

I express appreciation to my friend for yielding to me.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that there be 2 minutes for debate equally divided in the usual form prior to the second rollcall vote tonight.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, when I was in third grade, I read all of Dickens and all of Robert Louis Stevenson. I remember two words that really struck me during that time. The words "pettifoggery" and "balderdash." I have heard more pettifoggery and balderdash on the other side this evening than I could imagine.

The fact of the matter is this. The Republican Party—and many of them are dear friends of mine—orchestrated a partial shutdown of the government last year. It cost the taxpayers tens of billions of dollars and it accomplished nothing. Well, I shouldn't say it accomplished nothing. It stopped cancer research and a number of other things. Now they are trying the same thing with the Federal judiciary by taking judges who had passed out of the Senate Judiciary Committee unanimously and doing what the Republicans did with the very first nominee of President Obama who came up. They filibustered it—something that had not been done ever in my 40 years here with either Republican or Democratic presidents—ever. This was a judge supported by the most senior Republican in the Senate.

Shortly after that, the Republican leader said his primary goal was for President Obama to fail. Unfortunately for them, he didn't. He was reelected resoundingly. But they have now achieved a partial shutdown of the Federal judiciary by blocking these judges. It is balderdash and pettifoggery.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. BOOZMAN. I yield back the remainder of our time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the time is yielded back.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Jeffrey Alker Meyer, of Connecticut, to be United States District Judge for the District of Connecticut?

Mr. BOOZMAN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second? There appears to be a sufficient second.

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator

from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) would have voted "yea."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 91, nays 2, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 37 Ex.]

YEAS—91

Alexander	Grassley	Murphy
Ayotte	Hagan	Murray
Baldwin	Harkin	Paul
Barrasso	Hatch	Portman
Begich	Heinrich	Pryor
Bennet	Heitkamp	Reed
Blumenthal	Heller	Reid
Booker	Hirono	Roberts
Boozman	Hoeven	Rockefeller
Boxer	Inhofe	Rubio
Brown	Isakson	Sanders
Burr	Johanns	Schatz
Cantwell	Johnson (SD)	Schumer
Cardin	Johnson (WI)	Scott
Carper	Kaine	Sessions
Casey	King	Shaheen
Chambliss	Kirk	Shelby
Coats	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Cochran	Landrieu	Tester
Collins	Leahy	Thune
Coons	Lee	Udall (CO)
Corker	Levin	Udall (NM)
Cruz	Manchin	Vitter
Donnelly	Markey	Walsh
Durbin	McCain	Warner
Enzi	McCaskill	Warren
Feinstein	McConnell	Whitehouse
Fischer	Menendez	Wicker
Flake	Merkley	Wyden
Franken	Mikulski	
Gillibrand	Moran	

NAYS—2

Coburn

Crapo

NOT VOTING—7

Blunt	Murkowski	Toomey
Cornyn	Nelson	
Graham	Risch	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid on the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

NOMINATION OF JAMES M. MOODY, JR., TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There is now 2 minutes equally divided prior to the next vote.

• Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, today the Senate will vote to invoke cloture on the nomination of James Moody to fill a judicial vacancy on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas. Though I was not able to be present to cast my vote this afternoon, I fully support the nomination of this qualified individual to fill the vacancy in Arkansas. If I had been here I would

have voted to confirm this highly qualified nominee. It would not have changed the outcome of the vote. I want to congratulate Senator LEAHY and Senator GRASSLEY on their leadership and hope that we can all continue to work together to address the backlog of judicial nominations.●

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I rise to encourage my colleagues to support the nomination of James M. Moody to be a Federal judge in the Eastern District of Arkansas. He is highly qualified, completely noncontroversial, stellar across the board, and meets every criteria anyone could ever have.

So when the times comes, I would appreciate a great vote for Judge Moody.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. WARREN). The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, this is just one more of those judges who passed unanimously from the Senate Judiciary Committee. Every Republican, every Democrat voted for him. He has been held up and delayed by Republicans who, I am afraid, are trying to do the same to the Federal judiciary they did to the Federal Government by closing it down.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time?

Mr. GRASSLEY. I yield back our time.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time is yielded back.

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

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, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of James Maxwell Moody, Jr., of Arkansas, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Arkansas.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Mark L.

Pryor, Mark Begich, Robert Menendez, Benjamin L. Cardin, Tom Harkin, Amy Klobuchar, Christopher Murphy, Patty Murray, Jon Tester, Richard J. Durbin, Barbara Boxer, Angus S. King, Jr., Claire McCaskill, Richard Blumenthal, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jack Reed.

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 James Maxwell Moody, Jr., of Arkansas to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Arkansas shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. HATCH (when his name was called). "Present."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Alaska (Mrs. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) would have voted "nay."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 58, nays 34, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 38 Ex.]

