

**BUSINESS MEETING—TO CONSIDER THE  
NOMINATIONS OF MATTHEW MASTERSON  
AND CHRISTY McCORMICK TO BE MEMBERS  
OF THE ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2014**

UNITED STATES SENATE,  
COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION,  
*Washington, DC.*

The committee met, pursuant to notice, at 5:40 p.m., in Room 216, United States Capitol, Hon. Charles E. Schumer, presiding.

**Present:** Senators Schumer, Durbin, Pryor, Udall, Warner, Leahy, King, Walsh, Roberts, Shelby, Blunt, Cruz.

**Staff Present:** Kelly Fado, Staff Director; Stacy Ettinger, Chief Counsel; Jay McCarthy, Director of Operations Oversight; Veronica Gillespie, Counsel; Ben Hovland, Counsel; Abbie Sorrendino, Legislative Assistant; Phillip Rumsey, Legislative Assistant; Jeff Johnson, Clerk; Benjamin Grazda, Staff Assistant; Mary Suit Jones, Republican Staff Director; Paul Vinovich, Republican Chief Counsel; Rachel Creviston, Republican Senior Professional Staff; Trish Kent, Republican Senior Professional Staff

**OPENING STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN SCHUMER**

Chairman SCHUMER. Thank you for coming. We have a quorum of 10 Members so we can proceed. Under consideration are the nominations of Matthew Masterson and Christy McCormick to be Commissioners of the EAC. Is there any further debate on the nominees? No. Then we will now consider the nominations individually. As usual, we will make these voice votes. However, if the Ranking member requests a recorded vote, I will ask the clerk to call the roll. The question is on reporting the nominations favorably to the Senate.

Chairman SCHUMER. First, Mr. Matthew Masterson. Is there a second?

Senator ROBERTS. Second.

Chairman SCHUMER. All those in favor, say aye.

[Chorus of ayes.]

Chairman SCHUMER. All those opposed, say no.

Chairman SCHUMER. The ayes have it. The nomination of Matthew Masterson is ordered favorably reported to the Senate with recommendation the nomination be confirmed.

Next up, is Ms. Christy McCormick. Is there a second?

Senator UDALL. Second.

Chairman SCHUMER. All those in favor, say aye.

[Chorus of ayes.]

Chairman SCHUMER. All those opposed, say no.

Chairman SCHUMER. The ayes have it. The nomination of Ms. Christy McCormick is ordered favorably reported to the Senate with recommendation the nominee be confirmed.

Chairman SCHUMER. I'd like to thank everybody for coming and I am going to ask our Ranking Member, who will no longer be the

Ranking Member of anything, if he'd like to make some concluding remarks.

Senator ROBERTS. No, sir.

Chairman SCHUMER. Then the meeting is adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 6:30 p .m., the Committee was adjourned.]

## **APPENDIX MATERIAL SUBMITTED**

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**The Leadership Conference  
on Civil and Human Rights**

1629 K Street, NW 202.466.3111 voice  
10th Floor 202.466.3435 fax  
Washington, DC www.civilrights.org  
20006



November 19, 2014

**The Honorable Harry Reid, Majority Leader  
The Honorable Charles Schumer, Rules Committee Chairman  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510**

Dear Leader Reid and Chairman Schumer:

On behalf of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, a coalition of more than 200 national organizations charged with the promotion and protection of the rights of all persons in the United States, we urge you to move now to complete Senate consideration of the three currently nominated members of the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) before the end of the year. As you know, the EAC has been an embattled agency that has faced attempts to abolish it and that has lacked the needed number of commissioners for several years. With a group of bipartisan nominees, the Senate now has the opportunity to put the EAC on a firm footing and to demonstrate the importance of fair elections in our democracy.

The Commission is charged with developing standards for voting systems, and its certification program helps state and local governments save money by using its oversight role to coordinate with manufacturers and local election officials to ensure that the existing equipment meets its durability and longevity potential. Much of our nation's voting equipment is nearing the end of its useful life, so it is critically important for the EAC to update system standards soon. In addition, the EAC is charged with developing and maintaining the mail voter registration application form for federal elections, which ensures that every citizen has a convenient means to register to vote.

The Commission collects accurate and comparable election data, which has proved invaluable in our efforts to improve election administration nationwide. The Commission develops and fosters the training and organization of our nation's more than 8,000 election administrators, who often look to the EAC's studies for information and guidance. And the EAC has played a central role in improving the accessibility of voting for the country's more than 37 million voters with disabilities.

Our nation still has a way to go to make voting fully accessible to all eligible citizens. The EAC has done valuable work to ensure the reliability and trustworthiness of our nation's election systems, and can do so again. To further that goal, we urge you to complete the confirmation process for the EAC nominees before the end of the year.

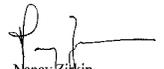
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Mark Marshall  
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John Maguire  
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Debra Koss  
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Thank you for your consideration. For questions or more information, please contact Lisa Bornstein, Legal Director and Senior Legal Advisor, [Bornstein@civilrights.org](mailto:Bornstein@civilrights.org) or (202) 263-2856.

Sincerely,

  
Wade Henderson  
President & CEO

  
Nancy Zinkin  
Executive Vice President