

Democrat ends all-night speech as Supreme Court clash nears

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A Democratic senator yielded the Senate floor this morning after talking through the night to highlight his party's opposition to President Donald Trump's Supreme Court nominee, Neil Gorsuch.

But the theatrics from Oregon Sen. Jeff Merkley could

not change the outcome, with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and his Republicans prepared to steamroll Senate rules in order to eliminate Democrats' ability to block Gorsuch with a filibuster.

Merkley spoke through the night, for more than 15 hours, finally stopping midmorning today with a final plea to colleagues to oppose Gorsuch,

a federal appeals court judge from Denver.

"This is an extreme nominee from the far right who doesn't believe in the fundamental vision of 'We the People' and makes decision after decision through tortured, twisted, contrived arguments defined for the powerful over the people, and that is unacceptable," Merkley said.

Following Merkley on the floor, McConnell ridiculed the opposition from Democrats.

"Democrats would filibuster Ruth Bader Ginsburg if President Donald Trump nominated her," McConnell said, naming one of the more liberal sitting justices. "There is simply no principled reason to oppose this exceptional, exceptional Supreme Court nominee."

State House passes tenant protections

By PARIS ACHEN
Capital Bureau

SALEM — The state House of Representatives passed a tenant protection bill 32-to-27 Tuesday that lifts the statewide ban on rent control and outlaws most no-cause evictions after a six-month trial period.

"House Bill 2004 is important because it will help keep more families in their homes and help to create more stable and diverse communities," said state Rep. Carla Piluso, D-Gresham, one of four chief sponsors. "It won't reverse our housing crisis overnight, but it is step in the right direction."

Piluso and Reps. Karin Power, D-Milwaukie; Diego Hernandez, D-Portland; and Chris Gorsek, D-Troutdale, sponsored the legislation to address the state's affordable housing crisis. House Speaker Tina Kotok, D-Portland, declared the measure as one of her highest priorities this session.

Rep. Carl Wilson, R-Grants Pass, said the bill would be counterproductive to what the sponsors hope to accomplish.

"Just the fear of this bill alone is leading many people to raise their rents already," Wilson said.

Rep. Brad Witt, D-Clatskanie, agreed that the bill could

exacerbate the housing crisis.

"Oregon's housing crisis is a supply crisis. There simply are not enough physical units to house an ever-expanding population to and in our great state, especially in the Portland metropolitan area," Witt said.

Reforming land use policies that limit housing development and "a plethora of housing regulations and restrictions" that compound the problem would be more effective, he said.

The bill allows cities or counties to impose limits on rent increases but requires those local governments to provide "a fair rate of return to landlords" and a process to petition for rent increases

greater than the limit, so landlords can recoup costs associated with repairs and improvements, Power said.

"Local control allows policymakers to create programs that make sense in their individual communities," she said.

The bill was revised substantially to address the concerns of landlords, including those of Rep. Mark Meek, D-Clackamas County, a landlord and real estate agent and investor who authored the amendment.

Meek's revisions pared mandatory relocation assistance payments to tenants from the equivalent of three months' rent to one month rent.

Academy: Board aims to hire school director by May 1

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"We have had various hurdles throughout this process, and every time the seemingly impossible became plausible," Simmons said.

There are three separate, two-month-long enrollment periods in which students can enroll. In the future, the system would work in such a way that as long as 22 or fewer applications were submitted in the first period a student would be enrolled. But at any time in any stage there were more applications than spots, it would be open to a lottery system, which does not guarantee enrollment for each applicant.

"We are encouraging people to enroll as soon as possible, because in the future it is possible you could not get

in during a later enrollment period," he said.

Seaside Superintendent Sheila Roley said the school district will continue to provide support to the academy. The school's permit to have a charter school lasts three years, Roley said, which means they have until then to open the school before needing to reapply.

"The academy has worked very hard to put together a program and we'll see how it comes together," Roley said.

By May 1, the board of directors hopes to have the school director hired, Simmons said. The board is awaiting a permit to be granted by the city to start construction on their property on Sunset Boulevard. The board is also in the process of advertising for teaching positions.

Port of Call: Has never been caught violating liquor laws

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Eatery and bar

Davis said Port of Call has not always been managed the way it originally was intended. Though many patrons view the nearly 3-year-old establishment as simply a bar, Davis believes it should be a family-friendly eatery until late-night hours.

"We're just trying to get back to what our original vision was," Davis said.

At the same time, Sawyer notes that Port of Call has always had a policy to not serve patrons who are visibly intoxicated. He also said, unlike other Astoria businesses, Port of Call has never been cited by the liquor commission and staff has never been caught violating liquor laws.

