

high unemployment areas but leaving more than half of the visas for projects that come in at the higher investment level. We even offered to give affluent areas their own carve-out. Yet one proposal suggested to us was to make the visas cheaper. They want to reduce the amount an investor has to pay for a green card. They also want more visas. The demand for visas is through the roof, yet they want to reduce the price.

My colleagues and I have been willing to engage with other Members on this issue. We have made so many concessions. I am not sure how much more we can give, especially when there are increasing calls to end the program. The status quo is not acceptable. It is time for things to change.

I encourage my colleagues to join the ranking member and me in our request for reforms. I hope this body will think twice before allowing the program to continue as is.

TRANSPARENCY AND GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT

Mr. GRASSLEY. Now, Mr. President, I would like to use that additional 60 seconds.

Another issue I want to raise with Senate leadership is transparency and our responsibility of government oversight.

Last week, I spoke about the danger of allowing agencies to improperly use the Office of Senate Security to keep information secret even when it is unclassified.

I said that if we let the FBI get away with hiding the Clinton investigation documents from the public, then other agencies would abuse the system to undermine transparency and oversight. That is exactly what is happening.

The State, Treasury, and Justice Departments are trying the same trick to hide documents about the Obama administration's transfer of billions of dollars to Iran for hostages.

These unclassified documents requested by the Judiciary Committee are being locked away in the basement of the Capitol. They are being treated as if they are classified, but they are not.

The Committee was not consulted and did not agree to these burdensome and unnecessary document controls.

With the Clinton investigation documents, the FBI improperly mixed classified and unclassified documents together in order to keep the unclassified documents secret. But, this time every paragraph and every page of the Iran hostage payment documents is 100 percent unclassified.

So why send it to Senate Security? Why keep it locked away from the public and congressional oversight? Why would the Senate participate in this scheme to undermine transparency?

If the Senate, as an institution, wants to take its oversight responsibility seriously, we should not be helping the executive branch hide embarrassing information from the American people.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. RUBIO). The Senator's time has expired.

Mr. GRASSLEY. I yield the floor.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. FISCHER). Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SASSE). Morning business is closed.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017—MOTION TO PROCEED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to H.R. 5325, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 516, H.R. 5325, a bill making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All postcloture time has expired.

The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5325) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 5082

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have a substitute amendment at the desk that I ask the clerk to report.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL], for Mr. COCHRAN, proposes an amendment numbered 5082.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask for the yeas and nays on my amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 5083 TO AMENDMENT NO. 5082

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have an amendment that is at the desk that I ask the clerk to report.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] proposes an amendment numbered 5083 to amendment No. 5082.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

At the end add the following:

This Act shall take effect 1 day after the date of enactment.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask for the yeas and nays on my amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 5084 TO AMENDMENT NO. 5083

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have a second-degree amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] proposes an amendment numbered 5084 to amendment No. 5083.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike "1 day" and insert "2 days".

AMENDMENT NO. 5085

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have an amendment to the text proposed to be stricken.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] proposes an amendment numbered 5085 to the language proposed to be stricken by amendment No. 5082.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end add the following:

This Act shall take effect 3 days after the date of enactment.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask for the yeas and nays on my amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 5086 TO AMENDMENT NO. 5085

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have a second-degree amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] proposes an amendment numbered 5086 to amendment No. 5085.

The amendment is as follows:
Strike “3 days” and insert “4 days”.

MOTION TO COMMIT WITH AMENDMENT NO. 5087
Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have a motion to commit H.R. 5325 with instructions, which is at the desk.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] moves to commit the bill to the Appropriations Committee with instructions to report back forthwith with an amendment numbered 5087.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end add the following:
This Act shall take effect 5 days after the date of enactment.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask for the yeas and nays on that motion.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 5088

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have an amendment to the instructions at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] proposes an amendment numbered 5088 to the instructions of the motion to commit H.R. 5325.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike “5” and insert “6”.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask for the yeas and nays on that amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 5089 TO AMENDMENT NO. 5088

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have a second-degree amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] proposes an amendment numbered 5089 to amendment No. 5088.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike “6” and insert “7”.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have a cloture motion at the desk for the substitute amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on Senate amendment No. 5082 to H.R. 5325, an act making appropriations for the Legislative

Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes.

