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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Friday, September 11, 2020, at 1 p.m.

Senate

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 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.

Faithful Father, our refuge and strength, give us such lawmakers that their lives will enable You to be glorified by bringing healing to our land. Lord, provide our Nation with physical, mental, social, and spiritual healing by the power of Your grace. Sustained by this grace, may our Senators seek to please You in all they do. Inspire them to give You cheerfully their highest allegiance.

Be gracious, mighty God, to our Nation and world. Empower us all until the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts are acceptable to You.

We pray in Your sacred 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.

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

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

IOWA FARMERS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, this year has been one of the most challenging years for Iowa farmers during my 40 years in the Senate. Farmers have had to confront coronavirus supply chain disruptions, widespread drought, and a record windstorm that moved across our State.

During my 99 county meetings, I saw Iowa fields that were completely destroyed—150 miles long and 40 miles wide. The images of mature crops lying flat on the ground were heartbreaking. Iowans are a very resilient people, but the hurt the farmers have endured this year will be felt in our State for a few years to come.

Senator ERNST and I will keep fighting to strengthen Iowa's farm economy despite this year's very challenging situations.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, anyone watching the Senate yesterday saw another installment in an ongoing series that has become somewhat familiar. Republicans roll out yet another effort to forge a bipartisan compromise around coronavirus relief, and Democrats reply with partisan cheap shots and threats to block everything.

Republicans develop a serious plan to get historic amounts of additional

money in the pipeline for kids, jobs, and schools, and Democrats just point fingers, call names, and keep blocking American families from getting any more help before the November election.

In July, Republicans put forward a serious framework, but Speaker PELOSI and the Democratic leader refused to talk unless the starting point was their literally absurd \$3.4 trillion far-left wish list that even House Democrats called a stunt.

In August, with those talks stalled, Republicans proposed narrow agreements on specific urgent policies to help families, unemployment benefits, the Paycheck Protection Program. Democrats refused again. This time their invented excuse was that any assistance short of their entire wish list was too "piecemeal"—too "piecemeal"—and not worth doing.

If Democrats didn't get their diversity studies for the cannabis industry, stimulus checks for illegal immigrants, and tax cuts for blue State millionaires, they would make sure millions of Americans would lose their unemployment benefits and PPP would close. That is what they threatened, and that is what they did.

So here we are in September. Schools and colleges have gone without the \$105 billion that Republicans wanted to give them back in July. That is more money than Speaker PELOSI put in her bill.

American workers have gone without the second round of the PPP that Republicans proposed weeks and weeks ago. Speaker PELOSI had no money for PPP in her \$3.4 trillion bill.

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



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