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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 God, from whom comes all things good and true, we give reverence to Your Name. Lord, forgive us when we don't take time to think clearly, pray sincerely, and cultivate the sense of Your presence. Thank You for strengthening our faith, renewing our courage, and sheltering us from harm.

Bless our Senators. May Your grace and peace sustain them as they find in You the source of all mercy and comfort. Grant that their faith in Your power will strengthen them through every season of trials. Lord, give them the wisdom to pray for one another so they will cooperate with each other in working for Your glory.

We pray in Your Holy 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.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. YOUNG). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

AMENDING THE WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE WATER RIGHTS QUANTIFICATION ACT OF 2010

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the House message to accompany S. 140, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows: House message to accompany S. 140, a bill to amend the White Mountain Apache Tribe Water Rights Quantification Act of 2010 to clarify the use of amounts in the WMAT Settlement Fund.

Pending:

McConnell motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the bill.

McConnell motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the bill, with McConnell amendment No. 2227 (to the amendment of the House to the bill), to change the enactment date.

McConnell amendment No. 2228 (to amendment No. 2227), of a perfecting nature.

McConnell motion to refer the message of the House on the bill to the Committee on Indian Affairs, with instructions, McConnell amendment No. 2229, to change the enactment date.

McConnell amendment No. 2230 (to the instructions) amendment No. 2229), of a perfecting nature.

McConnell amendment No. 2231 (to amendment No. 2230), of a perfecting nature.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, I rise to urge my colleagues to vote in support of the Tribal Labor Sovereignty Act.

My legislation is about bringing jobs to the most economically disadvantaged communities in Montana and empowering Indian Tribes to determine their own destinies. In fact, for 14 years, the Federal Government has placed prohibitive regulations on tribes, which has infringed on their rights and cost them jobs and economic opportunities. Now Montana's Tribes and the Tribal communities across the country suffer from some of the Nation's highest unemployment. This legislation will restore the parity between Tribal governments and Federal, State,

and local governments as well as protect and respect the Tribes' right to sovereignty.

It is time for the Federal Government to step out of the Tribes' way so they can make the right decisions for their communities, for their people, and create good-paying jobs on reservations.

On behalf of Montana's 12 federally recognized Tribes, as a member of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, as the chair of the Senate Western Caucus, and as an original author of this legislation both in this Congress and the last, I urge my colleagues to make the right choice and support the Tribal Labor Sovereignty Act.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

AIR STRIKES ON SYRIA

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I want to begin this afternoon by commending the men and women who make up the world's most capable military. Over the weekend, America's all-volunteer Armed Forces executed a challenging mission with precision and with excellence. At the President's order, the United States joined with our British and French allies in military action to respond to Bashar al-Assad's use of chemical weapons against the Syrian people.

I support both the actions taken and the underlying objectives.

The tactics the Assad regime has deployed to consolidate gains and terrorize the people of Syria have stood in defiance of the clear U.S. position that the use of chemical weapons is simply unacceptable. It was time to act.

Americans have become used to flawless execution on the part of our uniformed military. Times like these compel us to pause and appreciate their excellence and their heroism. We must remember that none of it could occur without extensive training, careful planning, robust investment, and the professionalism, dedication, and bravery of our servicemembers.

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



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