June 17, 1998

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD – HOUSE

Security and Military/Commercial Concerns with the People’s Republic of China, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 4 o’clock and 38 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

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AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. Ney) at 4 o’clock and 38 minutes p.m.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday United Airlines Flight 200, the 8 a.m. flight from San Francisco, took off 2 hours late. All the passengers were delayed 2 hours. I missed 2 rollocals votes as a consequence and would ask the RECORD to show had I been present I would have voted yes on Rollcall 232 and 233.

☐ 1638

BIPARTISAN CAMPAIGN INTEGRITY ACT OF 1997

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. Ney). Pursuant to House Resolution 442 and rule XXIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 2183.

☐ 1639

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2183) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to reform the financing of campaigns for elections for Federal office, and for other purposes, with Mr. PEASE (Chairman pro tempore) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The CHAIRMAN pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). When the Committee of the Whole House rose on Friday, May 22, 1998, all time for general debate had expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 442, the bill is considered read for amendment under the 5-minute rule.

The text of H.R. 2183 is as follows:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Bipartisan Campaign Integrity Act of 1997”.

TITLE I—SOFTWARE MONEY AND CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES OF POLITICAL PARTIES

SEC. 101. BAN ON SOFTWARE MONEY OF NATIONAL POLITICAL PARTIES AND CANDIDATES.

Title III of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 431 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“BAN ON USE OF SOFTWARE MONEY BY NATIONAL POLITICAL PARTIES AND CANDIDATES

Sec. 323. (a) NATIONAL PARTIES.—A national committee of a political party, including the national congressional campaign committees of a political party, and any officers or agents of such party committees, may not solicit, receive, direct any contributions, donations, sums of funds, or spend any funds, which are not subject to the limitations, prohibitions, and reporting requirements of this Act.

(b) NATIONAL COMMITTEES.—The national congressional campaign committees of a political party, and any officers or agents of such party committees, may not solicit, receive, direct any contributions, donations, sums of funds, or spend any funds, which are not subject to the limitations, prohibitions, and reporting requirements of this Act.

(c) CANDIDATES.—(1) CANDIDATES.—A candidate for Federal office, individual holding Federal office, or any agent of such candidate or officeholder may solicit, receive, or direct—

(A) any funds in connection with any Federal election unless such funds are subject to the limitations, prohibitions, and reporting requirements of this Act;

(B) any funds on behalf of any person with respect to elections for a non-Federal office unless such funds are not in excess of the amounts permitted with respect to contributions to Federal candidates and political committees under section 315(a)(1) and (2), and are not from prohibited sources (as provided in making contributions by this Act with respect to elections for Federal office);

(C) any funds on behalf of any person which are not subject to the limitations, prohibitions, and reporting requirements of this Act if such funds are for the purpose of financing any activity on behalf of a candidate for election for Federal office or any communication which refers to a clearly identified candidate for election for Federal office.

(2) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN ACTIVITIES.—

Paragraph (1) shall not apply—

(A) the amounts expended for funds by an individual who is a candidate for a non-Federal office if such activity is permitted under State law (or Federal law) for such individual’s non-Federal campaign committee; or

(B) the attendance by an individual who holds Federal office at a fundraising event for a State or local committee of a political party of the State in which the individual represents as a Federal officeholder, if the event is held in such State.

(c) PROHIBITING TRANSFERS OF NON-FEDERAL FUNDS BETWEEN STATE PARTIES.—A State committee of a political party may not transfer any funds to a State committee of a political party of another State unless—

(1) the transfers are in connection with any election for other than a Federal office unless such funds are not in excess of the amounts permitted with respect to contributions to Federal candidates and political committees under section 315(a)(1) and (2), and are not from prohibited sources (as provided in making contributions by this Act with respect to elections for Federal office); or

(2) such funds are for the purpose of financing any activity on behalf of a candidate for election for Federal office or any communication which would be described in section (c)(1) if such funds were not subject to the limitations, prohibitions, and reporting requirements of this Act.

(d) APPLICABILITY TO FUNDS FROM ALL SOURCES.—This section shall apply with respect to funds of any individual, corporation, labor organization, or other person.”.

Sec. 102. INCREASE IN AGGREGATE ANNUAL LIMIT ON CONTRIBUTIONS BY INDIVIDUALS TO POLITICAL PARTIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The first sentence of section 315 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 441a(3)) is amended by striking “$2,000” and inserting “$25,000”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 315(a)(1)(B) of such Act (2 U.S.C. 441a(a)(1)(B)) is amended by striking “$20,000” and inserting “$100,000”.

Sec. 103. REPEAL OF LIMITATIONS ON AMOUNTS OF COORDINATED EXPENDITURES BY POLITICAL PARTIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 315 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 441a(3)) is amended by striking paragraphs (2) and (3).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 315(d)(3) of such Act (2 U.S.C. 441a(3)(d)) is amended—

(1) by striking “(d)” and inserting “(d)”; and

(2) by striking “, subject to the limitations contained in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection”.

TITLE II—INDEXED CONTRIBUTION LIMITS

Sec. 201. INDEXED CONTRIBUTION LIMITS.

Section 315(c) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 441a(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3)(A) The amount of each limitation established under subsection (a) shall be adjusted as follows:

(i) For calendar year 1999, each such amount shall be equal to $75,000 (as adjusted under this subparagraph), increased (in a compounded manner) by the percentage increase in the price index (as defined in section (c)(2)) for each of the years 1997 through 1998.

(ii) For calendar year 2000, and each fourth subsequent year, each such amount shall be equal to $150,000 (as adjusted under this subparagraph), increased (in a compounded manner) by the percentage increase in the price index for each of the four years.

(iii) In the case of any amount adjusted under this subparagraph which is not a multiple of $100, the amount shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of $100.

TITLE III—EXPANDING DISCLOSURE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE INFORMATION

Sec. 301. DISCLOSURE OF CERTAIN COMMUNICATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Any person who expends an aggregate amount of funds during a calendar year in excess of $25,000 for communications described in subsection (b) relating to a single candidate for election for Federal office (or an aggregate amount of funds during a calendar year in excess of $100,000 for all such communications relating to all such candidates) shall file a report describing the amount expended for such communications, together with the person’s address and phone number and, if appropriate, the address and phone number of the person’s principal officer.

(b) COMMUNICATIONS DESCRIBED.—A communication described in this subsection is any communication which is broadcast to the general public through radio or television, or which mentions or includes (by name, representation, or likeness) any candidate for election for Senator or for Representative in (or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to) the Congress, other than any communication which would be described in clause (i), (iii), or (v) of section 301(b)(9) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 if the communication were an expenditure under such section.

(c) DEADLINE FOR FILING.—A person shall file a report required under subsection (a) together with the person’s address and phone number not later than 7 days after the person first expends the applicable amount of funds described in such subsection, except that in the