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Senate

(Legislative day of Tuesday, January 10, 1995)

The Senate met at 9 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The prayer this morning will be offered by our guest chaplain, the Reverend Mark E. Dever, pastor of Capitol Hill Baptist Church, Washington, DC.

PRAYER

The guest chaplain, the Reverend Mark Edward Dever, Ph.D., offered the following prayer:

Let us pray:

O God Most Holy, we come to You this morning acknowledging You as the holy ruler of people and nations. We give You thanks for all the ways in which our Nation, and this Chamber reflect Your character. Thank you for all the trials endured, time spent, and effort expended for our benefit in this place. We thank you because we know that none of us can do anything apart from Your sustaining power.

Our request this morning is that You would save this Nation from lawlessness. We read that righteousness exalts a nation, but that sin is a reproach to any people. We confess that we as a people seem to be more concerned about riches than righteousness, more worried about poverty than sin, more willing to deny You than to deny self.

O Lord, change us for Your glory. In Your mercy entrust this country with material prosperity; but also in Your mercy, we pray that You would not allow us to go on in such prosperity and sin. Give us true prosperity of heart and soul.

In Your grace make this place an exception to the corrupting pull of power. Make this Chamber a shining light, a city set on a hill, filled with men and women who individually, in their dealings with one another, and together in their execution of the public business are examples to us all. Help them so

that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

We dare to ask for special blessings, and for special help to use those blessings You have already given to us. Bless Your people with power entrusted to those who know their own weakness, with rulers who are servants, with freedom under God, in the name of Jesus Christ, the servant-king, we ask it. Amen.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 10 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for not to exceed 5 minutes each.

Under the previous order, the Senator from Wyoming, [Mr. THOMAS], is recognized unless the acting majority leader wishes to speak at this time?

SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, further commenting on the schedule for the morning, I believe that under the previous agreement Senators LIEBERMAN and DODD will be recognized for up to 15 minutes equally divided, Senator BOXER for up to 15 minutes. At the hour of 10 a.m., the Senate will stand in recess until 11 a.m. in order to allow Members to attend a briefing. When the Senate reconvenes at 11 a.m., we will resume consideration of S. 1, the unfunded mandates bill.

For the information of all colleagues, rollcall votes are anticipated throughout the day.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senator from Wyoming [Mr. THOMAS] is recognized to speak for up to 10 minutes.

UNFUNDED FEDERAL MANDATES

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, it is my pleasure, as I rise this morning, to join my colleagues in support of S. 1, the unfunded mandates bill that Senator KEMPTHORNE and many others have done such great work on. In the recent election, of course, this country and the voters of this country voted for change, a change in the way that Washington operates, a change in the way that the Government operates. This bill provides us with one of the first opportunities to deliver that change.

It seems to me that, although we will take up a great many specific issues throughout this session of Congress, and we should, that probably most important are some of the structural changes that we are talking about—this being included as one of them. Some of the changes in procedure will result in the individual issues being changed and being about the change that voters asked for.

Sometimes, I suppose, people at home get a little impatient with the idea that we work for procedural changes. But let me suggest that in order to bring about continuing change, fundamental change, these procedural changes are the most important thing that we can do—procedural changes like the balanced-budget amendment, which will change our outlook on fiscal responsibility; changes like unfunded mandates, which will change the relationship between the Federal Government and the States; changes like accountability, which we passed yesterday, of course, which properly makes the Congress live under

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



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