

the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King—burnings, looting, confrontations, things that sadly look exactly like they did some 50 years ago.

The reality is this: In America, we are given a constitutional right to express our feelings, our free speech, and our free assembly. Those rights are important and should be valued and respected, but those rights to march and demonstrate, as people are doing right outside this building at this very moment, cannot be taken to the point where they have reached an extreme and become destructive. Speaking, assembling, exercising your constitutional right does not include looting. It doesn't include arson, vandalism, or violence. In fact, those actions detract from the underlying message that calls for positive change in America.

I am glad that leaders like JOHN LEWIS, my dear friend and former colleague from the House of Representatives, has made that point. His voice on the subject is much more articulate and more convincing. He has reminded us that if we are to move America to the place where it must be, then we must do it in a nonviolent fashion within the law, not breaking the law.

His name was George Floyd, a 46-year-old African American. He died in the streets of Minneapolis with the knee of a police officer on his neck for almost 9 minutes. He cannot be forgotten. And all the others I have mentioned must also be remembered. It is time for us and it is time for our generation to say: Enough.

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.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOZMAN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

REMEMBERING GEORGE FLOYD

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today at a time of great sorrow, anger, and fear for our Nation. We face the confluence of a health crisis, an economic depression, and a killing that laid bare the racial injustice that still taints our country.

The horrific death of George Floyd in Minnesota was reprehensible. It was beyond a tragedy. It was a crime.

As Americans, we all need to frankly acknowledge and work to resolve our longstanding, ongoing struggles with racial inequality. The President should help to heal the racial divisions in this country. It is at times like this that a President needs to speak to the Nation to pledge to right wrongs and to calm inflamed passions.

The right to gather in protest of injustice is enshrined in our Constitution. The desire for reconciliation is in our national character. We must join

together to ensure that the legacy of George Floyd is of progress, not deepening division and hatred.

Let me be clear. The vast majority of our law enforcement officers are brave men and women devoted to protecting our families, our belongings, and our communities. They deserve our heartfelt gratitude as they willingly risk their lives for ours when danger strikes.

In Maine, we are fortunate to have so many terrific professional law enforcement officers devoted to their duty and devoted to doing what is right.

It is, however, imperative that we examine and act on the racial disparities in law enforcement where they occur.

I cannot believe that George Floyd would have had his neck stepped on and the life squeezed out of him had he been White. Sadly, there are many other examples as well.

I remember our own Senator TIM SCOTT describing his being stopped by a police officer while driving many times during one year, even though he was abiding by all the traffic laws. That is harassment and simply wrong.

In confronting these problems, we would do well to heed the words of Congressman LEWIS in response to the violence that overwhelmed peaceful protests in his city of Atlanta last weekend. Of course, we all know that the Congressman is a civil rights icon as well as an extraordinary Member of Congress. He said this:

Justice has, indeed, been denied for far too long. Rioting, looting, and burning is not the way. Organize. Demonstrate. Sit-in. Stand-up. Vote. Be constructive, not destructive. History has proven time and again that non-violent, peaceful protest is the way to achieve the justice and equality that we all deserve.

Those are powerful words from Congressman LEWIS. Those are words that should motivate and guide all of us.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., once said:

Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.

By continuing to listen to one another and being guided by the words of Congressman LEWIS, Dr. Martin Luther King, and the mayor of Atlanta, we can work toward improving social justice and eliminating racial disparities in this country, and we can drive out the forces of bigotry.

Thank you.

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

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

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

NOMINATION OF JOHN LEONARD BADALAMENTI

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I rise today to proudly support the confirmation of Judge John Badalamenti to serve as a U.S. District Court Judge for the Middle District of Florida. Judge Badalamenti has a distinguished record of public service, during which he has demonstrated a deep and abiding respect for the rule of law and a commitment to upholding the U.S. Constitution.

He served as an Assistant Federal Defender in the Middle District of Florida for nearly a decade, and, as Governor of Florida, I had the privilege to appoint him to the Second District Court of Appeal in 2015. During his time on the State appellate bench, he has consistently demonstrated his keen legal acumen and devotion to upholding the proper function of the judiciary in our democratic system.

