

could happen in other cities where lawlessness is pervasive. Thankfully, we have a President who stands up for law and order and for our law enforcers.

Where would we be without our brave police and sheriffs? I hope we never find that out.

With that, Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LANKFORD). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. 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. 645.

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 senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of John Peter Cronan, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

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 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 nomination of John Peter Cronan, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

Mitch McConnell, Richard C. Shelby, Lamar Alexander, Pat Roberts, Mike Crapo, Marsha Blackburn, David Perdue, Kevin Cramer, John Cornyn, Shelley Moore Capito, John Thune, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Cory Gardner, Roy Blunt, Martha McSally, John Barrasso, John Boozman.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call 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 EUGENE F. COYLE

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize and pay tribute to Mr. Eugene F. Coyle, a patriot who served in the U.S. Army during the Korean war.

At the age of 23, Sergeant Eugene F. Coyle enlisted in the U.S. Army, just 3 months after the war started in Korea. As a rifleman and machinegunner assigned to the 24st Infantry Division, 21st Regiment, 2nd Battalion, F Company, Eugene was quickly put into the fight, experiencing a number of combat engagements with the enemy.

One such engagement occurred in April 1951 near the Hwachon Reservoir, South Korea, where Eugene exhibited composure under fire. As squad leader, Eugene led an advance against the enemy until his position was hit by mortar fire. Despite sustaining injuries from the shelling, he continued to provide covering fire for his unit.

During another combat engagement in early July 1951, in the vicinity of Sabanggo-ri, North Korea, an enemy mortar round threw Eugene from his fighting position. Eugene, though injured by shrapnel, would not leave the fight. He regained his footing and ran to aid a severely injured soldier, getting him to cover. Eugene was later sent to the hospital ship USS *Repose* for his own injuries.

Eugene, deserving of commendation for his courage under fire, as well as for his wounds resulting from close engagement with enemy forces, would unfortunately wait decades before the Nation properly recognized him for his service and sacrifice, even as he carried a piece of shrapnel embedded within his body for over 60 years.

On November 15, 2017, Eugene F. Coyle was awarded the Purple Heart in addition to the United Nations Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Korean War Service Medal, and the Combat Infantry Badge. Like many veterans of his generation have experienced, poor or lost records have made it difficult to meet stringent administrative requirements for certain military awards. This challenge does not diminish their courage, nor our gratitude, for their actions in defense of freedom.

The gallantry of Eugene F. Coyle reminds us what we owe heroes like him for the sacrifices, often unrecognized and unrequited, that they have made. I am honored to pay tribute to Eugene F. Coyle and thank him for his exemplary service to our county.

TRIBUTE TO TIMOTHY MCCARTHY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, Timothy McCarthy has had an amazing career in law enforcement where he was at the right place when needed. Whether it was protecting Presidents or his hometown of Orland Park, Tim has been

where people needed him most. After 48 years, he will be retiring, and today, I lend my voice to the many who honor him.

Tim dared to try out for the University of Illinois' football team as a walk-on in 1967, even though he had not played the sport at Leo High School in Chicago. However, he was so impressive that he was given a full scholarship the next year, playing strong safety for the Fighting Illini. Injuries cut his football career short, but he found himself on another career path, the Secret Service.

With a father who served in the Chicago Police Department as a sergeant, law enforcement was a natural draw for him. He started out as an investigator in the Chicago field office for the Secret Service in 1972. Tim moved to the Presidential protection division for President Jimmy Carter.

On March 30, 1981, Tim was protecting President Ronald Reagan in Washington. A coin toss with a fellow agent put him into duty that fateful day. He remembers wearing a brandnew blue-gray suit when John Hinckley, Jr., stepped out from a crowd with a handgun and attempted to kill the President.

In 1.7 seconds, John Hinckley, Jr., fired six bullets. The first bullet hit Press Secretary James Brady. The second hit Washington, DC, police officer Tom Delahanty. The third was set to hit President Reagan, but Tim, with that extraordinary courage, stepped in front of the President and took the bullet in the chest. Another bullet ricocheted, hitting the President under the arm. Hinckley might have killed President Reagan, but that day, we were lucky to have Tim McCarthy doing his duty to protect the Gipper.

Tim spent 2 weeks in the hospital and was back on the job that June. He would never be able to do the 5 to 7-mile runs he used to do, but he continued in the Secret Service. Tim received the National Collegiate Athletic Association Award of Valor in 1982 for his heroic deed. He remained in touch with President Reagan and his wife, Nancy, for the rest of their lives. Tim also served in the Presidential protection division for President George H.W. Bush before returning to Chicago to run the Secret Service office there.

In 1994, Tim accepted the position of the Orland Park police chief in Illinois. Often, police chiefs serve 3 to 5 years, but Tim stayed on for 26 years. He led the development of new policing strategies, including bike patrol officers, cookouts with police, and community meetings with beat officers. Under his leadership, the police department launched village-wide initiatives, addressing mental illness through a crisis intervention team that focuses on responses to mental health-related incidents.

Tim was a hands-on leader, whether it was back up for a search warrant or reporting a crime scene at early hours of the morning or packing sandbags

during a flood. In 2016, he received the very first Chief of Police of the Year Award from the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police.

This month, Tim is retiring to be with the center of his life his wife, Carol, his three kids, and seven grandchildren. He has more than earned it.

