

Whereas the perpetuation of the ideals of democracy does not happen on its own and can be stalled or reversed;

Whereas surveys show that citizens of the United States are losing faith in the democratic system;

Whereas former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor said, "The practice of democracy is not passed down through the gene pool. It must be taught and learned anew by each generation of citizens.";

Whereas President John F. Kennedy said, "Democracy is never a final achievement. It is a call to untiring effort, to continual sacrifice and to the willingness, if necessary, to die in its defense.";

Whereas President Ronald Reagan said, "Democracy is worth dying for, because it's the most deeply honorable form of government ever devised by man.";

Whereas Congressman John R. Lewis said, in his final words to the United States, "Democracy is not a state. It is an act, and each generation must do its part to help build what we called the Beloved Community, a nation and world society at peace with itself.";

Whereas World War II demonstrated the fragility of democracy and the civilized life that accompanies democracy;

Whereas British Prime Minister Winston Churchill observed that, "Indeed it has been said that democracy is the worst form of Government except for all those other forms that have been tried from time to time. . . .";

Whereas President George Washington said the United States must recognize the immense value of the national Union and work towards preservation of that Union with "jealous anxiety" and wrote that the security of a free Constitution may be accomplished by "teaching the people themselves to know and to value their own rights";

Whereas President Thomas Jefferson wrote, "Educate and inform the whole mass of the people. . . . They are the only sure reliance for the preservation of our liberty.";

and

Whereas the Government of the United States must teach and educate the people by taking appropriate actions to highlight and emphasize the importance of democratic principles and the essential role of democratic principles in the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by the people of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2022 as "National Democracy Month";

(2) encourages States and local governments to designate September 2022 as "National Democracy Month";

(3) recognizes the celebration of "National Democracy Month" as a time to reflect on the contributions of the system of government of the United States to a more free and stable world; and

(4) encourages the people of the United States to observe "National Democracy Month" with appropriate ceremonies and activities that—

(A) provide appreciation for the system of government of the United States; and

(B) demonstrate that the people of the United States shall never forget the sacrifices made by past generations of people of the United States to preserve the freedoms and principles of the United States.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 5500. Ms. LUMMIS (for Mr. BARRASSO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Ms. Lummis to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117-1, Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Sub-

stances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (the "Montreal Protocol"), adopted at Kigali on October 15, 2016, by the Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (the "Kigali Amendment"); which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5501. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117-1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5502. Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. COTTON, and Ms. LUMMIS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117-1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5503. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117-1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5504. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117-1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5505. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. TESTER) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1198, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and expand the Solid Start program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

SA 5506. Mr. LEAHY (for himself and Mr. TILLIS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 5499 submitted by Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. INHOFE) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 7900, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2023 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; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 5500. Ms. LUMMIS (for Mr. BARRASSO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Ms. LUMMIS to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117-1, Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (the "Montreal Protocol"), adopted at Kigali on October 15, 2016, by the Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (the "Kigali Amendment"); which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 1, in the section heading, insert "AND A CONDITION" after "DECLARATION".

In section 1, insert "and the condition of section 3" after "declaration of section 2".

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 3. CONDITION.

The advice and consent of the Senate under section 1 is subject to the following condition: The Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer shall amend their Decision I/12E, "Clarification of terms and definitions: developing countries," made at the First Meeting of the Parties to remove the People's Republic of China.

SA 5501. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117-1, Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (the "Montreal Protocol"), adopted at Kigali on

October 15, 2016, by the Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (the "Kigali Amendment"); which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 1, in the section heading, strike "DECLARATION" and insert "DECLARATIONS".

In section 1, insert "declaration of section 2" and insert "declarations of section 2".

In section 2, in the section heading, strike "DECLARATION" and insert "DECLARATIONS".

In section 2, strike "following declaration" and all that follows through the period at the end and insert the following: "following declarations:

(1) The Kigali amendment is not self-executing.

(2) The People's Republic of China is not a developing country, and the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations should not treat the People's Republic of China as such.

SA 5502. Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. COTTON, and Ms. LUMMIS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117-1, Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (the "Montreal Protocol"), adopted at Kigali on October 15, 2016, by the Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (the "Kigali Amendment"); which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 1, in the section heading, insert "AND A CONDITION" after "DECLARATION".

In section 1, insert "and the condition of section 3" after "declaration of section 2".

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 3. CONDITION.

