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Senate

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

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's prayer will be offered by CAPT Alan T. Baker, Chaplain of the U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Lord, in this Chamber of leaders, who represent in their person, attitude, and vocation each of our 50 States in this great union, we now ask Your blessing, we invoke Your presence, we call upon Your wisdom, and we seek Your will for this great Nation.

Use these Senators throughout this crucial time in our Nation's history. May their work, conducted both in and out of this Chamber, build and not tear down. May their relationships, both in session and thereafter, be ones of collegiality, friendship, and respect. May You be with them as they strive to keep America great.

May You bless the 108th Congress and guide them as they continue to be compass points for our Nation and our world. May the direction they point keep them from temptation and evil, as they offer help and hope to those whose compass is adrift.

We ask this in the name of the one who created us, who sustains us, and who delivers us. 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. Good morning to the Chair and everyone listening today.

We will have a brief period of morning business for 30 minutes, with the first half under the control of the majority and the second 15 minutes under the control of the minority. We will then resume debate on the intelligence reform bill.

Yesterday, we did invoke cloture on the bill by a vote of 85 to 10; therefore, we will conclude this bill today.

This morning the managers will be here and will have additional cleared amendments to consider prior to a series of stacked votes, which are to begin at 11:30 this morning. In addition to those amendments that can be worked out, Senators may want to come to the Chamber to make closing remarks on the bill.

The order from last night provides for the Senate to begin voting at 11:30 on the pending amendments that will require rollcall votes. It is expected some of the pending amendments will be accepted after some modifications, or possibly withdrawn.

In any event, the voting sequence today will be lengthy. Therefore, Members should be prepared to remain close to the Chamber during that time. I expect to limit the votes to 10 minutes after the first vote in order to expedite passage of the bill.

I remind my colleagues that at the conclusion of the pending intelligence reform bill, we will begin consideration of the resolution relating to the Senate's intelligence restructuring. Our distinguished whips will have a proposal to put forth and we will begin work on that later today. Therefore, additional votes will occur following the completion of the Collins-Lieberman bill.

Lastly, I add that before we finish our business on Friday, which is our goal, we will consider any of the available conference reports, specifically, those of Homeland Security appropria-

tions and FSC/ETI, if those are available.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The minority leader is recognized.

COMPLETING THE SENATE'S WORK

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, we have come a long way and I congratulate our managers and thank, once again, our assistant Democratic leader for his assistance in moving our effort along. We will complete our work on the bill today. That is very gratifying. I only hope now once we have completed our work we can expedite consideration with the House. We will await their decisions with regard to how they might proceed. Clearly, we are in a position to complete our work in a reasonable time. I hope the same spirit of bipartisanship that was so clearly demonstrated from the very first day with regard to consideration of this legislation can be equally as evident and apparent as we finish our work. It is the only way the bill will get done under these circumstances. Again, I thank the majority leader for setting that tone.

I also say we are in a very good position to do the same with the legislative reorganization. A lot of thought and effort has gone into the working group's recommendations. I am one who believes this resolution is as close to the consensus within the Congress, within the Senate, at least, regarding how we might respond to the recommendations made by the 9/11 Commission as we will get. We cannot let the perfect be the enemy of the good.

We have provided the Senate with an opportunity to address the concerns raised by the 9/11 Commission in a very reasonable, thoughtful, and comprehensive way.

I thank the assistant Republican leader and the assistant Democratic

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



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leader for their work and hope we can complete our work as a result of their contribution in the next couple of days.

We could have a very productive week. As the majority leader has indicated, there are other bills that could be addressed, as well. We have made a lot of progress and I hope we continue to do so.

I yield the floor.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this month is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. It was launched over 20 years ago by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. In 1989, the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month commemorative legislation was passed by the Congress. It has been passed every year since 1989.

We have come a long way in understanding the causes of domestic violence. Most importantly, we understand now that spousal battery is not a mere private matter, something that happens behind closed doors. Domestic violence is a crime. It devastates lives, rips apart families, and affects every aspect of community life. Its victims deserve our best efforts to prevent and prosecute family violence as we would any other violent crime.

Battery is a pattern of fear and intimidation to establish power and control over another person. It is wrong. Battering happens when one person believes they are entitled to control another. Acts of domestic violence include physical assault, sexual abuse, and psychological cruelty. It often escalates from insults and verbal jabs to physical harm.

Fortunately, the work done by many courageous and committed individuals, including community leaders and churches and police departments, family courts, shelters, and advocates, have made a difference. The Department of Justice reports that the number of female victims of intimate violence declined through the 1990s. The number of male victims of intimate violence also went down over this period.

