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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 9, 2002, at 2 p.m.

Senate

MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2002

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

PRAYER

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

Almighty God, Ultimate Sovereign of all Nations of the World, we resume the work of the 107th Congress in the midst of a world aflame with turmoil. We are anxious to press on with the crucial matters before this Senate, but our minds are on the crisis in the Middle East. God of peace, reconciliation, and harmony, we pray for Your intervention in the current deadlock between the Israelis and the Palestinians. Inspire both Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and Chairman Yasser Arafat with the desire and the will to make the concessions that will bring about a just settlement. We ask for Your divine power for Secretary of State Colin Powell as he seeks to enable the peace initiative. Grant him supernatural wisdom and strength to help bring agreement on the volatile issues of Israeli occupation and Palestinian suicide bombings. On a human level, it all seems impossible, but nothing is impossible for You.

Today, also bless the women and men of this Senate as they work together to lead the United States, to guide this Nation's role of bringing peace in the Middle East, and to continue battle against terrorism throughout the world. The challenges are formidable, the solutions elusive, and the alternatives are complex. Dear God, this is Your world; though the wrong seems oft so strong, You are the ruler yet. Through the Prince of Peace: Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore 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.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

NATIONAL LABORATORIES PARTNERSHIP IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2001

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of S. 517, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 517) to authorize funding the Department of Energy to enhance its mission areas through technology transfer and partnerships for fiscal years 2002 through 2006, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Daschle/Bingaman further modified amendment No. 2917, in the nature of a substitute.

Feinstein modified amendment No. 2989 (to amendment No. 2917), to provide regulatory oversight over energy trading markets and metals trading markets.

Kerry/McCain amendment No. 2999 (to amendment No. 2917), to provide for increased average fuel economy standards for passenger automobiles and light trucks.

Dayton/Grassley amendment No. 3008 (to amendment No. 2917), to require that Federal agencies use ethanol-blended gasoline and

biodiesel-blended diesel fuel in areas in which ethanol-blended gasoline and biodiesel-blended diesel fuel are available.

Lott amendment No. 3028 (to amendment No. 2917), to provide for the fair treatment of Presidential judicial nominees.

Landrieu/Kyl amendment No. 3050 (to amendment No. 2917), to increase the transfer capability of electric energy transmission systems through participant-funded investment.

Graham amendment No. 3070 (to amendment No. 2917), to clarify the provisions relating to the Renewable Portfolio Standard.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada, Mr. REID.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we are now on the energy bill. This will be the 14th day—at least that is my understanding of the time the Senate has spent on this bill.

Prior to the Senate recessing for the spring break, the minority and majority staff exchanged a proposed list of amendments in order to the energy bill.

Mr. President, on behalf of Leader DASCHLE, I wish to state for the record that an ongoing effort is being made to secure a finite list of first-degree amendments in order to the bill and hopefully this effort will be successful today so that we can file this finite list. I encourage Members who have indicated they have amendments to come forth with those amendments. We need to finish this bill.

Mr. President, I was somewhat disturbed in reading in today's press—at least I read it today, it could have been out earlier, for example, in one of the Hill publications, Rollcall, I believe that is where I read this—that Republican leaders are considering pulling

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



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