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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable ZELL MILLER, a Senator from the State of Georgia.

PRAYER

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

Gracious God, You have revealed that commitment is the key to opening the floodgate for the inflow of Your Spirit. Repeatedly, You have responded to our unreserved commitment to You when faced with challenges and problems. You have provided us with clarity of thought and ingenious solutions. Unexpected blessings happen; serendipitous events occur; people respond; and the tangled mess of details is untangled. Amazed, we look back and realize that it was the moment when we gave up, You took over; when we let go, You took hold; when we rested in You, our strength was replenished.

Today, we prayerfully personalize the assurance of the psalmist: "We commit our way to You, Lord. We also trust in You, and You will bring Your plans to pass. We rest in You, and wait patiently for You."—Psalm 37:5,7.

Lord, help us to commit our lives, our work, this Senate, and our hopes and dreams for our beloved Nation to You. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable ZELL MILLER 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, June 12, 2002.

To the Senate:

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

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the Senator from Nevada.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the Chair will announce very shortly that we will begin a period of morning business. That time will extend until 10:40 a.m., with the first half of the time under the control of the majority leader or his designee, and the second half of the time under the control of the Republican leader or his designee.

At 10:40, the Senators will proceed to the House Chamber for the joint meeting with the Australian Prime Minister. The Senate will stand in recess at 10:40 until 12:30.

At 12:30, the Senate will resume consideration of the estate tax bill. We expect an amendment to be laid down at that time by Senator DORGAN. That will take approximately 2 hours, after which time we will vote on that amendment and the underlying Conrad amendment.

At approximately 3 or 3:15, Senator GRAMM is going to lay down his amendment, which is a duplicate of the House measure, to repeal the estate tax. That will be debated for 2 hours.

We hope to complete debate around 5:30 this evening and go to some other legislative matter. Therefore, we expect to complete action on the estate tax legislation today.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 10:40 a.m. with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

Under the previous order, the first half of the time shall be under the control of the majority leader or his designee.

The Senator from North Carolina is recognized.

REINVENTING PROBATION AND PAROLE

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. President, I yield myself 17 minutes.

Today I would like to speak for a few minutes about the fight against crime in America. We have made tremendous progress over the last 10 years, largely by putting more police officers on the street. But there are some troubling signs that the tide is turning against us. In 2000, the drop in the national crime rate was the smallest since 1991. And just yesterday, we learned that crime in North Carolina actually went up last year, for the first time since 1995.

So now is not the time to rest on the laurels of our victories against crime. It is time to bring the fight to the stubbornest pockets of criminality and the toughest problems in the justice system.

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



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