Mitch McConnell, Mike Rounds, Thad Cochran, John Cornyn, Daniel Coats, Roger F. Wicker, Thom Tillis, John Barrasso, Lamar Alexander, John Hoeven, Pat Roberts, Orrin G. Hatch, Susan M. Collins, Lisa Murkowski, Steve Daines, Tom Cotton.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have a cloture motion at the desk for the underlying bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on H.R. 5325, an act making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes.

Mitch McConnell, Mike Rounds, Thad Cochran, John Cornyn, Daniel Coats, Thom Tillis, Roger F. Wicker, John Barrasso, Lamar Alexander, John Hoeven, Pat Roberts, Orrin G. Hatch, Susan M. Collins, Lisa Murkowski, Steve Daines, Tom Cotton.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls under rule XXII be waived for these cloture motions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, there have been broad requests for a clean continuing resolution. So that is what I have just offered. It is a result of many hours of bipartisan work on both sides of the aisle. It is a fair proposal. It funds all current government operations through December 9, while also providing funding for the new legislation we have just passed overwhelmingly and that the President has signed. That is legislation to address the heroin and prescription opioid epidemic as well as the TSCA bill.

It contains a sufficient downpayment on flood relief for many States, including Maryland, West Virginia, and Louisiana, and, of course, it includes important resources to support our veterans and combat Zika. These are resources needed to help develop a vaccine and promote mosquito control.

Members will have the next 4 days to review before any votes are taken in relation to the issue. Further, we expect the President to either sign or send up the veto message on JASTA by tomorrow. Beginning the process on the clean CR today will ensure that there is adequate time to finish before the override vote and before the current government funding runs out next week. Then we can turn to the veto override.

I look forward to continuing with bipartisan cooperation so we can complete our important work on Zika, veterans funding, and the clean CR that will fund the government through December 9.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise as the ranking member on the Appropriations Committee. I want to say to my colleagues on both sides of the aisle that over the past few weeks, we Democrats have negotiated with the Republicans to come up with a responsible continuing funding resolution that keeps the government open through December 9, giving Congress time to complete an appropriations process.

Our goal was to respond to compelling urgent needs: Zika, Flint, floods in Louisiana, and also our national security as well as those things that are important to the economy of the United States of America. We wanted to be sure it did not include any poison pill riders but did contain the continuing funding for veterans and military construction. Our negotiations have been cordial and productive. I compliment the other side of the aisle on their professionalism and on their civility.

We are now down to a handful of issues, but they are down to the real issues. The majority leader has filed a Republican-only bill with a substitute that has now been placed before the Senate today. We Democrats cannot vote for that substitute and urge others to vote against it.

We want to be sure we avoid a government shutdown and a government showdown and continue the constructive talks that we have had, but the substitute offered by the Republican majority leader falls short. What is wrong with the bill before us?

One, it fails to help the people of Flint, MI; 100,000 people in Flint, MI, are still waiting for their water to be clean and safe; 9,000 children have already had lead exposure that can cause permanent and irreversible damage. It tells Michigan to keep waiting in line.

We know the people of Louisiana have been hit by terrible floods. We don't want to just give lip service in response to their needs but Louisiana is not the only “need” in America. We believe the people of Flint, MI—the people of Flint who have been waiting for more than 1 year—should be included in this continuing resolution.

I want to be clear. We do want to help the people of Louisiana, but we also want to help the people of Flint. The other side of the aisle says Flint can be handled 2 months from now with a bill called WRDA—the water resources development bill. The House has made no commitment to help Flint in that bill. They haven't even brought WRDA to the floor for action.

