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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Gracious God, for tomorrow and its needs we do not pray, but keep us, guide us, strengthen us, just for today. Help us to live in day-tight compartments by being faithful and obedient to You in this new day You have given us. Yesterday is a memory and tomorrow is uncertain. But today, if we live it to the fullest, will become a memorable yesterday and tomorrow will be a vision of hope. A great life is an accumulation of days lived, one at a time, for Your glory and by Your grace. Anything is possible if we take it in daysized bites. Help us make today a day to be that different person we've wanted to be, to start doing what we've procrastinated, and to enjoy the work we have to do. We want this to be a special day to love You, serve You, and be an encourager of others around us. One day to live, it will go so fast; Lord, make it a good memory, before it's past. In our Lord's name. Amen.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION BAN

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, 9:30 a.m. having arrived, the Senate will now resume consideration of H.R. 1833, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1833) to amend title 18, United States Code, to ban partial-birth abortion.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the bill.

MOTION TO COMMIT WITH INSTRUCTIONS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senator from Pennsylvania [Mr. SPECTER] is recognized to make a motion to commit with the time until 12:30 p.m. equally divided and controlled between the Senator from New Hampshire [Mr. SMITH] and the Senator from Pennsylvania [Mr. Specter].

Mr. SPECTER. I thank the Chair. I thank the distinguished President pro tempore.

Mr. President, on behalf of Senators JEFFORDS, SNOWE, CAMPBELL, KASSE-BAUM, SIMPSON, and COHEN, I move to commit H.R. 1833 to the Committee on the Judiciary with instructions to hold not less than one hearing on this bill and report the bill with amendments, if any, back to the Senate within 19 days.

The motion to commit with instructions is as follows:

MOTION TO COMMIT WITH INSTRUCTIONS

Mr. SPECTER (for himself, Mr. JEFFORDS, Ms. Snowe, Mr. Campbell, Ms. Kassebaum, Mr. SIMPSON, and Mr. COHEN) moves to commit the bill H.R. 1833 to the Committee on the Judiciary with instructions to hold not less than one hearing on such bill and report the bill, with amendments (if any), back to the Senate within 19 days.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I have selected a bare minimum amount of time, which is really only a 9-day commitment from today, November 8, until November 17 when the Senate will go out of session under a previously announced recess period by the majority leader. And then there would be an additional 10 days while the Senate is in recess, from November 17 to November 27, for a total of 19 days. But the effective period of this referral, as I say, will only be for 9 days.

After considerable thought, I have abbreviated the referral period to this very short time to emphasize to everyone the importance of the issue and the need to have very prompt consideration and to allay any concern or reject any argument that this referral is being made to, in effect, defeat the bill.

Mr. President, I submit that this kind of consideration and this kind of a hearing is really indispensable because of the very complex matters which are involved in this issue. I would enumerate them as humanitarian considerations, medical considerations, statutory interpretation considerations, and constitutional considerations.

The humanitarian considerations have been broached to a significant extent in terms of the circumstances of the mother and the circumstances of the fetus with considerable doubt as to what actually occurs during these socalled late-term abortions. It is a very complicated picture as to what pain and suffering is sustained by the fetus, a subject which requires our very thorough consideration because of the very serious humanitarian implications on pain and suffering to the fetus during the course of this medical procedure.

The matter has had a very, very brief hearing in the House of Representatives—as I understand it, for less than a full day.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at the conclusion of my statement the full transcript of the hearing before the House of Representatives may be printed in the RECORD so that everyone in the Senate who will be considering this matter in the course of the next day or two, or however long it takes, will have an opportunity to see the brevity of those hearings and the impossibility of consideration of the many complicated issues which are involved in this matter.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. INHOFE.) Without objection, it is so ordered.

(See exhibit 1.)

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, there is no question about the chilling effect

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

