

# Congressional Record

United States of America

wealth of Kentucky.

Let us pray.

legislators

fered the following prayer:

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, of-

Eternal God, in these challenging and

unpredictable times, we look to You

for guidance. You are the source of our

Remind our lawmakers that You are

with productivity

prepared to shower them with wisdom

progress for the glory of Your Name.

Today and always, let Your will be

We pray in Your strong Name. Amen.

done on Earth as it is done in Heaven.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

of Allegiance, as follows:

tempore (Mr. HATCH).

lowing letter:

To the Senate:

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the

United States of America, and to the Repub-

lic for which it stands, one nation under God,

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING

PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

clerk will please read a communication

to the Senate from the President pro

The legislative clerk read the fol-

U.S. SENATE.

PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,

Washington, DC, September 26, 2018.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The

indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

strength and the center of our joy.

proceedings and debates of the  $115^{tb}$  congress, second session

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WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2018

No. 159

## Senate

ORRIN G. HATCH. The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was President pro tempore. called to order by the Honorable RAND PAUL, a Senator from the Common-Mr. PAUL thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

#### CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

pore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

nation of Peter A. Feldman, of the District of Columbia, to be a Commis-Commission for a term of seven years from October 27, 2019. (Reappointment)

pore. The majority leader is recog-

NOMINATION OF BRETT KAVANAUGH

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, tomorrow morning, the Senate and the American people will hear from Judge Brett Kavanaugh and Dr. Christine Blasey Ford under oath. We will hear sworn testimony from both of them regarding the allegation of 30-plus-yearold misconduct that Dr. Ford has raised.

abhorrent. Everyone deserves to be

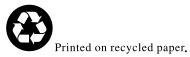
safe. So I am glad Dr. Ford will be heard.

I would like to particularly thank Chairman GRASSLEY, who worked tirelessly to establish a fair process and a secure, comfortable setting for this to take place. He gave Dr. Ford the opportunity to testify in public or in private or to speak with investigators who would meet her anywhere she wished or to conduct the entire interview by phone. He has brought a patient professionalism to this process-one that stands in stark contrast to those on the other side of the aisle who self-describe as "Spartacus" and play to the television cameras. Dr. Ford will be heard, thanks to Chairman GRASSLEY and despite the irresponsibility of Senate Democrats, who ignored her allegation for weeks and then discarded her request for confidentiality and leaked it to the press.

Let me walk you through this again. The ranking Democrat on the Judiciary Committee received a letter from Dr. Ford all the way back in July in which she stated her allegation and asked for confidentiality. That was in July. The committee's thorough review of Judge Kavanaugh was just getting started. There was ample time to vet this allegation in a serious and bipartisan manner that would have maintained confidentiality and honored Dr. Ford's request for privacy.

All the Democrats needed to do was go through proper channels and share the information with their Republican colleagues so the committee could tackle it together, but that is not what Senate Democrats did. This is the Democratic caucus whose leader, my friend the senior Senator from New York, said just hours after Judge Kavanaugh was nominated that he would "oppose him with everything I've got." This was just hours after the nomination. This is the Democratic caucus of which several Members preemptively announced fill-in-the-blank opposition to any nominee before

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



perform the duties of the Chair.

S6313

#### if they would only request it. Thank You for inviting our Senators to ask and receive, to seek and find, and to knock and open closed doors. Bless our and

### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tem-

The legislative clerk read the nomisioner of the Consumer Product Safety

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro temnized.

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby It goes without saying, but it bears appoint the Honorable RAND PAUL, a Senator repeating: Sexual assault is completely from the Commonwealth of Kentucky, to