

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The clerk will report the nomination. The bill clerk read the nomination of James E. Trainor III, of Texas, to be a Member of the Federal Election Commission for a term expiring April 30, 2023.

## CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

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

The bill 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 nomination of James E. Trainor III, of Texas, to be a Member of the Federal Election Commission.

Mitch McConnell, Chuck Grassley, Joni Ernst, John Barrasso, Deb Fischer, John Cornyn, Roger F. Wicker, Roy Blunt, John Thune, Rob Portman, Shelley Moore Capito, Steve Daines, Lindsey Graham, Pat Roberts, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Richard Burr, Mike Crapo.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 600.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The clerk will report the nomination. The bill clerk read the nomination of Anna M. Manasco, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama.

## CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

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

The bill 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 nomination of Anna M. Manasco, of Alabama, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama.

Mitch McConnell, Chuck Grassley, Joni Ernst, John Barrasso, Deb Fischer, John Cornyn, Roger F. Wicker, Roy Blunt, John Thune, Rob Portman, Shelley Moore Capito, Steve Daines, Lindsey Graham, Pat Roberts, Cindy

Hyde-Smith, Richard Burr, Mike Crapo.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 601.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of John F. Heil III, of Oklahoma, to be United States District Judge for the Northern, Eastern and Western Districts of Oklahoma.

## CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

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

The bill 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 nomination of John F. Heil III, of Oklahoma, to be United States District Judge for the Northern, Eastern and Western Districts of Oklahoma.

Mitch McConnell, Chuck Grassley, Joni Ernst, John Barrasso, Deb Fischer, John Cornyn, Roger F. Wicker, Roy Blunt, John Thune, Rob Portman, Shelley Moore Capito, Steve Daines, Lindsey Graham, Pat Roberts, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Richard Burr, Mike Crapo.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 602.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of John Leonard Badalamenti, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida.

## CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

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

The bill 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 nomination of John Leonard Badalamenti, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida.

Mitch McConnell, Chuck Grassley, Joni Ernst, John Barrasso, Deb Fischer, John Cornyn, Roger F. Wicker, Roy Blunt, John Thune, Rob Portman, Shelley Moore Capito, Steve Daines, Lindsey Graham, Pat Roberts, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Richard Burr, Mike Crapo.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions be waived.

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

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

## MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for 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.

## TRIBUTE TO THE KENTUCKY DERBY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, as spring begins to give way to summer, there is a singular tradition that unites everyone from across my home State. Even after particularly contentious college basketball seasons, Kentuckians of all backgrounds can look with pride to the Twin Spires of Churchill Downs for the Kentucky Derby. Since 1875, the pride of Louisville has been inextricably linked to the "Most Exciting Two Minutes in Sports."

This year, however, fans couldn't gather at the Grandstands, the infield, or at a Derby Party. The coronavirus pandemic has changed the daily lives of nearly every American. Even our most sacred traditions have been put on hold as we follow the advice of medical experts to slow the spread of this terrible virus. As a result, the Kentucky Derby has been postponed for the first time since the Second World War. The 146th Run for the Roses will instead take place over Labor Day weekend in September.

Jerry Brewer, a Kentucky native and Washington Post sports writer, put into words the sense of longing felt by so many Kentuckians. In a wonderful column published on what would have

been Derby weekend, Jerry shared both his personal reflections and our shared emotions. In Louisville, the Derby is more than a single race. Kentuckians spend the weeks before celebrating our people and our heritage. I am grateful that someone with such eloquence could describe Kentucky's Derby passion.

That is not to say horseracing fans weren't treated to a race on May 2. Instead of hosting the world's most anticipated horse race, Churchill Downs created a virtual running of Triple Crown winners. In a match of some of horseracing's biggest names, Secretariat—one of the greatest horses to ever run—completed an all-star victory.

Although a lot will be different about the Labor Day Derby, so much of what makes the Kentucky Derby special will remain the same. Whether at the track or watching from home, fans will still get to sip a mint julep filled with Kentucky's signature spirit. Longtime residents and first-time visitors alike will feel the sentimental tug as they sing "My Old Kentucky Home." And the thundering hooves of thoroughbreds will echo in the ears of millions.

The postponement is certainly a disappointment, but I would encourage my fellow Kentuckians not to despair. Our traditions are rooted deeply in the Bluegrass. We will beat this virus, and Kentucky will get the chance to shine once again. Like the champions whose names surround Churchill Downs, Kentucky has the strength and grit to overcome any obstacle and cross the finish line.

We may not have a 146th Kentucky Derby champion for a few more months, but I think Jerry Brewer would agree, it is worth the wait.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Jerry Brewer's article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Washington Post, May 1, 2020]

ON DERBY-LESS WEEKEND, MISSING MY  
KENTUCKY HOME  
(By Jerry Brewer)

A Kentuckian's most humbling Kentucky Derby story: About 15 years ago, I hosted Washington Post colleague Rick Maese, then with the Baltimore Sun, for his first Run for the Roses. Picked him up from the airport. Bought us tickets to a concert that week featuring Common and the Roots. Probably had a mint julep and slice of Derby pie waiting in the cupholder. I was thrilled to show him Louisville at its proudest time.

On the drive to my apartment, Rick looked out the window and saw a man who was walking clumsily, perhaps drunkenly, while pulling a dog that was missing a leg. The scene was cruel, heartbreaking, ridiculous. It was Rick's first impression of my state.

