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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Friday, April 30, 2021, at 9 a.m.

Senate

THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 2021

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, in times of trouble, You hear us. We call to You, and You provide answers. As our lawmakers seek to follow Your precepts, guide them in their challenging work.

Lord, strengthen our Senators to trust You completely. Provide them with the powers of wisdom, discipline, and discernment.

You have promised that in everything You are working for the good of those who love You, who are called according to Your purpose.

Let Your Kingdom come. Let Your will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven.

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 (Ms. ROSEN). The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, last night, before a joint session of Congress, President Biden laid out a comprehensive, thoughtful vision for the country.

First, he spoke about what we have accomplished so far, and on that front, there was plenty to talk about.

The Democratic majority in Congress passed the most sweeping Federal recovery effort in a new generation, the American Rescue Plan, accelerating the pace of vaccinations and our economic rebound. As a result, the United States administered more than 200 million shots in less than 100 days. More than half of American adults have gotten at least one shot, and two-thirds of American seniors are vaccinated. Eighty-five percent of all Americans have received a stimulus check of \$1,400 through the American Rescue Plan. More than 160 million relief checks have been delivered.

Our economic recovery continues apace. The United States created more than a million jobs over the past 3 months—the most new jobs in a Presi-

dent's first hundred days in American history. And just this morning, we learned that jobless claims hit a new pandemic low for the third straight week. Today's numbers are an indication that our economy is back on track and should be going full throttle. America is turning the corner. America is turning the corner.

Over the first quarter, the American economy grew by 6.4 percent—6.4 percent. Under President Biden and Democratic majorities in Congress, America is turning the corner—6.4 percent growth, wow. That shows you that America is back, and that shows you that the kind of strong, active proposals that we Democrats have made are the right direction for the country and have the support throughout the country of Democrats, Independents, Republicans because it is the right thing to do—the right thing to do.

The story of the first hundred days is a story about shots going into arms, checks going into pockets, life getting back to normal, and the economy picking up a lot of steam. After one of the most difficult years in history, we have made extraordinary progress.

President Biden spoke last night about how and where we can build on that strong foundation. We can't rest. We have a lot more to do. We want to keep this country going at a strong rate of growth, creating new jobs, making America healthier. We want to continue to do that. We are not just going to stop with the ARP. We can't.

President Biden proposed common-sense investments and policies that will provide a pathway to success for working people and for America as a

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



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