The Senate met at 12 noon and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Dear God, thank You for the grand assurances that inspire confidence and build courage. It is what we believe about You that brings us back to the work of the Senate with enthusiasm and expectation. You are Lord of all, the Source of wisdom and guidance, the Author of creative and innovative thinking, the Answer to life’s most challenging problems. You choose and call leaders and equip them with insight and vision. This Nation has been given a special place in the family of nations to display democracy and maintain Your justice. In response, may the Senators choose to be chosen and believe they are blessed to be a blessing and rejoice in the realization that You will provide exactly what is needed as they work together for Your glory. You are our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING
MAJORITY LEADER

Mr. BUNNING. I thank the Chair.

SCHEDULE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able acting majority leader is recognized.

Mr. BUNNING. Today the Senate will be in a period of morning business from 12 noon to 2 p.m. Following morning business, the Senate will begin consideration of S. 1122, the Department of Defense appropriations bill. Completion of that bill is expected early in the week. Therefore, Senators should be prepared to offer amendments to the bill as early as possible.

Further, it is the intention of the majority leader to move to proceed to the Y2K legislation today. It is expected that a cloture motion will be filed on that motion today with a cloture vote to occur on Wednesday at a time to be determined by the majority leader. Tomorrow, it is the intention of the majority leader to move to proceed to the Social Security lockbox legislation with a cloture vote to occur on that legislation on Thursday.

I thank my colleagues for their attention.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

(Mr. BUNNING assumed the Chair.) The PRESIDENT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 2 p.m., with the time being equally divided between the two leaders or their designees.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDENT. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I will speak in just a moment about a bill I have introduced. I, at this point, suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

GALISTEO BASIN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROTECTION ACT OF 1999

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about a bill, S. 1193, which I introduced on May 20 of this year for the protection of various historical sites in the Galisteo Basin in my home State of New Mexico. The basin is located in Santa Fe County, NM. As shown on this map—it is very hard for anyone to see this map I understand—this is Santa Fe and the Galisteo Basin is this area south of Santa Fe where the various dots are shown. These dots identify the location of the various historical sites that are talked about in the bill. To understand the importance of these sites, it is important to understand the little history about this basin. When the Spanish Conquistadors arrived in New Mexico in 1598, they found a thriving native pueblo culture with its own unique traditions, its own religion, and its own architecture and art, which was enriched and influenced by an extensive system of trade. The subsequent history of conflict and coexistence between these two cultures—the pueblo Indian culture on the one hand and the Spanish culture—shaped much of the language and the art and cultural world view of the people in my State today.

The initial history of cultural interaction in New Mexico encompassed a period of a little over 100 years from 1598 through the pueblo revolt in 1680 and also the period of recolonization by the Spanish in the early 1700s. Among these sites, which are shown on this map and which are discussed in the bill, are examples of both the stone and the adobe architectural styles which typified Native American pueblo communities prior to and during early Spanish colonization, including two of the largest of these ancient towns, San Marcos and San Lazaro Pueblos. Each of these large towns had thousands of rooms at their peak.

Also included in these sites are spectacular examples of Native American petroglyph art, as well as missions which were constructed as part of the Spaniards’ drive to convert the native populace to Catholicism. The 26 archaeological sites addressed in this bill provide a cohesive picture of this central nexus of Native history depicting the culture of the pueblo people and illustrating how it was affected by the Spanish settlers.

Through these sites, we have an opportunity to truly understand the simultaneous growth and the coexistence of these two cultures. Unfortunately, this is an opportunity we may soon lose. Most of these sites are currently not part of any preservation program, and through weathering, erosion, vandalism, and amateur excavations, they are losing their ability to be interpreted at a later date.

This legislation creates a program under the Department of the Interior to preserve these sites and to provide interpretive research in an integrated manner. While many of these sites are on Federal public land, many are privately owned and, there are a few on State trust lands. The vision behind this legislation is that an integrated preservation program at sites on Federal lands could serve as a foundation for archaeological research that could be augmented with voluntary cooperative agreements with State agencies and private landowners. These agreements will provide landowners with the opportunity for technical and financial assistance to preserve their property. Where the parties deem it appropriate, the legislation would also allow for the purchase of these properties...