"They really have passed

those tests with flying colors and other establishments in town have not," Sawyer said.

This year, Port of Call has taken steps such as offering free nonalcoholic beverages to designated drivers, closing earlier, placing more emphasis on selling food and no longer serving Jell-O shots. Bartenders will also be more conscious of calling cabs for customers and increasing contact with law enforcement and other establishments about visibly intoxicated customers or ones who attempt to drive, Davis said.

Davis recalled a customer who once told him, "You don't care about our health. You care about making a buck."

"Our first and foremost concern is the protection and safety of the community," Davis said. "That definitely comes before making a buck."

Psychiatric review board drops lawsuit

By CLAIRE WITHYCOMBE
Capital Bureau

SALEM — After intervention from Oregon Gov. Kate Brown, the state's Psychiatric Security Review Board agreed Tuesday to drop a lawsuit against a rural newspaper seeking board records pertinent to a murder case.

The Malheur Enterprise sought records held by the board concerning Anthony Montwheeler, who is suspected of committing murder one month after the board allowed his release from state care.

Although the state's attorney general said last month that the records were public, the board last week sued the Malheur Enterprise to keep the records from being disclosed.

The Enterprise is a weekly newspaper based in Vale, purchased in October 2015 by

longtime Oregon journalist Les Zaitz.

Both the governor and Zaitz said Tuesday the situation exemplified an issue with the state's public records law.

'Medical con'

The Psychiatric Security Review Board is a 10-member independent board that supervises people who have asserted "guilty except for insanity" defenses in criminal cases.

The board determines where to place people such as Montwheeler. According to the Malheur Enterprise, Montwheeler was recently released from state care, although medical officials said he was dangerous.

The Enterprise reported Montwheeler, 49, ran a "medical con" in an effort to stay out of jail after a 1996 conviction for kidnapping.

He was released in Decem-

ber from the Oregon State Hospital, the newspaper reported.

According to police, the next month, Montwheeler allegedly kidnapped and killed his ex-wife. In the pursuit with police that ensued, Montwheeler allegedly hit another car, killing its driver and injuring the driver's wife. Montwheeler is now back in jail, charged with aggravated murder, assault and kidnapping.

'Extraordinary'

Calling the circumstances of the Montwheeler case "extraordinary," Gov. Brown said in a statement that the board agreed to both drop the lawsuit and release the records immediately.

"I believe the public is best served by bringing this matter to an end now, rather than after a lengthy and costly litigation," Brown said.

Unlike the Fish and Wild-

life Commission, for example, under state law, the governor has limited means to fire or otherwise direct the actions of the Psychiatric Security Review Board.

The Malheur Enterprise reported Monday that the Psychiatric Security Review Board had hired a private attorney to pursue the lawsuit at a cost of \$400 per hour.

In response, the Enterprise started a social media campaign to raise money for its legal defense. Zaitz said Tuesday that he didn't know how much the campaign raised, as they were to be sent to the Oregon Newspaper Foundation, but that the cause garnered support "from literally all over the country."

When a state agency denies a request for records, the requestor can appeal to the attorney general for a legal opinion on the matter.

