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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, March 5, 2007, at 12:30 p.m.

Senate

FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 2007

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable SHERROD BROWN, a Senator from the State of Ohio.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Holy One, who expresses Your love to us each day, shower us with Your mercy that we may rejoice and be glad. May the gift of Your presence be more than sufficient to meet the needs of our Senators. Lead them to Your truth and inspire them with Your love.

Lord, give the Members of this body the wisdom to depend on Your power and to stand firm as they meet the challenges of our time. Do for them far more than they can ask or imagine. As they strive to do Your will, teach them to say the right thing at the right time and to serve with faithfulness. Keep them humble and fill them with a spirit of gratitude. May they always be willing to acknowledge their total dependence upon You.

We pray in Your loving Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable SHERROD BROWN 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. BYRD).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, March 2, 2007.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable SHERROD BROWN, a Senator from the State of Ohio, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. BROWN 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.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we are going to immediately resume consideration of S. 4. At 10 a.m., there will be two rollcall votes, first with respect to the Sununu amendment regarding cross-border interoperability. The second vote is in respect to the Salazar amendment regarding rural policing. These will be the only votes today. Members are welcome to stay after the

votes and offer amendments and speak on amendments that are pending.

One amendment that has generated a lot of controversy within the Senate and outside of this body is the DeMint amendment. I hope Members will come and speak about it. As staff has talked, I have mentioned briefly to the Republican leader what we would like to do. Monday night, we will have several votes. We will have more than one vote at 5:30. What I would like to do is on Tuesday have McCaskill and DeMint in the morning. The only thing we have to work out is how much time has to be spent on the DeMint amendment prior to a vote. We hope Senators will come and talk about those matters this afternoon and Monday.

I repeat, Members have the opportunity this afternoon and Monday. We will come in at whatever time we think is appropriate. If we get word that Senators want to offer amendments, we can come in earlier rather than later so that Members may offer amendments and speak about them and so we can move to conclusion of this legislation.

Members have been previously informed that we would be voting on March 5. I am surprised that March is here already, but it is.

We have done well on this bill. I have been satisfied—I think everybody has been—with the demeanor of the debate. It has been very good.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 800

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I understand that H.R. 800 is at the desk and due for a second reading.

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



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