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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 20, 2020, at 9 a.m.

Senate

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2020

The Senate met at 4:30 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.

O God, who is our hope for the years to come, bring us safely to the harbor of your choosing. Continue to work for the good of those who love You and infuse us with the spirit of Your peace.

Lord, help our lawmakers to do what is fair, remembering your Golden Rule which states: "Do for others what you would like them to do for you."

Lord, you said in Matthew 7:12 that this principle is a summary of all that is taught in the law and the prophets. We praise You for this profound maxim to guide our ethical conduct. May it provide our lawmakers with wisdom to make sound decisions and strength to walk in the way of justice and freedom for all.

We pray in Your wonderful 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. FISCHER). The President pro tempore.

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

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

CENSORSHIP

Mr. GRASSLEY. Last week, news broke about Hunter Biden's questionable financial dealings. That information, allegedly from Hunter Biden's laptop, appears to show that Vice President Biden may have been more aware of his son's financial dealings with foreign despots and criminals than he admitted to the American people. That information was quickly censored by big tech companies.

Just today, DNI Director Ratcliffe said that Hunter Biden's laptop issue is not part of a Russian disinformation campaign.

The Steele dossier is fake news, but I don't recall reporters and Big Tech censoring the false reporting about President Trump and the Steele dossier. Instead, the liberal media did just the opposite. They became super-spreaders of false reporting across the world.

What happened last week is election interference and anti-conservative bias, and Facebook and Twitter are guilty. Democrats and liberals in the press can't have veto authority over information just because it makes their nominee look bad. They can't have a double standard. Vice President Biden owes the American people answers.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

NOMINATION OF AMY CONEY BARRETT

Mr. McCONNELL. Last week, the Senate Judiciary Committee and the entire country heard from one of the most impressive nominees for any public office in a long time. Judge Amy Coney Barrett demonstrated that she has the deep legal expertise, dispassionate judicial temperament, and sheer intellectual horsepower the American people deserve to have on the Supreme Court. Her nomination prompted an outpouring of praise from across academia, the legal profession, and, importantly, the political spectrum. Last week, our committee colleagues saw why fellow legal scholars called Judge Barrett "a brilliant and conscientious lawyer who will analyze and decide cases in good faith" and say she is "tailor-made for this job." They heard firsthand why her former law clerks and students called her "a woman of unassailable integrity" and "a role model for generations to come."

They heard thoughtful answers that explained why the American Bar Association—an institution the Democratic leader has called "the gold standard"—deems Judge Barrett "well qualified" to sit on the Supreme Court. They heard why the legal professionals behind that rating call her "a staggering academic mind."

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



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