

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