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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable BRIAN SCHATZ, a Senator from the State of Hawaii.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Immortal, invisible God, in whose patient hands the mighty seasons move with quiet beauty, hallowed be Your Name.

As our lawmakers face the complexities of their work, enlighten them with Your wisdom, lest the darkness prevent them from seeing the paths of Your providence. Lord, empower them to run and not be weary, to walk and not faint, keeping them always in Your care. May they find peace in the knowledge that You know and accept them as they are.

God bless America. Drive back the forces of evil and release the powers of goodness throughout our land.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer 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. LEAHY).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter.

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, February 6, 2014.

To the Senate:

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

appoint the Honorable BRIAN SCHATZ, a Senator from the State of Hawaii, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

REPEALING SECTION 403 OF THE BIPARTISAN BUDGET ACT OF 2013—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to Calendar No. 298, S. 1963.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A motion to proceed to Calendar No. 298, S. 1963, a bill to repeal section 403 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following my remarks and those of the Republican leader, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 1845, which is the Emergency Unemployment Compensation Extension Act. The filing deadline for first-degree amendments to that is 9:45 a.m. today, just a few minutes from now. The deadline for second-degree amendments to the Reed amendment and to the bill is 10:45 a.m.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

I ask unanimous consent the cloture vote on the Reed substitute, which is

now scheduled for 11 a.m., be at 2 p.m. There will be two votes at that time, and there could be another one. We will see what happens on the cloture vote.

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

Mr. REID. As I said, Mr. President, there will be two rollcall votes. The first vote is on cloture of the Reed amendment. If cloture is not invoked, there will be a second cloture on the underlying bill.

We hope to be able to work something out for Senator BAUCUS's nomination to be ambassador to China this afternoon.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 1996

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I am told that there is a bill, S. 1996, due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the bill by title for the second time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1996) to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. I object to any further proceedings with regard to this matter.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

TRIBUTE TO MAX BAUCUS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have had the good fortune of serving in Congress for more than three decades with a good man, the senior Senator from Montana MAX BAUCUS. We hope to schedule a vote sometime this afternoon on his confirmation to be our Nation's Ambassador to China.

Senator BAUCUS has served in the Senate for a long time. At the end of this year, he will have served 36 years. Prior to that, he served in the House of Representatives for 4 years. Prior to that, he served a term in the Montana State legislature.

He has his undergraduate and law degree from Stanford. He is an extremely

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



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