

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 1818. A bill to amend title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide grants for master teacher programs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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S. 1819. A bill to amend title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide grants for mentor teacher programs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KERRY:

S. 1820. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude national service educational awards from the recipient's gross income; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. TORRICELLI):

S. 1821. A bill to authorize the United States to recover from a third party the value of any housing, education, or medical care or treatment furnished or paid for by the United States and provided to any victim of lead poisoning; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 1822. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require that group and individual health insurance coverage and group health plans provide coverage for treatment of a minor child's congenital or developmental deformity or disorder due to trauma, infection, tumor, or disease; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DEWINE (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. ABRAHAM, and Mr. DODD):

S. 1823. A bill to revise and extend the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1994; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BREAUX (for himself and Mr. GORTON):

S. 1824. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to enhance the efficient use of spectrum by non-federal government users; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER:

S. 1825. A bill to empower telephone consumers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI:

S. 1826. A bill to provide grants to the State of Alaska for the purpose of assisting that State in fulfilling its responsibilities under sections 803, 804, and 805 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. GRAHAM:

S. 1827. A bill to provide funds to assist high-poverty school districts meet their teaching needs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MOYNIHAN (by request):

S. 1828. A bill to protect and provide resources for the Social Security System, to reserve surpluses to protect, strengthen and modernize the Medicare Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. ROTH (for himself, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. KYL, Mr. HAGEL, Mr.

SMITH of Oregon, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. HELMS):

S. Res. 208. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding United States policy toward the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the European Union, in light of the Alliance's April 1999 Washington Summit and the European Union's June 1999 Cologne Summit; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. HAGEL (for himself, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. GORTON, Mr. KERREY, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. THOMAS):

S. 1816. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide meaningful campaign finance reform through requiring better reporting, decreasing the role of soft money, and increasing individual contribution limits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

THE OPEN AND ACCOUNTABLE CAMPAIGN FINANCING ACT OF 2000

• Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, today I join several of my colleagues in introducing the "Open and Accountable Campaign Financing Act of 2000." This bill increases disclosure requirements on campaign contributions and political broadcast advertisements. It also caps "soft money" contributions to political party committees at \$60,000 and adjusts individual contribution limits for inflation. I am pleased that the following Senators have joined me today in offering this bill: SPENCER ABRAHAM (R-MI), MIKE DEWINE (R-OH), SLADE GORTON (R-WA), BOB KERREY (D-NE), MARY LANDRIEU (D-LA) and CRAIG THOMAS (R-WY).

Changing the way federal campaigns are financed is inevitable, the American people will demand it. At some point, the Senate will have a full and open debate on how best to reform our campaign finance system. I was disappointed that floor procedures prevented us from doing so last week, because several of us had intended to offer amendments to the McCain-Feingold legislation.

My colleagues and I introduce this bill today as a bipartisan alternative in what has been a very polarized debate. If we are ever to move forward on this issue, we will need to look at a variety of ways to reform the campaign finance system. This bill is a combination of ideas offered by myself and a number of my colleagues. Several specific provisions in this bill have widespread support by both Republicans and Democrats, and, I believe, can form a base from which consensus can build.

Confidence in our political system is the essence of representative government. This begins with an open and accountable campaign financing system. We need to rise above partisan, ideological and personal rivalries, and find common ground on campaign finance reform.

There are several elements that must be part of any reform of our campaign

finance system. One of the most important is increased disclosure for all who participate in the political process. We should not fear an educated and informed body politic. If individuals and organizations are going to participate in the election process, their participation must be revealed to the public.

To provide for fuller disclosure, this bill increases the financial reporting requirements for candidates and political parties. This legislation also takes the rules on broadcast ads that apply to candidates and extends them to all political broadcast ads. Under current federal regulations, when a candidate buys a political ad, the broadcaster is required to place information on the ad in a file that is open to the public. This includes a record of the times the spots are scheduled to air, the overall amount of time purchased and at what rates, and the names of the officers of the organization placing the ad. Under current federal regulations, when an interest group places a political ad with a broadcaster, it does not have to meet all of these requirements. This bill requires that interest-group ads related to any federal candidate or issue go into the broadcaster's public file. There would be no added burden on the broadcaster. The broadcaster would simply use the same form already used for candidate and party ads. Let me make clear one thing the bill does not do. It does not require organizations to identify individual donors or provide membership lists. It preserves a reasonable balance between the public's right to know which groups are attempting to influence an election, and the privacy rights of individual donors.

In addition to disclosure, we need to look at soft money contributions to national party committees. Most constitutional experts say that an outright ban on soft money would be unconstitutional. But this unaccountable, unlimited flood of soft money cascading over America's politics must be stopped. We need to find a middle ground between the extremes of banning soft money and leaving it unrestricted. This bill limits soft money contributions to national party committees to \$60,000. This is not a ban on financial support of parties. It is a return to the original intent of the campaign finance reforms of the 1970s, which worked well until they were exploited and abused.

We also need to increase the ability of individuals to participate in the most accountable method of campaign financing. This bill adjusts and indexes contributions to inflation and indexes them for further years. For an individual, contribution limits would increase from \$1,000 to \$3,000 per candidate, per election. I've heard the argument that raising these limits would give the wealthy too much influence and access. If we cap or eliminate soft money and do not adjust the hard-money limits, we will chase more money into the black hole of third-party ads, where the public cannot