

SENATE—Thursday, November 29, 2001

The Senate met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JEAN CARNAHAN, a Senator from the State of Missouri.

PRAYER

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

Gracious God, we thank You for the privilege of living in this land You have blessed so bountifully. You have called the United States to be a demonstration of freedom and equality, righteousness and justice, opportunity and hope that You desire for all nations. O God, help us to be faithful to our heritage in this time of war against terrorism.

Today we gratefully remember the memory of Johnny Michael "Mike" Spann, marine and CIA agent who gave his life in the battle in Afghanistan, in his own words, "to make this world a better place in which to live."

Now we praise You for the way that You have blessed this Senate with great leaders in each period of our history. Through them You continue to give Your vision for the unfolding of the American dream. Bless the Senators with a renewed sense of their calling to greatness through Your grace. You have appointed them; now anoint them afresh with Your spirit. As they confront the soul-sized, crucial issues today, give them a spirit of unity and cooperativeness. The workload is great, the pressure is heavy, the challenges formidable, but nothing is impossible for You.

Fill this Chamber with Your presence. You are the judge of all that will be said and done today. Ultimately, we have no one to please or answer to but You. With renewed commitment to You and reignited patriotism, we press on to live the page of American history that will be written today. Through our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JEAN CARNAHAN 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. BYRD).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, November 29, 2001.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JEAN CARNAHAN, a Senator from the State of Missouri, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mrs. CARNAHAN thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

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

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Madam President, this morning the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to H.R. 10. There will be 60 minutes of debate equally divided between the two leaders. The Senate will vote on cloture on the motion to proceed at approximately 10 a.m.

MEASURE PLACED ON CALENDAR—H.R. 2983

Mr. REID. Madam President, I understand H.R. 2983 is at the desk and due for its second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The leader is correct.

Mr. REID. I ask that H.R. 2983 be read a second time and then I would object to any further proceedings on this legislation at this time.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the title of the bill.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2983) to extend indemnification authority under section 170 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, 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, the leadership time is reserved.

COMPREHENSIVE RETIREMENT SECURITY AND PENSION REFORM ACT OF 2001—MOTION TO PROCEED

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

Senate will now resume consideration of the motion to proceed to H.R. 10, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to the bill (H.R. 10) to provide for pension reform, and for other purposes.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there shall be 60 minutes of debate prior to the cloture vote.

Who yields time? If neither side yields time, time will be charged equally to both sides.

The Senator from Nevada is recognized.

REPUBLICAN ENERGY PLAN

Mr. REID. Madam President, yesterday there was considerable talk on the Senate floor regarding the Republican energy plan, using that term loosely, talking about the need for us to move forward. The majority leader has announced that we are going to take up an energy bill in February. He has given a date. I guess it is difficult for some to take yes for an answer. We are going to go to an energy bill just as soon as we get back. It is important we do that.

In the meantime, there is this constant harangue from the other side about how important it is that we go to an energy bill right now. We agree that there should be an acknowledged policy in this country. It is very important we do that.

We have to understand that under their plan, an increase in oil import dependence would go from 56 percent today to well over 60 percent by the year 2010.

According to the Energy Information Administration, which is part of the DOE, by 2010, cars, light trucks, and SUVs will use an additional 1.8 million barrels of oil a day. Total oil use will increase by twice that much to about 3.6 million barrels a day. The Republican plan does virtually nothing to address oil consumption. Their mantra is supply, supply, supply.

Nothing the United States does will have any impact on the price of oil. That price is determined in the world market. If we don't address our consumption, we might drive the price higher.

The United States currently uses 25 percent of the world's oil supply.

U.S. oil production has been declining since 1970. Even if ANWR were opened to oil development, the most optimistic scenario would only result in a net increase of less than half a million barrels a day. That is a lot of oil, but certainly it will not do anything to address the major problems we