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No. 15

## House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 6, 2008, at 2 p.m.

## Senate

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2008

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable BENJAMIN L. CARDIN, a Senator from the State of Maryland.

### PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

O God of light, in whom there is no darkness, thank You for Your light. You are a guide who gently leads us. You are a mystery but not a puzzle; profound but not incomprehensible. You are loving, patient, and long-suffering. O God, You are all things that we are not but need to be. You don't make promises to forget them. You, O God, with steadiness and perseverance move in the lives of people and in the life of our Nation and world.

Awaken our lawmakers to Your inescapable presence. Keep them from thinking that You are absent from our world or disinterested in it. Enable them to feel You in their midst as they grapple with the problems of our time.

We pray in the Name of Him who promised never to forsake us. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable BENJAMIN L. CARDIN 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. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, January 30, 2008.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable BENJAMIN L. CARDIN, a Senator from the State of Maryland, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,  
President pro tempore.

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

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

### ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate proceeds to morning business, there will be 1 hour equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the first 30 minutes under the control of the Republicans and the next 30 minutes under the control of the majority.

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

### SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we were able late last night to work out some-

thing on FISA, a 15-day extension. There is a path forward. We are going to try very quickly to get an agreement so that we can move forward. I had a meeting in my office at 6 o'clock last night. Following that meeting, I called the Republican leader, and I think we have a way of moving forward on this legislation, one that would be agreed upon by Senators BOND, ROCKEFELLER, LEAHY, and SPECTER, so that we can complete that legislation. I think it will probably take a good long day to do that, but I think that would be all it would take.

I hope we can get that done very soon. I do not want to wait. Whatever we do, whether we do something or nothing, I do not want to wait until the last minute. This is something we need to do. I think it would be in everyone's interests to get it to the House as quickly as we can so that we can move forward on a conference to send something to the President that he can review.

Again, we have the stimulus package that we have to deal with, and we are going to do that. That is why I made the announcement last night that we are going to have to do some work on Monday. We are going to have votes on Monday. They won't be early in the day, but we will have votes on Monday. Whatever we are working on, we will try to work Monday so that we can have some votes Monday night, so there will likely be more than one vote Monday night.

Tuesday, we are going to have to work. We really do need to complete this work on the foreign intelligence legislation quickly. Whatever we do on

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



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