



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 110th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 154

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2008

No. 43

Senate

The Senate met at 10:15 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable MARK L. PRYOR, a Senator from the State of Arkansas.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Almighty God, gracious Father of us all, You have guided the leadership of this Nation through troubled waters in the past. Lead our lawmakers now into these difficult days. Give our governmental leaders wisdom and energy, that they may successfully meet today's challenges. Assure them of Your presence, love, and grace in their labors. Temper their awareness of privilege in this place with humility and respect toward each other. May their work be productive of justice, equity, and peace. Today, Lord, we also pray Your blessings upon our Nation's military and our men and women in harm's way.

We pray in the Name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable MARK L. PRYOR 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, March 13, 2008.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable MARK L. PRYOR, a Senator from the State of Arkansas, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. PRYOR thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MOMENT OF SILENCE TO HONOR U.S. TROOPS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will observe a moment of silence in honor of our troops.

(Moment of Silence.)

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

SENATOR HOWARD METZENBAUM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I had the good fortune to serve in the Senate with one of the real characters of this Senate, Howard Metzenbaum. A smile has to cross my lips when we talk about Howard Metzenbaum because he was someone who really was a Senator. He had read the bills. He wanted to make sure people were treated fairly. If they weren't, he knew how to slow things up. But in the end, he was willing to come around. I have such respect and gratitude for the service to our country of Howard Metzenbaum.

He served 18 years as a Senator from Ohio, from 1976 to 1995. He was really a self-starter, for lack of a better description. He held his first job at age 10 delivering groceries, worked his way through Ohio State University with all

kinds of jobs—sold flowers, played trombone in the band at the university, sold magazines, razor blades, rented bicycles. But he graduated Ohio State with all those odd jobs, Ohio State law school.

His first big business break came when he and a partner created a 24-hour staff parking lot at Cleveland's Hopkins Airport. No one had ever heard of a 24-hour parking lot. He did.

Howard Metzenbaum came to the Senate as a very wealthy man. He was a self-made man. He was a man who had made a name for himself. He was a labor lawyer, a union lobbyist. When he came to the Senate, he never forgot the people those unions represented, the working men and women of Ohio. After he left the Senate, he became the head of the Consumer Federation of America, a perfect place for him.

His partner in all this was his wife Shirley, whom we all came to adore. They have four daughters.

I want the RECORD to be spread with my appreciation and admiration for this good man from Ohio.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

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

PASSING OF SENATOR HOWARD METZENBAUM

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, let me also note the passing of our former colleague, Senator Metzenbaum. I think the majority leader captured him well. He was a man who operated in the Senate similarly to two of our colleagues today—I think of Senator COBURN and Senator FEINGOLD—in the sense that he actually was interested in every piece of legislation that went across the Senate floor. He took the time to look at it, to decide whether he thought it was a good idea or not. He was a man of extraordinary passion.

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



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