

SEC. 601. SEVERABILITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), if any provision of this Act or amendment made by this Act, or the application of any provision or amendment to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, the holding shall not affect—

(1) the other provisions of this Act and amendments made by this Act; or

(2) the application of the provisions of this Act and amendments made by this Act to other persons and circumstances.

(b) EXCEPTION.—If any part of paragraph (20) of section 301 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (as added by section 201), or the application of any part of that paragraph to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, section 324 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (as added by section 101) shall be of no effect.

**TORRICELLI (AND JOHNSON)
AMENDMENT NO. 1307**

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. TORRICELLI (for himself and Mr. JOHNSON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by them to the bill, S. 25, supra; as follows:

At the end of the bill, add the following: "It is the sense of the Senate that if comprehensive campaign finance reform is not signed into law by the President, the President should appoint a bipartisan panel of campaign finance experts to study comprehensive campaign finance reform and propose legislation for the consideration of the 105th Congress."

TORRICELLI AMENDMENT NO. 1308

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. TORRICELLI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill, S. 25, supra; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. . DISCLOSURE OF DONOR LISTS FOR CERTAIN TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS.

Section 304 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 434) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"() REQUIRED DISCLOSURE.—An organization described in section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that is required to file a report under this Act with respect to independent expenditures shall include in such report the name and address of any contributor whose contributions to the organization during the calendar year and the preceding calendar year exceed \$5,000. The organization does not need to disclose contributors that have been disclosed in a previous report and have not made any contributions since the last disclosure."

JEFFORDS AMENDMENT NO. 1309

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. JEFFORDS submitted an amendment to an amendment proposed by Mr. LOTT to the bill, S. 25, supra; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. . REQUIREMENTS TO ENSURE EXPENDITURES OF CORPORATIONS AND EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES ARE VOLUNTARY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 316 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 441b) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(c) RESTRICTIONS ON THE REVENUES OF NATIONAL BANKS AND CORPORATIONS AND DUES

OF EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS USED FOR POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in this subsection, it shall be unlawful—

"(A) for any national bank or corporation described in this section to use for political activities any portion of any revenues or amounts received from any shareholder or employee; or

"(B) for any organization exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (other than an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of such Code) to use for political activities any portion of any dues, initiation fee, or other payment collected or assessed from any member or nonmember of such organization.

"(2) REQUIREMENTS.—

"(A) NOTICE.—Each bank, corporation, or organization described in paragraph (1) which seeks to make any disbursements for any political activities from dues, initiation fees, or other payments shall—

"(i) provide to each individual a statement of such dues, fee, or other payment before the period to which such dues, fee, or payment applies, and

"(ii) include with each such statement a written notice which includes—

"(I) a reasonable estimate of the budget for such political activities,

"(II) a detailed itemization of all amounts disbursed for political activities in the 2 previous years,

"(III) a reasonable estimate of the dollar amount of the dues, fee, or payment which is to be used for such political activities, and

"(IV) a space for the individual to check off that the individual does or does not consent to the expenditure of any portion of such dues, fee, or payment for political activities.

The period covered by any statement shall not exceed 12 months.

"(B) LIMITATION ON AMOUNT; REFUND.—A bank, corporation, or organization required to provide notice under subparagraph (A) shall—

"(i) not make disbursements for political activities for the period covered by such notice in an amount greater than the amount which bears the same ratio to the amount of such disbursements estimated in the notice as the percentage of individuals consenting to such disbursements under subparagraph (A)(ii)(III) bears to the total number of individuals making payment of such dues, fees, or other payments, and

"(ii) with respect to each individual who does not consent to such disbursements under subparagraph (A)(ii)(III), either—

"(I) not collect from the individual the percentage of the dues, fee, or other payment which was to be used for such disbursements, or

"(II) refund to the individual an amount equal to such percentage.

"(C) SPECIAL RULE.—For purposes of subparagraph (B)(i), if an individual does not provide a response under paragraph (2)(A)(ii)(IV), the individual shall be treated as not having consented to the use of any portion of such dues, fee, or payment for political activities.

