



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 106<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 145

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, JUNE 28, 1999

No. 93

## House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 29, 1999, at 12:30 p.m.

## Senate

MONDAY, JUNE 28, 1999

The Senate met at 12 noon 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, Sovereign of this Nation and Lord of our lives, we thank You for outward symbols of inner meaning that remind us of Your blessings. The sight of our flag stirs our patriotism and dedication. It reminds us of Your providential care through the years, of our blessed history as a people, of our role in the unfinished and unfolding drama of the American dream, and of the privilege we share living in this land.

Today, as we pledge allegiance to the flag, we recommit ourselves to the awesome responsibilities You have entrusted to us. May the flag that waves above this Capitol and the flag here in this Chamber remind us that this is Your land.

Our flag also gives us a bracing affirmation of the unique role of the Senate in our democracy. In each age, You have called truly great men and women to serve as Senators. May these contemporary patriots experience fresh strength and vision, as You renew the drumbeat of Your Spirit, calling them to march to the cadence of the rhythm of Your righteousness. In the name of our Lord and Savior. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. We will now have the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag led by Senator KYL.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KYL) led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, on behalf of the majority leader, I would like to note that the Senate will now be in a period of morning business until 1 p.m. Following morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of the agriculture appropriations bill. Under a previous order, the Senate will begin a series of up to four stacked cloture votes at 5:30 p.m. Those votes will be on invoking cloture on the agriculture appropriations bill, followed by cloture on the motion to proceed to the transportation appropriations bill, cloture on the motion to proceed to the Commerce-State-Justice appropriations bill, and cloture on the motion to proceed to foreign operations appropriations. Therefore, Senators can expect the first vote to begin at 5:30 p.m.

I thank my colleagues for their attention.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

### MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 1 p.m. with Senators permitted to speak therein for 10 minutes each.

The Senator from Alabama is recognized.

(The remarks of Mr. SESSIONS pertaining to the introduction of S. 1289 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. SESSIONS. I yield the floor.

Mr. WYDEN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

### MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, and colleagues, this is going to be an important week in the debate about the future of the Medicare program. The White House is coming forward with several useful Medicare proposals. Democrats and Republicans on both sides of the Hill are similarly focused.

This morning I have come to the floor to zero in on the issue of prescription drug coverage for older people under Medicare. I believe if the Senate builds on a bipartisan proposal already approved by a majority of Senators, it will be possible to responsibly add prescription drug coverage to the Medicare program in this session of the Congress.

A few weeks ago, 54 Members of this body voted for legislation offered by

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



Printed on recycled paper.

S7681