[You're] doing nothing. Because that's not going to bring my brother back at all.

So the legitimate and important voices of peaceful protesters will never be heard over the wailing of fire alarms, the smashing of plate-glass windows, and the sirens of ambulances coming for police officers who have been assaulted or shot in the head.

Our Nation is united in horror and opposition to the violent killing of Mr. Floyd. We are united. It is well past time that we also unite on the side of peace in our streets and peace in our communities. We need to unite against these violent rioters, who seek only to aggrandize themselves and further damage a nation that needs healing.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, on a totally different matter, obviously and unfortunately, this turmoil is not the only great challenge before us. Lest we forget, the healthcare fight against the worst viral pandemic in a century is still upon us. Our Nation is trying to smartly and safely reopen. Just as small businesses in some cities are sweeping up broken glass, American workers and entrepreneurs across the Nation are trying to rebuild the shattered prosperity our Nation was experiencing just a few months ago. Meanwhile, beyond our shores, our enemies and adversaries would be only too eager to catch the United States with our guard down.

So there is plenty of work before the Senate, and unlike the Democratic House of Representatives, which I understand may next appear here in Washington in about a month—in about a month—the Senate is present and working.

We are continuing to conduct oversight of our historic rescue package, the CARES Act, as it continues taking effect. I expect we will soon consider further bipartisan legislation to help the Paycheck Protection Program—the signature policy from Senators Rubio and Collins that has kept tens of millions of Americans employed—continue to work for our country.

As we pivot toward reopening, the Senate is also working on significant COVID-related legal protection so our Nation's schools, healthcare workers, and employers are not swamped with frivolous lawsuits and taxpayer dollars do not just stimulate the pockets of trial lawyers.

At the same time, critical vacancies remain throughout the Federal Government, and qualified nominees stand ready to fill them. So the Senate will work through two nominees to the Federal district courts and a number of important executive branch positions, including Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy, Plans, and Capabilities; Deputy Under Secretary of Defense; and the new Special Inspector General for Pandemic Recovery.

What is more, we also have all the important legislation that needed to get done before the pandemic arrived in the first place. This month, we will turn to bipartisan legislation led by Senators Gardner and Daines to provide stable support for the Land and Water Conservation Fund and lasting stewardship of our natural resources. Their bill will safeguard our Nation's public lands for recreation and conservation and help generations of Americans continue to access and enjoy these treasures.

In the coming weeks, our colleagues on the Armed Services Committee will begin marking up the 60th consecutive, annual National Defense Authorization Act. I know our colleagues need no reminder of how important that task is; neither do our men and women in uniform. The COVID–19 crisis makes it more urgent, not less urgent, that we continue to authorize investments in our servicemembers and their families and in advancing and accelerating our national defense strategy. From honing our competitive edge against would-be rivals on land and sea to expanding our reach in the air and space, achieving our Nation's strategic priorities begins right here this month with the NDAA.

So Congress's to-do list is clear, and the Senate is manning its essential post, working to get the American people's business done.

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 senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Victor G. Mercado, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam 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. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 697.

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 Michael Pack, of Maryland, to be Chief Executive Officer of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for the term of three years. (New Position)

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam 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 Michael Pack, of Maryland, to be Chief Executive Officer of the Broadcasting Board of Governors. (New Position)

Mitch McConnell, Cindy Hyde-Smith, John Boozman, Tim Scott, Marsha Blackburn, Chuck Grassley, Steve Daines, Mike Crapo, Richard Burr, John Cornyn, David Perdue, Martha McSally, John Thune, James M. Inhofe, Kevin Cramer, Ted Cruz.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call be waived.

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

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR (Resumed)

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume consideration of the Mercado nomination.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, 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.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

PROTESTS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I just finished watching Joe Biden's speech to the Nation. President Trump, watch Joe Biden's speech. That is what real leadership looks like.

Now, it is difficult to express the moment we find ourselves in. Our country has been hit by a strange and contagious disease infecting millions and killing over 100,000 of our people. Our economy was put on ice for several months, shuttering scores of businesses, casting 40 million Americans on the unemployment rolls, and, according to government estimates, taking