Read according to custom, and by appointment of Vice President Dick Cheney and designation of the Republican Leader, Mitch McConnell.

I am proud to be continuing on the Senate's most steadfast tradition today with The readiness of not having a prepared address. By doing so, I am carrying on a Tennessee tradition. It was Tennessee Senator Andrew Johnson who first introduced The petition in The Senate as a morale boosting gesture during The Civil War. Since then, Tennessee Senators Nathan Bachtan and my predecessor, Bill Frist, have also delivered The Address when read today in the Senate. These words were even more
...meaningful and impactful. I believe that Washington's understanding against political partisanship is especially true today. We are a country that has "forgotten and thought together"—and we must never "fight in the name of the elected will of the nation, the will of a party."

—Bill Frist

US Senate
2/26/07