



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 108th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 149

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 2003

No. 92

House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, June 23, 2003, at 12:30.

Senate

FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 2003

The Senate met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today the prayer will be offered by our guest Chaplain, Rev. Mark Batterson, National Community Church, Washington, DC.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Heavenly Father, we recognize that every good and perfect gift comes from You. It is in You that we live and move and have our being. It is Your Spirit who empowers us when we are weak and enlightens us when we are confused.

I pray that You would give the men and women who serve in this Senate a spirit of wisdom and revelation. Help them discern between what is good and what is best. Help them to discern between what is temporal and what is eternal.

Give them the wisdom to discern Your good, pleasing, and perfect will and the courage to do it. In Jesus' name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore 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.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, in a moment the Senate will have a short period for debate and closing remarks in relation to S. 504, the American history and civics education bill. The vote on passage of the bill will begin promptly at 9:15 this morning.

Following that vote, the Senate will resume the prescription drug bill and proceed to a vote in relation to the pending Dorgan amendment on drug reimportation.

Following those votes, Members are encouraged to remain and offer their amendments. The chairman and ranking member will be here throughout the day to process as many of the amendments as possible. Later today, I will have more to say on the schedule for next week. I might add that we will be voting late Monday afternoon, but we will have more on that a little bit later this morning.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CHAMBLISS). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

AMERICAN HISTORY AND CIVICS EDUCATION ACT OF 2003

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the hour of 9 a.m.

having arrived, the Senate will resume the consideration of S. 504, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 504) to establish academies for teachers and students of American history and civics and a national alliance of teachers of American history and civics, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

AMENDMENT NO. 951

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the substitute amendment to S. 504, which is at the desk, be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The amendment (No. 951) was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, on March 4, I made the maiden speech the majority leader has encouraged each of us new Senators to make. I chose two urgent issues I care most about: The education of our children, No. 1; and the principles that unite us as Americans, No. 2. I then introduced S. 504, the American History and Civics Education Act of 2003.

In a few minutes, we will vote on that bill. Its purpose is to help put the teaching of American history and civics in its rightful place in our schools so our children can grow up learning what it means to be an American. Its purpose is to inspire better teaching and more learning of the key events, key documents, key persons,

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



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