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## Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

### PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal Lord, You inspire us to joyfully resign to Your will, refusing to demand our own way.

Fill our lawmakers with patience, contentment, and peace. Provide them with interior humility, not just the outward form. Give them a spirit that enables them to be easily reconciled with others, determined to labor for the common good. May they remember to cast their cares on You, leaning on Your sustaining power. Use them to encourage and build up each other, striving always to accomplish the most good for the most people.

We pray in Your sacred Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore 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.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. ERNST). The majority leader is recognized.

### MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 2200

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I understand there is a bill at the desk due for its second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2200) to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to strengthen equal pay requirements.

Mr. MCCONNELL. In order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to further proceedings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The bill will be placed on the calendar.

### CYBERSECURITY INFORMATION SHARING BILL AND FISCAL NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, last week Senators voted overwhelmingly to advance legislation that will help to protect the privacy of their constituents. Experts say the tools in the bipartisan cybersecurity bill the Senate voted to advance can help prevent future attacks through the sharing of information between the public and private sectors. The legislation's voluntary information sharing provisions are key to protecting the personal information of the people we all represent. The bill has also been carefully examined by Senators of both parties and contains important measures to protect civil liberties and individual privacy. I thank Chairman BURR and Vice Chairman FEINSTEIN of the Intelligence Committee for their hard work on the bipartisan bill.

We will consider a variety of amendments from both sides of the aisle tomorrow. After that, we can take a final vote on the underlying bill. That will be the Senate's initial focus this week. I will have more to say about it tomorrow.

In the meantime, we also know that fiscal negotiations are ongoing. As the details come in, and especially if an agreement is reached, I intend to consult and discuss the details with our colleagues.

I yield the floor.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

### BUDGET NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. REID. Madam President, as the Republican leader mentioned, we continue to work toward a budget agreement. Negotiations are ongoing. I hope Democrats and Republicans will come to a resolution that is good for our economy and our country. It is imperative that we avoid yet another manufactured crisis that threatens the American economy and jobs. There is no reason to have a crisis. We must do it in a responsible manner.

As I have been saying for a long time, it is past time that we do away with the harmful, draconian sequester cuts. We must also ensure that there are equal defense and nondefense cuts or increases. They need to be equal.

Madam President, I see no one on the floor wishing to speak. I ask the Chair to announce the business of the rest of the day.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

### MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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



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