

numbers a laughing matter. If she took her role seriously and actually visited our southern border, she would realize that Americans who live in border communities are not laughing. That is because their towns are being overwhelmed by migrants, and they feel their lives are in danger.

Now, the origin of these migrants has expanded as the crisis has gone on. In recent weeks and months, Border Patrol has encountered significant numbers of migrants from Ecuador, Venezuela, Cuba, and Brazil. While these arrivals have come from a wide variety of nations, the majority of the border crossings continue to come from Mexico and the Northern Triangle countries of Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador.

Despite years of foreign aid and assistance to the nations, this is a trend we have seen growing in recent years. Since 2018, Border Patrol has encountered approximately 5 percent of Honduras's population, 3.5 percent of Guatemala's, and roughly 3 percent of El Salvador's population. Now Vice President HARRIS is proposing to provide more than \$300 million in regional humanitarian aid and a \$4 billion long-term plan for Central America.

However, as this graph shows, there is little evidence to show that this type of cash injection will reduce migration from these Northern Triangle nations, and Biden administration officials acknowledge that even if these efforts were successful, it would take years or possibly even decades to truly make an impact. This is not the type of urgency needed to address this raging crisis on our border. This is simply throwing good money after bad money.

Let's take a look how policy impacts the border. This graph proves the cause of the crisis is policy, and aid has been ineffective in remaking the economy of the Northern Triangle. These economies need much more than intermittent aid infusion. I like to use the phrase "trade not aid." Since entering into CAFTA-DR in 2005, the United States has increased trade between the United States and the other six countries in the agreement: Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. As of 2019, goods traded among the countries included in the pact increased by 62 percent. By working to expand trade in the region, the United States could boost capital investment and prosperity.

This type of productivity could result in further good job opportunities and encourage individuals in the Northern Triangle to remain home rather than pouring across our southern border. It also has the potential to reconfigure supply chains away from China and bolster our relationship with nations in our hemisphere at a time when China is moving to exploit developing countries.

I have seen the empty warehouses and jobs leaving Central America firsthand in Honduras on mission trips—a

result of China entering the World Trade Organization. Through stronger trade agreements, we can help bring jobs back to our hemisphere, particularly those that would help address some of our medical supply challenges, such as making medical gowns, masks, and gloves. These could easily be made in Central America.

At the same time, it is absurd that this administration cannot chew gum and walk at the same time. Proposing \$4 billion of taxpayer funds in an aid package, when their recently proposed \$6 trillion budget request does not include funding increases for the missions carried out by the Department of Homeland Security along the border, is astonishing.

A final point, Vice President HARRIS keeps saying she wants to get to the root of the problem, and while White House policy has created the crisis at the border, the true long-term root of the problem is the lack of law and order in Central America, which leads to unstable economies.

The policies first put in place by President Obama and now by the current administration have enriched the cartels, further encouraged violence, and harmed Central American economies. By not truly addressing the roots, their policies continue to encourage migrants to make the long dangerous journey north.

We must continue to build a wall along the southern border and increase funding for technology, radars, towers, air assets, and others. We must also reinstate the "Remain in Mexico" program. Our Vice President, acting as border czar, must visit our southern border communities and the CBP agents and officers overwhelmed by this self-inflicted crisis.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

NOMINATION OF ZAHID QURAIISHI

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I thank my distinguished colleague from New Jersey for allowing me to go first because I have one of our foreign country's Ambassador in my office.

Today, in the Senate, we have an opportunity to both alleviate a judicial emergency and make history by supporting the confirmation of Zahid Quraishi to the U.S. District Court of New Jersey, where he currently serves as a U.S. magistrate judge.

As I mentioned many times in the past, the vacancies on this court have been declared judicial emergencies by the Judicial Conference of the United States. The U.S. District of New Jersey is one of the busiest courts in the entire country, with 46,000 cases pending before it. Yet being short-staffed has left our judges with mind-boggling caseloads, more than three times the national average.

Fortunately, we in the Senate have an extraordinary nominee before us this week. Judge Quraishi has devoted his career to serving our country, and his story embodies both the rich diver-

sity of New Jersey and the promise of America as a place where anything is possible.

He was born in New York, grew up in Fanwood, NJ, with his parents, both immigrants from Pakistan, who came to this country to build a better life. In 1997, he graduated from the John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York, and in 2000, he earned his J.D. from Rutgers Law School, my alma mater.

After a clerkship with the New Jersey Superior Court, Mr. Quraishi accepted a position with a New York law firm. His first day on the job was September 11, 2001, and the horrific events of that day prompted him to change the trajectory of his career and focus on serving our country.

In 2003, he joined the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps, where he earned the rank of captain and served two deployments in Iraq—first in 2004 and then 2006. For his service, Mr. Quraishi was awarded the Bronze Star and the Combat Action Badge, a recognition by the U.S. Army for non-infantry soldiers who engage in ground combat.

After leaving the Army, he continued to work in public service, first as trial counsel with the Department of Homeland Security and then as a Federal prosecutor in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey.

In 2013, he joined the law firm of Riker Danzig, where he worked until 2019, when he was appointed as a U.S. magistrate judge for the U.S. district court and became the first Asian-American Federal judge in New Jersey's history.

Now Mr. Quraishi is poised to break barriers once more. If confirmed, he will become the first Muslim American in U.S. history to serve as an article III Federal judge. My colleagues, Zahid Quraishi is a man of integrity, a consummate public servant, and a trailblazer for Asian Americans and Muslim Americans across this country who dream of one day presiding over a court of their own.

