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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 21, 2009, at 2 p.m.

Senate

MONDAY, APRIL 20, 2009

The Senate met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable MARK R. WARNER, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Gracious God, Your still small voice invites us to turn from feverish ways. Refresh our hearts and lead us from the cynicism that makes it difficult to know Your will.

Lord, guide our Senators. Warn them through their mistakes, encourage them with their successes, and enrich them through life's seasons of gladness and sadness. Lead them around the pit of overconfidence and inspire them to depend on You to direct their steps. Make them worthy of this Nation's great heritage. As they face today's duties and tomorrow's problems, give them a renewed sense of national destiny. May they commit themselves to work for You with excellence, so that they can experience the delight of knowing they did their best for You. We pray in Your sovereign Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable MARK R. WARNER 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, April 20, 2009.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable MARK R. WARNER, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following leader remarks, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 386, the Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act of 2009.

At 5:30 this evening, the Senate will vote on a number of confirmations: Tony West, to be an Assistant Attorney General; Lanny Breuer, to be an Assistant Attorney General; and Christine Varney, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

Upon disposition of those nominations, there will be up to 20 minutes of debate prior to a cloture vote on the nomination of Christopher Hill, to be Ambassador to the nation of Iraq.

As a reminder to my colleagues, before the recess, I filed cloture on the motion to proceed to the Fraud Enforcement legislation, which came from the Judiciary Committee. That cloture vote will occur upon disposition of the Hill nomination. The Republicans have indicated that if cloture is invoked on the Hill nomination, a significant amount of postcloture debate will be used on this matter.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 1256

Mr. REID. Mr. President, it is my belief that H.R. 1256 is at the desk and due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1256) to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products, to amend title 5, United States Code, to make certain modifications in the Thrift Savings Plan, the Civil Service Retirement System, and the Federal Employees' Retirement System, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I object to any further proceedings on this matter at this time.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard. Without objection, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

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



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