



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 109<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

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No. 1

## Senate

The fourth day of January being the day prescribed by House Concurrent Resolution 531 for the meeting of the 1st Session of the 109th Congress, the Senate assembled in its Chamber at the Capitol and at 12:01 p.m. was called to order by the Vice President [Mr. CHE-NEY].

### PRAYER

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

Let us bow reverently as we pray.

Sovereign God, Creator and sustainer of us all, our hearts ache for the tsunami victims and for all touched by this tragedy. In our sadness, our eyes turn to You. We confess that we do not fully understand why bad things happen to good people. Nonetheless, by faith, we believe that You can carve tunnels of hope through mountains of despair.

Lord, make us Your eyes, ears, feet, and hands to bring solace to those who suffer. Guide us as we seek to help the hurting and empower the global humanitarian effort. Comfort those who mourn, and strengthen the widows and orphans.

Today, bless our 109th Congress. Give our new Senators wisdom and courage as You order their steps. Help them trust You so completely that Your will may be done on Earth.

We pray this in Your merciful Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The VICE PRESIDENT 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 VICE PRESIDENT. The majority leader is recognized.

### MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR TSUNAMI VICTIMS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, these last 9 days have brought upon each of us, our fellow Americans, and, indeed, the entirety of the civilized world profound sadness and sympathy. We both as individuals and as a body will speak later today about the epic tragedy in Southern Asia that has taken upwards of 150,000 lives. But for now, I would like to begin our session by taking a moment of silence to show respect for those who lost their lives and our sincere hope that the loved ones left behind may heal.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senate will observe a moment of silence.

(Moment of silence.)

### CERTIFICATES OF ELECTION AND CREDENTIALS

The VICE PRESIDENT. The Chair lays before the Senate the certificates of election of 34 Senators elected for 6-year terms beginning on January 5, 2005. All certificates, the Chair is advised, are in the form suggested by the Senate or contain all the essential requirements of the form suggested by the Senate. If there be no objection, the reading of the above-mentioned certificates will be waived, and they will be printed in full in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

#### STATE OF INDIANA

#### CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR A SIX-YEAR TERM

*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the second day of November 2004, Evan Bayh was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Indiana a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January, 2005.

Witness: His excellency our Governor Joseph E. Kernan, and our seal hereto affixed

at Indianapolis, this the eighteenth day of November, in the year of our Lord, 2004.

By the Governor:

JOSEPH E. KERNAN,  
Governor.

#### STATE OF UTAH

*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the second day of November, 2004, Robert F. Bennett was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Utah a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning at noon on the third day of January, 2005.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand at Salt Lake City, this 29th day of November, 2004.

OLENE S. WALKER,  
Governor.

#### STATE OF MISSOURI

#### CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM

*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the 2nd day of November, 2004, Christopher "Kit" Bond was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Missouri, a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January, 2005.

Witness His Excellency our Governor Bob Holden and our seal hereto affixed at 11:00 a.m. this 1st day of December, in the year of the Common Era 2004.

BOB HOLDEN,  
Governor.

#### STATE OF CALIFORNIA

#### CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM

*To the President of the Senate of the United States of America:*

This is to certify that on the 2nd day of November, 2004, Barbara Boxer was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of California a Senator from said State to represent California in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January, 2005.

In Witness Whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 14th day of December 2004.

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER,  
Governor.

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



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## STATE OF KANSAS

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM  
*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the 2nd day of November, 2004, Samuel D. Brownback was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Kansas, a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January 2005.

Witness: Her Excellency our Governor Kathleen Sebelius, and our seal hereto affixed at Topeka, Kansas this 29th day of November, in the year of our Lord 2004.

By the Governor:

KATHLEEN SEBELIUS,  
*Governor.*

## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

Know Ye That, Honorable Jim Bunning having been duly certified, that on November 2, 2004 was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the Commonwealth of Kentucky a Senator from said state to represent said state in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning the 3rd day of January 2005.

