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## Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable BLANCHE L. LINCOLN, a Senator from the State of Arkansas.

### PRAYER

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

Almighty God, Sovereign of this Nation, we press on with the work of the Senate in this final week before the Independence Day recess. Be with us, Lord, so we can maximize the hours of this day. Help us to think clearly without confusion, to speak honestly without rancor, to debate without division, and to decide courageously without contention. May our rhetoric honor You and deal with issues and not personalities. Grant the Senators Your grace to finish this week as patriots who love You and count it a high privilege to serve as leaders of our beloved Nation.

Lord, we ask for Your protection for the people in Colorado and Arizona who are victims of conflagration on the forests, now consuming homes and entire towns. Bless the courageous firefighters as they seek to bring this fire under control. We trust this and all our need to You. You are our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable BLANCHE L. LINCOLN, a Senator from the State of Arkansas, 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 legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, June 24, 2002.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable BLANCHE L. LINCOLN, a Senator from the State of Arkansas, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,  
President pro tempore.

Mrs. LINCOLN 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.

### MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 4 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, and with the time to be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees.

The Senator from Nevada.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Madam President, when we complete morning business, we will proceed to the Defense authorization bill, which the Senate worked on all last week. Senator SMITH is going to offer an amendment regarding headgear, abaya. We expect a vote on that about quarter to 6 today.

### THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Mr. REID. Madam President, I listened closely, as I try to do every day, to the Chaplain's prayer. He mentioned the terrible fires in the West, which brings to my attention the fact that

when there is trouble in the country, the place one has to look is to the Government. After one has completed their prayers and the spiritual things they do, the Government is next in line.

If we think about the wildfires that sweep the West every summer, it is the Federal Government that steps in to help. Tens of thousands of Federal employees fight those fires. They are professional firefighters. They come in every summer. They do very dangerous work. They place themselves in harm's way to protect property and people's lives. We have these firefighters who jump out of airplanes and parachute, heavily loaded with all kinds of equipment, to fight these fires. We have firefighters who rappel off the back of helicopters to fight these fires.

So for all the bad that people hear about Government, I think we should stop and think about the people who fight these fires that are consuming—there is one fire now in Arizona that is raging in an area about 10 times that of the District of Columbia. The fire line is 50 miles long. Again, we have there professional firefighters who are trained every summer. The Federal Government has programs for feeding them.

We have had fires, of course, in Nevada, and I have seen the tremendous logistical problems in feeding thousands of firefighters, for example, and having a place for them to sleep. Government is there to help us, not to hurt us.

### EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 1972, TITLE IX

Mr. REID. Madam President, this week we celebrate the 30th anniversary of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the landmark legislation that prohibits sex discrimination in federally funded educational and athletic programs.

I look back with great pride at the teams we have had in Nevada. One

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



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