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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Thursday, June 18, 2020, at 10 a.m.

Senate

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2020

The Senate met at 10 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.

Lord God of Heaven and Earth, today, teach our lawmakers to do things Your way, embracing Your precepts and walking in Your paths.

Lord, make them powerful instruments for goodness in our Nation and world. Remind them that the narrow and difficult road leads to life and few find it. You honor those who honor You.

As our Senators receive guidance from You and follow Your leading, replace anxiety with calm and confusion with clarity. Give them attentive hearts and open minds as they seek to find, in the diversity of ideas, what is best for our Nation and world.

We pray in Your great 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 (Mrs. LOEFFLER). The Senator from Iowa is recognized.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 1 minute as in morning business, and if

the leader doesn't come, I may ask for an additional 3 minutes.

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

JUSTICE ACT

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, yesterday, I gave the details of historic police reform that passed unanimously in both houses of the Republican-controlled legislature. Surely, if Democrats in Iowa can work with Republicans to find unanimity, we shouldn't have any problems here in the U.S. Congress passing something unanimously as well. Let's not let the perfect be the enemy of the good.

This morning, Senate Majority Leader MCCONNELL, Senator TIM SCOTT, and other Members of the Republican task force unveiled a piece of legislation that goes by the title of Just and Unifying Solutions to Invigorate Communities Everywhere, or the acronym JUSTICE, for short.

I applaud their leadership on this issue. Democrats should stop partisan attacks and instead spend their time with us working together to find solutions. It is pretty simple for me. If the Iowa legislature can do it in a bipartisan and unanimous way, we can do it here as well.

TROOP WITHDRAWAL

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, while there are reports of plans to remove troops stationed in Germany, I am reluctant to comment on a proposal that I have not seen.

What I can say, however, is that Congress will have a say. What I can also say is that the U.S. commitment to NATO and our European allies is rock solid. That said, it is not in the American character to project power for power's sake.

Since World War II, we have reluctantly accepted the lesson that our geography and good will alone cannot protect us in the United States from being dragged into other things around the globe, particularly conflicts.

The U.S. military presence in Europe since World War II has preserved the freedom of half of Europe and contributed to the eventual freedom of the other half of Europe. Yet, despite enjoying economic and security benefits, polls show our presence is unpopular with a large segment of the German population. Combine the American public's reluctance to station troops abroad with the sense that they are not wanted or appreciated by their hosts, you can expect some second thoughts.

This isn't the whole story. I know many German political leaders who treasure the friendship between our two countries, and their voices are needed now more than ever before. Moreover, our bases in Germany are not there just for the Germans. They provide critical support to troops in harm's way in the Middle East and are vital for NATO deterrence.

The people of Poland and the Baltic countries are among the most pro-American that you can find anywhere in the world, and the governments representing them put their money where their mouth is when it comes to NATO. Our mere presence in Europe reduces

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



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