

INFORMING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT A QUORUM OF THE SENATE IS ASSEMBLED

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 2, submitted earlier today.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 2) informing the House of Representatives that a quorum of the Senate is assembled.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 2) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 2

Resolved, That the Secretary inform the House of Representatives that a quorum of the Senate is assembled and that the Senate is ready to proceed to business.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The majority leader.

ELECTING CHUCK GRASSLEY TO BE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 3, submitted earlier today.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 3) to elect CHUCK GRASSLEY, a Senator from the State of Iowa, to be President pro tempore of the Senate of the United States.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon table with no intervening action or debate.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 3) was agreed to as follows:

S. RES. 3

Resolved, That Charles E. Grassley, a Senator from the State of Iowa, be, and he is hereby, elected President of the Senate pro tempore.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The senior Senator from Iowa will present himself at the desk; I will administer the oath of office.

Senator CHUCK GRASSLEY advanced to the desk of the Vice President, and the oath prescribed by law was administered to him by the Vice President.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Congratulations.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The VICE PRESIDENT. The President pro tempore is now invited to preside the Chair.

(Applause.)

NOTIFYING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF THE ELECTION OF A PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 4, submitted earlier today.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 4) notifying the President of the United States of the election of a President pro tempore.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 4) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 4

Resolved, That the President of the United States be notified of the election of the Honorable Charles E. Grassley as President of the Senate pro tempore.

NOTIFYING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ELECTION OF A PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 5, submitted earlier today.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 5) notifying the House of Representatives of the election of a President pro tempore.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 5) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 5

Resolved, That the House of Representatives be notified of the election of the Honorable Charles E. Grassley as President of the Senate pro tempore.

FIXING THE HOUR OF DAILY MEETING OF THE SENATE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to consideration of S. Res. 6, submitted earlier today.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 6) fixing the hour of the daily meeting of the Senate.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 6) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 6

Resolved, That the daily meeting of the Senate be 12 o'clock meridian unless otherwise ordered.

TO MAKE EFFECTIVE APPOINTMENT OF SENATE LEGAL COUNSEL

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to consideration of S. Res. 7, submitted earlier today.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 7) to make effective appointment of Senate Legal Counsel.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 7) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 7

That the appointment of Patricia Mack Bryan of Virginia to be Senate Legal Counsel, made by the President pro tempore this day, is effective as of January 3, 2019, and the term of service of the appointee shall expire at the end of the One Hundred Seventeenth Congress.

TO MAKE EFFECTIVE APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY SENATE LEGAL COUNSEL

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to consideration of S. Res. 8, submitted earlier today.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 8) to make effective appointment of Deputy Senate Legal Counsel.

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

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

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

The resolution (S. Res. 8) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 8

That the appointment of Morgan J. Frankel of the District of Columbia to be Deputy Senate Legal Counsel, made by the President pro tempore this day, is effective as of January 3, 2019, and the term of service of the appointee shall expire at the end of the One Hundred Seventeenth Congress.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENTS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I send to the desk, en bloc, 11 unanimous consent requests, and I ask for their immediate consideration en bloc. I further ask that the requests be agreed to en bloc, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, and that they appear separately in the RECORD.

