

So I encourage my Senate colleagues to take a look at this to be able to work with my colleagues like my senior Senator from the State of Nebraska to be able to find common ground to get this passed.

We have been doing it by emergency waiver for the last 8 years. It is something we continue to do. Let's make it permanent so we get more investment in the infrastructure to help give consumers more choice and help them reduce their fuel costs at the pump.

All of this would also help out our farmers and ranchers. Our farmers and ranchers are the backbone of Nebraska, and they have been the backbone of our country since its founding. We need to continue to support our farmers and ranchers. This is very important not only for our industry of agriculture but so that we can continue to feed our Nation and, indeed, the rest of the world.

I yield the floor.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

The Senator from Kansas.

NOMINATION OF ANTHONY J. POWELL

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I rise here on the Senate floor for the third time in the last 2 weeks to explain to my colleagues that we are about to vote on a district judge. The three times I have explained this is three different judges. Kansas has three vacancies, and we are in the process of having those filled. This is the third one, and we are about to vote on cloture in that regard. I rise today in support of the Honorable Anthony Powell to serve as United States district judge for the District of Kansas.

I have said before that this is an important responsibility for me and my colleagues to find the right people to serve in the judicial branch, and this is an issue that I have always taken very seriously.

Judge Powell is a graduate from George Washington University and Washburn University School of Law before going on to his law practice at Martin & Churchill in Wichita, KS.

He also served on Capitol Hill, including time as an intern for one of my predecessors Senator Bob Dole.

He was a member of the Kansas House of Representatives for 8 years. He served as the majority whip. And following his time in the State legislature, he was a judge in the 18th Judicial District serving Sedgwick County—that is the county that Wichita is the county seat of—for a decade before being appointed to the Kansas Court of Appeals.

Judge Powell most recently served as the Kansas solicitor general, and I believe he has the qualifications, the in-

tegrity, and the commitment necessary to serve Kansans and perform duties of this new role.

I met Judge Powell during the selection process, although I knew him previously, and I appreciate his commitment to public service, devotion to our Constitution, and respect for the people of Kansas.

Judge Powell and his wife Betty have four children, and I am grateful to the entire family for their dedication to this service.

I was pleased to recommend Judge Powell's nomination to the White House, and I look forward to voting to confirm him to the federal bench in Kansas. And I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting his nomination.

I yield the floor.

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 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. 745, Anthony J. Powell, of Kansas, to be United States District Judge for the District of Kansas.

John Thune, Tim Sheehy, Pete Ricketts, Mike Rounds, John Barrasso, Ted Budd, Jim Banks, Rick Scott of Florida, Todd Young, David McCormick, Shelley Moore Capito, Jerry Moran, Jon A. Husted, John Boozman, Mike Crapo, Katie Boyd Britt, John R. Curtis.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the mandatory quorum call under rule XXII has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Anthony J. Powell, of Kansas, to be United States District Judge for the District of Kansas, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. MORENO), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) would have voted "yea" and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 48, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 167 Ex.]

YEAS—48

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

NAYS—45

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

NOT VOTING—7

Bennet	Graham	Tillis
Blackburn	Moreno	
Crapo	Smith	

(Mr. DAINES assumed the Chair.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CURTIS). On this vote, the yeas are 48, the nays are 45.

The motion is agreed to.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

REMEMBERING BOB DOLE

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a date that is significant in the history of the U.S. Senate and that is especially meaningful to me and to my home State of Kansas.

Thirty years ago tomorrow, on June 11, 1996, Senator Bob Dole gave his final speech on the floor of this Chamber, marking his retirement as both majority leader and as a Member of the Senate. In his farewell speech, Senator Dole demonstrated the high regard he held for the people of Kansas.

He said:

If we could all go [home] and shake hands of all the people who are responsible for us being here, it would take a long, long time.

He grew up in a little town just down the road from my hometown. He grew up in Russell. Bob Dole was my Congressman when I was a kid, and I could tell even then how deeply respected and admired he was by the folks at home. He cared deeply about representing the people of our State. He represented them well, and he had a profound respect for the institution of the U.S. Senate.

He said in his final remarks that day, which was 30 years ago tomorrow:

The truth is that I would no more distance myself from the Senate than I would from the United States itself. The body is a reflection of America. It's what America is all about. We come from different states and different backgrounds, different opportunities, different challenges in our life.

His own service embodied those words. He brought the same values and character from rural Kansas to the role of Senate majority leader.

Bob Dole was an American hero who served in uniform during World War II and who sustained serious, serious injuries—grievous, really—in battle during that service. He loved his country deeply.

In his final remarks in this Chamber, he said:

We're much more than a place on a map, we're the United States. And we're a beacon of hope, we're a magnet for the oppressed and a shield against those who would put the soul itself in bondage.

He never lost sight of what made our country special or the blessing of being an American.

He reflected:

I remember when the Berlin Wall came down and the Soviet Empire collapsed, a lot of people started coming to America. And they were young and they were old and they were men and they were women. . . . For the first time, in 70 years in some cases, they had a right to travel. They could get on an airplane without checking with the government and [without] waiting for a year or two years or three years. They could go to church, they could vote, and all these basic rights that we [in the United States] take for granted.

And where did they travel to?

[T]hey came to America.

As he said goodbye on the floor of the Senate, Bob Dole reminded his colleagues not to lose sight of defending and preserving the American way of life.