I hereby invest the above named with full power and authority to execute and discharge the duties of the said office according to law. And to have and to hold the same, with all the rights and emoluments thereunto legally appertaining, for and during the term prescribed by law.

In testimony whereof, I have caused these letters to be made patent, and the seal of the Commonwealth to be hereunto affixed. Done at Frankfort, the 23rd day of November in the year of our Lord two thousand and four and in the 213th year of the Commonwealth.

By the Governor:

ERNIE FLETCHER,  
*Governor.*

## STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM  
*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the 2nd day of November, 2004, Richard Burr was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of North Carolina, a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years beginning on the 3rd day of January, 2005.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto signed my name and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State, at the Capital City of Raleigh, this the 3rd day of December, 2004.

MICHAEL F. EASLEY,  
*Governor.*

## STATE OF OKLAHOMA

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM  
*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the 2nd day of November 2004, Tom Coburn was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Oklahoma, a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years beginning the 3rd day of January, 2005.

Witness: His Excellency our Governor Brad Henry, and our seal hereto affixed at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma this 12th day of November, in the year of our Lord 2004.

By the Governor:

BRAD HENRY,  
*Governor.*

## STATE OF IDAHO

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM  
*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the 2nd day of November, 2004, Mike Crapo was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Idaho a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January, 2005.

Witness: His Excellency our Governor Dirk Kempthorne, and our seal hereto affixed at Boise this 17th day of November, in the year of our Lord 2004.

By the Governor:

DIRK KEMPTHORNE,  
*Governor.*

## STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM  
*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the second day of November, 2004, the Honorable James W. DeMint was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of South Carolina, a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the third day of January 2005.

Witness: His Excellency our Governor, Mark Sanford, and our seal hereto affixed at Columbia, South Carolina this eighteenth day of November, in the year of our Lord, 2004.

MARK SANFORD,  
*Governor.*

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT

*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the second day of November, two thousand and four, Christopher J. Dodd was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Connecticut Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the third day of January two thousand and five.

Witness: Her Excellency our Governor, M. Jodi Rell and our seal hereto affixed at Hartford, this twenty-fourth day of November, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and four.

M. JEDI RELL,  
*Governor.*

## STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

## CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION

At the General Election held on the 2nd day of November 2004, Bryon L. Dorgan was elected to the office of United States Senator for the State of North Dakota. The 6-year term of office begins at noon on January 3, 2005.

In witness whereof, we have set our hands at the Capitol City of Bismarck this 18th day of November 2004, and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Dakota.

JOHN HOEVEN,  
*Governor.*

## STATE OF WISCONSIN

## CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION

*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the 2nd day of November, 2004, Russ Feingold was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Wisconsin a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January, 2005.

Witness: His Excellency our Governor, Jim Doyle, and our seal hereto affixed at Madison this 6th day of December, 2004.

By the Governor:

JIM DOYLE,  
*Governor.*

## STATE OF IOWA

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM  
*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the 2nd day of November, 2004, Charles Grassley was duly elected as Senator to the Senate of the United States to represent the State of Iowa for a term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January 2005.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name and caused the Great Seal of the State of Iowa to be affixed. Done at Des Moines this 1st day of December in the year of our Lord two thousand four.

THOMAS J. VILSACK,  
*Governor.*

## STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the second day of November, two thousand and four, Judd Gregg was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of New Hampshire to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years beginning on the third day of January, two thousand and five.

Witness, His Excellency, Governor Craig Benson and the Seal of the State of New Hampshire hereto affixed at Concord, this first day of December, in the year of Our Lord two thousand and four.

By the Governor, with advice of the Council:

CRAIG BENSON,  
*Governor.*

## STATE OF HAWAII

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM  
*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the second day of November 2004, Daniel K. Inouye was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Hawaii a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January, 2005.

Witness: Her Excellency our Governor, Linda Lingle, and our seal hereto affixed at Honolulu this twenty-second day of November, in the year of our Lord 2004.

