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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 8, 2009, at 2 p.m.

Senate

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2009

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND, a Senator from the State of New York.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal spirit, thank You for the continuous blessings of Your handiwork. From the first blush of dawn to the wonders of the starry heavens, we are daily made aware of Your creative might.

Bless our Senators to see the wonder of Your presence on Capitol Hill today. In the hands of the many workers who enable them to do their work, help them to catch a glimpse of the unity and cooperation You desire for them. Make them willing to both receive and give forgiveness as they manifest Your spirit in deeds of kindness. As our lives intertwine through common tasks, remind us that ultimately we are accountable to You. Guide our thinking, speaking, and decisions that we may live worthy of Your great love.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND 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 bill clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, August 6, 2009.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND, a Senator from the State of New York, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Madam President, following leader remarks, there will be a period of morning business until 10 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each. It is my understanding the senior Senator from Iowa wishes to speak on a sad note in his life, and if he needs more than 10 minutes, I ask unanimous consent that be the case.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. At 10 a.m., the Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Sonia Sotomayor to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. The debate until 2 p.m. will be controlled in alternating hour blocks of time, with the Republicans controlling the first hour and the managers and leaders controlling the time from 2 p.m. until 3 p.m., with each permitted to speak for up to 15 minutes. At 3 p.m., the Senate will proceed to vote on confirmation of the nomination.

Upon disposition of the nomination, the Senate will turn to the emergency supplemental appropriations bill for the Consumer Assistance to Recycle and Save Program, known as cash for clunkers. Under an agreement reached last night, seven amendments are in order prior to a vote on passage of the bill. Each amendment has up to 30 minutes of debate prior to a vote. I am hopeful that some debate time can be yielded back so that we will be able to begin voting at a reasonable time this afternoon.

APPRECIATION FOR COOPERATIVE SPIRIT

Madam President, I wish to spread on the record my appreciation for the cooperation from all Senators. We worked through some difficult things yesterday to get to the point where we are today. I especially wish to express my appreciation to the Republican leader, Senator MCCONNELL, who had to work through some difficult issues on his side, as I did on mine. We spoke and met yesterday many times. Of

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



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