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## Senate

The Senate met at 1 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

### PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

O God, who rides the wings of the wind, You are powerful yet patient. You show Your mercy to those who trust You. The clouds are only dust beneath Your feet and Your voice can be heard in life's storms.

Help America to hear You speaking in the storms that challenge our land. Make us a nation true to our best beliefs. Lead Your Senators today, along fresh paths of understanding. May they receive insights that will solve the problems that impede our national progress. Heal our world.

O God, our King, You have won victories everywhere on this Earth. We look to You today to direct and keep us. Lead us this week in an awareness of being Your children as You teach us to do Your will.

We pray this in Your holy Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore 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.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, today the Senate will resume consideration of the Defense authorization bill. There are seven pending amendments at this

time, with two of those being second-degree amendments.

As I stated Friday, I expect rollcall votes at 5:30 today on some of the pending amendments, or others that may be offered over the course of the afternoon.

At this time no votes have been set, but I will be consulting with the chairman and ranking member as to which amendments will be ready for rollcall votes this evening. We expect at least a couple of votes today on Defense amendments. As always, we will alert Members as those are set.

This is now the fourth week of consideration of this bill. The Senate began consideration of the Defense authorization on May 17. Since that time, we have had a number of challenges with respect to the schedule, but I think we have had adequate time to debate and consider this very important bill.

I vitiated the scheduled cloture vote last week, given a good-faith effort to complete this bill. Now is the time to work to bring this bill to an end.

Following tonight's votes, I hope we can stack additional votes for Tuesday morning, with a further agreement as to what remains. We will be prepared to stay late tomorrow if necessary in order to finish this bill. I expect Members to be prepared for that event.

Last, I have two scheduling reminders for Senators. The official photograph will be taken tomorrow at 2:15. Senators should be seated promptly at their desks at 2:15 for that photograph.

Second, there is a possibility of a Members only briefing on Iraq for Wednesday at 3 p.m. Once again, we will alert all Senators when this is all confirmed.

### RECOGNITION OF THE ASSISTANT MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The assistant Democratic leader is recognized.

### DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION

Mr. REID. If the distinguished majority leader will allow me to offer a few comments, it is my understanding that the distinguished chairman of the committee and Senator LAUTENBERG worked out side-by-side votes on his amendment and your second-degree amendment.

Mr. WARNER. I did not hear the Senator.

Mr. REID. I said it is my understanding for this afternoon we could have a vote on the Lautenberg amendment and also the amendment you offered in the second degree.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senators should put their remarks through the Chair.

Mr. FRIST. I ask the chairman to comment on the schedule.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I talked to Senator LAUTENBERG this morning. He made that request to me. I say this with all due respect. I second-degree that amendment. The second degree, of course, would be in order for the first vote.

I just wonder. I am perfectly prepared to say yes, but if we begin to sequentially vote every second degree and underlying, we are going to be here for some period of time. Could some evaluation be made by the distinguished Senator from Nevada, after the vote on the second degree, as to whether in fact it merits the time of the Senate to go forward with the second vote?

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I think the distinguished chairman, as usual, makes a lot of sense. If, in fact, the second-degree amendment is agreed to overwhelmingly, of course it would not make a lot of sense to vote on that first amendment. I am sure we can work something out on that. I wanted the majority leader to know that we at least have one vote, perhaps two votes, lined up tonight at 5:30 or whenever the majority leader decides.

We have a number of other issues pending. Senator DURBIN has offered an

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



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