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Senate

The Senate met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable BENJAMIN NELSON, a Senator from the State of Nebraska.

PRAYER

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

Dear God, You give the day and show the way. You guide what we are to do and say and help us without delay. Whatever challenges we must face, You promise us Your strength and grace. You never give us more than we can take, and guide the decisions we must make. Help us to look for vision from above and rejoice in Your unlimited love. When this day comes to an end, may we praise You for being our Father and our Friend. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable BENJAMIN NELSON 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 senior assistant bill clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 21, 2002.

To the Senate:

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

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. NELSON of Nebraska thereupon assumed the duties of the Chair.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

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

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the Senate will shortly begin with a period for morning business that will last for 30 minutes. The Senate will then resume consideration of the trade act. There will be 90 minutes of debate in relation to the Rockefeller-Mikulski-Wellstone steel amendment prior to a rollover vote on a motion to invoke cloture on the amendment at approximately 11 o'clock.

Senators have until 10 a.m. this morning to file second-degree amendments to the steel amendment and until 1 p.m. to file first-degree amendments to the Baucus substitute amendment.

A cloture motion was filed last night on the bill itself, and the vote will take place tomorrow.

The Senate will recess from 12:30 until 2:15 p.m. for the weekly party conferences.

There are numerous amendments now pending on this trade bill. We will do our best to work through those amendments. It will be difficult to do that. As we know, we can do about three votes an hour. It will take a lot of hours to complete all of those amendments. We will do our best to work through that. We hope the managers can accept some of these amendments. That would save a lot of time. There are other amendments that Senators wish to offer. The key amendment, I am told, is the Kerry amendment which is the fifth in order of the amendments pending. I hope we can get to that quickly. If we can work out some limited debate on it, that would be beneficial. But unless we have a unanimous consent agreement, it will be very hard to get time even for debate on that.

There is a lot of work to do.

I understand that today the House is trying to get a rule on the supplemental appropriations bill. If they do that, it is possible we could get the supplemental sometime late tomorrow. That being the case, I am confident Senator BYRD and Senator DASCHLE would like to do the supplemental bill prior to our leaving for the Memorial Day recess. There is a lot of work to do with the limited number of days.

EXTENSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that morning business be for 30 minutes so that debate on the Mikulski matter could start at about 25 minutes until 10, rather than 9:30.

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, 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 9:35 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the time to be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees.

The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. CORZINE. Thank you, Mr. President.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Mr. CORZINE. Mr. President, I rise today to talk about an issue that I have spoken about a number of times

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



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