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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable ZELL MILLER, a Senator from the State of Georgia.

PRAYER

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

God, we thank You for the power of intercessory prayer. Intercession changes our understanding of what and how to pray, changes our relationship with the people for whom we pray, and actually changes what happens in their lives because we pray. You are constantly seeking to enable deeper relationships and are delighted when, out of love, we come to You and pray about our loved ones and friends.

Today we focus our prayers on the spouses and families of the Senators. They are such a vital part of these leaders' lives. And yet, the very demands of being in the Senate cause strain and stress on marriage and the family. Family members bear the burden of high profile living with its lack of privacy and abundance of public scrutiny and criticism. Although the spouses are not elected to office, often constituencies place heavy responsibilities and demands on them. Keeping pace with schedules, the demands of the family, and the pressures of social calendars creates a formidable challenge.

Father, bless the Senators' spouses, the children, and extended families of parents, brothers, and sisters. We focus them in our mind's eye in this moment of intercessory prayer. Grant each one the healing help and hope that he or she needs today. Through our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable ZELL MILLER 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 legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 7, 2002.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable ZELL MILLER, a Senator from the State of Georgia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. In my capacity as a Senator from Georgia, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. 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.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, this morning the Senate will begin consideration of the farm conference report. There is a unanimous consent agreement that there will be 12 hours of debate: 6 today, 6 tomorrow. The Senate will recess from 12:30 to 2:15 today for party conferences. The leaders at this time are trying to decide whether there will be a vote after debate is completed today.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

FARM SECURITY AND RURAL INVESTMENT ACT OF 2002—CONFERENCE REPORT

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will now proceed to consideration of the conference report accompanying H.R. 2646, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2646), to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2011, having met, after full and free conference have agreed to recommend and do recommend that the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate and the House agree to the same with an amendment, and the Senate agree to the same; that the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate to the title of the bill and agree to the same with an amendment and the Senate agree to the same, signed by a majority of the conferees on the part of both Houses.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of the conference report.

(The conference report is printed in the House proceedings of the RECORD of May 1, 2002, page H1795.)

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be 6 hours of debate on the conference report, to be equally divided between the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

The Senator from Indiana.

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

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