

BUSINESS MEETING

Thursday, June 4, 2026

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS,
Washington, DC.

The Committee met, pursuant to notice, at 10:06 a.m., in room S-116, Capitol Building, Hon. James E. Risch, Chairman of the Committee, presiding.

Present: Senators Risch [presiding], Ricketts, McCormick, Daines, Hagerty, Barrasso, Lee, Paul, Cruz, Scott, Curtis, Cornyn, Shaheen, Coons, Murphy, Kaine, and Booker.

The Chairman: The Committee will come to order. First things first. Happy birthday, Senator Lee.

Senator Shaheen: How old are you now?

Senator Lee: I'm 12. I'm 55, or as Ted Cruz would say, I'm halfway to 110.

Senator Shaheen: Oh, I like that.

The Chairman: That's good. All right. The Ranking Member and I have been talking about how to move this as efficiently as we can. And what we're going to do, we're going to start with two of them that we believe are going to -- can be handled the same. That one is Garcia, and the other one is Brat. Is that correct?

Senator Shaheen: Correct.

The Chairman: So, without --

Senator Shaheen: Can we make some opening comments?

The Chairman: Yes, if you insist.

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Senator Shaheen: I do.

The Chairman: All right. Please feel free.

Senator Shaheen: Would you like to start with opening comments?

The Chairman: I'm going to yield to you.

Senator Shaheen: All right. Thank you.

**STATEMENT OF HON. JEANNE SHAHEEN,
U.S. SENATOR FROM NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Senator Shaheen: Well, Mr. Chairman, I know we want to expedite this business meeting, but we've done a map that shows where our ambassadors are and where China's ambassadors are. And we had a conversation yesterday with Secretary Rubio at the Appropriations Subcommittee, where he didn't seem to have the same urgent concern about getting ambassadors. I'm sure he does, but he certainly didn't give that impression.

And so, I think it's important for us to take a look at this and to see where -- so can I pass this around -- to see where we have ambassadors and where China has ambassadors. And you can see much of Latin America, the Middle East, and Africa, we just don't have any ambassadors there. And part of the reason -- we have more than 100 vacant ambassador posts.

China has 20. In Africa alone, 37 of 51 embassies have no ambassador from the U.S. And in the Middle East, we have no confirmed ambassador in Saudi Arabia, in the UAE, in Qatar, in Iraq, or in Kuwait, and that has a huge impact on the war and on our folks in the Middle East. I think this is a national security issue. I'm going to keep banging this drum because the administration needs to send us some of the career ambassadors. They will move through this committee very quickly. They have already been vetted. We don't have to hold people up. His explanation, first yesterday, in why don't we have more ambassadors, Mike and Rand, is that the Senate was holding them up. I pointed out to

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him that the Senate is not holding them up. But it's clear that they are trying to shift the blame on why we are so slow in getting ambassadors.

So, I know, Mr. Chairman, that this has been an issue for you, and I appreciate that, but I just hope people will take a look at this and recognize that we've got some urgency here that we need to address.

Senator Hagerty: Mr. Chairman?

The Chairman: Senator Hagerty.

Senator Hagerty: I share the same concerns that Senator Shaheen has articulated, but I want to raise another aspect of this, and that's the so-called "Office of Government Ethics." And after over \$100,000 that I spent months of just ridiculous questions back and forth, I finally got through the process. I've got a friend right now that just got named yesterday because he spent five months. This is a person that was approved for an ambassadorship at the end of the last Trump administration. It's only four years have transpired, yet they put him through months of rigmarole. So, we all -- I'm not disagreeing with you at --

Senator Shaheen: Yes.

Senator Hagerty: -- at all, but there's another vector here, too.

Senator Shaheen: Well, there is --

Senator Hagerty: We've got to stop the bureaucrats from slowing these things down.

Senator Shaheen: But maybe what we ought to do on a bipartisan basis is to look at what the requirements are and see if there are ways that we can address some of those bureaucratic hurdles.

