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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 14, 2010, at 2 p.m.

Senate

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2010

The Senate met at 2:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JEFF MERKLEY, a Senator from the State of Oregon.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

You reign, O God, over the nations of our turbulent world. You alone subdue the winds and the rain with a word from Your mouth. As we return from recess and open this session with prayer, we are reminded that life on Earth is a gift that allows us to live for Your glory. Lord, we are humbled by the manifold blessings You pour out in this Nation and are grateful for Your protection and provision. Speak Your dreams into our hearts and unite us by the power of Your spirit.

Give our Senators the wisdom needed to enact laws that keep America great. As they begin the hard work of implementing past decisions, grant them patience, endurance, energy, and unity. Help them, Lord, to grow in their respect and esteem for one another and for all who belong to this large Senate family.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JEFF MERKLEY 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. INOUE).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, September 13, 2010.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JEFF MERKLEY, a Senator from the State of Oregon, to perform the duties of the Chair.

DANIEL K. INOUE,
President pro tempore.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I welcome you and all of our colleagues and all the staff back from our 5-week work period at home.

We have a lot of work to do. Following any leader remarks, there will be a period of morning business until 3:30 p.m., with Senators allowed to speak for up to 10 minutes each. Following morning business, the Senate will proceed to executive session to

consider the nomination of Jane Stranch to be a circuit court judge for the Sixth Circuit. There will be up to 2 hours for debate equally divided and controlled between Senators LEAHY and SESSIONS or their designees. At 5:30 p.m., we will proceed to vote on confirmation of the Stranch nomination.

As a reminder to Senators, before the recess, cloture was filed on the small business jobs bill. The filing deadline for first-degree amendments to the substitute and the bill is 3 p.m. today. At 11 a.m. tomorrow, there will be up to three cloture votes relating to the small business jobs bill. The cloture votes will be on the Johans amendment No. 4596, the Nelson of Florida amendment No. 4595—both relating to 1099 forms—and on the substitute amendment to H.R. 5297.

SEPTEMBER WORK PERIOD

Mr. REID. Mr. President, as I said, I welcome back all my colleagues from all corners of the country. I am sure every Senator enjoyed spending time with their constituents as much as I did. I am sure all are eager to get back to the business of legislating.

The work period we begin today is an important one. Like every work period, it represents a new opportunity to move past the partisan stalemates of recent months and find common ground on our most pressing priority: putting people back to work. I hope the weeks between now and Columbus Day will be productive weeks. There really is no reason they should not be. The issues we will be dealing with are not partisan or ideological. They have the

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



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