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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 27, 2000, at 12 noon.

Senate

TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2000

The Senate met at 11:31 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable LARRY E. CRAIG, a Senator from the State of Idaho.

PRAYER

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

Almighty God, the same yesterday, today, and forever, we thank You for the consistency of Your care on blustery, snowy days or on bright, shiny, blue sky days. Today, as the Capitol is blanketed with snow and the work of the Senate is delayed, we ask You to bless the Senators and their staffs. Use this day to further prepare them for the crucial work ahead for the Senate. Protect those who have ventured forth on icy roads and refresh with rest those who are snowbound in their homes. As You give the day, You show the way, and whatever the weather, You come to us when we pray. You are our Lord and Savior. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable CONRAD BURNS, a Senator from the State of Montana, 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 THE ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, January 25, 2000.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule 1, section 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable LARRY E. CRAIG, a Senator from the State of Idaho, to perform the duties of the Chair.

STROM THURMOND,
President pro tempore.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader.

CLOSING OF THE SENATE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I must say, once again, welcome to my colleagues and the Chaplain and a hardy band of brothers and sisters who serve as our staff. It is very tough today to be in the Nation's Capital with, I guess, 8 or 10 inches of snow on the ground and more on the way.

I note, of course, to the Senator from Montana, it is nothing unusual for him; he is used to this kind of snow, I guess.

To our Chaplain, I say thank you for being here this morning with your beautiful prayer, as always.

On our leadership team, I thank Senator NICKLES, Senator MACK, Senator CRAIG, and Senator MCCONNELL for being here today. We have already had

a leadership meeting. I thank Senator REID for being here on behalf of the Democrats.

I had several conversations early this morning with officials, the police, and also with Senator DASCHLE, about how to deal with the weather. It is a massive snow and certainly there is a great deal of danger in the amount that has come down. With the difficulty in the ability to move around and with a lot of our staff and Senators living out in Virginia and Maryland, it made sense to join the rest of the Federal Government and be closed today. However, due to the Senate rules, we have to be here for a few minutes so that we can adjourn to reconvene tomorrow. We had already entered the order that we would be here today at the assigned hour of 11:30 a.m., and so we had to be here. But we will go on with business that we must do today, and then everyone will be able to go home safely before it gets even worse this afternoon.

MEASURES PLACED ON CALENDAR

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the second reading of House Joint Resolution 84 and Senate bill 1999 be deemed to have occurred and that objection be heard to the further consideration of these measures at this time.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered. The bill and joint resolution will be placed on the Calendar under the rule.

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



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