

If there be no objection, the reading of the certificate will be waived and it will be printed in full in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the reading of the certificate will be waived and it will be printed in full in the RECORD, as follows:

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

CERTIFICATE OF APPOINTMENT

To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that, pursuant to the power vested in me by the Constitution of the United States and the laws of the State of Oklahoma, I, J. Kevin Stitt, the governor of said State, do hereby appoint Alan Armstrong, a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States until the vacancy therein caused by the resignation of Markwayne Mullin, is filled by election as provided by law.

Witness: His excellency our governor J. Kevin Stitt, and our seal hereto affixed at Oklahoma City this 24th day of March, in the year of our Lord 2026.

By the Governor:

J. KEVIN STITT,
Governor.

Attest,

BENJAMIN LEPAK,
SECRETARY OF STATE

[State Seal Affixed]

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. If the Senator-designate will now present himself at the desk, the Chair will administer the oath of office.

The Senator-designate, Alan Armstrong, escorted by Mr. LANKFORD, advanced to the desk of the President pro tempore; and he subscribed to the oath in the Official Oath Book.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Congratulations.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BANKS). The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION—Motion to Proceed

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

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

Ms. ROSEN. 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 Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE).

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 66 Ex.]

YEAS—51

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

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

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
Gallego	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden
Heinrich	Reed	

NOT VOTING—2

Hawley Tuberville

The motion was agreed to.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session. The majority leader.

MOTION TO WITHDRAW

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I withdraw the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 311, H.R. 7147.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has that right. The motion is withdrawn.

MOTION TO TABLE

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to table the Schumer motion to suspend rule XXV.

Mr. SCHUMER. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I noted the absence of a quorum.

I ask unanimous consent that I speak for 1 minute.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Democratic leader be able to speak for a minute.

Mr. SCHUMER. I thank the leader for his courtesy.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, with this next rollcall vote, the Republicans are tabling my motion to suspend the Senate rules to provide a path to pay TSA workers. I will vote against tabling because I want to see the TSA workers paid.

I yield the floor.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to table the Schumer motion to suspend rule XXV.

VOTE ON MOTION

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.

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

[Rollcall Vote No. 67 Leg.]

YEAS—53

Armstrong	Fischer	Moran
Banks	Graham	Moreno
Barrasso	Grassley	Murkowski
Blackburn	Hagerty	Paul
Boozman	Hawley	Ricketts
Britt	Hoeven	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	Wicker
Daines	McCormick	Young
Ernst	Moody	

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
Gallego	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden
Heinrich	Reed	

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CURTIS). The majority leader.

MOTION TO TABLE THE MOTION TO REFER

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to table the motion to refer the bill to the Committee on Rules and Administration and report back forthwith with instructions.

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

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

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

[Rollcall Vote No. 68 Leg.]

YEAS—53

Armstrong	Crapo	Johnson
Banks	Cruz	Justice
Barrasso	Curtis	Kennedy
Blackburn	Daines	Lankford
Boozman	Ernst	Lee
Britt	Fischer	Lummis
Budd	Graham	Marshall
Capito	Grassley	McCormick
Cassidy	Hagerty	Moody
Collins	Hawley	Moran
Cornyn	Hoeven	Moreno
Cotton	Husted	Murkowski
Cramer	Hyde-Smith	

Paul	Scott (FL)	Tillis
Ricketts	Scott (SC)	Tuberville
Risch	Sheehy	Wicker
Rounds	Sullivan	Young
Schmitt	Thune	

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
Gallego	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden
Heinrich	Reed	

The motion was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 4421 WITHDRAWN

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I withdraw Senate amendment No. 4421.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has that right.

The amendment (No. 4421) was withdrawn.

AMENDMENT NO. 4732 TO AMENDMENT NO. 4420

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I call up Husted amendment No. 4732 to the motion to concur with amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from South Dakota [Mr. THUNE], for Mr. HUSTED, proposes an amendment numbered 4732 to amendment No. 4420.

Mr. THUNE. I ask the reading be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To require voters to provide photo identification)

Strike section 111 and insert the following:

SEC. 111. REQUIRING VOTERS TO PROVIDE PHOTO IDENTIFICATION.

(a) REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE PHOTO IDENTIFICATION AS CONDITION OF CASTING BALLOT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Title III of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21081 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 303 the following new section:

“SEC. 303A. PHOTO IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.

“(a) PROVISION OF IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED AS CONDITION OF CASTING BALLOT.—

“(1) INDIVIDUALS VOTING IN PERSON.—

“(A) REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE IDENTIFICATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law and except as provided in subparagraph (B), the appropriate State or local election official may not provide a ballot for an election for Federal office to an individual who desires to vote in person unless the individual presents to the official a valid physical photo identification.

“(B) AVAILABILITY OF PROVISIONAL BALLOT.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—If an individual does not present the identification required under subparagraph (A), the individual shall be permitted to cast a provisional ballot with respect to the election under section 302(a), except that the appropriate State or local election official may not make a determination under section 302(a)(4) that the individual is eligible under State law to vote in the election unless, not later than 3 days after casting the provisional ballot, the individual presents to the official—

“(I) the identification required under subparagraph (A); or

“(II) an affidavit developed and made available to the individual by the State attesting that the individual does not possess the identification required under subparagraph (A) because the individual has a religious objection to being photographed.

