



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 108th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 150

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, MAY 10, 2004

No. 64

Senate

The Senate met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable GORDON H. SMITH, a Senator from the State of Oregon.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Precious Lord, we thank You for Your absolute holiness and justice, for You are the sovereign Judge of the universe. We praise You that Your kingdom cannot be shaken. You will never be voted out; no coup will ever dethrone You.

Thank You for the gifts and talents You have given to our Senators. You have blessed them with influence that can make a difference. You have supplied them with analytical skills to cut through the labyrinthine maze of complex issues. You have surrounded them with capable people who also labor for freedom.

Remind them often that to whom much is given, much is required. Make them good stewards of affluence and influence that they will use Your gifts to serve those on life's fringes. Prepare our hearts to respond to You and to live for Your glory. To You be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. 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 assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 10, 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.

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 now be a period for the transaction of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, today the Senate will conduct a period for morning business, with Senators to speak for up to 10 minutes each. Shortly, we expect to lock in an agreement for a vote at 5:30 this evening on the adoption of a Senate resolution relating to Iraqi prisoners. That will be the first rollcall vote of the day.

The Senate may also resume consideration of the FSC/ETI JOBS legislation. I filed cloture on that bill on Friday, and that cloture vote will occur Tuesday morning. We are still hoping

to work out an agreement to allow for a vote on the pending Cantwell amendment prior to that cloture vote. I will continue to talk with Members this afternoon about that agreement, and I will update Senators as to what to expect in the timing of those votes later in the day.

In any event, it is time that we bring the FSC/ETI JOBS bill to a close. We have been on that bill 12 days. We have considered and disposed of 20 different amendments on the floor of the Senate—9 rollcall votes and 11 voice votes.

Again, I remind my colleagues, if cloture is invoked, germane amendments will be offered. As we mentioned at the end of last week, those amendments would be discussed and debated for up to 30 hours postcloture.

For the remainder of the week, following the completion of the FSC/ETI bill, we will proceed to S. 1248, the IDEA, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, legislation. We have an agreement as to how we will proceed on the IDEA bill. Therefore, we will be able to finish that bill this week.

Finally, I remind Senators that we have 2 weeks remaining before the next recess, and we have a number of items we must address prior to that recess, including the Defense authorization bill, the budget conference report, if available, bioshield, sending the highway bill, a very important bill, to conference, as well as nominations. Senators should be prepared for full weeks and busy sessions in order to finish our work before the Memorial Day recess.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Democratic whip.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I appreciate the distinguished majority leader yielding to me. I know he has some remarks he wishes to make. We are going to have a cloture vote sometime tomorrow. There is a possibility, as there

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



Printed on recycled paper.

S5051