Senator Hagerty: I think there's got to be a way to do that. Absolutely.

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The Chairman: Well, I'll get my two cents worth in here. It's easy to put blame somewhere else because there's so many bottlenecks in this thing and it really needs a reform from top to bottom. Your point, I know for a fact of one nominee who spent \$3 million in a county in attorney fees to get everything out that needed to be out. Now, obviously, it was a political, not a career, appointment, but it's got to change. It really does. And we tried to process him as rapidly as we can. We were pretty-well caught up until about a week ago. We got 26, but out of 26 there were only two career people.

Senator Shaheen: Right.

The Chairman: And I told them that they should go back and dig through the career stuff and see if we can get them here, because we can move the career people very, very quickly. The political people, we all know the issues there. But again, there are hurdles all the way along, and we do our job as best we can. And I think we do a pretty decent job of it here, but before it gets here, as Senator Hagerty, who has a very personal experience with that, will attest, it's a real problem from that --

Senator Hagerty: It is --

The Chairman: -- and there is a more -- problem as you say -- what's that?

Senator Hagerty: There is a more -- it's a multi --

The Chairman: It is. It is. There's more than one bottleneck in the thing. And it's unfortunate. But again, I think all of us have at least privately urged -- starting at the White House -- that they get these things filled. And the other thing to me is where you have these ones that are naturally going to be career people, not political people, you ought to make a list of those, go through the State Department, and in 24 hours, you can have those picked out and people who are willing to go on their way. But in any event, I

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have made suggestions and cajoled and argued, here we are. Anyway, thank you, Senator Shaheen, for raising that again.

Senator Shaheen: Thank you.

The Chairman: I will raise it again at a couple of different levels and we'll see what we get. So, thank you. The Ranking Member and I tried to put together a list here that we can move through pretty quickly. So, what we're going to do is take two. One is Mr. Garcia and the other is Mr. Trachman. Is that correct? I'm not sure.

Senator Shaheen: Correct.

The Chairman: So, is there a motion to send those to the floor with the recommendation?

Senator Hagerty: So moved.

Senator Lee: Seconded.

The Chairman: It's been moved and seconded that they be sent to the floor. So, is there a debate? Senator Shaheen.

Senator Shaheen: Well, I would just like to point out I don't have a problem personally with Frank Garcia, but he's being sent to the African Development Foundation (ADF) to dismantle it. And I do have a problem with that. So, I intend to vote against him because of that, because I don't think it's in America's interest, given the future potential in Africa and where that country is going. And looking at this map, and seeing where China has ambassadors and where we don't. I don't think it's in our interest to dismantle the efforts that we have going on in Africa.

Senator Hagerty: Can I speak to that as well, sir?

The Chairman: Yes.

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Senator Coons: Mr. Chairman, I've had -- I supported Frank -- Mr. Garcia, excuse me -- for Assistant Secretary. I had a constructive conversation with him. I think the U.S. African Development Foundation, which is decades old, has had some demonstrable recent compliance and transparency issues. Rather than having him come in and take it over, and shut it down and kill it, I would far prefer that Mr. Garcia be empowered to actually look at it, improve it, and address what I think are specific issues. I hope some of my colleagues would agree.

If you look back at its 40-year history, the one individual who has appropriately been prosecuted, does not indicate that the entity as a whole should be killed. But I'm following the lead of Senator Shaheen on this. I hope that the ADF will not be wiped out of existence, and I'd encourage any of you to take five minutes and look at it. But for that, I will vote against him to lead the ADF at this moment.

The Chairman: Is there further debate?

Senator Lee: Yes.

The Chairman: Yes.

Senator Lee: I just wanted to add to that. I was in that meeting with Senator Cruz. Mr. Garcia said all the right things --

Senator Hagerty: He did.

Senator Lee: -- but he could not counter the evidence that the intention here is to shut it down. If you look at dollar for dollar, if any of us are investors, we would want the kind of return on investment that this fund makes. It's extraordinary. It's an extension of American resources that an organization that does need to be cleaned up. But it's unequivocal that the money we get in return for our economy and our businesses makes the investment more than worthwhile.

