United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 107th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 147 WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2001 No. 124

Senate

The Senate met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JACK REED, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island.

PRAYER

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

Sovereign of our beloved Nation, we want to express our profound gratitude for citizenship in the United States of America.

After September 11 we no longer take for granted the privileges of being citizens of this land You have blessed so bountifully through the years. Now we gratefully think about our freedoms of worship, speech, assembly, and the liberty to vote. Today, we praise You for our representative democracy. Thank You for the privilege of serving in government. Help the Senators and all of us who labor with and for them to work today with a renewed sense of awe and wonder that You have chosen them and us to be part of the political process to continue to make this good Nation great.

Thank You for the renewed spirit of patriotism sweeping across our land. Help the children to learn that an important aspect of love for You is loyalty to our country. We dedicate ourselves to overcome terrorism and to assure opportunity and justice for all Americans and the world. So, today, as we pledge allegiance to our Flag, our hearts express joy: This is our own, our native land and You are our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JACK REED 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. BYRD.)

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, September 21, 2001.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JACK REED, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The acting majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the majority leader has asked me to remind everyone we are going to have a vote at approximately 9:25 this morning.

There will now be 20 minutes of concurrent debate on the nomination of Sharon Prost to be United States Circuit Judge and Reggie Walton to be United States District Judge.

Following these votes, the Senate will stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair, as both parties are having conferences.

This is an extremely important day for us. We have the Defense Appropriations Committee bill which we believe will be brought up and also some legislation dealing with the airlines.

So there will be rollcall votes today. There will be rollcall votes on Monday, earlier than usual—sometime probably midmorning or early afternoon. So we ask everyone's cooperation, which we usually get.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF SHARON PROST, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE FEDERAL CIRCUIT

NOMINATION OF REGGIE B. WALTON, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will now go into executive session to consider en bloc Executive Calendar Orders 360 and 361, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nominations of Sharon Prost, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit, and Reggie B. Walton, of the District of Columbia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will be a total of 20 minutes for debate on the two nominations, with the time to be equally divided between the chairman and the ranking member.

The Senator from Utah.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, let me first thank the distinguished majority leader, Senator DASCHLE, and my dear friend the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, Senator LEAHY, for their support and efforts in moving this nomination and scheduling this vote

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

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