

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. 9) was agreed to as follows:

## S. RES. 9

*Resolved*, That the President of the United States be notified of the election of the Honorable Jackie Barber as Secretary of the Senate.

NOTIFYING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ELECTION OF A SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 10, which was 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. 10) notifying the House of Representatives of the election of a Secretary of the Senate.

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

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, 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. 10) was agreed to as follows:

## S. RES. 10

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives be notified of the election of the Honorable Jackie Barber as Secretary of the Senate.

ELECTING JENNIFER A. HEMINGWAY AS SERGEANT AT ARMS AND DOORKEEPER OF THE SENATE

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 11, which was 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. 11) electing Jennifer A. Hemingway as Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate.

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

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, 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. 11) was agreed to as follows:

## S. RES. 11

*Resolved*, That Jennifer A. Hemingway of Georgia be, and she is hereby, elected Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate.

NOTIFYING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF THE ELECTION OF A SERGEANT AT ARMS AND DOORKEEPER OF THE SENATE

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 12, which was 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. 12) notifying the President of the United States of the election of a Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate.

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

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, 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. 12) was agreed to as follows:

## S. RES. 12

*Resolved*, That the President of the United States be notified of the election of the Honorable Jennifer A. Hemingway as Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate.

NOTIFYING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ELECTION OF A SERGEANT AT ARMS AND DOORKEEPER OF THE SENATE

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 13, which was 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. 13) notifying the House of Representatives of the election of a Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate.

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

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, 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. 13) was agreed to as follows:

## S. RES. 13

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives be notified of the election of the Honorable Jennifer A. Hemingway as Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate.

ELECTING ROBERT M. DUNCAN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, AS SECRETARY FOR THE MAJORITY OF THE SENATE

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 14, which was 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. 14) electing Robert M. Duncan, of the District of Columbia, as Secretary for the Majority of the Senate.

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

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, 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. 14) was agreed to as follows:

## S. RES. 14

*Resolved*, That Robert M. Duncan of the District of Columbia be, and he is hereby, elected Secretary for the Majority of the Senate.

ELECTING GARY B. MYRICK, OF VIRGINIA, AS SECRETARY FOR THE MINORITY OF THE SENATE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 15, which was 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. 15) electing Gary B. Myrick, of Virginia, as Secretary for the Minority of the Senate.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, 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. 15) was agreed to as follows:

## S. RES. 15

*Resolved*, That Gary B. Myrick of Virginia be, and he is hereby, elected Secretary for the Minority of the Senate.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENTS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I send to the desk en bloc 11 unanimous consent requests, and I ask for their immediate consideration en bloc; further, I ask that the requests be agreed to en bloc 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.

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

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The unanimous consent agreements agreed to en bloc are as follows:

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that for the duration of the 119th 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 119th 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 7-1/2 minutes, and when rollcall votes are of 10-minute duration, the warning signal be sounded at the beginning of the last 7-1/2 minutes.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that during the 119th 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 the 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 printed.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Appropriations be authorized during the 119th 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 119th 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 119th 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 sign duly enrolled bills and joint resolutions.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that, for the duration of the 119th 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 119th 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 119th Congress, Senators may be allowed to bring to the desk bills, joint resolutions, concurrent resolutions and simple resolutions, for referral to appropriate committees.

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#### NEW ORLEANS BOURBON STREET ATTACK

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, before I begin my remarks, I want to mention the very deadly terrorist attack that took place in New Orleans in the early hours of New Year's Day. This ISIS-inspired attack took the lives of 14 innocent victims and injured at least 30 others.

My prayers today, along with prayers of so many Americans, are with all those grieving the loss of a loved one and with the injured and their families.

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#### LAS VEGAS CYBERTRUCK EXPLOSION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, in Las Vegas, law enforcement agents are working around the clock to understand the motivation of an Army soldier who blew up a Tesla truck in front of the Trump hotel on the same day, injuring seven others.

We expect our Federal, State, and local law enforcement to pursue every lead so that the American people understand what led to both of these attacks.

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#### REMEMBERING JIMMY CARTER

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I also want to mention the passing of former President Jimmy Carter, who died peacefully on December 29 at his home in Georgia at the age of 100.

He was Governor of Georgia and President of the United States but was perhaps even better known for the work that he did after leaving office to promote peace and help those in need, most notably through his decades-long work with Habitat for Humanity.

I will have much more to say about President Carter next week, but for today, I just want to extend my condolences and my prayers to his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren as they mourn their father and grandfather.

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#### MAIDEN SPEECH AS MAJORITY LEADER

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I want to welcome Members to the 119th Congress, particularly those freshman Senators who took the oath of office this morning. And congratulations to the new Secretary of the Senate, a great

South Dakotan, and the new Senate Sergeant at Arms, who are assuming their roles today. I am grateful for their service.

Mr. President, the words of the oath, which we hear at the start of each new Congress, are a reminder of the profound responsibility with which we have been entrusted, and that is to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States."

Two hundred thirty-seven years ago, representatives from the States gathered together in Philadelphia, PA, and produced something essentially unique in human history: a blueprint for our new country, founded not on history or conquest but on a set of ideas. It was not a perfect document, as even our Founders attested by making provisions for amendments, but it was and remains one of the greatest and most important political documents in the history of the world. It has made us a country that people around the world look to as a beacon of freedom, a shining city on the hill.

And it is the solemn responsibility of those of us here in Congress to preserve our Constitution, to guard it against enemies both foreign and domestic, and to ensure that it continues to stand so that our Nation continues to stand as a bulwark of freedom and human rights.

Mr. President, when it came time to draft the Constitution, the Founders established safeguards—checks and balances—throughout our government to keep the government in check and ensure that the rights of all Americans were protected. One of those safeguards was the U.S. Senate.

In his discussion of the Senate in Federalist 62, the author notes:

[A] senate, as a second branch of the legislative assembly, distinct from, and dividing the power with, a first, must be in all cases a salutary check on the government. It doubles the security to the people, by requiring the concurrence of two distinct bodies in schemes of usurpation or perfidy.

He further notes:

[T]hat as the improbability of sinister combinations will be in proportion to the dissimilarity in the genius of the two bodies, it must be politic to distinguish them from each other by every circumstance which will consist with a due harmony in all proper measures, and with the genuine principles of republican government.

And the Founders did indeed distinguish the House from the Senate. They made the Senate smaller and Senators' terms of office longer, with the intention of creating a more stable, more thoughtful, more deliberative legislative body to check ill-considered or intemperate legislation and protect the rights of the American people.

As the past 237 years attest, it is a structure that has served this Nation well. Unfortunately, today, there are a lot of people out there who would like to see the Senate turn into a copy of the House of Representatives.

That, Mr. President, is not what our Founders intended or what our country needs. One of my priorities as leader will be to ensure that the Senate stays