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Senate

The Senate met at 9:15 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON, a Senator from the State of New York.

PRAYER

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

Almighty God, we behold Your majesty and we praise You. You are the Creator, Sustainer, and Lord of all; You are omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent. Especially today, we are filled with awe and wonder over Your prevenience, Your beforehand presence and provision. You are always ahead of us; You have answers to our questions before we ask; You have solutions to our problems waiting for us to grasp. There is nowhere we can go where You have not preceded us and no person You have not prepared for us to communicate affirmation, encouragement, and hope.

Therefore, we press on with the work of the day, alert to feel Your hand upon our shoulder, Your Spirit flowing into our minds, and Your guidance to help us know and do Your will. You are our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON, a Senator from the State of New York, 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, June 5, 2002.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON, a Senator from the State of New York, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mrs. CLINTON thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Madam President, this morning the Chair will announce we will be in a period for morning business for the next hour, with the first half under the control of the Republican leader or his designee, and I see the Senator from Ohio is ready to go. The second half of the time is under the control of the Democratic leader or his designee. It is my understanding Senator KENNEDY will be present at that time.

At approximately 10:15, the Senate will again resume consideration of the Supplemental Appropriations Act. Cloture was filed on the supplemental. Therefore, all first-degree amendments must be filed prior to 1 p.m. today.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 2578

Mr. REID. Madam President, I understand that S. 2578 is at the desk and is due for its second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator is correct.

Mr. REID. I ask that S. 2578 be read a second time, and then I would object to any further proceeding.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the bill for the second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2578) to amend title 31 of the United States Code to increase the public debt limit.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection having been heard, under the rule the bill will be placed on the calendar.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business, not to extend beyond the hour of 10:15 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The Senator from Ohio.

TRIBUTE TO LORNA PALAGYI

Mr. DEWINE. Madam President, this is the time of year when our children across the country are getting out of school. It is also the time of year when many of our great teachers are leaving the classroom for the last time and retiring. I rise today to honor a very special educator from my home State of Ohio, Lorna Palagyi. Lorna is retiring this month after 25 years of dedication to Ohio students.

When I think about her commitment to education, I am reminded of something Oliver Wendell Holmes once said:

The main part of intellectual education is not the acquisition of facts but rather learning how to make facts live.

For a quarter of a century now, Lorna Palagyi has been doing just that—making facts come alive for the

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



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elementary school children in Madison, OH. She is a graduate of Kent State University. She has taught grades 3 through 7 and tutored students after-school, served as a mentor for teachers just starting, and helped secure funds for several school projects; one in particular that allowed her students to make a large colored map of the United States on their playground.

Not only has she been very dedicated to her children at school, but she has also been a terrific mother to her children at home. The mother of three children—one of whom happens to be my legislative director, Paul Palagyi—Lorna once said the main reason she taught was to help her kids through college. But I also suspect the reason she taught was because she loved to teach and she loved the students.

She is certainly dedicated to her family and maintains that she simply could not have done it, could not have taught as long as she has, without the love and support of her husband, Jim. We should all be truly proud of Lorna for her commitment, her dedication to quality education. As my own high school principal, Mr. John Malone, said many years ago when I was in high school: There really are only two things that matter in education: One is a student who wants to learn; the other is a good teacher. Lorna is certainly more than just a good teacher.

Over the next decade we will need, it is estimated, at least 2.5 million new teachers. That is an unbelievable figure. That represents a real challenge but also an opportunity for this great Nation of ours to get more teachers like Lorna into our school systems, into the classrooms, teaching our young people. That is certainly how we will prepare our children for their great future.

Today, we thank Lorna and we also thank teachers throughout our country for the great work they do every day for our children. We say to Lorna, you are a shining example of exactly the kind of teachers we need educating our children. Enjoy your retirement. You certainly earned it.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Madam 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.

Mr. REID. Madam President, yesterday we spent a great deal of time doing nothing. We spent most all the day in a quorum call.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, this time is under the control of the Republican leader or his designee. Is the Senator seeking unanimous consent at this time?

