



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 105<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 143

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 1997

No. 50

## Senate

The Senate met at 10 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:

Almighty God, who calls us to seek peace and not war, but who has blessed us in victory in just wars fought for the righteous cause of freedom and justice, we seek Your guidance for the crucial decisions about the Chemical Weapons Convention. Our hearts and minds are united with You in abhorrence and judgment on the use of chemical weapons. Thank You for the diligence with which the Senate has debated the issues of ratification of the treaty. The research and clear communication on both sides of these issues have brought illuminating discussions. Sharp differences remain about ratification. Now the hour of decision approaches.

Father, fuel with Your presence and glory this Chamber and then the Old Senate Chamber during the executive session. May the Senators seek Your guidance, clarify their convictions, and then cast their votes with a sense that they have done their very best. When the votes are counted and the result is declared, unite the Senators in the unbreakable bond of unity rooted in a mutual commitment to patriotic leadership of our Nation.

Dear God, guide this Senate and bless America. In the name of our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I thank you for the recognition. And I want to thank the Chaplain, as always, for his very thoughtful and helpful prayers.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. For the information of all Senators, today, at 10:30 a.m., the Senate will begin a closed executive session in the Old Senate Chamber to continue the debate on the Chemical Weapons Convention so that Members can be briefed on certain classified information. This is the first time in several years that we have had such a briefing. I urge all Senators to attend. I think they will find it very interesting. They need to know what will come out of this briefing before they make a final decision.

The closed session is expected to last until approximately 12:30. After the expiration of time for the closed session, the Senate will then immediately resume consideration of the treaty in this Chamber. By previous consent, the Senate will continue the debate with respect to the treaty until all time is expired or is yielded back under the time agreement. I think there is something like 1 hour 40 minutes or 2 hours of general time remaining, something about that amount.

In addition, by consent, the five motions to strike will be in order at any time following the closed session. Separate votes on each of the motions are expected. Therefore, Senators can expect votes throughout the day and into the evening in order for the Senate to complete action on the treaty today. It would appear to me that the final vote will come sometime between 8 and 9 o'clock probably, perhaps a little earlier, but that is the way it looks at this point.

Again, I encourage all Members to participate in this important debate beginning in a few minutes in the Old Senate Chamber.

### PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following individuals, in addition to those officers and employees referred to in standing

rule XXIX, be granted floor privileges during today's closed session, and I send the list to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire). Without objection, it is so ordered.

The list is as follows:

Kathleen Alvarez.  
Steven Biegun.  
Marshall Billingslea.  
Joel Breitner.  
Romie Brownlee.  
Charles D'Amato.  
Michael DiSilvestro.  
Jeriel Garland.  
Lorenzo Goco.  
Frank Jannuzi.  
Taylor Lawrence.  
Edward Levine.  
David Lyles.  
Mary Jane McCarthy.  
Sheila Murphy.  
James Nance.  
John Roots.  
Randall Scheunemann.  
Christopher Straub.  
Puneet Talwar.  
Peter Flory.

### CONFIDENTIALITY OF EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I would like to call the attention of all Senators and staff to rule XXIX of the Standing Rules of the Senate which addresses the confidentiality of executive sessions. Paragraph 5 of standing rule XXIX reads as follows:

Any Senator, officer, or employee of the Senate who shall disclose the secret or confidential business or proceedings of the Senate shall be liable, if a Senator, to suffer expulsion from the body; and if an officer or employee, to dismissal from the service of the Senate, and to punishment for contempt.

I urge my colleagues to keep this in mind when approached by the media for comments on these proceedings.

[ORDER FOR RECESS]

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess until the hour of 10:30 a.m. following brief remarks by Senator HAGEL

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



Printed on recycled paper containing 100% post consumer waste

S3567