

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF JULIAN CASTRO TO BE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

NOMINATION OF DARCI L. VETTER TO BE CHIEF AGRICULTURAL NEGOTIATOR, OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR

NOMINATION OF WILLIAM D. ADAMS TO BE CHAIRPERSON OF THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nominations of Julian Castro, of Texas, to be Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; Darci L. Vetter, of Nebraska, to be Chief Agricultural Negotiator, Office of the United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador; and William D. Adams, of Maine, to be Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

VOTE ON CASTRO NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be 2 minutes of debate equally divided in the usual form prior to the vote on the Castro nomination.

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. President, I support the nomination of Mayor Julian Castro to be the next Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

As Mayor of San Antonio, Mayor Castro has been on the front lines of helping his community reach its housing and economic development goals. In his tenure as mayor, he has focused on attracting well-paying jobs in 21st century industries, raising educational attainment, and revitalizing the city's urban core. HUD is a critical partner in these efforts nationwide. Mayor Castro will bring both direct experience with and an appreciation of the importance of HUD's programs to families and communities to the role of HUD Secretary.

Mayor Castro's nomination has been endorsed by a wide spectrum of stakeholders, including the National Association of Realtors, National Association of Homebuilders, and housing, local government, civil rights and Hispanic leadership organizations. He has also been endorsed by several recent HUD Secretaries who have served in both Democratic and Republican ad-

ministrations, including Henry Cisneros and former Senator Mel Martinez.

I urge my colleagues to support Mayor Castro's nomination.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to yield back all time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, all time is yielded back.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Julian Castro, of Texas, to be Secretary of Housing and Urban Development?

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER).

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

The result was announced—yeas 71, nays 26, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 219 Ex.]

YEAS—71

Alexander	Gillibrand	Murkowski
Ayotte	Graham	Murphy
Baldwin	Hagan	Murray
Begich	Harkin	Nelson
Bennet	Heinrich	Portman
Blumenthal	Heitkamp	Pryor
Blunt	Heller	Reed
Booker	Hirono	Reid
Boxer	Hoeven	Rubio
Brown	Isakson	Sanders
Cantwell	Johanns	Schumer
Cardin	Johnson (SD)	Shaheen
Carper	Kaine	Shelby
Casey	King	Stabenow
Chambliss	Klobuchar	Tester
Cochran	Landrieu	Udall (CO)
Collins	Leahy	Udall (NM)
Coons	Levin	Walsh
Corker	Manchin	Warner
Cornyn	Markey	Warren
Donnelly	McCaskill	Whitehouse
Durbin	Menendez	Wicker
Feinstein	Merkley	Wyden
Franken	Mikulski	

NAYS—26

Barrasso	Flake	Moran
Boozman	Grassley	Paul
Burr	Hatch	Risch
Coats	Inhofe	Roberts
Coburn	Johnson (WI)	Scott
Crapo	Kirk	Sessions
Cruz	Lee	Thune
Enzi	McCain	Toomey
Fischer	McConnell	

NOT VOTING—3

Rockefeller	Schatz	Vitter
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The nomination was confirmed.

VOTE ON VETTER NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be 2 minutes of debate divided in the usual form.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I yield back the time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, all time is yielded back.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Darci L. Vetter, of Nebraska, to be Chief Agricultural Negotiator, Office of the United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador?

The nomination was confirmed.

VOTE ON ADAMS NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be 2 minutes of debate divided in the usual form.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise in strong support of the nomination of Dr. William "Bro" Adams to be Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, NEH.

The NEH is one of the largest supporters of humanities programs in the United States. The individual scholars, museums, libraries, universities, and other cultural institutions it supports enrich communities across the country. Through his extensive and impressive work in public service, education, and the humanities, Dr. Adams is well-qualified to lead the Endowment.

A Vietnam war veteran, Fulbright Scholar, college president, and board member for both the Maine Film Center and the Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation, Dr. Adams' diverse experiences have prepared him to lead the Nation's cultural agency. He is a graduate of Colorado College and earned his Ph.D. in the history of consciousness from the University of California at Santa Cruz.

Dr. Adams recently retired from a successful tenure as president of Colby College in Waterville, ME, where he served from 2000 through June of this year. He launched and executed an ambitious plan to expand the school and its cultural presence, overseeing a \$376 million capital campaign—the largest ever in the State of Maine. In doing so, Dr. Adams helped found the Goldfarb Center for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement, construct the Diamond Building for Social Sciences, launch a film studies program, and expand Colby's creative writing curriculum. Additionally, he played a pivotal role in growing Colby's Museum of Art into one of the largest art collections in Maine.

Under Dr. Adams' leadership, Colby College has supported several projects that have helped to reinvigorate the humanities in the Waterville community. These have included forging partnerships on major renovation projects such as of the Waterville Opera House, the Hathaway Creative Center's historic mill property, the Waterville Public Library, and the Maine Film Center.

Dr. Adams is a proven leader whose engagement and direction have enriched the State of Maine. I am confident that Bro Adams will lead the NEH and serve our country with great vision and integrity. I urge my colleagues to support this nomination.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the time be yielded back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, all time is yielded back.