YEAS—58

Alexander	Gillibrand	Murray
Ayotte	Hagan	Pryor
Baldwin	Harkin	Reed
Begich	Heinrich	Reid
Bennet	Heitkamp	Rockefeller
Blumenthal	Hirono	Sanders
Booker	Johnson (SD)	Schatz
Boozman	Kaine	Schumer
Boxer	King	Shaheen
Brown	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Cantwell	Landrieu	Tester
Cardin	Leahy	Udall (CO)
Carper	Levin	Udall (NM)
Casey	Manchin	Walsh
Collins	Markey	Warner
Coons	McCaskill	Warren
Donnelly	Menendez	Whitehouse
Durbin	Merkley	Wyden
Feinstein	Mikulski	
Franken	Murphy	

NAYS—34

Barrasso	Grassley	Paul
Burr	Heller	Portman
Chambliss	Hoeven	Roberts
Coats	Inhofe	Rubio
Coburn	Isakson	Scott
Cochran	Johanns	Sessions
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Shelby
Crapo	Kirk	Thune
Cruz	Lee	Vitter
Enzi	McCain	Wicker
Fischer	McConnell	
Flake	Moran	

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—1

Hatch

NOT VOTING—7

Blunt	Murkowski	Toomey
Cornyn	Nelson	
Graham	Risch	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 58, the nays are 34, and one Senator voted "present."

The motion is agreed to.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I ask consent that the Senate resume legislative session.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to 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.

AGRICULTURAL ACT OF 2014

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, I wish to discuss the Agricultural Act of 2014, otherwise known as the farm bill.

I sincerely appreciate the Agriculture Committee chairwoman's and ranking member's work in moving the process forward.

I have made it a priority to keep Pennsylvania's agricultural industry and our rural economies strong to support Pennsylvanian families.

Agriculture is the Commonwealth's largest industry. Pennsylvania's farm gate value—that is cash receipts to growers—is about \$5.8 billion. Agribusiness in Pennsylvania is a \$46.4 billion industry. Seventeen and one-half percent of Pennsylvanians are employed in the food and fiber system. What does this mean?

It means that we must have a five-year farm bill.

The farm bill creates economic opportunities in our rural areas and sustains the consumers and businesses that rely on our rural economy.

This farm bill would reduce the deficit by approximately \$23 billion through the elimination of some subsidies, the consolidation of programs and producing greater efficiencies in program delivery.

Furthermore, dairy farmers deserve the best dairy program possible. The Senate bill contains many improvements that I support. Dairy is Pennsylvania's No. 1 agricultural sector. The dairy industry annually generates more than \$1.8 billion in on-farm cash receipts, which represent about 32 percent of Pennsylvania's total agricultural receipts.

There are so many other important items that come out of having a five-year farm bill.

I am especially thankful to the chairwoman and ranking member for inclusion of a provision to establish cooperative lending pilot projects to aid administration of microloans. These projects will help provide business planning support and financial management expertise to farmers to ensure their success in order to foster economic development in agriculture and sustain farm profitability.

Making risk management and crop insurance products work better for Pennsylvanians, especially small farmers, specialty crop farmers and organic farmers, is very important. Providing funding through risk management, conservation and agricultural marketing agencies to underserved states, the Agricultural Management Assistance, AMA, program helps to make the farm bill more equitable among regions. I genuinely appreciate the chairwoman's and ranking member's work to enhance the Agricultural Management Assistance program, including support for organic transition assistance. The improvements in this bill to crop insurance delivery are important.

We have worked to address the unique concerns of specialty crop farmers and beginning farmers, and we have

done so in a bipartisan way. Specialty crops are very important to Pennsylvanian agriculture. The Specialty Crops Research Initiative, SCRI, Specialty Crops Block Grant program and Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Snack Program all advance the specialty crops industry, playing a key role in ensuring that this important agricultural sector receives continued acknowledgement in the farm bill. These programs remain strong under this bill.

In addition, the Nation's organic industry has grown exponentially from \$3.6 billion in 1997 to \$29 billion in 2010, with an annual growth rate of 19 percent from 1997–2008. In 2008, Pennsylvania was ranked 6th in number of organic farms with 586 and 3rd in sales at \$212.7 million.

I also support the improvements in promotion programs within the farm bill.

Through research, we develop more efficient and effective farming methods. Research also helps producers maintain a competitive edge in the global market by fighting threatening diseases and pests.

I am pleased that the farm bill invests in relevant and targeted research and maintains the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service programs that work to eradicate the invasive species that threaten our nation's forests and farms.

The farm bill's forestry programs are essential for assisting forest landowners in managing threats and enhancing stewardship. I am pleased that the farm bill continues important forestry programs so that forest owners can continue to create new economic opportunities. I am also grateful to the chairwoman and ranking member for working with me to fix USDA's Biopreferred program to even the playing field for Pennsylvanian forestry products. Revenues from Pennsylvania's forest products industry exceed \$5.5 billion annually. Over 10 percent of the State's manufacturing workforce is involved in the forest products industry.

I am appreciative to the committee for the inclusion of my provision directing USDA to work with the Food and Drug Administration toward the development of a standard of identity for honey, a tool which will promote honesty and fair dealing and serve the interest of consumers and Pennsylvania's honey industry. The majority of our honey is imported, but because there is no standard, contaminated, low-quality honey continues to pass through customs and undercut our domestic product. Pennsylvania is a major player in the honey industry. Honey bee pollination can be directly attributed to the production of about \$60 million of agricultural produce in Pennsylvania annually.

I am committed to keeping Pennsylvania's rural communities strong and support rural development programs that provide access to capital for rural businesses to provide economic opportunities and create jobs. A