

is in the White House. And we can do it without a single Democrat vote, and we are going to move forward without them.

The Democrats want to defund law enforcement in America. It is disgraceful. It is shameful. But that is who that party has become. They want to end immigration enforcement in the United States. Republicans will never let that happen.

Senator SCHUMER and the Democrats engineered this dangerous, reckless shutdown that we are currently living in. It is a shutdown of American security and American law enforcement. Now, they have done it for one reason: They would rather protect illegal immigrant criminals than protect law-abiding American citizens.

For the last 2 months, Democrats have fought to turn America into what some would call a sanctuary country and what I would call a country that harbors and protects illegal immigrants. That is what they are trying to do. Those are their beliefs. They rally around the country to proclaim it.

They voted to defund ICE, and they voted to defund Border Patrol—the very men and women who are hired to keep our Nation safe and secure. They tried to ban masks on ICE agents. That would allow the gangs of radical thugs who travel the streets at some of these rallies to threaten agents in their own homes, to terrorize their families.

Those were the demands the Democrats made in the negotiations. They all have one thing in common: They make our Nation less safe. Clear and simple, they make America less safe. That is who the Democrats are, and that is why Republicans have rejected all of the things they have been demanding.

Thanks to Republicans, immigration enforcement and border security will be fully funded, and they will be funded without conceding a single radical Democrat demand.

Democrats have spent the last 2 months trying to handcuff ICE and Border Patrol agents. Republicans are going to make sure that ICE and Border Patrol are fully funded as long as President Trump is in the White House.

So here is what comes next. I met with President Trump at the White House on Friday afternoon. Senator LINDSEY GRAHAM, who is chairman of the Budget Committee, and I met, sat, and visited with the President. We shared with him that Senate Republicans are not slowing down. We are united around a targeted, focused reconciliation bill, and we are moving immediately and quickly to fully fund and strengthen ICE and Border Patrol. We are going to do it with a simple majority right here in the U.S. Senate, and we are going to do it for the long term—no more hostage-taking by the radical Democrats. The safety and security of the American people are much too important for that. Senate Republicans intend to meet President Trump's June 1 deadline.

The men and women of ICE and Border Patrol are American heroes. They protect our Nation from murderers, from drug traffickers, from rapists. They protect our Nation from repeat illegal immigrant criminals. These are the individuals who should not have been let into the country in the first place, but Joe Biden and the Democrats let 10 million illegal immigrants flood into our Nation during those 4 years.

When Democrats obstruct this critical work, innocent Americans pay the price.

Remember Sheridan Gorman. She was 18 years old, just 18 years old and a student in Chicago. Last month in Chicago, she was shot and killed in cold blood by an illegal immigrant criminal.

Sheridan's killer entered our Nation in 2023. The Biden administration let him in. He was one of 10 million illegal immigrants allowed to enter the country. And, of course, Chicago's sanctuary city laws that they are proud of there shielded him from deportation. The city of Chicago and their mayor protected him. He turns out to be a murderer.

And don't forget Richard Williams. He was that 83-year-old U.S. Air Force veteran. Last month, in New York City—the minority leader's hometown—he was shoved onto the subway tracks by an illegal immigrant criminal. He died of his injuries.

His killer had a lengthy criminal record, but the sanctuary city laws of New York protected him. So he kept doing criminal deeds and acts against American people and their property.

Sheridan Gorman deserved better. Richard Williams deserved better. Every American citizen and every American community deserve better than what the Democrats are trying to hoist upon all of us.

This is what Republicans are fighting for. That is why we are here. From day one, President Trump and Republicans have fought alone to secure the border and to enforce the laws. Democrats responded with opposition, with obstruction, with extremism. Republicans will do what is necessary to fully fund our national security, and we will protect law-abiding citizens, not illegal immigrant criminals.

The American people have long demanded secure borders and safe communities. President Trump and Republican leadership are going to continue to deliver. Senator SCHUMER and the Democrats may scream. They are not going to stop us.

I yield the floor.

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

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

CREDIT SUISSE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, for several Congresses, I and others in this body have been trying to bring attention to Swiss banks trying to hide assets that they accumulated during World War II and joining my colleagues in efforts to make sure that justice is done for the wealth and other private property that was taken from Jewish people who died in the Holocaust. So once again, I am back to give a report and an update on that effort.

In February of this year, I chaired a bipartisan hearing on my ongoing Credit Suisse Nazi accounts investigation. That hearing was supposed to, in part, highlight the collaborative and cooperative work of the bank UBS, which bought Credit Suisse, along with Neil Barofsky, the Simon Wiesenthal Center, and the Senate Judiciary Committee, and what we had achieved up to that point.

UBS had committed to fully exposing the wrongs committed by Credit Suisse. After all, the information about Nazi evils belongs to humanity. But when UBS was informed that my committee may potentially hold a hearing, the previous cooperation that we got from UBS was scaled back.

Mr. Barofsky testified this to the committee:

Shortly after I told UBS that this committee was considering holding this hearing, UBS informed me that it would for the first time conduct a privileged review and withhold certain relevant privileged material from me and my team.

This is from Mr. Barofsky, the chief investigator of the information that we are trying to get from UBS.

According to Mr. Barofsky, UBS leadership provided misleading information to the committee even after being warned that they were misleading the Judiciary Committee.

For example, at the hearing, UBS testified that it had withheld fewer than 150 documents from Mr. Barofsky.

