[Rollcall Vote No. 204 Ex.]

September 6, 2018

		YEAS—79	
	Alexander Baldwin Barrasso Bennet Blumenthal Blunt Boozman Brown Cantwell Capito Cardin Carper Casey Cassidy Collins Cornyn Cortez Masto Cotton Crapo Donnelly Duckworth Durbin Ernst	YEAS—79 Flake Gardner Graham Grassley Hassan Hatch Heinrich Heitkamp Heller Hirono Hoeven Hyde-Smith Isakson Johnson Jones Kaine Kennedy King Klobuchar Kyl Lankford Leahy Lee Manchin McCaskill	Murphy Murray Paul Portman Reed Risch Roberts Rounds Rubio Sasse Schumer Soct Shelby Smith Sullivan Tester Thune Tillis Toomey Udall Van Hollen Warner Whitehouse
	Ernst Feinstein Fischer	McCaskill McConnell Murkowski	Wicker Young
	NAYS—12		
	Booker Gillibrand Harris Markey	Menendez Merkley Peters Sanders	Schatz Stabenow Warren Wyden
NOT VOTING—9			
	Burr Corker Cruz	Daines Inhofe Moran	Nelson Perdue Shaheen

The nomination was confirmed.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the next nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Robert R. Summerhays, of Louisiana, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Summerhays nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the next nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Eric C. Tostrud, of Minnesota, to be United States District Judge for the District of Minnesota.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Tostrud nomination? The nomination was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the next nomination. The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Alan D. Albright, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Albright nomination? The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table.

The President shall be immediately notified of the Senate's actions. The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. McCONNELL. 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. MCCONNELL. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1013.

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 legislative clerk read the nomination of Charles P. Rettig, of California, to be Commissioner of Internal Revenue for the term expiring November 12, 2022.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. McCONNELL. 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 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 Charles P. Rettig, of California, to be Commissioner of Internal Revenue for the term expiring November 12, 2022.

Mitch McConnell, Joni Ernst, John Boozman, Shelley Moore Capito, Johnny Isakson, David Perdue, Roger F. Wicker, John Hoeven, John Cornyn, Mike Rounds, Orrin G. Hatch, Roy Blunt, John Barrasso, Deb Fischer, Rob Portman, Thom Tillis, Tom Cotton.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call be waived.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for 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.

GUATEMALA

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, the decision, announced last Friday, by Guatemalan President Jimmy Morales to not renew the International Commission Against Impunity in Guatemala, CICIG, after its current term expires next September, was a profound mistake.

That mistake was further compounded on Tuesday when the government announced that the CICIG Commissioner, Ivan Velasquez, a respected Colombian jurist, had been summarily declared a "national security threat" and barred from reentering the country. That is the kind of fear-provoking mischaracterization one might expect from an authoritarian government that will use any outlandish justification to silence its critics but not from a democracy.

I urge President Morales to reconsider and to reverse these actions for the benefit of the Guatemalan people, in the interests of justice and on behalf of Guatemala's relations with the United States and its international reputation. There may still be time to turn this political and judicial crisis into a positive outcome for the country.

At the time of his public announcement to not renew CICIG, President Morales was joined on the podium by dozens of uniformed military and police officers. At the same time, military vehicles carrying officers armed with heavy weapons-vehicles provided by the United States for legitimate law enforcement purposes-lined the street in front of CICIG's office. They also drove past the Constitutional Court and the U.S. Embassy. It was an intimidating display reminiscent of the 1970s and 1980s, and the intended message was clear: The commanders of Guatemala's security forces-which in recent years have been reliable partners with the United States-have sided with those in power to shut down the only credible mechanism for combating the corruption and impunity that plague that country.

Not yet determined is the fate of CICIG's 45 or so international lawyers and investigators, whose work permits have expired. If Commissioner Velasquez is not allowed to return and CICIG's other employees are forced to leave the country, CICIG will, for all practical purposes, cease to exist.

President Morales's decision to do away with CICIG in a manner that the U.N. Secretary General says "does not appear to be consistent with the Agreement on the establishment of CICIG" was reportedly precipitated by a decision of the Supreme Court, days earlier, to refer to Congress a petition by the Attorney General and CICIG to lift President Morales's immunity for violating campaign financing laws. It appears that President Morales is more