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No. 11

Senate

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

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Almighty God, Lord of history, lead our Senators above all irrelevancies and trivialities to a unity of passion and purpose. Create in them an elevated and refined patriotism that will make them eager to know and do Your will. May the words of their mouths and the meditations of their hearts be acceptable to You, O God, our strength and our Redeemer.

In the awareness that "without a vision the people perish," give our Senators a fresh vision of the United States of America. Also, keep ever before them the dream of the better world that is yet to be.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable KIRSTEN E. 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. INOUE).

The bill clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,

Washington, DC, January 26, 2011.

To the Senate:

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

appoint the Honorable KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND, a Senator from the State of New York, to perform the duties of the Chair.

DANIEL K. INOUE,
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.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Madam President, following leader remarks, if any, there will be a period of morning business until 10:30 this morning, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each during that period of time. The Republicans will control the first half, the majority will control the final half.

At 10:30, the Senate will proceed to consideration of S. Res. 14, a resolution honoring the victims of the tragedy in Tucson, AZ. There will be up to 3½ hours for debate on the resolution prior to a vote. As a result, Senators should expect a rollcall vote about 2:15 today.

Following the vote, we will resume morning business, with 10-minute limitations.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 162, S. 163, H.R. 2

Mr. REID. Madam President, there are three bills at the desk due for their second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bills en bloc.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 162) to cut \$500,000,000,000 spending in fiscal year 2011.

A bill (S. 163) to require the Government prioritize all obligations on the debt held by the public in the event that the debt limit is reached.

A bill (H.R. 2) to repeal the job-killing health care law and health care-related provisions in the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010.

Mr. REID. I object to any further proceedings with respect to each of these bills.

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

Mr. REID. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum and ask the time be charged equally against both sides.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 10:30 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the Republicans controlling the first half and the majority controlling the final half.

IMPORTANT PUBLIC ISSUES

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I rise to speak about the issues that I think are most important to the American public. I appreciated the opportunity I had last evening, along with the Presiding Officer, to sit and listen to the

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



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