As a society, we are much more aware of the danger signs and of our responsibility to respond and to intervene and to act. We are also more aware of our responsibility as moms and dads and husbands and wives to teach our children by example the value of compassion and respect.

I commend those dedicated to keeping this in the public's consciousness. I urge my colleagues to join in the effort to raise the public's awareness. We have come a long way, but there is still more to do.

I yield the floor.

Mr. DASCHLE. Senator BIDEN has long been a champion in bringing domestic violence to the forefront of the national agenda. He was a leader in the bipartisan effort to pass the Violence Against Women Act, and I worked with him last year to ensure the independ-

ence of the Office on Violence Against Women at the Department of Justice.

The Violence Against Women Act made a statement in law that fighting domestic violence is not just sound family policy, it is a moral imperative. It made a statement that domestic violence is not the shameful secret of a select few families, it is an issue with immense repercussions for all of us. Most importantly, it made a statement that as a country, a society, and a national family, we can do something about domestic violence.

As a direct result of the Violence Against Women Act our Nation has made significant strides in the fight against domestic violence. There are more domestic abuse hotlines and more shelters today than there were 10 years ago. There are more doctors, nurses, therapists, teachers, police officers, judges and other community leaders today who recognize the signs of domestic violence, and know how to help when they see those signs.

VAWA has also provided financial means to Native American communities and tribes to combat domestic violence. Before 1994, domestic violence and sexual assault services and resources were rare in Indian Country. VAWA has enabled Native communities to provide safe locations, counseling services, and technical assistance and training, and it has given these communities the flexibility to tailor those services to the unique needs of Indian people.

In addition, just last Wednesday, the Senate passed a VAWA STOP grant technical fix that would allow for a direct Federal tribal coalition relationship. This fix provides an important clarification to ensure that tribal domestic violence and sexual assault programs have a direct link with the Department of Justice underscoring the unique Federal-tribal relationship.

In South Dakota, in Rapid City and on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, a non-profit organization known as Cangleska is helping to break the cycle of violence by providing domestic violence prevention and intervention advocacy and services. Cangleska works with organizations like Sacred Circle that serve as a vital national resource for Native women, and I am proud to have it based in South Dakota.

There are similar organizations doing good work in communities all across America, Native and non-Native, rich and poor. We have made progress. But there is much more to be done.

Each year, more than 1 million women in America are victims of domestic violence, and more than 3 million American children witness domestic violence. Protecting the victims of domestic violence is essential, but it is not enough. Domestic violence does not just destroy families, it cascades through generations. Children who get abused or witness abuse are more likely to become parents who abuse.

Next year, when Congress re-authorizes the Violence Against Women Act,

in addition to taking further steps to prevent domestic violence, we need to do more to help the children who witness it. This is the only way to begin to break the cycle of domestic violence.

This month, we acknowledge the strength and bravery of the victims and survivors of domestic violence, and we rededicate ourselves to raising awareness about and confronting this deeply disturbing issue.

Let us also vow to do even more in the months ahead to create a country and a climate where home is a refuge, and domestic violence a thing of the past.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, today on the Senate floor we are recognizing the month of October as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

For far too long, we have been reluctant to talk openly about family violence. When I was growing up, few viewed violence in the home as a crime. As a young deputy sheriff, I learned that people thought of it as a private matter.

Today, we know that domestic violence is not a private family matter, it is a serious crime.

And for far too long, domestic violence has been seen as a problem which impacts only women, but this is not true either. Domestic violence is not just a woman's issue. It impacts the entire American family.

Domestic violence damages children. The seeds of violence are planted early. We know that children are harmed both emotionally and developmentally when they witness or experience violence.

Violence is a learned behavior. So, the cycle of domestic abuse continues generation after generation.

Domestic violence also threatens the security and peace of entire communities. The impacts of abuse are felt by the families, friends and co-workers of victims. They are felt by law enforcement officials, medical workers and other social service workers who are called upon to repair the lives shattered by violence.

Now, there are advocacy groups, support groups, 24-hour-crisis hotlines, and housing assistance.

And, today there is a network of almost 1800 domestic violence programs in the United States. Approximately 1,200 of these include shelter. Now, most shelters include facilities for the children, too.

Understanding first-hand the impact of family violence, I have made anti-violence and domestic violence legislation a top priority throughout my years in Congress.

A year ago, during the month of October, the Stamp Out Family Violence Stamp was issued. The stamp, similar to the Breast Cancer Stamp, earns monies for domestic violence shelters throughout the country, with special emphasis on programs for children who witness domestic violence. By the end of July this year, the stamp had netted \$1.2 million for shelter programs.