Tim McCarthy did more than make history in saving the life of President Reagan. He has dedicated his life to making America a safer nation. We were fortunate to be blessed with his courage and his amazing record of public service.

CORONAVIRUS

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about coronavirus, now clearly the worst pandemic in a century.

I will also speak briefly about the need for a national response plan that is guided by science and public health, not politics.

The first case of COVID-19 was reported in the United States on January 20. In the intervening 6 months, we have seen cases climb, then fall, and now surge once again.

More than 4 million Americans have been infected with coronavirus. So far, more than 155,000 have died.

Every day for the last 4 months, I have received an update from my staff on coronavirus numbers.

I have watched, day by day, the number of positive cases climb. In California right now, 30 of our 58 counties have had more than 1,000 positive cases.

The numbers just go up and up and up. It becomes impossible to look at the charts and graphs and not come to the conclusion that we have to do more—and maybe significantly more.

Simply put, this is the worst pandemic in my lifetime. You have to go back more than 100 years to the Spanish flu epidemic to find something comparable.

But the unprecedented scale of this crisis is no excuse for our failure to respond more forcefully and in a nationally coordinated manner.

Once we realized the scale of the outbreak in the spring, both by the increased cases at home, as well as monitoring stricken countries like Italy, it became clear that we needed strong leadership from the top.

We didn't get that.

Instead, the White House and President Trump blamed states for the lack of testing equipment, the hoarding of sanitizing supplies and the absence of protective gear.

In March, President Trump said, "I don't take responsibility at all."

That is a direct quote from the President of the United States, in the midst of a global pandemic with body counts rising around the country. We must do better.

More recently, during the renewed surge in cases, we have seen a repeat of those problems. We know we need more

testing supplies and protective equipment, but rather than implement the Defense Production Act and stock up on supplies, we saw little action from the White House.

I have been thinking back to the early days of the pandemic. In March, San Francisco's Bay Area imposed the first significant stay-at-home order in the country. California soon followed.

It was criticized at the time as an overreaction, but it succeeded in slowing the rate of spread, and the death toll remained lower than many other large States. Soon, much of the country had similar orders in place.

In April and early May, there was a sense of shared sacrifice. People stayed at home, schools closed, many lost their jobs. Our way of life shifted in the most abrupt way since at least 9/11, if not World War II.

But the understanding was that we made these sacrifices because they would help control the virus. We would "bend the curve," we would produce sufficient protective gear, and we would make it safe for people to return to their lives.

The idea was that, by the end of summer, life would return—if not back to normal, at least back to some version of it.

It is now almost August. The number of new cases climbs each day. K-12 schools have announced they will be closed in the fall. Many colleges are following suit. Job losses continue, with more than 30 million still receiving unemployment benefits.

Simply put, America failed the test of reopening.

If we had responded like other countries, with comprehensive national policies for mask use, avoiding crowds and increasing testing capacity, we could have been returning to normal life right now.

Instead, many cities and States are rolling back their reopening plans and may have to reinstitute stay-at-home orders to get the Nation back to where we were before Memorial Day.

President Trump last week said the administration is "in the process of developing a strategy" to fight coronavirus.

At some point, we will want to know why it took 7 months for him to acknowledge a national plan was necessary. Right now, however, we need to focus on what that plan will entail.

Just as importantly, we need to focus on who should have input into the tenets of such a plan—in a word, "experts."

This is a challenge that requires the combined minds of our best and brightest, particularly public health and infectious disease experts. This is not an arena for politics, period.

So what do those public health experts propose? After reading material and listening to a range of opinions, there are five areas that appear to have broad consensus:

First, we need to ensure that masks are used everywhere.

Early on, we knew simple acts like talking and even breathing caused airborne transmission of the virus, especially in confined areas like office buildings.

We also knew individuals who weren't showing symptoms could spread the virus to others because symptoms don't appear for 5 to 7 days.

And research continues to show masks are one of the best tools to slow the spread of the virus. Scientific modeling is clear: Masks prevent the spread of the virus.

Yet even with this knowledge, we still continue to see a patchwork of policies around the country.

A national mask mandate would dramatically reduce the spread of the virus, especially by those who don't yet show symptoms.

On July 14, the CDC called on all Americans to wear masks. CDC Director Robert Redfield said if all Americans wore masks, the current surge in cases could be brought under control within 2 months.

Masks work. We need a national mask mandate.

The second step is a national program for testing.

Months into this pandemic, we continue to hear stories of people not able to receive a test. In some cases, my office has heard from people with fevers and coughing but are still told to stay home and not get tested.

Simply put, anyone who wants to be tested should be, and the results should be returned within 24 hours, not a week later.

Studies have found that if we only test individuals who show symptoms, it is too late to stop further transmission.

That means States and cities need sufficient supplies to dramatically increase testing. At this time, that is not happening.

A national testing strategy would help coordinate action and prevent States from having to compete against each other.

The third step, related to increased testing, is ensuring we have enough testing supplies and safety equipment for frontline workers.

The President could quickly implement the Defense Production Act. This law would allow the Federal Government to address supply chain issues and increase production and distribution of testing supplies, medical equipment and personal protective equipment.

This should have been done months ago, but so far, the President has only selectively used this tool. He should broaden its use immediately.

It is unconscionable that 6 months after this virus appeared on our shores, essential workers around the country still lack personal protective equipment, not only doctors and nurses but grocery clerks, agricultural workers, public transportation operators, educators; and many others.

These individuals are putting themselves at risk to provide necessary