

Hearing none, the question is on agreeing to the resolutions en bloc.

The resolutions (S. Res. 326, S. Res. 327, S. Res. 328, and S. Res. 329) were agreed to.

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the preambles be agreed to and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

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

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m. Wednesday, September 25; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; further, that following leader remarks, the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each until 10:30 a.m.

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

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order following the remarks of our Democratic colleagues.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

DECLARATION OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY

Mr. UDALL. Madam President, we are at a crucial point in our democracy, with a big decision to be made. Tomorrow, we can correct this unconstitutional violation by the President of the United States of taking military money, military readiness money, national security money, and moving it over for a border wall.

Canceling these 127 projects is not just a one-off. Let's remember that. We all know the President fully intends to keep at it. It has already been reported that if the President doesn't get the \$5 billion he has requested for his wall in 2020, the next budget year, the administration plans to take another \$3.6 billion from the Pentagon's construction budget. This President will not stop raiding funds we have appropriated, unless we stop him and terminate his sham emergency declaration.

The careful planning for the 127 canceled projects contrasts sharply with

the administration's haphazard rush to build the President's wall. The President wants 500 miles of wall before the 2020 election. To do so, the administration may need to skirt the Federal procurement process and aggressively take lands away from private landowners through eminent domain.

Don't worry, says the President to his staff: I will pardon you if you break any laws.

This is no way to run a government, and, certainly, no way to spend taxpayer dollars.

Don't get me wrong. I support strong border security. We need well-trained officers, mobile assets, surveillance technology, and adequate resources. But a multibillion dollar wall is wasteful, ineffective, and offensive.

Now, I know some in this Chamber disagree with that opinion. The place to debate and decide how we spend taxpayer dollars to keep our border secure is in the Appropriations Committee, its various subcommittees, and on the floor of the Senate. That is what the Constitution says.

James Madison wrote in Federalist 84: "An elective despotism was not the government we fought for; but one in which the powers of government should be so divided and balanced . . . that no one could transcend their legal limits without being effectually checked and restrained by the others."

It is time for this body to check and restrain the executive branch. The President is invading our constitutional prerogative. He is not a despot. His constitutional powers are limited. It is up to us to support and defend the Constitution of the United States, as we swore an oath to do, and to do the work we were elected to do.

Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

REMEMBERING MARY GAUTREAUX

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, scores and scores of my friends and neighbors at home in Oregon have been grieving since they learned the sad news about the passing of a remarkable woman, Mary Gautreaux, who died at her home over the weekend.

Mary Gautreaux was an astounding bundle of energy and passion. She had an incandescent smile, a huge heart for people who didn't have any power and clout, and the ability to make just about everybody she met more optimistic about the policies, opportunities, for the days ahead.

Mary came to our office back in the 1990s, after working at the U.S. Forest Service, planting trees and fighting fires. I can tell you that no resume or

job title could have ever captured what Mary Gautreaux was all about or how hard she worked to protect the qualities that make Oregon different—the very special place she was proud to call home.

Mary Gautreaux, simply stated, was an all-star Oregonian. She loved her family and her coworkers with fierce loyalty. All of Mary's friends and neighbors knew, up close and personal, what an indomitable force she was. It didn't matter where you lived—from Portland to Burns and everywhere in between, Democrats, Republicans, Independents, the left, the right, mayors, county officials, everybody liked being with Mary. They liked working with Mary. They admired her professionalism, and they were so impressed that she always tried to involve everybody. She always wanted everybody to believe that they were special, that they counted. That is something we will always remember.

My office saw her as an anchor, as I did personally. For the better part of two decades, she and I traveled to hundreds of townhalls and community meetings in every nook and cranny of our State.

Mary and I always shared a kind of special joke. At one of these town meetings, somebody invariably would ask me something that I didn't know a lot about, and I would always say the same thing. I would say: Folks, I want you to know I am really digging into that issue, but Mary Gautreaux is one of the leading authorities on the subject.

She would be rolling her eyes. Then I would say: Well, feel free to call Mary on nights and weekends. She is always available for people.

My sense is that she got a kick out of it the first hundred times I did that. It was a special kind of bond we had, and that was vintage Mary Gautreaux.

But the fact is, she really did make herself available—always, any time, any day. She was always ready to pick up the phone and travel the State to solve a problem.

If I were to talk about all of the accomplishments and all of the results she produced for the people of Oregon, we would be here until New Year's Eve 2020. But I do want to talk about a handful that stand out for their exceptional breadth and impact.

