

agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 632) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of September 18, 2018, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

#### SICKLE CELL DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 661, submitted earlier today.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 661) expressing support for the designation of September 2018 as "Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month" in order to educate communities across the United States about sickle cell disease and the need for research, early detection methods, effective treatments, and preventative care programs with respect to sickle cell disease, complications from sickle cell disease, and conditions related to sickle cell disease.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 661) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

#### CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY MONTH

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 662, submitted earlier today.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 662) designating September 2018 as "Campus Fire Safety Month."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 662) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

#### ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at a time to be determined by the majority leader, in consultation with the Democratic leader, the Senate proceed to the consideration of the House message to accompany H.R. 6, the opioids bill. I further ask consent that the majority leader or his designee be recognized to make a motion to concur; that there be up to 4 hours of debate on the motion, equally divided in the usual form; and that following the use or yielding back of that time, the Senate vote on the motion to concur with no further intervening action or debate.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### NOMINATION OF BRETT KAVANAUGH

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, for the information of all of our colleagues, there were two very significant developments today.

This morning, the Judiciary Committee reported out Judge Kavanaugh favorably. All 11 Republican members of the Judiciary Committee voted in favor of reporting him out with a favorable recommendation. No. 2, we will shortly move to proceed to the Kavanaugh nomination, and I am pleased to announce that all 51 Republican Members of the Senate support the motion to proceed to the nomination. One hundred percent of the Republican conference supports proceeding to the Kavanaugh nomination.

Now, in committee, they reviewed the most pages of documents ever produced pertaining to any Supreme Court nomination—literally, hundreds of judicial opinions from his tenure on the Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit and 5 days of hearings during which Judge Kavanaugh testified for nearly 40 hours. Judge Kavanaugh testified on every topic, from complicated legal subjects to sensitive personal matters, and there were statements and testimony from countless personal friends, classmates, coworkers, former clerks, and other associates.

So the picture that has emerged from all of this is clear: Judge Kavanaugh is one of the most qualified and most impressive Supreme Court nominees in the history of our country.

He has excelled at the highest levels of legal scholarship. He holds two degrees from Yale and, for years, has lectured at Harvard Law School. He has issued more than 300 legal opinions from what is widely considered the second highest court in the Nation. Several have subsequently been cited in

the Supreme Court's own majority opinions. Along the way, he has built an outstanding reputation within the legal community for his clear and thoughtful writing and his exemplary, fairminded judicial temperament.

Judge Kavanaugh's qualifications have been affirmed by his peers and by renowned legal scholars from across the ideological spectrum. One self-described liberal Democrat who advised him at Yale Law School said that Judge Kavanaugh "commands wide and deep respect among scholars, lawyers, and jurists."

This praise has been echoed by hundreds of character witnesses who have testified before the Senate or written us letters to praise Judge Kavanaugh's personal character and his integrity in the strongest terms.

The committee has also thoroughly investigated the last-minute allegations that have been brought forward. The evidence that has been produced either fails to corroborate these accusations or, in fact, support Judge Kavanaugh's unequivocal denial, and, in some cases, the accusers have even recanted their baseless allegations.

All in all, this is a nominee who has received what many have considered the gold standard of judicial qualification—a rating of unanimously "well qualified" from the American Bar Association.

So this is a nomination that deserves to move forward, and that is precisely what is happening.

I commend our colleagues on the committee for sending this impressive nominee here to the floor with a favorable recommendation.

Now we will keep the process moving. The full Senate will begin consideration of Judge Kavanaugh's nomination today.

#### SPORTS MEDICINE LICENSURE CLARITY ACT OF 2017

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand the Senate has received a message from the House to accompany H.R. 302.

The ACTING PRESIDENT Pro Tempore. The Senator is correct.

Mr. McCONNELL. I move that the Chair lay before the Senate the message to accompany H.R. 302.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

Resolved, that the House agree to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 302) entitled "An Act to provide protections for certain sports medicine professionals who provide certain medical services in a secondary State," with an amendment to the Senate amendment.

#### MOTION TO CONCUR

Mr. McCONNELL. I move to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows: The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. McConnell] moves to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 302.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. McCONNELL. I send a cloture motion to the desk on the motion to concur.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. 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 the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 302, an act to provide protections for certain sports medicine professionals who provide certain medical services in a secondary State.

Mitch McConnell, Marco Rubio, Johnny Isakson, Orrin G. Hatch, Lamar Alexander, John Boozman, Jerry Moran, Mike Crapo, Thom Tillis, Roger F. Wicker, Todd Young, John Thune, Tim Scott, Deb Fischer, John Barrasso, Roy Blunt, Cory Gardner.

#### MOTION TO CONCUR WITH AMENDMENT NO. 4026

Mr. McCONNELL. I move to concur in the House amendment with a further amendment.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the motion. The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. McConnell] moves to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 302, with an amendment numbered 4026.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. 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 ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

#### AMENDMENT NO. 4027 TO AMENDMENT NO. 4026

Mr. McCONNELL. I have a second-degree amendment at the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. McConnell] proposes an amendment numbered 4027 to amendment No. 4026.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike "1 day" and insert "2 days"

#### MOTION TO REFER WITH AMENDMENT NO. 4028

Mr. McCONNELL. I move to refer the House message on H.R. 302 to the Com-

mittee on Commerce with instructions to report back forthwith.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. McConnell] moves to refer the message to accompany H.R. 302 to the Committee on Commerce with instructions, being amendment numbered 4028.

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 motion.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

#### AMENDMENT NO. 4029

Mr. McCONNELL. I have an amendment to the instructions.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. McConnell] proposes an amendment numbered 4029 to the instructions of the motion to refer H.R. 302.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike "3 days" and insert "4 days"

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

#### AMENDMENT NO. 4030 TO AMENDMENT NO. 4029

Mr. McCONNELL. I have a second-degree amendment at the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. McConnell] proposes an amendment numbered 4030 to amendment No. 4029.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike "4" and insert "5"

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call be waived.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—HOUSE MESSAGE TO ACCOMPANY H.R. 302

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, at 5 p.m. on Mon-

day, October 1, the Senate resume consideration of the House message to accompany H.R. 302, as if in legislative session; further, that at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, the Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to concur; further, that if cloture is invoked, the Senate remain in executive session and the postcloture time continue to run as otherwise under the rule; finally, that upon the use or yielding back of the postcloture time, the Senate vote, as if in legislative session, on the motion to concur.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1127.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Brett M. Kavanaugh, of Maryland, to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

#### AUTHORITY TO SIGN DULY ENROLLED BILLS OR JOINT RESOLUTIONS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the majority leader and the senior Senator from Arkansas be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions during the upcoming recess of the Senate.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ORDERS FOR MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2018

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it recess until 3 p.m., Monday, October 1; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day.

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

#### RECESS UNTIL MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2018, AT 3 P.M.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand in recess under the previous order.