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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 16, 2004, at 2 p.m.

Senate

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2004

The Senate met at 10:30 a.m. 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, You rule the Earth with goodness and Your mercies sustain us. We praise You on weekdays or weekends, for each heartbeat is a gift from Your bounty. Help us to so live that You will come and find us ready, because our hearts are at peace with You. Bless our legislative Members. Enlighten and illumine them that they may know You and Your precepts. Touch their lips that they may speak no words that grieve You. Give them hearts that are willing to serve. Comfort them in sadness and refresh them when fatigued. Strengthen them when tempted and guide them when they are perplexed. Whatever happens, remind us that You have traveled the road before us and enable us to live victoriously. We pray in Your Holy 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 MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I welcome everybody this morning. It is unusual to have to meet on a Sunday, but in order to complete the Nation's business, we are doing just that. I know that it has interrupted a number of people's schedules, but we are forced to do so in order to complete business which does affect the safety and security of the American people.

This morning, we will continue debate on the conference report to accompany the FSC, or JOBS bill. We have controlled debate time until the cloture vote, which will occur at 1 p.m. today. If Senators desire to debate the conference report prior to that cloture vote, there will be a limited amount of time and therefore they should notify us early this morning of their request. We hope and expect cloture to be invoked at 1 today. If invoked, we would hope the Senate would then act expeditiously on the conference report.

As a reminder, not that many hours ago but when we closed last night, I filed cloture motions on the two conference reports to accompany the Military Construction appropriations bill and the Homeland Security appropriations bill. As I said last night, I regret having to file those cloture motions. However, there was an objection from the other side of the aisle. I understand

the Homeland Security appropriations bill passed unanimously in the House of Representatives. I know of absolutely no issues in that conference report to cause this delay. Therefore, once again, I ask my colleagues to take that into consideration so we can proceed on this very important Homeland Security appropriations bill. That is money to be invested in our security and safety and it is time for us to act.

It is unfortunate that because of the action on the other side of the aisle we are holding up money that will be used to further secure this country.

Having said that, I hope the Members on the other side will rethink this objection and allow us to proceed. I further hope that we can get the disaster package passed in short order as well. It is time to pass this package. We are talking about money to respond to emergencies, to drought, to hurricanes. We are ready to deliver all of that money if we can remove the objections from the other side of the aisle.

Again, I remind my colleagues that the vote will occur at 1 on the cloture motion on FSC/ETI.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

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



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