

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that Senator PAUL be recognized to speak for up to 5 minutes and offer a unanimous consent request and that, following his remarks, I immediately be recognized with no intervening action.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Kentucky.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, no virus, not even a plague, should cause us to forget that our freedom is the result of resisting the concentration of power in the hands of a few.

Recently, there has been dangerous talk of the President adjourning Congress. I am reminded of the long English battle to forbid the King from dissolving Parliament. In fact, Charles I lost his head partly because he insisted on dissolving Parliament. In those days, Parliament did not take Charles' royal power grab laying down. When Charles I dissolved Parliament in 1629, members took matters into their own hands and descended on the speaker, John Finch, and sat on him. Since he could not rise, the Parliament could not close. While he squirmed and was held down, Parliament passed several motions, condemning the King's power grab.

Ultimately, the English Parliament would change the Constitution to forbid the King from dissolving Parliament. Now, I am not suggesting we hold the President of the Senate down and commandeer the Senate—though the idea has crossed my mind.

Whatever path of resistance we take, talk of the administration adjourning or temporarily dissolving Congress should loudly be resisted as if the Republic depended on it.

Perhaps more alarming than allowing a President threatening to dissolve Congress is that Congress currently has allowed itself to become more of an oligarchy than an assembly. A few Members of the leadership are set to pass legislation, spending nearly a half a trillion dollars, without any recorded vote or debate. Shouldn't someone shout stop? Shouldn't someone point out the terrible precedent of having a few Members speak for all the Members?

I, for one, believe that if there exists too much danger to have Congress meet—and if there exists too much danger to have Congress meet in person, we should allow emergency voting remotely.

In that vein, I offer the following resolution. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consider-

ation of my resolution at the desk; I further ask that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table without any intervening action or debate.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. MCCONNELL. I object.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard.

The majority leader.

STUDENT VETERAN CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE ACT OF 2020

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 6322, which was received from the House.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 6322) to make certain improvements in the educational assistance benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in the case of changes to courses of education by reason of emergency situations, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed, and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 6322) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

SIGNING AUTHORITY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the majority leader and the senior Senator from Alaska be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions through Monday, May 4, 2020.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. As if in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be discharged of PN1250 and that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following nominations: Executive Calendar Nos. 545, 546, and PN1250.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

There being no objection, the committee was discharged and the Senate proceeded to consider the nominations en bloc.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc with no intervening action or debate; that, if con-

firmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, en bloc; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nominations of Mitchell A. Silk, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury; John Bobbitt, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; and Michael D. Weahkee, of New Mexico, to be Director of the Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services, for the term of four years, en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, as if in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged and the Senate proceed to the consideration of PN1419, PN1528, PN1529, and PN1659; that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

IN THE FOREIGN SERVICE

The following-named Career Members of the Senior Foreign Service of the Department of State for promotion within the Senior Foreign Service of the United States of America, Class of Career Minister:

Kin Wah Moy, of Maryland
Richard Norland, of Virginia
Julieta Valls Noyes, of Virginia
Elizabeth H. Richard, of Texas
Stephanie S. Sullivan, of Maryland

The following-named Career Members of the Foreign Service of the Department of Agriculture for promotion within the Senior Foreign Service of the United States of America, Class of Minister-Counselor:

Deanna M.J. Ayala, of Minnesota
Robert Henry Hanson, of Maryland
Darya Chehrezad, of California

The following-named Career Members of the Foreign Service for promotion into the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor:

Casey Eben Bean, of Maryland
Christine Strossman, of Florida

The following-named Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service of the Department of Agriculture for promotion within the Senior Foreign Service of the United States of America, Class of Career Minister:

Clay M. Hamilton, of Texas

The following-named Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service of the Department of State for promotion within the Senior Foreign Service of the United States of America, Class of Career Minister:

Laura Farnsworth Dogu, of Texas

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL THURSDAY,
APRIL 23, 2020, AT 5:30 P.M.

Mr. McCONNELL. Now, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand adjourned in accordance with the order of April 16, 2020, for previously ordered pro forma sessions.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 5:11 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, April 23, 2020, at 5:30 p.m.

DISCHARGED NOMINATIONS

The Senate Committee on Indian Affairs was discharged from further consideration of the following nomination by unanimous consent and the nomination was confirmed:

MICHAEL D. WEAHKEE, OF NEW MEXICO, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of the following nominations by unanimous consent and the nominations were confirmed:

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KIN WAH MOY AND ENDING WITH STEPHANIE S. SULLIVAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 9, 2020.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DEANNA M. J. AYALA AND ENDING WITH CHRISTINE STROSSMAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON FEBRUARY 12, 2020.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATION OF CLAY M. HAMILTON.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATION OF LAURA FARNSWORTH DOGU.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate April 21, 2020:

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
MITCHELL A. SILK, OF NEW YORK, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

JOHN BOBBITT, OF TEXAS, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT.

FOREIGN SERVICE

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KIN WAH MOY AND ENDING WITH STEPHANIE S. SULLIVAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 9, 2020.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DEANNA M. J. AYALA AND ENDING WITH CHRISTINE STROSSMAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON FEBRUARY 12, 2020.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATION OF CLAY M. HAMILTON.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATION OF LAURA FARNSWORTH DOGU.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

MICHAEL D. WEAHKEE, OF NEW MEXICO, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.