I am proud of the work he has done, and I am proud to support his confirmation to the Federal bench today, where he will continue to serve our State and Nation well.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Badalamenti nomination?

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSE).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) would have voted "Yea" and

the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) would have voted “Yea.”

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ), the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL), and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 55, nays 22, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 103 Ex.]

YEAS—55

Alexander	Gardner	Peters
Barrasso	Graham	Portman
Blunt	Grassley	Reed
Boozman	Hassan	Risch
Braun	Hawley	Romney
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Carper	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Collins	Jones	Shaheen
Cornyn	Kennedy	Shelby
Cotton	King	Sinema
Crapo	Lankford	Sullivan
Cruz	Lee	Thune
Duckworth	Loeffler	Tillis
Durbin	Manchin	Toomey
Enzi	McConnell	Wicker
Ernst	McSally	Young
Feinstein	Paul	
Fischer	Perdue	

NAYS—22

Baldwin	Cortez Masto	Schumer
Bennet	Gillibrand	Smith
Blumenthal	Harris	Van Hollen
Booker	Hirono	Warner
Brown	Kaine	Warren
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Wyden
Casey	Menendez	
Coons	Rosen	

NOT VOTING—23

Blackburn	Markey	Sanders
Burr	Merkley	Sasse
Cardin	Moran	Schatz
Cramer	Murkowski	Stabenow
Daines	Murphy	Tester
Heinrich	Murray	Udall
Hoeven	Roberts	Whitehouse
Leahy	Rounds	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXII, the cloture motions filed on May 21 ripen at 11:45 a.m. tomorrow. I further ask unanimous consent that if cloture is invoked on the Mercado nomination, the postcloture time expire at 2:15 tomorrow. Further, I ask that if cloture is invoked on the Miller nomination, the postcloture time expire at 4:30 p.m.

tomorrow. Finally, if either of the nominations are confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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.

(At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

VOTE EXPLANATION

• Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I was absent when the Senate voted on vote No. 103 to confirm Executive Calendar No. 602, John Leonard Badalamenti, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida.

On this vote, had I been present, I would have voted yea on the motion to confirm Mr. Badalamenti.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2019, the Secretary of the Senate, on May 28, 2020, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 2746. An act to require the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to provide information on suicide rates in law enforcement, and for other purposes.

S. 3744. An act to condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang, and calling for an end to arbitrary detention, torture, and harassment of these communities inside and outside China.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2019, the Secretary of the Senate, on May 28, 2020, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that pursuant to section 201(b) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6431), and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Speaker appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Commission on International Religious Freedom for a term ending on May 14, 2022: Mr. Nury Turkel of Alexandria, Virginia, to succeed Dr. Tenzin Dorjee.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2019, the Sec-

retary of the Senate, on May 28, 2020, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that pursuant to section 4003(e) of the 21st Century Cures Act (Public Law 114-255), and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Speaker reappoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Health Information Technology Advisory Committee: Dr. Steven Lane of Palo Alto, California.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2019, the Secretary of the Senate, on May 28, 2020, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 300jj-12, the Minority Leader appoints the following member to the Health Information Technology Advisory Committee, effective May 22, 2020: Dr. Jim Jirjis of Nashville, Tennessee.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 3414. An act to authorize major medical facility projects for the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 6168. An act to increase, effective as of December 1, 2020, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6509. An act to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide public safety officer death and disability benefits for certain public safety officers who contract COVID-19, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7010. An act to amend the Small Business Act and the CARES Act to modify certain provisions related to the forgiveness of loans under the paycheck protection program, to allow recipients of loan forgiveness under the paycheck protection program to defer payroll taxes, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bill, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 3084. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the limitation on pay for certain high-level employees and officers of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The message also announced that the House disagreed to the amendments of the Senate numbered 1 through 8 to the bill (H.R. 6172) to amend the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 to prohibit the production of certain business records, and for other purposes, and asks a conference with the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and that Mr. NADLER, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. JORDAN,