We should all draw our inspiration from his story because it is a story that could only take place in the United States of America. I urge my colleagues to support this historic nomination to the U.S. District Court of New Jersey without delay.

And I want to thank my distinguished colleague from New Jersey, Senator BOOKER, for bringing Judge Quraishi's nomination to the President and to myself, and it is an example of the power of having someone sitting on the Judiciary Committee knowing the importance of diversity, so that any American who comes before a Federal court can think that someone like them is sitting in judgment of them. So I thank Senator BOOKER.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. BOOKER. Mr. President, I thank my senior Senator, who himself has an

improbable story, his lived experience, a son of immigrants coming up in New Jersey, being born in a way that he knows struggle and knows poverty. And the fact that he is on the Senate floor speaking about someone else who has an improbable story shows you the greatness of America.

I am grateful for my senior Senator and chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee for taking time to show us the importance of this moment. This is history here.

America has never before had an article III judge who also happens to be a Muslim. That has never before happened. Think about this: 200-plus years in American history, a country that was born and our Founders enshrined in our very founding documents, in the Bill of Rights, this ideal of freedom of religion. We celebrate religious plurality and religious diversity.

So this is an extraordinary moment. Now, I am thrilled that it is a bipartisan moment. In committee, during this time of heightened partisanship, in the Judiciary Committee, Judge Quraishi passed out 19 to 3—19 to 3—which is a further testimony not just to the gravity of this historic moment, not just to a man's religion, but to the man himself, the core of who he is. Senator MENENDEZ said this.

Many people, after 9/11, felt the deep, agonizing grief in this country. We are not defined as a nation by what happens to us. We are defined by how we choose to respond. From the attacks at Pearl Harbor to the attacks on 9/11, those horrific moments, you saw how this Nation showed who it is—our grit, our guts, our grace, our greatness.

That is the tradition of Judge Quraishi. A man that had a glide path toward a career of comfort and private sector success made a decision. Those horrific tragedies, he would not let them define our Nation. How we defined ourselves was by people like him.

He joined the Army. He became a U.S. Army judge advocate. He attained the rank of captain. He was deployed to Iraq—first in 2004 and then again in 2006. And after his service in the military, Judge Quraishi continued his service to the Nation, like so many of our veterans do—first as the assistant chief counsel in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and then as a Federal prosecutor in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey.

Do not define a person by what they say. Simply do not define them by their faith and do not define them by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character and in the actions that they take. In a time that our Nation was crippled with grief, he stood up and he served, and he has been serving every single step since. He is "well qualified." That is what the American Bar Association says.

But I tell you, he is well qualified on a higher standard than that. He is a patriot to this country. Patriotism is love of Nation, but love is not a being verb. It is a doing verb. It is action. His

actions have shown his love for America, and now he is up here in this Chamber to make history. I urge my colleagues, as we saw in the Judiciary Committee in a 19-to-3 vote, to vote in a bipartisan way.

This is a chance for the annals of time to show our commitment to great people, to a great man, to a person of character, to a person of commitment, to a person of conviction, to a person of patriotism who happens also to be Muslim and, for the first time in American history, to achieve something. It should have been achieved a long time ago.

I am going to conclude by saying something: Judge Quraishi and I are relatively of a similar age, and we share another painful life happening that I know many of my colleagues have shared as well. During COVID-19, during this pandemic, the judge's father died. I talked to him during this time, and he is a man that was clearly grieving but kept a lot of that emotion under his jacket, in his heart.

I just want to say for the record: Judge Quraishi, you and I are both people of faith. And I want to tell him right now and say into this record: It is your father who also loved this country, who brought about an American dream for his family. He is watching right now this happening, these deliberations on the Senate floor. He, I pray, will see his son make history. And, Judge Quraishi, I am telling you right now, Your father is proud of you.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, it be in order to proceed to file cloture on Executive Calendar Nos. 119 and 107.

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

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Executive Calendar No. 119.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The clerk will report the nomination. The bill clerk read the nomination of Lina M. Khan, of New York, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner for the unexpired term of seven years from September 26, 2017.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with provisions of rule XXII of the

Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 119, Lina M. Khan, of New York, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner for the unexpired term of seven years from September 26, 2017.

Charles E. Schumer, Patty Murray, Alex Padilla, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jeff Merkley, Jack Reed, Debbie Stabenow, Benjamin L. Cardin, Patrick J. Leahy, Elizabeth Warren, Jacky Rosen, Richard Blumenthal, Tina Smith, John Hickenlooper, Michael F. Bennet, Tim Kaine, Brian Schatz.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 107.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Kiran Arjandas Ahuja, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Office of Personnel Management for a term of four years.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 107, Kiran Arjandas Ahuja, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Office of Personnel Management for a term of four years.

Charles E. Schumer, Gary C. Peters, Jacky Rosen, John Hickenlooper, Tammy Baldwin, Richard J. Durbin, Richard Blumenthal, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Raphael Warnock, Martin Heinrich, Chris Van Hollen, Christopher Murphy, Sheldon Whitehouse, Bernard Sanders, Jeff Merkley, Patty Murray, Margaret Wood Hassan.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, finally, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, June 10, be waived.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

CHILD NUTRITION

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, across the country, the school year is winding down, and students will be on summer