

nominations of G. Patrick Murphy for a vacancy on the Federal bench of the Southern District of Illinois and Michael P. McCluskey for a judicial emergency vacancy on the Federal bench for the Central District of Illinois.

Nor is the Senate today taking action on the nomination of Edward Shea to the Federal bench for the Eastern District of Washington, Judge Jeremy Fogel to the judicial emergency vacancy on the Federal bench for the Northern District of California or Margaret McKeown to a judicial emergency vacancy on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Judge Young has been with the Vandenberg Circuit Court of Indiana since 1990. After Senator LUGAR came to the Judiciary Committee to testify in his behalf, Judge Young was reported by the Committee without a single dissenting vote. The American Bar Association gave Judge Young its highest rating.

I believe there will be a unanimous vote in support of this nomination and want to congratulate him and his family.

The Senate returns this week facing 85 Federal court vacancies—85. Despite the Senate's dismal record for 2 years running in acting on judicial nominations, I finally saw reason to hope that the extremism that has bedeviled this process might be losing a tiny bit—a tiny bit—of its hold on the Senate.

Few nominees have been targeted as heavily for defeat as was Margaret Morrow, a superbly qualified nominee for a district court judgeship in Southern California. She endured waves of questions, protracted stalling and mysterious holds that prevented an up-or-down vote. Finally, 2 years after she was nominated, she got an overwhelming, super majority, positive vote here in the Senate. I wanted to take that as a signal that public concerns about these logjams were beginning to register with the Senate.

But, unfortunately, that nomination was the last nomination confirmed by the Senate in February. We closed out our first 2 months this year with only five confirmations for article III judges.

Chief Justice William Rehnquist spoke forcefully on the judicial vacancy crisis that is plaguing the Federal courts. He warned: "Vacancies cannot remain at such high levels indefinitely without eroding the quality of justice that traditionally has been associated with the Federal judiciary."

Justice delayed means justice denied, because without judges courts cannot try cases, sentence the guilty or resolve civil disputes. Partisan and narrow ideological efforts to impose political litmus tests on judicial nominees and to shut down the judiciary must stop.

We began this year facing vacancies in about one out of every 10 judgeships, and about one-third were judicial emergency vacancies which have been empty for more than a year and a half.

Mr. President, if all we are going to do so far is two judges a month, and we have 85 vacancies, the Senate is not living up to its responsibilities. The Senate is not upholding the Constitution of the United States and not fulfilling our responsibilities to the judicial branch or the American people.

The first week of this session I challenged the Senate to maintain the pace that it reached last fall when we confirmed 27 judges in the last nine weeks of the session. In the first four weeks of this new session, however, we have acted to confirm only five judges. Judge Young will be the sixth judge confirmed in this our fifth week in session. We are well short of the mark and not measuring up to the pace this very Senate attained last fall. I, therefore, urge the Majority Leader to take up the nominations of G. Patrick Murphy, Michael P. McCluskey, Edward F. Shea, Jeremy D. Fogel and M. Margaret McKeown without further delay.

Mr. President, I withhold my time remaining, and, if we are ready to go for a vote, I will yield it.

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, we have time on this side. I am prepared to yield all that time and go to a vote.

Mr. LEAHY. I yield time on this side.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time is yielded. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Richard L. Young to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Indiana? On this question, the yeas and nays have been ordered, and the clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. I announce that the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT), the Senator from New York (Mr. D'AMATO), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. FAIRCLOTH), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. NICKLES), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY), the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE), and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), are necessarily absent.

Mr. FORD. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. KERREY), the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), and the Senator from Illinois (Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GRAMS). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber who desire to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 81, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 18 Ex.]

YEAS—81

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| Abraham | Allard | Baucus |
| Akaka | Ashcroft | Bingaman |

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| Bond | Glenn | Lugar |
| Breaux | Gorton | Mack |
| Brownback | Graham | McCain |
| Bryan | Gramm | McConnell |
| Bumpers | Grams | Moynihan |
| Burns | Grassley | Murray |
| Byrd | Gregg | Reed |
| Campbell | Hagel | Reid |
| Chafee | Harkin | Robb |
| Coats | Hatch | Roberts |
| Cochran | Hollings | Rockefeller |
| Collins | Hutchinson | Roth |
| Conrad | Hutchison | Santorum |
| Coverdell | Inouye | Sarbanes |
| Craig | Jeffords | Sessions |
| Daschle | Johnson | Smith (NH) |
| DeWine | Kempthorne | Smith (OR) |
| Dodd | Kennedy | Specter |
| Domenici | Kohl | Stevens |
| Durbin | Kyl | Thomas |
| Enzi | Lautenberg | Thompson |
| Feingold | Leahy | Thurmond |
| Feinstein | Levin | Torricelli |
| Ford | Lieberman | Wellstone |
| Frist | Lott | Wyden |

NOT VOTING—19

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|-----------|---------------|-----------|
| Bennett | Helms | Murkowski |
| Biden | Inhofe | Nickles |
| Boxer | Kerrey | Shelby |
| Cleland | Kerry | Snowe |
| D'Amato | Landrieu | Warner |
| Dorgan | Mikulski | |
| Faircloth | Moseley-Braun | |

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no objection, the motion to reconsider is laid on the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now return to legislative session.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for the transaction of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes each.

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

NATIONAL SAFE PLACE WEEK

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to commend my colleagues on adopting Senate Resolution 96, which designates March 15 through 21 of this year as "National Safe Place Week."

Project Safe Place is a unique union of community agencies and the private sector that promotes the well-being of our nation's youth. It is an innovative network of nonresidential community locations where youth who are at-risk or in crisis situations can obtain help quickly and find shelter if necessary. Safe Place cultivates community involvement to combat child abuse, substance addiction, and crime.