Mary Gautreaux was an early advocate of reopening the Willamette River for the benefit of everybody in Portland. She knew it had the potential to be a treasure for the community. She was out there swimming every chance she could get, and she loved every time she could get out into the Willamette. But she recognized that not everybody had her physical abilities. So as was always her way, when Mary recognized a problem that needed fixing, she got to work. She pushed locally with the city and community activists to get a ladder installed at a popular swim spot.

As a result of this kind of effort and, frankly, her imagination—I don't know

that finding ladders is always in the job description, she just figured out how more people could have the opportunity to get in and out of the Willamette safely and take a swim in one of the country's most impressive urban rivers.

The whole metropolitan area of my hometown has her to thank for other important achievements. We have exceptional drinking water. Mary was instrumental in the creation of Portland's Bull Run water reserve being still, I believe, the only urban water source closed to people, entirely, for its protection. Everybody in Oregon, as they learn about this—because Mary never sought any publicity for herself—really has to thank Mary Gautreaux for that effort.

She really went to bat for rural Oregonians. She recognized, because I lived in southeast Portland and she lived in northeast, we loved Portland, but we didn't have the job of representing the "state of Portland." Our job is to get into every nook and cranny of our State, and, particularly, when so many rural communities are so hard-hit, Mary would be there, helping small airports, tiny airports get bigger, helping veterans who couldn't get over icy roads to get to healthcare in the urban areas. She would help, from food pantries to rural hospitals. She did everything to make sure that, in those small communities, they would understand that they counted.

Sometimes people would point out to her: A lot of those communities had more cows than people. I always thought to myself: I probably didn't have the cows with me half the time, either.

That wasn't Mary's measure of public service. Mary's measure was to make sure that nobody was left behind.

One of her recent accomplishments for rural Oregon is also going to be treasured for a long time: the designation of the Frank and Jeanne Moore Wild Steelhead Special Management Area.

Frank Moore and Mary had a wonderful bond. Frank is a World War II hero. After the war, he came home to the Umpqua River. He has guided generations of fishing families on the river for years and years. Now he is 96. Mary made a judgment a few years ago. She was concerned that Frank might not get the designation and recognition he deserved while he was alive.

Mary basically pushed and pushed and pushed in order to make sure that the legislation I just mentioned would pass and actually get done. What a wonderful party we had for Frank Moore. If there was something Mary Gautreaux loved, it was a good party. You will hear a little more about that in just a moment.

On the national level, in southern Oregon, Mary's work on the designation of the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument created unique wilderness protections, unique protections for ranchers and environmental folks. It is

something that is going to be a model for generations to come. She was the key to the creation of the Badlands Wilderness. I remember when Mary Gautreaux pulled it off, people said: Because of Mary, it was a good day for the Badlands.

It is a wonderful accomplishment for folks in Central Oregon. In eastern Oregon, Mary's work on the East Moraines in the Wallows was significant. She helped Oregonians everywhere, and she always tried to look ahead. Mary was one of the first who recognized in our State that recreation would be a powerful economic engine for years to come, billions of dollars coming into the State. There would be jobs for everybody from kayakers, to guides, to craft brewers. It was a huge economic multiplier.

What did we get out of it? We also got a chance to have a new focus on recreation. We have seen the creation of Oregon's Office of Recreation. It is a State office borne out of Mary's tireless work, organizing people all over the State to highlight the 7 Wonders of Oregon. I am here to say tonight that Mary Gautreaux, for lots of us, was the 8th Wonder of Oregon.

All of these achievements are part of her enduring legacy in our State, places people will visit, lands that are protected, ranchers, environmentalists. They are people who, before Mary showed up, might hardly ever talk to each other, let alone work together. She figured out a way to find common ground and achieve what I have just described.

I want to talk a little bit about travels with Mary, the laughs that we had on the long car rides, bouncing around ideas, occasionally a passionate debate on something that was important to Mary. She always recognized—like Patton, Mary knew that an Army marches on its stomach. She generously stocked our car with apples and oranges and fruits and every manner of snacks—some healthy, some perhaps not so healthy—as we drove around Oregon.

Let me tell you something, when Mary Gautreaux saw hungry folks as we made our way through the State of Oregon, what she did along the way is made sure the car—because she didn't want anybody to go hungry—got a whole lot lighter because she gave away so much healthy food to hungry folks who were hurting.

No task seemed trivial or thankless. I will tell you, when you rode around in a car with her—and, you know, most of the time in government, people are talking about bills and amendments or polls and the like. What Mary was always talking about was how it might be possible to help more people at the next stop. The key was, at the end of a trip, she would always say to a person or two: Give me your phone number. I want to be able to stay in touch. I want to check in.

