

If they actually believed that, they would respect the fact that the American people voted for this, that they voted for deportations. I know that in the “woke” left world, that is a dirty word. It is not where I come from, not in Missouri. People believe in common sense. They don’t think you should get to break the law like that and get away with it.

So I don’t know when—you know, I guess we will be back here in a week or something, but the reality is not going to change no matter how much CHUCK SCHUMER tries to villainize ICE agents. No matter how many times I hear my colleagues from the other side try to stir up people, it will not change this very basic reality: We have front-loaded money for deportations, and those deportations will continue, and there is nothing you can do about it.

Now, if you want to make a proposal to stop that, put it on the floor. You will lose, but I want them to know and also my colleagues that I am 100-percent committed to this. It is central to the idea of being a sovereign country. No sane country in the history of the world would do this. By the way, in speaking of heading over to Europe, ask them how mass migration is working out for them. They have done it, and it isn’t working.

So, if you have got any advice coming back from that side of the Atlantic, I am not really interested on this topic or on censorship. Maybe you can deliver the message that they ought to step up for their own defense of their own continent in a more meaningful way. Now, that might not make you popular over there, but that is the message that I delivered when I went over last year.

But as it relates to illegal immigration, the deportations will continue, and I hope the American people understand that the people who just voted to defund ICE are sipping champagne in Europe, bad-mouthing the United States of America’s foreign policy. That is who they are. That is the reality.

This debate will continue. But as far as I am concerned, Republicans, we should be playing offense here. Let’s strengthen our immigration laws. Let’s treat this as seriously of a problem for our country as it really is.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HUSTED). The Senator from Missouri.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations: Calendar No. 656; that the nominations be confirmed; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in

order to any of the nominations; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action; and that the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

COAST GUARD

The following named officers for appointment to a position of importance and responsibility in the United States Coast Guard, and to the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 305:

To be vice admiral

Rear Adm. Jo-Ann F. Burdian
Rear Adm. Joseph R. Buzzella, Jr.
Vice Adm. Nathan A. Moore
Rear Adm. Douglas M. Schofield

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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

MORNING BUSINESS

COMMEMORATING THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF PROTESTS IN BAHRAIN

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, this month marks the 15th year since the people of Bahrain took to the streets to peacefully protest oppressive practices by the Bahraini Government and champion democratic reform in their homeland. As protestors engaged in civil disobedience, the Kingdom of Bahrain brutally repressed its citizens, claiming the lives of dozens, and injuring hundreds. Despite 15 years passing since Bahrainis demanded their leaders enact reform, the country continues to engage in systematic human rights abuses against its citizens. I will continue to stand in solidarity with the Bahraini people for as long as it takes to achieve accountability and ensure the fundamental rights of Bahrainis are upheld.

The Government of Bahrain continues to impose restrictions on expression, assembly, and association. During the first 6 months of 2025, there were 37 documented violations against activists, writers, and internet users.

Even after 15 years, Bahraini elections are neither free nor fair, and authorities systematically exclude and repress opposition voices. The government continues to bar former members of the opposition parties from running for Parliament or sitting on boards of governors of civil society organizations.

The Bahraini Government restricts religious freedom, resorting to state violence against its Shia population. In July 2025, during an Ashura commemoration, Bahraini authorities launched a campaign of arrests and summonses, violently targeting 60 citizens.

Despite significant releases of political prisoners since 2024, many continue to be arbitrarily detained, including those with a connection to the 2011

protests. Twenty-six individuals remain on death row despite credible allegations of torture during their interrogations and unfair trials. In April 2025, authorities detained 22 citizens. Several were linked to peaceful activism or suspected of intending to organize demonstrations. They were forcefully taken during raids at their homes, workplaces, or in public spaces. This sharp increase in detentions appears to be a preemptive effort to silence dissent, sending a chilling message to citizens engaged in peaceful opposition.

During the United Nations’ periodic review, the United Nations Committee Against Torture stated it remained concerned about consistent reports indicating people in detention are subject to torture and ill treatment. The Government of Bahrain continues to block internationally recognized human rights organizations from visiting the country, leading to a lack of oversight that enables abuses to be carried out with impunity.

The Bahraini Government has had 15 years to enact real change to ensure the fundamental rights guaranteed by its constitution and international agreements are upheld. Still, after all these years, the Government of Bahrain has yet to fulfill its promises of reform.

The United States must hold Bahrain accountable and to a high standard of human rights and rule of the law, as we should do with all of our allies. Security cooperation must go hand-in-hand with respect for human rights and democratic reform. The United States-Bahrain relationship is strongest when we champion shared values of good governance and fundamental rights.

I renew my call for the Government of Bahrain to end its efforts to silence peaceful opposition, to stop its persecution of citizens, and to release all political prisoners who are serving unjust sentences for their defense of human rights.

And I call on the Trump administration and, in particular, Secretary Rubio to take these human rights concerns seriously and demand substantive reform and greater accountability from Bahrain.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL MATTHEW J. JEMMOTT

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I submit this statement for the RECORD to recognize an extraordinary leader, patriot, and servant of our Nation, COL Matthew J. Jemmott, U.S. Army, on the occasion of his retirement following an exceptional 30-year career in service to our country. Colonel Jemmott’s distinguished career is a testament to his resilience, dedication, and unwavering commitment to the ideals of military service.

A native of Pittsburgh, PA, and raised in New York and Pennsylvania, Colonel Jemmott began his military journey as an infantryman in the