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No. 11

House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 12, 2002, at 12:30 p.m.

Senate

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2002

The Senate met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable DANIEL K. AKAKA, a Senator from the State of Hawaii.

PRAYER

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

As we begin this new week, let us think magnificently about God, so that we may serve Him magnanimously and glorify His majesty. Let us pray.

O God, whose love never lets go; whose mercy never ends; whose strength is always available; whose guidance shows the way; whose Spirit provides a supernatural power; whose presence is our courage; whose joy transforms our gloom; whose peace calms our pressured hearts; whose light illuminates our path; whose goodness provides the wondrous gifts of loved ones, family, and friends; whose will has brought us to the awesome tasks of this Senate today; and whose calling lifts us above party politics to put You and the good of our Nation first, we dedicate all that we have and are to serve You this week with unreserved faithfulness and unflinching loyalty.

To You, dear God, be the glory. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable DANIEL K. AKAKA 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.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, February 11, 2002.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable DANIEL K. AKAKA, a Senator from the State of Hawaii, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. AKAKA thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 3 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

In my capacity as a Senator of the State of Hawaii, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

HIGH FRUCTOSE CORN SYRUP

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I rise to speak to my colleagues about our trade policy with Mexico and a very specific dispute we have with them, a dispute that affects agriculture, definitely, and, within agriculture, the production of corn.

Few trade policy developments in recent years have been more significant for the United States than our flourishing economic partnership with Mexico, a partnership that results from trade agreements that have been worked out and are working very well for both countries. The comprehensive free trade agreement, in which we both participate and which has contributed so much to the prosperity and economic freedom in both countries, stands as a model of hemispheric cooperation.

I am greatly troubled by a recent Mexican action that targets the corn-refining industry. I fear this may disrupt and even seriously damage our bilateral trade relations.

On January 1 of this year, Mexico, through congressional action—meaning their Congress—imposed a totally unwarranted discriminatory tax of from 10 to 20 percent on soft drinks sweetened with high fructose corn syrup. The United States is a major supplier of high fructose corn syrup. We export

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



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