

SENATE—Wednesday, September 13, 2000

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

PRAYER

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

Almighty God, we claim Your promise through Jeremiah, "Call on me and I will show you great and mighty things which you do not know."—Jeremiah 33:3. We press on with confidence to the challenges ahead today. Irrespective of perplexities, You are with us. The bigger the problems, the more of Your power we will receive. The more complex the issues, the more wisdom You will offer. Equal to the strain will be the strength that You grant us.

So, we humble ourselves and confess our need for Your divine inspiration. Our experience, education, and expertise are insufficient to grasp the full potential of Your vision for America and the world. We need Your x-ray discernment into potential blessings wrapped up in what we often call problems. Endow us with wisdom to see clearly the solutions we could not discover without Your help. Give us courage to seek and follow Your guidance. Set our hearts on fire with greater patriotism for our country and a deeper dedication to be courageous problem-solvers for Your glory and for Your grace. You are our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable RICK SANTORUM, a Senator from the State of Pennsylvania, 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.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

SCHEDULE

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, today the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 10 a.m. Following morning business, there will be 60 minutes for closing remarks on two amendments: the Byrd amendment regarding safeguards and division 6 of the Smith amendment regarding organ harvesting.

After all time is used or yielded back, there will be two back-to-back votes at

11 a.m. Senators should be aware that there are amendments currently pending to the PNTR bill and further amendments are expected to be offered during today's session. Therefore, votes are expected throughout the day.

I thank my colleagues for their attention.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, at this time I ask the Chair to call regular order.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 10 a.m., with time equally divided between the Senator from Wyoming, Mr. THOMAS, and the Senator from Illinois, Mr. DURBIN.

**UNANIMOUS-CONSENT REQUEST—
S. 2497**

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, on behalf of the majority leader, I have been asked to make a unanimous-consent request.

I ask unanimous consent that immediately following the passage of H.R. 4444, the Commerce Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 2497 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration under the following terms: Two hours on the bill to be equally divided in the usual form; that there be up to one relevant amendment in order for each leader, that they be offered in the first degree, limited to 30 minutes equally divided and not subject to any second-degree amendments; and that no motions to commit or recommit be in order.

I further ask unanimous consent that following conclusion or use of debate time in the disposition of the above described amendments, the bill be advanced to third reading and a vote occur on final passage of the bill, as amended, if amended, all without any intervening action or debate.

The bill has to do with the entertainment industry and the entertainment industry marketing their videos and CDs to those people—children—who are proscribed, really, from buying them or attending those kinds of movies. These are R-rated movies. Children under 17 are not permitted in these without an adult. Yet we have a report just issued, I think earlier this week, that says the

movie industry targets the very people who are not supposed to be viewing these kinds of materials or listening to these kinds of materials.

So this is a unanimous-consent request to move this out of the Commerce Committee and to deal with this issue on the floor promptly. This is an important issue that has been a bipartisan issue in the past. I hope my unanimous-consent request will be approved by the Democrats.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. REID. Reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we, also, in the minority, are very interested in this subject. We think the Vice President and nominee has, along with others, set a good tone as to how we should look at what is going on with media. However, as we speak, at this very minute there are hearings on this subject going on in the Commerce Committee. The ranking member, Senator HOLLINGS, has not had an opportunity to review this unanimous-consent request. We believe if there is going to be legislation brought before the Senate, it should be in the regular order; that is, there should be an opportunity to amend the legislation if in fact that is necessary. We know there are a number of Senators who wish to offer amendments.

This unanimous-consent request that we have allows one amendment, and on that one amendment Senators can speak for 30 minutes. So when we have so much to do in this body—we have 11 appropriations bills we have not completed. I am going to discuss, in a little bit, some more things on education. We have a Patient's Bill of Rights we need to do, a prescription bill we need to do, minimum wage—I think it is awfully late in the game, when we have 15 days in the session left, to start talking about media violence. This is an issue that has been outstanding for many months. We have members of the minority who have spoken out on this time after time.

Based on that, and for other reasons, we object.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. SANTORUM. The reason we are trying to move expeditiously here is the FTC has come out with a record that shows the egregious nature of the conduct of Hollywood with respect to the marketing to young people of material that is inappropriate for them,