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So, I stand with Chris. I wanted to say on the record here that my hope is that the things that Mr. Garcia are saying are true, but all indications are is that the Trump administration wants to eviscerate what is one of the better returns on investment for American tax law.

Senator Cruz: And, frankly, a very small organization.

Senator Lee: Very small.

The Chairman: Is there further debate on the two nominations? If there is none, the clerk will call the roll.

The Clerk: Mr. Ricketts?

Senator Ricketts: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. McCormick?

Senator McCormick: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Daines?

Senator Daines: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Hagerty?

Senator Hagerty: Nay.

The Clerk: Mr. Barrasso?

Senator Barrasso: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Lee?

Senator Lee: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Paul?

Senator Paul: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Cruz?

Senator Cruz: Aye.

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The Clerk: Mr. Scott?

Senator Scott of Florida: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Curtis?

Senator Curtis: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Cornyn?

Senator Cornyn: Aye.

The Clerk: Mrs. Shaheen?

Senator Shaheen: No.

The Clerk: Mr. Coons?

Senator Coons: No.

The Clerk: Mr. Murphy?

Senator Murphy: No.

The Clerk: Mr. Kaine?

Senator Kaine: No.

The Clerk: Mr. Merkley?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Mr. Booker?

Senator Booker: No.

The Clerk: Mr. Schatz?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Mr. Van Hollen?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Ms. Duckworth?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

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The Clerk: Ms. Rosen?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Mr. Chairman?

Senator Risch: Aye. Clerk, your report?

The Clerk: Mr. Chairman, the ayes are 12, the nays are 10.

The Chairman: So that leaves us with seven. Can we take these en bloc with any member recording a “no” that wants to be recorded. Is that agreeable?

Senator Shaheen: Well, how do people feel about that? I mean, there aren’t that many. Let’s just go through them.

The Chairman: All right. Do you want to run through them?

Senator Shaheen: Yes.

The Chairman: Okay. All right. Let’s start with Mr. Brock Dahl of Maryland to be legal advisor to the State Department. Is there a motion?

Senator Hagerty: So moved.

Senator Lee: Second.

The Chairman: Been moved and seconded. We send Mr. Dahl to the floor with a recommendation that he be confirmed. Is there debate? There being no debate, the clerk will call the roll.

The Clerk: Mr. Ricketts?

Senator Ricketts: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. McCormick?

Senator McCormick: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Daines?

Senator Daines: Aye.

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The Clerk: Mr. Hagerty?

Senator Hagerty: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Barrasso?

Senator Barrasso: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Lee?

Senator Lee: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Paul?

Senator Paul: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Cruz?

Senator Cruz: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Scott?

Senator Scott of Florida: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Curtis?

Senator Curtis: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Cornyn?

Senator Cornyn: Aye.

The Clerk: Mrs. Shaheen?

Senator Shaheen: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Coons?

Senator Coons: No.

The Clerk: Mr. Murphy?

Senator Murphy: No.

The Clerk: Mr. Kaine?

Senator Kaine: No.

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The Clerk: Mr. Merkley?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Mr. Booker?

Senator Booker: No.

The Clerk: Mr. Schatz?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Mr. Van Hollen?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Ms. Duckworth?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Ms. Rosen?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Mr. Chairman?

Senator Risch: Aye. Clerk, your report?

The Clerk: Mr. Chairman, the ayes are 13, the nays are 9.

The Chairman: Next, we have Mr. David Brat of Virginia to be Ambassador to Australia. Is there a motion to approve?

Senator Hagerty: So moved.

The Chairman: Been moved.

Senator Lee: Seconded.

The Chairman: Seconded that we send Mr. Brat to the floor with a to confirm recommendation. Is there debate? There being none, the clerk will call the roll.

The Clerk: Mr. Ricketts?

Senator Ricketts: Aye.

