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## Senate

The Senate met at 10 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.

Everlasting God, our light and our salvation, You are our strength and shield. We thank You for Your great and precious promises. You have promised to supply our needs and to lead us toward abundant living. Thank You also for the promise of Your eternal presence.

Lord, forgive us when we surrender to those influences that draw us downward. Bless the Members of this body. Teach them that Your hand is on the helm of human affairs and that You still guide Your world. Bless our military people who daily risk their lives for liberty. Console those who grieve, who count the empty places and long for the sound of a voice that is still. Lord, renew our strength and give us the courage to carry on. We pray this 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 resume consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2673, the Omnibus appropriations bill. A number of Senators

will want to speak on that measure over the course of today, as well, I am sure, to make comments on the President's State of the Union Address last evening. The time until 6 p.m. today will be equally divided for debate to accommodate those statements.

Although yesterday we were unable to invoke cloture, I do hope we will be able to finish this important funding legislation prior to finishing our business for the week. I will continue to be in discussions with the Democratic leader with the hope of reaching consent to allow the Senate to work its will on the Omnibus conference report.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The minority leader is recognized.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I look forward to having further discussions with the majority leader with regard to taking the next legislative step with regard to the Omnibus bill. I am sure we will be able to reach some understanding as to how we might complete our work on this legislation.

I do think it is important, as we said yesterday, for the Senate to focus its attention on some of the issues we cited yesterday as real policy concerns. There were procedural concerns about how we got here, but the policy concerns are the ones that can be addressed and can be fixed. If we are not able to fix them in this legislation, I certainly want to assure my colleagues we will look for other vehicles and other ways to address each of these issues over the course of the next several weeks and months.

I will have more to say about that later in the day, but I will certainly work with our majority leader in addressing the schedule and providing options for ways in which we can complete our work on this bill perhaps this week.

I urge colleagues to recognize the opportunity the day presents to discuss

some of these issues. I know there are many on our side who intend to do that. The time is equally divided. We certainly intend to use the time that will be allocated to this side throughout the day to discuss many of these issues.

I yield the floor.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, while the two leaders are here—I have not had an opportunity to discuss this with either of them—floor staff has indicated when the majority leader finishes his statement Senator DORGAN is here wishing to speak. Following that, Senator REED of Rhode Island would like to speak, and then Senator BOXER. We understand if there are Republicans, we will alternate, but I wanted to give them the roll of those who indicated they would like to come prior to Senator BYRD and Senator MCCAIN speaking this afternoon.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, we can talk during the speeches, but my understanding is we will alternate back and forth.

Mr. DASCHLE. Yes.

Mr. FRIST. I will make a stronger statement probably for 30 minutes, and after that we can alternate back and forth.

### APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair announces the following appointment made on January 6, 2004, during the sine die adjournment:

Pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 108-136, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, the appointment of the following individuals to serve as members of the Veterans' Disability Benefits Commission: Mike O'Callaghan, of Nevada, and Rick Surratt, of Virginia.

### RECOGNIZING 2004 AS THE "50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROCK 'N' ROLL"

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate

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



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now proceed to consideration of S. Res. 285, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 284) recognizing 2004 as the "50th Anniversary of Rock 'n' Roll."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I rise today in support of the resolution commemorating the 50-year history of rock 'n' roll. Senator FRIST, the sponsor of this resolution, and myself are both from the State where rock 'n' roll was born—Tennessee. On July 5, 1954, Elvis Presley recorded his first record, "That's All Right," at the legendary Sun Studio in Memphis and rock 'n' roll was officially born.

Memphis being the birthplace of rock 'n' roll should be of no surprise, since rock 'n' roll isn't the first genre of music to be officially born there. During the Civil War era another musical tradition was born from the sons and daughters who followed freedom up the Mississippi River. The soul-wrenching folk melodies of black Southerners laid the foundation for what would become the blues. Memphis has a vast history of being the center of American musical innovation.

The heart of this music innovation is grounded in the cultural life of Beale Street. It was Beale Street where W.C. Handy, a wandering black musician and composer, was the first to put down on paper the sometimes grim but always hopeful fix of field hollers, gospel songs, cotton-baling calls, and African tribal songs. Forty years later, Beale Street and those same rhythms infected a young, aspiring musician named Elvis Aaron Presley. Elvis Presley came to Sun Records to make a record for his mother and ended up forever changing music and society.

Sun Studios is the place where Sam Phillips created his Rockabilly dynasty with Carl Perkins, B.B. King, Roy Orbison, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Elvis. Rock 'n' roll evolved in the 1950s from rhythm and blues, and was characterized by the use of electric guitars, a strong rhythm with an accent on the offbeat, and youth-oriented lyrics. Last July, Senator FRIST and I joined Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton in a singing ceremony, which designated Sun Records recording studio as a National Historic Landmark. Sun Records in Memphis, TN, is the true home of the blues and the birthplace of rock 'n' roll.

