

jurisdiction—Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs—or not; whether they were a Democrat or not. To my knowledge, he has met with all of us who wanted to spend time with him.

The last thing I would say—and one of the things I found so refreshing—is that he is not a political guy. This is someone who is a scientist. He is a statistician. He is good at leading a large organization. He gets this stuff. He enjoys this stuff. How lucky we are to get someone who wants to take on this challenge for us in our Nation's history.

For these reasons and others that Senator COLLINS and I have mentioned, he deserves our support. I hope in 10 minutes or so, when we have the opportunity to vote, we will vote for him in very large, overwhelming numbers.

Madam President, how much time remains on our side?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Twenty seconds remain.

Mr. CARPER. Madam President, I reserve the remainder of my time, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CARPER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

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, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Robert M. Groves, of Michigan, to be Director of the Census.

Harry Reid, John D. Rockefeller, IV, Christopher J. Dodd, Arlen Specter, Richard J. Durbin, Mark Begich, Mark Udall, Michael F. Bennet, Jeff Bingaman, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Frank R. Lautenberg, Blanche L. Lincoln, Tom Udall, Bill Nelson, Byron L. Dorgan, Claire McCaskill, Kirsten E. Gillibrand.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Robert M. Groves, of Michigan, to be Director of the Census, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER), and the

Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) are necessarily absent.

Mr. KYL. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. DEMINT), the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH).

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 76, nays 15, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 230 Ex.]

YEAS—76

Akaka	Franken	McConnell
Alexander	Gillibrand	Menendez
Baucus	Graham	Merkley
Bayh	Grassley	Mikulski
Begich	Gregg	Murkowski
Bennet	Hagan	Murray
Bingaman	Harkin	Nelson (NE)
Bond	Hatch	Nelson (FL)
Boxer	Inhofe	Pryor
Brown	Inouye	Reed
Burr	Johanns	Reid
Burriss	Johnson	Sanders
Cantwell	Kaufman	Schumer
Cardin	Kerry	Shaheen
Carper	Klobuchar	Kohl
Casey	Kohl	Snowe
Coburn	Kyl	Specter
Cochran	Landrieu	Tester
Collins	Lautenberg	Thune
Conrad	Leahy	Udall (CO)
Corker	Levin	Udall (NM)
Dodd	Lieberman	Warner
Dorgan	Lincoln	Webb
Durbin	Martinez	Whitehouse
Feingold	McCain	Wyden
Feinstein	McCaskill	

NAYS—15

Barrasso	Crapo	Roberts
Brownback	Ensign	Sessions
Bunning	Enzi	Shelby
Chambliss	Isakson	Vitter
Cornyn	Risch	Wicker

NOT VOTING—9

Bennett	Hutchison	Rockefeller
Byrd	Kennedy	Stabenow
DeMint	Lugar	Voinovich

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 76, the nays are 15. Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

Under the previous order, all postcloture time is yielded back. The question is on agreeing to the confirmation of the nominee.

The nomination was confirmed.

Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table. The President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

● Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, I was necessarily absent for tonight's vote on the nomination of Robert M. Groves, of Michigan, to be Director of the Bureau of the Census at the Department of Commerce. I was in Michigan attending an event with the Secretary of Agriculture. Had I been present for the vote on this nomination, I would have voted in favor of both the motion to invoke cloture and on confirmation of the nomination.●

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will resume legislative session.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010—Continued

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DODD. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. SHAHEEN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DODD. Madam President, I rise this evening to express my opposition to the Levin-McCain amendment which would cut short the production of the F-22 fighter. I understand my position on this puts me at odds with our President, President Obama, as well as the chairman and ranking member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, both fine public servants for whom I have a tremendous amount of respect and with whom I have worked on numerous occasions, and I look forward to doing so in the future once we get beyond this.

I also think I have a duty to stand up for an airplane built by constituents of mine. I wouldn't make the case strictly on job loss in an individual State. That is not a legitimate argument to make to 99 of my colleagues from around the country. If we made the case that job losses would occur in our own respective districts or States, obviously it would lead to chaos and we wouldn't have a situation like that.

My argument in support of this F-22 goes far beyond the potential job losses in my State, although that is not insignificant. Some 2,000 jobs could be lost potentially in Connecticut. More important than the job loss, as important as that is, is the potential loss of the industrial base that is absolutely critical to maintaining the ability to produce the superior engines that we historically have been able to produce at the Pratt & Whitney Division of United Technologies, a corporation in my home State. The work being done by machinists and engineers and technicians in my State and others all across the country not only produce quality work but also make a significant difference in saving lives and in giving us the superior ability to deal with potential threats that our Nation faces. That has been a hallmark of every generation that has come before us, not to achieve parity with potential adversaries but to be in a superior position to potential adversaries.

So let me begin with my concerns over this amendment's potential impact on our national security. Since the advent of modern warfare, military strategists have sought the highest