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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 3, 2003, at 2 p.m.

Senate

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 2003

(Legislative day of Monday, July 21, 2003)

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal Lord God, who is the "Rock of Ages," You are our shield, and we find refuge in You. Listen to the music of our hearts and hear our praise to You. Today we thank You for help and healing. We refuse to take our borrowed heartbeats for granted. Thank You for giving us a lifetime of favor, for inspiring us during nights of uncertainty. Sustain our national leaders as they face critical challenges. May they find satisfaction and peace only by doing Your will. Now, Lord, during the recess, go before us, with us, around us, and within us, for we pray in Your strong name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore 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.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this morning the Senate will be in a period for morning business in order that Senators may speak and have an opportunity to introduce legislation. There will be no rollcall votes during today's session. When the Senate completes its business today, we will adjourn for the August break.

Today, in addition to Member statements, it would be my hope that we can continue to clear other legislative and executive items for Senate consideration. We were here late last night and had a full week, and indeed have had a very productive 4 weeks since the July 4 recess.

I thank all of our Members for their cooperation in addressing what was a healthy agenda set out by me after the last recess. I obviously am very pleased in that we accomplished every one of the goals we set out at the beginning 4 weeks ago. In particular, I commend Chairman DOMENICI for his really remarkable efforts over the course of the last several weeks and ultimate success in passing the Energy bill through the Senate. That will be conferenced with the already-passed bill in the House. I am confident we will see a comprehensive national energy policy for the first time in a long period of time because of the hard work of this body over the last several weeks, in particular over the last week.

We had a lot of obstacles put before us in many different shapes and forms on this particular legislation, and indeed as recently as yesterday morning,

at about this time—in fact, exactly this time—the odds of completing this bill, in most people's minds, was very narrow. Yet both sides of the aisle working together developed an approach with which I think everybody is pleased. It is the important next step in developing a bill that I am confident the President will be able to sign shortly after we deliver it to him as a final package.

Today, in terms of the schedule for September, I will come back to make some comments about the schedule. For the next 4 weeks, people will have the opportunity to go back and be with constituents and families and hopefully take some period as a true vacation. We are going to have a very challenging and again very productive September when we come back.

As a reminder, the next rollcall vote will occur Wednesday, September 3, and in all likelihood, although I will have more to say about that later today, that vote will occur on Wednesday morning. I am hopeful people will be coming back, if they are not in Washington, on that Tuesday and be ready to go. We will be in session that Tuesday. We will introduce a bill that I will talk about later today and then be voting on Wednesday.

Again, I will come back later with regard to some comments about the past 4 weeks.

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



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CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT OR
RECESS OF THE SENATE AND
HOUSE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H. Con. Res. 259, that the amendment to the resolution be agreed to, that the resolution, as amended, be agreed to, and that a motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The amendment (No. 1540) was agreed to, as follows:

Strike “when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Friday, July 25, 2003, or Saturday, July 26, 2003, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee,” and insert: “when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Tuesday, July 29, 2003.”.

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 259), as amended, was agreed to, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 259

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring). That, in consonance with section 132(a) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Tuesday, July 29, 2003, it stand adjourned until 2 p.m. on Wednesday, September 3, 2003, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the Senate recesses or adjourns on any day from Friday, July 25, 2003, through Monday, August 4, 2003, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand recessed or adjourned until noon on Tuesday, September 2, 2003, or at such other time on that day as may be specified by its Majority Leader or his designee in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Speaker of the House and the Majority Leader of the Senate, or their respective designees, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House and the Minority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the House and the Senate, respectively, to reassemble at such place and time as they may designate whenever, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

TRIBUTE TO BOB HOPE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to pay tribute to one of America’s greatest performers, Mr. Bob Hope, somebody who has changed all of our lives in very special and individual ways. As we all know, he died last Sunday night of pneumonia, with his family at his bedside.

The family plans an August 27 mass in Los Angeles, and a public memorial later that afternoon at the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. Today, I wish to remember, in this humble body, Mr. Hope’s profound contributions to American life.

Bob Hope was born one of six boys in a London suburb on May 29, 1903. His family made their way to America when he was three, and they settled in Cleveland, OH. What a blessing for

America that the Hope family made that journey.

