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Senate

The Senate met at 9:45 a.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.

King of our lives, in sunshine or in shadows, we belong to You. You speak to us in both our moments of joy and sadness. We hear Your whispers through our pain. You prepare the earth for harvest and Your rivers never run dry.

In an uncertain world, we can turn to You for security. Thank You for forgiving us and for chasing away our gloom. You confuse those who seek to harm us, and You shield us with Your amazing grace and love.

Continue to guide and bless our Senators. Give them a peace more profound than anything the world can offer. Use them to bless our Nation and world. Keep them from temptation and deliver them from evil, for the kingdom, the power, and the glory belong to You. 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 we will begin a period of morning business for up to 60 minutes. The majority will control the first half of that time and the minority will control the remain-

ing second half. Following the 1 hour of morning business, the Senate will resume the pending intelligence reform legislation.

I do once again congratulate the chairman and ranking member, Senators COLLINS and LIEBERMAN, for their opening remarks yesterday. I am pleased we are now underway on this historic bill. We had a good start yesterday. We had a number of Members participating in the debate yesterday. Three amendments were offered, and they are now pending.

It would be my hope we could continue to make progress on the bill over the course of today, continue the good progress from yesterday and dispose of a number of amendments in addition to the ones that have been offered. Thus, we can expect votes over the course of the day on the intelligence reform amendments.

As is usual on a Tuesday, we will be breaking from 12:30 to 2:15 for the weekly policy luncheons. Again, as I mentioned yesterday, as we all know, we have scheduling challenges over the course of the week during the nights, which in many ways is good because it means we absolutely must focus, beginning right up front in the morning, and work through the day to process the bill, to process amendments, and to, of course, vote.

Again, I think every evening this week there are major commitments by both caucuses and the caucuses working together. Thus, we really absolutely must continue to work aggressively over the course of the day. There are a lot of people with a whole range of amendments to offer. We have had a long time for people to both now look at the bill but also, since late July, to have Senators and their staffs address the important issues and the recommendations which were made public in late July by the 9/11 Commission and since that time through a lot of hearings during August in the Governmental Affairs Committee that had a

superb markup where a number of amendments were offered, debated, and adopted.

It gave the Senators on that committee the opportunity to highlight the important issues, to dispose of a number of them, but also, I believe, to make it so on the floor, when we address amendments that are similar to and in some cases maybe even the same amendments, we can deal with those in very expeditious ways since so much groundwork has been laid.

I am going to encourage, with the leadership on both sides of the aisle, the managers to gather these amendments just as soon as possible. All 100 Senators need to recognize that we have very few days, really just a few more than a handful of days, before we depart on October 8. Although we have dealt with many of these issues over the last several days and weeks, it is critical that we see the amendments so we can plan out the next several days on the bill. I have encouraged all of our colleagues to bring those amendments to the managers today, this morning.

With that, I will close my remarks and turn to the Democratic leader either for general comments or comments on the course of the week.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The minority leader is recognized.

INTELLIGENCE REFORM AND SCHEDULE

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I confirm the schedule as Senator FRIST has laid it out. The majority leader has been very clear about the intent that we both have to try to finish this work as quickly yet as thoroughly as we can. I would hope that we could work on a finite list. I would hope that we could reach time agreements on amendments. This is a piece of legislation

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



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