

following the vote tomorrow morning, the Senate stand in recess until 12 noon so that the Senate may proceed as a body to the House Chamber for a joint meeting to hear an address by Ukrainian President Yushchenko.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, tomorrow the Senate will resume debate on the State Department authorization bill. The leader has announced that under the previous order, we will vote in relation to the Biden amendment at 10 a.m., and that will be the first vote of the day.

Following that vote, the Senate will continue working through amendments to the bill. There are six additional amendments currently pending, and it is the leader's hope that we can work out time agreements on these, plus any other amendments offered tomorrow.

Again, we will have an abbreviated week due to the events at the Vatican. It is the leader's intention to complete action on the State Department reauthorization bill this week. Therefore, it is paramount that we make strides on this bill during tomorrow's session. Senators should expect rollcall votes throughout the day and into tomorrow evening.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment following the scheduled debate with respect to Social Security.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, let me make a couple of comments and then I will yield to Senator DORGAN a couple of minutes as respective chairmen of the policy committees of both parties to describe what is going to happen briefly.

Sometimes, people watching C-SPAN will see a lone Senator giving a speech on the floor of the Senate and that passes for debate, and they ask, Where is the debate? Where is the joinder of the issues with one side asking the other a question and one side responding to the other's questions?

As a result of the fact that we don't have enough of that real debate in the Senate, what Senator DORGAN and I and our respective parties have agreed to is to conduct real debate, such as high school or college debates that many are familiar with, where there is a set time—in this case, 70 minutes—and each of four speakers, two on the

Republican side and two on the Democratic side, have a few minutes, in this case 6 minutes, to make a presentation. Then when those presentations are over, each will ask the other questions. They will take a minute to ask the question with 2 minutes to respond; then, when the questions are over, there will be a brief summing up period of time. That can allow the positions of the parties to be articulated well and yet permit an exchange of rebuttal and surrebuttal, which actually enables the parties to question each other, to challenge each other's premises and then to respond; in effect, conduct a real debate. The exact time limits are known to the parties.

At this time, I ask unanimous consent, without reading the agreement which has been agreed to by both parties respecting the relative time and order of presentation, that the agreement be deemed read and agreed to, and that it be deemed self-executing in the event that either Senator DORGAN or I should not be on the floor for purposes of yielding time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, for the next 70 minutes, as soon as Senator DORGAN is done with his preliminary comments, we will conduct this debate on the subject of Social Security. I invite those who are watching C-SPAN, as well as our colleagues, to tune in here because this may be one of the few real debates that we have until this subject actually is taken up on the floor of the Senate.

Finally, the subjects are chosen by mutual agreement, and we hope to have more of these debates this year and the following year, conducted roughly in this same kind of format so we can engage on other subjects as well.

I yield to the Senator from North Dakota.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I thank the Senator. We are the chairmen of our respective policy committees, Republican and Democratic parties. We have on previous occasions decided to arrange some debates on the floor of the Senate about some significant issues. I participated in previous debates. For this evening, however, the debate will occur between Senator DURBIN and Senator STABENOW on the Democratic side, Senator DEMINT and Senator SANTORUM on the Republican side. This debate is about Social Security, the larger issue, and also the merits of private accounts in Social Security.

I assume this will be a spirited discussion because it is a discussion that has been moving around the country at a very significant pace in recent weeks. It was said once that when everyone in

the room is thinking the same thing, no one is thinking very much. I happen to think debate strengthens this democracy of ours.

I recall several years ago I picked up the Washington Post and there was a big debate going on about something very controversial, and someone was quoted in the Washington Post. They said, This whole thing has degenerated into a debate about principles. I read that, and I guess that is why I came here. I hope so. I hope that is what debate is about.

Tonight, we will one more time begin a discussion and a debate, in this case on a subject that is very important in this country. I thank the two Republicans and the two Democrats, distinguished colleagues, who have agreed to participate in this debate. As my colleague Senator KYL indicated, this debate will be self-executing. The rules are known to all participants.

With that, let me turn this debate period over to the participants who have agreed to begin.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader or his designee is now recognized for 6 minutes.

Mr. SANTORUM. Thank you, Mr. President. I thank both chairmen for structuring this debate.

I am here to talk about the problems confronting the Social Security system. Then my colleague Senator DEMINT will talk about in more detail the solutions we are putting forth—many of us on the side of the aisle are putting forward.

The problem with Social Security is it is driven by demographics. Social Security is a pay-as-you-go system. That means the people working pay into the system for those who are retired. The system worked well when you had a lot of people working and only a few people retiring. But that has fundamentally changed over the years. As a result of that change, what you see in the red line is a dramatic increase in taxes—from 2 percent, which is what the tax was on Social Security in 1936, now up to 12.4 percent. It was 2 percent on the first \$3,000 you made. That is the green bar. Now it is up to 12.4 percent of the first \$90,000 you make. If you are working in the system now, that is when you start, high based; in other words, almost every dollar most people make is going to be taxed at a very high rate.

This is a big tax burden on future generations of America as we stand today. But this tax right now doesn't pay for the benefits that are going to be provided for future generations. Why? Demographics are changing.

The first thing to happen is the fact that we are not having as many children. There are some exceptions to that. But we are not having as many children as we had in previous years. You see the baby boom generation, 6.3 children of women of childbearing age.