The advice and consent of the Senate under section 1 is subject to the following condition: Prior to November 6, 2022, the Secretary of State shall transmit to the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change a proposal to amend the list in Annex I to the Convention by adding the name of the People's Republic of China.

SA 5503. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117-1, Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (the "Montreal Protocol"), adopted at Kigali on October 15, 2016, by the Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (the "Kigali Amendment"); which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end add the following:

SEC. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This resolution of ratification shall take effect on the date that is 1 day after ratification.

SA 5504. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117-1, 0; Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (the "Montreal Protocol"), adopted at Kigali on October 15, 2016, by the Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (the "Kigali Amendment"); which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end add the following:

SEC. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This resolution of ratification shall take effect on the date that is 2 days after ratification.

SA 5505. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. TESTER) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1198, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and expand the Solid Start program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Solid Start Act of 2022”.

SEC. 2. SOLID START PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 63 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subchapter:

“SUBCHAPTER II—OTHER OUTREACH PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

“§ 6320. Solid Start program

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a program, to be known as the ‘Solid Start program’, under which the Secretary shall—

“(1) build the capacity of the Department to efficiently and effectively respond to the queries and needs of veterans who have recently separated from the Armed Forces; and

“(2) systemically integrate and coordinate efforts to assist veterans, including efforts—

“(A) to proactively reach out to newly separated veterans to inform them of their eligibility for programs of and benefits provided by the Department; and

“(B) to connect veterans in crisis to resources that address their immediate needs.

“(b) ACTIVITIES OF THE SOLID START PROGRAM.—(1) The Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, shall carry out the Solid Start program of the Department by—

“(A) collecting up-to-date contact information during transition classes or separation counseling for all members of the Armed Forces who are separating from the Armed Forces, while explaining the existence and purpose of the Solid Start program;

“(B) calling each veteran, regardless of separation type or characterization of service, three times within the first year after separation of the veteran from the Armed Forces;

“(C) providing information about the Solid Start program on the website of the Department and in materials of the Department, especially transition booklets and other resources;

“(D) ensuring calls are truly tailored to the needs of each veteran’s unique situation by conducting quality assurance tests;

“(E) prioritizing outreach to veterans who have accessed mental health resources prior to separation from the Armed Forces;

“(F) providing women veterans with information that is tailored to their specific health care and benefit needs;

“(G) as feasible, providing information on access to State and local resources, including Vet Centers and veterans service organizations; and

“(H) gathering and analyzing data assessing the effectiveness of the Solid Start program.

“(2) The Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, may carry out the Solid Start program by—

“(A) encouraging members of the Armed Forces who are transitioning to civilian life to authorize alternate points of contact who

can be reached should the member be unavailable during the first year following the separation of the member from the Armed Forces; and

“(B) following up missed phone calls with tailored mailings to ensure the veteran still receives similar information.

“(3) In this subsection:

“(A) The term ‘Vet Center’ has the meaning given that term in section 1712A(h) of this title.

“(B) The term ‘veterans service organization’ means an organization recognized by the Secretary for the representation of veterans under section 5902 of this title.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Chapter 63 of such title, as amended by subsection (a), is further amended—

(1) by inserting before section 6301 the following:

“Subchapter I—Outreach Services Program”;

and

(2) in sections 6301, 6303, 6304, 6305, 6306, and 6307, by striking “this chapter” each place it appears and inserting “this subchapter”.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 63 of such title is amended—

(1) by inserting before the item relating to section 6301 the following new item:

“SUBCHAPTER I—OUTREACH SERVICES PROGRAM”;

and

(2) by adding at the end the following new items:

“SUBCHAPTER II—OTHER OUTREACH PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

“6320. Solid Start program.”.

SA 5506. Mr. LEAHY (for himself and Mr. TILLIS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 5499 submitted by Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. INHOFE) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 7900, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2023 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . PRIDE IN PATENT OWNERSHIP.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO TITLE 35.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Title 35, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in chapter 11, by adding at the end the following:

“§ 124. Government funding of patent applications and maintenance fees

“(a) GOVERNMENT FUNDING OF PATENT APPLICATIONS.—For any application for patent, if any governmental entity, including a foreign governmental entity, provides funding specifically for the purpose of paying fees to the Office under section 41, or specifically for the purpose of paying an attorney or patent agent for prosecution of the application, the application shall include, or be amended to include, a statement that names the entity providing that funding.

