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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON, a Senator from the State of New York.

PRAYER

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

Almighty God, Sovereign of this Nation and Lord of our lives, in each period of history, You have blessed us with great leaders who have exemplified love for You and dedication to our country. Today we celebrate such a man. Thank You for Senator STROM THURMOND.

We join with all Americans in celebrating his 99th birthday. You have blessed him to be a blessing to his beloved South Carolina and to the Nation as a whole.

Thank You for the enrichment of our lives by this man. He has shown us the courage of firm convictions, the patriotism of love for this Nation, and devotion and true commitment to the Senate. We praise You for the personal ways he has inspired each of us. He is an affirmer who spurs us on with words of encouragement. Your Spirit of caring and concern for individuals shines through this remarkable man.

Gracious God, bless the Senator with the assurance of Your love and of our affirmation. Through our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON 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, December 5, 2001.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON, a Senator from the State of New York, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mrs. CLINTON thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Madam President, this morning the Senate will resume consideration of the Railroad Retirement Act. Senator NICKLES will be recognized to make a point of order against the Daschle substitute amendment. Then Senator BAUCUS will be recognized to move to waive the Budget Act. There will be 30 minutes for debate on the motion to waive followed by a vote at approximately 10 a.m. If the Budget Act is waived, the Daschle substitute amendment will be agreed to and the Senate will vote on final passage of the act.

Following disposition of the Railroad Retirement Act, there will be 60 minutes of debate on the motion to proceed to the farm bill followed by a vote on the cloture motion to proceed to the bill.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 1765

Mr. REID. Madam President, I understand that S. 1765 is at the desk and is due for its second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator is correct.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask that S. 1765 be read for a second time, and I then will object to any further proceedings at this time on this legislation.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1765) to improve the ability of the United States to prepare for and respond to biological threat or attack.

NOTICE

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Michael F. DiMario, *Public Printer*

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

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