



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 109th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 151

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 2005

No. 76

Senate

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's prayer will be offered by the guest chaplain, Bishop Geralyn Wolf of the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island, Providence, RI.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, to the poor, You have united us to bring uncommon hope; to innocent captives, release; to the blind, vision, stretching boundaries of imagination.

The poor in every land stretch out empty bowls, and we do not fill them; political captives seek justice, and we respond through the captivity of fear; the sick yearn for healing arts, yet the cries of children still prevail.

O gracious God, You gave us a rich heritage of compromise, and we cling unyieldingly to personal truths; You gave us a world abundant in resources, and we squander our inheritance; You gave us wisdom and insight, and our disagreements sound like loud-clanging symbols.

O God, forgive us. Release the fires of integrity that dwell within the hearts of this great Chamber, and make us urgent to mend the torn fabric of peace, to stretch courageously beyond political comfort, and to bring holy blessings to all God's people everywhere. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JOHN E. SUNUNU 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 legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, June 9, 2005.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule 1, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN E. SUNUNU, a Senator from the State of New Hampshire, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS,
President pro tempore.

Mr. SUNUNU thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Rhode Island.

WELCOMING THE GUEST CHAPLAIN

Mr. REED. Mr. President, may I say how proud I am of Bishop Wolf, not only for her prayer but for her extraordinary service to the people of the Rhode Island diocese. Bishop Wolf is a remarkable person, a remarkable pastor but also a remarkable individual. Unlike many people who would be content with the trappings of their ecclesiastical office, she actually has lived with the homeless in New York, Rhode Island, and Philadelphia. She endured what they endured, she saw their suffering. She bore witness to their suffering not only in her experiences but her work in Rhode Island. She is a remarkable woman who leads by example literally and constantly reminds us of our obligations not just to ourselves but to our neighbors. We are very proud to have her as our Episcopal bishop.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this morning we will return to the nomination of William Pryor to be a judge of the Eleventh Circuit. Yesterday, cloture was invoked by a vote of 76 to 32, and we will have the vote on the Pryor nomination at 4 p.m. today. Following that vote, we will turn to the consideration of the two Sixth Circuit nominations that are pending on the Executive Calendar, with the time allotted for the Griffin and McKeague nominations totalling 10 hours. However, it is my hope and expectation that much of that time can be yielded back and that we can have those votes either very late this afternoon or early this evening. On Monday, we will debate the nomination of Tom Griffith to be judge for the D.C. Circuit Court, with that vote occurring Monday evening.

That is an overview of today, pretty much as we have agreed earlier in the week, and the expected votes. We will update Members over the course of the day of changes in the schedule and definitely what the schedule will be on Monday. And then we will follow that with the energy legislation. Following the remarks from the Democratic leader, I have a short statement on energy.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Democratic leader is recognized.

EXPRESSING APPRECIATION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, as the Chair and distinguished majority leader know, I am sorry we have spent so

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



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