By the Governor:

LINDA LINGLE,  
*Governor.*

## STATE OF GEORGIA

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM  
*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify on the 2nd day of November, 2004, Johnny Isakson was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Georgia a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January 2005.

Witness: His Excellency our Governor, Sonny Perdue, and our seal hereto affixed at this 29th day of December, in the year of our Lord 2004.

By the Governor:

SONNY PERDUE,  
*Governor.*

## STATE OF VERMONT

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM  
*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the 2nd day of November, 2004, Patrick Leahy was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of

Vermont a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years beginning on the 3rd day of January, 2005.

Witness: His Excellency our Governor James H. Douglas, and our seal hereto affixed at Montpelier this 9th day of November, in the year of our Lord 2004.

By the Governor:

JAMES H. DOUGLAS,  
Governor.

#### STATE OF ARKANSAS

##### CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM

*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the 2nd day of November 2004, Blanche Lambert Lincoln was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Arkansas, a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January, 2005.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed at this Capitol in Little Rock, on the 2nd day of November, in the year of our Lord 2004.

MIKE HUCKABEE,  
Governor.

#### STATE OF FLORIDA

*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the 2nd day of November, 2004, Mel Martinez, was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Florida as Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January, 2005.

Witness: His excellency our Governor, Jeb Bush, and our seal hereto affixed at Tallahassee, the Capitol, this 14th day of December, in the year of our Lord 2004.

By the governor:

JEB BUSH  
Governor.

#### STATE OF ARIZONA

##### CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM

*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the 2nd day of November 2004, John McCain was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Arizona a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning the 3rd Day of January 2005.

Witness: Her excellency the Governor of Arizona, and the Great Seal of the State of Arizona, hereto affixed at the Capitol in Phoenix this 22nd day of November 2004.

JANET NAPOLITANO,  
Governor.

#### STATE OF MARYLAND

##### CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM

*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the 2nd day of November 2004, Barbara A. Mikulski was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Maryland a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning the 3rd Day of January 2005.

Witness: His excellency our Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., and our seal hereto affixed at the Capitol of Annapolis this 6th day of December, in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

By the Governor:

ROBERT L. EHRLICH, JR.,  
Governor.

#### STATE OF ALASKA

##### CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM

This is to certify that on the 2nd day of November 2004, Lisa Murkowski was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Alaska, a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning the 3rd Day of January 2005.

Witness: His excellency our Governor Frank H. Murkowski, and our seal hereto affixed at Juneau this 18th day of December, in the year of our Lord 2004.

By the Governor:

FRANK H. MURKOWSKI,  
Governor.

#### STATE OF WASHINGTON

##### CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM

*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the 2nd day of November 2004, Patty Murray was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Washington a Senator from said State to represent said State beginning the 3rd day of January 2005.

Witness: His excellency our Governor Gary Locke, and our seal hereto affixed at Olympia, Washington this 30th day of November, in the year of our Lord 2004.

By the Governor:

GARY LOCKE,  
Governor.

#### STATE OF ILLINOIS

*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the second day of November, two thousand and four, Barack Obama was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the Senate of Illinois, a Senator from said State, to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning the third day of January, two thousand and five.

Witness: His excellency our Governor, Rod R. Blagojevich, and our seal hereto affixed at the City of Springfield, Illinois this third day of December, in the year of our Lord two thousand and four.

By the Governor:

ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH,  
Governor.

#### STATE OF NEVADA

##### CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION

This is to certify that at a general election held in the State of Nevada on Tuesday, the second day of November, two thousand four, Harry Reid was duly elected a Member of the United States Senate, in and for the State of Nevada, for the term of six years from and after the third day of January, two thousand five:

Now, Therefore, I, Kenny C. Guinn, Governor of the State of Nevada, by the authority in me vested in the Constitution and laws thereof, do hereby commission him, the said Harry Reid as a Member of the United States Senate, for the State of Nevada, and authorize him to discharge the duties of said office according to law, and to hold and enjoy the same, together with all powers, privileges and emoluments thereunto appertaining.

