

ABOLISH THE FILIBUSTER NOW

I write to call on the U.S. Senate to finally abolish what has degenerated into nothing more than a weapon of mass obstruction . . . the filibuster.

What might have at one time been a gracious privilege extended to a minority party has been so grossly abused by the Republican party in particular, that it is now being threatened over the most minor of procedural matters. And today we learn that Senator Shelby of Alabama is blocking ALL business on administration nominees until he gets HIS earmarks for certain defense contracts.

Those who are fond of saying elections have consequences can no longer be permitted to thwart the outcomes of those elections by obstructing the will of the people as a matter of standard operating procedure. Those who threatened the "nuclear option" if the other side were to even attempt to invoke a meaningful filibuster must now have that option exercised against them.

We call on at least one courageous senator to now stand and call for a point of Constitutional order that the business of the Senate may proceed notwithstanding the FORMER filibuster rule, and that there be a parliamentary ruling to thereby set precedent abolishing this gravely abused obstructionist tactic.