



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 160

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2014

No. 145

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal Lord God, our shelter in turbulent times, as voices throughout the Nation cry out for equal protection under the law, use our lawmakers to ensure that justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream.

Thank You for not leaving or forsaking us, for You continue to be our ever-present help in trouble. We are Your people and the sheep of Your pasture.

Shepherd of Love, continue to provide for our every need from the rich bounties of Your grace. In a special way bless the lawmakers who will take the oath of office today.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore 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.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Following my remarks and those of the Republican leader, the Senate will resume executive session. There will be four rollcall votes at 10:30 a.m. on the confirmation of the Mamet and Bell nominations and cloture on the Coloretti and Adler nominations.

The Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings.

There will be a series of three votes at 4 p.m. on confirmation of the Coloretti and Adler nominations and cloture on the Burrows nomination.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CERTIFICATES OF ELECTION

The VICE PRESIDENT. The Chair lays before the Senate the certificates of election to fill the unexpired terms for the States of Hawaii and South Carolina. The certificates, the Chair is advised, are in the form suggested by the Senate. If there be no objection, the reading of the certificates will be waived, and they will be printed in full in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD as follows:

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR UNEXPIRED TERM

To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the fourth day of November, 2014, Brian Schatz was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Hawaii a Senator for the unexpired term ending at noon on the 3rd day of January, 2017, to fill the vacancy in the representation from said State in the Senate of the United States caused by the death of Daniel K. Inouye.

Witness: His excellency our governor Neil Abercrombie, and our seal hereto affixed at Honolulu this 24th day of November, in the year of our Lord 2014.

By the Governor:

NEIL ABERCROMBIE,
Governor.

SCOTT T. NAGO,
Chief Election Officer.

[State Seal Affixed]

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR UNEXPIRED TERM

To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that on the fourth day of November A.D. 2014, Tim Scott was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of South Carolina a Senator for the unexpired term ending at noon on the third day of January, 2017, to fill the vacancy in the representation from said State in the Senate of the United States caused by the resignation of Jim DeMint.

Witness: Her Excellency our governor Nikki R. Haley and our seal hereto affixed at Columbia, South Carolina, this twenty-fourth day of November in the year of our Lord 2014.

NIKKI R. HALEY,
Governor.

MARK HAMMOND,
Secretary of State.

[State Seal Affixed]

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE

The VICE PRESIDENT. If the Senators-elect will now present themselves at the desk, the Chair will administer the oath of office.

Mr. SCHATZ and Mr. SCOTT, escorted by Mr. BEGICH and Mr. GRAHAM, respectively, advanced to the desk of the Vice President; the oath prescribed by law was administered to them by the Vice President; and they severally subscribed to the oath in the Official Oath Book.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Congratulations, Senators.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOKER). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

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



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