In Testimony Thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nevada to be affixed at the State Capitol at Carson City, Nevada this seventh day of December, two thousand four.

KENNY C. GUINN,  
Governor.

#### STATE OF COLORADO

##### CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM

*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the 2nd day of November, 2004, Ken Salazar was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Colorado a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January, 2005.

Witness: His excellency our Governor Bill Owens, and our seal hereto affixed at Denver, Colorado, this 1st day of December, in the year of our Lord 2004.

By the Governor:

BILL OWENS,  
Governor.

#### STATE OF NEW YORK

*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the second day of November, two thousand four, Charles E. Schumer was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of New York a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for a term of six years, beginning on the third day of January two thousand five.

Witness: His excellency our Governor George E. Pataki, and our seal hereto affixed at Albany, New York, this sixteenth day of December in the year two thousand four.

By the Governor:

GEORGE E. PATAKI,  
Governor.

#### STATE OF ALABAMA

##### CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM

*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the 2nd day of November, 2004, Richard C. Shelby was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Alabama a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January, 2005.

Witness: His Excellency our Governor, Bob Riley, and our seal hereto affixed at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on this 29th day of November, in the year of our Lord 2004.

By the Governor:

BOB RILEY,  
Governor.

#### COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the second day of November, 2004, Arlen Specter was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a United States Senator to represent Pennsylvania in the Senate of the United States for a term of six years, beginning on the third day of January, 2005.

Witness: His excellency our Governor, Edward G. Rendell, and our seal hereto affixed at Harrisburg this fourteenth day of December, in the year of our Lord, 2004.

By the Governor:

EDWARD G. RENDELL,  
Governor.

#### STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

##### CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION

This is to certify that on the second day of November, 2004, at the general election, John Thune was elected by the qualified voters of the State of South Dakota to the office of

United States Senator for the term of six years, beginning on the third day of January, 2005.

In Witness Whereof, We have hereunto set our hands and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed at Pierre, the Capital, this 9th day of November, 2004.

M. MICHAEL ROUNDS,  
Governor.

STATE OF LOUISIANA

CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION FOR A SIX-YEAR TERM

*To the President of the Senate of the United States*

I, Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby certify that, in accordance with the provisions of the Louisiana Election Code, on the 2nd day of November, 2004, David Vitter was elected by the qualified electors of the state of Louisiana a Senator to represent the state of Louisiana in the United States Senate for the term of six years, beginning at noon on the 3rd day of January 2005. The votes cast: 943,014 for David Vitter (Republican); 542,150 for Chris John (Democrat); 275,821 for John Kennedy (Democrat); 47,222 for Arthur A. Morrell (Democrat); 15,097 for Richard M. Fontanes (Other); 12,463 for R.A. "Skip" Galan (Other) and 12,289 for Sam Houston Melton, Jr. (Democrat) are on file and of record in the Office of the Secretary of State of Louisiana.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the city of Baton Rouge, on this 19th day of November, 2004.

KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO,  
Governor.

STATE OF OHIO

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION

*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the 2nd day of November 2004, George V. Voinovich was duly elected by the qualified electors of the State of Ohio as the Senator from said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the third day of January, 2005.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name and caused the great seal of the State of Ohio to be hereto affixed at Columbus, Ohio, this 6th day of December, in the year of our Lord 2004.

By the Governor:

BOB TAFT,  
Governor.

STATE OF OREGON

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR SIX-YEAR TERM

*To the President of the Senate of the United States:*

This is to certify that on the 2nd day of November, 2004, Ron Wyden was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Oregon, a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States for the term of six years, beginning on the 3rd day of January, 2005.

Witness: His excellency our Governor, Theodore Kulongoski, and our seal hereto affixed at Salem, Oregon this 2nd day of December, 2004.

By the Governor,

THEODORE KULONGOSKI,  
Governor.

