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## Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable CARTE P. GOODWIN, a Senator from the State of West Virginia.

### PRAYER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's opening prayer will be offered by Rev. Dr. Bruce Hargrave, vice president of development for the United Methodist Theological Seminary, Moscow, Russia.

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O God, You are the eternal sovereign of all the world and yet personal. Help our Senators to be aware of Your presence and strength. Touch them with Your Spirit and grant each of them divine wisdom.

Our country and world are beset with problems and crises and war. We acknowledge that we are not smart enough, wise enough, or even courageous enough to meet these daily challenges. We need Your direction and grace. Bestow these on each of us bountifully and abundantly.

We now yield ourselves to Your will in order that we as individuals and as a body may fulfill Your plan for each of us, our Nation, and our world.

We pray all of this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable CARTE P. GOODWIN 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 bill clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, September 16, 2010.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable CARTE P. GOODWIN, a Senator from the State of West Virginia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

DANIEL K. INOUE,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. GOODWIN 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 any leader remarks, the Senate will resume consideration of the small business jobs bill. Under an agreement we reached yesterday, Senator GRASSLEY and Senator HATCH will offer their respective motions to suspend the rules. Senators BAUCUS, GRASSLEY, and HATCH will control 15 minutes each, for a total of 45 minutes. At 10:45 a.m., we will vote on those motions to suspend in the order in which they are offered. Following the votes, the time until 12 noon will be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees. At noon, the Senate will proceed to vote on the motion to invoke cloture on H.R. 5297, the small business jobs bill, as amended. If cloture is invoked, all postcloture debate time will be yielded back and we will proceed to vote on passage of the bill.

The next item for business will be the Department of Defense authorization bill. I wish to reach an agreement to proceed to the measure. It appears that will be unlikely and, therefore, I may need to file cloture to attempt to end debate on the motion so we can begin the amendment process.

### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 3790 AND S. 3791

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I am told there are two bills at the desk due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bills by title for a second time.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3790) to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide that persons having seriously delinquent tax debts shall be ineligible for Federal employment.

A bill (S. 3791) to require Members of Congress to disclose delinquent tax liability, require an ethics inquiry, and garnish the wages of a Member with Federal tax liability.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I object to any further proceedings on these two matters en bloc.

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

### FOOD SAFETY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we have worked for this entire Congress on food safety. I have had a number of people from Nevada—about a dozen people—who have talked about their foodborne illnesses, children whose growth is stunted their entire life. One young woman spent 11 months in the hospital as a result of eating tainted spinach. All over America this is happening.

We have food safety laws that are inadequate and causing people to get sick because the food is not checked closely enough. Senators DURBIN, HARKIN, chairman of the committee, and ENZI have worked hard to get something done. I have talked with Senator MCCONNELL. He thinks something should be done. We thought we finally had it worked out. We could take care of this, but Senator COBURN has said no. He wants it paid for a different way. We spent a whole Congress on this legislation. Of course, at the last minute, he comes in, and likely we are

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



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