

Finally, war is dangerous to the U.S. economy.

An invasion of Iran would immediately lead to dramatic increases in the price of oil. American citizens, Virginians, are already laboring under costs that are too high for energy, for health, for groceries, for building supplies. The last thing we need is an unnecessary war that will drive energy prices even higher.

War also risks inciting other dictators.

If the United States can decide, well, we are going to invade a sovereign nation because we want to do it, what is our ability to stand and justly criticize Vladimir Putin and Russia for invading Ukraine? What argument can we have to China to suggest that they shouldn't incur upon and invade Taiwan?

The United States should uphold a moral standard so that we can look others in the eye and say: You should uphold a moral standard.

We would badly degrade our ability to prevent dictators from invading other sovereign nations if we are to get into a war with Iran.

Look, Iran is not a good guy. Iran is a bad guy. Iran punishes protesters. Iran is engaged in all kinds of activity in the region—funding terrorist groups in Syria, in Iraq, Hezbollah in Lebanon, Hamas in Gaza, the Houthis in Yemen. They are doing that. They are doing that at the expense of their own people.

Iran engages in activities far away from the Middle East. They have had to remove their Ambassadors from nations as far-flung as Morocco and Australia because of activities that are designed in those countries to destabilize them. Iran funded a bombing of a Jewish cultural center in Argentina a couple decades ago, and they still haven't been held to account.

So they are not a good guy; they are a bad guy. But are they worth wasting U.S. lives, U.S. money, U.S. credibility over? Let's use other tools, like sanctions, and not use our own kids' lives to deal with this threat.

I will conclude and just say this: My time as Governor from 2006 to 2010 coincided with the mass deployment of Virginians into wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. As the Governor of Virginia, I had an authority over members of the Virginia National Guard. The Virginia National Guard deployed in the thousands to Iraq and Afghanistan, and I went to the deployments, and I went to the homecomings, and I went to the wakes, and I went to the funerals.

Some of these are too emotional for me to describe on the floor, but in an odd way, one of the most emotional was the day that I went to the Virginia War Memorial to watch a homecoming. U.S. troops coming out of Afghanistan had landed in a base in New Jersey, and they had hopped on a bus to come back to Virginia to reunite with their families. They exited the bus. They got in formation, and their commander announced that this National Guard unit was now returned all present and accounted for.

I knew that commander. He had been a Richmond police officer, and he was deployed with his unit. I saw in his face that for that entire 6-month deployment, he labored under the incredible strain of wanting to be able to say those words at the end of the deployment—"all present and accounted for."

I saw him say those words, and I saw the care and the tension and the fear melt away. It made me think of the other homecomings I had been to where the commander couldn't say those words, and it made me think about them and what they had labored under.

I made a vow when I came to this body that I would do everything in my power to fight tooth and nail against sending our sons and daughters into unnecessary wars. I am on the Armed Services Committee. I voted for war authorizations. If we need to go to war to defend this country, then those who have signed up to do that, knowing that that might be a possibility, they are ready to serve us to defend the Nation. But an optional war at the whim of a President—ordering troops here and there around the globe as if they are a palace guard—for no articulated rationale puts our kids at risk in a completely unacceptable way.

We will have a vote next week on something that I believe is just bedrock constitutional law. We shouldn't be at war without a vote of Congress. We shouldn't be at war with Iran unless Members of this body have the guts to have a debate and vote and put their thumbprint on it and say: This is in the national interest.

No shortcuts. No end runs around Congress. No end runs around debate in front of the American people and laying out the stakes for them.

I can't believe that Virginia, one of the most military States in the country, is so different than other parts of this Nation. I can't believe that this Nation is itching for another war in the Middle East. Haven't we learned something from a quarter of a century of war in the Middle East? I hope we have.

I hope my colleagues will join me next week in suggesting no war unless we vote to authorize it.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

#### SAVE AMERICA ACT

Mrs. MOODY. Mr. President, I rise today in support of what should be a given. It is already law, common sense—a bill that supports this country and our citizens.