“(b) GOVERNMENT FUNDING OF MAINTENANCE FEES.—For any patent, if any governmental entity, including a foreign governmental entity, provides funding specifically for the purpose of paying maintenance fees to the Office under section 41, or specifically for the purpose of paying an attorney or patent agent for submitting those maintenance

fees, the patent owner shall file a separate statement that names the entity providing that funding.”; and

(B) in section 261—

(i) by striking the first undesignated paragraph and inserting the following:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—

“(1) ATTRIBUTES OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.—Subject to the provisions of this title, patents shall have the attributes of personal property.

“(2) REGISTER OF INTERESTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Patent and Trademark Office shall maintain a register of interests in patents and applications for patents and shall record any document related thereto upon request, and may require a fee therefor.

“(B) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Office shall make the information described in subparagraph (A) publicly accessible, to the extent permitted by law.

“(3) REQUIREMENT TO RECORD CERTAIN ASSIGNMENTS AND OTHER INTERESTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Whenever a patent issues, or certain rights or interests in a patent (as defined by the Director) are assigned, granted, or conveyed to another person, including a governmental or legal entity—

“(i) the patent owner shall submit, or cause to be submitted, a request described in paragraph (2), unless such a request was submitted before the issuance of the patent;

“(ii) the Office shall, not later than 60 days after the date on which the Office receives a request submitted under clause (i)—

“(I) notify the patent owner regarding any error in the request, consistent with the requirements under clauses (iii) and (iv), as applicable; or

“(II) record the interest in the register described in paragraph (2);

“(iii) with respect to a request submitted under clause (i) that the Office identifies as containing an error that can be corrected without having to change the date of submission of the original request, as determined by the Office, the Office shall allow the submitting party to file a corrected request not later than 60 days after the date on which the Office notifies the submitting party regarding the error; and

“(iv) in the case of a submitting party that receives an error notice from the Office, as described in clause (ii)(I), and fails to file a corrected request during the 60-day period described in clause (iii), the date on which the submitting party ultimately files the corrected request shall be deemed to be the date of submission of the original request.

“(B) EFFECT OF FAILURE TO COMPLY.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (iii), if the conditions described in subclause (I) of clause (ii) apply with respect to a patent, no party may recover, for infringement of the patent in any action, increased monetary damages under section 284 during the period beginning on the date that is 121 days after the effective date of the issuance, assignment, grant, or conveyance with respect to the patent, as applicable, and ending on the date on which the ownership, assignment, grant, or conveyance of the patent is properly requested to be recorded under paragraph (2).

“(ii) CONDITIONS.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—The conditions described in this subclause with respect to a patent are as follows:

“(aa) A party asserts the patent against an alleged infringer through a civil complaint, demand letter, or otherwise.

“(bb) Any of the following:

“(AA) The patent owner fails to comply with subparagraph (A)(i) with an intent to deceive a member of the public.

“(BB) The alleged infringer has reasonably relied in the course of business on a failure

by the patent owner to comply with subparagraph (A)(i).

“(CC) The party asserting the patent does not substantially match the entity with a recorded right to assert the patent and the alleged infringer suffers prejudice as a result of that discrepancy.

“(DD) The failure of the patent owner to comply with subparagraph (A)(i) conceals a separate legal or regulatory error, such as an improper Federal tax payment or the misapplication of section 337(a)(2) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1337(a)(2)).

“(II) AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE.—A person that, in any action, is alleged to have infringed a patent may plead, as an affirmative defense in that action, that the conditions described in subclause (I) are applicable with respect to the alleged infringement of the patent.

“(iii) EXCEPTION.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—This subparagraph shall not apply if—

“(aa) the applicable patent owner, as of the date that the application for the patent was submitted, was an entity to which section 41(h)(1) applies;

“(bb) the party asserting the patent would qualify as an entity to which section 41(h)(1) applies, as of the date on which the entity asserts the patent, if that party were to file a patent application; and

“(cc) the party asserting the patent has been the owner, assignee, or exclusive licensee of not more than 20 patents, as of the date on which the party asserts the patent.

“(II) BURDEN.—A patent owner shall have the burden of establishing in an action that the elements described in subclause (I) apply.”;

(i) in the first undesignated paragraph following subsection (a), as so designated by clause (i) of this subparagraph, by striking “Applications” and inserting the following:

“(b) APPLICATIONS AND PATENTS ASSIGNABLE.—Applications”;

(iii) in the first undesignated paragraph following subsection (b), as so designated by clause (ii) of this subparagraph, by striking “A certificate” and inserting the following:

“(c) CERTIFICATE OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT.—A certificate”;

(iv) in the undesignated paragraph following subsection (c), as so designated by clause (iii) of this subparagraph, by striking “An interest” and inserting the following:

“(d) EFFECT OF ASSIGNMENT.—An interest”.

