



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 111th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 155

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2009

No. 1

Senate

The sixth day of January being the day prescribed by House Joint Resolution 100 for the meeting of the 1st Session of the 111th Congress, the Senate assembled in its Chamber at the Capitol and at 12:01 p.m. was called to order by the Vice President (Mr. CHE-NEY).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal Lord God, our shelter from life's storms, as we begin the 111th Congress, we ask for Your guidance. Lead our Senators on a path that will bring blessings, as they seek to honor Your Name. Forgive them when they lean too heavily upon their wisdom, forgetting to look to You, the author and finisher of destinies.

Lord, thank You for the opportunity to serve You and country and to daily contribute to building a better world. As our Nation waits with expectancy during this transition time, help us to remember that Your sovereignty is changeless. Remind us to have confidence in our future because we know and depend on You.

We pray in Your wonderful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Vice President 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.

CERTIFICATES OF ELECTION AND CREDENTIALS

The VICE PRESIDENT. The Chair lays before the Senate two certificates of election to fill unexpired terms and the certificates of election of 32 Senators elected for 6-year terms beginning on January 3, 2009. All certifi-

cates, the Chair is advised, are in the form suggested by the Senate or contain all essential elements of the forms suggested by the Senate. If there be no objection, the reading of the above certificates will be waived and they will be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

STATE OF TENNESSEE

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the 4th day of November, 2008, Lamar Alexander was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Tennessee a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3d day of January, 2009:

Witness: His excellency our governor Phil Bredesen, and our seal hereto affixed at Nashville this 8th day of December, in the year of our Lord, 2008.

By the Governor:

PHIL BREDESEN,
Governor.

STATE OF WYOMING

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR UNEXPIRED
FOUR-YEAR TERM

To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the 4th day of November 2008, John Barrasso was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Wyoming, a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the unexpired term of four years, beginning on the 3rd day of January, 2009.

Witness: His excellency our governor, Dave Freudenthal, and our seal hereto affixed at the Wyoming State Capitol, Cheyenne, Wyoming, this 12th day of November, in the year of our Lord 2008.

DAVE FREUDENTHAL,
Governor.

STATE OF MONTANA

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
TO THE UNITED STATES SENATE

I, Brad Johnson, Secretary of State of the State of Montana, do hereby certify that Max Baucus was duly chosen on November 4th, 2008, by the qualified electors of the

State of Montana as a United States Senator from said State to represent said State in the United States Senate. The six-year term commences on January 3rd, 2009.

Witness: His excellency our Governor Brian Schweitzer, and the official seal hereto affixed at the City of Helena, the Capital, this 10th day of December, in the year of our Lord 2008.

By the Governor:

BRIAN SCHWEITZER,
Governor.

STATE OF ALASKA

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the 4th day of November, 2008 Mark Begich was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Alaska a Senator from said State to represent said State in the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January, 2009.

Witness: Her excellency our governor Sarah Palin, and our seal hereto affixed at Juneau this 8th day of December, in the year of our Lord 2008.

By the Governor:

SARAH PALIN,
Governor.

STATE OF DELAWARE

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the 4th day of November, 2008, Joseph R. Biden, Jr. was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Delaware a Senator from said State to represent said State in the United States for the term of six years, beginning at noon on the 3rd day of January, 2009.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the said State, at Dover, this 29th day of November in the year of our Lord two thousand eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-second.

RUTH ANN MINNER,
Governor.

STATE OF GEORGIA

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the 2nd day of December, 2008, Saxby Chambliss was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of

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



Printed on recycled paper.

Georgia to be a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January, 2009.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Georgia at the Capitol, in the city of Atlanta, the 15th day of December, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Eight.

By the Governor:

SONNY PERDUE,
Governor.

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX YEAR TERM
To the president of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the 4th day of November, 2008, Thad Cochran was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Mississippi a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3d day of January, 2009.

Witness: His excellency our governor Haley Barbour, and our seal hereto affixed at Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi this 18th day of December, in the year of our Lord 2008.

By the Governor:

HALEY BARBOUR,
Governor.

STATE OF MAINE

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the fourth day of November in the year Two Thousand and Eight, Susan M. Collins was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Maine, a senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the third day of January, in the year Two Thousand and Nine.

Witness: His excellency our Governor, John E. Baldacci, and our seal hereto affixed at Augusta, Maine this twenty-fourth day of November, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Eight.

By the Governor:

JOHN E. BALDACCI,
Governor.

STATE OF TEXAS

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the 4th day of November, 2008, John Cornyn was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Texas, a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January, 2009.