I rise today to, in fact, speak on behalf of American citizens and in support of the rule of law, and I rise to say that we have to pass without delay the SAVE America Act. This would require ID to vote.

This is something where the vast majority of Americans agree—Democrats, Independents, and Republicans. The vast majority agree this should become law. According to the Pew Research

Center, that is about 83 percent of Americans that are in support of ID to vote. Breaking that down into groups, 76 percent of Black Americans support this idea, and 82 percent of Hispanic Americans support this idea. These are all groups that the Democrats claim this measure would harm.

So my Democratic colleagues—coming up with excuse after excuse after excuse, which I suspect is just distraction from why they are really opposing this—my Democratic colleagues continue to block this reform, and they place partisan politics above the clear will of the American people.

The United States of America, which will celebrate its 250th anniversary this year—indeed, this great American experiment—hinges on the sanctity and integrity of our elections. We must protect this institution and safeguard our democracy by ensuring that only Americans are allowed to participate in American elections.

This just makes sense. If you need a valid ID to drive, to buy alcohol, to check into a hotel, why would you not need an ID to vote? In fact, even the mayor of NYC is now requiring people to provide IDs to take part in their snow-shoveling program. Yet they say it is unreasonable to expect Americans to provide one at the ballot box.

Retaining election integrity should not be a partisan issue; it is foundational to our self-government. The SAVE America Act upholds the rule of law. It makes sure there are stronger protections in place across the country to ensure that only citizens can participate in our elections.

When voters trust the system, participation increases. Secure elections will strengthen democracy. Ben Franklin famously replied to a bystander after the Constitutional Convention that we have a Republic if we can keep it. We must preserve our elections to preserve our Republic, and that is why it is so important that we pass the SAVE America Act.

I yield the floor.

Mrs. MOODY. I ask unanimous consent that the rollcall vote begin immediately.

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

#### VOTE ON MCCORMACK NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the McCormack nomination?

Mrs. MOODY. 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 executive clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE), the Senator from

Kentucky (Mr. PAUL), and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE).

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

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 57, nays 33, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 43 Ex.]

YEAS—57

Banks	Grassley	Moreno
Barrasso	Hawley	Mullin
Blackburn	Hoeben	Murkowski
Boozman	Husted	Ricketts
Britt	Hyde-Smith	Risch
Budd	Johnson	Rosen
Cantwell	Kaine	Rounds
Capito	Kelly	Schatz
Cassidy	Kennedy	Schmitt
Collins	King	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Klobuchar	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Sheehy
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Lummis	Tillis
Cruz	Marshall	Tillis
Curtis	McConnell	Warner
Ernst	McCormick	Welch
Fetterman	Moody	Wicker
Fischer	Moran	Young

NAYS—33

Alsobrooks	Heinrich	Peters
Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Sanders
Blumenthal	Kim	Schiff
Blunt	Lujan	Shaheen
Booker	Markey	Slotkin
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Smith
Duckworth	Murphy	Van Hollen
Durbin	Murray	Warnock
Gallego	Ossoff	Warren
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wyden

NOT VOTING—10

Coons	Hassan	Tuberville
Daines	Justice	Whitehouse
Graham	Paul	
Hagerty	Schumer	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MORENO). 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 PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

REMEMBERING LAMARR  
FRANKLIN

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the distinguished career

and life of LaMarr Franklin. Mr. Franklin was born in 1945 in Milwaukee and passed away on February 11, 2026, at the age of 80. Mr. Franklin was a pillar of the Milwaukee community and left an enduring legacy that will continue to shape the city and the lives of its residents for years to come. He was known for dedicating his life to uplifting the city's youth and African-American community.

Born and raised in Milwaukee, Mr. Franklin attended Messmer High School before being drafted at 21 into the Army during the Vietnam war, where he earned the rank of sergeant. Following his military service, he returned home and attended Roosevelt University in Chicago, earning a bachelor of science in sociology before beginning a successful career in corporate sales. After many fruitful years, he retired as vice president of sales at Computec Integrated Solutions, Inc.

