

*CBS Evening News with Tony Dokoupil*

03/18/26

6:30:36 p.m. [TEASE]

21 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Breaking News; Heated Hearing]

TONY DOKOUPIL: Also developing tonight, more chaos at America's airports, as the President's pick to lead Homeland Security spars with a senator during his confirmation hearing.

SENATOR RAND PAUL (R-KY): The people up here that may or may not vote for you to know that you supported the felonious, violent attack on me from behind.

SENATOR MARKWAYNE MULLIN (R-OK): I did not say I supported it. I said I understood it.

(...)

6:36:32 p.m.

7 seconds

DOKOUPIL: Today, President Trump's nominee to run Homeland Security urged lawmakers to put aside partisanship and fund the department.

(...)

6:37:28 p.m.

15 seconds

MARK STRASSMANN: Congress shows no sign of touching the impasse, other than a DHS secretary nominee waiting to get confirmed.

MULLIN: But we have to get DHS funded. We have to. My friends, we have to set the partisan side down.

(...)

6:38:45 p.m.

33 seconds

DOKOUPIL: To be confirmed, Mullin needs every Republican vote to go his way, which isn't guaranteed, especially given the personal history he has with Senator Rand Paul, who brought it up today, questioning Mullin about comments he had made following a 2017 altercation between Paul and a neighbor.

PAUL: So you're — you're jolly well fine and you want the American public and the people up

here to vote that may or may not vote for you to know that you supported the felonious, violent attack on me from behind.

MULLIN: I did not say I supported it. I said I understood it. There's a difference.

DOKOUPIL: I should add, with the support of at least one Democrat on the Senate committee, Mullin is expected to eventually be confirmed.