"(D) AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS.—An organization required to provide notice under subparagraph (A) shall make available to any affected members and nonmembers of the organization at the organization's main office any records on which the information required under subparagraph (A) is based.

"(d) CORPORATE SHAREHOLDERS MUST CONSENT TO DISBURSEMENTS FOR POLITICAL ACTIVITIES FROM FUNDS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in this subsection, it shall be unlawful for a corporation to which this section applies to

make a disbursement to fund political activities from sources not described in subsection (c).

"(2) REQUIREMENTS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Any corporation described in paragraph (1) which seeks to make disbursements for political activities during any 12-month period from sources not described in subsection (c) shall, in advance of such period, transmit to each of its shareholders a written notice which includes—

"(i) a reasonable estimate of the budget for such political activities,

"(ii) a detailed itemization of all amounts disbursed for political activities for the previous 2 years,

"(iii) the method by which a shareholder may vote (at its annual meeting or by proxy in connection with the meeting) to approve or disapprove of such disbursements.

"(B) LIMITATION ON AMOUNT.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—A corporation required to provide notice under subparagraph (A) shall not make disbursements for political activities for the period covered by such notice in an amount greater than the amount which bears the same ratio to the amount of such disbursements estimated in the notice as the percentage of shares voted at an annual meeting to approve such disbursements bears to the total number of shares voted with respect to such issue.

"(ii) SPECIAL RULE.—If a shareholder votes by proxy with respect to 1 or more issues to be considered at an annual meeting but does not vote by proxy with respect to the issue of disbursement of funds for political activities, the shareholder shall be treated as having voted to disapprove such disbursements.

"(e) POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.—For purposes of subsections (c) and (d), the term 'political activities' means communications or other activities which involve donations to, or participation or intervention in, any political campaign or political party, including—

"(1) any activity described in subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of subsection (b)(2), and

"(2) any communication that attempts to influence legislation or public policy."

(b) DISCLOSURE OF CERTAIN EXPENDITURES.—Title III of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 431 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 301(9)(B)(iii), by striking "Federal office, except" and all that follows through the semicolon and inserting "Federal office"; and

(2) in section 316(b)(2), by inserting at the end the following flush sentence:

"Disbursements made for activities described in subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) shall be reported to the Commission in accordance with clauses (i) and (ii) of section 304(a)(4)(A)."

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect upon enactment of this Act.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be allowed to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, October 7, 1997, at 9 a.m. in SR-328A to consider the nominations of Ms. Sally Thompson to be Chief Financial Officer of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Mr. Joe Dial to be Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Tuesday, October 7, 1997, at 10 a.m. on the nominations of Terry Garcia to be Assistant Secretary of NOAA and Raymond Kammer to be Director of NIST.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND THE COMMITTEE
ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS,
JOINTLY

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, the Finance Committee Subcommittees on Social Security and Family Policy and on Health Care and the Banking Committee Subcommittee on Securities request unanimous consent to conduct a joint hearing on Tuesday, October 7, 1997, at 10 a.m. in room 215 Dirksen.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, October 7, 1997, at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. to hold hearings.

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

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Governmental Affairs Committee Special Investigation to meet on Tuesday, October 7, at 10 a.m. for a hearing on campaign financing issues.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, October 7, 1997, at 10 a.m. in room 226 of the Senate Dirksen Office Building to hold a hearing on "Vindication of Property Rights: Improving Citizens' Access to Justice."

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

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Labor and Human Resources be authorized to meet for a hearing on the Nomination of Charles Jeffress to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor [OSHA] during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, October 7, 1997, at 9:45 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs requests unanimous consent to hold a markup on the following pending legislation: S. 309, S. 464, S. 623, as amended, S. 714, as amended, S. 730, as amended, S. 801, as amended, S. 813, S. 986, as amended, S. 987, as amended, and S. 999.

