

difference in the lives of vulnerable young people who don't have a permanent place to call home.

The caucus cannot function without the input and the insight from foster young people. These young people are the experts on the foster care system. They have been through it. They know the challenges. They tell us in this caucus what works and what needs to change. They share the experiences and provide us with real-world stories about how our policies truly affect them.

I wish to highlight the story of one particular person whom I have had the privilege of getting to know. Amnoni Myers is an intern in my office this summer. She is participating in the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute's Foster Youth Internship Program. I wish to tell her story because it is important not to forget there are young people in this country such as Amnoni who don't have a permanent family or a place to call home. Despite her circumstances, Amnoni has risen up and made a better life for herself. So allow me to share her story.

Amnoni Myers, a native of Boston, became a ward of the State on the day she was born. She was abandoned at birth. When she was 6 months old, Amnoni's great aunt learned of Amnoni and her two other siblings and decided to take care of them by taking them into her home. She lived in her great aunt's care for 10 years. Even though she had a better family environment, life still presented her with many challenges. Amnoni struggled with rejection and trauma at a very young age, resulting from different types of abuse.

At the age of 10, Amnoni was reunited with her biological mother because the State granted her temporary custody. Amnoni thought her life was finally secure. Wouldn't we think so, being at home with our birth mother? Her mother promised to care for her and never give her up again. Unfortunately, after 2 short years, Amnoni's mother voluntarily returned her and her siblings back to the State.

So at the age of 12, Amnoni was separated from her siblings and placed with foster families until the age of 18. Although Amnoni and her brother were placed together for a short period of time, they were later separated as Amnoni moved around in the system. During her time in foster care, she was moved several times, never experiencing permanency or stability. That is one of the things I learned through the work of this caucus; that when we talk to people who are in foster care, what do they want? They want permanency. They want a real mom and dad, and they would like to have a place to call home.

To Amnoni, foster parents seemed more interested in cash benefits for parenting rather than human investment. She experienced emotional and verbal abuse in places she stayed. She didn't know unconditional love. Her

foster families didn't take the time to manage her trauma but instead added to it.

One of the most difficult experiences Amnoni faced was aging out of the foster care system, and aging out issues with these young people is exactly why Senator LANDRIEU and I established the caucus I have already spoken about.

During the summer, while still in care, Amnoni entered an intense college preparation program that would determine if she was adequately prepared to enroll in a postsecondary institution. Already anxious about the future of her success and if she would be able to handle the workload of the program, she received a phone call from her social worker that afternoon. The bad news came that she was aging out. She was told that her foster mother was no longer being paid for Amnoni's bed. Because the money was running out for her foster parents, Amnoni was forced to leave the home immediately.

The shock and devastation of those words crushed Amnoni. She lived in that home with that family for 3 years. She considered it a long-term living situation. Amnoni returned to find her belongings packed in garbage bags waiting for her at the door. That is a story our caucus often hears.

Amnoni aged out of the system in a way no person should have to experience. She left a place she considered home, not knowing what her future would hold. She was on her own, shoved into independence with no family, support or a place to call home.

Amnoni's aging-out experience left her feeling shattered and confused. She felt betrayed by both her foster mother, who claimed to love her, and the child welfare system—in other words, the State she lived in—that claimed to protect her. While this experience quickly taught Amnoni the value of independence, she would have preferred to have a smoother transition into that independence.

When Amnoni left her so-called home at age 18, she was taken in by a former mentor and her family. She resided there for 5 years. Living there was a reminder that love, family, and support do exist.

In 2008 Amnoni learned she had post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, and anxiety. These diagnoses led her to take a break from school to gain control over these disruptions. Amnoni entered into a Christian residential program, Mercy Ministries, where she was able to gain a better understanding of herself. This experience motivated her to attend Gordon College, a Christian institution outside of Boston.

Today she is working in my office, sitting in this Chamber with me, learning how government works. She is becoming an advocate for foster youth who face the same experiences she faced.

Despite the challenges, Amnoni feels very fortunate. She has been able to attend college, graduate this year, and

hopes to pursue a meaningful career. Knowing that many children and youth do not have adequate support systems in their life to help them along their life journey, Amnoni pursued an education in social work and sociology.

Many people who have gone through similar experiences resort to other paths because of the lack of support and services. Many foster children age out of the system without supportive services in place to ensure healthier lives. Thankfully, Amnoni has had a network of support to guide and direct her through difficult times.

Amnoni's experience has fueled her passion to advocate for those who do not have a voice to fight for themselves. As Amnoni looks back on her life, she realizes her past does not have to determine her future. She is on her way to becoming a monumental figure for those who have suffered, giving youth across the country a voice and making a difference in this world.

I appreciate her willingness to let me share her story. It is so typical of so much that we hear in the caucus that Senator LANDRIEU and I formed. This young girl is a very brave woman. She knows we can learn from her. We will learn from her. We must do right by her and others in the foster care system.

I hope my colleagues have a chance to say hello to Amnoni while she is here in Washington, DC, and take a minute to commend her for being an advocate for other youth.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, I ask to speak on the nomination that is pending.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is recognized.

#### KRAUSE NOMINATION

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, I rise this afternoon to speak just for a couple moments—because we are limited in time to speak—about Cheryl Ann Krause who is the nominee for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

I want to review her credentials, some of which the Members of the Senate are familiar with in preparing for the vote.

