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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, July 23, 2007, at 10:30 a.m.

Senate

FRIDAY, JULY 20, 2007

The Senate met at 10:01 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable SHERROD BROWN, a Senator from the State of Ohio.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Our Father, be with our lawmakers not only in great moments but also in the repetitive and common tasks of life. Make them children of faith and heirs of peace. May they tackle even mundane responsibilities with integrity and faithfulness, cheerfulness and kindness, optimism and civility. Give them wisdom to be patient with others, ever lenient to their faults and ever prompt to praise their virtues. May they bear with one another's burdens and so fulfill Your law. Keep them ever mindful of the brevity of life and of the importance of being faithful in life's little things.

You are our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable SHERROD BROWN 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 assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, July 20, 2007.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable SHERROD BROWN, a Senator from the State of Ohio, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. BROWN thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we will be in session today with speeches in morning business and Senators allowed to speak for up to 15 minutes each. Senator DORGAN, though, under an order entered last night, may speak for up to 30 minutes.

We all know this has been a long, hard week. We have had numerous votes. I express my appreciation for staff who have worked so hard all week—2 days in a row, and then last night we ended sometime this morning. So I appreciate very much the hard work of all the very loyal, dedicated staff.

There will be no rollcall votes today. Next week, I am happy to report and recognize we will have a lot to do. Monday we are going to work on another education measure, a higher education

measure. There is an order that has been entered which provides for the possibility—I say possibility—of 12 first-degree amendments, and, of course, second-degree amendments. But this all must be completed within 8 hours. First-degree amendments will be limited to 30 minutes, and second-degree amendments will be limited to 15 minutes, so we are going to, hopefully, conclude this matter on Monday. If all the amendments are not offered, it would, of course, shorten the time.

The two managers are Senators KENNEDY and ENZI, who did such a good job on the bill yesterday, until they lost control of it with the rules we have here, which I hope—I see my friend in the Chamber, the distinguished junior Senator from Utah. I hope as one of the key members of the Rules Committee—being the ranking member of the Rules Committee—he and Senator FEINSTEIN will look at a way we can change these rules. What went on last night was ridiculous. There is no way to stop that unless the rules are changed, and we should change those rules. I think it can be done with the Rules Committee. We have to take a look at that. It did not help anybody.

But, anyway, that is what happened. But it is not going to be that way on this matter on Monday. As I said, Senators KENNEDY and ENZI managed the bill very well, until it ran into the rule we have that allows unending amendments on any subject forever, literally, before you get to final passage.

So we will have multiple votes starting at about 5:15 on Monday. Members should plan accordingly.

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



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