THE DAILY ASTORIAN

TV LISTINGS

Evening listings
WEDNESDAY

WEDNESDAY EVENING													APRIL 5	
A	L	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	
2	KATU	(2) KATU News at 6		Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	The Goldbergs (N)	Speechless (N)	Modern Family (N)	Black-ish (N)	Designated "One Hundred Days" (N)		KATU News at 11	(35) Jimmy Kimmel	
3	KOMO	(4) KOMO 4 News		Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy!	The Goldbergs (N)	Speechless (N)	Modern Family (N)	Black-ish (N)	Designated "One Hundred Days" (N)		KOMO 4 News	(35) Jimmy Kimmel	
5	KING	(5) NBC Nightly News	KING 5 News	KING 5 News	Evening	Blindspot "Senile Lines" (SF) (N)		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Know It All" (N)	Chicago "Last Minute Resistance" (N)		KING 5 News	(35) Tonight Show		
6	KOIN	(6) KOIN Local 6 at 6	CBS Evening News	Extra	Ent. Tonight	Survivor "Vote Early, Vote Often" (N)		Criminal Minds "True North" (N)	Crim. Minds: Borders "Made In" (N)		KOIN 6 News @ 11	(35) Colbert		
7	KIRO	(7) KIRO 7 News	CBS Evening News	The Insider	Ent. Tonight	Survivor "Vote Early, Vote Often" (N)		Criminal Minds "True North" (N)	Crim. Minds: Borders "Made In" (N)		KIRO News	(35) Colbert		
8	KGW	(8) KGW News at 6:00 p.m.		Live at 7	Inside Edition	Blindspot "Senile Lines" (SF) (N)		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Know It All" (N)	Chicago "Last Minute Resistance" (N)		KGW News at 11	(35) Tonight Show		
9	KRCW	(9) Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Modern Family	Modern Family	Arrow "The Sin-Eater"		Whose Line Is It? "Whose Line Is It?"	KGW News at 10 "Two and a Half		Two and a Half	Met Your Mother		
10	KOPB	(10) Journeys in Japan	Business (N)	PBS NewsHour		Nature "Owl Power"		Nova "Himalayan Megaquake"	Secrets of the Dead (N)		Leonardo's Dream	Machines		
12	KPTV	(12) 6 O'Clock News		Family Feud	Family Feud	Shots Fired (N)		Empire "Strange Bedfellows" (N)	10 O'Clock News		11 O'Clock News	2 Broke Girls		
13	KPDZ	(13) Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	FOX 12's 8 O'Clock News on PDX-TV		FOX 12's 9 O'Clock News on PDX-TV	Family Guy		Family Guy	American Dad		
14	KCPQ	(14) Modern Family	Modern Family	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Shots Fired (N)		Empire "Strange Bedfellows" (N)	Q13 News at 10		Q13 News	The Simpsons		
20	TBS	(20) Seinfeld	Seinfeld Pt. 1 of 2	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory		Full Frontal (N)	Conan		
22	KZJN	(22) Two and a Half	Two and a Half	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Modern Family	Modern Family	Q13 News at 9	Big Bang Theory		Big Bang Theory	Friends		
29	ESPN	(29) NBA Basketball	Cleveland Cavaliers at Boston Celtics (L)	NBA Basketball	Dallas Mavericks at Los Angeles Clippers Site: Staples Center -- Los Angeles, Calif. (L)			SportsCenter	Jalen & Jacoby		Super Bowl	NBA Basketball Dallas vs L.A. Clippers		
30	ESPN2	(30) Golf Masters	Par 3 Contest	Baseball Tonight (L)				SportsCenter	Full House		Full House	Friends		
31	NICK	(31) Henry Danger	Henry Danger	Hunter Street (N)	The Thundermans	The Thundermans	Game Shakers	Full House	Full House		Full House	Friends		
32	DISN	(32) Bunk'd	Bizaardvark	K.C. Undercover	Good Luck Charlie	Stuck in Middle	Good Luck Charlie	Live and Maddie	Live and Maddie		Bunk'd	Jessie		
34	FAM	(34) Movie	*** The Prince and Me (2004, Comedy)	Luke Mably, Miranda Richardson, Julia Stiles.				*** 10 Things I Hate About You '99	Julia Stiles, Heath Ledger.			The 700 Club		
35	FMC	(35) (5:00) The Purge	(35) *** The Purge (2013, Horror)	Lena Headey, Max Burkholder, Ethan Hawke.	(25) *** Paranormal Activity 3 '11	Chloe Csenyery.		(20) FXM Presents	*** Paranormal Activity 4 '12	Kathryn Newton.				
36	LIFE	(36) LW Atlanta "Bobbleheads Will Roll"		Little Women: Atlanta "Spill the Tea"	Little Women ATL "In It to Twin It" (N)	LW Atlanta "Not So Little Surprises" (N)		Ballers "Bringing Down the House" (N)	LW Atlanta "Not So Little Surprises"					
38	ROOT	(38) (5:00) MLB Baseball	Seattle Mariners at Houston Astros (L)		Post-game	MLB Baseball Seattle Mariners at Houston Astros Site: Minute Maid Park -- Houston, Texas						Post-game		
39	F51	(39) (4:00) MLB Baseball	N.Y. Y./T.B. (L)	MLB Whiparound (L)		Speak for Yourself		*** Skip and Shannon: Undisputed Opinions on the biggest sports topics of the day.				TMZ Sports (N)	UFC Countdown	
