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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 12, 2006, at 12:30 p.m.

Senate

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2006

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.

Eternal God, who maintains our world and directs it toward the future, we thank You for Your promise that justice, righteousness, and truth will be stronger than injustice, evil, and falsehood.

Today, we remember all those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001. Comfort those who still grieve, and teach each of us the wisdom of remembering that life is fragile and precious. May we never think of You as absent from our world or disinterested in it.

Today, bless the Members of this legislative body as they labor for liberty. Strengthen them to work with calm reality, glowing enthusiasm, vibrant faith, and personal integrity.

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 MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Democratic leader is recognized.

Mr. REID. Thank you, Mr. President.

FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ATTACKS ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

Mr. REID. Five years and a day ago, we rarely saw flags flying at every door. Five years and a day ago, men in suits rarely wore flag pins. Today, 5 years after September 11, from sea to sea, flags fly proudly in our front yards, on our suit lapels, and in our hearts.

The acts of terrorism that September morn lit for all Americans a lamp blazing through the smoke and pain and tears and flames. Even as our hearts ached, our hopes soared, inspired by the selfless courage and devotion of ordinary people performing extraordinary feats of courage and devotion.

Men and women—good, kind, loving moms and dads, sons and daughters, brothers and sisters—died that day. For that, we can never cease to grieve. But the light that shone on September 11 cannot die. It cannot be dimmed. It cannot fail. It cannot fail because it is the light of their spirit and of ours. It is the light of a great republic, of a free and democratic people.

September 11 will always be our burden. Our minds, our souls, our hearts cannot forget. We must not forget. But we must also always remember that our fallen children in those fallen towers relit a lamp that outshines the evil done to us. In their loss, and in ours,

they remind us, as could nothing else, of that for which we stand—that liberty is our central value, that freedom is our cardinal virtue, that we love our country and our flag and our people for the light we shine, on ourselves, to the world, and for the future of humanity.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

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

SCHEDULE

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, today the Senate will have a period of morning business until 4 p.m. this afternoon. This period was set aside to give Senators an opportunity to give statements on the fifth anniversary of September 11.

At 4 o'clock today, the Senate will continue to debate H.R. 4954, the port security bill. Several Senators were in the Chamber on Friday to offer amendments, and the managers are here again today to make more progress. We hope to finish this bill midweek, and those Senators who have amendments should be talking with the bill managers today. There are no rollcall votes today, and we will announce the voting schedule for tomorrow before we adjourn this evening.

I also wish to remind everyone that this evening Senators should meet in the Chamber at 5:40 p.m. so we can proceed as a group to the east front for an event to mark the anniversary of the September 11 attacks.

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



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