The Senate met at 12 noon and was called to order by the Presiding Officer, the Honorable Jon S. Corzine, a Senator from the State of New Jersey.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
The Honorable Jon S. Corzine 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 clerk will please read the following letter:

"U.S. Senate.
President pro tempore.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable Jon S. Corzine, a Senator from the State of New Jersey, to perform the duties of the Chair.

Robert C. Byrd
President pro tempore.

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME
The Acting President pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the previously scheduled cloture vote on the Murray-Shelby substitute amendment occur at 2 p.m. today and that the time from noon until 2 p.m. be divided as previously ordered—that is, equally between the two sides—and that it be in order for Senators to utilize some of the available time to speak as in morning business.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that the last 10 minutes of the debate, the time from 1:50 until 2 p.m., be divided between the two leaders or their designees, with Senator Daschle controlling the last 5 minutes.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that Senators have until 1:30 p.m. today—that is, from the previously scheduled 12:30 p.m. today—to file second-degree amendments to the pending legislation.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, for the benefit of Senators, we felt it was imper-ative—and we are grateful there has been agreement between the two leaders—that this time be changed. There is a ceremony taking place in the Capitol today dealing with the Code Talkers, those very courageous Navajos who contributed so much to our success during World War II. So today there will be 2 hours of debate equally divided between Senators Daschle and Lott or their designees prior to 2 p.m. A cloture vote on the substitute amendment to the Transportation Act will occur at 2 p.m. We expect to remain on the Transportation Act until we complete that. There will be rollovers votes throughout the day today, and there is much more work to do.

We hope we can recess for the August time period next Friday, and there is a lot of work to do from now until then.

We hope everyone will cooperate and allow us to move forward as quickly as possible.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Missouri.

Mrs. Carnahan. Mr. President, I yield myself such time as I may con-sume from the time allotted to the majority leader or his designee in order to speak in morning business.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The remarks of Mrs. Carnahan pertaining to the introduction of S. 1250 are printed in today's Record under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Iowa is recognized.

Mr. Grassley. We are in morning business, is that right?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator is correct.

TAX RELIEF FOR WORKING FAMILIES—PART II

Mr. Grassley. Mr. President, I rise to speak on the tax relief for working families that the Senate passed a few weeks ago and was signed into law by President Bush.

This is the second in a series of speeches I am giving to highlight the details of this bipartisan tax cut that provided significant relief to millions of Americans.

In today's speech I want to focus on the many provisions in the bipartisan bill that provide tax relief for working families and particularly families with children.

First, I wish to discuss the efforts to address the marriage penalty that existed throughout the structure of the income tax. For far too many years, the Tax Code penalized working families where both the husband and wife work. It is simply wrong that we had a Tax Code that penalized marriage.

The bipartisan tax cut completely ends the marriage penalty for many low- and middle-income families and makes significant strides in reducing the marriage penalty for all other families.

This is accomplished through two actions. First, the bill provides that the standard deduction for those who are married filing jointly will be set at two times the rate of a single individual.

For example, when everyone filed their tax returns this last April 15, the standard deduction for singles was $4,400. However, the standard deduction for married filing jointly was only

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