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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, November 2, 2009, at 12:30 p.m.

Senate

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2009

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable MARK UDALL, a Senator from the State of Colorado.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

God, be with us, before us, behind us, and in us. God, be beneath us and above us. Stay on our right and left. Sustain us when we lie down, when we sit and arise.

Be in the hearts of our Senators, guiding their speech and directing their actions. Give them Your special gifts of wisdom and understanding, patience and strength so that their labors will hasten the coming of Your kingdom.

We pray in Your strong Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable MARK UDALL 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, October 30, 2009.

To the Senate:

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

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado 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. Mr. President, following leader remarks, there will be a period of morning business. We have no set time on it this morning, although Senators will be allowed to speak for up to 10 minutes each during the pendency of that morning business. There will be no rollcall votes today. The next rollcall vote will occur at 5 p.m. on Monday, November 2. The vote will be on the motion to invoke cloture on the substitute to amendment H.R. 3548, the Unemployment Benefits Extension Act, which has attached to it the very important extension of the first-time home buyers tax credit, which has been modified to allow people other than first-time home buyers to now buy homes.

In addition to that, there is an extremely important provision to help the economy, the loss carryback, and we hope to complete that as soon as possible. If, in fact, cloture is invoked Monday night, that would be done quickly. The House said they would accept that, and that could be done as early as Tuesday and signed by the President, which would be a great relief to realtors all over the country. It would be important for banks, especially community banks, so that they would be in a position to start helping small businesses more as a result of the legislation that is attached to that, the loss carryback. If, in fact, the Republicans are going to keep stalling, then we won't be able to do that until probably sometime Tuesday night.

Each day that goes by is critical. We have a million people—1 million people—who are eligible for this; 7,000 new people every day, 49,000 a week. We have been stalled for 3 weeks with this, meaning 150,000 people have lost their benefits during the time the Republicans have stalled this very important piece of legislation. It is legislation that is paid for. It doesn't increase the debt. It allows people who have been unemployed for long periods of time to continue receiving unemployment benefits. It is stunning to me to understand how the Republicans can hold this up, but they have. I hope that stops on Monday night.

NEVADA

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the story of Nevada is the story of America, really. We became a State on October 31, 1864,

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



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