

**SENATE—Wednesday, December 5, 2001**

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON, a Senator from the State of New York.

**PRAYER**

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

Almighty God, Sovereign of this Nation and Lord of our lives, in each period of history, You have blessed us with great leaders who have exemplified love for You and dedication to our country. Today we celebrate such a man. Thank You for Senator STROM THURMOND.

We join with all Americans in celebrating his 99th birthday. You have blessed him to be a blessing to his beloved South Carolina and to the Nation as a whole.

Thank You for the enrichment of our lives by this man. He has shown us the courage of firm convictions, the patriotism of love for this Nation, and devotion and true commitment to the Senate. We praise You for the personal ways he has inspired each of us. He is an affirmer who spurs us on with words of encouragement. Your Spirit of caring and concern for individuals shines through this remarkable man.

Gracious God, bless the Senator with the assurance of Your love and of our affirmation. Through our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Honorable HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON 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, December 5, 2001.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON, a Senator from the State of New York, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,  
President pro tempore.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada.

**SCHEDULE**

Mr. REID. Madam President, this morning the Senate will resume consideration of the Railroad Retirement Act. Senator NICKLES will be recognized to make a point of order against the Daschle substitute amendment. Then Senator BAUCUS will be recognized to move to waive the Budget Act. There will be 30 minutes for debate on the motion to waive followed by a vote at approximately 10 a.m. If the Budget Act is waived, the Daschle substitute amendment will be agreed to and the Senate will vote on final passage of the bill.

Following disposition of the Railroad Retirement Act, there will be 60 minutes of debate on the motion to proceed to the farm bill followed by a vote on the cloture motion to proceed to the bill.

**MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 1765**

Mr. REID. Madam President, I understand that S. 1765 is at the desk and is due for its second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator is correct.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask that S. 1765 be read for a second time, and I then will object to any further proceedings at this time on this legislation.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows: A bill (S. 1765) to improve the ability of the United States to prepare for and respond to biological threat or attack.

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.

**COMPREHENSIVE RETIREMENT SECURITY AND PENSION REFORM ACT OF 2001**

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of H.R. 10, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows: A bill (H.R. 10) to provide for pension reform, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Daschle (for Hatch/Baucus) amendment No. 2170, in the nature of a substitute

**RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER**

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

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, I will reserve some of my leader time to make a short statement as we wait to complete our work on the railroad retirement bill.

**TERRORISM IN THE MIDDLE EAST**

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, when our country was attacked on September 11, countless countries came forth to express condolences, to condemn those heinous attacks and to make clear that they stood with America in our time of trouble. The statements were a welcome reassurance from the family of nations that we would not be standing alone in the campaign against terror.

I come to the floor today to send my condolences to the families of the 26 Israelis killed in this weekend's attacks in Jerusalem and Haifa, to send my prayers to the scores more who were injured, to condemn in the strongest terms those attacks—and the attack that occurred just this morning, and to reassure our friends in Israel that just as they stood with us, we stand with them.

Like people all over the world, I went to bed on Saturday deeply shaken by the horrifying images from Jerusalem.

Not only were the attacks timed to occur during busiest time of the week in an area frequented by young people, but a second bomb was intended to maim and kill emergency response workers trying to assist the victims. It is some small measure of consolation that the second bomb didn't kill anyone. Still, it is hard to imagine a more inhumane plan; hard to imagine, that is, until I woke up Sunday morning, and heard reports of the second attack—in Haifa. In this case, a suicide bomber boarded a bus full of innocent people just starting their work week.

These coordinated bombings marked the deadliest terrorist attacks in the history of the State of Israel.

For the past 15 months, the United States, Europe, and moderate Arab states have called on Chairman Arafat to use his authority to put an end to this violence. At times we have heard helpful words, but we have not yet seen decisive action. Even this morning,