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## Senate

(Legislative day of Friday, September 22, 2000)

The Senate met at 9:36 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, 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, we praise You for Your faithfulness. We say with Jeremiah, "The Lord's mercies are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness."—Lamentations 3:23.

We are profoundly moved by Your merciful kindness to us. You never give up on us. When we forget You, You infuse our lives with reminders of Your consistent love; when we resist Your guidance, You find new ways to get through to us; when hubris becomes a habit, You break the bond of self-sufficiency by showing us what we could accomplish with Your supernatural strength.

Lord we confess our need for humility. It is a combination of gratitude, honesty, and courage. We admit that all that we have and are is Your gift; we honestly face the distance between what we are and what we could be in our relationships and responsibilities; we need courage to blow the cap off of our reservations and live the full potential according to Your expectations.

Here we are at the beginning of a crucial day in the life of this Senate. As we rush into the schedule, we meet You

at the pass. We don't need to spin to win with You. You know all about us. And so we simply ask You to take our minds and focus our intelligence on what is best for America, to take our wills and guide us to choose what is righteous and just, and to take our voices and speak Your truth through them. You are our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable MIKE CRAPO, a Senator from the State of Idaho, led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CRAPO). The able acting majority leader is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. BOND. On behalf of the leader, permit me to explain that today the Senate will begin debate on the HUD-VA appropriations bill. Senators BYRD and BOXER have amendments in order. Those amendments will be offered and debated prior to 12:30 p.m. today. At

12:30, there will be up to four stacked rollcall votes on amendments to the VA-HUD bill, final passage of the bill, and final passage of the conference report to accompany the legislative branch/Treasury-Postal appropriations bill. Following the votes, the Senate is expected to begin consideration of the conference report to accompany the Department of Defense authorization bill. There are approximately 6 hours of debate requested on the conference report. Therefore, Senators should expect votes into the evening regarding the DOD authorization conference report.

I thank my colleagues for their attention.

### DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. CRAPO. The clerk will report the pending bill.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4635) making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill which had been reported from the Committee on Appropriations, with an amendment to strike out all after the

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Michael F. DiMario, *Public Printer*

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



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