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE

The VICE PRESIDENT. If the Senators to be sworn will now present

themselves at the desk in groups of four as their names are called in alphabetical order, the Chair will administer the oath of office.

The clerk will read the names of the first group.

The legislative clerk called the names of Mr. BAYH, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. BOND, and Mrs. BOXER.

These Senators, escorted by Mr. LUGAR, Mr. HATCH, Mr. TALENT, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN, respectively, advanced to the desk of the Vice President; the oath prescribed by law was administered to them by the Vice President; and they severally subscribed to the oath in the Official Oath Book.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Congratulations.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The VICE PRESIDENT. The clerk will read the names of the next group of Senators.

The legislative clerk called the names of Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. BURR, and Mr. COBURN.

These Senators, escorted by Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mrs. DOLE, former Senator Helms, Mr. INHOFE, and former Senator Nickles, respectively, advanced to the desk of the Vice President; the oath prescribed by law was administered to them by the Vice President; and they severally subscribed to the oath in the Official Oath Book.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Congratulations.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The VICE PRESIDENT. The clerk will call the names of the next group of Senators.

The legislative clerk called the names of Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. DODD, and Mr. DORGAN.

These Senators, escorted by Mr. CRAIG, Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. CONRAD, respectively, advanced to the desk of the Vice President; the oath prescribed by law was administered to them by the Vice President; and they severally subscribed to the oath in the Official Oath Book.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Congratulations.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The VICE PRESIDENT. The clerk will call the names of the next group of Senators.

The legislative clerk called the names of Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GREGG, and Mr. INOUE.

These Senators, escorted by Mr. KOHL, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. SUNUNU, and Mr. AKAKA, respectively, advanced to the desk of the Vice President; the oath prescribed by law was administered to them by the Vice President; and they severally subscribed to the oath in the Official Oath Book.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Congratulations.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The VICE PRESIDENT. The clerk will call the names of the next group of Senators.

The legislative clerk called the names of Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. LINCOLN, and Mr. MARTINEZ.

These Senators, escorted by Mr. CHAMBLISS, former Senator Mattingly, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. PRYOR, former Senator Hawkins and former Senator Brock, respectively, advanced to the desk of the Vice President; the oath prescribed by law was administered to them by the Vice President; and they severally subscribed to the oath in the Official Oath Book.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Congratulations.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The VICE PRESIDENT. The clerk will call the names of the next group of Senators.

The legislative clerk called the names of Mr. MCCAIN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mrs. MURRAY.

These Senators, escorted by Mr. KYL, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. STEVENS, former Senator Murkowski, and Ms. CANTWELL, respectively, advanced to the desk of the Vice President; the oath prescribed by law was administered to them by the Vice President; and they severally subscribed to the oath in the Official Oath Book.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Congratulations.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The VICE PRESIDENT. The clerk will call the names of the next group of Senators.

The legislative clerk called the names of Mr. OBAMA, Mr. REID of Nevada, Mr. SALAZAR, and Mr. SCHUMER.

These Senators, escorted by Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ALLARD, and Mrs. CLINTON, respectively, advanced to the desk of the Vice President; the oath prescribed by law was administered to them by the Vice President; and they severally subscribed to the oath in the Official Oath Book.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Congratulations.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The VICE PRESIDENT. The clerk will call the names of the next group of Senators.

The legislative clerk called the names of Mr. SHELBY, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. VITTER.

These Senators, escorted by Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. JOHNSON, former Senator Abdnor, and Ms. LANDRIEU, respectively, advanced to the desk of the Vice President; the oath prescribed by law was administered to them by the Vice President; and they severally subscribed to the oath in the Official Oath Book.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Congratulations.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The VICE PRESIDENT. The clerk will read the names of the next group of Senators.

The legislative clerk called the names of Mr. VOINOVICH and Mr. WYDEN.

These Senators, escorted by Mr. DEWINE and Mr. SMITH, respectively, advanced to the desk of the Vice President; the oath prescribed by law was administered to them by the Vice