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PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 106th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

SENATE—Wednesday, May 10, 2000

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable WAYNE ALLARD, a Senator from the State of Colorado.

PRAYER

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

Almighty God, nothing is impossible for You. You have all power. Nothing happens without Your knowledge and without Your permission. You will what is best for us as individuals and as a nation. You desire to bless us with the wisdom and discernment we need to solve problems. And yet we have learned that You wait for us to ask for Your help. By Your providence You have placed the Senators in positions of great authority, not just because of their human adequacy but because they are willing to be available to You, attentive to You, and accountable to You. They know that if they trust You, You will be on time and in time to help them in crucial discussions and decisions. Give them the courage to put the needs of the Nation first, above political advantage.

You have promised that those who pray with complete trust in You will receive the answers to their prayers.

In the name of Him who is the Way, Truth, and Life, Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable CONRAD BURNS, a Senator from the State of Montana, 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. THURMOND).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 10, 2000.

To The Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, section 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable WAYNE ALLARD, a Senator from the State of Colorado, to perform the duties of the Chair.

STROM THURMOND,
President pro tempore.

Mr. ALLARD thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, this morning the Senate will immediately proceed to a vote on the motion to proceed to the African trade and CBI enhancement conference report. If the motion to proceed is adopted, cloture will be filed, and debate will begin on the conference report immediately. Many Senators have expressed interest in making statements on this important legislation, and therefore the debate is expected to consume most of today's session.

By previous consent, the vote on cloture on the conference report will occur at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday morning. Following disposition of the African-Caribbean Basin legislation, the Senate will begin consideration of appropriations bills as they become available for action.

I thank my colleagues for their attention.

H.R. 434—CONFERENCE REPORT

I extend my congratulations to the Finance Committee for their efforts in the conference on this bill. Chairman ROTH was very much involved in the development of a very good conference report. I recognize the Senator from New York and his very effective staff for their involvement.

We have not had a major piece of trade legislation pass the Congress in 5

years. I think this is a tremendous accomplishment. I think it is going to be good for the American people, for American jobs, for consumers, for sub-Saharan Africa, for the Caribbean and Central American countries, and good for the industries that are connected in this trade area.

So I congratulate all those who were involved in this conference. I am very pleased to see we will take it up and I certainly plan to vote for it.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from New York.

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator ROTH, who will be returning next week, I would like to express the gratitude of the Finance Committee and of our staff. We would not be here without you, who convened the meetings over 5 long months ago that brought us to this point. And with a measure of temerity, may I say this is the first trade measure on our floor in 6 years.

I thank you again.

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2000—CONFERENCE REPORT

MOTION TO PROCEED

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the motion to proceed to the conference report to accompany H.R. 434.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A motion to proceed to the consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 434 to authorize a new trade and investment policy for sub-Saharan Africa.

The Senate proceeded to consider the motion.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

Under the previous order, the question is on agreeing to the motion to proceed to the conference report to accompany H.R. 434.

The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. ROTH), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL),

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