

SENATE—Friday, November 16, 2001

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JON S. CORZINE, a Senator from the State of New Jersey.

PRAYER

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

Gracious God, Sovereign of this land, we enter into the season of thanksgiving with a great need for spiritual renewal that takes place when we return to an attitude of gratitude. In the midst of the problems we face at this time, we need the refreshing rejuvenation that comes when we turn from our trials and focus on thanksgiving for all blessings. You have shown us that gratitude is not only the greatest of all virtues but the parent of all others. Any achievement without gratitude limps along the road of life; anything we accomplish without giving thanks becomes a source of pride. You desire our gratitude because You know it helps us grow; other people never tire of feeling the affirmation that is communicated when we express our thankfulness for them; and we require gratitude to avoid being self-serving and arrogant.

O God, we praise You for this Nation of freedom and democracy. We repent of our pride that entertains the idea that we are in charge of the destiny of this land. Grant us the true humility that comes from acknowledging that You are the source of all we have and are. Now we are ready to thank You in advance for Your help in the resolution of the problems we face in this present crisis. In the Name of the Lord. Amen.

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 ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,

Washington, DC, November 16, 2001.

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.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have been asked to announce by Senator DASCHLE, the majority leader, that we are going to be in a period of morning business. Senators are going to speak for up to 10 minutes each. There will be no rollcall votes today. There will be no rollcall votes until 2:30 p.m., Tuesday, November 27.

Last night, the Senate agreed by unanimous consent to limit debate on the conference report to accompany S. 1447, the aviation security bill, which everyone worked so hard on all week. Debate time will be limited to 90 minutes. Upon the use or yielding back of that time, the conference report will be adopted.

The managers are expected momentarily to begin discussion of this most important piece of legislation.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 2873

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I understand that H.R. 2873 is at the desk and is due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The leader is correct.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent H.R. 2873 be read for a second time, and I then object to do any further proceedings at this time.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the bill by title for the second time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2873) to extend and amend the program entitled Promoting Safe and Stable Families under title IV-B, subpart 2, of the Social Security Act, and to provide new authority to support programs for mentoring children of incarcerated parents; to amend the Foster Care Independent Living program under title IV-E of that Act to provide for educational and training vouchers for youths aging out of foster care, and for other purposes.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there

will now be a period for the transaction of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

The Senator from Texas is recognized.

AFGHAN WOMEN AND CHILDREN RELIEF ACT OF 2001

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, we are all awaiting the bill that we have all worked so hard to produce this week, the Aviation Security Act. I will not speak about that act because, obviously, we have others who have worked very hard on the bill. We want to make sure that everyone is able to speak for or against it before we pass it. But the good news is, we are going to pass it.

I did want to take this opportunity, though, during morning business to mention a bill that passed last night. It is a bill that was cosponsored by every woman in the Senate. There are 13 women in the Senate. All of us cosponsored this bill. It is to make sure that the Congress speaks on the priorities that we believe are imperative as we give aid to Afghanistan, that women be included in that aid.

As so many of us know, the Taliban treated women especially cruelly, not allowing them access to health care. Not allowing a male doctor to see a woman effectively kept women out of the system because women are not allowed to work, and therefore female doctors are not allowed to practice under the Taliban.

In addition, women have not been able to go outside their homes without a male escort, so many times a widow would not be able to get the food necessary to feed her children or the health care for her children.

Women were not allowed to be educated under the Taliban, so we see 5- and 6-year-old girls who have had no education whatsoever because they have lived under the Taliban regime.

The bill that passed unanimously in the Senate last night spoke to those issues to say we want United States aid to be especially there for the people of Afghanistan as we rebuild the country.