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The Clerk: Mr. McCormick?

Senator McCormick: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Daines?

Senator Daines: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Hagerty?

Senator Hagerty: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Barrasso?

Senator Barrasso: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Lee?

Senator Lee: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Paul?

Senator Paul: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Cruz?

Senator Cruz: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Scott?

Senator Scott of Florida: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Curtis?

Senator Curtis: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Cornyn?

Senator Cornyn: Aye.

The Clerk: Mrs. Shaheen?

Senator Shaheen: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Coons?

Senator Coons: No.

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The Clerk: Mr. Murphy?

Senator Murphy: No.

The Clerk: Mr. Kaine?

Senator Kaine: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Merkley?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Mr. Booker?

Senator Booker: No.

The Clerk: Mr. Schatz?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Mr. Van Hollen?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Ms. Duckworth?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Ms. Rosen?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Mr. Chairman?

Senator Risch: Aye. Clerk, your report?

The Clerk: Mr. Chairman, the ayes are 14, the nays are 8.

The Chairman: The motion is passed.

We go to Ms. Michelle Steel, the Ambassador to Korea. Is there a motion?

Senator Hagerty: So moved.

Senator Curtis: I would like to nominate her --

Senator Hagerty: Oh, I'm sorry. I apologize.

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The Chairman: The Senator will yield to Senator Curtis.

Senator Curtis: Yes.

The Chairman: You wish to nominate Michelle Steel to be the Ambassador to Korea? Is there a second?

Senator Curtis: Second.

The Chairman: It's been moved and seconded. Senator Lee.

Senator Lee: I think Ricketts has it.

The Chairman: All right. Gentlemen, with two seconds. There is a motion. Is there a debate?

Senator Curtis: A very brief statement.

The Chairman: Please.

Senator Curtis: I served with her in the House, just a really top-notch individual. One of the first Koreans elected to the House, I think she'll represent us really well over there.

The Chairman: Thank you, Senator Curtis. We appreciate that. Is there further debate? There being none, the clerk will call the roll.

The Clerk: Mr. Ricketts?

Senator Ricketts: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. McCormick?

Senator McCormick: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Daines?

Senator Daines: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Hagerty?

Senator Hagerty: Aye.

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The Clerk: Mr. Barrasso?

Senator Barrasso: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Lee?

Senator Lee: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Paul?

Senator Paul: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Cruz?

Senator Cruz: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Scott?

Senator Scott of Florida: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Curtis?

Senator Curtis: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Cornyn?

Senator Cornyn: Aye.

The Clerk: Mrs. Shaheen?

Senator Shaheen: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Coons?

Senator Coons: No.

The Clerk: Mr. Murphy?

Senator Murphy: No.

The Clerk: Mr. Kaine?

Senator Kaine: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Merkley?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

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The Clerk: Mr. Booker?

Senator Booker: No.

The Clerk: Mr. Schatz?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Mr. Van Hollen?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Ms. Duckworth?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Ms. Rosen?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Mr. Chairman?

Senator Risch: Aye. Clerk, your report?

The Clerk: Mr. Chairman, the ayes are 14, the nays are 8.

The Chairman: The motion is passed.

We now have Mr. Darrell Owens of Pennsylvania to be U.S. Representative to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe with the rank of ambassador. Is there a motion?

Senator Hagerty: So moved.

Senator Lee: Second.

The Chairman: Been moved and seconded that Mr. Owens be sent the floor to be confirmed. Is there debate? There being none, the clerk, call the roll.

The Clerk: Mr. Ricketts?

Senator Ricketts: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. McCormick?

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Senator McCormick: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Daines?

Senator Daines: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Hagerty?

Senator Hagerty: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Barrasso?

Senator Barrasso: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Lee?

Senator Lee: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Paul?

Senator Paul: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Cruz?

Senator Cruz: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Scott?

Senator Scott of Florida: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Curtis?

Senator Curtis: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Cornyn?

Senator Cornyn: Aye.

The Clerk: Mrs. Shaheen?