“(ii) NO EFFECT ON OTHER PROVISIONAL BALLOTING RULES.—Nothing in clause (i) may be construed to apply to the casting of a provisional ballot pursuant to section 302(a) or any State law for reasons other than the failure to present the identification required under subparagraph (A).

“(2) INDIVIDUALS VOTING OTHER THAN IN PERSON.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law and except as provided in subparagraph (B), the appropriate State or local election official may not accept any ballot for an election for Federal office provided by an individual who votes other than in person unless the individual submits with the ballot—

“(i) a copy of a valid photo identification; or

“(ii) the last four digits of the individual’s Social Security number and an affidavit developed and made available to the individual by the State attesting that the individual is unable to obtain a copy of a valid photo identification after making reasonable efforts to obtain such a copy.

“(B) EXCEPTIONS.—Subparagraph (A) does not apply with respect to a ballot provided by—

“(i) an absent uniformed services voter, as defined in section 107(1) of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (52 U.S.C. 20310(1)); or

“(ii) an individual provided the right to vote otherwise than in person under section 3(b)(2)(B)(ii) of the Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act (52 U.S.C. 20102(b)(2)(B)(ii)).

“(b) PROVIDING PUBLIC ACCESS TO DIGITAL IMAGING DEVICES.—With respect to each State, the appropriate State or local government official of the State shall ensure, to the extent practicable, public access to a digital imaging device, which shall include a printer, copier, image scanner, or multifunction machine, at State and local government buildings in the State, including courts, libraries, and police stations, for the purpose of allowing individuals to use such a device at no cost to the individual to make a copy of a valid photo identification.

“(c) VALID PHOTO IDENTIFICATIONS DESCRIBED.—For purposes of this section, a ‘valid photo identification’ means, with respect to an individual who seeks to vote in a State, any of the following:

“(1) A valid State-issued motor vehicle driver’s license that includes a photo of the individual and an expiration date.

“(2) A valid State-issued identification card that includes a photo of the individual and an expiration date issued by a State motor vehicle authority.

“(3) A valid United States passport for the individual.

“(4) A valid military identification for the individual.

“(5) A valid identification document issued by a Tribal government that includes a photo of the individual and an expiration date.

“(d) NOTIFICATION OF IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENT TO APPLICANTS FOR VOTER REGISTRATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Each State shall ensure that, at the time an individual applies to register to vote in elections for Federal office in the State, the appropriate State or local election official notifies the individual of the photo identification requirements of this section.

“(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR INDIVIDUALS APPLYING TO REGISTER TO VOTE ONLINE.—Each State shall ensure that, in the case of an individual who applies to register to vote in elections for Federal office in the State online, the online voter registration system notifies the individual of the photo identification requirements of this section before the individual completes the online registration process.

“(e) VALID MILITARY IDENTIFICATION DEFINED.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘valid military identification’ means any photo identification card issued by the Department of Defense or the Department of Veterans Affairs.

“(f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect 1 day after the date of the enactment of this section, and shall apply with respect to elections for Federal office held on or after such date.”

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents of such Act is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 303 the following new item:

“Sec. 303A. Photo identification requirements.”

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT RELATING TO VOLUNTARY GUIDANCE BY ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION.—Section 311(b) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 21101(b)) is amended—

(1) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph (2);

(2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (3) and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) in the case of the recommendations with respect to section 303A, the date of enactment of this paragraph.”

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT RELATING TO ENFORCEMENT.—Section 401 of such Act (52 U.S.C. 21111) is amended by striking “sections 301, 302, 303, and 304” and inserting “subtitle A of title III”.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section and the amendments made by this section shall take effect 1 day after the date of the enactment of this Act, and shall apply with respect to elections for Federal office held on or after such date.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk for Senate amendment No. 4732.

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 amendment No. 4732 to the motion to concur in the House message to accompany S. 1383 with substitute amendment No. 4420, a bill to establish the Veterans Advisory Committee on Equal Access, and for other purposes.

John Thune, Jon A. Husted, John Kennedy, John R. Curtis, Tom Cotton, Tommy Tuberville, Katie Boyd Britt, David McCormick, Steve Daines, Mike Rounds, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Thom Tillis, Ted Cruz, Bill Cassidy, Ashley B. Moody, Cynthia M. Lummis, Joni Ernst.

MOTION TO REFER WITH AMENDMENT NO. 4772

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to refer the House message on S. 1383 to the Committee on Rules Administration with instruction to report back forthwith with an amendment numbered 4772.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows: The Senator from South Dakota [Mr. THUNE] moves to refer the message to the Committee on Rules and Administration to report back with instructions forthwith with an amendment numbered 4772.

The amendment is as follows:
(Purpose: To improve the bill)

At the end add the following:
"This Act shall take effect 4 days after the date of enactment."