The people of Flint need help now. They actually needed help 9 months ago. Remember, they are in a jackpot because of flawed budget cuts and our failure to enact a comprehensive infrastructure bill where cities like Flint, Baltimore, and so on could do something about their aging water infrastructure and at the same time create American jobs in our own urban communities.

The Senate passed Flint funding on the WRDA bill 95 to 3 last week. So why wait? It is paid for. We have a framework for proceeding. Let's just do it. Also, while Democrats continue to fight for Flint, we will not stand by on partisan policy riders such as the SEC political disclosure to a 10-week continuing funding resolution.

I know the 135,000 Marylanders who work for the Federal Government want to stay on the job. I want them to know we are working very hard to keep the government open and to avoid a shutdown or a slamdown. We need to make sure we help our veterans. We need to make sure we have the funds to fight Zika and the terrible challenge of children being born with the most horrific and lifelong—as short as their little lives might be—permanent handicaps, and we want to help Flint. Most of all, we know that in a trillion-dollar budget that funds both domestic and military, we have a framework to move ahead.

Very serious work has been done on national security: the funding of the Department of Defense, the funding of other agencies that contribute to our national security, whether it is the State Department and diplomatic efforts, whether it is Homeland Security. Didn't they do a good job responding last weekend to the challenges in New York? In every community we face these.

At the same time, when you look at the Labor-HHS, an agency such as the National Institutes of Health, we want them to keep the lights on so they can keep the light of hope going on to make sure we find cures for disease. We will say more about this.

We appreciate the majority leader for continuing conversation with us. We are a work in progress. Let's get back to work. Let's continue to make progress. We have taken steps forward. Let's not take steps sideways or take steps backward. Let's continue making progress. Let's get rid of the poison pill riders. Let's come to an agreement on how we can help Louisiana and help Flint and resolve some of these other issues.

Mr. President, we look forward to more conversation, more constructive conversation, and our side of the aisle stands ready to engage in those conversations and negotiations. I urge my colleagues to be on standby and to wish us well so we keep doing the job we were elected to do.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

SUPPORTING OUR NATION'S LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, today I want to talk about the brave men and

women who put their lives on the line each day to keep us safe—law enforcement officers. Last month I spent much of my time meeting with various law enforcement agencies across Arkansas. In the wake of the shooting in Dallas and other violence against police officers, I wanted Arkansas' law enforcement officers to know that I support them and that Arkansans support them. I wanted to learn a little more about what life looks like from their perspective.

From the North Little Rock Police Department, to the Prosecuting Attorneys Association, to the Federal prison in Forrest City, to the Arkansas Sheriffs' Association in Northwest Arkansas—each of these meetings left me confident in our State's law enforcement officers and provided me with valuable insight into the law enforcement community.

Police officers in Arkansas and across the country have a difficult job, one that is unlike any other career. In the Army, my soldiers and I fought overseas to keep our country safe, but at the end of our tours, we went home, and many of us transitioned to other safer jobs. But for law enforcement officers, there is no end to the tour. They put their lives on the line every single day to keep us safe. We owe them a debt of gratitude, and we ought to find ways to support our officers more and ensure that their communities and the country as a whole have a better understanding of their hard work and sacrifice.

Each of the law enforcement groups I met had a similar message: Law enforcement officers need support, cooperation, and assistance. They need support from their communities and their leadership at every level—local, State, and Federal. They need to know that we are on their side, and in the face of controversy, they need to know they have leaders who will be a steady hand.

Given the controversy surrounding law enforcement recently, it is easy to take a different view, but most officers, like most soldiers with whom I served in the Army, are committed to upholding the discipline and integrity of their force. They want those who violate policy and especially the law to be held accountable, but they also want those decisions made in a factual, unbiased way.

