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Senate

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

PRAYER

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

Gracious God, help us to listen to Your fear-dispelling words: ''Fear not, I am with you, I will never leave nor forsake you. You are mine for eternity.''

Lord, You remind us to seek to please only You and we will have nothing or no one to fear. Help us to face our fears, allow You to displace them with Your indwelling presence, and erase them with Your forgiving love. Free us to love ourselves as loved by You. Banish any frightening memories.

Holy Love, cast out our fear. You are our strength, wisdom, and courage. When we endure the qualified love of others, we can be sure of Your unqualified love.

We surrender our own control and trust You to guide us each step of the way. We need not manipulate people, but motivate them with Your love. We can trust Your guidance in decisions and Your solutions to the most complicated problems. Use our imaginations to picture and live Your best for our lives. We have nothing to fear. Thank You, Father, through our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

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

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, thank you.

SCHEDULE

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, on behalf of the majority leader, I announce that this morning the Senate will resume consideration of S. 1061, the Labor-HHS appropriations bill. As under the order reached last evening, there will be 30 minutes of debate equally divided on the Nickles amendment, No. 1081, regarding Teamsters elections, to be followed by 30 minutes of debate equally divided on the Gregg amendment, No. 1070, regarding educational testing.

Following that debate time, at approximately 10 a.m. there will be a series of four stacked rollcall votes, including final passage of the Labor-HHS appropriations bill.

Following those votes, the Senate will begin consideration of S. 830, the FDA reform bill. Under the previous order, there will be 1 hour of debate under the control of Senator JEFFORDS, and 1 hour of debate under the control of Senator KENNEDY.

In addition, a cloture motion is expected to be filed on the FDA reform bill today. Also, it is anticipated that the Senate will begin consideration of H.R. 2107, the Interior appropriations bill.

Subsequently, following the ordered votes, which begin at approximately 10 a.m. this morning, additional votes are expected.

I wish to thank my colleagues for their attention.

MEASURE READ FOR THE SECOND TIME—S. 1160

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk that is due for its second reading.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1160) to provide for educational facilities improvement.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I object to further proceedings on this matter at this time.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The bill will be placed on the calendar.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the pending business.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:.

A bill (S. 1061) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes.

The Senate resumed consideration of the bill.

Pending:

Gregg amendment No. 1070, to prohibit the use of funds for national testing in reading and mathematics, with certain exceptions.

Coats-Gregg amendment No. 1071 (to amendment No. 1070), to prohibit the development, planning, implementation, or administration of any national testing program in reading or mathematics unless the program is specifically authorized by Federal statute.

Nickles-Jeffords amendment No. 1081, to limit the use of taxpayer funds for any future International Brotherhood of Teamsters leadership election.

Craig-Jeffords amendment No. 1083 (to amendment No. 1081), in the nature of a substitute.

Harkin-Bingaman-Kennedy amendment No. 1115, to authorize the National Assessment Governing Board to develop policy for voluntary national tests in reading and mathematics.

Domenici (for Gorton) modified amendment No. 1122, to provide certain education funding directly to local educational agencies.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. KENNEDY addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Massachusetts is recognized.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, as I understand it, the time between now and 9:30 is evenly divided on the Nickles and Gregg amendments. Am I correct?

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

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