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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Sunday, January 3, 2021, at 10 a.m.

Senate

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 2021

The Senate met at 12 noon 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.

Sovereign Lord, we thank You for the dawning of a New Year, for the promise of fresh starts and fertile opportunities. We sing Your praises and will not keep silent for You are God forever. We see changes and decay all around us, but You are God forever. Although the wrong so often seems strong, You are God forever.

Mighty One, abide in this Chamber to inspire and empower our lawmakers to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies. May our Senators strive to permit their thoughts, words, and actions to please You.

Oh God, our refuge and redeemer, You are God forever. 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.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KENNEDY). The majority leader is recognized.

JUST AND UNIFYING SOLUTIONS TO INVIGORATE COMMUNITIES EVERYWHERE ACT OF 2020—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 480, S. 3985.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 480, S. 3985, a bill to improve and reform policing practices, accountability and transparency.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

The majority leader.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, first I want to wish all my fellow Senators and our staff colleagues here in the Capitol a happy and healthy new year. In particular, I would like to extend our gratitude to the Capitol Police, offices of the Secretary of the Senate and the Sergeant at Arms, and the many other staff who have gone above and beyond to help us attend to important business this holiday season.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. McCONNELL. Today, by the grace of God, the genius of science, and the resilience of the American people,

we appear to have a bright 2021 on the horizon. Our great Nation is poised to defeat this pandemic in the months ahead through safe and effective vaccines.

The pace of the American people's economic recovery has already beaten expectations and predictions. Thanks to the ingenuity of our citizens and historic relief policies from Congress, overall personal income in our country is already higher now than it was prior to the pandemic.

Now, the country needs more support, and the significant remaining pain is not—I repeat, not—evenly distributed, far from it. So we just enacted another historic \$900 billion rescue package to get vaccines distributed, to keep small businesses alive, and to get a whole lot more targeted support to struggling people who actually need it. From multiple kinds of extra Federal unemployment benefits to nutrition assistance, rental assistance, direct cash, and beyond.

This latest, huge, historic package was just signed into law less than 1 week ago. It is beginning to take effect right now. Many households have already received the latest round of direct cash, or will receive it very soon, to help them turn the page into this brand new year.

While this huge new aid package takes effect, a bipartisan, common-sense caucus in both Chambers is not keen to let Speaker PELOSI and Senator SANDERS rush to borrow half a trillion dollars for universal cash giveaways, regardless of need. A huge chunk would essentially be socialism for rich people—money flowing to

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



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