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Senate

The Senate met at 9 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:

Almighty God, we are accountable to You. You have given us life, loved and guided us, and entrusted to us responsibilities to be assumed and done for Your glory. In all our ways, we will acknowledge You and You shall direct our paths.

Today, as we continue these "Character Counts" prayers and thank You for the pillar of character called responsibility, we praise You that You have given us minds to know Your thoughts, goodness to strengthen our emotions, and resoluteness to motivate our wills. The central purpose of our lives is to listen for Your commands and to obey with passion. Help us to do the best we can with all that we have, so that we may serve You with excellence.

Lord, You have given each of us a realm of responsibility. We are stewards of the blessings You have given us. All that we have and are is a gift from You to be used for the relationships You have given us. Help us to be generous and kind as we assume responsibility for loved ones, friends, people for whom we work or those who work for us.

Lord, help us never forget that we must account for how responsible we were to You in carrying out our responsibilities. Through our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

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

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Thank you, Mr. President.

SCHEDULE

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, this morning the Senate will be in a period of morning business to accommodate a number of Senators who have requested time to speak. At 11 a.m., under the previous order, the Senate will conduct a cloture vote on the modified committee amendment to Senate bill 1173, the ISTEPA reauthorization bill. Following that vote, the Senate will vote on passage of House Joint Resolution 97, the continuing resolution. Therefore, Members can anticipate two consecutive rollcall votes beginning at approximately 11 a.m. today. If cloture is not invoked at 11:00 a.m., a second cloture vote is expected to occur later in the afternoon. Hopefully, the Senate can make good progress on the highway legislation during today's session.

As a reminder to all Members, a third cloture motion was filed last evening in the event that cloture is not invoked during today's session. If needed, that vote will occur on Friday at a time to be determined later. In addition, if any appropriations conference reports become available, the Senate is expected to consider those reports in short order. Therefore, Members can anticipate rollcall votes throughout today's session of the Senate.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SANTORUM). Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business, not to extend beyond the hour of 11 a.m. with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 5 minutes each.

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call.

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

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

ANN'S CAMPAIGN FOR A SAFER AMERICA

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, my children attend a high school in Fairfax County. It is a high school that has great diversity, great hope, great potential. It is a school that you might say is in some transition. The school has seen a great deal of improvement, has a great deal of camaraderie, a great spirit at this public high school. It is Mount Vernon High School. The teachers care, the parents care, the administrators care. My kids have made terrific friends at this school, friends that indeed will last a lifetime.

One student, Ann Harris, became one of my daughter's absolute best friends. They had morning period together. They had one book that they would share, they would make notes and they would pass it each day with the thoughts that they had in their heart and they would share it back and forth.

Ann Harris's father, Coleman, has been PTA president for 3 years. His wife, Jean, you could not ask for a better booster for that high school. They want to make sure that that high school is a safe place for kids, and they have done a terrific job.

March 29 of this year my wife and I were driving when the cell phone rang. I answered, and it was my daughter. I could tell that something was very wrong because of the anguish in her voice. She said, "Dad, when will you and Mom be home?" And I said we will be home very soon. Then my daughter started crying and she said, "Ann Harris is dead." And I said, "What?" And she said, "Ann is dead," and she continued to cry. I tried to ask her what in the world had happened, and she said she has been shot.

We later learned that she had been shot in a drive-by. So here is Coleman and Jean Harris, doing all they can as

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



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