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## 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 has given us the gift of life, bless us this day in the work we will do. We praise You for work that can be done as an expression of worship of You. We bring the meaning of our faith to our work rather than making our work the ultimate meaning of our lives. With that perspective, we seek to do everything to Your glory. We pray for mental alertness, emotional stability, and physical strength to achieve excellence in all that we do. Thank You for Your companionship in tasks great and small. It is awesome to contemplate that You who are in control of the universe have placed us in charge of what You want us to accomplish.

Fill us with Your joy and make us cheerful people who make others happier because we are with them. Make us a blessing and not a burden, a lift and not a load, a delight and not a drag. It is great to be alive. Help us make a difference because of the difference You have made for us. In the name of our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

### RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able acting majority leader, the Senator from Alaska, is recognized.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I thank the Chair and wish the President pro tempore a good morning and a good day.

Let me also welcome my good friend, the Senator from the State of Oregon. I wish him a good morning, and our staffs as well.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, on behalf of the majority leader, I an-

nounce that today the Senate will be in a period of morning business until the hour of 11 a.m. By consent, at 11 a.m., the Senate will resume consideration of S. 1005, the Department of Defense appropriations bill, with only those amendments listed in last evening's unanimous-consent agreement being in order. Following the disposition of those amendments, the Senate will proceed to a vote on final passage of the Department of Defense appropriations bill, hopefully, by early afternoon.

Further, by previous consent, the Senate will recess from 12:30 to 2:15 p.m. for the weekly policy luncheons to meet. Following that recess, the Senate will complete action on the Department of Defense authorization bill, if not earlier disposed of, or will begin consideration of the energy and water appropriations bill.

The majority leader wishes to remind all Members that the Senate is working to complete action on three or four major appropriations bills this week. Therefore, late sessions can be expected and votes should be anticipated throughout each day of the Senate session.

On behalf of the majority leader, I thank our colleagues for their attention.

Mr. President, I am going to speak in morning business on the subject of the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SMITH of Oregon). If the Senator will withhold for 1 moment, under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

### MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour

of 11 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 5 minutes each. The Senator from Alaska is recognized to speak for up to 15 minutes.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I thank the Chair.

### LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I like to talk today about the stateside portion of the Land and Water Conservation Fund which doubles both the pleasure of those who use outdoor recreation facilities as well as the money. The stateside matching grant program of the Land and Water Conservation Fund basically provides two for the price of one, and I will explain that a little further. The Land and Water Conservation Fund grant program, or the LWCF as it is known, has had a substantial long-term effect on our overall attitudes and policies toward outdoor recreation. The land and water stateside program has truly a unique legacy in the history of American conservation and recreation.

When I say stateside program, I am talking about a State/Federal matching grant. What better way for the Federal Government to participate than matching local funds for public parks and recreation facilities. Local funds provide an opportunity for involvement and pride and responsibility by the communities at hand.

The first legacy of this kind is the notion basic to the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act that States must assume the leadership role as provider of recreation opportunities. It should not be left to an indifferent Federal Government headquartered in Washington, DC. It should start in the communities where the people recreate.

From a historic perspective, the Land and Water Conservation Fund has contributed significantly to outdoor recreation. Through fiscal year 1995, a total of 37,300 projects had been approved to support the acquisition of

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



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