

S. RES. 165

Resolved, That the Secretary inform the House of Representatives that a quorum of the Senate is assembled and that the Senate is ready to proceed to business.

JOINT SESSION OF THE TWO HOUSES TO HEAR AN ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. LOTT. I ask unanimous consent that the President of the Senate be authorized to appoint a committee on the part of the Senate to join a committee on the part of the House to escort the President of the United States into the House Chamber for the joint session to be held at 9 p.m. this evening, Tuesday, January 27, 1998.

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

APPOINTMENTS MADE DURING THE SINE DIE ADJOURNMENT

Mr. LOTT. I now send to the desk a list of appointments that were made during the sine die adjournment of the Senate and ask that it be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

To the Congressional Award Board, pursuant to Public Law 96-114, as amended, Martis James Davis, of New York (Nov. 21, 1997).

To the National Bipartisan Commission on the Future of Medicare, pursuant to Public Law 105-33, the Senator from Texas (Mr. Gramm), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. Frist), Illene Gordon, of Mississippi, and Deborah Steelman, of Virginia (Nov. 25, 1997).

To the Panel to Review Long-Range Air Power, pursuant to Public Law 105-56, J. James Exon, of Nebraska (Dec. 12, 1997).

To the National Council of the Arts, pursuant to Public Law 105-83, Richard J. Durbin, of Illinois (Dec. 31, 1997).

To the Social Security Advisory Board, pursuant to Public Law 103-296, in consultation with the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance, Sylvester J. Schieber, of Maryland (Jan. 19, 1998).

To the Congressional Award Board, pursuant to Public Law 96-114, Clinton Bristow, Jr., of Mississippi (Jan. 20, 1998).

To the Census Monitoring Board, pursuant to Public Law 105-119, Joe D. Whitley, of Georgia, and Max W. Williams, of Mississippi (Jan. 20, 1998).

To the Congressional Award Board, pursuant to Public Law 96-114, Felix Sanchez, of Washington, D.C. (Jan. 26, 1998).

WELCOME, COLLEAGUES

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, first and foremost, I welcome our colleagues back to the Senate from what I hope has been a restful and a beneficial period of time. I think it has been very good for the Senators to be able to spend some time with their families, be able to perhaps read a book, to work with their constituencies, and in many cases look into very important foreign policy and international issues. I know this has been a very good time for our colleagues to do some things that were

long overdue, and I hope they enjoyed and benefited from it.

SECOND SESSION OF THE 105TH CONGRESS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I also hope that all Members are ready for what I hope will be a very productive second session of the 105th Congress. I have spent some time with the distinguished Democratic leader. We have talked in general about bills we want to try to consider before the Easter recess in April, and of course we have gone over the schedule just for this week. We have a number of very important legislative items that we need to consider before the Easter recess, including, I hope, even a budget resolution. I think it is important this year that we not go after April the 15th to take up a budget resolution. I will be talking further to the chairman of the Budget Committee and the ranking member and the leadership to make sure that we are all in agreement in that effort.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the list of potential floor items and a calendar for the first week of the session be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

LIST OF POTENTIAL ITEMS THAT MAY BE CONSIDERED IN THE SENATE PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED EASTER RECESS

Auto choice bill.
Budget resolution.
Campaign Fin. Reform.
Caribbean Basin Initiative.
China/Religious Persecution.
Cloning Bill.
Coverdell Education Savings accounts.
IMF.
Iran Proliferation Sanctions Act.
ISTEA.
Medicare Private Practice.
Mexico De-certification.
NATO enlargement.
Powder Cocaine Penalties Act.
Property Rights.
PUHCA reform.
Ronald Reagan national airport bill.
Securities Reform.
Supplemental Appropriations.

SENATE SCHEDULE—JANUARY 28-30

Wednesday, Jan. 28:
Special Orders; Policy Lunches; Vote on Judicial Nominations: Aiken, Silverman, and Story.
Thursday Jan. 29:
Ronald Reagan National Airport bill.
Friday, Jan. 30:
Senate not in session.

SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, no legislative or executive business will be transacted during today's session. Therefore, no votes will occur during the session of the Senate today. We will recess mid to late afternoon to reconvene at 8:30 p.m. this evening in the Chamber. All Members are asked to be in the Chamber at approximately 8:30 in order that we can go over as a body to the Hall of the House of Representatives to hear the President's State of the Union

Address beginning at 9 p.m. this evening.

During tomorrow's session we will consider three judicial nominations, those being Barry Silverman to be a circuit judge for the ninth circuit, Richard Story, to be a district judge for the northern district of Georgia, and Ann Aiken, to be a district judge in Oregon. We hope to enter into a time agreement of approximately 2 hours, with rollcall votes expected on each nomination. Therefore, there could be three votes tomorrow, Wednesday. In fact, I think the Members should expect that there will be three votes.

Then on Thursday of this week we hope to consider the Ronald Reagan airport bill which is presently in the Commerce Committee. Amendments could be offered. Therefore, votes can be expected to occur on that item on Thursday of this week.

The Senate will not be in session on Friday. Following the Senate's consideration of the Ronald Reagan bill, the Senate would proceed over until Monday, February 2nd. The schedule for Monday will be announced later in the week. However, no votes will occur during the session on Monday. We do expect votes, of course, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of next week.

We will be talking to committee chairmen, sponsors of bills and with the Democratic leadership to decide exactly what bills could come up. We are considering possibly the PUHCA legislation, the Public Utilities Holding Company Act modifications. We are still considering a cloning bill that I believe could be considered. We have several others that we are considering, as well.

Next week we expect to take up the FEC, the Federal Election Commission nominees, the nomination of Mr. Satcher to be the Surgeon General, and possibly two more Federal judges that are now going through the process of being cleared.

I do want to say, again, Mr. President, I appreciate the year we had last year. I thought we had a good year. I thought we accomplished a great deal for the American people, most of the time with very little rancor. I want us to continue to be able to work together for the interests of the people and do it in a way where Members are not exhausted and they can do their work during the daylight instead of always at night.

I want to thank those of you that work for the Senate here in the Chamber. You do outstanding work and we quite often don't thank you sufficiently for the way you help us keep things running smoothly doing the people's business here in the Senate.

I do look forward to a very active year even though we may have around 100 legislative days—because of the necessity of adjourning early in October for the election. There are several things we need to do and we will do for the best interests of the American people. I look forward to working with the

Senate and working with the leadership on both sides of the aisle.

SECOND SESSION OF THE 105TH
CONGRESS

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I welcome back the majority leader and again wish him a happy New Year and commend him for his leadership. During the past 3 months, when we have not been here, I have seen him on several public appearances and, as always, he has been articulate and very forthcoming with regard to the schedule and our plans for the coming weeks. I welcome the opportunity to work closely with him as we pursue our national agenda, and appreciate very much the cooperation he has already demonstrated in helping senators make plans both in terms of days, as well as weeks, ahead. I trust the past 3 months have been productive and enjoyable, Mr. President, and I expect it has provided us with rest and the perspective to fulfill our obligations now.

It is obvious we return under very difficult circumstances. Allegations have been made against the President and have been vehemently denied. The legal process continues, flawed as it may be. While the circumstances may be extraordinary, the work of this Government must go on. The American system is uniquely constructed to withstand the winds of controversy and crisis which howl throughout history, and this moment is no exception. Important matters are at hand, dealing with both foreign and domestic policy, and the American people have a right to insist that their leaders continue to give those matters their full attention.

Congress has a clear responsibility—a duty and an obligation—to go about our work on behalf of the American people. Despite allegations, investigations, and obvious distractions, our country would be ill-served if we were to allow interruption in the steady function of Government or the remarkable progress that we have made on matters of great importance to our Nation.

