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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JOHN E. WALSH, a Senator from the State of Montana.

PRAYER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The guest chaplain, Dr. Raphael Warnock, senior pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church of Atlanta, GA, will lead the Senate in prayer.

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

God of love and justice, for this new day with its new possibilities, we are grateful. For the holy covenant we have with You and for the sacred covenant we have with one another as an American people, we are grateful. For the precious ideals of freedom, self-government, radical inclusion, and equal protection under the law, we are grateful. These are Your gifts. Grant that when we, the American people, especially those who serve in this the people's house, are weighed by the moral balance of history, we will be found worthy.

God, make us mindful that we might be found worthy; mindful that the moral test of government is how it treats those at the dawn of life, the children; those who are in the twilight of life, the aged; those who are in the shadows of life, the sick, the needy, the handicapped. O God, make us mindful of our inextricable connections to one another and of our sacred obligation as careful stewards of this global neighborhood we are blessed to share.

To the God who loves us into freedom, and frees us into loving, we offer this prayer. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer 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. LEAHY).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, April 10, 2014.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN E. WALSH, a Senator from the State of Montana, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WALSH thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

MINIMUM WAGE FAIRNESS ACT— MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. I move to proceed to Calendar No. 354, the minimum wage legislation.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 354, S. 2223, a bill to provide for an increase in the Federal minimum wage and to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend increased expensing limitations and the treatment of certain real property as section 179 property.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following my remarks and those of the Republican leader, the time until 10:30 a.m. will be equally divided and controlled.

At 10:30 a.m. there will be a vote on the Ninth Circuit judge, whose name is

Michelle Friedland. Until cloture is invoked there will be up to 30 hours of debate prior to vote on the confirmation of the nomination. So we have two votes we need to have before we leave here this week. We can have a vote at 4:00 tomorrow afternoon and the second vote would be around 7:00 or thereabouts tomorrow afternoon or tomorrow evening. We have to finish these two matters before we leave this week.

The schedule is up to—not Republicans but a few Republicans—so I would suggest the Republicans deal with their own, and we can finish this morning if we need to. We certainly could.

Mr. President, I would be happy to yield to my friend, the dignified and really superb Senator from Georgia.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Georgia.

WELCOMING THE GUEST CHAPLAIN

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I thank the leader for the introduction and I am very pleased to introduce today the Reverend Raphael Warnock, the senior pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta. He is a gifted author, a gifted and prolific preacher, and a great citizen of the great State of Georgia and the great city of Atlanta.

Following in the traditions of the King family and the preachers of Ebenezer Baptist Church, he is the fifth pastor in the history of Ebenezer to carry out the mission of Ebenezer with great humility and great ability and great love, and is a great pastor in our eyes. I am pleased to welcome him to the U.S. Senate, and I know we will all be blessed in his presence today.

I yield back.

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

46TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1968

Mr. REID. Tomorrow marks the 46th anniversary of the signing into law the Civil Rights Act of 1968, better known as the Fair Housing Act. This landmark legislation took a stand against

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



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