

SENATE—Tuesday, October 24, 2000

(Legislative day of Friday, September 22, 2000)

The Senate met at 3:02 p.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's prayer will be offered by our guest Chaplain, Dr. Richard Foth, Falls Church, Virginia.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, Dr. Richard Foth, offered the following prayer:

Shall we pray.

We speak to You today, gracious God, as fall colors peak in Washington, DC, and election campaigns peak across the country. While both nature and Government anticipate new seasons, we recognize afresh that You hold nature to Yourself but allow us to govern ourselves. We embrace both processes with grateful hearts.

We ask Your comfort for the pain and grief felt in so many homes on every continent this day. From Norfolk to Israel, from Belfast to equatorial Africa, wherever families weep their losses, we pray that You would wrap Your arms around the hurting and hold them with a grip like all eternity.

In time of bounty as a nation, Lord, never let us forget that we are always needy in spirit. Thank You for calling us to love You with all our heart, all our soul, and all our strength, for it encourages us also to appreciate each other. May that ideal ring true across our great land and be nurtured among the very able and gifted men and women who represent us here.

While we await the outcome of the Presidential campaign, help our Senators to steadfastly execute their responsibilities. May they find grace and peace in the midst of intensity generated by pressured agendas and races for Senate seats. Today in this Chamber may they be granted wisdom beyond their years and grace beyond their differences that through the intensity of debate and decision, the people will benefit.

We ask these things in the Name above every name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable DON NICKLES, a Senator from the State of Oklahoma, 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 PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. NICKLES). The Senator from Wyoming.

SCHEDULE

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 5 p.m. today. As a reminder, the Senate is expected to take action on the conference report to accompany the foreign operations appropriations bill as soon as it becomes available. However, votes are not expected to occur during today's session of the Senate. Votes will occur tomorrow and, as usual, Senators will be notified as those votes are scheduled. It is the leadership's intention to complete all business by the end of the week. I thank my colleagues for their attention.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business for a period not to exceed beyond the hour of 5 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 5 minutes each.

Under the previous order, the Senator from Wyoming, Mr. THOMAS, or his designee, is recognized to speak for up to 15 minutes. Under the previous order, the Senator from Illinois will be recognized after the Senator from Wyoming.

CHEYENNE RIVER SIOUX TRIBE EQUITABLE COMPENSATION ACT

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Chair lay before the Senate a message from the House to accompany S. 964.

There being no objection, the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

Resolved, That the bill from the Senate (S. 964) entitled "An Act to provide for equitable compensation for the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, and for other purposes", do pass with the following amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

TITLE I—CHEYENNE RIVER SIOUX TRIBE EQUITABLE COMPENSATION

SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Equitable Compensation Act".

SEC. 102. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—
(1) by enacting the Act of December 22, 1944, (58 Stat. 887, chapter 665; 33 U.S.C. 701-1 et seq.), commonly known as the "Flood Control Act of 1944", Congress approved the Pick-Sloan Missouri River Basin program (referred to in this section as the "Pick-Sloan program")—

(A) to promote the general economic development of the United States;

(B) to provide for irrigation above Sioux City, Iowa;

(C) to protect urban and rural areas from devastating floods of the Missouri River; and

(D) for other purposes;

(2) the Oahe Dam and Reservoir project—

(A) is a major component of the Pick-Sloan program, and contributes to the economy of the United States by generating a substantial amount of hydropower and impounding a substantial quantity of water;

(B) overlies the eastern boundary of the Cheyenne River Sioux Indian Reservation; and

(C) has not only contributed little to the economy of the Tribe, but has severely damaged the economy of the Tribe and members of the Tribe by inundating the fertile, wooded bottom lands of the Tribe along the Missouri River that constituted the most productive agricultural and pastoral lands of the Tribe and the homeland of the members of the Tribe;

(3) the Secretary of the Interior appointed a Joint Tribal Advisory Committee that examined the Oahe Dam and Reservoir project and concluded that—

(A) the Federal Government did not justify, or fairly compensate the Tribe for, the Oahe Dam and Reservoir project when the Federal Government acquired 104,492 acres of land of the Tribe for that project; and

(B) the Tribe should be adequately compensated for the land acquisition described in subparagraph (A);

(4) after applying the same method of analysis as is used for the compensation of similarly situated Indian tribes, the Comptroller General of the United States (referred to in this title as the "Comptroller General") determined that the appropriate amount of compensation to pay the Tribe for the land acquisition described in paragraph (3)(A) would be \$290,723,000;

(5) the Tribe is entitled to receive additional financial compensation for the land acquisition described in paragraph (3)(A) in a manner consistent with the determination of the Comptroller General described in paragraph (4); and

(6) the establishment of a trust fund to make amounts available to the Tribe under this title is consistent with the principles of self-governance and self-determination.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this title are as follows:

(1) To provide for additional financial compensation to the Tribe for the acquisition by the Federal Government of 104,492 acres of land of the Tribe for the Oahe Dam and Reservoir project in a manner consistent with the determinations of the Comptroller General described in subsection (a)(4).