

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask for a second reading, and in order to place the bill on the calendar under provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will receive its second reading on the next legislative day.

SIGNING AUTHORITY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the majority leader be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills for the joint resolutions through Monday, December 23, 2019.

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

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair announces, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 106-398, as amended by Public Law 108-7, and in consultation with the Chairmen of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the Senate Committee on Finance, the appointment of the following individuals to serve as a member of the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission: Roy Kamphausen of Connecticut for a term expiring December 31, 2021 (reappointment); the Honorable James M. Talent of Missouri for a term expiring December 31, 2021 (reappointment).

The Chair announces, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 106-398, as amended by Public Law 108-7, and in consultation with the Ranking Members of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the Senate Committee on Finance, the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission: The Honorable Carte P. Goodwin of West Virginia for a term beginning January 1, 2020 and expiring December 31, 2021 (reappointment).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 548.

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

The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Sean O'Donnell, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Environmental Protection Agency.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nomination with no in-

tervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; that no further motion be in order; and that any statements relating to the nomination be printed in the RECORD.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the O'Donnell nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following nominations: Executive Calendar Nos. 507, 508, and 509.

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

The clerk will report the nominations.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nominations of Dana S. Deasy, of Virginia, to be Chief Information Officer of the Department of Defense (New Position); Lisa W. Hershman, of Indiana, to be Chief Management Officer of the Department of Defense; and Robert John Sander, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Navy.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nominations en bloc.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc with no intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table en bloc; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; that no further motions be in order; and that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Deasy, Hershman, and Sander nominations en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate 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.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2019, THROUGH THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 2020

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the

Senate completes its business today, it adjourn to then convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business being conducted, on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: Monday, December 23, at 10 a.m.; Thursday, December 26, at 3:15 p.m.; Monday, December 30, at 2 p.m.; and Thursday, January 2 at 6:30 p.m.

For the information of all Senators, when the Senate adjourns on Thursday, January 2, 2020, it will next convene at 12 noon on Friday, January 3, pursuant to the Constitution; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day. Finally, that following leader remarks, the Senate 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.

RECESS SUBJECT TO THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess subject to the call of the chair.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 7:47 p.m., recessed subject to the call of the Chair and reassembled at 8:34 p.m. when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. HOEVEN).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to Executive Session for the en bloc consideration of the following nominations: Executive calendar 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, and 411.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the nominations en bloc.

Ms. COLLINS. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc with no intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table en bloc; the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, that no further motions be in order, and that any statements relating to the nominations be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that nomination 525 be removed from the list.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nominations of David T. Fischer, of Michigan, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of

America to the Kingdom of Morocco; Morse H. Tan, of Illinois, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Criminal Justice; Roxanne Cabral, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of the Marshall Islands; Kelley Eckels Currie, of Georgia, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Women's Issues; Leslie Meredith Tsou, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Sultanate of Oman; Yuri Kim, of Guam, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Albania; Carmen G. Cantor, of Puerto Rico, a Career Member of the Senior Executive Service, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Federated States of Micronesia; Robert S. Gilchrist, of Florida, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Lithuania; Alina L. Romanowski, of Illinois, a Career Member of the Senior Executive Service, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the State of Kuwait; Kelly C. Degnan, of California, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Georgia; Peter M. Haymond, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Lao People's Democratic Republic; Michelle A. Bekkering, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, en bloc.

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

NOMINATIONS IN STATUS QUO

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I send a list of nominations to the desk and ask that they be kept in status quo despite the sine die adjournment of the 1st session of the 116th Congress.

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

The nominations in status quo are as follows:

NOMINATIONS IN STATUS QUO BY COMMITTEE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Cal. #238—Mindy Brashears, of Texas, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Food Safety.

Cal. #368—Scott Soles, of Texas, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Agriculture.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Military:

PN 1223—Nicholas W. DiGeorge to be Lieutenant Commander.

PN 1224—Colin R. Young to be Lieutenant Commander.

PN 1262—Shaun J. Arredondo to be Major.

PN 1263—Steven K. Uhlman to be Major.

PN 1292—Christopher M. Feroli to be Major.

Civilian:

PN 1277—Elaine A. McCusker, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller).

PN 1322—James E. McPherson, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of the Army.

PN 1310—Charles Williams, of Missouri, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

Cal. #506—Thomas A. Summers, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board for a term expiring October 18, 2020.

Cal. #505—Jessie Hill Roberson, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board for a term expiring October 18, 2023. (Reappointment)

Cal. #504—Joseph Bruce Hamilton, of Texas, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board for a term expiring October 18, 2022.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Cal. #546—John Bobbitt, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

PN 1153—Peter J. Coniglio, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Export-Import Bank.

Cal. #547—Brian D. Montgomery, of Texas, to be Deputy Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

PN 612—Nazak Nikakhtar, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Industry and Security.

Exec. No. 500—Bruce Poliquin, of Maine, to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation for a term expiring December 31, 2021.

PN 701—Paul Shmotolokha, of Washington, to be First Vice President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States for a term expiring January 20, 2021.

Exec. Cal. #545—Mitchell A. Silk, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

PN 56—Claudia Slacik, of New York, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of the United States for a term expiring January 20, 2023.

PN 1034—David Carey Woll, Jr., of Connecticut, to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

COMMITTEE ON BUDGET

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Cal. #369—Michelle A. Schultz, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board for the term of five years.

Coast Guard:

PN 1182—Capt. Miriam L. Lafferty to be Rear Admiral (Lower Half).

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

PN 857—Andrew George Biggs, of Oregon, to be a Member of the Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico for

the remainder of the term expiring August 30, 2019. (New Position)

PN 858—Jose Baldomero Carrion, of Puerto Rico, to be a Member of the Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico for the remainder of the term expiring August 30, 2019. (New Position)

PN 859—Carlos M. Garcia, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico for the remainder of the term expiring August 30, 2019. (New Position)

PN 860—Arthur J. Gonzalez, of New York, to be a Member of the Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico for the remainder of the term expiring August 30, 2019. (New Position)

PN 861—Jose R. Gonzalez, of New York, to be a Member of the Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico for the remainder of the term expiring August 30, 2019. (New Position)

PN 862—Ana Matosantos, of California, to be a Member of the Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico for the remainder of the term expiring August 30, 2019. (New Position)

PN 863—David Skeel, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico for the remainder of the term expiring August 30, 2019. (New Position)

PN 1246—Lanny Erdos, of Ohio, to be Director of the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Cal. #453—Katherine Andrea Lemos, of California, to be Chairperson of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board for a term of five years.

Cal. #451—Katherine Andrea Lemos, of California, to be a Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board for a term of five years.

*PN 1247 (will be HSGAC) Robert J. Feitel, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

PN 1159—Kipp Kranbuhl, of Ohio, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

PN 1278—Alina I. Marshall, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years.

PN 1279—Christian N. Weiler, of Louisiana, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years.

PN 1248—Sarah C. Arbes, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services.

PN 85—James B. Lockhart III, of Connecticut, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund for a term of four years.

PN 84—James B. Lockhart III, of Connecticut, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund for a term of four years.

PN 83—James B. Lockhart III, of Connecticut, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund for a term of four years.

PN 82—Jason J. Fichtner, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Social Security Advisory Board for a term expiring September 30, 2024.

Cal. #416—Travis Greaves, of the District of Columbia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Cal No. 549 Sung Y. Kim, of California, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Career Minister, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of