

Indiana—TODD YOUNG and MIKE BRAUN
 Iowa—CHUCK GRASSLEY and JONI ERNST
 Kansas—JERRY MORAN and ROGER MARSHALL
 Kentucky—MITCH MCCONNELL and RAND PAUL
 Louisiana—BILL CASSIDY and JOHN KENNEDY
 Maine—SUSAN M. COLLINS and ANGUS S. KING, JR.
 Maryland—BENJAMIN L. CARDIN and CHRIS VAN HOLLEN
 Massachusetts—ELIZABETH WARREN and EDWARD J. MARKEY
 Michigan—DEBBIE STABENOW and GARY C. PETERS
 Minnesota—AMY KLOBUCHAR and TINA SMITH
 Mississippi—ROGER F. WICKER and CINDY HYDE-SMITH
 Missouri—ROY BLUNT and JOSH HAWLEY
 Montana—JON TESTER and STEVE DAINES
 Nebraska—DEB FISCHER and BEN SASSE
 Nevada—CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO and JACKY ROSEN
 New Hampshire—JEANNE SHAHEEN and MARGARET WOOD HASSAN
 New Jersey—ROBERT MENENDEZ and CORY A. BOOKER
 New Mexico—MARTIN HEINRICH and Ben Ray Lujan
 New York—CHARLES E. SCHUMER and KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND
 North Carolina—RICHARD BURR and THOM TILLIS
 North Dakota—JOHN HOEVEN and KEVIN CRAMER
 Ohio—SHERROD BROWN and ROB PORTMAN
 Oklahoma—JAMES M. INHOFE and JAMES LANKFORD
 Oregon—RON WYDEN and JEFF MERKLEY
 Pennsylvania—ROBERT P. CASEY, JR., and PATRICK J. TOOMEY
 Rhode Island—JACK REED and SHEL-DON WHITEHOUSE
 South Carolina—LINDSEY GRAHAM and TIM SCOTT
 South Dakota—JOHN THUNE and MIKE ROUNDS
 Tennessee—MARSHA BLACKBURN and Bill Hagerty
 Texas—JOHN CORNYN and TED CRUZ
 Utah—MIKE LEE and MITT ROMNEY
 Vermont—PATRICK J. LEAHY and BERNARD SANDERS
 Virginia—MARK R. WARNER and TIM KAINE
 Washington—PATTY MURRAY and MARIA CANTWELL
 West Virginia—JOE MANCHIN III and SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO
 Wisconsin—RON JOHNSON and TAMMY BALDWIN
 Wyoming—JOHN BARRASSO and Cynthia Lummis

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The VICE PRESIDENT. The majority leader is recognized.

WELCOMING MEMBERS OF THE SENATE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, very briefly, I simply want to welcome all Senators on this first day of the 117th Congress.

Today, six new Members are joining our ranks for the first time. Senators HAGERTY from Tennessee, HICKENLOOPER from Colorado, LUJÁN of New Mexico, LUMMIS of Wyoming, MARSHALL of Kansas, and TUBERVILLE of Alabama have been elected to serve the people of their home States, and, of course, Senator KELLY of Arizona was sworn in a few weeks ago. We congratulate all of our new colleagues, as well as their families, and look forward to the ways in which their unique experiences, their ideas, and their priorities will enrich this institution and strengthen our shared work for the Nation.

To say the 117th Congress convenes at a challenging time would indeed be an understatement. From political division to a deadly pandemic, to adversaries around the world, the hurdles before us are many, and they are serious. But there is also plenty of reason for hope. An optimistic, forward-looking, can-do spirit has been one of our country's most distinctive calling cards since our very earliest days. And with safe and effective vaccines rolling out across our Nation every day, I would say 2021 looks bright already.

We gavel in today like 116 prior Senates have gavelled in before us, with plenty of disagreements and policy differences among our ranks but all—all—swearing the same oath to support and defend the same Constitution, all loving the same country, and all of us committed to do all we can to leave behind an even stronger nation than the one we have been blessed to inherit.

