

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, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on Executive Calendar No. 21, the nomination of Miguel A. Estrada to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Bill Frist, Orrin Hatch, Judd Gregg, Norm Coleman, John E. Sununu, John Cornyn, Larry E. Craig, Saxby Chambliss, Lisa Murkowski, Jim Talent, Olympia Snowe, Mike DeWine, Michael B. Enzi, Lindsey Graham, Jeff Sessions, Wayne Allard, Mike Crapo.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the live quorum provided for in rule XXII be waived.

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

NOMINATION OF PRISCILLA RICHMAN OWEN, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 86, the nomination of Priscilla Owen to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Priscilla Richman Owen, of Texas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. 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 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 Executive Calendar No. 86, the nomination of Priscilla R. Owen of Texas to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit.

Bill Frist, Orrin Hatch, John Cornyn, Michael B. Enzi, Jim Talent, Judd Gregg, Jeff Sessions, Wayne Allard, Mike Crapo, Thad Cochran, Mitch McConnell, Susan Collins, Don Nickles, George Allen, Kay Bailey Hutchison, Gordon H. Smith, John Warner.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the live quorum provided for under rule XXII be waived.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, the cloture motions I just filed will ripen on Thursday. This will be the sixth cloture vote on the Estrada nomination and the second on the Owen nomination. I am compelled to file these mo-

tions because we have been unable to reach a time certain for an up-or-down vote on these two highly qualified nominees.

The record will reflect the many times we have asked unanimous consent for a debate limit on the Estrada and Owen nominations, only to have an objection from the other side of the aisle.

As has been said previously, we will not give up hope that the Senate will be able to work its will on these judicial nominees. Senators can vote for them, Senators can vote against them, but these people deserve a vote.

Stalling and not allowing an up-or-down vote is an indication that the system is broken. I commend Senator CORNYN and others in their efforts to begin a dialog regarding the ramifications for the Senate of these judicial filibusters.

I will notify all Members as to the exact timing of the cloture votes on Thursday.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period for morning business.

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

NATIONAL TEACHER DAY

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, in 1953, Congress first proclaimed May 6 as National Teacher Day. Our Nation has changed in many ways over the past 50 years; however some things have remained the same. Teachers have always been mentors and role models to students and have made lasting contributions to so many students' lives.

Today teachers face greater demands and more diverse student bodies. Too often, they also face inadequate pay and unacceptable teaching environments. In a time of fiscal uncertainty, when budgets are shrinking and teachers have to rely on fewer resources, they still do the best they can to help their students succeed.

Little relief is in sight. Communities across the country will need to hire an additional two million teachers over the next 10 years to deal with rising student enrollments and teacher retirements. Congress must do more to help communities recruit promising teacher candidates. We can provide new teachers with trained mentors who will help them not only to survive but to thrive in the classroom. We can do more to see that all teachers and principals have the on-going training they need in order to keep up with modern technology and modern research.

In addition, we must find better ways to increase their pay and improve their working environments. It is imperative that we treat all teachers with the re-

spect that they deserve. Teachers have one of the most important jobs of all, and we must support them every step of the way.

On this special day, we thank the 3 million public school teachers across the country who work so hard each and every day to do their job. They truly are our community heroes and our national heroes. They have one of the most difficult jobs of all educating the young men and woman who are our Nation's future.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, now that President Bush has declared an end to combat operations in Iraq, it is important that we take a moment to pay tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. As we celebrate the swift and stunning victory in Iraq achieved by our men and women in uniform, we must be careful not to forget the pain and loss of those families whose loved ones fell on the field of battle.

In my home State of Indiana, seven families have suffered the devastating loss of a loved one during this relatively brief military campaign. Seven truly fine young men will not be coming home to victory parades and joyful reunions. This Nation takes rightful pride in the extraordinary accomplishments of our Armed Forces, and we rejoice that the war has come to such a quick end. But we must always temper these feelings with the knowledge that this victory did not come cheaply.

Today, I would like to pay tribute to those from Indiana who made the ultimate sacrifice in this war.

Indiana National Guard Specialist Brian Clemens of Kokomo, was the State's first casualty of this war. Specialist Clemens, who was 19, died in Kuwait on February 6—six weeks before the ground attack into Kuwait got under way. He was riding in a Humvee which overturned. He was serving with the 1st Battalion, 293d Infantry, one of two Indiana National Guard units mobilized to provide a robust force protection presence in the Persian Gulf. The units' 1,320 soldiers are guarding U.S. military installations and supply lines in Iraq, Kuwait and Qatar.

Specialist Clemens was an Eagle Scout and a graduate of Maconaquah High School, where he was a dedicated member of the wrestling team. Before being called to active duty, he was working at Wal-Mart and saving money to enroll in college. He is survived by his mother and stepfather, Cathy and Terry McCreay of Kokomo, and his father, Robert Clemens of Dayton, OH. Many of Brian's friends are still in the Persian Gulf region, and they have memorialized his death by wearing black wristbands.

Brian Clemens will be missed.

Marine Lance Corporal David Fribley, who grew up in Warsaw, IN, was killed on March 23. He was riding in an armored vehicle that encountered