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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, July 18, 2005, at 12:30 p.m.

Senate

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2005

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

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

We have been blessed by You, O God, beyond all that we can ask or imagine. You have enriched us with material blessings and showered us with spiritual joy. We would not pray merely for our daily bread, for we do not live by bread alone. We long to know You, to love, to obey, and to please You.

Bless this land we love. Lord, keep America strong. Help each citizen to live so that You can place Your shield of protection around this blessed country.

Guide the leaders of our Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches on the road that will lead to the fulfillment of Your will.

We ask a special blessing upon the many members of Senate staffs who were recognized today for their years of faithful service. Continue to give each of them the integrity and grace to honor Your Name. Eternal Lord God, we place our hope in You. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory belong to You. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JOHNNY ISAKSON led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Repub-

lic 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. STEVENS).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, July 15, 2005.

To the Senate:

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

TED STEVENS,
President pro tempore.

Mr. ISAKSON thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. In my capacity as the Senator from the State of Georgia, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this morning we will begin the Foreign Operations appropriations bill, probably in 15, 20 minutes. Last night we were able to complete work on the Homeland Security appropriations measure with an overwhelming vote of 96 to 1. We had a few stumbles yesterday afternoon, on a partisan basis, but we worked through it and delivered a great bill on homeland security to the American people. I congratulate Senator GREGG and Senator BYRD for their tremendous leadership in handling that very important bill.

Senators MCCONNELL and LEAHY will be here shortly to begin the Foreign Operations appropriations bill. Senators will be able to offer their amendments today. There will be no rollcall votes today, but we do want to encourage Senators, if they are going to offer amendments, to present them to their respective leaders so we can plan appropriately. We will continue to debate through today. No votes will occur today, but we will be voting Monday afternoon at approximately 5:30. We will be announcing a specific time a little bit later. We will return to the Foreign Operations bill on Monday, and I hope we will be able to complete that bill on Monday.

I do thank all Members for their assistance in moving these appropriations bills to conclusion. We are moving in an expeditious way and I appreciate everybody's support.

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



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