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Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable ROLAND W. BURRIS, a Senator from the State of Illinois.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Gracious God, Ruler of all nature, protect our Senators from the seductive influences of power and prestige. Today, deliver them from the delusion of self-importance which their position and status subtly nurture. Remind them of the example of the greatest man who ever lived. He said: "Those who would be greatest must be servants of all." In disagreement and confrontation, help them to respect and esteem each other as they struggle together for the resolution of complex issues. Lord, give them the humility to know that no one has a monopoly on Your truth and that all need each other to discover Your guidance together.

We pray in Your sacred Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable ROLAND W. BURRIS 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. BYRD).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, June 23, 2009.

To the Senate:

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

appoint the Honorable ROLAND W. BURRIS, a Senator from the State of Illinois, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. BURRIS 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 leader remarks, the Senate will be in a period for the transaction of morning business. Senators will be allowed to speak for up to 10 minutes each. Republicans will control the first 30 minutes and the majority will control the next 30 minutes. The Senate will be in recess from 12:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. today to allow for weekly caucus luncheons. We will continue to work on an agreement to consider the legislative appropriations bill today. Senators could expect votes in relation to that bill during today's session.

MAKING TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION ACT OF 1965

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the HELP Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1777.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1777) to make technical corrections to the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I rise to speak in support of this bill and our

need to make important technical corrections to the Higher Education Opportunity Act. I thank Senator KENNEDY for his willingness to approach this bill in a bipartisan manner. I always believe that working together we produce a better policy.

Any time this body considers a bill that has over 1,000 pages, there is bound to be a need to do some "clean up" and to correct unintended consequences. Fortunately, we were also provided an opportunity to broaden benefits to the children who have lost a parent in either Iraq or Afghanistan since 2001. It is important that we do all we can to support these individuals whose families have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. I am appreciative of Senators BURR and ALEXANDER for their leadership in getting this bill done.

A college education is not a luxury in the 21st century economy. It is a necessity. This bill will improve the ability of our student assistance programs to function and meet the needs of institutions of higher education, students and their families.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the substitute amendment, which is at the desk, be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The amendment (No. 1364) was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Amendments Submitted.")

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill (H.R. 1777), as amended, was read the third time and passed.

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



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