

was included and the St. Mary Canal project was included. Now, if this Fort Belknap Indian Community Water Rights Settlement passes, we can rehabilitate the St. Mary Canal, what exploded earlier this week.

The bipartisan bill passed the Senate earlier this Congress—this Fort Belknap Indian Community Water Rights Settlement—as an amendment to the NDAA, but Speaker JOHNSON and House Republicans stripped it from the final version.

For nearly a year, the House has failed to act to provide the North Central Montana water users the certainty they need. These folks are farmers that need to feed the country and entire world, but they are also businesses that will go broke without water.

Now is the time to move forward. The siphon failures that occurred earlier this week are a reminder that we must invest in infrastructure to protect water supply and food supply. So, today, the Senate hopefully will once again pass this critical water rights compact. This time, it is a stand-alone bill, not part of the NDAA.

I want to be clear: The House needs to pass this bill. The House needs to put aside the politics and pass this bill. Farmers' operations that have been generational in this region—their livelihoods are on the line. Water for municipalities is on the line. This is no time—no time—to play politics.

The siphon bursts that we saw earlier this week have left Montana families reeling. Congress can do its job. The Senate will do its job. It is time for the House to act responsibly too. Let's get this done so we can repair the Milk River Project and give the water users in North Central Montana the certainty and predictability they need to survive.

Mr. President, as if in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be discharged from further consideration of S. 1987 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1987) to provide for the settlement of the water rights claims of the Fort Belknap Indian Community, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Tester-Daines substitute amendment at the desk be agreed to and the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time.

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

The amendment (No. 2074) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I know of no further debate on the bill, as amended.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time and there being no further debate, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (S. 1987), as amended, was passed.

Mr. TESTER. I ask that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

WINNEBAGO LAND TRANSFER ACT OF 2023

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, the Winnebago Land Transfer Act brings a simple issue of fairness to the Senate floor. I introduced this bill with my colleagues after hearing from members of the Winnebago Tribe about the trials they have faced over decades. These trials were sadly imposed by our own government, and that is why our government must resolve them.

In the mid-1800s, the government forcibly removed the Winnebago Tribe from their homeland. They settled in a new home in 1865—the Winnebago Indian Reservation in my home State of Nebraska.

The government promised that land to the Winnebago Tribe, and they promised it forever, but they did not keep that promise. In 1970, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers condemned 1,600 acres of the Tribe's reservation land for a proposed recreation project—a project that was never even started. The land seizure launched over half a century of legal battles between the Winnebago Tribe and the U.S. Government—battles that never brought this matter to a just resolution.

But America is defined by our striving toward the ideals of justice and equality. Our government was established to protect these ideals, and that is what we will do by passing the Winnebago Land Transfer Act. Our legislation will restore the Tribe's rightful land, transferring the remaining tracts of land back from the U.S. Army Corps.

The House of Representatives passed this legislation earlier this year, and that is the version we are voting on today. They passed it because, like I said, it is a simple issue of fairness—one that all of us, no matter our political party, can get behind.

I am hopeful that today the Senate will follow suit, that we will uphold those ideals of justice and of equality. I am hopeful that we will pass this bill to return the land to its rightful owner, the Winnebago Tribe.

Mr. President, as if in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 411, H.R. 1240.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1240) to transfer administrative jurisdiction of certain Federal lands from the Army Corps of Engineers to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, to take such lands into trust for the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mrs. FISCHER. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time.

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

The bill was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

Mrs. FISCHER. I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There being no further debate and the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (H.R. 1240) was passed.

Mrs. FISCHER. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

Mrs. FISCHER. I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 380.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant executive clerk read the nomination of Patricia L. Lee, of South Carolina, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board for a term expiring October 18, 2027.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant executive 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. 380, Patricia L. Lee, of South Carolina, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board for a term expiring October 18, 2027.

Charles E. Schumer, Jack Reed, Alex Padilla, Debbie Stabenow, Catherine Cortez Masto, Mark Kelly, Margaret Wood Hassan, Tammy Baldwin, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Richard Blumenthal, Jeanne Shaheen, Chris Van Hollen, Richard J. Durbin, Sheldon Whitehouse, John W. Hickenlooper, Peter Welch, Mark R. Warner, Christopher A. Coons.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 536.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant executive clerk read the nomination of Robin Michelle Meriweather, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant executive 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. 536, Robin Michelle Meriweather, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Peter Welch, Laphonza R. Butler, Richard Blumenthal, Alex Padilla, Tim Kaine, Christopher A. Coons, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Margaret Wood Hassan, Sheldon Whitehouse, Gary C. Peters, Catherine Cortez Masto, Jeanne Shaheen, Tammy Duckworth, Tina Smith, Chris Van Hollen.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 512.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant executive clerk read the nomination of Charles J. Willoughby, Jr., of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant executive 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. 512, Charles J. Willoughby, Jr., of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

Charles E. Schumer, Gary C. Peters, Jack Reed, Benjamin L. Cardin, Alex Padilla, Laphonza R. Butler, Christopher A. Coons, Richard Blumenthal, Tammy Duckworth, Christopher Murphy, Richard J. Durbin, Jeanne Shaheen, Margaret Wood Hassan, Mazie Hirono, Sherrod Brown, Tina Smith, Catherine Cortez Masto, Jeff Merkley.

Mr. SCHUMER. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that our rollcall vote begin immediately.

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

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 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. 597, Nancy L. Maldonado, of Illinois, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Alex Padilla, Amy Klobuchar, Jack Reed, Tina Smith, Tammy Duckworth, Richard Blumenthal, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Catherine Cortez Masto, Margaret Wood Hassan, Peter Welch, Sheldon Whitehouse, Raphael G. Warnock, Laphonza R. Butler, Brian Schatz, Benjamin L. Cardin.

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 Nancy L. Maldonado, of Illinois, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY), the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) would have voted "nay" and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) would have voted "nay."

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 43, nays 27, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 202 Ex.]

YEAS—43

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

NAYS—27

Blackburn	Cotton	Hawley
Boozman	Cruz	Hoeben
Capito	Ernst	Kennedy
Cassidy	Fischer	Lankford
Collins	Graham	Lee
Cornyn	Grassley	Lummis