



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 108th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 149

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2003

No. 159

Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable SAM BROWNBACK, a Senator from the State of Kansas.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, Bishop Sharon A. Brown Christopher, United Methodist Church of Illinois, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O God, our foundation that anchors us in stormy times, our hope when all doors seem to close around us, and our light that awakens within us courage to move compassionately toward our neighbor, we give You thanks for Your abiding presence in our lives.

Amid the complexities and anxieties of these days, we ask that You open our ears to hear with clarity the cries of Your human family, especially the children. Open our eyes to see Your vision of life's unity in rich diversity. Open our hearts so that we may in our actions transcend all that keeps us from living lives of generosity, trusting and following You, the source of all life.

May our work today and every day reflect Your intentions for our world. We pray this in Your name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable SAM BROWNBACK 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 legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, November 5, 2003.

To the Senate:

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

TED STEVENS,
President pro tempore.

Mr. BROWNBACK thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there

will be a period for the transaction of morning business for 60 minutes, with the first 30 minutes under the control of the Senator from Kansas, Mr. ROBERTS, or his designee, and the second 30 minutes under the control of the Democratic leader, or his designee.

The Senator from Nevada is recognized.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, so that Democratic Senators will have some knowledge of what is going to happen in the time we have, we have three Senators who have asked to speak—Senators AKAKA, HARKIN, and BEN NELSON. That should use up our 30 minutes.

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

SCHEDULE

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, as the Acting President pro tempore has indicated, there will be 60 minutes of morning business. Following that, the Senate will begin the consideration of H.R. 2673, the Agriculture appropriations bill. It is the majority leader's intention to complete action on that measure during today's session. The Senate will begin working through amendments to the bill this morning. Senators who have amendments are asked to contact the bill managers as soon as possible.

NOTICE

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BRUCE R. JAMES, *Public Printer*.

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



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