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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 8, 2011, at 2 p.m.

Senate

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2011

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable TOM UDALL, a Senator from the State of New Mexico.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.
Eternal God, whose Name is love, draw our Senators to You by the cords of Your eternal love. Help them to strive to know You, cultivating a relationship of peaceful trust in Your providential leading. Lord, may the experience of being in Your presence enable them to better comprehend the role You desire for them to play in fulfilling Your purposes on Earth. Sharpen their vision to perceive Your movements in our Nation and world. Where there is anxiety, give them the poise that comes from a confident faith in You.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable TOM UDALL 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 legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, February 3, 2011.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable TOM UDALL, a Senator from the State of New Mexico, to perform the duties of the Chair.

DANIEL K. INOUE,
President pro tempore.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

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

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

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there has been a minor change in the schedule. It has been cleared on both sides. I ask unanimous consent that, following any leader remarks, the Senate proceed to

a period of morning business until 10:30 a.m. this morning, with Senators permitted to speak during that period of time for up to 10 minutes each.

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

Mr. REID. Following that morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 223, the Federal Aviation Administration authorization bill. Currently, we have one amendment pending. Other Members are waiting to offer their amendments. It is my understanding Senator WICKER is ready to offer his as soon as the bill is reported. Senators should expect rollcall votes to occur throughout the day in order to make significant progress on this most important legislation.

THE ECONOMY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we have a long way to go before our economy is back to normal. Ask any American and they will tell you: We have a lot more jobs to create and fill, a lot more homes to save, and a lot more consumer confidence to recover.

I hear every day from families in Nevada who still need us to fight for them. I know every Senator hears the same from citizens in their State.

There are currently bits and pieces of good news. They are not enough, that is for sure. But the Dow Jones opened this morning above 12,000. That is the highest in many years. Manufacturing is rising more than expected. Consumer spending is beating forecasts also. Corporate profits are higher than anyone predicted. We got a decent jobs number

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



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