

(Ms. WARREN), and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) are necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 84, nays 2, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 326 Ex.]

YEAS—84

Alexander	Ernst	Perdue
Baldwin	Feinstein	Peters
Barrasso	Fischer	Portman
Blackburn	Gardner	Reed
Blumenthal	Gillibrand	Risch
Blunt	Graham	Roberts
Boozman	Grassley	Romney
Braun	Hawley	Rosen
Brown	Heinrich	Rounds
Burr	Hirono	Rubio
Cantwell	Hoeben	Sasse
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Schumer
Cardin	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Carper	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Casey	Jones	Shaheen
Cassidy	Kaine	Shelby
Collins	King	Sinema
Coons	Lankford	Smith
Cornyn	Leahy	Sullivan
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Tester
Cotton	Markey	Thune
Cramer	McConnell	Tillis
Crapo	McSally	Udall
Cruz	Menendez	Van Hollen
Daines	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Moran	Wicker
Durbin	Murphy	Wyden
Enzi	Murray	Young

NAYS—2

Lee Paul

NOT VOTING—14

Bennet	Kennedy	Stabenow
Booker	Klobuchar	Toomey
Harris	Murkowski	Warren
Hassan	Sanders	Whitehouse
Isakson	Schatz	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 84, the nays are 2.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

The Senator from North Dakota.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following leader remarks, on Tuesday, October 22, the time until 12 noon be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees. I further ask that all postcloture time on Treaties Calendar No. 5, Treaty Document No. 116-1, expire at 12 noon tomorrow and that the Senate vote on the ratification of the treaty.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in 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.

(At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

VOTE EXPLANATION

• Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, unfortunately I was unable to attend the rollcall vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of the Republic of North Macedonia. Had I been able to attend, I would have voted in support of cloture.●

OCEAN PLASTIC POLLUTION

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, oceans, lakes, and rivers across our planet are filled with debris that litters shorelines and threatens public health, navigation safety, wildlife, and the environment. This debris causes serious damage to the health of ocean ecosystems and marine life and, due to ocean currents, often travels great distances and poses threats to nations that are not responsible for the mismanagement of such waste.

One of the most common forms of marine debris is plastic, which is abundant in our everyday lives, often in the form of single-use packaging. Countless seabirds, sea turtles, seals, and other marine animals are killed each year after ingesting plastic or getting entangled in it. And most commonly used plastics never fully degrade but, rather, break down into smaller and smaller pieces, known as microplastics, which pose unique problems of their own.

The negative health, environmental, and economic impacts of marine pollution, both to countries that discharge waste and to those on whose shorelines such waste washes up, are steadily mounting. Billions of pounds of plastic and other debris can be found in our oceans and waterways.

In the Senate version of the fiscal year 2020 Department of State and Foreign Operations appropriations bill, which was reported unanimously by the Appropriations Committee on September 26, the committee recommended funding to respond to this global threat. In this bill, the committee directs the Department of State and the U.S. Agency for International Development to redouble their diplomatic and programmatic support for regional and global efforts to address this urgent problem, including through grants, technical assistance, and new multilateral mechanisms, and provides \$10 million to support such efforts.

While the funding provided is minuscule compared to what is needed, the committee's intent is clear. The United States must increase its leadership and visibility on this issue and become more engaged in efforts to prevent and mitigate the impacts of marine debris. The committee recognizes that the United States cannot address this problem alone. Nothing connects countries of the world more than oceans and waterways, and strong international cooperation is necessary to guarantee their conservation for generations to

come. It is imperative that the United States increases its engagement both bilaterally and multilaterally to tackle this challenge.

It is not an understatement to say that what I am speaking about—the protection of the oceans, lakes, and rivers of our planet—is essential to our existence. I hope other Senators will join me, Senator WHITEHOUSE, and others who have taken up this cause in calling for additional resources to address ocean plastic pollution.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING AMELIA ISLAND KAYAK EXCURSIONS

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, as chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week it is my honor to recognize a small business that exemplifies family values and dedication to its community. I am proud to recognize Amelia Island Kayak Excursions of Fernandina Beach, FL, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

Established in 2013, Amelia Island Kayak Excursions is the product of the Bullington family's love of kayaking in the Amelia Island inlands. Six years ago, Mark Bullington and his two children, Amber and Aaron, decided to turn their hobby into their livelihood. Their love of Florida and commitment to responsible stewardship of the Earth led the Bullingtons to share their passion with visitors and their community.

Showcasing Florida's beauty, Amelia Island Kayak Excursions offers both kayak and boat expeditions throughout wildlife-rich Egan's Creek, Lofton's Creek, and more of Florida's coastal environment. Tours range from 2 to 5 hours, and overnight tours are offered for experienced kayakers. Additionally, Amelia Island Kayak Excursions offers private boat tours for small groups to observe the diverse local wildlife.

Since its founding, the tour guides of Amelia Island Kayak Excursions have continued to learn more about Florida's unique environment and community. Over the span of his career, Mark has logged more than 4,500 miles kayaking and canoeing, gaining extensive knowledge about the scenic ecosystem in the process. Amber not only leads tours but is also involved with the local business community through the Nassau County Chamber of Commerce and, in 2018, was recognized as the chamber's Ambassador of the Year. Aaron is certified through the University of Florida as a Florida Master Naturalist, a certification which lends itself easily to his role as tour guide.

As a well-established tour service, Amelia Island Kayak Excursions has become an essential part of the economic framework of Fernandina Beach. This business's influential role has not gone unnoticed. In 2017, Amelia Island