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## Senate

The Senate met at 9:25 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. BYRD].

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's prayer will be offered by the guest Chaplain, the Reverend Cecil T. Washington, Jr., of the New Beginning Baptist Church in Topeka, KS.

The Reverend Mr. Washington, please.

### PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Heavenly Father, You said in Proverbs 14:34 that righteousness of character exalts a Nation and that lack of it brings disgrace.

Deliver this Nation from the poverty of a declining integrity, from the breaking down of ethics and morality. Infuse the economy of this Nation's soul with the blessed capital of richness in character.

As a master engraver imprints a character into metal, would You imprint into the spiritual mettle of these Senators the wisdom and goodness necessary to guide this country. Give them the grace to overcome any approaching disgrace.

As we look back at the Fathers of this Nation who were guided by Your sacred word, we can say, "Well done."

As our descendants look back over the work being done here, let them be able to say, "Well done," that we were guided by Your word.

Bless our President and the men and women of this Senate with the wisdom, courage, and boldness to shun ridicule and take a stand for righteousness. And when all political and personal correctness is finally judged, let us hear You say "Well done"—(Matt 25:21).

In the Name of Jesus, the Christ, thanks for hearing this prayer. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable ROBERT C. BYRD 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, September 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 DEBBIE STABENOW, a Senator from the State of Michigan, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,  
President pro tempore.

Ms. STABENOW assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada.

### ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that prior to the Chair announcing the business for the day, the Senator from Kansas, Mr. BROWNBACK, be recognized for up to 4 minutes. Following his statement, I ask unanimous consent that as soon as the Chair announces the legislation of today the time begin running.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Kansas.

Mr. BROWNBACK. Thank you very much, Madam President. Good morning. And I thank the Senator from Nevada for his recognition, and the Senator from West Virginia for allowing me to speak briefly.

### WELCOMING GUEST CHAPLAIN REVEREND CECIL WASHINGTON

Mr. BROWNBACK. Madam President, I want to take a moment to recognize the guest Chaplain, Cecil Washington, from Topeka, KS. He has traveled here with his wife Audrey to be the guest Chaplain today. She is in the gallery.

I have had the pleasure of knowing Reverend Washington for many years. He has a distinguished record as not only a dedicated and caring minister but as a fellow traveler, helping those in need along the way in many places, as I have seen him do in Kansas and across the country.

Reverend Washington is deeply rooted in the Topeka community. He is committed to nurturing and guiding individuals in taking command and control of their lives.

In fact, Reverend Washington founded and is director of the Prayers Answered, Lives Saved Recovery Group, or PALS. This organization provides Bible-based, Christ-centered addiction support for all substance abuse users.

His organization has helped countless individuals redefine their lives and begin to make positive life choices for themselves and their loved ones.

Reverend Washington also knows the importance of self-sufficiency. He is the past president of Jobs Partnership of Topeka. He has worked tirelessly to help see that the individuals with whom he works develop the skills necessary to become self-sufficient and sustain their independence.

In addition, Reverend Washington has served in many capacities in the State of Kansas. He is the past Chaplain of both the State house of representatives and the State senate of Kansas. He has also served on a number of advisory committees and boards.

Currently, Reverend Washington is the pastor and founder of the New Beginning Missionary Baptist Church in Topeka, KS. He founded this church in March of 1998, which has a very expansive and growing congregation.

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



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