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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, May 10, 2004, at 12 noon.

Senate

FRIDAY, MAY 7, 2004

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable GORDON H. SMITH, a Senator from the State of Oregon.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's prayer will be offered by the guest Chaplain, Dr. Alan Keiran, the Senate Chaplain's chief of staff.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O, God, at Your command we lift up our praises to Your holy Name. You call us to worship and honor You, for You are our hope in times of need, our shelter in the storms of life, and our strength in moments of weakness. You alone are our rock and our salvation.

Grant us this day, O Lord, the spiritual stamina and wisdom needed to fulfill Your divine purposes for our lives. Guide us in paths of righteousness for Your name's sake.

Go before our Senators and their staffs and guide them in meeting the many challenges and obligations of this day. Free them from persistent worries and grant them the clarity of thought needed to discern your perfect ways in the midst of many appealing options. Grant them precious moments of quiet reflection, divine illumination, and peaceful consolation.

Be with all those whose thoughts are focused on loved ones in harm's way. Watch over our courageous military men and women as they seek to bring order out of chaos at the risk of their own lives.

Bless this great Nation with the outpouring of Your sovereign protection—

for You alone, O Lord, can exalt a nation, and You alone can deliver us from evil.

In the Name that is above every name, I pray. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable GORDON H. SMITH 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 bill clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 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 GORDON H. SMITH, a Senator from the State of Oregon, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS,
President pro tempore.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from South Carolina is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina. Mr. President, today the Senate will conduct a period of morning business with Senators to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The leader announced last night that we have been unable to reach an agreement, and it appears it will be necessary to file cloture today on the FSC/ETI JOBS bill. It is disappointing that many of the amendments remaining have nothing to do with the underlying bill.

The leader also announced that no rollcall votes will occur today and all Members should be aware that the next rollcall vote can be expected Monday evening. We will hear more on the schedule later in the day.

I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership 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 with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MINORITY LEADER

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

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



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