

you can't say "payoff" because there were no dollars actually exchanged, but the reward that this party—the Senate majority leader down the hall and the President of the United States—gave the guy who wants to take those protections away and do the bidding of the insurance company is a lifetime—I don't know, \$180,000, \$200,000-a-year, whatever it is—Federal judgeship. It is for life. Mr. Readler is in his forties, so lifetime could be a very long time.

The arguments he made were unprecedented. Three career attorneys withdrew from the case after Readler made that decision. One went so far as to resign in objection to the Department of Justice's unprecedented actions.

Our Republican colleague Senator ALEXANDER from Tennessee called Readler's arguments as farfetched as he had ever seen. This is a Republican saying that the Trump White House's Department of Justice Chad Readler's, Acting Assistant Attorney General, logic was as farfetched as he had ever seen.

We saw what happened with the Texas decision in December, going along with Readler's arguments and threatening the healthcare coverage of 20 million Americans; that is, 20 million people because of a decision he made.

Judges are deciding the fate of Americans' healthcare right now. Judges are. It is not their elected body. It is judges who are taking away healthcare. The elected officials failed to take it away. They tried. They tried, and they tried. They did it 50 times in the House. They tried in the Senate. We defeated it by one vote. The Vice President was here on behalf of the President just in case he had to break the tie. He didn't have to because we defeated it by one vote. He didn't get to break the tie.

Now it is judges. Judges decide right now. We can't afford to put one of the White House's ringleaders in the fight to dismantle healthcare protections on the bench for life.

It is not just healthcare. It is LGBTQ rights. It is women's rights. It is voting rights. Judges make decisions right now that eliminate and limit Americans' rights for a generation.

On these issues, the President's nominees for the Sixth Circuit, Chad Readler and the other one, Eric Murphy, have a proven record of fighting to strip Americans of their rights.

Get this. Chad Readler not only supported the death penalty for minors, for 16-year-olds, as a private citizen, he took it upon himself to pen an op-ed saying he wanted to allow the execution of 16-year-olds—the execution of 16-year-olds. Think about that.

Apparently, he thinks it is OK for a mistake someone makes as a child to not only get them locked up for life but to actually take away their life altogether. What kind of person writes an editorial calling for the execution of 16-year-olds, and we are going to put him on the Federal court for life?

At a time when we are taking important bipartisan steps forward on sentencing reform, how do you turn around and put someone on the bench for life who supports executing children? A 16-year-old is still a teenager, a child, in our State, in our country, and in our society.

During his nomination hearing, Readler stood by his op-ed. He refused to disavow his support for using the death penalty on high schoolers.

As for Eric Murphy, he argued against marriage equality in the landmark Obergefell v. Hodges case. That is why Jim Obergefell has spoken out against his nomination.

He worked to restrict access to contraceptives for women, and my favorite, he defended Big Tobacco because those companies were doing such useful things for our country. As a lawyer, he defended Big Tobacco.

He also defended Ohio's voter purge. Think about the anniversary we will mark this week. This Thursday will mark 54 years, to the day, since Bloody Sunday.

Last weekend, my wife Connie and I were in Selma and walked across the Selma bridge. For me, it was the fifth time. I took my teenage daughters once. I took my mother, who was born in a small town in the South and taught me about civil rights. My wife and I went. We went back again this year to walk across the Edmund Pettus Bridge.

I listened to their stories. Women and men were beaten, their blood was spilled, and their homes were broken into. Why? Because people of color couldn't vote in many places in this country, and Alabama was one of those places. They were willing to suffer and, in some cases, die so they could have a right to vote. That was only a half century ago. That happened only 54 years ago.

Judges around this country, all the way to the Supreme Court, are systematically dismantling those rights. Without question, they are taking away people's right to vote by voter suppression. We can't let the sacrifices of the foot soldiers in Selma be in vain.

It is pretty despicable that a bunch of Members of Congress who have health insurance are willing to take it away for millions of people. That is pretty despicable. It is also despicable that Members of this body are going to mark this anniversary by putting another judge on the bench for life who will work to undo that legacy, who will likely be another judge ruling to send us back to those days, and who will rubberstamp modern-day poll taxes and literacy tests. They will not exactly do poll taxes and literacy tests, but they will find plenty of ways to take voters off the rolls.

We know the Governor's race in Georgia was essentially stolen from the African-American woman who was the nominee because of the sitting Secretary of State—oh, yes, who happened to be running for Governor. We know

that. We know the election in Georgia was stolen. We know voters were purged prior to that election by the Secretary of State, who happened to be running for Governor.

I ask my colleagues, if you will not listen to me, listen to those foot soldiers in Selma, listen to the civil rights leaders who ask you to reject these judges.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:52 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, March 6, 2019, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

ANDELIZ N. CASTILLO, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNITED STATES ALTERNATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, VICE ELIOT PEDROSA.

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

DALE CABANISS, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE JEFF TIEN HAN FON.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

BRENT R. BUNN, OF IDAHO, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE DISTRICT OF IDAHO FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE BRIAN TODD UNDERWOOD, TERM EXPIRED.

THE JUDICIARY

ROBERT J. COLVILLE, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA, VICE ARTHUR J. SCHWAB, RETIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TIMOTHY J. DOWNING, OF OKLAHOMA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE SANFORD C. COATS, RESIGNED.

MICHAEL BLAINE EAST, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE SCOTT JEROME PARKER, RESIGNED.

THE JUDICIARY

STEPHANIE L. HAINES, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA, VICE DAVID S. CERONE, RETIRED.

JASON K. PULLIAM, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS, VICE SAM SPARKS, RETIRED.

MATTHEW H. SOLOMONSON, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS FOR A TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS, VICE EMILY CLARK HEWITT, RETIRED.

DAVID AUSTIN TAPP, OF KENTUCKY, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS FOR A TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS, VICE LYNN JEANNE BUSH, TERM EXPIRED.

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS CHIEF OF CHAPLAINS, UNITED STATES ARMY, AND APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO THAT POSITION UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 7036 AND 7073:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. THOMAS L. SOLHJEM

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. TELITA CROSLAND
BRIG. GEN. DENNIS P. LEMASTER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS THE DIRECTOR, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD, AND FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 601 AND 10506: