

[Rollcall Vote No. 303 Leg.]

YEAS—50

Barrasso	Graham	Ricketts
Blackburn	Grassley	Risch
Boozman	Hagerty	Romney
Braun	Hawley	Rounds
Britt	Hoeben	Rubio
Brown	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Budd	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Capito	Kennedy	Sinema
Cassidy	Lankford	Sullivan
Collins	Lee	Tester
Cornyn	Lummis	Thune
Cotton	Manchin	Tillis
Cramer	Marshall	Tuberville
Crapo	McConnell	Vance
Cruz	Moran	Wicker
Daines	Mullin	Young
Fischer	Murkowski	

NAYS—48

Baldwin	Heinrich	Peters
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Reed
Blumenthal	Hirono	Rosen
Booker	Kaine	Sanders
Butler	Kelly	Schatz
Cantwell	King	Schumer
Cardin	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Carper	Lujan	Smith
Casey	Markey	Stabenow
Coons	Menendez	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Murphy	Warnock
Durbin	Murray	Warren
Fetterman	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Paul	Wyden

NOT VOTING—2

Ernst Scott (SC)

The joint resolution (S.J. Res. 38) was passed as follows:

S.J. RES. 38

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress disapproves the rule submitted by the Federal Highway Administration relating to "Waiver of Buy America Requirements for Electric Vehicle Chargers" (88 Fed. Reg. 10619 (February 21, 2023)), and such rule shall have no force or effect.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. OSSOFF). Under the previous order, the Senate will resume executive session.

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 senior assistant 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. 126, Monica Ramirez Almadani, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Richard J. Durbin, Brian Schatz, John W. Hickenlooper, Margaret Wood Hassan, Gary C. Peters, Mark Kelly, Jack Reed, Tammy Duckworth, Christopher Murphy, Sheldon Whitehouse, Catherine Cortez Masto, Mazie Hirono, Benjamin L. Cardin, Jeanne Shaheen, Tammy Baldwin, Angus S. King, Jr., Alex Padilla, Robert Menendez, Michael F. Bennet.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Monica Ramirez Almadani, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, 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. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 52, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 304 Ex.]

YEAS—52

Baldwin	Heinrich	Rosen
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Blumenthal	Hirono	Schatz
Booker	Kaine	Schumer
Brown	Kelly	Shaheen
Butler	King	Sinema
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Smith
Cardin	Lujan	Stabenow
Carper	Manchin	Tester
Casey	Markey	Van Hollen
Coons	Menendez	Warner
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warnock
Duckworth	Murphy	Warren
Durbin	Murray	Welch
Fetterman	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wyden
Graham	Peters	
Hassan	Reed	

NAYS—46

Barrasso	Grassley	Ricketts
Blackburn	Hagerty	Risch
Boozman	Hawley	Romney
Braun	Hoeben	Rounds
Britt	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Budd	Johnson	Schmitt
Capito	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Lankford	Sullivan
Collins	Lee	Thune
Cornyn	Lummis	Tillis
Cotton	Marshall	Tuberville
Cramer	McConnell	Vance
Crapo	Moran	Wicker
Cruz	Mullin	Young
Daines	Murkowski	
Fischer	Paul	

NOT VOTING—2

Ernst Scott (SC)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 52, the nays are 46.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Monica Ramirez Almadani, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that all postcloture time on the Almadani nomination be considered expired and that a confirmation vote be at 11:30 a.m. tomorrow, Thursday, November 9.

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

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Sen-

ate consider the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 267 and 276; that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc without intervening action or debate; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the following nominations en bloc: Mark W. Libby, of Massachusetts, 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 Republic of Azerbaijan; and Edgard D. Kagan, 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 Malaysia?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. 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 therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

TRIBUTE TO DALE MONTGOMERY

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, it is my honor to recognize an outstanding Senate Stationery Room employee, Dale Montgomery, who is retiring today after more than 50 years of service to the U.S. Senate.

For Dale, working in the Senate was more than just a calling; it is in his blood. Dale's father worked in the Senate Library for 35 years, and his grandfather worked with the Architect of the Capitol dating back to 1914. So, when the opportunity arose to follow in his family's footsteps, Dale couldn't refuse. Without ever even filling out an application, Dale accepted a job where he would spend the next half-century of his life.

Dale's first day in the Stationery Room was in 1973, in a different world and a very different Senate. He rose through the ranks, starting in the warehouse doing deliveries before moving to the Stationery Store as a clerk and then as a sales associate. No matter the title he held, Dale approached each task with a great level of care and attention to detail. His contributions to the day-to-day operations of the Senate are truly immeasurable.

Dale quickly became one of the Senate community's most beloved members. His affable nature and affinity for music attracted friends and strangers alike, people from all around the country. Dale was a sought-after DJ and

was known to make an appearance at Senator Ford's Kentucky Derby parties. It didn't matter where, when, or how you met Dale, he was sure to leave a lasting impression.

The mark of a good employee is a steadfast commitment to the work. The mark of a good friend is a steadfast presence for each other. To everyone he encountered over the last 50 years, Dale was both—and so much more.

On behalf of the entire Senate community, we thank Dale for his years of dedicated service, and we wish him and his family the best in retirement.

VETERANS DAY

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, on this Veterans Day, I want to express my profound admiration for the unwavering service and sacrifices of our veterans. Their commitment to our Nation, its people, and the values we hold dear transcends generations. Democracy requires constant vigilance, and it is facing tough challenges at home and abroad. Despots and authoritarians worldwide would like nothing more than to see us retreat from defending freedom. But in the face of adversity, the United States stands resilient thanks to the courageous men and women who have worn the uniform.