Senator Shaheen: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Coons?

Senator Coons: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Murphy?

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Senator Murphy: No.

The Clerk: Mr. Kaine?

Senator Kaine: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Merkley?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Mr. Booker?

Senator Booker: No.

Senator Shaheen: No, by -- you're here.

The Chairman: So he is.

The Clerk: Mr. Schatz?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Mr. Van Hollen?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Ms. Duckworth?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Ms. Rosen?

Senator Shaheen: Aye, by proxy.

The Clerk: Mr. Chairman?

Senator Risch: Aye. Clerk, your report?

The Clerk: Mr. Chairman, the ayes are 16, the nays are 6.

The Chairman: The motion is passed to be sent to the floor with a confirmed recommendation.

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We have three left. Mr. George Holding -- we will take up -- of North Carolina to be a United States Director of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Is there a motion?

Senator Hagerty: So moved.

The Chairman: It's been moved.

Senator Lee: Second.

The Chairman: Seconded that Mr. Holding be sent to the floor to confirm recommendation. Is there debate? There being none, the clerk will call the roll.

The Clerk: Mr. Ricketts?

Senator Ricketts: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. McCormick?

Senator McCormick: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Daines?

Senator Daines: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Hagerty?

Senator Hagerty: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Barrasso?

Senator Barrasso: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Lee?

Senator Lee: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Paul?

Senator Paul: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Cruz?

Senator Cruz: Aye.

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The Clerk: Mr. Scott?

Senator Scott of Florida: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Curtis?

Senator Curtis: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Cornyn?

Senator Cornyn: Aye.

The Clerk: Mrs. Shaheen?

Senator Shaheen: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Coons?

Senator Coons: No.

The Clerk: Mr. Murphy?

Senator Murphy: No.

The Clerk: Mr. Kaine?

Senator Kaine: No.

The Clerk: Mr. Merkley?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Mr. Booker?

Senator Booker: No.

The Clerk: Mr. Schatz?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Mr. Van Hollen?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Ms. Duckworth?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

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The Clerk: Ms. Rosen?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Mr. Chairman?

Senator Risch: Aye. Clerk, your report?

The Clerk: Mr. Chairman, the ayes are 13, the nays are 9.

The Chairman: The motion is passed. The nomination will be sent to the floor with a recommendation.

We now have Mr. Eric Wendt of California to be Ambassador to Albania. Is there a motion to move?

Senator Hagerty: So moved

The Chairman: Been moved. Is there a second?

Senator Lee: Second.

The Chairman: Been moved and seconded that Mr. Wendt be sent to the floor with a to pass or do confirm recommendation. So, is there a debate? There being none, the clerk will call the roll.

The Clerk: Mr. Ricketts?

Senator Ricketts: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. McCormick?

Senator McCormick: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Daines?

Senator Daines: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Hagerty?

Senator Hagerty: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Barrasso?

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Senator Barrasso: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Lee?

Senator Lee: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Paul?

Senator Paul: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Cruz?

Senator Cruz: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Scott?

Senator Scott of Florida: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Curtis?

Senator Curtis: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Cornyn?

Senator Cornyn: Aye.

The Clerk: Mrs. Shaheen?

Senator Shaheen: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Coons?

Senator Coons: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Murphy?

Senator Murphy: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Kaine?

Senator Kaine: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Merkley?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Mr. Booker?

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Senator Booker: No.

The Clerk: Mr. Schatz?

Senator Shaheen: Aye, by proxy.

The Clerk: Mr. Van Hollen?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Ms. Duckworth?

Senator Shaheen: Aye, by proxy.

The Clerk: Ms. Rosen?

Senator Shaheen: Aye, by proxy.

The Clerk: Mr. Chairman?

Senator Risch: Aye. Clerk, your report?

The Clerk: Mr. Chairman, the ayes are 19, the nays are 3.

The Chairman: The motion is passed. Mr. Wendt to be sent to the floor with a confirmed recommendation.

