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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable MIKE CRAPO, a Senator from the State of Idaho.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Olvie, offered the following prayer:

Today is the National Day of Prayer. The prayer I am going to pray has been written by Rev. Billy Graham to be read across the Nation throughout the day.

Let us pray.

"On this National Day of Prayer, our Father and our God, we praise You for Your goodness to our Nation, giving us blessings far beyond what we deserve.

"Yet, we know all is not right with America. We deeply need a moral and spiritual renewal to help us meet the many problems we face.

"Convict us of sin. Help us to turn to You in repentance and faith. Set our feet on the path of Your righteousness and peace.

"We pray today for our Nation's leaders. Give them the wisdom to know what is right, and the courage to do it.

"You have said, 'Blessed is the Nation whose God is the Lord.' May this be a new era for America, as we humble ourselves and acknowledge You alone as our Saviour and Lord. This we pray in Your holy name. Amen."

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable MIKE CRAPO led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 3, 2001.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable MIKE CRAPO, a Senator from the State of Idaho, to perform the duties of the Chair.

STROM THURMOND,
President pro tempore.

Mr. CRAPO thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Vermont.

SCHEDULE

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, today the Senate will resume consideration of S. 1, the education bill. The bipartisan substitute amendment will be offered shortly, and debate on the amendment is expected to take most of this morning's session.

The budget conference report is expected to be completed in the House this afternoon. Therefore, the Senate will suspend consideration of the education bill to take up the budget conference report when it is received.

Votes will occur during today's session on amendments to the education bill, and possibly on adoption of the budget conference report. Senators will be notified as votes are scheduled.

I thank my colleagues for their attention.

BETTER EDUCATION FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS ACT

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of S. 1 which the clerk will report by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1) to extend programs and activities under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. LOTT. Lo and behold, I believe we are actually ready to go to an education bill after talking about it for months and working actively on it for days. We are ready to proceed. I am pleased with that. I commend all those Members involved in trying to make it work.

I ask unanimous consent that following the reporting of the substitute amendment, the time between now until 12 noon be equally divided for debate between the chairman and the ranking member.

I also ask consent that prior to 12 noon and with the consent of both managers, Senator COLLINS may be recognized to offer an amendment regarding reading, and following that debate, the amendment be laid aside with a vote to occur at 4 p.m. today.

I further ask consent that Senator KENNEDY or his designee—and I understand that may be Senator HARKIN—be recognized immediately following the reporting of the Collins amendment to offer a first-degree amendment; further, that the votes on or in relation to the amendments occur in a stacked sequence at 4 p.m. Also, I ask that no amendments referenced in this agreement be subject to second-degree amendments, and, further, all debate time prior to the 4 o'clock vote be equally divided in the usual form.

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



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