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No. 123

## Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 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, we claim Your promise given through Isaiah, "Your ears shall hear a word behind you saying, 'This is the way, walk in it'"—Isaiah 30:21. We humbly ask for that kind of clear guidance for everything we do today. We know that it comes as a result of seeking Your direction, listening carefully to Your answers communicated through our thoughts, and being faithful in following Your leading. We confess anything that may stand in the way of receiving Your inspiration. Make us clear channels for the flow of Your spirit. Maximize our native intelligence with Your wisdom, our analytical skills with Your discernment, and our agendas with Your priorities. You know how pressured life becomes. Therefore, give the Senators clear minds and trusting hearts. You have called them to greatness through Your grace and goodness. With them, we dedicate all that we have and are to You and our beloved Nation. Through our Lord and Savior. Amen.

### RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able acting majority leader, the distinguished Senator from New Mexico, is recognized.

Mr. DOMENICI. Thank you, Mr. President.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, this morning the Senate will resume debate on the Interior appropriations bill with Senator BOXER being recognized to offer an amendment regarding oil roy-

alties. There will be 3 hours for debate on the amendment. At the conclusion or yielding back of time, the Senate will proceed to a vote on a motion to table the Boxer amendment. Following that vote, it is expected that further amendments to the Interior bill will be offered and debated. Therefore, Members should expect rollcall votes throughout today's session and into the evening in relation to the Interior bill or any other legislation or executive items cleared for action. The leader expresses his thanks to colleagues for their attention.

### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ALLARD). The Senate will now resume consideration of S. 2237, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2237) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes.

The Senate resumed consideration of the bill.

Pending:

Daschle amendment No. 3581, to provide emergency assistance to agricultural producers.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, we are awaiting Senator BOXER. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Under the previous order, the Senator from California is recognized to offer an amendment related to oil royalties in which there shall be 3 hours for debate equally divided.

The Senator from California is recognized.

Mrs. BOXER. Thank you very much, Mr. President.

### AMENDMENT NO. 3594

(Purpose: To strike the section delaying issuance of a notice of final rulemaking with respect to the valuation of crude oil for royalty purposes)

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I send an amendment to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from California [Mrs. BOXER], for herself, Mr. BUMPERS, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. DURBIN and Mr. WELLSTONE, proposes an amendment numbered 3594.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

Mr. DOMENICI. Reserving the right to object, is it a short amendment?

Mrs. BOXER. Pardon me?

Mr. DOMENICI. Is it a short amendment?

Mrs. BOXER. Yes.

Mr. DOMENICI. I would like it read.

Mrs. BOXER. That is no problem with us at all.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the amendment.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

On page 74, strike lines 13 through 20.

Mrs. BOXER addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California is recognized.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I said it was a short amendment. It is in fact a short amendment. It is a very straightforward amendment. It would actually strike a rider that has been placed in this bill that deals with oil royalty payments that are due Federal taxpayers.

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



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