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## Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable LISA MURKOWSKI, a Senator from the State of Alaska.

### PRAYER

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

Almighty God, we confess that it is sometimes easier to pray about Your presence and power than it is to turn over the control of our lives and our work to You. We are here to serve You by working together as we serve our Nation. But built right into our two-party system is the potential for discord and the lack of civility. Sometimes procedures can become more important than progress and winning more crucial than finding ways of working together.

Now at the beginning of this day, remind the Senators and all of us who serve with them that this is Your Senate, that we are accountable to You, and that we could not breathe a breath without Your permission. In our mind's eye we picture a day in which we can put You and our Nation first. We humble ourselves lest we miss Your call to greatness. For You are our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable LISA MURKOWSKI 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. STEVENS).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,

*Washington, DC, Thursday, March 6, 2003.*  
To the Senate:

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

TED STEVENS,  
*President pro tempore.*

Ms. MURKOWSKI thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. BENNETT. Madam President, the Senate will be in a period for morning business until 10 a.m., with the time equally divided between the two leaders or their designees. Following morning business, the Senate will return to the Estrada nomination, with the time equally divided between the chairman and ranking member of the Judiciary Committee or their designees. At 10:30, the Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on this important nomination. If cloture is not invoked on the nomination, the Senate will resume consideration of the Moscow Treaty. Additional amendments are expected to the resolution of ratification. Therefore, Senators should anticipate votes throughout the day. The Senate will complete action on the Moscow Treaty this week.

### ORDER OF PROCEDURE

I ask unanimous consent that the time allocated for morning business be equally divided between the majority leader and the minority leader or their designees.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. REID. Reserving the right to object.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. We had a majority and minority member coming over this morning. They are not coming now, so for

anyone who has had a desire to come speak and has not had the opportunity, this would be the opportunity to do that until 10 today.

Mr. BENNETT. That is my understanding.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

### MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CRAPO). Under the previous order, the Senate will now be in a period for morning business until the hour of 10.

The Senator from Utah.

### WAR IN IRAQ

Mr. BENNETT. Madam President, seeing no one else here and being prepared to yield as soon as someone comes with a desire to speak, I will take advantage of this opportunity to make a few comments with respect to the pending situation in Iraq.

Since I returned from last weekend in Utah, I have become increasingly aware of how anxious people are about Iraq and the possibility of war in Iraq. This anxiousness comes from those who are supporters of the President as well as those who are detractors of the President. Some who have faith in the President's judgment and in his instincts say, we will back him but we are very concerned about the possibility of going to war. Those who do not have faith in the President's political judgment are almost beside themselves with anger and anxiety that he would go ahead in the face of what they consider to be serious worldwide opposition to the war.

As I look out at the situation, as best I can I have tried to explain to them

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



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