



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 108th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 150

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, MAY 14, 2004

No. 68

House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, May 17, 2004, at 12:30 p.m.

Senate

FRIDAY, MAY 14, 2004

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JOHN CORNYN, a Senator from the State of Texas.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Gracious and sovereign God who has carried us from the day of our birth, thank You for Your willingness to use us for Your unfolding plan. You are the blessed controller of all things. Thank You also for Your gracious intentions to bless us, to give us a future and a hope. Help us to remember that in everything You are working for the good of those who love You and are called according to Your purposes.

Guide our Senators today in each decision that they may be faithful to their calling to be guardians of freedom. Make even their disadvantages become but a backdrop for the movement of Your loving designs. Give each of us faith to look beyond the trials of the present and to know that neither life nor death can separate us from Your love. We pray this in Your awesome Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JOHN CORNYN 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. STEVENS).

The bill clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 14, 2004.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN CORNYN, a Senator from the State of Texas, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS,
President pro tempore.

Mr. CORNYN 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.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from New Hampshire.

SCHEDULE

Mr. SUNUNU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to claim leadership time on behalf of the leadership for the following announcement.

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

dered. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Mr. SUNUNU. Today we will be in session for a period for morning business. We do not expect a lengthy session today. As the majority leader announced last night, no rollcall votes will occur today. This morning we are working on a couple of agreements, including a consent for the consideration of the bioshield bill. We hope to consider that bill on Monday, with a vote on passage of the bill occurring on Tuesday. Also, as a reminder to my colleagues, the next rollcall vote will occur on Monday afternoon.

Under the order from last night, we will begin the Department of Defense authorization bill on Monday at 2:30. Chairman WARNER is working with Senator LEVIN to consider amendments during Monday's session, and we expect to have an amendment scheduled for a vote Monday afternoon at approximately 5:30.

Next week, all Senators can anticipate a busy week as we continue consideration of defense authorization, the bioshield bill, the medals legislation, a number of nominations, and other items that can be cleared. Senators should adjust their schedules accordingly to prepare for full sessions throughout the week.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will be a period for the transaction of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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



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