



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 104th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 141

WASHINGTON, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1995

No. 202

House of Representatives

The House is in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Senate

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1995

The Senate met at 5 p.m., 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, when there is no place else to turn, it is time to return to You. The present crisis over the budget has confronted us with our human inadequacy to handle things on our own.

So here we are on a Sunday afternoon. We all believe in You, love our Nation, and are called to patriotism. We pray very specifically for our principal leaders. For the welfare of the Nation, the good of the Government, and the continued respect of our people, we ask You to motivate President Clinton to call together BOB DOLE, TOM DASCHLE, NEWT GINGRICH, and all those involved in assisting in this negotiation. We join with millions of Americans in praying that You will give these leaders the courage to keep working until the issues are resolved, the determination to find answers, and the desire to give as well as take in the disputation. You are ready to help those who confess their dependence on You for wisdom to find workable solutions and creative compromises. When we humbly ask for Your guidance together, You open the channels of communication and give us the will to negotiate. The place for greatness is here; the time for greatness is now. We thank You in advance for the answer to this prayer. In the name of our Lord. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able majority leader, Senator DOLE, is recognized.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, first I thank the Chaplain. I hope everyone was listening. Maybe we need all the guidance we receive and probably more.

SCHEDULE

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I think it is fairly certain we will not be getting any continuing resolutions from the House today, so we will not be in session but for a few moments. It seems to me that there is not much reason to stay here if we are not going to have a continuing resolution come over from the House side.

But I think in an effort to make that final determination, I would now move the Senate stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair. As soon as I have that information, we will come back.

Mr. KENNEDY. Could I ask the majority leader, the Senate had an announcement about the LIHEAP, the President taking action to release LIHEAP funds, which is enormously important for many areas in the country. This is something very, very significant to many of the people, I know, in my own State, New England, out in the Far West. I just wanted to address the Senate for 3 or 4 minutes on that subject. And there may be a lot of other people that want to talk.

I do not want to interrupt the normal flow, but I just wonder if—

Mr. DOLE. The Speaker is in my office, so I can find out rather quickly. It will not be a long recess. But I do not want to get into a Sunday afternoon brawl here on the floor about the budget. If it is not about the budget—I mean the President knows how to reach us up here. And we do not need to debate the budget this afternoon. We need to sit down, the principals, and try to work it out.

Mr. DORGAN. I wonder if the majority leader would yield for a question?

Mr. DOLE. Yes.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, the minority leader, Senator DASCHLE, has been here all day, and temporarily had to leave the Capitol, but will be returning. I am prepared on his behalf to offer a unanimous-consent request. I am wondering if the majority leader intends to allow us to be recognized to do that.

Mr. DOLE. Oh, yes. In fact, we may want to accept that request if we can add to it the Labor-HHS bill which the Democrats will not let us bring up on the floor. If the Senator can add that to the CR, we might do some business here this afternoon. That would put 150,000 people back to work, and we think that is very important. So the Senator might see if he can amend that. We might be able to agree to it.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. THOMAS). Is there objection?

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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



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