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Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JOHN E. SUNUNU, a Senator from the State of New Hampshire.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, You still work wonders in the Earth. Help us to possess the humility to learn. Teach us that prayer still brings results. Teach us that we need not fear what the future holds, for Your mercies endure forever. Teach us that Your blessings come new every day. Teach us to number our days, to appreciate life's precious moments. Teach us to trust Your love and to celebrate Your presence.

Bless our Senators, their families, and their staffs in the days ahead. We pray in Your sovereign Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JOHN E. SUNUNU 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. STEVENS).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, November 9, 2006.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN E. SUNUNU, a Senator from the State of New Hampshire, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS,
President pro tempore.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

COSPONSORSHIP OF S. 3709

• Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, on July 24 the Majority Leader placed in the RECORD a list of the Senators that had sought to be cosponsors of S. 3709, the United States-India Peaceful Atomic Energy Cooperation Act.

Mr. President, I ask that an updated list of those who wish to be listed as cosponsors be printed in the RECORD

The names follow.

LUGAR, BIDEN, HAGEL, CHAFEE, ALLEN, COLEMAN, VOINOVICH, ALEXANDER, SUNUNU, MURKOWSKI, MARTINEZ, DODD, KERRY, NELSON, OBAMA, CORNYN, BAYH, HUTCHISON, DEWINE, and LOTT.●

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

STAFF SERGEANT JONATHAN ROJAS

• Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, it is with a heavy heart and deep sense of gratitude that today I honor the life of a brave young man from Hammond. Jonathan Rojas, 27 years old, died on October 3 after being struck by a sniper bullet while on patrol in Baghdad. Jonathan risked everything to fight for the values Americans hold close to our hearts, in a land halfway around the world.

Jonathan spent several years in the workforce after graduating from Hammond High School before enlisting. He had been due to return home to Indiana 2 months before he was killed but agreed to stay longer, promising his family in Hammond that he would be home in time for Christmas. Jonathan was remembered by his brother William as playful and warm hearted, when he said, "We're going to miss him being himself, doing stupid things, his company, having a brother, someone to talk to."

Jonathan was killed, while serving his country in Operation Iraqi Free-

dom. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 17th Infantry Regiment, 172nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team. This brave soldier leaves behind wife Tasha Rojas, parents Jose and Catalina Rojas, brother William Rojas, and sister Isaura Rojas.

Today, I join Jonathan's family and friends in mourning his death. While we struggle to bear our sorrow over this loss, we can also take pride in the example he set, bravely fighting to make the world a safer place. It is his courage and strength of character that people will remember when they think of Jonathan, a memory that will burn brightly during these continuing days of conflict and grief.

Jonathan was known for his dedication to his family and his love of country. He was looking forward to civilian life and starting a family with his wife Tasha. Today and always, Jonathan will be remembered by family members, friends and fellow Hoosiers as a true American hero, and we honor the sacrifice he made while dutifully serving his country.

As I search for words to do justice in honoring Jonathan's sacrifice, I am reminded of President Lincoln's remarks as he addressed the families of the fallen soldiers in Gettysburg: "We cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here." This statement is just as true today as it was nearly 150 years ago, as I am certain that the impact of Jonathan's actions will live on far longer than any record of these words.

It is my sad duty to enter the name of Jonathan Rojas in the official RECORD of the U.S. Senate for his service to this country and for his profound commitment to freedom, democracy, and peace. When I think about this just

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



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