From the American Revolution, where the Maryland Line fought bravely under General George Washington, to the defense of Fort McHenry in Baltimore that inspired the Star-Spangled Banner during the War of 1812, to today, where Maryland is home to almost 400,000 veterans, our State has a proud history of fighting for freedom.

Our veterans are among the best our country has produced. Each one answered the call to serve their country, leaving friends and family to go in harm's way. In today's divisive world, I especially want to thank our veterans for coming together from all walks of life to serve a purpose greater than themselves. Our veterans come from all over the country, from all backgrounds, races, and religions. Time and time again, veterans put their country before themselves and make sacrifices that most Americans do not even realize. They miss birthdays, anniversaries, births, funerals, and countless other life events so they can stand guard on the frontlines of our Nation's defense. Most servicemembers volunteer to join the military not long after graduating high school or college. Some serve a few years, and others make the military a career. All of them have earned the title of veteran.

In Maryland, prominent military installations stretch across the State from Aberdeen Proving Ground in the north to Patuxent River in the south. Marylanders have always answered the call when our liberties have been attacked. During World War II, Maryland produced over 5,000 B-26 Marauder aircrafts that bombed Nazi fortifications in advance of Allied landings on D-Day.

Baltimore's shipyards built 384 Liberty cargo ships during the war to transport troops and supplies to Europe. Marylanders have stood shoulder to shoulder, unphased in the face of monumental challenges.

Marylanders from across the State continue to volunteer to serve our country, both overseas and at home with our Active-Duty military components, Reserves, and National Guard units. Our veterans' dedication to country and democracy is felt around the world. Unfortunately, many of our veterans know all too well the cost of war. Our brave men and women continue to serve their communities even after their time in uniform is over.

Our veterans are humble patriots, and while I know they appreciate the public thanking them for their service, I want to encourage each Marylander to go a step further this Veterans Day: shop at a veteran-owned business, donate to a veteran's charity, hire a veteran for your company, or call a veteran and ask them to share stories about their time in the service. Our veterans are among the most highly trained, educated, and responsible citizens, and their skills make them incredibly valued members of their communities and their companies. On this Veterans Day—and every day of the year—put your thoughts into action and show our veterans how much we truly appreciate their service.

TRIBUTE TO BOBETTE FRANKLIN

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I rise to honor and pay tribute to one of the most patriotic and dedicated Kentuckians I have had the pleasure of knowing, Mrs. Bobette Franklin.

A Bowling Green, KY, native, Bobette is a graduate of Western Kentucky University. She married Steve Franklin, and they made their home in Bowling Green. They have been married for 24 years and have a son, Noah, who is their pride and joy.

Upon being elected to office in 2010, I set out to hire a director of constituent services for my State office in Bowling Green. I asked for recommendations for the very best and received one clear answer from many: Bobette Franklin. Bobette began her congressional career in constituent services with Congressman Ron Lewis and, upon his retirement, continued her career with Congressman BRETT GUTHRIE. I was thrilled when Bobette accepted my offer to lead my constituent services operation. My constituent services team is second to none and would not be known for their stellar reputation throughout the Commonwealth of Kentucky without Bobette's leadership. Anyone who knows Bobette knows she takes tremendous pride in her work and strives to excel in all aspects of her life. Her commitment to excellence and attention to detail is evident in every interaction she has with Kentuckians who need assistance, no matter the size or scope of the request. During

Bobette's tenure in my office, she has overseen more than 20,000 constituent service cases, which has directly impacted thousands of Kentuckians and people across the Nation.

While Bobette has served Kentuckians in numerous ways, her outstanding reputation is most evident through her outreach and advocacy for veterans. Bobette has received numerous awards from the veteran community. In 2016, the Southern Kentucky Veterans Council presented her with its Distinguished Service Award for over 20 years of devoted service assisting veterans. And earlier this year, the Department of Defense Joint Executive Council of Veterans presented her with an award in recognition of her work for veterans and their families across Kentucky.

After 29 years of Federal service and nearly 13 years in my office alone, Bobette has decided to retire and close this chapter in her lifelong commitment to serving her community and her country. I will always be thankful to have had Bobette as a part of my team from the very beginning. Thank you, Bobette, for your service to Kentucky and to this country.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO JACK RUTLAND, JR.

• Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, it is an honor to pay tribute to Mr. Jack Rutland, Jr., of Lincoln County, MS, who for more than 10 years has shown an inspiring dedication to sharing the stories and memories of armed service veterans in Mississippi. By conducting radio interviews with veterans, their experiences can be appreciated by citizens all across Mississippi. Mr. Rutland has shown that his appreciation and respect for the men and women who have served in our armed forces goes beyond that of an average citizen, and America needs more people like Jack.

Jack Rutland, Jr., was born on May 20, 1948, in Birmingham, AL, while his father was stationed at an Air Force base there. His father, Jack Rutland, Sr., enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps prior to World War II, and he served during the war for 3 years in countries like England, North Africa, and Italy. During his World War II service, the senior Mr. Rutland earned five battle stars. Upon the completion of the war, he remained in the Air Force for over 20 years. Once he retired, the family returned to Lawrence County, MS. From experiencing his father's patriotic dedication to our Nation, Jack grew up with a sincere reverence for the veterans who served to defend the United States of America.

In 2003, the Military Memorial Museum in Brookhaven, MS, opened to inform the public of local veterans and the town's service history through artifacts, newspaper clippings, and other memorabilia. The museum is operated completely by volunteers, one of them