To keep us safe, law enforcement officers also need the cooperation and assistance of those they are sworn to protect. They know this will help them not only to investigate and punish crime but also, and more importantly, to stop crime before it happens. They have a constant and regular presence which serves not only to deter the criminal element but also to reassure and gain the support of the vast majority of law-abiding Arkansans who are going to provide the tips or help smooth the waters in moments of tension.

So how do we achieve these things? I believe there are a few simple steps.

First, take a moment to recognize our law enforcement officers and the vital work they do. So many officers commented to me how thankful they were to see yard signs announcing support for the police or when someone picked up their lunch or just said a simple thank you.

Law enforcement is a tough job and it can be a little strange. Officers dedicate their lives to protecting law-abiding citizens, who are the vast majority of all Americans. Yet they have to spend much of their time around the tiny minority and the criminal element to protect those law-abiding citizens. Therefore, it means a lot when they hear from you.

Second, law enforcement agencies ought to continue their outreach efforts to the communities they serve. On a visit to the Jonesboro Police Department, Chief Rick Elliot told me: "It all gets back to community relations and outreach." I was struck by how many of our police officers in Arkansas work to become integral parts of their communities.

In El Dorado, the police department recently shared a video of an officer singing and dancing with local kids at the area Boys & Girls Club. The Little Rock Police Department announced an upcoming "Coffee with a Cop" event, which will allow Arkansans to come and meet their police officers in a casual setting. A school resource officer in Morrilton made State and national news last month for starting "Cop Car Karaoke" to get to know his students better. I could go on.

But let's be honest. These aren't the stories dominating the headlines. These days, it seems like the police make the news most often when there is an officer involved in use of force, like in Ferguson or now in Charlotte, or when cops are gunned down in the line of duty, like in Dallas and Baton Rouge. Sadly, these stories often have a racial element, too, which, of course, drives more media coverage. We haven't seen a story like this in Arkansas lately, but the law enforcement officers with whom I spoke all knew it could happen at any time. That is one reason why they stressed community engagement so much, especially in Black neighborhoods where tensions can run the highest.

So the final step, after citizens and law enforcement officers do their part, is for elected leaders and community leaders to do ours. Too often, leaders jump to conclusions after an officer-involved use of force, not least so they can jump in front of a television camera. But, as we have seen in Ferguson and Baltimore, for example, first impressions can often be wrong. One thing I learned in the Army is that first reports often, even usually, are wrong or at least incomplete. Our leaders shouldn't fan the flames of racial tension and divide our communities before all the facts are known. After all, there is always a neutral, impartial inquiry following an officer-involved use

of force, especially a shooting. Our leaders ought to let those inquiries occur in a calm, dispassionate setting and call upon all other citizens to do the same. They certainly should never condone rioting.

When the use of force is justified, we ought to support the officer, and when it is not, the public demands accountability.

During my visits around the State, I met with several veteran officers, but I also spoke with many new recruits and newly hired officers. You might expect these rookies to be discouraged by anti-police protests and the recent assassinations of law enforcement officers. On the contrary, they said they were more motivated than ever to prove themselves to the people they serve and to honor the sacrifices of those officers killed in the line of duty. We are lucky to have men and women like them.

As I left my meeting with the officers at the Arkansas State Police Headquarters in Little Rock, I stopped to pay my respects at the Hall of Honor, a memorial dedicated to the troopers who lost their lives in the line of duty. Toward the back of the room, above a small star for each lost trooper, inscribed in the wall are the words "In Valor There is Hope." These words are particularly poignant right now.

I am grateful for every officer at every department and agency who displays professionalism and courage in the face of danger every day. In their valor, the American people do, indeed, find hope.

Thank you.

God bless our men and women in blue.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

TRIBUTE TO EMILY WINTERSON

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, today I rise to celebrate the retirement of Emily Winterson, an immigration specialist in my Boston office, who has served the people of Massachusetts and the United States for over 32 years.

