

to the country. And I urge both the Senate and House leadership to agree to move all lands and water packages that we can send to President Biden as soon as possible.

So for those reasons, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Nebraska.

Mrs. FISCHER. I am astounded by this once again. As I have said, the situation is dire. My constituents will lose their homes. The communities they have built for the last 50 years will be destroyed.

I don't know of any other bill, in the 100 or 150 bills, that is on this kind of time crunch. My bill has to pass now. Yes, it is a priority. As the Senator from California, his bills are a priority as well for himself, his constituents. I respect that. But we are on a time crunch. This has to pass now or next week. Maybe we won't be home for Christmas because I plan to keep coming back here and get this done.

We did our work; we did it the right way; and we did it on time. We have presented a solution that everyone—and I mean everyone—agrees with. It is so uncontroversial, it was voice-voted out of committee. Even the Senator from West Virginia who objected last night—he doesn't have any concerns with this legislation.

Nebraskans' very homes and communities are now on the line in this final hour. They cannot wait. They should not have to pay the price for stalled negotiations. Saying there is going to be an agreement after working a year on an agreement, saying there is going to be an agreement on this 100- to 150-bill land package—come on. That isn't even realistic at this point in time. Going to work through the weekend. You know, I hope it comes together, but come on.

These are noncontroversial bills. And using my constituents as political pawns instead of moving bills in normal order, which we all tout, is unacceptable. In fact, it is absurd. We better do better.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF PATRICK GOTTSCH

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, as if in legislation session, notwithstanding rule XXII, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 733.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 733) honoring the life and legacy of Patrick Gottsch.

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

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, I know of no further debate on the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

If not, the question is on adopting the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 733) was agreed to.

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. I ask unanimous consent that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. I ask unanimous consent that the preamble be agreed to.

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

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to ask unanimous consent that the Senate adopt my resolution honoring the life and legacy of my dear friend Patrick Gottsch. Patrick was a strong friend and ally of rural America, and it is only appropriate that the Senate commemorate his life.

Along with so many other rural Americans, I miss Patrick every day. It is an honor to remember Patrick by advocating for and promoting the American rural way of life in the Senate.

I yield the floor.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

NOMINATION OF MATTHEW JAMES MARZANO

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, before we vote this afternoon, I want to rise to express my strong support for the nomination of Matthew James Marzano to serve as a member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Today there is a critical need for nuclear power in our country and in the world.

This carbon-free energy source is essential to ensuring the reliability of our electricity grid and to continuing our work to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

I have said on this Senate floor before, but it bears repeating: Nuclear energy has become the largest source of reliable clean energy in the United States.

I will say that again.

Nuclear energy has become the largest source of reliable clean energy in the United States, providing about 20 percent of our Nation's electricity—but get this—nearly half of our clean power. Nearly half. As it turns out, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission plays an important role in facilitating the deployment of safe and clean nuclear power.

Most American citizens never heard of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Every one of them have an interest in making sure that we address this climate crisis that we face as a nation, as a planet. Everybody here wants to

make sure that the electricity, when we turn on the lights, that it works and that the prices that we pay for that are affordable.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission helps on those fronts. But a really big thing that they do is to make sure that the energy that is created through nuclear sources is safe and something that we can go to bed at night and not have to worry about causing calamity or disaster in this country.

That is a big reason why it is critical that we, in this body, confirm Matthew Marzano to be a member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. They have five seats. One of those seats is vacant, and we need to fill that fifth and the last remaining vacancy on the Commission.

Let me take a moment to discuss why Matt is uniquely qualified for this position. To put it simply, no other Commissioner has the distinct and valuable set of credentials that Matt possesses. He has extensive technical expertise. He has gained over the course a series of positions in the nuclear industry, including as a nuclear engineer. He has run a nuclear power plant control room and has overseen safety, operations, and maintenance personnel onsite. He has trained with sailors—I say this as a retired Navy captain, proudly I say this. He has trained sailors for service aboard our Navy's nuclear ships, one of which I was on last week: the USS *Delaware*. And he has actually worked on the safety systems of a new reactor that is under construction.

Most recently, Matt has applied his background as a nuclear engineer through his role as a member of my staff—our staff—on the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. Matt worked tirelessly with me, Senator CAPITO, and her team—our team—to move the ADVANCE Act—her legislation, she led us on this—but it was our legislation to accelerate the deployment of nuclear energy safely and to move that legislation through the Senate, through the Congress, and to the President's desk.

In my view, no one—no one—is in a better position to help implement the ADVANCE Act legislation that we passed here overwhelmingly—no one better prepared than Matt Marzano. And no one else on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission possesses his combination of, on the one hand, a deep expertise and, on the other hand, relevant experience.

Matt is pragmatic. Matt is hardworking. He is thoughtful, and he is kind. He believes, as I do, in working across the aisle to find common ground. He is a dedicated public servant of the American people.