Democratic Senators begin this year with a true sense of accomplishment over what we have achieved and a sense of purpose directed toward the challenges ahead. We need to continue the economic momentum born of the 1993 budget plan, a momentum that will propel us in 1998 to the first balanced budget in over 30 years, and our first opportunity in our lifetime to reduce the accumulated debt.

South Dakotans, like all Americans, have made clear their expectations. Having just returned from home, my conversations with South Dakotans remain clear and well understood. South Dakotans have urged us to work together, to continue to demonstrate that democracy can be both responsive and effective in addressing the challenges that lie ahead. They say, build on the extraordinary budgetary and economic record of the last 5 years, pay

off the debt, solve the Social Security and Medicare problems we face. Remember that 42 million of us have no health insurance—find a way to solve that national embarrassment. Remember, above all, in this new age of information, that education, beginning virtually at birth, is one of the most important responsibilities of government at every level. There is so much to be done: Improve wages and child care, fix our political finance system that is broken and in great need of repair, be a leader to the world.

New and old democracies around the world look to us for leadership, and there is no one else. In Iraq and Bosnia, in Europe and Asia, America's leadership is needed now more than ever. That is the message given to me by South Dakotans back home over and over again. Their wisdom dictates our collective response.

Now is the time to go to work. As the majority leader has already indicated, we have very few days in this session of Congress. We must approach our work with urgency and with energy.

We must make the most of each one. Over the past few months, Democrats in the Senate and House, working with the administration, have built a legislative agenda that addresses many of the challenges our country must face. It will build on the themes that we hear tonight in the State of the Union Message. It represents the legislative embodiment of the priorities contained in the President's budget to be submitted next week.

So, again, I look forward to working closely with the majority leader. We will all certainly work with our Republican colleagues, because we believe this can be a most productive session. We begin today by extending a hand of partnership and a sincere hope for real success. I thank, again, the majority leader for offering me the opportunity to respond to his kind remarks.

I yield the floor.

Mr. LOTT addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

MEASURE PLACED ON
CALENDAR—S. 1530

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I understand there are two bills due for a second reading. I ask that the title of the first bill be read.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1530) to resolve ongoing tobacco litigation, to reform the civil justice system responsible for adjudicating tort claims against companies that manufacture tobacco products, and establish a national tobacco policy for the United States that will decrease youth tobacco use and reduce the marketing of tobacco products to young Americans.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I object to further consideration of this matter at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will be placed on the calendar.

MEASURE PLACED ON
CALENDAR—H.R. 2709

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the second bill be read the second time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2709) to impose certain sanctions on foreign persons who transfer items contributing to Iran's efforts to acquire, develop, or produce ballistic missiles, and to implement the obligations of the United States under the Chemical Weapons Convention.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I object to further proceedings on this item at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will be placed on the calendar.

Mr. GREGG addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire is recognized.

Mr. GREGG. I understand we are in morning business and that I have 20 minutes under the order, is that correct?

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There will now be a period for the transaction of the morning business, not to exceed the hour of 2 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes.

Mr. LEAHY. Will the Senator yield for a unanimous consent request? I will be very brief.

Mr. GREGG. Yes, I yield to the Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I might be recognized for 10 minutes following the distinguished Senator from New Hampshire.

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, reserving the right to object. I ask to modify that by allowing Senator HELMS to speak for a period of 3 minutes prior to my speaking.

Mr. LEAHY. I certainly have no objection to that, Mr. President. I see the distinguished Chairman on the floor. After the distinguished Senator from North Carolina and the distinguished Senator from New Hampshire, I ask unanimous consent to be recognized.

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

The Senator from North Carolina is recognized for 3 minutes.

MRS. ALICE WYNNE GATSIS
SPEAKS ON THE 10TH AMENDMENT

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, the North Carolina General Assembly embarked in 1997 on a significant course—that of inviting some of our State's best-known and best-qualified citizens