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Senate

The Senate met at 9:15 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Gracious Father, Your power is given in direct proportion to the pressures and perplexities we face. This gives us great courage and confidence. You give more strength as the burdens increase; You entrust us with more wisdom as the problems test our endurance. You never leave or forsake us. Your love has no end and Your patience no breaking point.

Today, we affirm what You have taught us: You have called us to supernatural leadership empowered by Your spiritual gifts of wisdom, knowledge, discernment, and vision. You press us beyond our dependence on erudition and experience alone. Thank You for challenges that help us recover our humility and opportunities that force us to the knees of our hearts.

Bless the women and men of this Senate. You have given them the awesome responsibility of being attentive to You and obedient in following Your guidance for our beloved Nation. Give them that sure sense of Your presence and the sublime satisfaction of knowing and doing Your will. Replenish their strength, renew their hope, and refresh them with Your grace. In the name of our Lord. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The distinguished Senator from Missouri is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, on behalf of the majority leader I would like to

announce that today there will be a period for morning business until the hour of 9:30 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes each with the following exception: Senator BOND for up to 10 minutes.

At 9:30, the Senate will resume consideration of the continuing appropriations bill. At that time there will be 30 minutes of debate between Senators HUTCHISON and REID regarding the pending endangered species amendments. Following that debate, those amendments will be set aside and Senator DOLE will be recognized to offer an amendment.

Under a previous order, at 1 p.m. the Senate will begin 1 hour of debate on the motion to proceed to the Whitewater Committee resolution with a cloture vote beginning at 2 p.m. Following that cloture vote, there will be a vote on the motion to table the Hutchison amendment to the continuing resolution. Senators should be reminded of those votes beginning at 2 p.m., and Senators should be aware that a late night session is possible in order to complete action on that measure.

It is also hoped that the Senate may still reach an agreement with respect to the small business regulatory relief bill.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now proceed to a period for the transaction of morning business until the hour of 9:30 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak up to 5 minutes with the following exception: Senator BOND is recognized to speak for up to 10 minutes.

The Senator from Missouri is recognized.

Mr. BOND. I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mr. BOND pertaining to the introduction of S. 1610 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. 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.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

FOOD MARKETING POLICY INSTITUTE'S MISDIRECTED PRIORITIES

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, yesterday a mock hearing for the press was hosted by Congressmen SCHUMER and GEJDENSON, along with Prof. Ronald Cotteril, director of the Food Marketing Policy Institute at the University of Connecticut. The topic was price collusion in the cereal market, a charge which has not been proved over the past 20 years.

After review of all of the evidence which refutes the collusion theory, I find it difficult to understand why the three continue this curious drama.

I would like to present to my colleagues some history on this issue, which began with the dismissal of an antitrust complaint by the Federal Trade Commission after 10 years of tedious and costly examination of the industry by the FTC.

Last year Federal Judge Kimba Wood, former nominee for Attorney General during the Clinton administration, rejected an antitrust suit brought

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



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