

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements related thereto be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Con. Res. 148) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. CON. RES. 148

Whereas bread is a gift of friendship in the United States;

Whereas bread is used as a symbol of unity for families and friends;

Whereas the expression "breaking bread together" means sharing friendship, peace, and goodwill, and the actual breaking of bread together can help restore a sense of normalcy and encourage a sense of community;

Whereas bread, the staff of life, not only nourishes the body but symbolizes nourishment for the human spirit;

Whereas bread is used in many cultures to commemorate milestones such as births, weddings, and deaths;

Whereas bread is the most consumed of grain foods, is recognized by the Department of Agriculture as part of the most important food group, and plays a vital role in American diets;

Whereas Americans consume an average of 60 pounds of bread annually;

Whereas bread has been a staple of American diets for hundreds of years;

Whereas Americans are demonstrating a new interest in artisan and home-style types of breads, increasingly found in cafes, bakeries, restaurants, and homes across the country;

Whereas bread sustained the Pilgrims during their long ocean voyage to America and was used to celebrate their first harvest in the American wilderness; and

Whereas bread remains an important part of the family meal when Americans celebrate Thanksgiving, and the designation of November 2002 as National Bread Month would recognize the significance of bread in American history, culture, and daily diet: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that the President should issue a proclamation—

(1) designating November 2002 as National Bread Month in recognition of the significance of bread in American history, culture, and daily diet; and

(2) calling on the people of the United States to observe such month with appropriate programs and activities.

CONDEMNING THE POSTING ON THE INTERNET OF VIDEO AND PICTURES OF THE MURDER OF DANIEL PEARL

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate immediately proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 351.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will state the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 351) condemning the posting on the Internet of video and pictures of the murder of Daniel Pearl and calling on such video and pictures to be removed immediately.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and preamble be agreed to en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements related thereto be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 351) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 351

Whereas Daniel Pearl, a reporter for the Wall Street Journal, was murdered by terrorists following his abduction in Pakistan on January 23, 2002;

Whereas video of Mr. Pearl's gruesome murder has been posted on web sites;

Whereas this video was made by terrorists for anti-American propaganda purposes, in an attempt to recruit new terrorists and to spread a message of hate;

Whereas posting this video on web sites undermines efforts to fight terrorism throughout the world by glorifying such heinous acts;

Whereas posting this video on web sites could invite more abductions and more murders of innocent civilians by anti-American terrorists because of the attention these heinous acts might gain from such posting; and

Whereas posting this video on the Internet shows a complete and utter disrespect for Mr. Pearl's life and legacy and a complete and utter disregard for the respect of his family: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) calls on all terrorist-produced murder video and pictures to be removed from all web sites immediately; and

(2) encourages all web-site operators to refrain from placing any terrorist-produced murder videos and pictures on the Internet.

AMENDING SECTION 527 OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate immediately proceed to the consideration of H.R. 5596.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will state the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5596) to amend section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to eliminate notification and return requirements for State and local party committees and candidate committees and avoid duplicate reporting by certain State and local political committees of information required to be reported and made publicly available under State law, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I am very pleased that the Senate today is passing H.R. 5596, a compromise bill aimed at improving disclosure by Section 527 political organizations and relieving certain 527 organizations from arguably duplicative filing requirements. I want to thank my colleague, Senator HUTCHISON, as well as our colleagues in the House, for working steadfastly with us to draft this bill in a manner that achieves its purpose, but

does not open any loopholes in the original section 527 reform law.

In June 2000, Congress passed the first significant campaign finance reform measure in a quarter of a century. The so-called Section 527 reform bill dealt with a truly troubling development, one whereby organizations that received tax-exempt status by telling the IRS that they exist to influence elections denied the very same thing to the FEC. As a result, these self-proclaimed election organizations engaged in election activity without complying with any aspect of the election laws, influencing our elections without the American public having any idea who—or what—was behind them.

The 527 reform law enacted in 200 put a stop to that, by requiring organizations claiming tax-exempt status under Section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code to do three things: (1) give notice of their intent to claim that status; (2) disclose information about their large contributors and their big expenditures; and (3) file annual informational returns along the lines of those filed by virtually all other tax-exempt organizations.

During the approximately two years that the 527 reform law has been in effect, that law has blasted sunshine onto the previously shadowy operations of a multitude of election-related organizations. Through the filings Section 527 now mandates, the American public has learned a great deal about who is financing many of these organizations and how these organizations are spending their money. As outlined in report issued earlier this year by the group Public Citizen, the 527 reform law brought us the knowledge that 25 of the largest 527s raised over \$67 million between July 2000 and December 2001, and that they spent it on a plethora of campaign activities—most significantly those pre-election issue ads that we all know so well and that are often indistinguishable from candidate ads. We've also learned from these IRS filings the specifics about who was trying to influence particular elections and where their money came from. Were it not for the 527 disclosure law, we probably wouldn't have any of this information, and we probably would have had a lot more shadowy groups operating in the election system—ones that slithered away on their own because they didn't want to face the disinfectant of sunshine.

These filings will become all the more important come this November, when the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act—the McCain-Feingold bill—goes into effect. As we all know, at least some of the soft money donors who will no longer be able to give to political parties will be looking for other ways to influence our elections. Donations to 527 groups will probably top many of their lists, because these are the only tax-exempt groups that can do as much election work as they want without jeopardizing their tax status. With the