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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Friday, May 8, 2020, at 10 a.m.

Senate

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2020

The Senate met at 11 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, we continue to depend on You to fulfill Your purposes for our lives. You have told us that Your purpose for us is that we live for Your glory. As our lawmakers strive to do Your will, bringing honor to Your name, have Your way in all they say and do.

Lord, send them Your help from celestial portals so that they will please You and be Your ambassadors during these challenging times. Rescue them from anything that will keep them from remembering that nothing is impossible for you.

Be exalted, O God, above the highest heavens. Let Your glory shine in our Nation and world.

We pray in Your loving Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SASSE). The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask to speak in morning business for 1 minute.

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

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. GRASSLEY. COVID-19 has put America through the wringer. There will be many lessons learned and stories to tell from this chapter of our history.

Today, I salute the heroes working on the frontlines during this pandemic. I can't overstate the debt of gratitude we owe the healthcare professionals who selflessly put their own lives on the line to care for COVID-19 patients. Our doctors, nurses, respiratory therapists, nursing home workers, pharmacists, and first responders are among those who have shouldered physical and mental exhaustion to heal the sick. In fact, today is National Nurses Day. So I give our nurses an extra applause on this their day. To the legions of healthcare professionals across America, thank you for the full measure of devotion you have shown to your community and to our great country.

I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of William R. Evanina, of Pennsylvania, to be Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center. (New Position)

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

NOMINATIONS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, the core business of our Nation does not stop while we fight the coronavirus. This week, Senate committees are conducting oversight and holding hearings. Members are tracking the implementation of the CARES Act. We are discussing how Congress could do everything from further strengthening the health response to ensuring that a second epidemic of frivolous lawsuits does not redirect the national recovery into a trial lawyer bonanza.

Here on the floor, we are filling major vacancies in the Federal Government. Today, we will confirm Bill Evanina to lead the National Counterintelligence and Security Center. As our Nation grapples with challenges at home, it is critically important that a full complement of skilled professionals keep a close watch on our foes, adversaries, and competitors.

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



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