Since its creation in 1983 in Louisville, Kentucky, the scope of Project Safe Place has spread to include more than 8,000 Safe Places nationwide, and more than 27,000 young people have sought help at these locations. We all agree that our nation's youth are our most valuable resource. Project Safe

Place volunteers have been quietly tending to this resource for fifteen years, offering help to youth who are threatened or in trouble. The recognition Project Safe Place deserves is long overdue.

Senate Resolution 96 celebrates this outstanding program and also honors the efforts of over 2,500 dedicated Safe Place volunteers, who selflessly devote time and resources to protect our nation's young people. Two of these individuals—Sandy Bowen, the National Safe Place Director, and Mickie Adler, who has spearheaded Safe Place efforts in the state of Idaho—have been instrumental in making "National Safe Place Week" a reality.

Sandy Bowen has been involved with Project Safe Place for 13 years. When the program began to gain momentum and become a nationwide effort in 1986, Sandy stepped in as the National Director. Over the years, her hard work, dedication, and concern have helped to bring Project Safe Place out of its infancy, transforming a simple idea into a nationwide force that is now present in over 300 of our communities.

Mickie Adler has been the driving force behind the Safe Place movement in Idaho for four years. In fact, this month marks the four-year anniversary of Safe Place in Idaho. Last year, Mickie brought three students to my Washington office to sell me on the idea of a "National Safe Place Week." Victoria Smith, Caroline Reams, and Jessica McCaleese—all of whom are either High School or Junior High School students from Bannock County—were articulate and poised as they conveyed the idea of promoting Project Safe Place. I would like to take this opportunity to thank these fine young ladies for bringing their ideas to my attention.

Mickie first got involved with the Safe Place movement after Jerelee Underwood, an eleven year old girl, was abducted in Southeast Idaho. She committed herself at that time to preventing future violence against Idaho's children by initiating the first Safe Place site in Idaho four years ago. Since that time, Project Safe Place in Idaho has expanded to include 250 Safe Places in Bannock County—including my regional office there—and 18 sites in the Twin Falls area. Mickie has recently been called upon to implement the program statewide, with new Safe Places to be added in Coeur d'Alene, Burley, Caldwell and Idaho Falls. I want to do my part by offering each of my Idaho offices as Safe Place sites. I encourage my colleagues to do the same nationwide.

There are thousands of people just like Mickie and Sandy who work hard every day because they care too much to let our children endure difficult times alone and without guidance. In part, "National Safe Place Week" will serve to honor and recognize these humanitarians.

More than that, though, "National Safe Place Week" will build commu-

nity awareness, increasing not only the number of young people the program might help, but also the number of those who themselves might contribute to the effectiveness of the program. As a father, a grandfather, and a concerned citizen, I would like to personally extend a sincere and heart-felt "thank-you" to all those who make Project Safe Place such a successful program. And, to my colleagues in the Senate: Thank you for working with me on this resolution. If passage of "National Safe Place Week" helps only one more youth by keeping him or her from turning to drugs, suicide, or the streets, then I know that our time in passing Senate Resolution 96 will have been well spent.

REPORT OF THE 1998 TRADE POLICY AGENDA AND 1997 ANNUAL REPORT ON THE TRADE AGREEMENTS PROGRAM—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 101

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 163 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2213), I transmit herewith the 1998 Trade Policy Agenda and 1997 Annual Report on the Trade Agreements Program.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 28, 1998.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. JEFFORDS, from the Committee on Labor and Human Resources, with amendments:

S. 1579. A bill to amend the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to extend the authorizations of appropriations for such Act, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 105-166).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. COVERDELL:

S. 1694. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on certain textile machines; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself and Mrs. HUTCHISON):

S. 1695. A bill to establish the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site in the State of Colorado; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. STEVENS (for himself, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. GORTON, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 1696. A bill to direct the General Services Administration to clear the site of the old Alaska Native Health Center and convey the property to the Municipality of Anchorage; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Mr. AKAKA, and Mr. REED):

S. 1697. A bill to amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 to improve the availability of child care and development services during periods outside normal school hours, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. MACK (for himself, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. HELMS, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. MOYNIHAN, and Mr. ASHCROFT):

S. Res. 187. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the human rights situation in the People's Republic of China; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. SPECTER:

S. Con. Res. 78. A concurrent resolution relating to the indictment and prosecution of Saddam Hussein for war crimes and other crimes against humanity; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself and Mrs. HUTCHISON):

S. 1695. A bill to establish the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site in the State of Colorado; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

THE SAND CREEK MASSACRE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE PRESERVATION ACT OF 1998

Mr. CAMPBELL. Madam President, today I introduce legislation that is very, very special to me, and which in my opinion is a long time in coming to this Nation, to the State of Colorado, and particularly to my own ancestors. This bill is entitled the Sand Creek Massacre Site Historic Preservation Act of 1998. This legislation would authorize the Federal acquisition of property located within Kiowa County, CO, designated as a point of interest on virtually every map in this Nation and infamously known as the site of the "Sand Creek Massacre."

Today, this property is owned by a private individual, who has strong interest in selling the land. The bill I introduce today would authorize the National Park Service to acquire this land for fair market value in compliance with the agency's standard rules and regulations. My bill would permit full public access to this hallowed site to the public, and more importantly to the descendants of those who lost their lives at Sand Creek.

To provide some perspective, I would like to briefly explain the historical facts surrounding one of the most disgraceful events in American history—the Sand Creek Massacre.

During the early morning hours on the shameful day of November 29, 1864, a Colonel in the Colorado Militia, religious zealot, by the name of John