Mr. Franklin talents were not only in sales but in his remarkable ability to lift up those around him. Throughout his career, he was highly regarded for his contributions and service to his community, earning commendations at the Federal, State, and local levels.

In 1973, Mr. Franklin founded the Milwaukee Chapter of the Black Achievers Program at the YMCA, which expanded college and career exploration opportunities for the city's youth. He also played a pivotal role in launching the Martin Luther King Economic Development Corporation, which focused on expanding affordable housing and commercial facilities throughout the historic King Drive corridor for nearly 30 years. Additionally, he served numerous State and community boards, including more than 40 years of service on the board of the Northcott Neighborhood House, as well as the LaVarnway Boys and Girls Club Scholarship Board.

As board president of the Northcott Neighborhood House, Mr. Franklin spearheaded some of Milwaukee's most significant cultural milestones, including one of the Nation's largest Juneteenth celebrations and the beloved Garfield Days. Through his leadership on the Boys and Girls Club Booster Club and Scholarship Board, he opened doors for thousands of young people, many of whom have since ascended to prominent leadership roles spanning government and industry.

Beyond these many exceptional accomplishments, even in retirement, Mr. Franklin's commitment to mentorship never faded. He continued to tutor students in Milwaukee schools and, alongside lifelong friends, co-founded The Breakfast Club M.K.E. This 500-member organization provides a vital social space for African-American men and community leaders to foster youth engagement. To this day, the group continues his mission, meeting every second Friday at the Family Table Restaurant on Brown Deer Road.

In honoring Mr. Franklin's truly indelible mark on the great city of Mil-

waukee, his name officially became part of the city with the dedication of the LaMarr Franklin Lofts in October 2025. The building now remains as a true testament to the towering legacy which he left behind. Throughout his work, he built—both literally and metaphorically—the scaffolding to support our coming generations' successes.

Mr. Franklin's life was nothing short of remarkable. As a visionary leader, changemaker, and tireless advocate, the impacts of his dedication to Milwaukee's youth and African-American community will continue to be felt for generations to come. While we mourn his passing, I am honored to join our community in celebrating a life defined by service. We recognize his extraordinary contributions not only to Milwaukee and the State of Wisconsin but to the Nation as a whole.

REMEMBERING WALTER JEROME  
"JERRY" FRAUTSCHI

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize the life and legacy of Walter Jerome "Jerry" Frautschi. Jerry was a lifelong Madsonian, a successful businessman, and a remarkable philanthropist.

Born in Madison in 1931, Jerry served honorably in the U.S. Navy as a code breaker during the Korean conflict from 1951 to 1954. Later, he attended the University of Wisconsin—Madison, graduating in 1956. Alongside his brother John, he ran the family business Webcrafters and continued the family tradition of service and philanthropy within their community. Jerry was devoted to his family—his three sons, four grandchildren, and wife Pleasant Rowland—were the center of his world. He enjoyed tennis and golf with childhood friends and spending days sailing, fishing, swimming, and skating on Lake Mendota and at his family cottage on Pine Lake in northern Wisconsin.

Jerry's commitment to the arts was unmatched, and he and Pleasant were often found at musical and theatrical performances. He made one of the largest single donations to the arts in U.S. history, giving a \$205 million gift to establish and build the Overture Center for the Arts in downtown Madison. He made a \$20 million gift to the Madison Youth Arts Center Starlight Theater, a \$2 million gift to the Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestra's Center for Music, and contributed to the arts in so many other ways throughout the years.

His generosity extended far beyond the arts, giving \$37.1 million for the Wisconsin History Center currently being developed on Wisconsin's Capitol Square, where generations of Wisconsinites will learn about their history. Jerry gave widely to schools, hospitals, student centers, community colleges, civic organizations, and environmental groups.

Jerry's own words are inscribed in the Overture Center's rotunda and they