

That would mark a catastrophic turning point in the war, in the region, and in the balance of power between the free world and brutal dictatorships—a U.S. ally weakened, if not beaten, not due to lack of courage on their part but a lack of commitment on ours. That would send a dangerous and disgraceful message to our adversaries and our allies alike about just how serious to take America's commitments.

We cannot let this get pushed off again. We have to send a clear message to dictators: You cannot wait the United States out and trample democracies. We stand firm by our allies. And that is what this package does with aid to Ukraine.

It also includes security assistance for Israel in the aftermath of the horrific Hamas attacks.

The latest activity from Houthi rebels against U.S. forces underscores the importance of supporting our allies and promoting stability in the region.

Critically, this package provides humanitarian aid for Gaza and elsewhere to get the civilians the food, water, medical care, and other essentials they desperately need. This is not just the absolute right thing to do, but it is a key part of combating hopelessness and the extremism that it can breed.

This bill also includes much needed investments in the Indo-Pacific so we can strengthen our allies and bolster our presence in the region and deter our adversaries.

Let's be clear. This bill also does include resources for the border and to stop the flow of fentanyl. If you truly, honestly believe we need to do more on the border, I don't know how you decide to do nothing and think it is better than something substantial.

So let's cut to the chase here. This bill is made up of basic bipartisan priorities—supporting Ukraine, supporting Israel, getting humanitarian assistance to civilians, stopping fentanyl, making commonsense investments to humanely manage our border—and they all have broad support here in the Senate.

So let's take this opportunity, with this vote today, to get things moving, to get onto this bill so we can do the hard work of legislating and debating and considering amendments to it instead of pitting allies and crises against each other as political bargaining chips.

I urge all of my colleagues to vote yes and show they are serious about responding to all the crises before us, and then let's get right back to work in a bipartisan way on our annual spending bills, like I just talked about, and other urgent issues like childcare, because—let's be clear—this is another crisis that is growing worse every day.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON RAYES NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time has expired.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Rayes nomination?

Mrs. MURRAY. 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 assistant bill clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 331 Ex.]

YEAS—53

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

NAYS—47

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

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BUTLER). 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 majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, the question before us is simple: Will Senators rise to defend Western democracy, protect our fundamental values, and support our friends abroad fighting for their lives? Are we willing to stand up to autocratic brutes and respond to our adversaries with strength, not weakness? Will we help the people of Ukraine fight against Vladimir Putin like we promised?

This is a moment in history. This is a moment history will record. The answer to all these questions should be an emphatic yes. At stake is America's safety, the survival of democracy, and the future of the war in Ukraine. As we have always done in our history, the Senate should rush to the defense of democracy and stand up to autocratic brutes.

You can be sure Vladimir Putin is watching closely to see if the Senate will approve more aid to Ukraine. Whether or not we approve an aid package will likely sway the outcome of the war. We must act.

To show our Republican colleagues that we care about this issue deeply

and are serious about moving forward in a bipartisan way, we are willing to give them an amendment here on the floor on any border proposal of their choice at 60 votes. We will not interfere with whatever policy they want to present. It is vital we move forward and to show that we are willing to work with our Republican colleagues to be reasonable.

This, again, is a moment of truth for the Senate, for the country, for the fight for democracy and Western values. Again, history will record this moment. We must rise to the occasion. We must stand with Ukraine. We should all vote yes.

I yield the floor.

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 motion to proceed to Calendar No. 30, H.R. 815, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements relating to the eligibility of veterans to receive reimbursement for emergency treatment furnished through the Veterans Community Care program, and for other purposes.

Charles E. Schumer, Patty Murray, Jeanne Shaheen, Debbie Stabenow, Tim Kaine, Benjamin L. Cardin, Sheldon Whitehouse, Brian Schatz, Christopher Murphy, Mark R. Warner, Richard J. Durbin, Martin Heinrich, Christopher A. Coons, Jack Reed, Richard Blumenthal, Tammy Baldwin, Margaret Wood Hassan.

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 motion to proceed to H.R. 815, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements relating to the eligibility of veterans to receive reimbursement for emergency treatment furnished through the Veterans Community Care program, 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.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 49, nays 51, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 332 Ex.]

YEAS—49

Baldwin	Coons	Kaine
Bennet	Cortez Masto	Kelly
Blumenthal	Duckworth	King
Booker	Durbin	Klobuchar
Brown	Fetterman	Lujan
Butler	Gillibrand	Manchin
Cantwell	Hassan	Markey
Cardin	Heinrich	Menendez
Carper	Hickenlooper	Merkley
Casey	Hirono	Murphy

Murray	Shaheen	Warnock
Ossoff	Sinema	Warren
Padilla	Smith	Welch
Peters	Stabenow	Whitehouse
Reed	Tester	Wyden
Rosen	Van Hollen	
Schatz	Warner	

NAYS—51

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO). On this vote, the yeas are 49, the nays are 51.

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

The motion was rejected.