Before the Chair acts on my request, I would like to point out that these requests are routine and done at the beginning of each new Congress.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that for the duration of the 116th Congress, the Ethics Committee be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that for the duration of the 116th Congress, there be a limitation of 15 minutes each upon any rollcall vote, with the warning signal to be sounded at the midway point, beginning at the last 7½ minutes, and when rollcall votes are of 10-minute duration, the warning signal be sounded at the beginning of the last 7½ minutes.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that during the 116th Congress, it be in order for the Secretary of the Senate to receive reports at the desk when presented by a Senator at any time during the day of the session of the Senate.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the majority and minority leaders may daily have up to 10 minutes each on each calendar day following the prayer and disposition of reading of, or the approval of, the Journal.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXVIII, conference reports and statements accompanying them not be printed as Senate reports when such conference reports and statements have been printed as a House report unless specific request is made in the Senate in each instance to have such a report shall be printed.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Appropriations be authorized during the 116th Congress to file reports during the adjournments or recesses of the Senate on appropriations bills, including joint resolutions, together with any accompanying notices of motions to suspend rule XVI, pursuant to rule V, for the purpose of offering certain amendments to such bills or joint resolutions, which proposed amendments shall be printed.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that, for the duration of the 116th Congress, the Secretary of the Senate be authorized to make technical and clerical corrections in the engrossments of all Senate-passed bills and joint resolutions, Senate amendments to House bills and resolutions, Senate amendments to House amendments to Senate bills and resolutions, and Senate amendments to House amendments to Senate amendments to House bills or resolutions.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that, for the duration of the 116th Congress, when the Senate is in recess or adjournment the Secretary of the Senate is authorized to receive messages from the President of the United States, and—with the exception of House bills, joint resolutions and concurrent resolutions—messages from the House of Representatives; and that they be appropriately referred; and that the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore, and the Acting President pro tempore be authorized to sip duly enrolled bills and joint resolutions.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that, for the duration of the 116th Congress, Senators be allowed to leave at the desk with the Journal clerk the names of two staff members who will be granted the privilege of the floor during the consideration of the specific matter noted, and that the Sergeant-at-Arms be instructed to rotate staff members as space allows.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that, for the duration of the 116th Congress, it be in order to refer treaties and nominations on the day when they are received from the President, even when the Senate has no executive session that day.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that, for the duration of the 116th Congress, Senators may be allowed to bring to the desk bills, joint resolutions, concurrent resolutions and simple resolutions, for referral to appropriate committees.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection to agreeing to the unanimous consent requests en bloc?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

FIXING THE HOUR OF DAILY MEETING OF THE SENATE

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I have a resolution at the desk.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 9) fixing the hour of daily meeting of the Senate.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask for its immediate consideration, and to send the resolution over, under the rule I object to my own request.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard.

The resolution will go over, under the rule.

S. RES. 9

Resolved, That the daily meeting of the Senate be 12:01 p.m. unless otherwise ordered.

NEW MEMBERS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, as we begin the 116th Congress, I am glad to be welcoming back my friends and returning colleagues to what I hope will be a productive session. Before we get to work, I would like to note the arrival of eight new Members who were just sworn in.

The Senate welcomes MARSHA BLACKBURN of Tennessee, MIKE BRAUN of Indiana, KEVIN CRAMER of North Dakota, JOSH HAWLEY of Missouri, MARTHA MCSALLY of Arizona, MITT ROMNEY of Utah, JACKY ROSEN of Nevada, and KYRSTEN SINEMA of Arizona, and in the coming days, Rick Scott of Florida will join our ranks.

I would like to welcome each of our incoming colleagues—as well as their families—to the Senate. Today you are forming the newest links in a historic chain and continuing the rich traditions of this body in which we are so fortunate to serve.

On a related note, I am pleased our new colleagues and the entire Senate will continue learning from the example of one of the most loyal stewards of our traditions, Senator CHUCK GRASSLEY, who has been elected today as our new President pro tempore.

So congratulations to the senior Senator from Iowa on this tremendous accomplishment.

THE NEW CONGRESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, as we begin this new Congress together, one fact is abundantly clear—the American people need Democrats and Republicans to work together.

Today illustrates that very point. Last November, voters expanded our Republican majority in the Senate but ensured that 60 votes will only be attainable by working across the aisle, and incoming Speaker PELOSI will be leading a new Democratic majority over in the House.

This is the landscape in which we will be operating. Fortunately, the record of the 115th Congress illustrates just how much is possible when both sides make bipartisan collaboration a priority.

In the Senate, our good-faith efforts yielded a historic tally of legislative