

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The 60-vote threshold having been achieved, the nomination is confirmed.

The majority leader.

NOMINATION OF PAUL J. WATFORD TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

Mr. REID. Madam President, I now move to proceed to consider Calendar No. 552, the nomination of Paul J. Watford, of California, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

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

The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Paul J. Watford, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Madam President, 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.

The legislative 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 the debate on the nomination of Paul J. Watford, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the 9th Circuit.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Jeff Bingaman, Christopher A. Coons, Carl Levin, Ron Wyden, Ben Nelson, Joseph I. Lieberman, Jeanne Shaheen, Richard Blumenthal, John F. Kerry, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Barbara Boxer, Dianne Feinstein, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jeff Merkley, John D. Rockefeller IV.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume legislative session.

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

THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION SAFETY AND INNOVATION ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

Mr. REID. Madam President, what is the pending business?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion to proceed to S. 3187.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Madam President, 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.

The legislative 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 the debate on the motion to proceed to calendar No. 400, S. 3187, the Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act.

Harry Reid, Jeff Bingaman, Joseph I. Lieberman, Amy Klobuchar, Patty Murray, Mark Begich, Richard Blumenthal, Ben Nelson, Patrick J. Leahy, Kent Conrad, Tim Johnson, Sherrod Brown, Benjamin L. Cardin, Sheldon Whitehouse, John F. Kerry, Daniel K. Akaka, Tom Harkin.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

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

Mr. REID. Madam President, I have spoken before about the importance of the FDA bill. It is something we have to get done. Literally, people's lives depend upon it. It addresses so many things with the FDA to make it a better organization. We have to get this done. As I said before, if my Republican colleagues don't like the bill, offer an amendment—offer an amendment. Take that out. Put something in if you don't like it. But I hope we don't have to go through voting on cloture on this Monday night. We should be legislating on this on Monday. So I am stunned that once again, on a motion to proceed, when there has been an agreement that we would proceed to this with relevant amendments—everybody says that is what they want to do. It is not germane amendments, which is very narrow, it is relevant amendments. It gives people a lot of opportunity to change this legislation in many different ways. So I hope we do not have to have that cloture vote Monday night.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—H.R. 1905

Mr. REID. Madam President, I now ask unanimous consent that the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1905, the Iran Threat Reduction Act, and that the Senate proceed to its consideration; that the Reid-Johnson(SD)-Shelby substitute amendment, which is at the desk and is the text of Calendar No. 320, the Iran Sanctions, Accountability and Human Rights Act, as reported by the Banking Committee, be considered; that a Reid-Johnson(SD)-Shelby amendment, which is at the desk, be agreed to; that the substitute amendment, as amended, be agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed; that the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table; that there be no intervening action or debate; and that any statements related to this matter be printed in the RECORD at the appropriate place.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. KYL. Madam President, reserving the right to object, I would just note that this is a matter—and I appreciate the majority leader's desire to

bring this to conclusion. It has been worked on now for quite some time. Unfortunately, the language that has just been presented to our side has not been widely shared. I have not actually read it yet. It was apparently brought over at 10:38 this morning. When I came to the floor, it was described to me. As described, it would be weaker than President Obama's policy.

Given the fact that this is a matter on which Democrats and Republicans and the administration and the Senate have been in pretty close accord in dealing with the country of Iran and its nuclear ambitions, I would hope we could ensure that the language is agreed to by all. There seems to be an important piece missing, and we certainly need the time to talk to folks to see why that is so, whether it can be put back in or, if it cannot, then to be able to discuss it because we certainly do not want something that is weaker than the administration's current policy.

So I would hope we could have some time over the weekend and perhaps on Monday, when enough of the Members can be apprised of what has actually been proposed here, and see if our colleagues on the other side would be willing to make the accommodation that we may need to have made here.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. BLUNT. Madam President, reserving the right to object, I appreciate the leader's desire to get this done. I would like to get it done too. In fact, the original Iran sanctions language was drafted in my office when I was in the other body.

This is an issue I have been involved in for a long time. This morning I have had a chance to look at it only within the last half hour. I suppose I could have been here at 10:38, but even 10:38, for an issue such as this—and my view also is that it is not as strong as the President's policy. It is not as strong as any other resolution on this topic we have ever passed. And the question that would logically be asked is, Why not? I would like to think that is an oversight in drafting, that we can work this out over the weekend and make this reflective of our national policy and the President's policy. But I would be very concerned about moving to this language today and would hope that we could work with the leader to have language that we could bring up as early as Monday and pass and send the message to the world that the Senate supports the stated policy of our government on this critical issue. Nobody wants Iran to be able to move forward and attain nuclear capacity, and I would be very concerned about moving forward on this language as it currently appears to me to be stated.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, is there an objection by either Senator KYL or Senator BLUNT?

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, for the reasons noted, I would hope we could work with our colleagues to fix the problem. Until we do, I would have to object.