But Mr. Barofsky said his team emailed UBS before our hearing, "expressing concern that using the word 'document' was misleading."

Mr. Barofsky said, in this instance, the word "document" actually meant "hundreds or even thousands of pages of many different documents together."

Following the hearing, Mr. Barofsky told the committee that he urged UBS to "correct any misimpression it may have made upon the Committee when it referenced the number of withheld and redacted documents as being only 150." And according to Barofsky, these documents are "relevant to the question of whether a Nazi had an account or didn't have an account with Credit Suisse."

To date, UBS hasn't provided a true account of the amount of pages at issue. However, Mr. Barofsky informed the committee that, as of March 11, 2026, approximately 23,000 pages of materials had been redacted or withheld from him.

UBS also took legal action against the Simon Wiesenthal Center. Last week, thank God, a Federal court in New York issued a ruling against UBS's efforts. However, if the bank were successful in that court case, it could have blocked the Simon Wiesenthal Center from fully speaking on all Holocaust issues—very much a violation of First Amendment rights of freedom of speech.

Following the committee hearing, UBS failed to fully and completely respond to all questions for the record submitted by members of the Judiciary Committee.

Now, I am going to talk about a Mr. Karofsky, different than Mr. Barofsky. Mr. Karofsky is president of UBS Americas. He literally failed to answer any questions posed directly to him. His disrespect for the committee is noted.

So be on notice, Mr. Karofsky.

So I kept the hearing record open, and this week, I have sent additional questions for the record to the bank, UBS, and to others. Mr. Barofsky, as opposed to Mr. Karofsky, has since provided supplemental responses.

He has informed the committee that UBS has refused to investigate credible leads on Nazis and their facilitators, looting of Jewish assets, and facilitation of ratlines. He has also told the committee that UBS has imposed an arbitrary July 31, 2026, deadline for completing this investigative work.

Certainly, as I am an investigator, I understand timelines and deadlines. But I also know that you can't enforce deadlines at the expense of quality of the investigation.

UBS has taken the position that it, in and of itself, will decide what they are going to do to cooperate after the current investigation concludes, whether to investigate remaining leads.

Now, this Senator was born at night, but not last night. UBS needs to quit playing games and get the job done right away. UBS has spent millions of dollars on investigative work. Why not investigate these Nazi evils right now? What are they trying to hide? UBS's current position will unnecessarily create a cloud of doubt over the final report of investigation.

As I said in March, I plan to call a followup hearing before the end of this year. My goal is that this hearing will bring closure to the investigation in a way that brings justice to the Jewish community and the victims of the Holocaust.

UBS's conduct is interfering with that ultimate goal. And given their recent national chartered bank approval by the U.S. Government, UBS has a heightened responsibility to be fully forthcoming on this matter.

I urge them to get back on the right side, where they once were, because it looked like we had very faithful and dedicated communication by the bank to our investigation. And why all this impeding of further investigation, I don't understand.

I encourage Mr. Barofsky and the Simon Wiesenthal Center to keep my investigative team updated on all ongoing matters, whether it is good or whether it is bad. This Senator's efforts to expose Nazi evils will not stop. I yield the floor.

NOMINATION OF JOHN THOMAS SHEPHERD

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote on the nomination of Judge John Shepherd to the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Arkansas.

I am concerned by Judge Shepherd's overall lack of experience. He has served on the Arkansas State bench for just over a year. Prior to that, he practiced law for just 12 years. By his own admission, only half of his legal practice actually involved litigation.

In addition, Judge Shepherd has stated that less than 5 percent of his experience as a litigator took place in Federal court.

Litigants in Federal trial courts should have confidence that the judges overseeing their cases are experts in Federal practice and procedure. Judge Shepherd simply does not have adequate experience for litigants in the Western District of Arkansas to feel they have received a fair hearing before him.

For these reasons, I oppose Judge Shepherd's nomination and urge my colleagues to do the same.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SHEEHY). The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, today I urge my Senate colleagues to vote to confirm the nomination of the Honorable John Thomas Shepherd for the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Arkansas.

Throughout his career, Judge Shepherd has worked to uphold the rule of law, preserve public safety, and keep crime out of our State. Whether representing the people as a prosecuting attorney, presiding from the bench as a circuit judge, or practicing law in the private sector, Judge Shepherd has handled a wide range of cases with an exceptional track record.

Those who know Judge Shepherd can attest to his professionalism, his commitment to serving Arkansans, and his dedication to his family, many of whom have also answered the call to public service.

A native of El Dorado, Judge Shepherd is also a leader in his community, serving as a volunteer youth coach for the Boys & Girls Club, a radio color analyst for the El Dorado High School football team, and an active member of his church.

I am pleased to support Judge Shepherd's nomination, and I urge my Senate colleagues to vote to support his confirmation as well.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic whip.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the scheduled rollcall begin immediately.

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

VOTE ON SHEPHERD NOMINATION

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

Mr. DURBIN. 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. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 76 Ex.]

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—46

Alsobrooks	Hirono	Sanders
Baldwin	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	
Hickenlooper	Rosen	

NOT VOTING—1

Bennet

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ARMSTRONG). 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 bill 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. 674, Christopher R. Wolfe, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas.

John Thune, Bill Hagerty, Tim Sheehy, Jim Banks, Ted Budd, Katie Boyd Britt, Bernie Moreno, Tommy