It is no surprise that his nomination has won the support of a number of key organizations involved, as we attempt to bring about a new nuclear era. They include the Nuclear Innovation Alliance, Third Way, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers,

Good Energy Collective, American Nuclear Society, Fusion Industry Association, and General Atomics.

In conclusion, if Matt Marzano is confirmed—and I hope he will be—the Nuclear Regulatory Commission will be fully empowered to make sure that we seize the day with respect to this crucial moment for the future of nuclear energy for our country.

I urge our colleagues to join me in confirming Matthew James Marzano as a member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

With that, I yield the floor.

VOTE ON MARZANO NOMINATION

Mr. President, I know of no further debate on the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

If not, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Marzano nomination?

Mr. CARPER. 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 bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE).

The result was announced—yeas 50, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 323 Ex.]

YEAS—50

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

NAYS—45

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

NOT VOTING—5

Blackburn	McConnell	Vance
Marshall	Mullin	

The nomination was confirmed.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider be considered made

and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOKER). The Senator from Connecticut.

12TH ANNIVERSARY OF SANDY HOOK SHOOTING

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, earlier today, I got to spend a little time with a close friend of mine, Sam Saylor. As I was talking to Sam—resident of Hartford, CT, the city in which I live—I was thinking about who his son Shane might be today.

Shane had a tough life. Shane was born with a birth defect in which one of his arms was essentially inoperable. He grew up in really poor circumstances. He was often bullied. But Shane had a spirit about him—a fighting spirit sometimes that got him in trouble but a spirit to rise above his circumstances, to do something with his life.

His mom—strong mom—Sam's dad clearly gave him a vision of what his life could be, such that when he was 20 years old, he had started a small business. He was buying cars that needed to be rehabbed and fixed up. He would do that, and he would sell them to make a little bit of a profit. It was an extraordinary endeavor for a kid who lived that kind of life, who had those kinds of obstacles.

I think about 12 years later—Shane would have been in his early thirties today. What would Shane be doing? Would he be running an autobody shop? Would he be an active member of his community? Would he be making a difference in the way that his father and his mother have? Shane could have been a life-changer, but he is not because on October 20, 12 years ago, Shane died. Shane died when he was selling one of these cars. He was meeting a prospective buyer. He brought his girlfriend along, and one of the group of kids who were with the buyer said something mean or coarse about Shane's girlfriend. Some words were exchanged. Shane, as he sometimes did, threw a punch. In the other group's car, there happened to be an illegal gun. They were furious that Shane had thrown that punch. They went and got that gun, and they shot Shane dead in cold blood.

Shane's mom got there before he died, at the scene. He died at the hospital. I just think about who Shane would be today, what great things he would be doing.

Two months later, the entire world woke up to the epidemic of gun violence in this country. Shane's murder happened on October 20, 2012. And then on December 14, 2012, the massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School happened; 20 first graders and 6 educators lost their lives.

I never really know what to say every year when I come down here to give this speech. But because this is the year that those kids would have been going to college and voting for the first time—this year of transition into

adulthood—it is worth thinking about who they would be today and what amazing things they might be getting ready to do in their adulthood.

Catherine Hubbard, as early as preschool, just adored animals. And she knew, even when she was 6 years old, that her purpose in life was to protect animals. She would catch butterflies and put them in her hand and whisper to them, "Tell your friends I am kind." And then she would let them go. She made business cards—she is 6. She made business cards for "Catherine's Animal Shelter," because she knew that is what she was going to do. She was going to save animals as an adult.

Chase Kowalski was a jock. He loved to run and swim and bike so much that that year that he died, when he was 6 years old, he asked his parents to find him a triathlon to compete in. He was 6. You wonder, what triathlon—he trained for a triathlon. He ran in that triathlon. He swam in that triathlon. He biked in that triathlon. And he won his age group.

That kind of indomitable spirit—the willingness to tackle challenges, so big—that is a recipe for success in life. What would Chase Kowalski be getting ready to do right now? What big challenges in the world would he see as an opportunity to confront? What a difference might he be making in the world, having displayed those really rare characteristics as a 6-year-old?

Emilie Parker was a supertalented artist who didn't travel anywhere without her colored pencils and her markers. She wanted to do art wherever she was. She was very attuned to kids around her who weren't feeling well, who were feeling sad. And her immediate instinct when she would run into a friend who wasn't feeling good that day was to paint them a picture or draw them a picture to make them feel better.

This month, the Catherine Violet Hubbard Animal Sanctuary broke ground on what will become Catherine's Learning Barn. And over the last 10 years, the not-for-profit that her parents set up in her name has conducted thousands of opportunities and workshops for kids to commune with animals.

There is a Race4Chase Kids Triathlon today. And so there are children all over Connecticut who are learning how to overcome obstacles by racing in their first triathlon, named after Chase.

And the Emilie Parker Art Connection has helped support arts programs that are under siege with local budget cuts. Not just in Connecticut, but all over the country kids are getting the opportunity to experience art because of the Emilie Parker Art Connection.

That is a lovely story: the triathlon, the animal sanctuary, the arts program.

But what would Catherine and what would Chase and what would Emilie