He said:

I would hope that we will keep in mind that there are still threats around the world. And also keep in mind that we're the envy of the world.

In this Chamber, I use this desk—this desk was Senator Dole's—as a reminder of how his work on the floor resulted in many Americans having a better shot at the American dream.

He championed landmark legislation that transformed the lives of individuals with disabilities, legislation that transformed the lives of veterans, farmers, young children, families, and many, many more. He was a strong champion of Food for Peace, and he established the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education Program, which uses U.S.-grown commodities to feed hungry schoolchildren and especially young people.

Senator Dole embodied the compassionate spirit of Kansans and farmers who feed the world, and Kansas continues to do that work today. These food aid programs remain among our Nation's most successful avenues of delivering American-grown food to hungry people around the globe.

A wounded veteran himself, Senator Dole spent his life advocating for individuals with disabilities, and he was instrumental in the passage of the landmark legislation Americans with Disabilities Act.

Senator Dole never forgot his fellow veterans, and he worked tirelessly to

help them find success after their military service. These efforts continued after his election to public service as he was instrumental in the creation of the World War II Memorial, a place he could often be found greeting Honor Flights of World War II veterans.

Because of Senator Dole's work, my own dad, a World War II veteran, had the opportunity to visit this monument built in his honor.

Senator Dole knew the power of working with others to make the world better. And despite the difficulties, he found an opportunity in the U.S. Senate.

I will close with the words he delivered three decades ago:

[Y]es, the institution has its imperfections, or occasional inefficiency.

And we're like America. We're still a work in progress in the United States Senate.

The challenges he spoke of still remain. I believe what he would say today, as he said it then:

I'm an optimist. I believe our best tomorrows are yet to be lived.

His legacy shows a difference that one person can make, regardless of their background, birthplace, or education.

Kansans and Americans held Senator Dole in the highest regard, and he lived a life worthy of that respect. May we resolve to practice that same kindness, respect, and honor that marked the life of Senator Dole.

So I rise today, here on the Senate floor, almost 30 years to the day in which Senator Dole left this institution. He left his country, his Nation, his State in better shape than it was when he arrived, and he always knew that the brighter days were yet to come. He found common ground with people that were hard to find common ground with, and he and the way he conducted himself should remain a role model for those of us who serve in his place today.

#### REMEMBERING ELIZA WALKER

Mr. President, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to the life of Ms. Eliza Walker.

I had the opportunity to first get to know Ms. Walker. I am one who starts my day in the Senate gym and go there and go to the cafeteria, and I met Ms. Walker at one of the cash register stands in that Senate cafeteria. And almost every morning—3 days a week, at least—we would have a conversation as I stopped to pay my bill.

She was a bright light, a good start to anyone's day, and I was saddened recently to hear of her passing.

Ms. Walker always greeted me and all of her customers with a warm smile, and she and I often visited about our families and the latest happenings in our lives. She concluded every encounter with me and every customer that I saw her with, with "Have a blessed day." She was dedicated to serving others, and she always treated everyone with kindness.

There are lots of people I meet in this Capitol Complex, and all of them are

nice and respectful. I appreciate that because it is a place that I work and spend a lot of time. I am away from my own family, and I appreciate the kindness of others that compensate for some of those absences.

And while many Americans know the Capitol as a symbol for our democracy, few see the countless public servants whose daily efforts and daily work preserve and sustain this place. Ms. Walker was one of those individuals whose professionalism, compassion, and work ethic left a positive impact on all who met her.

Doug Markley, Ms. Walker's supervisor, had this to say about her:

She was an icon at the Senate, and I miss her here every day. She was a woman of great faith and dedicated to being of service. On many occasions, if she knew I was facing a challenge, she would take my hand or put her hand on my shoulder and say a prayer for me. It was always a welcome gesture of support. It was her belief in doing what was right that was her strength and her selflessness stood out to all who knew her.

Ms. Walker was deeply devoted to her family, and I always enjoyed hearing about them in our frequent conversations. A mother to 4 children, a grandmother to 10 grandchildren, a great-grandmother to 13 great-grandchildren—her love for her family was central in her daily life, perhaps only exceeded by her love for her Savior.

We often discussed our church activities, and I was pleased to learn that she knew many of the same old church hymns that I grew up with. Her faith guided her in every aspect of her life. A devoted member of the Vision Church in Washington, DC, Eliza served as a source of wisdom and counsel, and she was someone who blessed many in that community.

Wanting to share her faith and wisdom with the next generation, she became a publisher. She was an author in 2017 of her book "Mothers Wits From the Past." She dedicated her time and talent and treasure into her work and offered unique perspectives and practical guidance from a life lived well.

There are many individuals whose contributions occur quietly and sometimes without recognition, but the service and kindness and the kind touch—it affects countless lives.

Ms. Walker lived her life well, showed up every day with integrity, dedication, and pride in her work. On behalf of the U.S. Senate, we are grateful for her service, for her example of compassion, for the way in which she touched many lives with her faith and generosity.

As the scripture says:

Well done, good and faithful servant.

My prayers are with Ms. Walker's family, her friends, her church community, and her colleagues. She is deeply missed, but her legacy lives on in the hearts of all of us who knew her.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. WELCH. Mr. President, first of all, I want to thank my colleague from