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Senate

The Senate met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JON KYL, a Senator from the State of Arizona.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.
King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, we pause today to lift our hearts to You. You are the God of hope who fills us with joy and peace. Thank You for the privilege of serving You as we labor for country.

Today, inspire our Senators with Your presence. Renew their minds, stir their spirits, and warm their hearts. Give them wisdom so that they can alleviate the suffering of the multitudes. Open to us opportunities to touch the lives of others with the spirit of hope we find in You.

Let our lips and lives sing Your praises for the kingdom, the power, and the glory belong to You. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JON KYL 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, March 15, 2006.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JON KYL, a Senator

from the State of Arizona, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS,
President pro tempore.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, we are returning to the consideration of the budget resolution. Last night, the two managers reached an agreement for a series of amendments that will be debated this morning. Following that debate, we will schedule votes on the amendments debated last evening, as well as the amendments that will be finished this morning. We will likely have the first vote around 1 o'clock today.

We have a joint meeting at 2 o'clock today. Senators will gather in the Chamber and depart at approximately 1:40 to hear the address by the President of Liberia. We would like to dispose of two votes prior to that joint meeting so I ask all Senators vote quickly on the first vote so we have time to do that second vote prior to our departure.

When we return from that joint meeting, at approximately 3 o'clock today, we will start a series of rollcall votes to dispose of the remaining amendments from the list agreed to. We continue to work toward an agreement for consideration of the debt limit extension. We may turn to that bill later today as well.

I will say again that we have a lot to do. We have the budget resolution and the debt limit extension, both of which we need to complete this week. We will stay as late as necessary today, tomorrow,

Thursday night, Friday to complete these two issues. I encourage Senators to show as much restraint as possible to allow us to finish at the earliest possible time.

I am happy to yield to the Senator from Alaska.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Alaska is recognized.

HONORING MAGGIE INOUE

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, words cannot express the sadness that my wife, Catherine and I felt when we learned Maggie Inouye had passed away.

Maggie was truly DAN's partner in life. Their courtship and marriage was a love story for the ages.

As so many of us did during World War II, DAN put his education on hold to serve his country. When he met Maggie, DAN was finishing his undergraduate degree at the University of Hawaii. He knew instantly he wanted to marry her. On their second date, they were engaged.

From that point on, Maggie was a constant source of support and friendship for DAN. She had a gift for teaching and a way with words. Maggie worked as a university speech instructor while DAN was finishing college. Many have praised DAN's speeches on the Senate floor, but few know Maggie had a hand in our good friend's eloquence. As Frank Fasi, the former mayor of Honolulu, once said, "If anyone was responsible, she was responsible for [DAN's] wonderful oratory."

When DAN decided to go into politics, Maggie supported him, listened to him, and campaigned for him.

When DAN was elected to the House of Representatives in 1959, Maggie came to Washington with him to help serve the people of Hawaii. It could not have been easy to leave her family and friends in Hawaii behind, but Maggie was a devoted wife—and in her own, quiet way, a devoted public servant.

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



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