(2) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 11 of title 35, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“124. Government funding of patent applications and maintenance fees.”.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATES; APPLICABILITY.—

(A) AMENDMENTS REGARDING GOVERNMENT FUNDING OF PATENT APPLICATIONS AND MAINTENANCE FEES; TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The amendments made by paragraphs (1)(A) and (2) shall take effect on the date that is 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(B) AMENDMENTS REGARDING OWNERSHIP AND ASSIGNMENT.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), the amendments made by paragraph (1)(B) shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

(ii) REQUIREMENT TO RECORD ASSIGNMENTS AND CERTAIN OTHER INTERESTS.—Paragraph (3) of subsection (a) of section 261 of title 35, United States Code, as so designated by paragraph (1)(B)(i) of this subsection, shall—

(I) take effect on the date that is 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act; and

(II) apply with respect to any patent issuance, assignment, grant, or conveyance that occurs on or after the effective date described in subclause (I).

(b) RULES.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (referred to in this section as the “Director”) shall issue rules that accomplish the following:

(1)(A) Define the term “certain rights or interests in a patent” for the purposes of subsection (a)(3) of section 261 of title 35, United States Code, as so designated by subsection (a)(1) of this section, which shall include examples of types of rights or interests that—

(i) are required to be recorded under such subsection (a)(3), such as patent assignments and exclusive licenses; and

(ii) are not required to be recorded under such subsection (a)(3), such as ownership of less than 10 percent of a patent.

(B) For the purposes of subparagraph (A), the Director may review rules defining the term “beneficial owner” issued by other Federal entities and agencies, including the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, the Department of the Treasury, and the Securities and Exchange Commission.

(2) Establish procedures for the proper recording of interests in patents that—

(A) provide for—

(i) notice of any error in a request submitted under subsection (a)(2) of section 261 of title 35, United States Code, as so designated by subsection (a)(1) of this section; and

(ii) an opportunity to correct an error described in clause (i);

(B) describe—

(i) which types of errors described in subparagraph (A)(i) are eligible for correction without having to change the date of submission of the original request, if the amended request is filed not later than 60 days after the date on which the Director notifies the submitting party regarding the error; and

(ii) which types of errors described in subparagraph (A)(i) must result in a new request with a new submission date; and

(C) require the recording of any parent corporation when an interest in a patent is recorded.

(3) Implement section 124 of title 35, United States Code, as added by subsection (a)(1) of this section.

(4) Otherwise implement the amendments made by subsection (a)(1).

(c) REGISTER.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall, with respect to the register described in subsection (a)(2) of section 261 of title 35, United States Code, as so designated by subsection (a)(1) of this section, create a publicly accessible database that is digitally searchable with fields based on patent number, assignee, assignor, assignment date, and other criteria determined by the Director.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, September 20; that following the prayer

and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Pan nomination, postcloture; further, all postcloture time on the Pan nomination be considered expired at 11:30 a.m. and, following the disposition of the Pan nomination, the Senate recess until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings; further, at 2:30 p.m., the Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the resolution of ratification with respect to Treaty document No. 117-1; finally, if any nominations are confirmed during Tuesday's session, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:39 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, September 20, 2022, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

B. BIX ALIU, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Montenegro.

MARTINA ANNA TKADLEC STRONG, OF TEXAS, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the United Arab Emirates.

INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING ADVISORY BOARD

KATHLEEN CUNNINGHAM MATTHEWS, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING ADVISORY BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 1, 2023. (NEW POSITION)

JEFFREY GEDMIN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING ADVISORY BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 1, 2025. (NEW POSITION)

UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE

JOSEPH LEE FALK, OF FLORIDA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE GEORGE E. MOOSE, TERM EXPIRED.

ROGER ISRAEL ZAKHEIM, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE JEREMY A. RABKIN, TERM EXPIRED.

THE JUDICIARY

LINDSAY C. JENKINS, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS, VICE JOHN Z. LEE, ELEVATED.

CHARNELLE BJELKENGREN, OF WASHINGTON, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON, VICE SALVADOR MENDOZA, JR., ELEVATED.