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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:

Gracious Father, our hearts are filled with gratitude. We are thankful that You have chosen to be our God and have chosen us to know You. Your love embraces us and gives us security; Your joy uplifts us and gives us resiliency; Your peace floods our hearts and gives us serenity; Your Spirit fills us and gives us strength.

We truly believe that Your loving hand is upon our lives; help us to be sensitive to every guiding nudge of direction. Keep us from making up our minds and then asking for Your approval. Keep us from acting as if we have Your answers to all questions. Keep us humble in our search for our applications of Your truth to the matters that face us. Free us from condemnatory judgments, and save us from the exhaustion and frustration of rushing up self-chosen paths without Your guidance.

Give us insight to see Your path for our lives, and the patience and endurance to walk in it with our hands firmly in Yours. Through our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

### RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able acting majority leader, Senator WARNER of Virginia, is recognized.

Mr. WARNER. I thank the distinguished Presiding Officer, the President pro tempore of the Senate. I join with many others in recognizing how our distinguished senior Senator from South Carolina is always there present to open the U.S. Senate. That, in and of itself, is a record that merits the attention of all.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, this morning the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 10 o'clock. At 10 a.m., under rule XXII, a live quorum will begin. Once a quorum is established, the Senate will proceed to a cloture vote on the modified committee amendment to S. 1173, the highway legislation. Following that vote, the Senate will begin approximately 90 minutes of debate on the Interior appropriations conference report. If all of that time is used, Members can anticipate a second vote at approximately 12:15.

Under the previous order, at 12:30, the Senate will recess for the weekly policy luncheons to meet. Hopefully, when the Senate reconvenes at 2:15, the Senate will begin consideration of either the Amtrak legislation dealing with the pending strike, or Amtrak reform which would address the strike.

In addition, the Senate may begin debate on Senator COVERDELL's education IRA legislation, H.R. 2646. Therefore, Members can anticipate rollcall votes throughout today's session of the Senate.

### MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HUTCHINSON). Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business for not to extend beyond the hour of 10 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 5 minutes each.

The Senator from Virginia is recognized to speak for up to 5 minutes.

Mr. WARNER. I thank the Chair.

### THE NEED TO ADDRESS THE HIGHWAY BILL

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, my remarks this morning go to the need for this body to begin to address the substantive provisions of the highway bill, S. 1173. As the Senate full knows, I am

privileged to be the chairman of the subcommittee which, over the course of a period of the year, developed this piece of legislation. Many Senators have traveled great distances. We had hearings in several places throughout the United States and a number of hearings here, of course, in our committee room. But a lot of hard work went into this bill.

Now, the question on cloture involves the Senate consideration of the campaign finance bill. I leave to the respective leaders who, as nearly as I can determine, are trying to work diligently to resolve the procedural conflict involving that piece of legislation, campaign finance reform, as it relates to this bill. But as I read through the order that was prepared by the leader's office this morning reciting other pieces of legislation to which this body will turn, the question, of course, rises, why can't we go ahead with the ISTEPA bill?

Again, I leave that to the leaders. They have worked on this diligently and indeed there are developments every hour on the hour. So it is difficult for any of us not involved in the negotiations to explain the exact reasons.

But the reason I asked to take the floor this morning is that we are witnessing here in this country, in the past week, and particularly yesterday, a very precipitous decline in our stock market, commodity markets, and the like. It clearly manifests an instability.

As I look at this piece of legislation, this is an absolute building block of stability for America's economy. This bill has literally millions and millions of jobs related to it. Now, highways, bridges, and other infrastructure requirements take months to plan—engineering, financial, consideration by the respective legislative bodies and highway commissions of the several States. It is a process which was carefully crafted in the 1991 bill over a period of

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



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