Witness: His excellency our governor Rick Perry, and our seal hereto affixed at Austin, Texas this 19th day of November, in the year of our Lord 2008.

By the Governor:

RICK PERRY,
Governor.

STATE OF ILLINOIS

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the Fourth day of November, Two Thousand and Eight Richard J. Durbin was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Illinois, a Senator from said State, to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning the third day of January, Two Thousand and Nine.

Witness: His excellency our governor, Rod R. Blagojevich, and our seal hereto affixed at

the City of Springfield, Illinois this First day of December, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Eight.

By the Governor:

ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH,
Governor.

STATE OF WYOMING

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the 4th day of November 2008, Mike Enzi was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Wyoming, a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January, 2009.

Witness: His excellency our governor, Dave Freudenthal, and our seal hereto affixed at the Wyoming State Capitol, Cheyenne, Wyoming, this 12th day of November, in the year of our Lord 2008.

DAVE FREUDENTHAL,
Governor.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the fourth day of November, 2008, A.D. Lindsey O. Graham was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of South Carolina a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the third day of January 2009.

Witness: His excellency our Governor Mark Sanford, and our seal hereto affixed at Columbia, South Carolina this twenty-fourth day of November, in the year of our Lord, 2008.

By the Governor:

MARK SANFORD,
Governor.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the 4th day of November, 2008, Kay Hagan was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of North Carolina a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January, 2009.

Witness: His Excellency our governor Mike Easley, and our seal hereto affixed at Raleigh, NC this 25th day of November, in the year of our Lord 2008.

By the Governor:

MIKE EASLEY,
Governor.

STATE OF IOWA

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the 4th day of November, 2008, Tom Harkin was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Iowa a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January 2009.

Witness: His excellency our Governor Chester J. Culver, and our seal hereto affixed at Des Moines this 24th day of November, in the year of our Lord 2008.

CHESTER J. CULVER,
Governor of Iowa.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the 4th day of November, 2008, Jim Inhofe was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Oklahoma a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January 2009.

Witness: His excellency our Governor Brad Henry, and our seal hereto affixed at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma this 20th day of November, in the year of our Lord 2008.

By the Governor:

BRAD HENRY,
Governor.

STATE OF NEBRASKA

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the 4th day of November, 2008, Mike Johanns was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Nebraska a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January, 2009.

Witness: His excellency our Governor Dave Heineman, and our seal hereto affixed at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 8th day of December, in the year of our Lord 2008.

By the governor:

DAVE HEINEMAN,
Governor.

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM

This is to certify that on the fourth day of November, 2008, at the general election, Tim Johnson was elected by the qualified voters of the State of South Dakota to the office of United States Senate for the term of six years, beginning on the third day of January, 2009.

In witness whereof, We have hereunto set our hands and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed at Pierre, the Capital, this 18th day of November, 2008.

M. MICHAEL ROUNDS,
Governor.

STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the fourth day of November, two thousand and eight John F. Kerry was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts a Senator from said Commonwealth to represent said Commonwealth in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the third day of January, two thousand and nine.

Witness: His Excellency, the Governor, Deval L. Patrick, and our seal hereto affixed at Boston, this third day of December in the year of our Lord two thousand and eight.

By the Governor,

DEVAL L. PATRICK,
Governor.

STATE OF LOUISIANA

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the 4th day of November, 2008, Mary Landrieu was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Louisiana a senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning at noon on the 3rd day of January, 2009.

Witness: His excellency our Governor, Bobby Jindal, and our seal hereto affixed at Baton Rouge, this 18th day of November, in the year of our Lord 2008.

By the Governor:

BOBBY JINDAL,
Governor.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the fourth day of November, 2008, Frank Lautenberg, was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of New Jersey, a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the third day of January, 2009.

Given, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this 4th day of December, two thousand and eight.

By the Governor,

JON S. CORZINE,
Governor.

STATE OF MICHIGAN

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the 4th day of November, 2008, Carl Levin was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Michigan a Senator from the State of Michigan to represent the State of Michigan in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January, 2009.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Michigan this 1st day of December, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and eight.

By the governor:

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM,
Governor.

STATE OF KENTUCKY

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

To all to Whom These Presents Shall Come, Greeting: Know Ye That Honorable Mitch McConnell having been duly certified, that on November 4, 2008 was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the Commonwealth of Kentucky a Senator from said state to represent said state in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning the 3rd day of January 2009.

