



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 108th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 149

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 2003

No. 12

House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, January 27, 2003, at 2 p.m.

Senate

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 2003

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The prayer this morning will be offered by our guest Chaplain, Father Daniel P. Coughlin, the Chaplain of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, Father Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Francis of Assisi wrote many years ago to the rulers of his people: "Keep a clear eye toward life's end. Do not forget your purpose and destiny as God's creature. What you are in His sight is what you are and nothing more. Do not let worldly cares and anxieties or the pressures of office blot out the divine life within you or the voice of God's Spirit guiding in your great task of leading humanity to wholeness. If you open yourself to God and His plan printed deeply in your heart, God will open Himself to you."

Lord God, may Your grace and presence be with the Members of the Senate as they fulfill the duties of their office and serve You by serving the people of these United States. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore 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 MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this morning there will be a period for morning business until the hour of 10:45 a.m. At 10:45 a.m., the Senate will resume consideration of H.J. Res. 2, the appropriations bill. Under the order of last night, at 11 a.m., the Senate will proceed to a series of up to three votes in relation to the pending amendments to the appropriations measure. The first vote will be in relation to the Feingold amendment No. 200 regarding expanded international military education. The second vote will be in relation to the Mikulski amendment No. 61 on public-private competition. The third vote will be on the Murray amendment No. 39 regarding the community action program. Following those votes, the managers will continue to work through any remaining amendments. It is hoped we will be able to complete action on this bill at a reasonable time today.

I thank the Democratic leader and whip for their assistance in reaching short time agreements on the amendments that were offered yesterday. We made tremendous progress over the last 36 hours. I thank all Members of this body for their cooperation in coming to the Chamber to offer their amendments and limiting their remarks. A great deal of progress was made yesterday, and if we are able to

continue that good work over the course of today, I believe we will finish this bill and complete these 11 appropriations bills sometime today.

Again, I announce to my colleagues if we complete this bill today, there will be no session of the Senate on Friday.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ALLARD). The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, under the direction of the Democratic leader, we have been able to move a lot of amendments. We also have about six amendments left on this side at this stage, or maybe a couple of others may pop up, but that is what we have. The managers of the bill are going to try to move a bunch of amendments shortly. I think we have an opportunity to finish this bill some time early this evening.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the time for morning business be divided, with the Republicans getting the last half and the Democrats getting the first half.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning

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



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