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Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m., and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him.—II Chronicles 16:9.

Almighty God, we long to be loyal to You. We are deeply moved by the reminder that our loyalty can bring joy to You, that You are in search of men and women whose commitment to You is expressed in consistency.

As we reflect on that, we realize that everything we know about loyalty we have learned from You. You are faithful and true. Your love never changes; You never give up on us; You never waver in life's battles; You never leave us.

In response, we want to be known as people who belong to You and believe in You. We want people to know where we stand in our relationship with You, Your moral absolutes, and Your ethical standards. In our relationships, we want loyalty to be the foundation of our character. That is possible only as we live in a steady flow of Your faithfulness.

Show Yourself strong in our lives today. Give us boldness and courage when we are tempted to remain silent about our commitment to You, when issues of righteousness and justice demand our witness, and when we are called to sacrificial service in living Your commandment to love. Make us strong with the staying power of Your spirit. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able majority leader, Senator LOTT, is recognized.

Mr. LOTT. I thank the Chair.

SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Today, the Senate will resume consideration of Senator GLENN's amendment to Senate Resolution 39, the Governmental Affairs funding resolution reported by the Rules Committee. I hope the Senate will continue and hopefully complete debate on the Glenn amendment so that we may vote sometime this afternoon on or in relation to the amendment. Of course, I want to notify the Senate that we, as always is the case, reserve our right to offer second-degree amendments to amendments that may be offered. I understand that additional amendments may be offered to Senate Resolution 39, and I presume that there will be a substitute that will be included among those to replace the resolution that is before us.

I am sure we will have full debate on all the amendments that may be offered as well as a possible substitute and the underlying funding resolution. Therefore, Senators can expect rollcall votes throughout the day.

I hope we will be able to conclude action on this measure today or early tomorrow. I talked with the Democratic leader last night. He indicated that he hoped that would be possible. And when we do finish this, then there are some nominations we hope to take up and get a vote on, including the nomination of Federico Peña to be Secretary of Energy. We would do that hopefully in the morning or tomorrow afternoon.

After that, after consultation with the Democratic leadership, we would expect to go to the Hollings constitutional amendment concerning free speech. So that could take the balance of the week, maybe even going over into Friday with some debate, with votes likely occurring—and, again, we will have to work this out—maybe on final passage late Monday afternoon. But we will notify Senators as we go along exactly when the votes will occur on Wednesday and Thursday and if any on Friday.

We will recess between the hours of 12:30 to 2:15 for the weekly policy conference and the caucus to meet. I also remind our colleagues that this week we may have to go late into the night one night, which will probably be Thursday night, but we will work with the leadership again and notify the Members exactly what they can expect in that regard.

Mr. President, before I yield the floor, I thank our colleagues for the debate yesterday. I thought it went well. I want to commend and congratulate the distinguished chairman of the Rules Committee. I think he is being very positive in his remarks. He is trying to get this to a conclusion, and I think we need to do that. I thank the ranking member from Ohio for the way he has handled himself.

There are big problems in this city; it is sort of like the city is burning, and we do not want to appear to be fiddling any longer with getting a resolution that would allow this committee to go forward and do its work with a reasonable amount of money and a reasonable amount of time and with the emphasis on illegal activities as it might apply to the Presidential candidates or Members of Congress.

I want to emphasize again that anything that might come out with regard to Senators doing something inappropriate or unethical, that, as has always been the case, would go to the Ethics Committee under the resolution that we are considering.

Also, I want to assure my colleagues that it is my intent that we look into the question of campaign reform. The Rules Committee has the authority, has the jurisdiction and under this resolution has additional money, \$450,000 additional funds, to look into how the campaigns were conducted last year, how legal activities were handled and whether or not changes need to be made.

It is my intent in due time after proper hearings and after a lot of consultation that we will take up this

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



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issue. The inference continues to be that our goal is just to block it. We do not intend to set a magic date, whether that date is May 1, April 15, or Labor Day, for that matter. That may be a good time to set up a magic date. But we should not get locked in on dates certain. Let us just do our job.

That is what I hope the Senate will do on this resolution. That is what we intend to do in the committee of the distinguished chairman from Virginia, to have hearings on campaign finance reform and look at all these questions in regard to how soft money is used, independent expenditures, and how labor union dues are used without labor union members' permission.

What is the situation with illegal foreign contributions? Do we, in fact, have in this case, as has been suggested, the possibility of even espionage? This is serious. What we need is for a committee of credibility and jurisdiction to get started with their work, and I hope that we can do that with as little rancor today as possible.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. GLENN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SMITH of Oregon). The Chair recognizes the Senator from Ohio.