No other city in the United States can claim equal influence on the music of this Nation.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 285) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 285

Whereas Elvis Presley recorded "That's All Right" at Sam Phillips' Sun Records in Memphis, Tennessee, on July 5, 1954;

Whereas Elvis' recording of "That's All Right", with Bill Black on bass and Scotty Moore on guitar, paved the way for such subsequent Sun Studio hits as Carl Perkins' "Blue Suede Shoes" (1955), Roy Orbison's "Ooby Dooby" (1956), and Jerry Lee Lewis' "Whole Lotta Shakin'" (1957)—catapulting Sun Studio to the forefront of a musical revolution;

Whereas the recording in Memphis of the first rock 'n' roll song came to define an era and forever change popular music;

Whereas the birth of rock 'n' roll was the convergence of the diverse cultures and musical styles of the United States, blending the blues with country, gospel, jazz, and soul music;

Whereas the year 2004 provides an appropriate opportunity for our nation to celebrate the birth of rock 'n' roll, and the many streams of music that converged in Memphis to create a truly American sound known throughout the world: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes 2004 as the 50th Anniversary of rock 'n' roll;

(2) commemorates Sun Studio for recording the first rock 'n' roll record, "That's All Right"; and

(3) expresses appreciation to Memphis for its contributions to America's music heritage.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, the resolution just agreed to is a resolution recognizing the year 2004 as the "50th Anniversary of Rock 'n' Roll." Indeed, it was 50 years ago in a small recording studio in Memphis, TN, that a young Elvis Presley recorded his first record. It was called "That's All Right." And at that point, rock 'n' roll was born. That recording by legendary producer Sam Phillips at the now famous Sun Studio in Memphis paved the way for such subsequent hits which titles we all know: Carl Perkins' "Blue Suede Shoes" in 1955, Roy Orbison's "Ooby Dooby" in 1956, and Jerry Lee Lewis' "Whole Lotta Shakin'" in 1957. These early hits catapulted Sun Studio and Memphis to the forefront of that musical revolution.

Throughout the 1950s, the unique sound, tremendous vision, and incredible talent coming out of Memphis, TN, with such artists as Elvis Presley, the "King of Rock 'n' Roll," B. B. King, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, and Carl Perkins, just to name a few, became the hallmark of that Sun Studio and later the hallmark of American rock 'n' roll music.

Indeed, some of the most meaningful contributions to American music were made at that Sun Studio. It is where our country, in many ways, came together and spoke with a new, a uniquely American voice that was and still is heard around the world.

The fact that rock 'n' roll was born in Memphis is no coincidence. That city's location on the banks of the Mis-

issippi River made it a place where the diverse cultures and musical styles of our Nation came together, where they converged, blending the blues with country and with gospel and with jazz. That merging of cultures and styles continues today.

The year 2004 provides the opportunity for our Nation to celebrate the birth of rock 'n' roll and those many streams of music that converged in Memphis to create a truly American sound known throughout the world.

#### PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS TO CONGRESS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, at this juncture, on this second day of the new session of the 108th Congress, I will spend a few moments reviewing a bit but also looking ahead, setting the stage for what we are likely to expect in this body.

Last night, the President of the United States delivered a powerful challenge to the U.S. Congress and to the American people. He told us the state of the Union is strong and confident. The substance of the talk last night reflected just that.

There is much to celebrate as we enter this second session of the 108th Congress. Perhaps most important is the capture of Saddam Hussein. It was only 1 month ago that the world woke up to those astonishing images—the President described it last night—of Saddam Hussein in a hole and now in a cell. They were images of that dirty and dishevelled dictator emerging out of that spider hole.

Our brave and resourceful soldiers caught the "butcher of Baghdad." As the President said last night, Saddam Hussein now is in a cell, a military prison, awaiting his fate. He will be brought to justice by the Iraqi people whom he so mercilessly terrorized, and he will be judged as the entire world looks on.

Today, because of the war on terror, the capture of Saddam, the death of his two sons, and the destruction of his wicked regime, America and her allies are safer and more secure. As we enter the new year, we are also stronger. America's vibrant economy is beginning once again to hum. The Federal Reserve confirms that the recovery we began to observe last fall is gaining momentum each and every day. Worker production is up. Industrial production is up. Exports are on the rise. Home construction is booming. More Americans than ever own their own homes. Their total household wealth is approaching historic highs. Businesses are investing. Manufacturing is at its highest level in 20 years. In short, those tax cuts, those jobs and growth packages are working.

The first round of tax cuts indeed helped end that recession that began in the year 2000. The second round of tax cuts put America on a path to solid growth. Americans today have more money to save, invest, and spend as