The Chair of the ABA's Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary told the committee directly that ''in interviews with individuals in the legal profession and community who know Judge Barrett, whether for a few years or decades, not one person uttered a negative word about her character.''

Of course, there is another way you can tell that Judge Barrett is so impressive and so qualified. It is the fact that the people who precommitted to oppose her nomination have completely retreated from arguing the merits. Virtually none of the politicians, pundits, or special interests that opposed Judge Barrett from the beginning have even tried to lay a finger on her qualifications or credentials.

We have seen inaccurate claims that it would be abnormal for the Senate to fill this seat. We have seen bizarre, barely disguised insinuations about the nominee's religious faith, and now, this morning, there was improper press scrutiny of her children. We have heard Democrats try to take hostage our very institutions of government to stop this precedent-backed process from moving forward, but none of the distortions can even begin to cloud the incredible qualifications of the nominee.

I look forward to the Judiciary Committee's vote on Thursday. The full Senate will turn to Judge Barrett's nomination as soon as it comes out of committee. I will be proud to vote to confirm this exceptional jurist.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, this week the Senate will vote on more coronavirus relief that Congress could deliver to American families right now.

Month after month, Speaker PELOSI has held up urgent assistance for workers, families, schools, and our healthcare system. Month after month, she has refused to set aside non-COVID-related demands and far-left policy riders that she knows are sabotaging any shot at a deal. Why? Well, because—and these are her own words—she thinks agreeing to a bipartisan compromise might make the Democrats seem like ''a cheap date''—her words. The Speaker said over and over again that she does not believe it is better for workers to get something rather than nothing.

Thus far, Senate Democrats have gone along with it. We could have passed hundreds of billions of dollars in relief more than a month ago, but our Democratic colleagues voted in lockstep to filibuster relief and kill the bill. Unless Democrats got every single non-COVID-related wish-list item they were after, American families would get nothing. Every single Senate Democrat voted to filibuster hundreds of billions of dollars of noncontroversial assistance, except our colleague who is running for Vice President. So she wasn't here at all.

This has been the position for months: all-or-nothing obstruction. It has to stop. The Speaker's Marie Antoinette act needs to end. Zero dollars for working families but a whole lot of television time for the Speaker of the House is not a good trade for the American people.

Speaker PELOSI's supposed leverage is not putting food on the table in households where one or both parents have lost their jobs. Speaker PELOSI's so-called leverage is not helping schools reopen safely or struggling small business to avoid layoffs. The Democrats' talking points are not doing a single thing to fund more testing, more tracing, or double down on Project Warp Speed so we can produce and distribute a vaccine.

Tomorrow and Wednesday, the Senate is going to vote. We will see whether our Democratic colleagues in this Chamber agree that families deserve nothing rather than something, or whether they are ready to let the Senate make law across the huge areas where we do not even disagree.

Tomorrow, we will have a standalone vote on creating a second round of the historic Paycheck Protection Program for the hardest hit small businesses. The PPP has saved tens of millions of American jobs and kept main streets across America from turning into permanent COVID–19 ghost towns.

The program is as bipartisan as it gets. Not only did it pass unanimously in the first place, but we also added funding and made tweaks several times without a single objection in either Chamber.

So tomorrow, Tuesday, every Senator will cast an up-or-down vote on establishing a whole second draw of these emergency loans for the small businesses that need it the most—no more all or nothing, no more endless posturing, just one clear vote on one clear good thing that nobody even says they oppose. It would make a huge difference for workers who may otherwise be laid off.

Then, on Wednesday, the Senate will vote again on a larger bill. It will pour hundreds of billions of dollars into the PPP expansion, plus more Federal unemployment insurance, more money for safe schools, more money for testing, more money for vaccines, and many other important priorities.

Nobody thinks this proposal would resolve every problem forever. What it does contain is half a trillion dollars of good that Congress can do right now through programs that Democrats do not even say they oppose. American families deserve for us to agree where we can, make law, and push huge amounts of money out the door while Washington continues arguing over the rest. It is common sense. It is what the country needs. I hope our Democratic colleagues will finally let it happen.

Madam President, what is the pending business?

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

UIGHUR INTERVENTION AND GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN UNIFIED RESPONSE ACT OF 2019

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the pending business.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

House message to the company S. 178, a bill 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.

Pending:

McConnell motion to concur in the amendment of the House of Representatives to the bill, with McConnell amendment No. 2652, in the nature of a substitute.

McConnell (for Tillis) amendment No. 2673 (to amendment No. 2652), to amend the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act to prohibit pre-existing condition exclusions. (By 47 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. 199), Senate failed to table the amendment.)

AMENDMENT NO. 2673 WITHDRAWN

Mr. MCCONNELL. I withdraw amendment No. 2673.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has that right.

The amendment is withdrawn.

The amendment (No. 2673) was withdrawn.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk for the motion to concur with amendment No. 2652.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

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 motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 178, a bill 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, with a further amendment No. 2652.

Mitch McConnell, John Barrasso, Susan M. Collins, Lamar Alexander, Thom Tillis, Todd Young, Pat Roberts, Chuck Grassley, Deb Fischer, Rob Portman, Richard C. Shelby, Michael B. Enzi, James E. Risch, Kevin Cramer, Lindsey Graham, Roy Blunt, John Boozman.

AMENDMENT NO. 2680 TO AMENDMENT NO. 2652

(Purpose: To improve the small business programs.)

Mr. MCCONNELL. I have a second-degree amendment to the motion to concur with amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] proposes amendment numbered 2680 to Amendment No. 2652.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.