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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 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:

Martin Luther said, "The very ablest youth should be reserved and educated not for the office of preaching, but for government. Because in preaching, the Holy Spirit does it all, whereas in government one must exercise reason in the shadowy realms where ambiguity and uncertainty are the order of the day."

Gracious God, infinite wisdom, we thank You for reserving and preparing the women and men of this Senate to serve You in the high calling of government. So often politics and politicians are denigrated in our society. We forget that politics is simply the doing of government. Bless the Senators, their faithful staffs, and all who are part of the Senate family. Give all of them a renewed awareness that they are here by Your appointment and You will give vision in the ambiguities and clear convictions in the uncertainties that occur today. Send out Your light; lead us; empower us. We commit ourselves anew to excellence for Your glory and the good of our beloved Nation. In the name of our Lord. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able majority leader, Senator LOTT, is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, this morning there will be a period for continued debate on S. 1219, the campaign finance reform bill, with the time equally divided between the two leaders or their designees.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT

I understand that there has been a request for an extension of that debate, therefore I now ask unanimous consent that debate be extended until 1 p.m. today under the previous conditions, and further that Senators have until 1 p.m. in order to file second-degree amendments to the campaign finance reform bill as well as first-degree amendments to the DOD bill.

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

Mr. LOTT. I might just note that has been cleared by the Democratic leadership. This just does provide for an additional 30 minutes of debate on the campaign finance reform bill.

At 2:15 today, under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to a roll-call vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the campaign finance reform bill. If cloture is not invoked, the Senate is expected to resume consideration of the Department of Defense authorization bill; therefore, further rollcall votes are expected throughout today's session.

As a further reminder, a cloture motion was filed on the DOD authorization bill last night, with that vote to occur on Wednesday of this week. Also, the Senate will recess from the hour of 1 to 2:15 p.m. today, in order for the weekly policy conferences to meet.

I hope the cloture vote on DOD authorization may not be necessary, but from what I saw last week, the Senate has not yet gotten serious about completing this legislation. We must do it this week. We will do it this week. We just have to get on with the amendments. So we probably can expect to go into the night tonight and may very well tomorrow also.

I might also just say, I plan to meet later on this morning with the Democratic leader and see if we can come to an agreement on how to handle the small business tax relief and minimum

wage issue, beginning on Monday, July 8.

I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume consideration of S. 1219, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1219) to reform the financing of Federal elections, and for other purposes.

The Senate resumed consideration of the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I want to speak against cloture on this bill, but I also want to talk about what I think is good about the bill and why I am voting against cloture.

First, I want to say, if I were titling this bill, it would be called the Incumbency Protection Act, because that is what limitations on expenditures for campaigns will do. It will take away the right of a challenger to be able to raise more money than an incumbent with the advantage of name identification and to be able to go forward with a message.

What they say in this bill is that it is voluntary. It is voluntary, but you pay quite a price if you do not adhere to the limits. You, then, will be faced with 30 minutes of free broadcast time against you, if you do not adhere to the limits. You will have reduced postal rates against you. This is really coercive. Then there is the cost. My gosh, the Postmaster General has said he will have to raise all postal rates if he has to provide reduced rates.

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



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