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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, April 29, 2002, at 2 p.m.

Senate

FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2002

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable DEBBIE STABENOW, a Senator from the State of Michigan.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, Father Paul Lavin, St. Joseph's Catholic Church, offered the following prayer:

Let us listen to the words of the prophet Isaiah:

*If you remove from your midst oppression,
False accusation and malicious speech;
If you bestow your bread on the hungry,
And satisfy the afflicted;
Then light shall rise for you in the dark-*

*ness,
And the gloom shall become for you like
midday;*

*Then the Lord will guide you always,
And give you plenty on the parched
land.—Isaiah 58:9-11.*

Let us pray.

Lord we thank You and we praise You for the goodness of our people and for the spirit of justice that fills our Nation. We thank You for the beauty and the fullness of the land, and for the challenge of the cities. We thank You for our work, for our rest, for one another, and for our homes.

Look with favor on the men and women who serve in this Senate. Help them to foster decency and to uphold justice and right. Strengthen them with Your grace and wisdom, and strengthen and support those who serve on their staffs. This morning we ask that You give strength of body, courage of spirit, and patience with pain to your servant Mary Jane Ogilvie, wife of the Chaplain of this Senate. With Your

help she may soon be restored to health.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable DEBBIE STABENOW, a Senator from the State of Michigan, 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 assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, April 26, 2002.

To the Senate:

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

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Ms. STABENOW thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

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

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Madam President, this morning the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to H.R. 2003, the Andean Trade Act. No rollcall votes will occur today. Cloture has been filed on the motion to proceed to Andean trade. The Senate will vote on cloture on the motion to proceed on Monday at 6 p.m.

THANKS TO ALL WHO MAKE THE SENATE WORK

Mr. REID. Madam President, yesterday we finished a very long and arduous task in working our way through the energy bill. There were almost 500 amendments offered on that bill. The 2 managers worked through 150 or 200 amendments. It was a very difficult, contentious debate that led to passage of that bill.

There was a lot said yesterday evening about how hard people worked. There was a lot of work done, but I think it is good once in a while to pause and talk about the people who make this body function and about whom we hear relatively nothing. For example, I have been truly amazed, since being a Member of this body, that when matters come up that deal with parliamentary procedures, we have a group of parliamentarians, Alan

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



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Frumin, Elizabeth MacDonough, and Peter Robinson who work for the Senate. I do not know their political registration—I do not know if anyone does—they really do a good job. They advise the Chair to make appropriate rulings, and we have a lot of extremely complicated rules in this body. You think you have them figured out one day, and the next day you are told there is some nuance that you did not know or did not understand.

I go to the parliamentarians on a frequent basis and always am convinced I get the best information they can give me. I know everyone who sits in the chair where the Senator from Michigan now sits feels the same way. They are to be complimented. The many people who watch C-SPAN should know one reason this body functions so well is the advice we get to keep this unruly body as ruly as possible.

In addition to the parliamentarians, we have the Legislative Clerks, Dave Tinsley, Kathleen Alvarez, and Donnee Gray. When the roll is called, they make sure the Senators are counted when they say "yes" or "no" on the votes, and then there are people running in and out of this body, and sometimes it is hard to keep track of them, and they do a perfect job. Additionally, they keep track of all the amendments that are sent to the desk, and that is not an easy task.

Then there are the Journal Clerks, Scott Sanborn and Myra Baran, who keep the Senate Journal, and they do a wonderful job.

We have a CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that is the envy of the world. If somebody gets recognized in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that is really an important day in the life of people. That is all done by these wonderful people who make sure we have a good record.

Behind me is the Democratic cloakroom where Trisha Engle, Paul Ordal, Joe Lapia, and Erik Pederson work. To my right is the Republican cloakroom. In there are people we never see. They take hundreds of phone calls every day from Senators and staff: When is there going to be a vote? Are we going to have to vote today? Is Senator such-and-such there? Would you get this message to them? If there is something that does not go right, they are the ones who get the brunt of the phone calls complaining about things. But they do a great job, again, allowing this body to run as well as it does.

In addition to the people I have mentioned, there are a very few select people who are the people who give the floor leaders the information we need to make sure we do the right thing, so when we go to the Parliamentarian, we have done what we are supposed to do.

On my side of the aisle, I have people on whom I depend every day for information, Marty Paone, Lula Davis, Gary Myrick, and Tim Mitchell these people we depend on so much for important information. They are really good at what they do.

On the Republican side, it is the same thing. We have Dave Schiappa,

Denise Ramonas, and Malloy McDaniel, on whom the Republican floor leaders depend. I have to be frank that sometimes, when one of my people is off the floor, I have no problem going to one of the Republicans and saying: David, here is a question. Will you answer it for me?

So we are very fortunate to have these dedicated public servants who really make this great Capitol of ours operate as well as it does as far as the Senate is concerned.

I have left out so many important people. There are the people who are the security officials. They are here, and if one looks around, they can see them, but they do not notice them because they do their job so well. We have people who, of course, are armed; others are not. If something did go wrong, these people are some of the best trained in the world to take care of whatever contingency might arise.

That is why, when I speak to an elementary school, secondary school, or college, I tell the young people they should consider public service as a vocation, whether it is running for elective office, seeking a point of office, or going to work in another capacity for the Government, as the people I have mentioned today—people who devote their lives to seeing that our system of government works.

There was a period of time not long ago when people in high public office said the Government was the enemy. I have never believed that. I still don't believe that. I believe that government is our friend and that we look to government to help in situations when we cannot help ourselves. An example is the September 11 disaster that took place in New York City and behind us at the Pentagon. To whom did we look? We looked to the Government to help.

If I had been doing my work, I would have had all the names, but I thought it was totally appropriate—in light of all the good things said about a few select people yesterday—that we mention the scores of people who each day make this Senate a pleasant place to work and make it the best job in the world. The Presiding Officer, and this Senator from Nevada, believe we have the best jobs in the world. I don't know how a job could bring more satisfaction than working on the problems that face the people of our respective States and the country. I, like the other 99 Members of this body, am grateful to be here, but I think I speak for every Senator in recognizing the many talents that make our job pleasant and make the body run as efficiently as it does.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

ANDEAN TRADE PREFERENCE ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the

Senate will now resume consideration of the motion to proceed to H.R. 3009, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3009) to extend the Andean Trade Preference Act, to grant additional trade benefits under that act, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be dispensed with.

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

RECESS SUBJECT TO THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate stand in recess pending the call of the Chair.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 10:25 a.m., recessed until 11:26 a.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. JEFFORDS).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey is recognized.

Mr. CORZINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

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

OUR NATION'S FISCAL AFFAIRS

Mr. CORZINE. Mr. President, I rise this morning to speak about a troubling and increasingly apparent problem that I think concerns the fiscal affairs of our great Nation. Each passing month, each passing quarter, we become more certain in our recognition that the fiscal strategy of our Nation is one that is undermining our future capacity and security as a nation.

I believe we have a failed fiscal strategy as a result of the overreaching tax cuts that we had last year, along with, obviously, the very significant changed circumstances—economically and with our war on terrorism. We have seen a projected surplus of \$5.6 trillion over the succeeding 10 years virtually evaporate. As I say, each passing month and each passing quarter we get new verification of that.

Today, I read in the newspapers across the country that the latest indication of this is becoming even more apparent. Today's reports indicate that revenue is coming into the Government at a rate much lower than earlier projected. There is now a reason to believe we will have a \$70 billion revenue shortfall from the projections that occurred as recently as a month and a half ago, 6 weeks ago. It is about a \$70 billion revenue shortfall, which will push our budget deficit for this year,