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## Senate

The Senate met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable RICHARD BLUMENTHAL, a Senator from the State of Connecticut.

### PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Holy Father, we come into Your presence today to look at ourselves as we are and to seek Your power to become what You would have us be. Search our hearts and empower us to do Your will.

Encourage our lawmakers to fulfill Your purposes for the glory of Your Name. Move mightily in their hearts and align them with Your kingdom perspective. As blessings flow when Your will is done, let them not take credit for what Your sovereign hand accomplishes on our behalf.

Today, and through the days of this week, call us to You that we may be transformed from mere followers to true servants of Your kingdom. We pray in Your everlasting Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable RICHARD BLUMENTHAL 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. INOUE).

The bill clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, October 3, 2011.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable RICHARD BLUMENTHAL, a Senator from the State of Connecticut, to perform the duties of the Chair.

DANIEL K. INOUE,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL 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 any leader remarks, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 3:30 p.m. today. At 3:30, the Senate will begin consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 1619, which is the Currency Exchange Rate Oversight Reform Act.

At 4:30, the Senate will be in executive session to consider several judicial nominations.

At 5:30, there will be two rollcall votes. The first vote is on the confirmation of Henry Floyd, of South Carolina, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit. The other vote will be on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to the currency exchange matter.

### CURRENCY MANIPULATION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, today the Senate begins another very busy work period. I am confident this work period will be productive.

Tonight, the Senate will vote to begin debate on legislation to curb China's unfair currency manipulation. I expect strong bipartisan support to move this legislation forward. There have been conversations between the bipartisan supporters of this legislation in the House of Representatives

and the administration. My colleagues—both Democrats and Republicans—agree that China's deliberate actions to devalue its currency give its goods an unfair competitive advantage in the marketplace. Their goods do not deserve that. That is not fair. It hurts our economy and it costs American jobs. In the last decade alone, we have lost more than 1 million American jobs to China because of this trade deficit fueled by currency manipulation. A massive trade deficit is one of the reasons for our unsustainable unemployment rate. This legislation we are going to move to will even the playing field and help American goods compete in a global market and help keep American jobs here at home.

Democrats believe there is no problem facing this Nation that deserves our attention more than the jobs crisis. This bill is part of the effort to get our economy back on track and put Americans back to work. If China stops the practices that artificially tip the scales in its favor, it would create 1.6 million American jobs fairly quickly. I hope this legislation will motivate China to stop devaluing the yuan on its own. I also know it will send a strong message to the Chinese that Americans will no longer ignore their blatant, unfair trade practices.

### A BUSY WORK SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we expect to quickly wrap up work on the China currency legislation this week. We have a lot to get done this month, so the Senate must move fast.

One out of every nine Federal judge-ships remains vacant, which puts at risk the right of every American to a fair and speedy hearing. While I have been frustrated at the slow pace in confirming judicial nominees this Congress, I am pleased we have been able to reach an agreement to confirm 10 judges this week and next. These nominations are noncontroversial, and they

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



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