Cheryl Ann Krause is a graduate of the Stanford Law School. She got her juris doctorate degree with distinction in 1993. She graduated from the University of Pennsylvania summa cum laude. Of course, I am especially proud of that as a Pennsylvanian.

She has an extensive career both as a member of law firms in the private sector as well as a prosecutor. Before I get to that, I want to mention her clerkships.

She clerked in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit for Judge Alex Kozinski. That was followed by a clerkship in the Supreme Court of the United States for Justice Anthony M. Kennedy.

Later she became a prosecutor, as I mentioned, in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, where she worked for 5 years. In that capacity as a prosecutor, she handled the investigation, prosecution, and appeals of domestic and international bank fraud, securities fraud, money laundering, and public corruption cases.

She has a broad and deep experience in the law, both on the civil and criminal side of it. She is an excellent student, as you can tell from her academic credentials and her educational background. She has been a member of so many organizations which would be directly relevant and connected to her work as a judge. I will not read all of those today.

But I also want to say that Cheryl is someone I know. I know her to be a person of character and integrity, someone who has not just broad experience but the kind of integrity and judicial temperament that we will want from a member of any Federal district court or, in this case, an appeals court.

Finally, I will mention something about her own family background. Her husband is Col. Bradford R. Everman, who currently serves as the Operations Group commander of the 177th Fighter Wing with the New Jersey National Guard. He served, as well, as a fighter pilot in tours of duty the world over. So she has both her own credentials but also has as a member of her family a real commitment to our country above and beyond her excellent work as a lawyer, as a scholar, as a lecturer, and, of course, as a prosecutor. So I could not say anything more today to recommend her to Members of the Senate on both sides of the aisle when we have the vote to move her forward so she can become a circuit court judge on the U.S. Circuit Court for the Third Circuit, which, of course, includes Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware as States in that circuit.

With that, I yield the floor and 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. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

#### CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### NOMINATION OF CHERYL ANN KRAUSE TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE THIRD CIRCUIT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will pro-

ceed to executive session to consider the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Cheryl Ann Krause, of New Jersey, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Cheryl Ann Krause, of New Jersey, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit?

Mr. GRASSLEY. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH), the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON), and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) would have voted "yea."

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

The result was announced—yeas 93, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 217 Ex.]

#### YEAS—93

|            |              |             |
|------------|--------------|-------------|
| Alexander  | Franken      | Murkowski   |
| Ayotte     | Gillibrand   | Murphy      |
| Baldwin    | Graham       | Murray      |
| Barrasso   | Grassley     | Nelson      |
| Bennet     | Hagan        | Paul        |
| Blumenthal | Harkin       | Portman     |
| Blunt      | Hatch        | Pryor       |
| Booker     | Heinrich     | Reed        |
| Boozman    | Heitkamp     | Reid        |
| Boxer      | Heller       | Risch       |
| Brown      | Hirono       | Roberts     |
| Burr       | Hoeven       | Rockefeller |
| Cantwell   | Inhofe       | Rubio       |
| Cardin     | Johanns      | Sanders     |
| Carper     | Johnson (SD) | Schumer     |
| Casey      | Kaine        | Scott       |
| Chambliss  | King         | Sessions    |
| Coats      | Kirk         | Shaheen     |
| Coburn     | Klobuchar    | Shelby      |
| Cochran    | Leahy        | Stabenow    |
| Collins    | Lee          | Tester      |
| Coons      | Levin        | Thune       |
| Corker     | Manchin      | Toomey      |
| Cornyn     | Markey       | Udall (CO)  |
| Crapo      | McCain       | Udall (NM)  |
| Cruz       | McCaskill    | Walsh       |
| Donnelly   | McConnell    | Warner      |
| Durbin     | Menendez     | Warren      |
| Enzi       | Merkley      | Whitehouse  |
| Feinstein  | Mikulski     | Wicker      |
| Fischer    | Moran        | Wyden       |

#### NOT VOTING—7

|         |              |        |
|---------|--------------|--------|
| Begich  | Johnson (WI) | Vitter |
| Flake   | Landrieu     |        |
| Isakson | Schatz       |        |

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider will be considered made and laid upon the table and the President

will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

#### BIPARTISAN SPORTSMEN'S ACT OF 2014—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will resume legislative session and consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 2363, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 384, S. 2363, a bill to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

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

The bill 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 motion to proceed to Calendar No. 384, S. 2363, a bill to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes.

Harry Reid, Kay R. Hagan, Richard J. Durbin, Michael F. Bennet, Debbie Stabenow, Ron Wyden, Joe Donnelly, Patrick J. Leahy, Angus S. King, Jr., Mark Begich, Tim Kaine, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Sherrod Brown, Tom Harkin, Christopher A. Coons, Amy Klobuchar, Heidi Heitkamp.

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 motion to proceed to Calendar No. 384, S. 2363, a bill to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH), the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER).

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 82, nays 12, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 218 Leg.]

#### YEAS—82

|           |          |           |
|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Alexander | Boozman  | Chambliss |
| Ayotte    | Brown    | Coats     |
| Baldwin   | Burr     | Cochran   |
| Barrasso  | Cantwell | Collins   |
| Bennet    | Carper   | Coons     |
| Blunt     | Casey    | Corker    |