

This bill is very necessary. Premiums are increasing every day. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation, the Health Insurance Rate Authority of 2010, which will close this loophole.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING
BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF MARK A. GOLD-
SMITH TO BE UNITED STATES
DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EAST-
ERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

NOMINATION OF MARC T.
TREADWELL TO BE UNITED
STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR
THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEOR-
GIA

NOMINATION OF JOSEPHINE
STATON TUCKER TO BE UNITED
STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR
THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF
CALIFORNIA

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 assistant legislative clerk read the nominations of Mark A. Goldsmith, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan; Marc T. Treadwell, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Georgia; Josephine Staton Tucker, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the time until 6 p.m. will be for debate on the nominations, with the time equally divided and controlled by the Senator from Vermont, Mr. LEAHY, and the Senator from Alabama, Mr. SESSIONS.

The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I rise briefly, and with great pride, to commend to my colleagues the confirmation of Marc Treadwell from the State of Georgia to be a U.S. district court judge of the Middle District of Georgia.

Marc is all Georgian. He was born in Blackshear, and he traveled around as the son of an Army officer. But he came back and attended Valdosta State where he earned his bachelor's degree, and then he graduated from Mercer University's Walter F. George Law School in Macon.

After graduating, he came to Atlanta and, ironically, practiced law at the firm of Kilpatrick & Cody, which represented my company for years in Atlanta. It is one of the most distin-

guished law firms in the State of Georgia.

Marc has been inducted into the American College of Trial Lawyers, and Martindale-Hubbell gave him an "AV," its highest designation.

Marc now teaches at his alma mater, Mercer, and he has written more than 50 publications for Law Reviews and other publications. He is recognized as a leading authority and expert in Georgia evidence law.

Marc is married to his beautiful wife Wimberly. They have two sons, Thomas and John. In addition to juggling his law practice, teaching, and family duties, Marc finds time to be an active member of the Vineville United Methodist Church in Macon.

It is my privilege and honor to thank Chairman LEAHY and Ranking Member SESSIONS for their diligence on this confirmation in the committee.

I commend Marc Treadwell with my highest recommendation for confirmation to the court of the United States of America.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan is recognized.

Ms. STABENOW. Like my friend from Georgia, I rise today also with great pride to strongly support the nomination of Judge Mark Goldsmith, to be a judge for the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan.

I have known Judge Goldsmith for a long time. He is a friend and someone for whom I have the greatest admiration both as a person and as a judge. He is extremely intelligent. He is highly respected in Michigan as a judge. Since joining the Oakland County Circuit Court in 2004, he has proven himself to be someone who is highly respected by all sides. He is known for his integrity and fairness. That is certainly what we look for as we look to these important confirmations on the Federal bench.

After graduating from the University of Michigan in 1974, he went on to receive his law degree from Harvard University in 1977. Before joining the State court, he was a partner at Honigman Miller in Detroit. He has also served as an adjunct professor of the law at Wayne State University's law school.

Judge Goldsmith is well known in the community where he formerly served on many boards and is someone who is known for giving back to the community, working with the poor, and working with those who need his help in the Detroit area. He has been recognized for his pro bono involvement and his community work, most notably at B'nai B'rith Antidefamation League and Forgotten Harvest, an organization that collects surplus perishable foods from grocery stores, restaurants, and caterers and provides them to emergency food providers in the metro Detroit area.

The American Bar Association has given him the rating of "unanimously well qualified," which is their highest rating for judicial nominees.

He has been a judge in Michigan since 2002 when he was appointed as a part-time magistrate hearing traffic violations and civil infractions. In 2004, he was appointed to the Oakland County Circuit Court, which has jurisdiction over felonies and major civil claims cases. He was elected to that position in November of 2004 and re-elected in 2006.

In the cases that have come before him, he has always been known to be fair and impartial, willing to listen to both sides and make careful rulings based on the law. It has been my great honor and privilege to know him and to join with Senator LEVIN in making a recommendation to the President regarding his possible nomination. We were very pleased when President Obama chose to nominate him to the Federal bench.

I urge my colleagues to support him unanimously, as the American Bar Association has done—again, giving him their highest rating for judicial nominees of "unanimously well qualified." I hope we will do this soon today.

I yield the floor.

Mr. President, I ask that the time be equally divided between both sides, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I rise this afternoon to say a few words about an excellent lawyer from Macon, GA, Marc Treadwell, who has been nominated to serve as a U.S. District Court Judge for the Middle District of Georgia, the district I was privileged to practice in for 26 years.

He is a native of Blackshear, GA, but as an "Army brat," he grew up near various bases around the United States and abroad.

He is a graduate of Valdosta State University, as well as the Walter F. George School of Law at Mercer University in Macon.

At Mercer, Marc served on the law review and was a member of the school's prestigious Brainerd Currie Honor Society.

After graduation, Marc went to Atlanta to begin his practice of law and returned to Macon in 1985 and has practiced in Macon ever since. He currently is a partner with the Macon firm of Adams, Jordan & Treadwell.

Marc has been inducted into the American College of Trial Lawyers and Martindale-Hubbell and his colleagues have given him the highest rating available to a lawyer in the country with an AV rating.

He now teaches at his alma mater, Mercer, and has written more than 50 publications for law reviews and other publications. Marc is also recognized as a leading authority on the evidence law in our State of Georgia.