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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:

All-powerful Lord, You have the secret of victorious living. In Your indwelling, impelling power within us, You make the difference between a great and a grim day. We all are alarmed by the number of days spent in self-propelled effort, simply because we didn't begin the day by opening the door of our hearts to You.

We come to You in this new day. We have learned that yesterday's experience of fellowship with You or guidance from You will not be sufficient for today's challenges. You seek entrance into every facet of our lives and our work. The latch is always on the inside. Daily, we have a choice to open the door or leave it shut in Your face.

You have work to do here in the Senate, and You plan to do it through the Senators. Come in, Lord; You are welcome! Reign supreme in this Chamber and in our hearts. 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 Alaska, is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, this morning the Senate will immediately resume consideration of the FAA reauthorization bill. It is my understanding that the time for making remarks will follow the vote on the bill. So there will occur a vote on this bill immediately. Following that vote, the Senate will hear remarks concerning the distinguished Senator from Kentucky

and, following that, any legislative or executive items cleared for action, including the Internet tax bill if an agreement can be reached today.

As a reminder to all Members, a cloture motion was filed yesterday on the so-called vacancies bill. Therefore, Members have until 1 p.m. today to file first-degree amendments. The cloture vote has been scheduled to occur at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, September 28.

I thank the Senate and call for the regular order.

WENDELL H. FORD NATIONAL AIR TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1998

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ALLARD). Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of H.R. 4057, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4057) to amend title 49, United States Code, to reauthorize programs of the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes.

The Senate resumed consideration of the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 20 minutes for debate, equally divided between the majority and minority leaders, prior to the vote on passage.

SECTION 606

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I would like to point out to the Chairman that Section 606 contains a provision that appears to grant priority status to a single carrier at Chicago O'Hare for the return of slots previously withdrawn for international service. If it is the intention of this provision to give one carrier at O'Hare preference in slot allocation, the Senate conferees must act in conference to remove this provision.

This provision appears to hand over roughly 35 slots that the dominant carrier at Chicago previously sought to obtain from the Federal Aviation Ad-

ministration (FAA) but was twice denied.

This provision would advantage a single carrier, which knew of the priority of slot withdrawal and should have planned its hub operations to take into account the effects. It strengthens a single carrier's position at O'Hare, a situation which the Congress should not legislate.

As this legislation goes to conference, the Senate is relying on the conferees to ensure Congress is evenhanded in these matters.

Mr. MCCAIN. I understand the Senator's concerns, which others have raised as well. I appreciate the Senator from Oklahoma expressing these views.

DEATH ON THE HIGH SEAS ACT

Mr. WYDEN. I would like to engage in a colloquy with the gentleman from Arizona, the distinguished Chairman of the Commerce Committee, concerning provisions included in the FAA reauthorization bill to reform the Death on the High Seas Act.

Mr. MCCAIN. I would be happy to engage the gentleman from Oregon in a colloquy.

Mr. WYDEN. I thank the Chairman. As the Chairman knows, one of my constituents, John Sleavin, lost his brother and nephew and niece under tragic circumstances when their pleasure boat was run down on the high seas by a Korean freighter. The accident was especially tragic because after the collision there was no attempt by the Korean freighter to rescue the family or even to notify the authorities about the collision. Mr. Chairman, you were very gracious to me in allowing my constituent to testify before the Commerce Committee on the need to reform the Death on the High Seas Act (DOHSA) to provide just compensation for victims like my constituent. I believe he provided compelling testimony on the need for reforming DOHSA for

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



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