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## Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 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:

Gracious Lord, we begin the work of this day with awe and wonder. You have chosen and called us to know, love, and serve You. Through the years You have honed the intellect, talent, and ability You have entrusted to each of us. With providential care You have opened doors of opportunity, education, culture, and experience. Most important of all, You have shown us that daily You are ready and willing to equip us with supernatural power through the anointing of our minds with the gifts of Your spirit: Wisdom, knowledge, discernment, and vision of Your priorities.

When we ask You, You reveal Your truth and give us insight on how to apply it to specific decisions before us. We say with the psalmist, "In the day when I cried out, You answered me, and made me bold with strength in my soul."—Psalm 138:3.

Now, as the Senators press on to the votes and responsibilities of this day, continue to give them the boldness of Your strength in their souls, manifested in conviction and courage. In Your holy name. Amen.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

Mr. LOTT. Thank you, Mr. President.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, today the Senate will immediately resume consideration of Senate Concurrent Resolution 27, the first concurrent budget

resolution. Senator KENNEDY will be recognized immediately to offer his amendment on tobacco taxes. Following the disposition of the Kennedy amendment, Senator GRAMM will be recognized to offer his amendment regarding deficit-neutral natural disaster relief.

Members can expect rollcall votes in relation to these amendments and others, and all Members will be notified when these votes are specifically scheduled.

I am still hopeful that the Democratic leader and I can join together in an effort to yield back additional time off the statutory time limitation, which is 50 hours, for the budget resolution and permit the Senate to complete its work on the budget resolution today.

Subsequently, Senators wishing to offer amendments to this legislation should notify the chairman of the Budget Committee or the ranking member of the Budget Committee of their intentions this morning.

Again, Senators can expect rollcall votes throughout the day. We have a good deal of other work that we need to complete before the Memorial Day recess. For instance, tomorrow we already have a time agreement for 3 hours on the Chemical Weapons Convention implementation legislation. We would, of course, like to complete this resolution and have it go to conference where, hopefully, there will be very little problem in working out the conference. Hopefully, there will be no real differences between the two bills. That is going to take a lot of discipline on our part throughout the day until we complete this legislation.

We also have at least three nominations that will require some small amount of time—judicial nominations, district courts—and three recorded votes.

The supplemental appropriations bill, or some version thereof, very likely would need to be voted on this week also.

So it is essential that we stay with it and that we complete the budget resolution today, if at all possible.

There is good news and bad news. The good news is that we made good progress yesterday. I think almost 10 hours have been used or yielded back already. We did take up some amendments and had votes. While it was difficult and delicate, the amendments were defeated by considerable margins. We need to continue to do that.

There are going to be a lot of good and appealing amendments offered today. It will be difficult to resist those. But this is a very delicately crafted budget agreement that the Republican leadership signed onto and that the Democratic leadership has agreed to. The chairman and ranking member have been working together more so than I have ever seen before. I commend them for that effort.

So I hope that we will continue to hold the line. If we start down the trail of changing the mix, where will it end? I know of several amendments that I am very attracted to. The one by Senator GRAMM obviously is very attractive. He basically says we should have some revenue-neutral process to have funds set aside for the annual disaster relief bill. We have to come every year for \$5 billion, \$6 billion, or \$7 billion. He says we should go ahead and set that aside so we have that planned for. That is attractive. But that was not included in the budget agreement, so we probably should not do that here.

There will be an amendment offered by Senator WARNER with regard to highway funds. I would like to see more money go into the highways and bridges in America out of the highway trust fund, which is there for that purpose.

Of course, there is the amendment offered by Senator KENNEDY here with regard to child health care.

I want to emphasize that we discussed this at great length during the budget negotiations and in reaching

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



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