I hereby invest the above named with full power and authority to execute and discharge the duties of the said office according to law. And to have and to hold the same with all the rights and emoluments thereunto legally appertaining, for and during the term prescribed by law.

In testimony whereof, I have caused these letters to be made patent, and the seal of the Commonwealth to be hereunto affixed. Done at Frankfort, the 3rd day of December in the year of our Lord two thousand and eight and in the 217th year of the Commonwealth,

STEVEN L. BESHEAR,
Governor.

STATE OF OREGON

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the 4th day of November, 2008, Jeff Merkley was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Oregon, a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 4th day of January, 2009.

Witness: His excellency our Governor, Theodore Kulongoski, and our seal hereto affixed at Salem, Oregon this 4th day of December, 2008.

By the Governor:

THEODORE KULONGOSKI,
Governor.

STATE OF ARKANSAS

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

Know Ye, That Whereas, It appears that Mark Pryor was duly elected to the U.S. Senate, in and for the State of Arkansas at an election held on the fourth day of November, Two Thousand Eight.

Therefore, I, Mike Beebe, Governor of the State of Arkansas in the name and by authority of the people of the State of Arkansas, vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of said State do hereby certify that Mark Pryor was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Arkansas to the office of U.S. Senate in and for the State of Arkansas for the term of six years, beginning on the 3rd of January, 2009.

Witness: His excellency our governor, Mike Beebe, and our seal hereto affixed at Little Rock, Arkansas this 5th day of December, in the year of our Lord 2008.

MIKE BEEBE,
Governor.

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the 4th day of November, 2008, John F. Reed was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January, 2009.

Witness: His Excellency our Governor Donald L. Carcieri, and our seal affixed on this 4th day of December, in the year of our Lord 2008.

By the Governor:

DONALD L. CARCIERI,
Governor.

STATE OF IDAHO

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the 4th day of November, 2008, James E. Risch was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Idaho a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January, 2009.

Witness: His Excellency our governor C.L. "Butch" Otter, and our seal hereto affixed at Boise this 15th day of December, in the year of our Lord 2008.

By the Governor:

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER,
Governor.

STATE OF KANSAS

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the 4th day of November, 2008, Pat Roberts was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Kansas, a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January, 2009.

Witness: His Excellency our governor Kathleen Sebelius, and our seal hereto af-

fixed at Topeka, Kansas this 26th day of November, in the year of our Lord 2008.

By the Governor:

KATHLEEN SEBELIUS,
Governor.

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the fourth day of November, 2008, Jay Rockefeller was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of West Virginia, a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the third day of January, 2009.

Witness: His excellency our governor Joe Manchin III, and our seal hereto affixed at Charleston this 17th day of December, in the year of our Lord 2008.

By the governor:

JOE MANCHIN III,
Governor.

STATE OF ALABAMA

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the 4th day of November, 2008, Jefferson B. Sessions, III, was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Alabama a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years beginning on the 3rd day of January, 2009.

Witness: His excellency our governor Bob Riley, and our seal hereto affixed at Montgomery this 25th day of November, in the year of our Lord 2008.

By the Governor.

BOB RILEY,
Governor.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the fourth day of November, two-thousand and eight Jeanne Shaheen was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of New Hampshire to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years beginning on the third day of January, two-thousand and nine.

Witness: His Excellency, Governor John H. Lynch and the Seal of the State of New Hampshire hereto affixed at Concord, this third day of December, in the year of Our Lord two thousand and eight.

JOHN H. LYNCH,
Governor.

STATE OF COLORADO

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the Fourth day of November, 2008, Mark Udall was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Colorado a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the Third day of January, 2009.

Witness: His Excellency our Governor Bill Ritter, Jr., and our seal hereto affixed at Denver, Colorado this Twenty-ninth day of December, in the year of our Lord 2008.

By the Governor

BILL RITTER, Jr.,
Governor.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the 4th day of November, 2008, Tom Udall was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of New Mexico a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January, 2009.

Witness: His excellency our governor Bill Richardson, and our seal hereto affixed at Santa Fé this 7th day of December, in the year of our Lord 2008.

By the Governor:

BILL RICHARDSON,
Governor.

STATE OF VIRGINIA

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the fourth day of November, 2008, Mark R. Warner was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the Commonwealth of Virginia to be a Senator from the Commonwealth to represent the Commonwealth in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the third day of January, 2009.

In Testimony Whereof our Governor has hereunto signed his name and affixed the Lesser Seal of the Commonwealth at Richmond, this twenty-fifth day of November, two thousand eight, and in the two-hundred thirty-third year of the Commonwealth.

TIMOTHY M. KAINE,
Governor.

