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No. 4

Senate

The Senate met at 12:45 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable THOM TILLIS, a Senator from the State of North Carolina.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal Spirit, on this January 6, when a Joint Session of Congress is set to count electoral votes, ending officially the 2016 Presidential election, we pause to acknowledge Your sovereignty over the affairs of humanity.

Grant to this Nation a social conscience built on the vision of the ancient prophets who saw sufficiency for every person and a time when goodwill toward all would overcome fear.

Lord, hasten the day when the small and weak can make their contributions alongside the great and powerful. Lead us to the day when we will see peace among the nations of the Earth, when swords shall be beaten into plowshares.

Let Your glory cover the Earth as the waters cover the sea.

We pray in Your strong Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer 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. HATCH).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, January 6, 2017.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable THOM TILLIS, a Senator from the State of North Carolina, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ORRIN G. HATCH,
President pro tempore.

Mr. TILLIS thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

MORNING BUSINESS

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:47 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 26. An act to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 26. An act to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

JOINT SESSION OF THE TWO HOUSES—COUNTING OF ELECTORAL BALLOTS

RECESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess to proceed as a body to the Hall of the House of Representatives under the provisions of S. Con. Res. 2 for the counting of the electoral ballots.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:48 p.m., took a recess, and the Senate, preceded by the Secretary of the Senate, Julie E. Adams, and the Deputy Sergeant at Arms, James Morhard, proceeded to the Hall of the House of Representatives for the purpose of counting electoral ballots.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2017, AT 2 P.M.

At the conclusion of the joint session of the two Houses, and in accordance with the order previously entered, at 1:41 p.m., the Senate adjourned until Monday, January 9, 2017, at 2 p.m.

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



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