

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE) and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL).

Mr. DURBIN: I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) and the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 50, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 194 Ex.]

YEAS—50

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

NAYS—45

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
Gallago	Murray	Warren
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Welch
Hassan	Peters	Whitehouse
Heinrich	Reed	Wyden

NOT VOTING—4

Fetterman	McConnell
Justice	Padilla

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.

The Senator from Alabama.

WAIVING QUORUM CALL

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I ask unanimous consent to waive the mandatory quorum call with respect to the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 436, S. 4784.

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

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:52 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. SCHMITT).

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume legislative session.

CERTIFICATE OF APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair lays before the Senate the certificate of appointment to fill the vacancy created by the death of Lindsey O. Graham of South Carolina. The certificate, the Chair is advised, is in the form suggested by the Senate.

If there is 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 material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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 South Carolina, I, Henry Dargan McMaster, the governor of said State, do hereby appoint Darline Graham a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States until the vacancy therein caused by the death of Lindsey O. Graham, is filled by election as provided by law.

Witness: His excellency our governor Henry Dargan McMaster, and our seal hereto affixed at the State Capitol this 13th day of July, in the year of our Lord 2026.

By the Governor:

HENRY D. MCMASTER,
Governor.

MARK HAMMOND,
Secretary of State.

[State Seal Affixed]

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE

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

The Senator-designate, DARLINE GRAHAM, escorted by Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina and Mrs. BRITT, advanced to the desk of the President pro tempore; the oath prescribed by law was administered to her by the President pro tempore; and she subscribed to the oath in the Official Oath Book.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Congratulations, Senator.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH). Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant executive 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 motion to proceed to Calendar No. 436, S. 4784, a original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2027 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

John Thune, Roger F. Wicker, Tim Sheehy, Mike Rounds, Jon A. Husted, Steve Daines, Bill Hagerty, Tim Scott of South Carolina, Shelley Moore Capito, Bernie Moreno, Cindy Hyde-Smith, James C. Justice, Jim Banks, John Boozman, Cynthia M. Lummis, John Cornyn, John R. Curtis.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. 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 motion to proceed to S. 4784, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2027 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE) and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) and the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 50, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 195 Ex.]

YEAS—50

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

NAYS—46

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

NOT VOTING—4

Fetterman	McConnell
Justice	Padilla

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BANKS). On this vote, the yeas are 50, the nays are 46.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, the motion is rejected.

The motion was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

MOTION TO RECONSIDER

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I enter a motion to reconsider.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion is entered.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2027—Motion to Proceed

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 436, S. 4784.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 436, S. 4784, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2027 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

REMEMBERING LINDSEY GRAHAM

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to my colleague but, most of all, to my friend, Senator Lindsey Graham.

We were all shocked to learn of his passing this weekend, and I mean it—stunned. It is hard to imagine the Senate without Lindsey. It already seems quieter. We will miss his humor, his advice, and, of course, his friendship.

Lindsey was dedicated to serving the people of South Carolina and the Nation. He spent nearly his entire adult life in public service, from the military to the South Carolina House, to the past 31 years—31 years—here, both in the House and in the Senate. In having spent 33 years in the Air Force, the South Carolina Air Guard, or the Reserves, Senator Graham was a staunch supporter of our men and women in uniform.

Since 2010, he served as co-chair of the National Guard Caucus. With his help, we were able to successfully convince the Department of Defense to change its policy and allow guardsmen and reservists to concurrently receive their Federal tuition assistance and their GI bill benefits in full.

Given our close, personal friendship and his ardent support of our servicemembers, our national defense, and our military, I liked to call him “Grambo.” For me, that was his nickname, “Grambo”—you know, kind of like “Rambo.” Well, he was “Grambo.” He really was the Senate version of “Rambo” in all things military, and he was relentless, as we saw. I mean, right up until almost the day he died, he was working and advocating for our military, on behalf of American military strength, and our role as, truly, the leader of the free world.

As chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, Senator Graham advanced conservative causes that have made our Nation stronger and more pros-

perous. He helped steer through the Working Families Tax—the One Big Beautiful Bill, or the OB3. It has got a lot of names, but the important point is that it really made a huge difference for our country and for working families. He cared about that. He cared about taking on the big challenges and doing big things.

Likewise, as the Budget chair, he was instrumental in helping us fund border security and law enforcement. He was a big part of helping us implement the Trump agenda, and that was so appropriate. Lindsey was really—you know, as they say in sports, he was a triple threat. He was a triple threat. He was a force in our Republican caucus, and he could work with the Democrats.

Of course, he had a tremendous relationship with President Trump, and they truly cared about each other. They were real friends. They worked together, but they truly were friends.

We will miss all of that.

As the former chairman and the senior member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Senator Graham shaped the Federal judiciary. Think of how impactful that has been from the Supreme Court down to the district courts. He played a central role in the confirmations of Supreme Court Justices, including Justices Alito, Kavanaugh, Gorsuch, and Barrett, while also helping to oversee a massive conservative shift in the Federal judiciary.

I think the time that, on the Judiciary Committee, he really said what he thought, what he felt in his heart about Justice Kavanaugh was perhaps, if not his finest moment, one of his truly finest moments where he truly stood up and said what he felt was right on the national stage and made an incredible difference, a lasting and important, incredible difference. And it wasn't rehearsed; it was just Lindsey spontaneously being Lindsey, saying what was in his heart. There is that old saying: Speak from your gut and your heart. Boy, did he, and it made a huge difference. That was vintage Lindsey Graham.

His leadership on defense, judiciary, and budget issues will be felt for years to come.

But for all his accomplishments in the Senate and around the globe, Senator Graham was most proud of his family. He was a loyal and loving brother and uncle who once said of his sister:

Of all the things that have happened in my life, her turning out so well is the highlight of it by far.

It is only fitting that his sister Darline will serve in his place. We extend her a warm welcome to the Senate like Senator Graham did with so many of us.

It is almost as if Lindsey and President Trump had one more call after the call that night where they talked. Lindsey had gotten back from Ukraine, and the President called him or he called the President. They talked on

the phone, and it was shortly after that that Lindsey had his heart attack and died.

But it is almost like they had one more call—one more call—where Lindsey was able to call President Trump again or President Trump was able to call Lindsey and they talked about, you know, who should replace Lindsey during that period before the election when the people of South Carolina will elect their next Senator to replace Lindsey, and they decided on DARLINE.

And how fitting. How appropriate. So big thanks to President Trump for recommending to Governor McMaster that he appoint DARLINE. We are so pleased to have her here, and it is so fitting and appropriate.

My wife Mikey and I are praying for Lindsey and for his whole family. I have to say that my wife Mikey was always a big Lindsey fan. One time, we are at dinner or something, and she just tells Lindsey how much I like and respect Lindsey.

I said to her: Why did you do that?

She goes: Well, because you do. You really like him. You respect him.

So I just said: Yes, I know I do, but he is my buddy. You are not supposed to tell your buddy that; they are just supposed to know it.

But it is true. I think we all did, both sides of the aisle.

We will miss him incredibly. The country, the State of South Carolina will miss him. Our country will miss Lindsey Graham and his incredible service.

May God bless Lindsey and his entire family.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic whip.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I thank my colleague from North Dakota for those kind words about our mutual friend. We are both going to miss him.

I have given a tribute to him today in the committee and partially on the floor, but it is still hard to imagine the Senate without Lindsey.

(The remarks of Mr. DURBIN pertaining to the introduction of S. 4979 are printed in today's RECORD under “Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.”)

Mr. DURBIN. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to enter into a colloquy with the Senator from North Carolina Senator TILLIS.

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

BIPARTISAN SAFER COMMUNITIES ACT

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, 4 years ago, Congress passed our legislative response to one of the deadliest school shootings in American history. It happened in Uvalde, TX, at Robb Elementary School. Nineteen innocent children and two adults—teachers—lost their lives that day.

It was a devastating—a devastating—occurrence. Unfortunately, it was not