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays on my motion.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 4773

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I have an amendment to the instructions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk proceeded to read the bill.

The Senator from South Dakota [Mr. THUNE] proposes an amendment numbered 4773 to the instructions of the motion to refer.

Mr. THUNE. I ask that the reading be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To improve the bill)

Strike "4 days" and insert "5 days"

Mr. THUNE. I ask for the yeas and nays on my amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 4774 TO AMENDMENT NO. 4773

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I have a second-degree amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from South Dakota [Mr. THUNE] proposes an amendment numbered 4774 to amendment No. 4773.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask that the reading be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To improve the bill)

Strike "5 days" and insert "6 days"

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026—Motion to Proceed

Mr. THUNE. I move to proceed to Calendar No. 311, H.R. 7147.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 311, H.R. 7147, a bill making further consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes.

Mr. THUNE. I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

WAR POWERS RESOLUTION

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, colleagues, in a few moments I am going to call up for a vote—a resolution on a privileged motion to end the war in Iran.

I am going to be joined on the floor by several of my colleagues, all of us here in astonishment that 4 weeks into the most significant conflict in the Middle East in most of our careers in this body—12-plus Americans killed, \$2 billion at least being spent every day, thousands dead throughout the region—we have still not yet had a single hearing in the United States Senate on the war in Iran.

We have not had a debate on a war authorization. We have not had a vote to allow Senators to weigh in—up or down—as to whether they want the United States to be at war again in the Middle East.

This is an extraordinary moment, and I know we risk engaging in hyperbole these days, coming down to the floor and naming one moment as extraordinary after another moment. But I don't think we have had a moment like this, where the United States has been unquestionably at war with a foreign power, where American soldiers are dying as we speak and it is being hidden, actively, from the public by the Congress.

It is bad enough that we haven't had a debate and vote other than those forced by Democrats. We haven't had a hearing in the Foreign Relations Committee. We haven't had a hearing in the Armed Services Committee.

Now, I think we know the reason. The reason is that this administration cannot defend and explain this war. But if they cannot and if they are not willing to come to Congress and defend this war, it speaks to the indictment of the preparation and the strategy.

I am going to read to you an excerpt from a Washington Post article. Now, the Washington Post has been very careful about their criticism of the President recently:

A surge of additional U.S. forces to the Middle East and President Donald Trump's threat to "obliterate" Iran's energy infrastructure have set the stage for what U.S. and Israeli security officials increasingly see as the war's . . . endgame: a battle for control of the Strait of Hormuz and key energy installations.

Reopening the strait . . . has emerged as perhaps the paramount objective of [the] war . . . officials now believe is unlikely to achieve goals that briefly seemed possible at the outset of the [war] . . . including overthrowing Iran's theocratic regime and putting a nuclear weapon permanently out of Tehran's reach.

Let me restate that for you. The Trump administration now says that the goal of the war is not to dislodge an anti-American regime in Tehran; it is not to stop Iran from getting a nuclear weapon; it is not even to permanently end Iran's ability to have missiles that can reach their neighbors or drone capacity that can provoke in the region. The primary goal now is to reopen the Strait of Hormuz.

Here is the problem: The strait was open before the war began. We are now seeking to solve a problem that we created. This is insanity. Two billion dollars is a lot of money. That is the minimum amount of money that is being spent every single day on this war.

There are over a dozen families who are burying their loved ones in the United States, and there may be dozens more if this war continues. Prices are skyrocketing—not just in America but all across the world. Notices just went out from DuPont to their customers that the price of plastic is doubling. The price at the pump in many States is at \$4, \$5, and going higher. Fertilizer: soon to be unaffordable for American farmers. The consequences of this war are stunning in their scope: higher prices for American businesses and American families, a potential global recession, the wasting of billions of dollars of hard-earned taxpayer dollars, and new conflicts in the region that didn't exist before the war began.

In the last day, there have been 12 missile attacks inside Israel. Just during this last vote, news broke of another missile attack on a community, Bnei Brak, with nine people injured, six children injured. Just in the last week, there have been multiple missile and drone attacks on cities throughout Israel; six ballistic missiles from two separate attacks hit the Kurdish region in Iraq, killing six Kurdish fighters; and an Iranian missile attack on the Iranian-United States base in Diego Garcia. That is 2,500 miles away from Tehran.

UAE has basically stopped giving out information about these drone and missile attacks because they happen so frequently, but on Monday, they did publicize they engaged with 16 drones and 7 ballistic missiles. That was just on Monday.

Israel has invaded Lebanon. Those two countries are on the verge of full-scale war. One-sixth of the population of Lebanon has already been displaced. Syria is at risk of falling apart again.

We have created a catastrophe in the Middle East. We are lighting taxpayer dollars on fire. We are causing prices to go up for everyone.

And what is our new war aim? Reopening the strait that was open before we started the war.

This is basic incompetence. This is what you get when you put talk show hosts and real estate developers in charge of American national security: a war that makes absolutely no sense.

Even though our war aims have been reduced to simply undoing the damage