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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JOHN E. WALSH, a Senator from the State of Montana.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray. Eternal God, thank You for not keeping a record of our wrongdoings. As we lift our hearts in prayer, open Your ears to our supplications. Keep our feet on a smooth, straight road so that we will experience Your best for our lives. Lord, walk with our Senators throughout this day. Remind them that they are Your servants, as You keep them alert to Your commands.

Forgive us when we forget to express our gratitude, for without Your help, challenges will overwhelm us. In this season of Thanksgiving we are grateful that You have not left us defenseless but that Your grace and Your mercy continue to prevail in our lives. We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer 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. LEAHY).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,

Washington, DC, November 20, 2014.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable JOHN E. WALSH, a Senator from the State of Montana, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WALSH 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 my remarks and those of the Republican leader, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 2 p.m. today, with Senators allowed to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

There will be five rollcall votes at 2 p.m. on confirmation of the Pepper, Sannes, Arleo, Beetlestone, and Bolden nominations, all to be district court judges, followed by 11 voice votes on executive nominations.

TRIBUTE TO CHRIS DOBY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the famous poet Oliver Wendell Holmes said: "Put not your trust in money, but put your money in trust." That is what he said. Since 2005 the Senate has put its money—precious taxpayer dollars—into the trusted hands of a man by the name of Chris Doby. He is the financial clerk of the Senate. He has proven himself to be equal to the task. That is an understatement. Through budget cuts, sequestration, and even a government shutdown, Senators and staff knew that Chris Doby and his team would make it work, no matter what took place.

There is just one story I will share with the Senate. In the midst of the government shutdown, Senate employees had no assurance of when their

next paycheck would come. Staffers with families, mortgages, and student loan payments all hoped the shutdown would not be their personal financial disaster. Missing a check or two can be very difficult for most everyone.

After 16 days, Congress passed legislation funding the government, and the shutdown came to an end. That was October 16, 2013, just 2 days before payday for Senate staffers. It is important to understand that processing payroll for almost 7,000 employees normally takes about a week. But anticipating what a missed paycheck would mean for his fellow Senate employees, Chris Doby calmly pushed them to make it work.

So in less than 48 hours, with a very depleted staff, Chris and the Senate Disbursing Office ensured that every Senate staffer received their paycheck on time. Because of their efforts, mortgage payments were made, groceries were purchased, and working families breathed a sigh of relief.

I was trying to think what I could say today to indicate to this good man and his family and his friends and Senate staffers what a good person he is and what a good professional he is. The comparison I thought I would make is this. When I was a boy, I used to love to listen to the game of the day on radio, Mutual Radio Network in the town I lived in, a little town in Nevada. We, of course, had no TV. But radio reception came in pretty good during the day. I do not remember the station, but we could listen to the radio.

On the game of the day, I focused on some people who were so good and who later became even better than I had imagined. One of those people who is now in the Baseball Hall of Fame was a man by the name of Larry Doby. He was a center fielder for the Cleveland Indians. He was good. He could run fast, jump high. He hit with power. He stole bases. He was very good.

This Doby we have in the Senate, in my opinion, is somebody who, just like Larry Doby, would make the All-Star

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



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