



ROY BLUNT *of* MISSOURI, CHAIRMAN

Chairman Blunt's Opening Statement Nomination of James E. Trainor

I would like to welcome my colleagues to today's meeting of the Rules Committee where we will consider the nomination of James E. (Trey) Trainor to be a Member of the Federal Election Commission. Though we have taken extra precautions today, including keeping an appropriate amount of distance between Senators, we will keep this meeting as short as possible.

The Federal Election Commission has been without a quorum since August of 2019. Without a fourth vote, the Commission cannot take any action, including issuing advisory opinions, promulgating rules and opening investigations. Further, the three current commissioners are serving on expired terms. Confirming Mr. Trainor will restore partisan parity at the Commission, in addition to giving the Commission a critical fourth vote in order to conduct its business.

As candidates navigate the novel campaign issues that have been created by this pandemic, a fully functioning FEC will allow them to receive the guidance that they need in this uncertain time.

I would ask all Members to support this nomination. I look forward to our consideration of this nomination today.

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