do if that happened.

The issue at that time was whether or not to federalize elections, which, again, has constitutional issues, given the prerogatives of the State legislatures to set the conditions under which elections are held.

So if you have got a history of arguing here there are all these attacks on democracy, all I am pointing out is that that was a very different standard in the last 4 years in the last administration, and particularly as it pertains to the legislative filibuster.

That is an issue—I don't think anybody here can argue—that is more connected to this institution than probably anything else. It gives voice to the minority. It requires collaboration and bipartisanship to do anything consequential. And at the time, everybody thought it was a good idea to preserve it.

A couple of years changed, the political winds in Washington changed, and all of a sudden it was time to get rid of it.

So we are going to vote on this nomination, but I think it is important to point out in the debate how many times an argument was made here on the floor by Members on this side about attacks on democracy. And going around and circumventing the authority and the power of the article I branch of the government—the Congress, the Senate of the United States—by an executive branch, and yet here are three pretty, I would say, glaring examples of something done by the previous administration.

Former Mayor Marion Barry once described his political philosophy as situationist. And I think when it comes to politics, we all have our views in-

formed and changed, perhaps, overtime. But these are some pretty striking, I think, and glaring examples of the inconsistency that is being applied to the current administration when, in fact, the previous administration—the administration of a different political party—came to some very aggressive conclusions with respect to how they wanted to modify and change and alter laws passed by this institution, the U.S. Senate.

Madam President, I think it is time to vote. Let's proceed with the vote.

#### VOTE ON VUGHT NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. MOODY). All time has expired.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. 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.

Ms. ALSOBROOKS. I vote no—

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Ms. BALDWIN. I vote no on behalf of Waukesha Head Start and the 300 children that they—

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. For our veterans, I vote no.

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. For children with disabilities, I vote no.

Mr. BOOKER. For New Jersey first responders, I vote no.

Ms. CANTWELL. On behalf of farmers who deserve to be paid, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. COONS. On behalf of foreign aid, which keeps us safe and saves lives, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. In support of firefighters fighting wildfires, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. For medical researchers at NIH, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. For older New Yorkers, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Ms. HASSAN. On behalf of first responders from New Hampshire, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. HEINRICH. For our air traffic controllers, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. HICKENLOOPER. On behalf of Colorado hospitals and clinics, rural areas, I vote no on this vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Ms. HIRONO. On behalf of 24,000 hardworking employees, I vote no.

Mr. KAINE. I vote no to the man who wants to traumatize the Federal workforce.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. KELLY. On behalf of Head Start and Arizona, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. KIM. For our working families struggling to pay the bills, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. KING. Under the Constitution, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. For kids in cancer trials of Minnesota, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. LUJAN. On behalf of Head Start and on behalf of the nearly 9,000 Head Start students in New Mexico, I wish to be recorded no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. MARKEY. For clean air and clean water, I vote no.

Mr. MERKLEY. To protect Americans from Big Brother government exploiting their Social Security and tax records, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mrs. MURRAY. For medical researchers and their families who are counting on cures, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. OSSOFF. For the CDC, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. PADILLA. For California firefighters, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. PETERS. To protect the rule of law, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. REED. For our veterans, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Ms. ROSEN. For veterans and families, ROSEN votes no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. SCHATZ. I vote no for the 400,000 people in Hawaii who depend on Medicaid.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. SCHIFF. On behalf of California fire victims counting on FEMA, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. For the hundreds of western New York families left scrambling when their Head Start closed, I vote no on Vought.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Ms. SHAHEEN. For those struggling with mental health issues, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Ms. SLOTKIN. For Medicare, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Ms. SMITH. For the Minnesotans who depend on Meals on Wheels, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. For all the patriotic Federal employees serving our country, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. WARNER. For due process for all our Federal workers, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. WARNOCK. As a proud alum of Head Start, on behalf of all of the families who are struggling for affordable childcare access, I proudly vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Ms. WARREN. On behalf of community health centers across Massachusetts, WARREN votes no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. WELCH. Madam President, on behalf of Vermont first responders and Vermonters who need Medicaid, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Against creepy billionaire influence, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. WYDEN. For vulnerable seniors, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Madam President, how am I recorded?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is not recorded.

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Madam President, on behalf of our brave men and women in uniform and their families and all Federal employees, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. SANDERS. Madam President, how am I recorded?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is not recorded.

Mr. SANDERS. I vote no.

Mr. SCHMITT. On behalf of taxpayers who have been insulted for too long, I vote aye.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. GALLEG0. Madam President, how am I recorded?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is not recorded.

Mr. GALLEG0. Thank you. For the veterans I serve with, I vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XII, no debate is permitted during a vote. The Senator will suspend.

The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 37 Ex.]

YEAS—53

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

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

## 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	Luján	Smith
Cortez Masto	Markey	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Fetterman	Murray	Warren
Gallego	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden
Heinrich	Reed	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

## MOTION TO TABLE THE MOTION TO RECONSIDER

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I move to reconsider the vote, and I move to table the motion to reconsider.

Mrs. MURRAY. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

Mr. THUNE. I ask unanimous consent that all votes going forward be 10-minute votes.

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

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 Texas (Mr. CRUZ).

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 38 Ex.]

## YEAS—52

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

## NAYS—47

Alsobrooks	Duckworth	Kaine
Baldwin	Durbin	Kelly
Bennet	Fetterman	Kim
Blumenthal	Gallego	King
Blunt Rochester	Gillibrand	Klobuchar
Booker	Hassan	Luján
Cantwell	Heinrich	Markey
Coons	Hickenlooper	Merkley
Cortez Masto	Hirono	Murphy

Murray	Schatz	Warner
Ossoff	Schiff	Warnock
Padilla	Schumer	Warren
Peters	Shaheen	Welch
Reed	Slotkin	Whitehouse
Rosen	Smith	Wyden
Sanders	Van Hollen	

## NOT VOTING—1

Cruz

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION—Motion To Proceed

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

## VOTE ON MOTION

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

Mr. PETERS. 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 Texas (Mr. CRUZ).

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 39 Ex.]

## YEAS—52

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

## 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	Luján	Smith
Cortez Masto	Markey	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Fetterman	Murray	Warren
Gallego	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden
Heinrich	Reed	

## NOT VOTING—1

Cruz

The motion was agreed to.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will proceed to legislative session.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION—Motion to Proceed

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 18.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. 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 Texas (Mr. CRUZ).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) is necessarily absent.

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

[Rollcall Vote No. 40 Leg.]

## YEAS—52

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

## NAYS—46

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

## NOT VOTING—2

Cruz Merkley

The motion was agreed to.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Tulsi Gabbard, of Hawaii, to be Director of National Intelligence.

## CLOTURE MOTION

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. 18, Tulsi Gabbard, of Hawaii, to be Director of National Intelligence.