So I look forward to the Senate's work these next 2 years. Let's make the American people proud.

INFORMING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES THAT A QUORUM OF EACH HOUSE IS ASSEMBLED

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 1, submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 1) establishing a committee to inform the President of the United States that a quorum of each House is assembled.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. 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.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 1) was agreed to as follows:

S. RES. 1

Resolved, That a committee consisting of two Senators be appointed to join such committee as may be appointed by the House of Representatives to wait upon the President of the United States and inform him that a quorum of each House is assembled and that the Congress is ready to receive any communication he may be pleased to make.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Pursuant to S. Res. 1, the Chair appoints the Senator from Kentucky, Mr. MCCONNELL, and the Senator from New York, Mr. SCHUMER, as a committee to join the committee on the part of the House of Representatives to wait upon the President of the United States and inform him that a quorum is assembled and that the Congress is ready to receive any communication he may be pleased to make.

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 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 resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. 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.

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.

FIXING THE HOUR OF DAILY MEETING OF THE SENATE

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 legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 3) fixing the hour of daily meeting of the Senate.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. 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.

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

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

S. RES. 3

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

TO PROVIDE FOR THE COUNTING OF THE ELECTORAL VOTES FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Con. Res. 1.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 1) to provide for the counting on January 6, 2021, of the electoral votes for President and Vice President of the United States.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent 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 concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 1) was agreed to as follows:

S. CON. RES. 1

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the two Houses of Congress shall meet in the Hall of the House of Representatives on Wednesday, the 6th day of January 2021, at 1 o'clock post meridian, pursuant to the requirements of the Constitution and laws relating to the election of President and Vice President of the United States, and the President of the Senate shall be their Presiding Officer; that two tellers shall be previously appointed by the President of the Senate on the part of the Senate and two by the Speaker on the part of the House of Representatives, to whom shall be handed, as they are opened by the President of the Senate, all the certificates and papers purporting to be certificates of the electoral votes, which certificates and papers shall be opened, presented, and acted upon in the alphabetical order of the States, beginning with the letter "A"; and said tellers, having then read the same in the presence and hearing of the two Houses, shall make a list of the votes as they shall appear from said certificates; and the votes having been ascertained and counted in the manner and according to the rules by law provided, the result of the same shall be delivered to the President of the Senate, who shall thereupon announce the state of the vote, which announcement shall be deemed a sufficient declaration of the persons, if any, elected President and Vice President of the United States, and together with a list of the votes, be entered on the Journals of the two Houses.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The Chair appoints the Senator from Missouri, Mr. BLUNT, and the Senator from Minnesota, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, as tellers on the part of the Senate to count the electoral votes.

EXTENDING THE LIFE OF THE JOINT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON INAUGURAL CEREMONIES

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Con. Res. 2.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 2) extending the life of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies and authorizing the use of the rotunda and Emancipation Hall of the Capitol by the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies in connection with the proceedings and ceremonies conducted for the inauguration of the President-elect and the Vice President-elect of the United States.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent 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 concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 2) was agreed to as follows:

S. CON. RES. 2

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. REAUTHORIZATION OF JOINT COMMITTEE.

Effective from January 3, 2021, the joint committee created by Senate Concurrent Resolution 38 (116th Congress), agreed to June 26, 2020, to make the necessary arrangements for the inauguration of the President-elect and the Vice President-elect of the United States, is continued with the same power and authority provided for in that resolution.

SEC. 2. USE OF CAPITOL.

The rotunda and Emancipation Hall of the United States Capitol are authorized to be used on January 10, 2021, January 17, 2021, and January 20, 2021 by the joint committee created by Senate Concurrent Resolution 38 (116th Congress), agreed to June 26, 2020, in connection with the proceedings and ceremonies conducted for the inauguration of the President-elect and the Vice President-elect of the United States.

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, that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, and that they appear separately in the RECORD.

Before the Chair acts upon 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 117th 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 117th 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 117th 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 117th 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 117th 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 117th 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 117th 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-