Growing up, Bob Hope was a shoe shine boy, a butcher’s mate, stockboy, newspaper boy, golf caddy, shoe salesman, and even a prize fighter. All of these things, before he became what we remember him as, one of America’s most beloved and successful entertainers.

As a performer, Bob Hope had the rare and miraculous gift of being able to touch our common humanity.

His famous road pictures with Bing Crosby and Dorothy Lamour were the quintessential expressions of the adventure of being an American.

But he is most loved, of course, for the thousands of hours and millions of miles he spent on selfless devotion to our troops. He traversed 9 million miles, despite a fear of flying, to comfort and entertain our fighting men and women.

World War II, South Korea, Vietnam, from the Far East to Northern Africa, the Indonesian Peninsula to the heart of Europe, in jungles and refugee camps, Air Force bases, Navy ships, forward bases, and demilitarized zones, Bob Hope went wherever we needed him, and he conveyed to our troops the commitment and love of the American people.

The front rows would be filled with soldiers injured in battle, limbs blown off, bodies wrapped in bandages and he would manage to make them laugh.

He was able—for those moments while he was onstage giving his best to our best—to lift those young men and women out of their war torn bodies and help them forget the fatigue, fear and loneliness of battle.

Time magazine wrote in 1943 that “Hope was funny, treating hoards of soldiers to roars of laughter. He was friendly—ate with servicemen, drank with them, read their doggerel, listened to their songs. He was indefatigable, running himself ragged with five, six, seven shows a day. . . . Hence boys whom Hope might entertain for an hour awaited him for weeks. And when he came, anonymous guys who had no other recognition felt personally remembered.”

Hope narrowly escaped an attempt on his life when his hotel in Vietnam was bombed by enemy forces. He was waiting at the airport for his cue cards to be unloaded from the plane, and the delay literally saved him. You could say it was the only occasion he didn’t have perfect timing, and thank goodness.

Bob Hope’s dear friend, legendary golfer and Hall of Famer, Arnold Palmer, said today that he believes the reason why Bob Hope lived so long was because he was fundamentally happy and doing what he loved. May we all be so blessed.

Albert Einstein said, “Try not to become a man of success, but, rather, to become a man of value.” Bob Hope managed to become both.

Four stars on the Walk of Fame—one for each child, a legendarily happy

marriage of 69 years to his beloved Dolores.

I wanna tell ya’: Bob Hope is a giant and a national treasure. We will never forget his service to our country.

Thank you for the memories, Mr. Hope. Godspeed.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I listened with great interest to the majority leader’s comments about Bob Hope. I remember the morning after he died his daughter was interviewed. She said as the children were coming in and saying goodbye to him, one of them asked, Dad, where do you want to be buried? He said, “Surprise me.”

He had a one-liner right to the end.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THE FIRST
SESSION OF THE 108TH CONGRESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, on another subject, I commend the majority leader, before he leaves the floor, for his extraordinary leadership this year. We have truly had an outstanding 6 months. I am totally confident it would not have happened but for his nurturing of all Members and moving us in the right direction, dealing with the myriad complaints and concerns that arise from Members on both sides of the aisle during the course of trying to move legislation forward.

As he goes into the August recess, he should feel very good about accomplishments so far this year.

The accomplishments of this Senate in the first session of this 108th Congress would be considered remarkable in any historical comparison. But given that our President is in the second half of his term and the slender majority that his party holds in the Senate, the record of accomplishments is nothing short of extraordinary.

These actions have substantially improved our homeland security, our national security, our economic security, and the health and retirement security of our seniors. We have compensated for the budgetary and appropriations shortfalls of last year and are on path to complete our appropriations for the coming year in good order.

In the last 2 months alone, this Senate has taken the historic step of passing legislation to add a prescription drug benefit for our seniors in the Medicare program while imposing much needed market-based reforms. Almost 40 years after the programs creation, and after years of unfulfilled promises, the Senate is poised to complete final action when it returns in September.

In the last 2 months, this Senate has passed both the defense authorization and defense appropriations bills to keep our military strong and ready.

In the last 2 months, the Senate has passed the Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization to revitalize an air transport industry suffering from the effects of the terrorist attack of 9/11.