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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 6, 1995, at 12 noon.

Senate

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9, 1995

(Legislative day of Monday, July 10, 1995)

The Senate met at 9 a.m. on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Gracious God, we ask You to help us keep our priorities straight. You have created us to love people and use things. Often we have reversed the order: We love things and use people. What's worse we sometimes use people as if they were things.

It happens on the personal level when we lose a sense of the sacredness of the people around us. We easily become insensitive to their needs and use them as means to accomplish our ends. We end up with too many "I-it" relationships and become "thinging-it" people.

On a broader scale, we are constantly confronted with the immensity of human need and suffering. Too often we lose our sensitivity in the maze of statistics. This week as we've considered welfare and then concerns over needs among our native American Indians, we have sought to feel deeply and respond decisively. Guide us Lord in today's consideration of Indian programs as part of the Interior legislation.

Father, You love each of us and seek to implement Your caring through all of us. Help us to put righteousness and justice into creative action. In Your love-motivating name. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The acting majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, on behalf of the majority leader, for the information of all Senators, the Senate is immediately resuming the consideration of the Interior appropriations bill this morning.

Pending is a Domenici amendment, under a 30-minute time limitation regarding the funding for the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Senators should therefore be aware that a rollcall vote will occur this morning at approximately 9:30 a.m. Further rollcall votes are expected during today's session, and the Senate is expected to be in session until the evening.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS, 1996

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1977) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes.

Pending:
Domenici amendment No. 2296, to restore funding for programs within the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The Senate resumed consideration of the bill.

Mr. DOMENICI addressed the Chair. The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. INHOFE). The Senator from New Mexico is recognized.

Mr. DOMENICI. I yield 5 minutes of the 15 minutes that I have to the distinguished Senator from Arizona [Mr. MCCAIN].

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, the proposed cuts we are talking about will devastate Indian country. They strike at reservation services and reservation programs. They strike at Indian families and individual households. They strike at the practical ability of tribal governments to govern.

Let me quote from a letter I received from the Quinault Indian Tribe in Washington State, regarding the proposed cuts in H.R. 1977:

These provisions . . . will mark the beginning of a new era of broken promises and hostility toward Indian nations which is unbecoming to the Senate and to a great Nation like the United States.

I would like my colleagues to understand the practical effect on just three tribes of these cuts.

The Pine Ridge Reservation of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, located in the poorest county in our country, a place 10,000 members of the Oglala Sioux Tribe call home. Nearly 67 percent of its residents live in poverty, compared to the national average of 13 percent. Nearly one-third of the people living on the reservation are unemployed. The median income of households and families on the Pine Ridge Reservation is

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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