

time developing afterschool programs to help at-risk youth discover and realize their potential.

Mr. Mayorkas has also worked directly on dozens of cases and overseen hundreds of attorneys relating to immigration during his tenure as a U.S. attorney. These cases included the prosecution of individuals and rings producing false immigration documents, illegal reentry cases, and alien smuggling conspiracies, among others.

For example, in 1999, at the very beginning of his career as U.S. attorney, Mr. Mayorkas prosecuted the ring-leader of an Iranian visa forgery operation connected to terrorism. Bahram Tabatabai pleaded guilty to providing material assistance with immigration papers to members of the People's Mujahadeen, a group that the State Department considers a terrorist group. Tabatabai helped overseas foreign nationals obtain fake birth certificates and records to apply for benefits and created false persecution stories for Iranians in the United States to apply for asylum.

Mr. Mayorkas also prosecuted Jesse Gardona who at the time was a 15-year veteran of INS—for his role in moving 10 undocumented immigrants from an INS detention facility to an East Los Angeles drop house and demanding as much as \$1,800 in ransom from their relatives.

The mission of Citizenship and Immigration Services is to establish immigration services, policies, and priorities to preserve America's legacy as a nation of immigrants while ensuring that no one is admitted who is a threat to public safety. Mr. Mayorkas has a record of working to secure our Nation's criminal and immigration laws in the face of increasing gang and border violence—and as travel documents have become less secure, to work to ensure that fraud is no longer prevalent in our immigration system.

I am confident that under Mr. Mayorkas' leadership, this administration will work to preserve and increase the integrity of our immigration laws by decreasing fraud and bringing accountability to our immigration system.

It is also my belief that Mr. Mayorkas has the vision to lead Citizenship and Immigration Services in the other half of its mission—to preserve the role of America as a compassionate Nation that treats families and children at our shores humanely and with an eye toward the potential they bring to our Nation. In 1960, Mr. Mayorkas and his family fled Cuba and came to the United States as refugees. Since then, he has lived the American dream and has done so by working on behalf of the American people.

Mr. President, with the nomination of Mr. Mayorkas the administration has taken a significant step toward rebuilding public confidence in the secure, fair, and effective administration of our Nation's immigration laws. I urge my colleagues to confirm Mr.

Mayorkas today so that DHS will have the leadership in place to get to work on behalf of the American people.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to Calendar Nos. 415 and 418 and that the nominations be confirmed en bloc, the motions to reconsider be laid on the table en bloc, no further motions be in order, and any statements relating to the nominations be printed in the RECORD and President Obama be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

David J. Kappos, of New York, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, vice Jonathan W. Dudas, resigned.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

David Edward Demag, of Vermont, to be United States Marshal for the District of Vermont for the term of four years, vice John R. Edwards.

NOMINATIONS DISCHARGED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent the Banking Committee be discharged from further consideration of PN-499 and that the Senate then proceed to the consideration of the nomination; that the nomination be confirmed and the motions to reconsider be laid on the table en bloc, and no further motions be in order, any statements relating to the nomination be printed in the RECORD, and that President Obama be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

The nomination considered and confirmed is as follows:

NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION

Deborah Matz, of Virginia, to be a Member of the National Credit Union Administration Board for a term expiring April 10, 2015.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Veterans' Affairs Committee be discharged from PN-647; that the Senate proceed to the nomination; that the nomination be confirmed and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc; that no further motions be in order and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; and that any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The nomination considered and confirmed is as follows:

VETERANS AFFAIRS

Joan M. Evans, of Oregon, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Congressional and Legislative Affairs).

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee be discharged from PN-823 and that the Senate then proceed to the nomination; that the nomination be confirmed and the motions to recon-

sider be laid upon the table en bloc; that no further motions be in order; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The nomination considered and confirmed is as follows:

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Kelvin James Cochran, of Louisiana, to be Administrator of the United States Fire Administration, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee be discharged en bloc of PN-819, PN-528, and PN-529; that the Senate proceed en bloc to the nominations; that the nominations be confirmed and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc; that no further motions be in order; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Alexander G. Garza, of Missouri, to be Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security and Chief Medical Officer, Department of Homeland Security.

FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY

Julia Akins Clark, of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for a term of five years.

Ernest W. Dubester, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for a term of five years expiring July 29, 2012.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF CASS R. SUNSTEIN TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 167, the nomination of Cass Sunstein to be the Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget.

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

The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Cass R. Sunstein, of Massachusetts, to be Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. I have a cloture motion at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.