43	SPIKE	(43) (4:30) *** The Book of Eli '09	Denzel Washington.	*** Four Brothers (2005, Action)	Tyrese Gibson, André Benjamin, Mark Wahlberg.			Kalief Browder	Sto "The After Life" (N)		Four Brothers '05, Act	Mark Wahlberg.		
44	COM	(44) (20) Futurama "The Cryonic Woman"	(55) South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	ComedyJam (N)	South Park		The Daily Show (N)	@midnight (N)		
45	HIST	(45) Amer. Pickers "Sweet Homes Alabama"	Amer. Pickers "Beetle In a Haystack"	Amer. Pickers "Bucking Bronco"	Amer. Pickers "Super Sized Buys" (N)			(05) Amer. Pickers "Hydro Homestead"	(05) Pickers "Escape to Motor Mountain"		(05) Duck Dynasty	(35) Duck Dynasty		
46	A&E	(46) The First 48 "Dead End Drive/The Fixer"	Duck Dynasty "End of an Era"	Duck Dynasty "Jep&Jessica (F) (N)	Duck Dynasty "Looking Back and Talking Quack" (N)			Billy Exter (SP) (N)			600-lb "Steven and Justin's Story Part 2"			
47	TLC	(47) 600-lb "Steven and Justin's Story Part 1"	600-lb "Steven and Justin's Story Part 1"	My 600-lb Life "Steven and Justin's Story Part 2"	Neither brother is close to being approved for surgery. Pt. 2 of 2 (N)						600-lb "Steven and Justin's Story Part 2"			
48	DISC	(48) Alaskan Bushcraft "Protection"	Alaskan Bushcraft "Transportation"	Alaskan Bushcraft "Medicine"	Last Alaskans "Legacy in Danger" (N)			Sea Gold "No Place Like Nome" (N)	The Last Alaskans "Legacy in Danger"					
49	NIGC	(49) Trooper "Fearless on the Front Lines"	Inside World War II Survivors and former POWs tell of the last global war.					America's Great War 1917-1918 (N)	Inside World War II					
50	TNT	(50) Bones "The Master in the Slop"	Bones "The Heiress in the Hill"	Major Crimes "Intersection"	Major Crimes "Shockwave Part 1" (N)			Major Crimes "Shockwave Part 1" 1/2	Hawaii Five-0 "Pono Kaulike"					
51	USA	(51) (4:00) The Hunt for Red October	*** The Rock (1996, Action)	Nicolas Cage, Ed Harris, Sean Connery.	*** Armageddon (1998, Adventure)	Liv Tyler, Ben Affleck, Bruce Willis.		Cooks vs. Cons "All About Alfredo" (N)	Cooks vs. Cons "Salad Bar Blowout"		Cooks vs. Cons "Pumpkin Thumpin'"			
52	USA	(52) NCIS	NCIS "Neverland"	*** Armageddon (1998, Adventure)	Liv Tyler, Ben Affleck, Bruce Willis.			House Hunters	House Hunters		Property Brothers			
53	FOOD	(53) Cook vs. Con "Pancake Pandemonium"	Cooks vs. Cons "Juicy Resolutions"	Cooks vs. Cons "Pizza Pizzazz"	Cooks vs. Cons "All About Alfredo" (N)			House Hunters	House Hunters		Property Brothers			
54	HGTV	(54) Property Brothers	Property "Modern Masterpiece for Two"	Property Bros. "Game-Time Decision"	Property Brothers			House Hunters	House Hunters		Property Brothers			
55	FX	(55) *** Captain America: The First Avenger '11	Chris Evans.	A Walk Among the Tombstones (2014, Action)	Dan Stevens, Boyd Holbrook, Liam Neeson.			A Walk Among the Tombstones '14	Liam Neeson.					
57	CNN	(57) The Messy Truth with Van Jones (L)	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon			CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon					
58	CNN	(58) Tucker Carlson Tonight	Hannity	The O'Reilly Factor	Tucker Carlson Tonight			Hannity	The First 100 Days					
61	FNBC	(61) Shark Tank	DeedChic "The Mistake on the Lake" (N)	Shark Tank	DeedChic "The Mistake on the Lake" (N)			DeedChic "The Mistake on the Lake"	Paid Program		Paid Program			
63	BRAV	(63) Real Housewives "Reunion Part 1" 1/3	Real Housewives "Reunion Part 2" 2/3	Real Housewives "Reunion Part 3" 3/3	Real Housewives (SP) (N)			The Real Housewives	Watch/What (N)		Real Housewives			
64	TCM	(64) (5:00) Death of a Scoundrel	(35) *** Three Ring Circus '54, Comedy	Jerry Lewis, Zsa Zsa Gabor, Dean Martin.	(15) *** Queen of Outer Space '58	Eric Fleming, Laurie Mitchell, Zsa Zsa Gabor.		Expand "Here There Be Dragons" (N)	The Legend of Hercules		Kellan Lutz.			
65	SYFY	(65) (4:30) Catwoman	*** G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra '09	Christopher Eccleston, Adewale Akinnuoye-Agbaje.	The Magicians "The Rattening" (N)			Expand "Here There Be Dragons" (N)	The Legend of Hercules		Kellan Lutz.			
69	RFD	(69) Cowboy TV	Cowboy Moments	Women's Rodeo	Equestrian Nation	Team Roping	Rural Eve. News	The Final Spin	WesternSport		Cowboy TV	Cowboy Moments	Product Showcase	

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