The markup will be held at 3 p.m., on Tuesday, October 7, 1997, in room 418 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Water and Power of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, October 7, for purposes of conducting a subcommittee hearing which is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m. The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on S. 725, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey the Collbran Reclamation project to the Ute Water Conservancy District and the Collbran Conservancy District; S. 777, a bill to authorize the construction of the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, for the planning and construction of the water supply system, and for other purposes; H.R. 848, a bill to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act applicable to the collection of the AuSable Hydroelectric project in New York, and for other purposes; H.R. 1184, a bill to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act for the construction of the Bear Creek Hydroelectric project in the State of Washington, and for other purposes; H.R. 1217, a bill to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act for the construction of a hydroelectric project in the State of Washington, and for other purposes; S. 1230, a bill to amend the Small Reclamation Projects Act of 1956 to provide for Federal cooperation in non-Federal reclamation projects and for participation by non-Federal agencies in Federal projects; and S. 841, a bill to authorize construction of the Fort Peck Reservation Rural Water System in the State of Montana, and for other purposes.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

HIS HOLINESS ARAM I

• Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise to speak of a special event which is taking place in the State of Michigan. On October 17, 1997 until October 20, 1997, the greater metropolitan Detroit Armenian community and Michigan, welcomes His Holiness Aram I, Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia.

His Holiness has served as the spiritual leader of the Holy See of Cilicia of the Armenian Apostolic Church since 1995 and his visit to Michigan and the Armenian community is truly a blessing. Prior to his consecration as Catholicos he has served as the prelate of the Armenian community in Lebanon for 15 years. His Holiness is to be commended for his spiritual leadership not only in the Armenian Apostolic Church but also in regions of the world which face persistent unrest and violence. Through his ministry, published articles and lectures, His Holiness continues to impact lives and provide steadfast love.

The Armenian community has faced many hardships throughout its history, yet the spirit of the Armenian people and its leaders has never diminished. I am honored to recognize His Holiness for his dedication to religious understanding and the goal of peace throughout the world. May each of us be inspired to seek greater meaning in all that we do. Again, I extend my heartfelt best wishes to His Holiness as he visits Michigan.●

COMPREHENSIVE COAL ACT
REFORM ACT

• Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I rise today to add my name as a cosponsor of the Comprehensive Coal Act Reform Act of 1997, a bipartisan bill introduced by Senators COCHRAN and CONRAD just prior to the August recess. This bill seeks to alleviate inequities and unforeseeable hardships caused by the reachback tax provisions of the Coal Industry Health Benefit Act of 1992 [the Coal Act], while safeguarding the Combined Fund established under the Coal Act to ensure that retired mine workers get the health benefits they deserve.

As part of the Energy Policy Act of 1992, Congress passed a proposal to help protect health benefits of retired mine workers by allowing the trustees of the newly created Combined Fund to reach back and require former employers of retired coal miners to pay substantial assessments to the fund in order to finance such benefits. While its goals are laudable, this sweeping proposal contains some serious shortcomings. For one thing, it unfairly imposes excessive assessments on some companies, while under-assessing others.

Senators COCHRAN and CONRAD have worked for some time to develop a compromise bill that addresses some of the shortcomings in the Coal Act. This effort led to the introduction of the Comprehensive Coal Act Reform Act of 1997, S. 1105, which I think makes a number of needed changes. I applaud efforts of these Senators to find a workable and fair solution to the reachback problem. And I've added my name as a cosponsor of S. 1105 because I support the primary thrust and goals of this bill.

I do not know if the formula adopted in S. 1105 perfectly resolves the problems created by the Coal Act. Some companies will probably continue to argue that they are paying too much and that others are paying too little into the Combined Fund. Retired mine workers will undoubtedly be concerned by any bill modifying the Coal Act until it's shown that the proposal causes no harm to them.

Finally, let me be very clear about one point. My cosponsorship of this bill should not be construed by anyone as a weakening of my support for retired mine workers and their families. They