Key takeaways from Brett Kavanaugh's Supreme Court confirmation hearing: Day 1

1

Democrats' protests of and objections to the hearing
- The start of the confirmation hearing was delayed due to the objections of Senate Democrats, who interrupted Chairman Grassley 44 times in the first hour, citing the 42,000 documents released less than 24 hours before the hearing and the limited documents that have been made available regarding Judge Kavanaugh's record
- Sen. Blumenthal (D-CT) submitted a motion to adjourn and appealed to the rules and traditions of the Senate to allow a roll call vote on the motion, which was met with support, most notably from Sens. Harris (D-CA), Booker (D-NJ), Leahy (VT) and Durbin (IL)

2

Chairman Grassley's resistance
- Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley (R-IA) denied the motion to adjourn, sparring with both Sen. Blumenthal and Sen. Booker
- Sen. Grassley argued that the session was not an "executive business session," and thus the motion could be denied

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The prominence of protestors
- Throughout the first day of the confirmation hearing, predominantly female protestors erupted in opposition to Kavanaugh's confirmation
- Over 30 protestors were arrested and removed from the hearing, including an organizer for the Women's March

4

Kavanaugh's opening statements
- In his opening statement, Judge Kavanaugh spoke of his admiration for Justice Kennedy as a mentor and as a figure symbolizing the "independence of the judiciary"
- Kavanaugh argued for the bipartisan nature of the Court, saying he would act as a member of the nine-player team
- He spoke about his extensive record on the DC Circuit Court and his desire as a judge to establish equality for all Americans

5

A look at what's to come
- Democratic senators referenced topics that will be discussed in the coming days of the confirmation hearing, including Kavanaugh's stance on *Roe v. Wade*, the ability to indict a sitting president and his position on the legality of the Affordable Care Act

Sources: C-Span; Politico