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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 21, 1997, at 10:30 a.m.

Senate

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1997

The Senate met at 12 noon, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

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

Dear God, trustworthy Sovereign of this Nation, and Lord of our lives in whom we trust, we join with others throughout this land in seeking to have trustworthiness a pillar of our character and an essential mainstay of our culture. We know that we should not pray for a quality of life like this for society unless we are willing to begin with ourselves.

Lord, You desire to implant Your character in us. Everything we know about being trustworthy we've learned from You. Your faithfulness never fails; You are consistent in Your loving kindness; You are always true to Your Word. May our trust in You as our God be the inspiring motivation of trustworthiness in us. May integrity be the basic fiber of our character. We dedicate ourselves to speaking the truth, to saying what we mean and meaning what we say. Make us totally dependable to keep our promises. May others be able to count on us and always be able to say, "What you see is what you get." We pray that our actions will build a confidence of trust in others. We commit ourselves to making trustworthiness a reliable, consistent quality of our character. Help us, Lord, to keep this promise to You. Through our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

Congress has designated the third week of October as "Character Counts" week. During this week, six pillars of

character are to be emphasized. The focus of our prayers this week will be to make these pillars a part of our personal character and of our society.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The acting majority leader is recognized. Mr. DEWINE. I thank the Chair.

SCHEDULE

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I make the following statement this morning on behalf of the majority leader. Today the Senate will be in a period of morning business until the hour of 2:30 this afternoon. At 2:30 the Senate will resume consideration of S. 1173, the ISTEPA legislation. As the leader announced before the recess, no rollcall votes will occur during today's session. The leader further hopes the Senate will be able to make progress on this important legislation regarding highway construction and highway safety programs. As Members are aware, the first session of this Congress will be concluding before too long and there is much work left to be done. This week the Senate must act on a continuing resolution as we attempt to pass the remaining appropriations bill and conference reports. As the conferences finish their work, the full Senate awaits these conference reports. The majority leader encourages all Senators to cooperate as we schedule the remaining legislative period.

The majority leader also reminds colleagues that typically these closing

weeks of session are some of the busiest. Senators should be prepared, therefore, for busy sessions with rollcall votes occurring each day unless other notification is given. The majority leader thanks all Senators for their attention.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DEWINE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent I be allowed to speak up to 12 minutes.

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Rena Subotnik, a fellow in my office, be permitted privileges of the floor for the duration of the debate.

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

(The remarks of Mr. BINGAMAN pertaining to the introduction of S. 1295

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



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