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SALINA'S REV. HAWLEY TO OPEN TELEVISED SENATE WITH PRAYER

Washington, DC -- Rev. Bernard J. Hawley, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Salina, KS, will make history on Monday when he delivers the opening prayer at the start of the United States Senate's first televised session.

Rev. Hawley was selected by Sen. Bob Dole to offer the prayer as the Senate returns from its Memorial Day recess. The resumption of business also marks the start of regular television coverage of Senate proceedings to be broadcast by satellite throughout the country on C-SPAN, a public affairs TV network.

"The United States Senate is said to be the world's greatest deliberative body," said Sen. Dole, "and the inspiration we receive from the daily prayer helps us to be that. To be inspired by a friend and neighbor from Kansas will make the day even more special to me, and I'm pleased Rev. Hawley could help us make a little history."

Rev. Hawley has served as pastor of the Salina church since 1965. He is currently a member of the board of directors of the Presbyterian Manors of Mid-America retirement homes, and is active in numerous other church and civic affairs. Rev. Hawley and his wife, Jeanne, are the parents of four children, including astronaut Steven Hawley.

The Senate will be called to order Monday at 2:00 p.m. (EDT) by Sen. Strom Thurmond of South Carolina, president pro tempore of the Senate, who will introduce Rev. Hawley. Following the prayer, Sen. Dole, as majority leader, outlines the day's agenda to signal the start of regular business.

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Attention TV News Assignment Editors: Televised proceedings of the Senate will be available via the C-SPAN satellite Satcom 3R; transponder 19; audio subcarrier 6.8. Up to three minutes of C-SPAN transmission may be used provided the source is credited.