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

Let us pray.

Lord, this is the day that You have made, and we will rejoice and be glad in it. Thank You for the beauty of the Earth and the glory of the skies. Thank You for the love which from our birth over and around us lies.

Be near today to our Senators. Infuse them with reverence for You. May their lives be adorned with civility, integrity, humility, and faithfulness. May a spirit of respect and forbearance characterize all they do and say, as they hunger for Your truth and thirst for Your righteousness. Lord, distill upon them the dews of quietness and confidence that in simple trust and deeper reverence they may be found steadfast and abounding in Your power.

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

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,

Washington, DC, September 22, 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.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 3813, S. 3815, AND S. 3816

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there are three bills at the desk due for a second reading.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3813) to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to establish a Federal renewable electricity standard, and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 3815) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce oil consumption and improve energy security, and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 3816) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to create American jobs and to prevent offshoring of such jobs overseas.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, on these bills, would it be in order now to ask unanimous consent that on S. 3815, Senators HATCH and MENENDEZ be added as original cosponsors?

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I object to any further proceedings with respect to these bills en bloc.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection having been heard, the bills will be placed on the calendar.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following any leader remarks, there will be a period of morning business until 4 p.m. today, with the time until 10 a.m. equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees. The time from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. will be controlled in alternating 30-minute blocks of time, with the majority controlling the first block and the Republicans controlling the next. Following morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 3454, the Defense authorization bill.

THE DISCLOSE ACT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the debate this morning will be related to the Citizens United case. That is the case where the Supreme Court changed more than 100 years of precedent in the United States, which in the past had totally prevented corporations from being involved in Federal elections. The Supreme Court stood that rule on its head and denied stare decisis, which certainly surprised nearly everyone. They became involved, it appears, in the political process by a 5-to-4 majority, now allowing corporations, including corporations that have foreign interests, to become involved in our process. They really have opened the door. We have these nameless, faceless individuals spending huge amounts of money—corporate money and other money—where there is certainly no transparency whatsoever. These ads are being run on television and radio around the country. No one knows where the money comes from, how much it is. In fact, I repeat, there is no transparency. That is what the debate is about today. We have had a vote on this once before. I have the right to call it up again, and I will do so at the appropriate time, but it is important that the American people know how

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



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