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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, June 26, 1995, at 12 noon.

Senate

FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 1995

(Legislative day of Monday, June 19, 1995)

The Senate met at 9 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

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

Gracious Lord, You have placed within each of us a conscience as the voice of our deep inner self. Over the years our consciences have been impacted by what we have been taught is true and right. We thank You for a conscience rooted in the Ten Commandments and guided by Your Spirit. You are the potter, our conscience the clay; mold our values after Your way. We ask this not just for our own personal relationships, but also for the responsibilities of leadership You have entrusted to us.

You want to develop the future of this Nation through the leadership of the women and men of this Senate and all of us who labor with them. So refine our consciences; purify any dross until You can see Your own nature reflected in the refined gold of Your priorities of righteousness, justice, mercy. Give us Your heart for the poor and those who suffer. Keep us faithful to Your vision for this Nation so clearly revealed to our Founding Fathers and Mothers. Set us ablaze with patriotism and loyalty. Then continue to speak to us through our consciences. May we work out in specifics what You have worked into the fiber of our character. We commit ourselves anew to seek Your guidance and follow it this day. In Your holy name. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The acting majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, this morning the leader time has been reserved.

There will be a period for morning business until the hour of 9:30 a.m., with Senators to speak for up to 5 minutes each.

At 9:30, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 240, the securities litigation bill. At 9:30, Senator SHELBY will be recognized to offer an amendment regarding proportionate liability, with a rollcall vote occurring on or in relation to the amendment at 10:55 a.m. this morning. Further rollcall votes are expected throughout the session today.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business, not to extend beyond the hour of 9:30 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for not to exceed 5 minutes each.

OFFICE OF SURGEON GENERAL TERMINATION ACT

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, yesterday I introduced a bill to eliminate the Office of the Surgeon General in the Public Health Service. In light of what we have just been through with Dr. Foster's nomination, what Dr. Elders went through, and even Dr. Koop, I think it has never been more clear that this position is a lightning rod. Let me say at the outset, this has nothing to do with Dr. Henry Foster, and everything to do with politics.

For years, this office has been used by both parties as a political football. Instead of fulfilling the duties as spokesperson for public health, the Surgeon General has found himself or herself as a puppet for the administration, pushing forward rhetoric on whatever pet topic peaks their interest.

I guess as a political appointee, you would expect this. However, when it comes to the public's health, politics should not come into play.

But what makes this bill timely is the effort being made by both the administration and Congress to shrink the size of Government. Being a voice for good health habits is not a job that only a Surgeon General can do.

There have been times in our recent history when we had no Surgeon General. Was the public's health in danger during that time? No. The duties were picked up by the Assistant Secretary for Health. In fact, through most of the 1970's there was no Surgeon General. During the Carter administration, the Assistant Secretary for Health doubled

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



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