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Senate

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.

God of our fathers and mothers, make our hearts temples for Your presence and reveal to us Your purposes for this day. Abide with the Members of our legislative branch, meeting their needs and directing their steps. Lord, allay the fever of fretfulness and lift them above corroding care. In these challenging times, keep their hearts untroubled and their minds focused on You. Prepare for them green pastures and still waters for the restoration of their strength. Lead them, great shepherd, in the paths of righteousness for Your Name's sake. May the urgency of the world's needs remind them that promises do not solve problems or alleviate suffering.

We pray in Your loving Name. 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 legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, July 23, 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.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following leader remarks, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 3268, the energy speculation legislation. The time until 11 o'clock will be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the Republicans controlling the first half and the majority controlling the next half. Then the time from 11 until 4 p.m. will be controlled in 30-minute alternating blocks of time, with Republicans controlling the first 30 minutes and the majority controlling the next 30 minutes. At 11 a.m. today, in the Rotunda, there will be a congressional ceremony commemorating the 60th anniversary of the integration of the U.S. Armed Forces. There will be a classified briefing for Senators in S-407 from 4 until 5:30 p.m. today with National Security Advisor Stephen Hadley.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

It is my understanding that there is an agreement—and if not, I ask unanimous consent that it be so—that time postcloture will continue to run during that time.

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

Mr. REID. Tomorrow, July 24, there will be a 10th anniversary commemoration of the murder of U.S. Capitol Police Officers Chestnut and Gibson. As I

indicated yesterday, there will be a moment of silence throughout the Capitol at 3:40 p.m. in remembrance of the fallen officers. That was the time they were killed. Senators are encouraged to be at their desks in the Senate Chamber for that moment of silence.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 3297

Mr. REID. Mr. President, S. 3297 is at the desk and due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the title of the bill for a second time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3297) to advance America's priorities.

Mr. REID. I object to any further proceedings with regard to this legislation.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard. The bill will be placed on the calendar.

HOUSING

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the House is going to vote, probably sometime shortly after lunchtime today, on the comprehensive housing legislation. I have spoken during the last month or so to Secretary Paulson several times. Each call he places to me—I don't call him, even though I feel comfortable in calling him—is because he is very concerned about what is going on with the American economy. He recognizes that there are deep problems, but one of the problems is housing.

People understand more every day that it is more than just the person losing their home that is a concern to us with foreclosures. There are 8,500 new foreclosure notices every day. It is more than just that person or that family in that home. It affects the neighborhood. It affects the government entity where the home is located

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



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