Mr. GLENN. Mr. President, a question of the majority leader, if I might. With the debate proceeding this morning on my amendment and the possibility that we may be able to complete that debate this morning and move on to discussion of another amendment and knowing the schedules of all the other Senators are very tight, too, and letting them plan their activities here in the Chamber as well as other places, would it be agreeable to put the vote off until after the caucus?

Mr. LOTT. It is our intent, and I believe the minority leader has no objection—I have not discussed that with him—to have our first votes at 2:15 after the conference and caucus.

Mr. GLENN. That would be fine. I would make that as a unanimous-consent agreement, that any votes that might normally occur this morning following debate on my amendment and other amendments that might be brought up at least be stacked until—the vote on my amendment be delayed until after the caucus this afternoon.

Mr. LOTT. I reserve the right to object, Mr. President. I would like, if I could, to ask the ranking member to defer in that request for a moment and allow us to have a chance to discuss it with him and with the Democratic leader. I think that is probably what we want to do, but I just want to make sure everybody is in tune with what we are doing here.

Mr. GLENN. I would be glad to do that. I withdraw the request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The request is withdrawn.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I observe the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the clerk will report the resolution.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 39) authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

The Senate resumed consideration of the resolution.

Pending:

Glenn amendment No. 21, to clarify the scope of the investigation.

AMENDMENT NO. 22 TO AMENDMENT NO. 21

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I send an amendment to the desk to the pending amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Mississippi [Mr. LOTT], for himself and Mr. WARNER, proposes an amendment numbered 22 to amendment No. 21.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

In the pending amendment, strike all after “(b)” and insert the following:

“(b) PURPOSE OF ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—The additional funds authorized by this section are for the sole purpose of conducting an investigation of illegal activities in connection with 1996 Federal election campaigns.

“(c) REFERRAL TO COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION.—Because the Committee on Rules and Administration, not the Committee on Governmental Affairs, has jurisdiction rule 25 over all proposed legislation and other matters relating to—

“(1) Federal elections generally, including the election of the President, the Vice President, and Members of the Congress, and

“(2) corrupt practices,

the Committee on Governmental Affairs shall refer to the Committee on Rules and Administration any evidence of activities in connection with 1996 Federal election campaigns which activities are not illegal but which may require investigation by a committee of the Senate revealed pursuant to the investigation authorized by subsection (b).”

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, we will be working with the Democratic leadership to get a time agreement on the vote that will occur at 2:15, I presume, on this amendment. But we want to work through that and make sure we understand exactly what the voting sequence will be.

The purpose of this amendment is to reconfirm and beef up our commitment to the public and to our colleagues here in the Senate to insure that funds are authorized by this section for the sole purpose of conducting an investigation of illegal activities in connection with

the 1996 Federal election campaigns. It is also to make sure that the Rules Committee has the full authority, with the support of the Senate, to get into matters relating to Federal elections generally, including the President, the Vice President and Members of Congress, and corrupt practices.

The Governmental Affairs Committee, under this amendment, shall refer to the Committee on Rules and Administration any evidence of activities in connection with the 1996 Federal election campaigns which activities are not illegal but which require investigation of a committee of the Senate revealed pursuant to the investigation authorized under subsection (b).

The Rules Committee is going to be an active committee. The Rules Committee will look into any allegations of problems with existing campaign laws or campaign finance laws. They will have hearings, and they have the jurisdiction and the authority to move legislatively.

The Governmental Affairs Committee has a budget of \$4.53 million for its investigation, and it has very broad authority to conduct hearings on the 1996 Federal election campaigns. But it is the Rules Committee that has the jurisdiction to act legislatively on campaign reform.

So I emphasize, again, as I did earlier, it is our intent for the Rules Committee to act in this area. We have provided additional funding and, once again, rather than getting into a great big argument about scope, it is clear what should happen here.

First of all, there are lots of allegations of illegal activities, foreign contributions that may have come into campaigns—Presidential or congressional—the indications that maybe even a foreign government may have had an organized plan to be involved in campaigns. We know if these activities occurred, they would be illegal, but we don't know what happened. We need a process to look into these things. We need a focused investigation into these allegations.

Yet, there are those who say we need to broaden the scope widely, narrow the money, and limit the time. It is a prescription for not getting the job done. This investigation, with the additional authority that is being provided of \$4.53 million, is for illegal activities, and they are rampant in this city. As I said earlier, the city seems to be burning while we are fiddling around with the process.

The Rules Committee has jurisdiction that it will take advantage of. The Governmental Affairs Committee is getting additional authority to look into illegal activities. Ethics has its responsibilities. There is attempt to cover up or avoid our responsibilities. We are going to do that.

I think this amendment that we have offered here further clarifies our intent to look into illegal activities by the special committee investigation and then to have the Rules Committee look