MOTION TO RECONSIDER

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I enter a motion to reconsider.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion is entered.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, tonight is a sad night in the history of the Senate and in our country. Republicans just blocked a very much needed proposal to send funding for Ukraine, funding for Israel, humanitarian aid for innocent civilians in Gaza, and funding for the Indo-Pacific.

If there is a word for what we most need now, it is to be "serious." If Republicans in the Senate do not get serious very soon about a national security package, Vladimir Putin is going to walk right through Ukraine and right through Europe.

This is a historic moment for the Senate. Are we going to do something about the threats to democracy happening around the world? Are we going to hold the line against autocrats and dictators and the enemies of our way of life?

We had before the Senate a proposal not only for national security but one that included significant funding for border security that President Biden requested.

We also made our Republican colleagues an offer to get something done on border by allowing them to vote on an amendment on any border package they wanted—any one they wanted, and all they would need is 11 Democratic votes.

Unfortunately, Republicans refused to move forward, even with the offer to vote on a border amendment that would have required only 11 Democratic votes. They couldn't come up with a solution.

Nevertheless, Democrats remain committed to working very hard to find a solution to this impasse. I understand that Republican negotiators are

preparing another package of border policies very soon, and I hope they come up with something serious instead of the extreme policies they presented thus far.

Democrats have always supported commonsense, realistic solutions to the border. We wished Republicans would have taken us up on our offer to have a debate on the floor. Our offer to the Republicans of an amendment still stands, and we hope we can break this impasse soon.

This is a serious moment that will have lasting consequences for the 21st century. If Ukraine falls, Putin will not stop there. He will be emboldened. President Xi will be emboldened. Our adversaries will keep undermining us at every turn. Western democracy will begin to enter an age of decline if we aren't willing to defend it.

This Senate, this Republican Party, must get serious.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, the clock is ticking. Aid for our allies in Ukraine has run dry, and the whole world is now watching to see if the United States is still capable of standing by all of its allies in times of need.

There is a lot at stake here. Now is the time for choosing whether the United States will continue being a leader in the world and a champion for democracy. So I hope Senate Republicans think carefully about whether they truly want to abandon our allies in Ukraine over draconian, far-right immigration policies that will never become law or if they will work with us to stop conditioning this aid on partisan nonstarters and get this vital funding over the line.

If they can put forward a commonsense bipartisan proposal regarding the border, we will consider that. They had a real opportunity today to do just that and debate those policies here on the Senate floor.

But let's be clear: We do not have time to give up and call it a day. We have too much at stake to settle for half steps that tell the world the United States no longer knows how to stand with its allies or stand up to dictators.

Votes matter. Blocking consideration of today's supplemental sends a real and dangerous signal to the entire world—to our allies and our adversaries alike. But it is not too late for us to come together and send a different message, a message that says "America is united" when it comes to leading on the world stage and keeping our country and our friends safe.

Let's talk to one another. Let's understand that compromise has to happen. And let's act quickly and completely to deliver the national security resources that are so badly needed. I am ready to get to work with my colleagues and do just that.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume legislative session.

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

The Senator from Kansas.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—H.R. 6126

Mr. MARSHALL. Madam President, twice before, Republicans have come to this floor to attempt to pass by unanimous consent the House-passed standalone aid package to Israel that would provide our ally with \$14 billion in military assistance for their fight to destroy the Hamas terrorists and send a loud message to Iran and its proxies.

I would like to yield the floor to the Senator from Florida.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Madam President, I want to thank the Senator from Kansas for his continued effort to make sure we get Israel aid.

The United States must always stand with our great ally Israel and with the Jewish people. Israel is fighting against Iran-backed terrorists for its very existence.

Iran-backed Hamas terrorists have murdered thousands with the intention of destroying Israel and the Jewish people. Hamas terrorists have beheaded babies, burned them alive, raped and murdered young women.

We have seen the news reports of the sexual assaults committed by Hamas terrorists—all too graphic to speak of here, but here are some of the headlines.

ABC News: "New signs emerge of 'widespread' sexual crimes by Hamas, as Netanyahu alleges global indifference."

The Washington Post: "Israel investigates an elusive, horrific enemy: Rape as a weapon of war."

The Jewish Chronicle: "Hamas terror attack: Girls 'raped next to their dead friends' at rave massacre."

We cannot turn a blind eye to these barbaric acts. The world must know what these animals did to innocent Jewish women and girls.

Just yesterday in the U.S. House of Representatives, the presidents of Harvard, MIT, and the University of Pennsylvania were asked, under oath, if calling for the genocide of Jews violates their university's code of conduct or rules regarding bullying and harassment.

A simple yes-or-no question. Their response? They could not even answer yes.

We have to really let that sink in. They couldn't say yes. The president of three Ivy League schools could not answer yes to that simple question.

It is clear that we need to use this moment to stand with Israel and the Jewish people.

The House took decisive action by passing this bill. They moved quickly, and the measure is fully paid for. This bill was blocked by the Democrats