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Senate

The Senate met at 9:45 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:

Eternal Spirit, You see our thoughts from a distance. You look not merely on our exteriors but also at our interiors. You see our desire to please You and to honor You with our lives. You know our remorse for neglected duties, missed opportunities, and selfish pursuits.

You are aware that we need strength for today and hope for tomorrow.

Today, meet the needs of our lawmakers as they confront the challenges of our time. Give them faith to trust that Your sovereign providence will prevail in the unfolding events of our world. Remind them that they are never alone, for You will never forsake them.

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, the leadership time is reserved.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

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

SCHEDULE

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, this morning we have set aside some debate

time in executive session for the consideration of Renee Bumb to be U.S. district judge for New Jersey. Following those statements, we will vote at around 10:20 a.m. on the confirmation of that nomination.

Immediately after the vote, we will resume debate on the motion to proceed to the Marriage Protection Amendment. We reserved blocks of time throughout the session for Members to come to the Senate to give their remarks on the marriage amendment.

The Senate will recess, as usual on Tuesdays, from 12:30 to 2:15 for our weekly policy luncheons.

I remind our colleagues, I filed a cloture motion on the motion to proceed to the Marriage Protection Amendment. That vote will occur on Wednesday. Later today, we will alert all Members as to the precise timing of that cloture vote on the marriage amendment which, as I indicated, will occur Wednesday.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF RENEE MARIE BUMB TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session for consideration of Executive Calendar No. 626, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Renee Marie Bumb, of New Jersey, to be U.S. District Judge for the District of New Jersey.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the time until 10:20 a.m. shall be equally divided between the two managers or their designees.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, before I suggest the absence of a quorum, will the time run during the quorum call?

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. It will be equally divided.

Mr. McCONNELL. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I rise to express my pleasure and support for the confirmation of Ms. Renee Bumb to the U.S. District Court of New Jersey.

Ms. Bumb is one of four accomplished individuals from New Jersey who have been nominated to vacancies on the district court.

Just before we left for the Memorial Day recess, the Senate unanimously confirmed Judge Susan Wigenton for the district court. Judge Wigenton has been a Federal magistrate judge since 1997. She also worked at a law firm, served as a public defender in Asbury Park, NJ. She has been a first-rate magistrate judge. She will be an excellent district court judge. She served the public well. We are pleased to have her join the bench in New Jersey.

Now we discuss today's nominee, Renee Bumb. She is exceptionally well qualified and will be an excellent addition to the court. She is currently attorney in charge of the Camden—our southernmost city—U.S. Attorney's Office. She is a gifted prosecutor and has handled cases ranging from drug trafficking to white-collar crime.

For 6 years, Miss Bumb has supervised all of the attorneys in the Camden U.S. Attorney's Office. At the same time, she has tried cases herself, especially those dealing with public corruption.

Ms. Bumb is from south Jersey. We are pleased she will be sitting as a Federal judge in Camden. There have been

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



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