Emily began working in the Senate on March 7, 1984, and has worked for four consecutive Massachusetts Senators since then. First, Emily worked in the office of Senator Ted Kennedy for over 20 years. When Senator Kennedy passed, she stayed on to work for Senator Paul Kirk, then Senator Scott Brown, and now she has been on my team in the Boston office since I was sworn in.

As my colleagues know well, there are two parts to a Senate office. The side the Nation hears about most often and is in the news is the legislative work we do right here in Washington.

But there is an equally important side to our work, and that is the help we provide back home. We would not be able to offer this critical help without devoted people like Emily Winterson. Emily has committed entirely to this work, and she has touched the lives of countless families across the State of Massachusetts. With her years of expertise and her relentless determination, she has helped people navigate our complex immigration system, and she does it all with exceptional humility and grace.

When someone has a last-minute passport problem and may not be able to make the trip with the group from the temple or the church, Emily has been the one to cut through the red-tape. When a student needs a visa to be able to attend one of our great universities, Emily is there. When extraordinary musicians or performers from around the world needed help getting into the country, Emily was there. When families needed her most, when foreign adoptions were tangled up and families were divided or stranded, Emily was there. When sick children needed to get medical care at world-class hospitals in Boston and around our State, Emily was there. No matter the issue, Emily always knew the right people to call to get results in government offices both here and abroad—and they all knew Emily.

There are too many stories to count, but I want to tell just one. A young woman came from China to the United States to study medicine at Boston University. While she was here, she was diagnosed with leukemia. She had no family in America and she desperately needed help getting a visa for her sister to come to the United States to help take care of her. As have so many others, she reached out to Emily for help.

Now, Emily was able to get the visa for her sister to come and to support her through a long and very difficult treatment, but the story doesn't stop there. Without any form of financial support and unable to work, the young woman faced eviction. Together with the help of Catholic Charities, Emily helped secure the funds needed to help her get caught up on her rent.

During all of this, the young woman's student visa expired, which left her ineligible for health care. Once again, Emily got to work and was able to obtain deferred action on her visa. Emily even helped her find an apartment near the hospital when she was being treated, and in her usual "do more than anyone would expect," Emily even helped her furnish the place.

Still, the young woman's health worsened. As she was nearing her final days, her last wish was to see her mother, whom she had not seen for 12 years during her studies. Again, Emily concentrated all of her efforts on securing an expedited visa for her mother so she could be with her before she passed. Because of Emily's tireless work, this young woman, far from home, spent her final days with the support and care of her mother and her sister.

Emily was there for her through thick and thin. When this young woman needed help and had no one to turn to, Emily was there. With steadfast commitment, Emily fought for her.

Now, this is just one of many stories that together form the fabric of Emily's life work. At a time when many Americans feel that government is not working for them, a system that too often overlooks those in need, Emily is a shining example of the powers of public service. She embodies the link between government and the people. She has dedicated her working life to making government fulfill its most fundamental mission—improving the lives of the people it serves.

Emily Winterson has shown us all that when we take time to listen to someone's story, when we have the compassion to care about their troubles and the determination to fight on their behalf, we have the power to improve each other's lives. This is government by the people and for the people. Emily is American politics at its best. This is the legacy that Emily leaves behind.

We will all miss her greatly. Although we are sad to see Emily leave, we could not be happier for her as she begins her much earned retirement in October. I know she is looking forward to gardening, to working on her memoirs, and to spending more time with her children and her grandchildren.

So, Emily, on behalf of the people fortunate enough to work alongside you, for the State of Massachusetts and for the thousands of people you have served, thank you. We wish you the best as you move into the next chapter of your life.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

PRESCRIPTION DRUG AND HEROIN EPIDEMIC

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I want to start by thanking my colleague from Indiana for his indulgence, and I look forward to hearing his remarks. We were both on the floor today waiting to speak while we tried to work out differences with the continuing resolution. I am hopeful those issues can be