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR UNEXPIRED TERM

To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the 4th day of November, 2008, Roger Wicker was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Mississippi a Senator for the unexpired term ending at noon on the 3rd day of January, 2013, to fill the vacancy in the representation from said State in the Senate of the United States caused by the resignation of Trent Lott.

Witness: His excellency our governor Haley Barbour, and our seal hereto affixed at Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi this 18th day of December, in the year of our Lord 2008.

By the Governor:

HALEY BARBOUR,
Governor.

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE

The VICE PRESIDENT. If the Senators to be sworn in will now present themselves to the desk in groups of four as their names are called in alphabetical order, the Chair will administer their oath of office.

The clerk will read the names of the first group.

The legislative clerk (Kathleen Alvarez Tritak) called the names of Mr. ALXANDER, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. BEGICH.

These Senators, escorted by Mr. CORKER, Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. BAKER, Mr. ENZI, Mr. TESTER, and Ms. MURKOWSKI, respectively, advanced to the desk of the Vice President; the oath prescribed by law was administered to them by

the Vice President; and they severally subscribed to the oath in the Official Oath Book.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Congratulations.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The VICE PRESIDENT. The clerk will read the names of the next four Senators.

The legislative clerk called the names of Mr. BIDEN, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. COCHRAN, and Ms. COLLINS.

These Senators, escorted by Mr. CARPER, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. WICKER, and Ms. SNOWE, respectively, advanced to the desk of the Vice President; the oath prescribed by law was administered to them by the Vice President; and they severally subscribed to the oath in the Official Oath Book.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Congratulations.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The VICE PRESIDENT. The clerk will call the names of the next four Senators.

The legislative clerk called the names of Mr. CORNYN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ENZI, and Mr. GRAHAM.

These Senators, escorted by Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mr. DEMINT, respectively, advanced to the desk of the Vice President; the oath prescribed by law was administered to them by the Vice President; and they severally subscribed to the oath in the Official Oath Book.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Congratulations.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The VICE PRESIDENT. The clerk will call the names of the next group of Senators.

The legislative clerk called the names of Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. INHOFE, and Mr. JOHANNIS.

These Senators, escorted by Mr. BURR, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. COBURN, and Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, respectively, advanced to the desk of the Vice President; the oath prescribed by law was administered to them by the Vice President; and they severally subscribed to the oath in the Official Oath Book.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Congratulations.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The VICE PRESIDENT. The clerk will call the names of the next group of Senators.

The legislative clerk called the names of Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KERRY, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. LAUTENBERG.

These Senators, escorted by Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. THUNE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DOMENICI, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mr. MENENDEZ, respectively, advanced to the desk of the Vice President; the oath prescribed by law was administered to them by the Vice President; and they severally subscribed to the oath in the Official Oath Book.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Congratulations.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The VICE PRESIDENT. The clerk will call the names of the next group of Senators.

The legislative clerk called the names of Mr. LEVIN, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. PRYOR.

These Senators, escorted by Ms. STABENOW, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. WYDEN, and Mrs. LINCOLN, respectively, advanced to the desk of the Vice President; the oath prescribed by law was administered to them by the Vice President; and they severally subscribed to the oath in the Official Oath Book.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Congratulations.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The VICE PRESIDENT. The clerk will call the names of the next group of Senators.

The legislative clerk called the names of Mr. REED, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROBERTS, and Mr. ROCKEFELLER.

These Senators, escorted by Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BROWNBACK, and Mr. BYRD, respectively, advanced to the desk of the Vice President; the oath prescribed by law was administered to them by the Vice President; and they severally subscribed to the oath in the Official Oath Book.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Congratulations.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The VICE PRESIDENT. The clerk will call the names of the next group of Senators.

The legislative clerk called the names of Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico.

These Senators, escorted by Mr. SHELBY, Mr. GREGG, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. DOMENICI, and Mr. BINGAMAN, respectively, advanced to the desk of the Vice President; the oath prescribed by law was administered to them by the Vice President; and they severally subscribed to the oath in the Official Oath Book.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Congratulations.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The VICE PRESIDENT. The clerk will call the names of the next group of Senators.

The legislative clerk called the names of Mr. WARNER and Mr. WICKER.

These Senators, escorted by Mr. John Warner and Mr. COCHRAN, respectively, advanced to the desk of the Vice President; the oath prescribed by law was administered to them by the Vice President; and they severally subscribed to the oath in the Official Oath Book.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Congratulations.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The VICE PRESIDENT. The majority leader is recognized.

QUORUM CALL

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