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PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 111th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

SENATE—Thursday, September 23, 2010

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

PRAYER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's opening prayer will be offered by Reverend Dr. Joel Hunter, senior pastor of Northland Church, Longwood, FL.

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Almighty God, we give You thanks for our democracy that gives each citizen a voice; for our freedom of religion that gives each citizen a choice; and for our goal of e pluribus unum that gives each citizen a responsibility of co-operation.

We ask that You would bridle our tongues toward constructive speech, that You would help all herein to live up to the stature and privilege of leadership, and that You would grant all herein wisdom and courage beyond their natural abilities and their party's limitations.

Bless each of our Senators for their efforts on behalf of us all, and make them servants of the people of the United States of America and of Your intentions for this great country.

In Your Name we pray. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND 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. INOUYE).

The bill clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, September 23, 2010.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of Rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND, a Senator from the State of New York, to perform the duties of the Chair.

DANIEL K. INOUYE,
President pro tempore.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 3827

Mr. REID. Madam President, it is my understanding that S. 3827 is at the desk and is due for a second reading.

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3827) to amend the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 to permit States to determine State residency for higher education purposes and to authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain alien students who are long-term United States residents and who entered the United States as children, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I object to any further proceedings with respect to the bill.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard. The bill will be placed on the calendar.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Madam President, following leader remarks, the Senate will proceed to a period of morning business until 10:30 this morning, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each, with the Republicans controlling the first half and the majority controlling the second half.

At 10:30 a.m., the Senate will consider the motion to proceed to S.J. Res. 30, which is a joint resolution of disapproval regarding the National Mediation Board. Under the time agreement previously reached, there is 2 hours of debate equally divided, so the vote on the motion to proceed to the joint resolution is expected to occur around 12:30 p.m. today.

Upon disposition of the joint resolution of disapproval, the Senate will turn to the consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 3628, the DISCLOSE Act. A cloture vote on the motion to proceed will occur at 2:15 p.m.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

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

THE DISCLOSE ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, we are now in day 2 of debate regarding the DISCLOSE Act—2 more days Senate Democrats have chosen to ignore the jobs of the American people in an effort to save their own job.

Americans are speaking out, but Democrats in Congress still aren't listening. At a time when Americans are clamoring for Democrats in Congress to do something about jobs and the economy, Democrats are not only turning a deaf ear, they are spending 2 full days here working to silence the voices of even more people with a bill that picks and chooses who has a right to political speech. This is precisely why Americans are speaking out loudly—loudly—about the excesses of this administration and this Congress. This is why Senate Republicans strongly support the efforts Republicans in the House will unveil later this morning in Virginia.

The proposals House Republicans will put forward today are clear proof that, unlike Democrats in Washington, Republicans have been listening intently to Americans over the past year and a half. Americans have been telling us

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