



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 107<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 147

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2001

No. 154

## Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable E. BENJAMIN NELSON, a Senator from the State of Nebraska.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The guest Chaplain, Elder Francis Cree, the Spiritual Leader of Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, in Dunseith, ND, will lead us in prayer.

### PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, Elder Francis Cree, offered the following prayer:

[Speaking Chippewa]

Great Spirit of God, we want to thank You for this wonderful day You have given us, for all the many good things You have blessed us with. You have also given us this love and respect and unity and faith in God. And we ask You, at this time, that You bless the President, and all his employees, and all of us here and all over the world. We thank You. We thank You, again.

That is the prayer I said in the Chippewa language.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable E. BENJAMIN NELSON 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.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore [Mr. BYRD].

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, November 8, 2001.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable E. BENJAMIN NELSON,

a Senator from the State of Nebraska, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. NELSON of Nebraska thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

The Senator from North Dakota.

### WELCOMING ELDER FRANCIS CREE OF NORTH DAKOTA

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I am pleased this morning to welcome a good friend and distinguished North Dakotan, Francis Cree, to the Senate. I thank him for his moving and inspirational prayer.

Francis Cree is the Spiritual Leader and Tribal Elder of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa of North Dakota. He is the official Pipe Carrier for the Tribe, a position of honor and leadership. He led the tribe as chairman in the 1950s and served several terms on the Tribal Council.

Francis spends countless hours teaching young tribal members about Chippewa culture and traditions. Last year, he even made an award-winning CD called, "The Elders Speak."

Francis is married to Rose Cree, a well-known artist who makes beautiful willow and birchbark baskets, several of which are displayed in my office. They were recently featured at the Smithsonian's Festival of American Folk Life on the Mall here in our Nation's Capital.

Francis and Rose have 14 children, and, according to Rose, "too many grandchildren and great-grandchildren to count, but there are well over a hundred." In May, Rose and Francis will celebrate 63 years of marriage.

Congratulations to you both.

I am very pleased to welcome Francis Cree to the Senate this morning. I thank him for being here and for sharing his inspiring message with us.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, before my friend from North Dakota leaves the Chamber, and before Spiritual Leader and Tribal Elder Cree leaves the Chamber, I say, I never had the opportunity in the Senate Chamber to say this to anyone who would understand it, but the Senator from North Dakota and the tribal leader will: I am a Pipe Carrier for the Pyramid Paiute Tribe in northern Nevada. I have been through the ceremony. It was very dignified and impressive. It was a ceremony I will never forget.

So I am very happy we have had this very time-honored tradition now done in opening the Senate in prayer. I congratulate the Senator from North Dakota in bringing one of the most-renowned citizens of his State to the U.S. Capitol.

Mr. CONRAD. I thank my colleague from Nevada.

My colleague, Senator DORGAN, is chairing a hearing in another part of the Capitol complex and will come to the Chamber later today to also memorialize this occasion. I do not want this moment to pass without indicating Senator DORGAN was here earlier but had to leave to chair a meeting of his subcommittee elsewhere in the Capitol complex or else he would be here as well.

I thank the Chair.

### RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada.

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



Printed on recycled paper.

S11567