And our last one is Mr. Kavoukjian of Florida to be Ambassador to Norway. Is there a motion?

Senator Hagerty: So moved.

The Chairman: Been moved.

Senator Lee: I'll second.

The Chairman: Seconded. There has been a motion and a second that he be sent to the floor with a to be confirmed recommendation. Is there debate? There being none, the clerk will call the roll.

The Clerk: Mr. Ricketts?

Senator Ricketts: Aye.

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The Clerk: Mr. McCormick?

Senator McCormick: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Daines?

Senator Daines: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Hagerty?

Senator Hagerty: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Barrasso?

Senator Barrasso: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Lee?

Senator Lee: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Paul?

Senator Paul: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Cruz?

Senator Cruz: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Scott?

Senator Scott of Florida: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Curtis?

Senator Curtis: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Cornyn?

Senator Cornyn: Aye.

The Clerk: Mrs. Shaheen?

Senator Shaheen: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Coons?

Senator Coons: Aye.

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The Clerk: Mr. Murphy?

Senator Murphy: No.

The Clerk: Mr. Kaine?

Senator Kaine: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Merkley?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Mr. Booker?

Senator Booker: No.

The Clerk: Mr. Schatz?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Mr. Van Hollen?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Ms. Duckworth?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Ms. Rosen?

Senator Shaheen: No, by proxy.

The Clerk: Mr. Chairman?

Senator Risch: Aye. Clerk, your report?

The Clerk: Mr. Chairman, the ayes are 15, the nays are 7.

The Chairman: The motion is passed. The nominee will be sent to the floor with a
to be confirmed recommendation.

We now have four FSO lists. Can we run those as one? Anybody have a problem
with that?

Senator Shaheen: I think we're fine.

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The Chairman: The adoption of the FSO lists would require a motion. Is there a motion?

Senator Hagerty: So moved.

Senator Shaheen: Second.

The Chairman: It's been moved and seconded. The FSO list will be adopted.

Approval confirmed. Is there a debate? There being none, Clerk, call the roll.

The Clerk: Mr. Ricketts?

Senator Ricketts: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. McCormick?

Senator McCormick: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Daines?

Senator Daines: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Hagerty?

Senator Hagerty: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Barrasso?

Senator Barrasso: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Lee?

Senator Lee: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Paul?

Senator Paul: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Cruz?

Senator Cruz: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Scott?

Senator Scott of Florida: Aye.

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The Clerk: Mr. Curtis?

Senator Curtis: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Cornyn?

Senator Cornyn: Aye.

The Clerk: Mrs. Shaheen?

Senator Shaheen: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Coons?

Senator Coons: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Murphy?

Senator Murphy: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Kaine?

Senator Kaine: Aye.

The Clerk: Mr. Merkley?

Senator Shaheen: Aye, by proxy.

The Clerk: Mr. Booker?

Senator Booker: No.

The Chairman: FSO list?

Senator Booker: I'm sorry. I'm so used to saying no.

Senator Shaheen: I have you as a yes, Senator Booker.

Senator Booker: Forgive me.

The Chairman: What is your vote, Senator?

Senator Booker: My vote is yes.

The Chairman: Thank you.

Senator Booker: I appreciate the indulgence of this committee.

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The Chairman: We are very generous.

Senator Booker: As are you.

The Clerk: Mr. Schatz?

Senator Shaheen: Aye, by proxy.

The Clerk: Mr. Van Hollen?

Senator Shaheen: Aye, by proxy.

The Clerk: Ms. Duckworth?

Senator Shaheen: Aye, by proxy.

The Clerk: Ms. Rosen?

Senator Shaheen: Aye, by proxy.

The Clerk: Mr. Chairman?

Senator Risch: Aye. Clerk, your report?

The Clerk: Mr. Chairman, the ayes are 22, the nos are zero.

The Chairman: The motion is passed. Notification will be made.

And with that, there being no further business to come before the committee, the committee is adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 10:29 a.m., the meeting was adjourned.]