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Senate

(Legislative day of Monday, March 27, 1995)

The Senate met at 9 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

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

Let us pray:

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths—Proverbs 3:5-6.

Lord, what You desire from us You inspire in us. You use whom You choose; You provide for what You guide; You are working Your purposes out and know what You are about. We trust You with all our hearts. Infuse us with Your spirit and use us.

We praise You for the challenges of this day that will force us to depend more on You. Knowing that You never forget us, help us never to forget to ask for Your help. Set us free of any worries that would break our concentration on the work You have given us to do today. We entrust to Your care our loved ones and friends, those who are ill or confronting difficulties. And Lord, help us to be sensitive to the needs of people with whom we work today. Let us take no one for granted assuming that a polished exterior is the result of a peaceful interior. So enable us to be to others what You have been to us. Help us to live this day as if it were the only day we had left. So if there is any kindness we can show, and affirmation we can give, any care we can impart, Lord, help us to express it today. May we be a boost and not a burden; a source of courage and not of cynicism. Lord, this is the day You have made and we plan to rejoice and be glad in it. In Your holy name.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

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

SCHEDULE

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, this morning the leader time has been reserved and there will be a period for morning business until the hour of 10 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes each, with the exception of the following: Senators DOMENICI and BIDEN, 5 minutes each, Senator COVERDELL for up to 15 minutes, and Senator THOMAS for up to 35 minutes.

At the hour of 10 a.m., the Senate will begin consideration of S. 219, the moratorium bill. Amendments are expected to the bill. Therefore, Senators should be aware that rollcall votes are possible throughout today's session. Also, the Senate will stand in recess between the hours of 12:30 and 2:15 for the weekly party luncheons to occur.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DEWINE). Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 10 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for not to exceed 5 minutes.

The Senator from New Mexico [Mr. DOMENICI] is recognized to speak for up to 5 minutes.

Mr. DOMENICI. I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mr. DOMENICI and Mr. WELLSTONE pertaining to the introduction of S. 632 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

THE STATE OF AMERICA'S CHILDREN

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, today, the Children's Defense Fund, a

wonderful organization—and thank God there is such an organization with a strong voice for children—has issued a report, "The State of America's Children."

I would, for my State of Minnesota, like to release some statistics from this report on the floor of the Senate and then I would like to talk about what these statistics mean in personal terms for my State and for the politics of the country for this Congress.

Minnesota's children at risk—this report was issued today by the Children's Defense Fund: 60,615 children lacked health insurance in the years 1989 to 1991—over 60,000 children lacking health insurance; 27,462 reported cases of child abuse and neglect, 1992—27,462 reported cases; 116 young men died by violence, 1991; 48 children were killed by guns, 1992.

Only 71.4 percent of 2-year-olds were fully immunized, 1990—30 percent of children not fully immunized. This is my State of Minnesota and, in my humble opinion, that is the greatest State in the country; 35 percent of 4th grade public school students lacked basic reading proficiency, 1992.

Those are Minnesota's children at risk.

Mr. President, on the back of this report released today by the Children's Defense Fund, there are the following statistics, which I have read on the floor of the Senate before, but this is a new report, new data:

Every day in America, three children die from child abuse.

Every day in America, 15 children die from guns.

Every day in America, 27 children—a classroomful—die from poverty.

Every day in America, 95 babies die before their first birthday.

Every day in America, 564 babies are born to women who had late or no prenatal care.

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



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