

(II) MEMBER OF CONGRESS.—The term “Member of Congress” means any member of the House of Representatives or the Senate.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Jacqueline Lampert, a Democratic Policy Committee staffer, be granted floor privileges for the consideration of H.R. 3590.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider, en bloc, Executive Calendar Nos. 532, 533, 534, 553, 554, and 558; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc; the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc; that no further motions be in order; that any statements relating to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action, and the Senate resume legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Kenyan Ray Brown, of Alabama, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama for the term of four years.

Stephanie M. Rose, of Iowa, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Iowa for the term of four years.

Nicholas A. Klinefeldt, of Iowa, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Iowa for the term of four years.

THE JUDICIARY

Christina Reiss, of Vermont, to be United States District Judge for the District of Vermont.

Abdul K. Kallon, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Daniel I. Gordon, of the District of Columbia, to be Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy.

NOMINATIONS OF JUDGE CHRISTINA REISS AND ABDUL KALLON

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am pleased that today the Senate will consider and confirm Judge Christina Reiss to a seat on the U.S. District Court in Vermont. Judge Reiss will be the first woman to serve on that Court.

As the senior Senator from the State of Vermont, I was honored to recommend Judge Reiss to President Obama for this post. She has considerable criminal and civil experience, and is extremely qualified. For the past 5 years, she has been a State trial court judge in Vermont—a position to which she was appointed by Governor Jim Douglas, a Republican, and confirmed unanimously. She formerly was a partner in two Vermont law firms. Judge

Reiss earned her B.A. from my alma mater, Saint Michaels College, and earned her J.D. with high honors from University of Arizona College of Law, where she was editor-in-chief of the law review.

Judge Reiss has been nominated to fill the vacancy created when my good friend, Judge Garvan Murtha, announced his intention to take senior status on the court. It is the first vacancy on this court since 1995, when the Senate confirmed Judge Murtha and Judge William Sessions. Judge Reiss will make an excellent addition to that court. She has already demonstrated as a state court judge her ability to relate to litigants of many backgrounds, and knows how important it is for judges to possess an understanding of the effects of legal rulings on people’s lives.

In making this recommendation, I looked to Vermont’s Judicial Nominating Commission, a practice I started with the late Senator Robert Stafford, a Republican, and a practice I have continued to follow. The Commission that helped select Judge Reiss was comprised of a nine member non-partisan panel appointed by me, Senator SANDERS, and the Vermont Bar Association, and we were aided in the selection process by input from Congressman PETER WELCH. The non-partisan, merit-driven process is a good fit for our approach to government in Vermont.

Senators of both parties have clearly seen that Judge Reiss has all of the qualities that are important on the Federal bench. Earlier this week, Judge Reiss’s nomination was reported from the Senate Judiciary Committee without dissent in a voice vote. I am confident that Judge Reiss is the right person for this position.

The Senate will also consider and confirm Abdul K. Kallon to the Northern District of Alabama, the home state of the Ranking Member of the Judiciary Committee. Mr. Kallon’s nomination has the support of both Senator SESSIONS and Senator SHELBY, and was reported out of the Senate Judiciary Committee this week with approval by voice vote.

I congratulate Judge Reiss, Mr. Kallon and their families on their confirmations today.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now return to legislative session.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that at 11:30 a.m., Tuesday, December 1, the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 487, the nomination of Jacqueline Nguyen to be a U.S. district judge for the Central District of California; that

debate with respect to the nomination be limited to 30 minutes, equally divided and controlled between Senators LEAHY and SESSIONS or their designees; that upon the use or yielding back of time, the Senate proceed to vote on confirmation of the nomination; that upon confirmation, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; no further motions be in order; the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action, and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

HUMAN RIGHTS ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2009

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 209, S. 1472.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1472) to establish a section within the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice to enforce human rights laws, to make technical and conforming amendments to criminal and immigration laws pertaining to human rights violations, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported by the Judiciary committee with amendments, as follows:

[Strike the parts printed in boldface brackets and insert the part printed in Italic]

S. 1472

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Human Rights Enforcement Act of 2009”.

SEC. 2. SECTION TO ENFORCE HUMAN RIGHTS LAWS.

(a) REPEAL.—Section 103(h) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1103(h)) is repealed.

(b) SECTION TO ENFORCE HUMAN RIGHTS LAWS.—Chapter 31 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 509A the following:

["§ 509B. Section to enforce human rights laws

“(a) Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of the Human Rights Enforcement Act of 2009, the Attorney General shall establish a section to enforce human rights laws within the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice.

“(b) The section is authorized to—

“(1) identify individuals who are suspected of committing serious human rights offenses under Federal law;

“(2) take appropriate legal action, including prosecution, denaturalization or extradition, against the individuals identified pursuant to paragraph (1); and

“(3) coordinate any such legal action with the United States Attorney for the relevant jurisdiction.

“(c) The Attorney General shall consult with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of State in making determinations regarding the prosecution, removal, denaturalization, extradition, or exclusion of naturalized citizens or aliens who