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Senate

The Senate met at 9 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.

Sovereign Lord, the way, the truth, and the life, give us the courage to follow You. Help us to follow You in our quest for ethical fitness. Help us to follow You in service to the lost, the lonely, and the least. Help us to follow You in going the second mile in our labors. Help us to follow You in loving our enemies, in blessing those who curse us, and in praying for those who misuse us.

Today, guide our Senators with Your might. Empower them with wisdom and courage.

We pray 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.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM ACT OF 2006

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 2611, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2611) to provide for comprehensive immigration reform and for other purposes.

Pending:

Inhofe amendment No. 4064, to amend title 4, United States Code, to declare English as

the national language of the United States and to promote the patriotic integration of prospective U.S. citizens.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The acting Republican leader is recognized.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, we are on the immigration bill. We have a lineup of amendments which we are anxious to take up. We have a considerable number of amendments pending on both sides of the aisle. Our lead amendment is the one to be offered by Senator KENNEDY. The amendment has now been reviewed, and I think it may be necessary to have a little extra time, which ought not to pose a problem since the vote will not occur until 10 o'clock. But Senator CORNYN would like 10 minutes of time, and Senator KYL may want a little time, so my suggestion would be that, if the Senator from Massachusetts wants to start the debate, that would be agreeable. It is his amendment, obviously. We would then turn to Senator CORNYN for 10 minutes.

I would like to put other Senators on notice that we want to proceed with the other amendments. Senator INHOFE is next in line, then Senator AKAKA, Senator ENSIGN, Senator NELSON, Senator VITTER, Senator DURBIN, Senator KYL, and Senator CHAMBLISS. It would be appreciated if those Senators would come here at least 15 minutes ahead of the anticipated time their amendment will come up so that we could move right along and not lose floor time.

I yield to my distinguished colleague from Massachusetts.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, we look forward to this. What was, then, the time allocation requested? Is it 25, 10, 10, 5? Is that what the Senator suggested?

Mr. SPECTER. Ten for Senator CORNYN, ten for Senator KYL, and I would like five.

Mr. KENNEDY. So that is 25.

Mr. SPECTER. Yes.

Mr. KENNEDY. Then I think we would get 15.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we just received word that Senator DORGAN wants 10 or 15 minutes.

Mr. KENNEDY. Have we added all that up?

Mr. SPECTER. Suppose we divide the time equally.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the agreement, it is 20 minutes, equally divided.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, it is my understanding the two managers want that modified. Rather than 20 minutes on this amendment, it will be 55 minutes, the time evenly divided between now and 10. I ask unanimous consent for that modification.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. SPECTER. That is acceptable.

Mr. REID. No second-degree amendments would be in order?

Mr. SPECTER. Agreed.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered. Time is equally divided between now and 10 a.m. and there will be no second-degree amendments.

Who yields time?

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, if Senator CORNYN would like to begin the debate, I yield 10 minutes to him.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Texas is recognized.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, less than 24 hours after the Senate voted to protect American workers and to put them first when it comes to competition for jobs in this country, the Senator from Massachusetts has now offered an amendment that would literally gut the amendment that was adopted yesterday and put American workers in the back seat and foreign workers who wanted to come here and participate in a guest worker program in the front seat.

President Bush has spoken time and time again about a guest worker program that matches willing workers with willing employers. But Senator KENNEDY's amendment would do nothing of the kind. It would allow people

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



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