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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. 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.

Sovereign Ruler of the Universe, today we sense that our battles are not simply with flesh and blood. We war against principalities and powers. Thank You for providing us with spiritual weapons to defeat carnal foes.

Forgive us when we chase the temporary and flee from the permanent. Empower us to capture our thoughts and actions, making them subject to Your will.

Give our lawmakers today an awareness of the complexity of the great controversy between good and evil. Speak to them when they look to You for guidance. Remind them that truth crushed to earth will rise again. Bless our military sons and daughters in harm's way. We pray this in Your powerful 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.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BROWNBACK). The Senator from Massachusetts.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I note that our leaders are talking. Obviously, the tradition is to recognize or permit them to address the Senate, but I would like to speak just for a few moments this morning on a matter.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have a unanimous consent request. Will the Senator yield for a unanimous consent request?

Mr. KENNEDY. Yes.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the leaders finish their statements, that Senator KENNEDY be recognized.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this morning the Senate will resume consideration of the intelligence reform bill. As our colleagues know, several amendments are currently pending to the bill, including the Specter intelligence consolidation amendment. We do hope to reach a time agreement on that amendment this morning, allowing us to vote on the Specter amendment. I know Senator SPECTER is here. I hope we make real progress on that amendment this morning. Hopefully, we can have a vote sometime this morning. The chairman and ranking member, of course, will be here to work through pending amendments as well as those that may be offered today.

I was just talking to the Democratic leader. We are going to have votes throughout the day, as we continue to move forward on this bill. In addition, because of a number of amendments we know we have to consider and will consider—I do not know the entire range—it is very likely that we will need to continue to work throughout today, tomorrow, possibly Friday, and we cannot rule out having votes on Friday, and indeed on Monday. Many times we try to schedule votes such that we pay deference to individual Senators' schedules, and we will try to do that as well.

On the other hand, as we all know, we are going to depart on October 8,

and with that we have a huge amount of business to do, with this very bill, the single greatest reform bill on intelligence in the last 50 years, and we need to continue to work with the extensions, the continuing resolution, address transportation, address welfare, and have the appropriations bills as well. So from a scheduling standpoint, I ask for real consideration by our colleagues in that we need to move expeditiously, get the amendments to the floor, and have them appropriately debated.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, will the majority leader yield for a question?

Mr. FRIST. I am happy to yield.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, the majority leader and I have been talking the last couple days with regard to the schedule for this particular bill. I would ask the majority leader if he could again indicate his desire, and certainly one that I can support, which would set in motion a series of events requiring today that all amendments be listed; that is, we would have a finite list, and that by tomorrow all amendments be filed, and that at some point in this debate, in the next couple of days, all amendments be offered.

I think it is very important for us to have a clear understanding of the universe of amendments that are there. If we get that finite list this morning, or sometime through the earlier part of the day, and then the order requiring that all amendments be filed so we know exactly what the language is for those amendments, and then offered, we would be in that position.

I ask the majority leader if that is his intent. And we could work through the day with that expectation in mind.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, through the Chair, in response, as we discussed yesterday, if we could get the list of amendments, I think we said by about 10 o'clock this morning—and I think those lists have been coming in—and the filing deadline, let's discuss that

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



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