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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 4, 2020, at 11 a.m.

Senate

MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 2020

The Senate met at 3 p.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.

Our Father, as we think of those so desperately in need of legislative action, give our lawmakers the wisdom and courage needed for these challenging times. Use them to empower all Americans, particularly those on life's margins.

Lord, help our Senators today to discern Your voice as they seek Your will in all they do. Give them the ability to differentiate Your guidance from all others, permitting You to lead them to Your desired destination. Speak to them through Your word. Guide them with Your Spirit, and sustain them with Your might.

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 (Mr. HAWLEY). The Senator from Iowa.

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

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

ACADEMIC FREEDOM

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, everybody now in the Senate remembers Senator Hatch. I want to tell you how he is still on the job, reminding Americans of our traditions.

Recently, my friend from Utah, former Senator Orrin Hatch, wrote about American academia and our so-called cancel culture. I encourage all Americans to read his essay that was published in the Wall Street Journal. Senator Hatch calls for a "renewed commitment to intellectual diversity" and for a "radical overhaul of campus culture."

I agree with Senator Hatch.

Our institutions of higher learning need to wake up and welcome the open exchange of ideas in the classrooms and across campuses, and if that isn't what universities and colleges are for, I don't know what they are for. Silencing or shaming students from sharing divergent views is antithetical to the American way.

Our next generation of leaders deserves better. As colleges begin the school year, they should focus on keeping their students safe from the virus, but—and a big "but"—they shouldn't worry one bit about keeping students safe from the free exchange of ideas or prevent professors from teaching different schools of thought. The herd mentality limits intellectual curiosity, and that is bad for freedom, particularly academic freedom.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

THE NAVY-MARINES TRAGEDY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, the Senate mourns the tragedy that we now know took place Thursday, off the coast of Southern California.

According to official reports, nine American servicemembers—eight marines and one sailor—died during a training exercise. These young servicemembers were all between the ages of 19 and 23. It is absolutely heartbreaking. The units involved are among our most unique and specialized amphibious forces. Their training is what allows them to deploy at a moment's notice, under the harshest conditions, in the most remote and unsupported locations.

As the search for survivors turned into a recovery mission, the Nation was reminded that even what our men and women in uniform may consider to be routine still involves serious risk and personal sacrifice.

I extend the Senate's sympathies to the families of those lost and our gratitude to the Marine Corps, Navy, and Coast Guard personnel who are searching to bring their comrades home.

ELECTION SECURITY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, on an entirely different matter, this week,

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



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