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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 20, 2004, at 2 p.m.

Senate

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 2004

The Senate met at 9:45 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JOHN E. SUNUNU, a Senator from the State of New Hampshire.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Lord our God, whose power and love destroyed the darkness of death and sin, thank You for hardships that keep us humble and for misfortunes that keep our minds on You. Rule our wills by the might of that love wherewith You have set us free. Keep us from untimely and self-made cares, as we continue to look to You, the author and finisher of our faith.

Support our Senators with Your grace. Give them faith to look beyond today's challenges and trials and to know that neither life nor death can separate them from Your love. Help each of us to prove our gratitude to You by selfless service for those who need our love and care. We pray this in the Name of our redeemer. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JOHN E. SUNUNU 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, April 7, 2004.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN E. SUNUNU, a Senator from the State of New Hampshire, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS,
President pro tempore.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. This morning, the Senate will conduct a period of morning business until 10:45 a.m. We may make some adjustments to that because we want a full hour of morning business. There will be some leader time used by myself and the Democratic leader. Morning business will be for an hour, with the first half under the control of the Democratic leader and the second half under the control of the majority leader.

Following that 1 hour of morning business, the Senate will begin 2 hours for debate with respect to the motion to proceed to the Pregnancy and Trauma Care Access Protection Act of 2004.

Following the debate, the Senate will recess until 2:15 for the weekly policy luncheons to occur. When the Senate reconvenes at 2:15, there will be a vote on invoking cloture on the motion to proceed to the consideration of the Pregnancy and Trauma Care Access Protection Act. This procedural vote will require 60 votes. Unfortunately, it became necessary due to objections from the other side of the aisle.

Following that vote, the Senate will conduct a second cloture vote relating to the FSC/ETI, the JOBS bill. This will be the second cloture vote with respect to this JOBS bill, the FSC/ETI bill. I hope we will be successful in invoking cloture and bringing this FSC/ETI issue to conclusion.

An issue we need to address this week is the pension equity conference report. That conference report has passed the House by a large margin, and it is now at the desk. We need to consider that measure prior to adjourning for the Easter recess. I will be talking to the Democratic leader after our statements this morning about reaching an agreement for a period of debate and a vote on the pension equity conference report.

I will briefly comment on the JOBS bill, the FSC/ETI bill. The progrowth policies this Senate, this body has passed in 2001 and 2003 are policies which keep more money in the hands of individuals and businesses and out of the grasp of Government. These policies have begun to pay dividends, dividends we have seen over the last several months, realized in the improvement in the economy and in the job

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



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