THE WICKER REPORT

By: United States Senator Roger Wicker

Wicker Calls for End to Democrats' **Slow-Walking of Trump Nominees**

Confirmation Process Should Proceed in Timely Manner

nouncement that the Senate Senate had confirmed only 23 will remain in session during the August weeks traditionally dedicated to state work. For months, Democrats have been using procedural tactics to stall the legislative process. Until Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer (N.Y.) returns to our traditional practice of cooperation on scheduling, the Senate will have no choice but to remain in Washington to complete important work.

Perhaps nowhere has Democrats' obstruction been more glaring than in the protracted process of confirming President Trump's executive nominees.

percent of President Trump's nominees, compared with the 69 percent of President Obama's Even nominees who have evenneedless delay.

Democrats Reject Tradition of Bipartisan **Cooperation on Nominees**

not only a departure from past his Cabinet to be filled. practice under Democratic administrations, but it also ignores ate's constitutional duty to pro-

ple. They expect the president they elected to be able to choose who will help lead his administration.

These expectations are not radical, given the bipartisan cooperation on executive appointments in the past.

In the months following Presi-I welcome the recent an- By July 10 of this year, the dent Obama's inauguration, the Senate confirmed nearly all of his nominees by a simple voice vote. And yet, only 10 percent of President Trump's nominominees confirmed by the Au- nees have been approved this gust of his first year in office. way. Earlier this year, Democrats forced a historically slow tually been confirmed with a confirmation of the President's near-unanimous vote were first Cabinet, going so far as to boysubjected to days and days of cott committee hearings with his nominees. To put these stall tactics into perspective, no other U.S. president since George Washington has had to wait as Such political maneuvering is long as President Trump did for

These delays disrupt the Sen-

executive appointments. But they also threaten the vitality of our government and the services it provides, including national security. President Trump needs his full national security team in place to keep our nation safe, support our veterans, and secure our borders. However, only six of his 22 nominations to the Department of Defense have been confirmed. The Department of Justice and the Department of Homeland Security face a similar shortage of presidential appointees.

Bills Affecting Defense, **Drug Research Ready** for Senate Action

The next few weeks should proceed without the obstruction of the past few months. In addition to confirming nominees, the Senate has a number of important legislative items to consider that will have an impact on American lives and the well-being of our communities. That includes legislation to bring life-saving drug research to patients and the passage of the annual defense authorization bill to ensure our troops have the resources they need at home and abroad. Congress also faces tough decisions about federal spending and the urgent task of repealing and replacing the collapsing Obamacare system.

Living an obedient life

By Gary Andrews gary@gadevotionals.com

Obedience is something that all of us must have, whether it in their lives. is to someone on this earth or are trying to do.

dictionary, is the state, fact, or is still in control and, ultimately, an instance of obeying, or a we must answer to Him for our willingness to obey; submis-

obedient to our employers to highs. succeed.

obedient to their parents to have Lord God tells us to do.

The Bible is full of examples of obedient men and women. man created or from natural Even through all of their trials

Senate Democrats should put politics aside to address these items of national importance. The political theater needs to end. There is too much work to be done.

and tribulations we read where our Old Testament ancestors obeved God to find fulfillment

Today we are still answering to our Heavenly Father, for us to the same God. Even though to be successful in whatever we we are so far advanced in technology and luxuries on earth, Obedience, according to the the same God of our ancestors actions on earth.

Man has not come to the point When we are willing to be of where he is at now without obedient to the ones over us, the blessings of Almighty God. then we are going to see the Our allegiance and obedience rewards from what has been belong to Him that sustains us promised. In today's society through our lowest and weakand job market, we must be est moments to our highest of

Over the past few years we In the home children must be have been witness to what Satan is trying to do on this earth. We a complete and happy home and have also been witness to natuonly this comes when the par- ral disasters and I firmly believe ents are in obedience to what the that this is God's way of getting our attention.

> Whether our problems are sources we see more and more of our people falling on their knees asking God for help. It is my hope that you and your family acknowledge God for all creation and read His word so that we can obey Him.

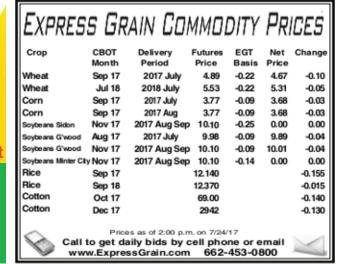
Prayer: Father lead me in the way you want me to go and help me get myself out of the way. Lord thank you for loving me and protecting me from my enemies. Amen.

Suggested daily Bible readings: Sunday - Genesis 6:8-22; Monday - 1 John 5:1-5; Tuesday - 2 Timothy 2:14-19; Wednesday - Isaiah 45:9; Thursday Hebrews 13:17; Friday - James 1:19-26; Saturday - Proverbs 7:1-5.

Gary Andrews is the author of Encouraging Words: 30-days in God's Word. To obtain a copy go to his website www.gadevotion-



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