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## Senate

The Senate met at 2 p.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.

Sovereign Lord, majestic Father of all creation, speak Your truth to us. Today may our Senators stop in the midst of busyness and listen for Your voice. Give them the discernment to hear You correctly. Grant them the courage to live out Your calling in their lives. Make these leaders work as one body to accomplish Your will. Give them wisdom in their tasks, confidence in the hearing of Your voice, and a love for You as well as each other.

Remind us all of the truth that neither death nor life, nor height nor depth, nor any created thing can separate us from Your love.

We pray in Your holy 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, leadership time is reserved.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this afternoon, the order provides for resuming

debate on the supplemental appropriations bill. I believe after the remarks of the two leaders, there are a couple of Senators, including our distinguished President pro tempore, who desire to speak on other subjects. The chairman will then be ready to resume debate on the pending emergency supplemental bill. I remind all Senators that I filed a cloture motion on the bill last week and that vote will occur tomorrow morning. In accordance with that cloture motion, all first-degree amendments should be filed at the desk by 2:30 this afternoon. We already have a large number of pending amendments that will need to be disposed of. If we are able to invoke cloture on the bill tomorrow morning, then it is my expectation to finish the bill no later than Wednesday of this week. Therefore, we will have rollcall votes each day of this week as we complete work on this appropriations bill.

Our first rollcall vote this week will occur this afternoon at 5:30. We will have a vote on a district judge who was reported by the Judiciary Committee last week. This week we may also consider the tax relief extension conference report, if that conference report becomes available. There is a 10-hour statutory limit on that measure, and we will begin debate under that time limit as soon as that conference report arrives from the House.

### ENERGY

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, over the weekend, we got more bad news on the rising price of gas. Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman told us to expect high gas prices to continue for 2 to 3 more years. In his words, suppliers have lost control of the market.

Every day drivers are getting soaked with higher and higher prices at the pump and in some places gas prices are well over \$3 per gallon. Worse yet, the situation only threatens to intensify as those summer driving months come into view.

Consumers are understandably frustrated. They are worried. For most families, gas is a basic necessity, and rising gas prices simply put them over a barrel. They need a break. The Republican leadership is delivering a plan.

Last Thursday, we unveiled our proposal to offer immediate short-term relief for American consumers, as well as a broader strategy to increase America's energy supply and to reduce our demand for oil.

We propose giving taxpayers a \$100 gas tax holiday rebate check so their hard-earned money goes back into their pockets instead of into their gas tanks.

We also want to make sure consumers are protected against any price gouging or anticompetitive behavior by oil companies or other suppliers of energy. Our proposal includes strong Federal antiprice-gouging protection.

These are two steps we can take right now to offer the consumer immediate relief. But for the midterm and for the long term, we need to get to the root of what is driving oil prices through the roof: basic supply and demand. We don't have enough domestic oil to meet our energy needs, and that global demand is growing day by day.

In order to get control of the problem, we need to increase domestic supplies, supplies at home, and we need to diversify our energy sources.

The package we have introduced promotes the development of alternative fuels in the use of hybrids and other advanced technology vehicles. It also gives Secretary Mineta the authority to issue a rule looking at fuel economy standards for passenger cars.

These two measures address the demand side of the equation, but we also must address the supply side. If President Clinton had not vetoed ANWR a decade ago, ANWR today would be producing a million barrels of oil each and every day right now. A million barrels of supply each day would be coming to

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



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