And that's usually how we are: Mostly rural, largely odd and shockingly complicated. Our long-standing problems with big issues such as race and education are well documented. We're weird. We see blue in grass. We love basketball more than we love people. We are known for keeping it real

hick, and as much as we despise that stereotype, part of us plays along because it helps the beauty of Kentucky remain a secret, never to be swarmed and overtaken by careless outsiders.

But during Derby week, that mentality shifts. We want to shine. Louisville—the only city in the state that feels like a big city (when it actually claims its relationship to Kentucky)—becomes the most gracious host that any sporting event has ever had. Don't challenge me on that; I can wield a mean pitchfork. When it comes to tailoring every inch of an area to ensure an unforgettable experience for all visitors, Louisville rolls out a red carpet and throws rose petals at your feet.

Rick shook off that weird introduction and loved his first Derby experience. He has been back several times. When I started dating my wife seriously, I took her to the Derby; meeting the entire family was a mere afterthought. As a Paducah native who lived in Louisville for several years, there is no greater personal holiday than the first Saturday in May. And so, as the novel coronavirus pandemic keeps us in isolation, there is no stronger sense of loss for me than what I'm experiencing right now.

I have attended 11 Derbies. I have partied during the Derby for just about all 42 of my years. My childhood memories are full of gatherings at my grandparents' house in east Louisville, where the scent of mint was more welcome than pine at Christmastime. My adult memories are even better, from trying to cover the event as poetically as the sportswriting legends I grew up reading to, well, acting a fool in the infield during my college days.

Even in Kentucky, with its beautiful rolling hills and horse farms, this is a niche sport. Everyone is a Kentucky Derby fan, though. Our connection to this event is a very powerful and emotional thing.

Derby week is so grand, and we delight in sharing all of the festivities with the world while fighting to keep the Kentucky Oaks—the illustrious Grade I stakes race for 3-year-old fillies held the day before the Derby—a more local event. But over the past 20 years, even the Oaks crowd has surpassed 100,000 with regularity.

Still, the fancy affair turns intimate when "My Old Kentucky Home" plays before the Derby. We wait all year just to feel alive and relevant in that moment. Soon after, the most anticipated two minutes in sports conclude, and before you know it, the time to clean up and plan anew has arrived.

I like the fleeting nature of this joy. The Derby is our cherry blossom. Wait, wait, wait, revel. Go back to waiting. It's deflating to know the wait will be much longer this time.

The 146th Kentucky Derby has been rescheduled for Sept. 5. Churchill Downs announced Thursday that its spring meet will open May 16. Fans won't be able to attend, but the plan is to start racing again. There's something even emptier about the thought of horses competing in a bubble than human athletes.

And who knows if even that is safe enough? Everything about the resumption of normalcy comes back to this: We are at the mercy of a virus that we are still trying to understand. So the odds of this Derby really being the Derby in September—with 150,000 fans flaunting their style, understanding of color and taste in hats—seem long. If it happens, it may play decently on television, but it won't be the same.

To me, the Kentucky Derby is a homecoming with a paisley bow tie wrapped around it. We get the floor, and we make it the most majestic floor you have ever seen. Home can be cringeworthy, but it's also

swanky and magnificent. We clean up good for y'all, but mostly we clean up good for us.

## CORONAVIRUS

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD Senator ALEXANDER's opening statement that he delivered yesterday at the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

### COVID-19: SAFELY GETTING BACK TO WORK AND BACK TO SCHOOL

Mr. Alexander. The Committee on HELP will please come to order. First, some administrative matters based on the advice of the Attending Physician and the Sergeant at Arms after consulting with the Department of Health and Human Services and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Individuals in the hearing room are seated 6 feet apart. As a result, there is no room for the public to attend in person. Representatives of the press are working as a pool to relay their observations to colleagues. The hearing may be watched live on-line. An unedited recording will be available on the Committee's website—[www.help.senate.gov](http://www.help.senate.gov).

Witnesses are participating by videoconference in a one-time exception. Some senators, including the chairman, are participating by videoconference. Senators may remove their masks to talk into the microphone since they are all six feet apart. I am grateful to the Rules Committee, Sergeant at Arms, the press gallery, the Architect of the Capitol, the Capitol Police, and our committee staff, Chung Shek and Evan Griffiths, for all of their hard work to help keep all of us safe.

At our hearing last Thursday, I said that all roads back to work and back to school lead through testing and that what our country has done so far on testing so far is "impressive but not nearly enough." Over the weekend, Sen. Schumer, the Democrat leader, was nice enough to put out a tweet quoting half of what I said. He left out the other half, the "impressive" part. So let me say it again in more specific terms.

When I said "impressive," I meant that, according to Johns Hopkins University, the United States has tested over 9 million Americans for COVID-19. That is twice as many as any other country—we don't know what China has done—and more per capita than most countries including South Korea, which several committee members have cited as an example of a country doing testing well.

According to Dr. Deborah Birs, the U.S. will double its testing during the month of May and be able to do at least 10 million tests per month. Here is what "impressive" means in Tennessee: First, anyone who is sick, or a first responder or a health care worker can get tested. Next, Governor Bill Lee is also testing every prisoner, every resident and staff member of a nursing home, offered weekend drive-thru testing, and has done specific outreach to increase testing in low income neighborhoods. A Tennessean can get a free test and a free mask at the local public health clinic. The governor's slogan is: "If in doubt, get a test."

Gov. Lee sent his testing goals for May to the federal government, as every state has done. The federal government will help make sure the state has the supplies it needs if the labs and hospitals in our state have trouble getting them through the usual commercial