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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:

Almighty God, we praise You for Your guidance. As we begin the work of the Senate today, we pray with the Psalmist, "Show me Your ways, O Lord; teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; on You I wait all the day."—Psalm 25:4-5.

We acknowledge our total dependence on You. Revelation of Your truth comes in relationship with You; Your inspiration is given when we are illuminated with Your Spirit. Therefore, we prepare for this day by opening our minds to the inflow of Your Spirit. You know what is ahead today. Crucial issues for the future of our Nation confront us.

We praise You Lord that when this day comes to an end we will have the deep inner peace of knowing that You have heard and answered this prayer for guidance. In the name of our Lord and Savior. Amen.

### RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able acting majority leader, the distinguished Senator from Georgia, is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, this morning the Senate will immediately proceed to a stacked series of rollcall votes. Following the stacked votes, it appears that there are up to four remaining first-degree amendments in order to the Coverdell education bill. It is hoped that these amendments will be offered and debated in a timely fashion

so that final passage can occur by early afternoon today. Therefore, Senators should expect rollcall votes throughout today's session with respect to the Coverdell bill or any other legislative or executive items cleared for action.

I thank my colleagues for their attention.

Mr. President, parliamentary inquiry. Is it not true that by previous agreement we will now begin three stacked votes?

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. FAIRCLOTH). The Senator is correct.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

### EDUCATION SAVINGS ACT FOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of H.R. 2646, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2646) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow tax-free expenditures from education individual retirement accounts for elementary and secondary school expenses, to increase the maximum annual amount of contributions to such accounts, and for other purposes.

The Senate resumed consideration of the bill.

Pending:

Coats amendment No. 2297, to provide an additional incentive to donate to elementary and secondary schools or other organizations which provide scholarships to disadvantaged children.

Levin/Bingaman amendment No. 2299, to replace the expansion of education individual retirement accounts to elementary and secondary school expenses with an increase in the lifetime learning education credit for expenses of teachers in improving technology training.

Landrieu amendment No. 2301, to provide funding to carry out a program that recog-

nizes public and private elementary and secondary schools that have established standards of excellence.

Kempthorne modified amendment No. 2302 (to amendment No. 2301), to provide for student improvement incentive awards.

Levin amendment No. 2303 (to amendment No. 2299, as amended), to replace the expansion of education individual retirement accounts to elementary and secondary school expenses with an increase in the lifetime learning education credit for expenses of teachers in improving technology training.

AMENDMENT NO. 2297

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate prior to a vote on or in relation to the Coats amendment No. 2297.

Mr. COATS addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the distinguished Senator from Indiana.

Mr. COATS. Mr. President, this amendment Members will be voting on shortly simply adds an incentive to the current deduction that is allowed for individuals making contributions to tax-exempt organizations that provide scholarships for low-income children.

Currently it is 100 percent deductible. We are adding an additional 10 percent incentive so that these organizations, of which currently more than 30 exist around the country, can receive additional funds through this incentive so that they can offer additional scholarships to children trapped in an educational system which allows them no escape. There are currently programs operating in virtually every major city in the country. They are giving children a chance.

Those who say, "If you can't give everybody a chance, you can't give anybody a chance", are like those standing on the Titanic saying, "If we don't have enough lifeboats for all on this sinking ship, nobody gets to use the existing lifeboats."

These kids are condemned to failure with no way out of the plight they are in. Let us allow these organizations

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



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