That is the way she was, and sometimes, she would ask them to give her a name or two of somebody else they

were worried about who had fallen on hard times—and Mary would reach out to them.

Another memory I wanted to share is a little bit raw, and the Senate may know how it is going to play out in the months ahead. A few months ago, while she lay in her hospital bed coming to terms with a fresh diagnosis of terminal cancer, she learned that a group of young doctors at the Oregon Health and Sciences University had been in training to do a rotation in Ontario, OR, in Malheur County—a city of 11,000 people, the gateway to the Owyhee Canyonlands, spectacular high desert landscapes that were near and dear to Mary's heart. But it seemed these young doctors never got to go outside.

Mary said: We better do something for all these young doctors. So she began asking for their supervisor so she could help these young doctors get out into the landscape.

I do want people to know that there is going to be an opportunity to enjoy that landscape, work in that landscape, particularly in traditional industries like agriculture, to a great extent because of what Mary inspired in Malheur County. She dedicated her last days talking to anyone and everyone who she thought could come together and help stabilize the small community in eastern Oregon.

I want people to be able to picture it because Nancy and I went to Mary's home in northeast Portland over these last difficult weeks. Mary always managed to cheer us up, rather than vice versa. One of the things that finally made us smile—and the hospice folks nearby—her whole room was built around the maps of the Owyhee, where she was looking at places for various uses that would be appropriate, how to protect the beauty of this extraordinary part of Oregon.

You would talk to her about the beauty. She would always say that the first time she saw it, it brought tears to her eyes when she viewed it, and she so wanted to help the ranchers and folks in that area. She was dedicated to preserving this part of the world.

It was Mary Gautreaux's dying wish that we could make this possible. Many of my colleagues may have seen me waiting on the floor of the Senate over the last few hours. Our chair, Senator MURKOWSKI, has had a busy schedule today. When I chaired the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, we worked very close together. LISA MURKOWSKI has a big heart too. She is always interested in trying to bring people together.

I told Chair MURKOWSKI that, very shortly, I was going to be introducing legislation to recognize Mary's extraordinary work in Malheur County. We were going to have a community board, a community board to empower the ranchers and the small businesses and the families that had been there for years and wanted to know that there was a future. We wanted to call it the Mary Gautreaux Malheur County Community Empowerment for Owyhee Act,

or the Mary Gautreaux Malheur County CEO Act.

Stay tuned because you are going to hear me talk more about Mary's extraordinary efforts in this regard.

In the meantime, this weekend, we are going to do what Mary Gautreaux wanted us to do. We talked to her about it. We said: Mary, we want to make sure that we tell Oregon—and in this case, the country—about your life and your accomplishments and how much we loved you.

The way we are going to show her how much we loved her, this weekend, we are going to do what she wanted. We are going to have one heck of a giant party in her neighborhood, at her home, in northeast Portland. We are bringing together friends and family. She has so many of them.

I am looking down this row. I guess we broke most of the rules of the Senate because you are only supposed to have a couple of people here. As far as I can tell, the people I am honored to represent in the U.S. Senate—there are more than 4 million of them—half of them would have showed up and sat

with the folks on that row if they could have.

This weekend, we are going to have a chance to tell each other stories. We are going to have a chance to talk about all of the people Mary helped. I am working now—because Mary loved bright colors—to make sure that her home and everybody there really sees what she wanted, was a lot of color and a lot of passion and a lot of friends and a lot of people talking about what a special place Oregon is and all these young people, who have done so much, are building on her approach for bringing people together, her values of caring, standing up for people who didn't have very much and were outside the power circle of Washington.

This is a hard talk to give, but it is sure easy to always remember what a wonderful person Mary Gautreaux was, how she represented the very best our State has been able to offer.

I told her privately right before she died: Mary, we love you. We will always be thinking of you.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.
TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:55 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, September 25, 2019, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate September 24, 2019:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JOSEPH CELLA, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI, AND TO SERVE CONCURRENTLY AND WITHOUT ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF KIRIBATI, THE REPUBLIC OF NAURU, THE KINGDOM OF TONGA, AND TUVALU.

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

DAVID FABIAN BLACK, OF NORTH DAKOTA, TO BE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SECURITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 19, 2025.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DANIEL HABIB JORJANI, OF KENTUCKY, TO BE SOLICITOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

BRIAN MCGUIRE, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.