Mr. REID. Madam President, we were in a quorum call. This is the time for

Republicans. There is no Republican here, so when they show up I will be happy to sit down. Until they get here, I will use their time.

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

SENATE BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Madam President, we spent most all of yesterday doing nothing. Senator DASCHLE came on the floor late in the day and filed a petition for cloture because he recognized they were going to slow-walk this legislation on the supplemental appropriations bill, and then referred specifically to what one of the Republican Senators said yesterday, that they were going to slow down the train.

Today's publication of the Congressional Quarterly Monitor suggests they are doing what the majority leader said: Senate Republicans say they will not hesitate to slow-walk legislation important to Democrats, while aggressively pushing their own agenda.

The problem is, at this stage I don't know what "their" agenda is. We have tried to move forward on legislation that is important to their President; namely, this legislation dealing with the supplemental. The supplemental appropriations bill is very important, as we discussed on a number of occasions yesterday. This legislation is entitled: "Supplemental Appropriation Act for Further Recovery From and Response to Terrorist Acts in the United States." If that is not important, I don't know what is. They are slow-walking that. They are slowing down the train.

We read further in the article that a GOP leadership aide said the amendments to this hate crimes bill and this legislation now before us, that Senator Daschle has not seen fit to bring up, include defense authorization, a terrorism insurance proposal, and cloning.

Madam President, as we all know, there was an arrangement to bring up cloning. The majority leader agreed to do that. Of course, Republicans would not let us because they were slow-walking the legislation we had before the break.

I spoke to the Senator from Kansas yesterday about cloning. Senator BROWNBACK feels very strongly about it. He has indicated he would show us his proposal. That is something we want to do. We have offered a number of unanimous consent requests that we can move forward on, terrorism insurance. We, the majority, have tried every way possible to bring terrorism insurance before this body. The people who say they want it cannot take yes for an answer. The Republicans simply do not want this brought up. Some do not believe there is a need for it.

Anyplace in New York, go to people in Illinois, or people in Nevada, all over this country, business communities certainly believe there is a need for terrorism insurance. We want to do that.

I am very disappointed we are now in a predicament that we cannot move forward on the supplemental appropriations bill the President believes is important; we can't move forward on prescription drug benefits, which he says is important, although looking at the proposals we have had from the White House, they are a prescription drug benefit in name only. There doesn't seem to be much interest in that.

The things we need to do are very important to the people of this country. It is something as simple sounding as minimum wage. But for years we have not been able to increase the minimum wage for the people who need it. This is important, not to young people who are flipping hamburgers at McDonald's but to people raising families. Madam President, 60 percent of those drawing the minimum wage are women, and for 40 percent, that is the only money they get for themselves and their families. We need to do this.

Instead of going to these issues, we are having everything slow-walked. I do not understand the reason for that. It seems to me for the good of the country we should move forward.

This is a closely divided Senate. There is plenty of blame to go around if things do not go forward, if we do not make progress. But there is lots of credit to go around if we are able to accomplish things. I hope my friends will decide to move forward with legislation, allow us to legislate rather than hesitate, which we have been doing for the last several weeks.

The legislation before us is so important. We have talked about it on a number of occasions, how important it is for the troops we have in the field. It is important for creating homeland security—something as simple as \$200 million for security for nuclear facilities. The Presiding Officer and Senator LIEBERMAN and I have thought it important to do something to beef up security at our nuclear reactor sites. We need to do that because we have rules now at one site for a certain degree of security but at another site there is another degree of security. Even having been given 6 months' notice that there would be a surprise exercise to show how ready they were for an attack, even given 6 months for this so-called surprise, over 50 percent of the reactor sites failed in this security issue.

There will be a hearing before the Environment and Public Works Committee beginning in a half hour to deal with security of nuclear reactor sites.

There are things that need to be done to protect our homeland. I hope we can get to that. I hope the effort to slow-walk, slow down the train, stops immediately.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BOND. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.