



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 105th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 144

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1998

No. 5

Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's prayer will be offered by our guest Chaplain, Dr. Russell F. Blowers, senior minister emeritus, East Ninth Street Christian Church, Indianapolis, IN.

We are pleased to have you with us.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, Dr. Russell F. Blowers, offered the following prayer:

Let's pray together.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, apart from Whom there is no authority or power or wisdom, we bow before You in worship and praise as the Senate begins this new day.

We are not here to brief You on world affairs or to ask for Your leading and then do it our own way as if You do not exist. You are not a weak and absent deity out in deep space but a Sovereign God who is here to monitor what is said and done in this room today. You are the audience. Give these honorable men and women the ability to perform with integrity as they advise, consent and dissent for the good of the country. Let them be encouraged by some humbling victory or exalting defeat.

We repent of our personal and national transgressions, for we have all sinned and fallen short of Your glory. Forgive us and heal us for "righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people."

Thank you for Your loving kindness and for Your extravagant blessings upon our beloved land.

Today, may the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be pleasing in Your sight, O Lord, our rock and our Redeemer. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able majority leader, Senator LOTT, of Mississippi, is recognized.

Mr. LOTT. Thank you, Mr. President.

THE GUEST CHAPLAIN

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, on behalf of the Senate, I thank Dr. Russell Blowers, of Indiana, for being here with us this morning. We thank you for that beautiful prayer. We are glad to have you visiting with us.

SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, this morning the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 11:30. Under the order, the first hour will be under the control of the other side of the aisle and the second hour under the control of Senator COVERDELL or his designee.

At 11:30 the Senate will proceed to executive session for 30 minutes to debate and then to consider two judicial nominations: Carlos Moreno, of California, to be U.S. District Judge and Christine Miller, of the District of Columbia, to be a judge of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims.

Following that debate, at approximately 12 noon, two back-to-back votes will occur on the confirmation of those nominees. And then after the first two votes at 12, at 12:30, by consent, the Senate will recess until 2:15 in order for the weekly party conferences to meet.

It is my hope we will be able to consider and complete action on the Ronald Reagan airport naming bill. I will be consulting with the manager of that bill, Senator COVERDELL, and others who have ideas of how it should be handled. I hope to be able to discuss it with Senator DASCHLE so we can work something out on that and then be able to complete it and move on to other bills or nominations that we had hoped to be able to take up. There is a possi-

bility there could be another vote today, and I had expected that there would be a vote early on Wednesday morning, but we will not be able to determine that until we get something worked out on the Ronald Reagan airport bill.

I do want to mention also as a reminder to all Senators that at 5 o'clock this afternoon, from approximately 5 until 6, in room S. 407 of the Capitol, there will be a briefing with regard to Iraq by Secretary Cohen and Sandy Berger, the National Security Council Adviser, and other military officials to bring us up to date on what is the situation in Iraq.

We had hoped that Secretary Albright would be back and could attend that briefing, but she will not be present. I think it is important we go ahead with that briefing and then once she returns, maybe Thursday or early next week, we will ask her to come and brief us on what is happening and what happened during her trip to the Middle East and Europe. I think it is important we have close communication with the administration on what is happening, what they are finding from our allies and what their plans are so we can have input. So I invite Senators who possibly can be in room S. 407 at 5 o'clock this afternoon.

I yield the floor.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HUTCHINSON). The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

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



Printed on recycled paper.

S281