



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 105th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 143

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 1997

No. 49

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m., and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

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

Almighty God, a very present help in trouble, remind us of all the times You have helped us in our needs. We are quick to cry out for help but often slow to remember the countless times You have intervened to strengthen us.

Thank You for the new confidence that stirs in our hearts today. We collect and then commit to You all of our personal concerns, the challenges we face in government, the troublesome people who sometimes make life difficult, and our friends and loved ones who are presently confronted with adversity.

Especially, Lord, we remember the people in Grand Forks, ND, as they face the difficulties of the flood of the Red River, and we ask for Your blessing and guidance for Senators BYRON DORGAN and KENT CONRAD as they care for their people and give leadership in this emergency.

For Your glory, dear God, resolve problems, give guidance, provide strength.

Today, we also are aware that there are some problems You will not solve until we are ready to be used by You in working out the solutions. Sometimes You wait until we are ready to be a part of the answer You want to give. Show us what You want us to do today. We will leave the results to You. "You are great, and do wondrous things; You alone are God."—Psalm 86:10. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able majority leader, Senator LOTT, of Mississippi, is recognized.

Mr. LOTT. I thank the Chair.

SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, this morning, the Senate will begin consideration of the Chemical Weapons Convention Treaty. Under the previous order, there will be 10 hours of debate to be equally divided between the chairman and the ranking member or their designees and 1 hour under the control of Senator LEAHY. Also, in accordance with the agreement, a limited number of amendments are in order to the resolution of ratification.

The Senate will recess at 12:30 p.m. until the hour of 2:15 to allow for the weekly policy meetings, and when the Senate reconvenes, we will resume consideration of the treaty. I hope that perhaps we could get an agreement to have one of the votes occur later on this afternoon. I believe there may have been some discussions on that. If not, we will have the votes on motions to strike, if any. There, I believe, were five agreed to in our unanimous-consent agreement, and, of course, we are anticipating that the final vote will occur sometime tomorrow night, I assume between 5, 6 and 8 o'clock. And, of course, as always, we will notify Senators of anticipated rollcall votes as early as possible. But there would not be one, if any, today until late in the day. There will be a number of votes throughout the day on Thursday, and I urge Senators to be prepared to answer the votes quickly so that we can get through the five motions to strike that may be offered under the agreement and to final passage at a reasonable hour tomorrow.

Also, unless there were a lot of yielding back of time, I do not anticipate that we could finish even in the early afternoon or late afternoon on Thursday. I think it clearly is going to go into the evening.

With that, Mr. President, I would be glad to yield the floor.

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, will the majority leader yield?

Mr. LOTT. I will withhold yielding the floor and yield to the Senator from Delaware.

Mr. BIDEN. Before the clock starts to toll here on the 10 hours, I understand the distinguished chairman of the committee is running just a little bit late, and he asked whether or not it would be permissible to have a 10-minute quorum call; is that correct?

Mr. KYL. He is willing to go ahead if you would like.

Mr. BIDEN. I would like to just wait and give the chairman the opportunity to make his statement.

Mr. LOTT. We will put in a quorum then until the chairman is here and ready to resume the discussions. I know they are going to be very interesting.

The Senator from Delaware is not going to go through that whole book, is he?

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I say to the distinguished leader, depending on how many votes we have, I may go through only a very small portion of it.

Mr. LOTT. I yield the floor and I observe the absence of a quorum, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. AL-LARD). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

We have a number of items that need to be read, under the previous order.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

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



Printed on recycled paper containing 100% post consumer waste

S3467