



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 108th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 149

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 2003

No. 117

House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 3, 2003, at 2 p.m.

Senate

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 2003

(Legislative day of Monday, July 21, 2003)

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal Lord God, who is the "Rock of Ages," You are our shield, and we find refuge in You. Listen to the music of our hearts and hear our praise to You. Today we thank You for help and healing. We refuse to take our borrowed heartbeats for granted. Thank You for giving us a lifetime of favor, for inspiring us during nights of uncertainty. Sustain our national leaders as they face critical challenges. May they find satisfaction and peace only by doing Your will. Now, Lord, during the recess, go before us, with us, around us, and within us, for we pray in Your strong 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, this morning the Senate will be in a period for morning business in order that Senators may speak and have an opportunity to introduce legislation. There will be no rollcall votes during today's session. When the Senate completes its business today, we will adjourn for the August break.

Today, in addition to Member statements, it would be my hope that we can continue to clear other legislative and executive items for Senate consideration. We were here late last night and had a full week, and indeed have had a very productive 4 weeks since the July 4 recess.

I thank all of our Members for their cooperation in addressing what was a healthy agenda set out by me after the last recess. I obviously am very pleased in that we accomplished every one of the goals we set out at the beginning 4 weeks ago. In particular, I commend Chairman DOMENICI for his really remarkable efforts over the course of the last several weeks and ultimate success in passing the Energy bill through the Senate. That will be conferenced with the already-passed bill in the House. I am confident we will see a comprehensive national energy policy for the first time in a long period of time because of the hard work of this body over the last several weeks, in particular over the last week.

We had a lot of obstacles put before us in many different shapes and forms on this particular legislation, and indeed as recently as yesterday morning,

at about this time—in fact, exactly this time—the odds of completing this bill, in most people's minds, was very narrow. Yet both sides of the aisle working together developed an approach with which I think everybody is pleased. It is the important next step in developing a bill that I am confident the President will be able to sign shortly after we deliver it to him as a final package.

Today, in terms of the schedule for September, I will come back to make some comments about the schedule. For the next 4 weeks, people will have the opportunity to go back and be with constituents and families and hopefully take some period as a true vacation. We are going to have a very challenging and again very productive September when we come back.

As a reminder, the next rollcall vote will occur Wednesday, September 3, and in all likelihood, although I will have more to say about that later today, that vote will occur on Wednesday morning. I am hopeful people will be coming back, if they are not in Washington, on that Tuesday and be ready to go. We will be in session that Tuesday. We will introduce a bill that I will talk about later today and then be voting on Wednesday.

Again, I will come back later with regard to some comments about the past 4 weeks.

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



Printed on recycled paper.

S10873