

The legal changes of the last decade have contributed to the flood of money in the political process. Corporate campaign donations through 501(c)s and Super PACs hit around \$140 million in 2010 from zero in 2006, according to estimates by the Center for Responsive Politics. For interest groups and wealthy individuals, the shifts have meant more direct influence in elections. For American democracy, the effect may well be disastrous.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 308—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 27, 2011, AS “DRIVE SAFER SUNDAY”

Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. PRYOR, and Mr. CHAMBLISS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 308

Whereas motor vehicle travel is the primary means of transportation in the United States;

Whereas every individual traveling on the roads and highways needs to drive in a safer manner to reduce deaths and injuries that result from motor vehicle accidents;

Whereas according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, wearing a seat belt saves more than 15,000 lives each year;

Whereas the Senate wants all people of the United States to understand the life-saving importance of wearing a seat belt and encourages motorists to drive safely, not just during the holiday season, but every time they get behind the wheel; and

Whereas the Sunday after Thanksgiving is the busiest highway traffic day of the year: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) encourages—

(A) high schools, colleges, universities, administrators, teachers, primary schools, and secondary schools to launch campus-wide educational campaigns to urge students to be focused on safety when driving;

(B) national trucking firms to alert their drivers to be especially focused on driving safely on the Sunday after Thanksgiving, and to publicize the importance of the day through use of Citizen's Band (“CB”) radios and truck stops across the Nation;

(C) clergy to remind their members to travel safely when attending services and gatherings;

(D) law enforcement personnel to remind drivers and passengers to drive safely, particularly on the Sunday after Thanksgiving; and

(E) all people of the United States to use the Sunday after Thanksgiving as an opportunity to educate themselves about highway safety; and

(2) designates November 27, 2011, as “Drive Safer Sunday”.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 921. Mr. DURBIN proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2112, making consolidated appropriations for the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Justice, Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 921. Mr. DURBIN proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2112, making consolidated appropriations for the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Justice, Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes; as follows:

Amend the title to read:

“An act making consolidated appropriations for the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Justice, Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes.”

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions will meet in open session on Tuesday, November 8, 2011, at 10 a.m. in SD-106 to conduct a hearing entitled “Beyond NCLB: Views on the Elementary and Secondary Education Reauthorization Act.”

For further information regarding this hearing, please contact the committee staff on (202) 224-5501.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Committee on Indian Affairs will meet on Thursday, November 10, 2011, at 2:15 p.m. in room 628 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a legislative hearing on S. 1192, Alaska Safe Families and Villages Act of 2011; S. 872, a bill to amend the Omnibus Indian Advancement Act to modify the date as of which certain tribal land of the Lytton Rancheria of California is considered to be held in trust and to provide for the conduct of certain activities on the land; and S. 1763, the Stand Against Violence and Empower Native Women Act (SAVE Native Women Act).

Those wishing additional information may contact the Indian Affairs Committee at (202) 224-2251.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Committee on Indian Affairs will meet on Thursday, November 17, 2011, at 2:15 p.m. in Room 628 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled “The Future of Internet Gaming: What’s at Stake for Tribes?”

Those wishing additional information may contact the Indian Affairs Committee at (202) 224-2251.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on November 1, 2011, at 2:15 p.m., to

hold an African Affairs subcommittee hearing entitled “China’s Role in Africa: Implications for U.S. Policy.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CHINA AND TERRORISM

Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Judiciary, Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on November 1, 2011, at 9:30 a.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled “Combating International Organized Crime: Evaluating Current Authorities, Tools, and Resources.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

REBUILD AMERICA JOBS ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 213, S. 1769.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] moves to proceed to S. 1769, a bill to put workers back on the job while rebuilding and modernizing America.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. I have a cloture motion at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 213, S. 1769, a bill to put workers back on the job while rebuilding and modernizing America.

Harry Reid, Amy Klobuchar, Jeff Bingaman, Bernard Sanders, Tom Udall, Daniel K. Akaka, Jon Tester, Christopher A. Coons, Mark R. Warner, Michael F. Bennet, Kent Conrad, Sheldon Whitehouse, Sherrod Brown, Claire McCaskill, Mark Begich, Ron Wyden, Benjamin L. Cardin, Frank R. Lautenberg

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I am hopeful that we will not have to have a vote on this matter. This is to protect us so if we cannot work out something we will have a vote Thursday morning. I hope we can work out something to have a vote on this most important measure. It is very important. This is a piece of legislation that the entire population of America supports by a ratio of some 76 percent. Republicans support it; Democrats support it; Independents support it. The only people in