

human being, one impressive leader. Everything I have learned about Mr. Deyo over the past several months has led me to conclude that he would be not only an exceptional candidate to be a manager at DHS but a terrific Under Secretary if confirmed.

I urge all my colleagues to support the nomination of Russ Deyo.

I wish to take a few more moments to turn to the nomination of Sarah Saldana to be the Assistant Secretary for Immigration and Customs Enforcement at the Department of Homeland Security.

We call it ICE, the acronym. As I said earlier, of the 314 Federal agencies that are evaluated top to bottom in terms of employee satisfaction, ICE was dead last, No. 314.

It has been almost 1½ years since they had a Senate-confirmed leader. They need one—not just anyone, they need a terrific leader. We believe Sarah Saldana fills that bill and meets the qualifications and the needs very well.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement—ICE, as we call it—is a vital law enforcement agency within the Department of Homeland Security. As I said earlier, it has been without a Presidentially appointed and confirmed leader for almost 1½ years—far too long, particularly considering all the issues we face along our borders and the more than 400 laws—think of that—that this agency, ICE, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, is required to enforce.

Some of my colleagues may not be familiar with what ICE does and why it is so critical for the agency to have Senate-confirmed leadership in place.

I wish to take a minute to address that. ICE is one of the Nation's law enforcement agencies, with more than 19,000 employees in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and 48 foreign countries. What do all these people do? That is a fair question.

In 2013 ICE special agents initiated over 125,000 new investigations, made over 40,000 criminal arrests, seized \$1.3 billion in currency and assets and took \$1.6 million pounds of narcotics and other dangerous drugs off our streets. That is just part of what they do.

On any given day ICE arrests 370 criminal aliens in the interior of our country, has 34,000 people in detention, and moves nearly 500 criminal aliens from our country—on any given day. Managing such a large agency, with one of the most complex missions in the Federal Government, is a tall order. Thankfully, Ms. Saldana has agreed to step up to this challenge.

She is a true American success story. She rose from humble beginnings in South Texas as the youngest of seven children to become an accomplished partner at a major law firm. She is now the Nation's top law enforcement officers.

Ms. Saldana was unanimously confirmed by the Senate in 2011 to her current position as U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Texas. She has a

distinguished record representing the U.S. Government as the senior law enforcement officer in one of the largest districts in the Nation.

It spans some 100 counties. I don't know how many counties the Presiding Officer has in the State of Montana—we have three—but she presides over a law enforcement operation that has 100 counties in the northern part of Texas.

In this role, she deals as closely and extensively as anyone else with the threats this country faces every day from transnational criminal networks. This experience will serve her well if confirmed to lead ICE.

Don't take my word for it. One of our good friends in the Senate, JOHN CORNYN, the senior Senator from Texas, felt strongly enough about her qualifications that he personally introduced Ms. Saldana at her confirmation hearing before the committee Dr. COBURN and I lead, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Senator CORNYN said about Sarah Saldana:

In her role as U.S. Attorney and prosecutor over the past decade, Ms. Saldana has served our State with honor, fighting corrupt public officials, organized crime, sex traffickers, and other dangerous criminals.

That sounds like a highly qualified candidate to me. That is not all Senator CORNYN had to say about Ms. Saldana. He went on to say this as well:

If respect for the rule of law is our standard, and I think it should be, we would be hard pressed to find a person more qualified to enforce the law than Ms. Saldana.

That is high praise indeed and I couldn't agree more.

Some are arguing we should not confirm Ms. Saldana because of the President's recent Executive action on immigration. This decision will provide, though, relief from deportation for as many as 5 million undocumented immigrants living in the shadows today, law-abiding people who are productive members of our communities.

Still, some argue the President's actions should preclude the Senate from confirming even a highly qualified candidate such as Sarah Saldana to this critical position. I think that is absurd.

We have before the Senate a highly qualified candidate, a person who—according to her neighbor and the senior Senator from Texas—is fiercely independent, has served with honor in her current role, and respects the rule of law.

It does not punish the President to leave this position unfilled, it punishes the citizens of our country. It makes it harder for ICE to accomplish its mission, and it hurts the men and women at ICE who deserve a leader to ensure that this agency runs as efficiently as possible.

I believe the President acted within the bounds of the law in announcing his executive action. But whether you agree with me, opposing Ms. Saldana's nomination will do nothing to change what the President has done, nothing.

I hope Ms. Saldana, the first Hispanic person and second woman to be nominated to Immigration and Customs Enforcement, does not fall victim to politics as usual in the Senate. She is by all accounts exactly what this critical agency needs: a proven leader and a respected member of the law enforcement community.

What do they say about integrity? If you have it, nothing else matters. Integrity, if you don't have it, nothing else matters. She has it.

She will have a tough job ahead of her if she is confirmed this week, but I believe she is more than up to the task. I urge so strongly for our colleagues to join me, to join Senator CORNYN, and others to support her. We will never regret it.

With that, I am looking around the Senate Chamber. I know we are going to have a lot of folks voting, but I don't see anybody to speak.

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. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. CARPER. I have been asked to lead us through this wrapup session, even though it is a little early to wrap up, but I want to walk through it if I can.

COLLECTIBLE COIN PROTECTION ACT

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, as in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2754 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title. The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2754) to amend the Hobby Protection Act to make unlawful the provision of assistance or support in violation of that Act, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. CARPER. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (H.R. 2754) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

REVISING THE BOUNDARIES OF CERTAIN JOHN H. CHAFEE COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM UNITS

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, as in legislative session, I ask unanimous