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## Senate

The Senate met at 9:44 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

### PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Gracious God, we thank You for Your love offered and received, for Your calling issued and obeyed, and for Your support provided and trusted.

Help those of us so blessed to enter more fully into what You are doing in our world and to put our resources under the direction of Your spirit.

Bless our lawmakers in their work. May the goals they set and the efforts they expend bring honor to Your name. Give them the wisdom to back their rhetoric with ethical behavior. Remind them that doing right brings Your favor, but sin brings disgrace. Teach each of us that we harvest what we plant, whether good or bad.

We pray in Your righteous Name. 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.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this morning we will proceed at 10 a.m. to an up-

or-down vote on Tom Griffith's nomination to the D.C. Circuit Court. I suspect the Senate will vote to confirm Mr. Griffith, and I thank the Senators who participated in the debate over the course of yesterday.

Immediately after that vote, we will begin consideration of the Energy bill. We have scheduled consideration of the bill for the entirety of this week and through next week. We will be completing the Energy bill by the end of next week, a fact that I mention so people will come down and make their amendments known to the managers of the bill early on. That will provide ample time for there to be debate and amendments over these next 2 weeks.

Senators should be prepared to offer those amendments beginning later today and throughout the week. The chairman and the ranking member of the Energy Committee will be here to manage the process. I do encourage Senators to offer and debate those amendments over the next 2 weeks. It will take a lot of cooperation to accomplish that goal.

I have been in discussion with the Democratic leader, who agrees with this plan of doing our very best to complete the bill. We will complete the bill by the end of next week. I thank all Members in advance.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### NOMINATION OF THOMAS B. GRIFFITH TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of Calendar No. 66, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Thomas B. Griffith, of Utah, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, in a few moments, we will be voting on Tom

Griffith's nomination to the D.C. Circuit Court. Tom Griffith is a man of deep integrity, a man of skill, a man of experience who has won the respect and admiration of colleagues all across the political spectrum. I am confident that once approved, Mr. Griffith will serve the D.C. Circuit Court with honor and distinction.

Mr. Griffith graduated summa cum laude from Brigham Young University. He earned his law degree from the University of Virginia Law School where he served on the Law Review.

Over the course of his legal career, Mr. Griffith has developed a broad range of experience from civil and criminal law to regulatory and international issues. Mr. Griffith currently serves as assistant to the president and general counsel of Brigham Young University.

As Senate legal counsel during the impeachment trial of President Clinton, Mr. Griffith proved his ability to fairly and impartially interpret the law. David Kendall and Lanny Breuer, special counsel to President Clinton, wrote to the Washington Post:

Tom has been a leader in the bar and has shown dedication to its principles. The Federal bench needs judges like Tom.

Glen Ivey, former counsel to former Senate minority leader Tom Daschle, testified that during the Senate's Whitewater and campaign finance reform investigations, Mr. Griffith was scrupulous. Mr. Ivey says:

Even when we were handling sensitive and politically charged issues, he acted in a non-partisan and objective manner. I believe Mr. Griffith has the intellect and temperament to make an outstanding jurist.

Tom Griffith is a dedicated public servant of tremendous ability. Two former presidents of the American Bar Association call Mr. Griffith "extremely well qualified for service on the D.C. Circuit." They write:

The Federal bench needs people like him, one of the best lawyers the bar has to offer.

Senator HATCH has said that in all of his years in the Senate, he has never

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



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