the privacy and civil liberty protections provided to a person who sends or receives sealed mail. In fact, the President’s signing statement appears to do nothing more than restate current law, but by the mere act of issuing the signing statement, unfortunately, the administration raised questions about what, in fact, is their intent.

Under current law, mail sealed against inspection is entitled to the strongest possible protections against physical searches, the protections afforded by our Constitution which guard against unreasonable searches. With only limited exceptions, the Government needs a warrant issued by a court before it can search sealed mail. This is true whether the search is conducted under our Criminal Code to obtain evidence of a crime or under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, FISA, of 1978 to collect foreign intelligence information concerning a national security threat. Only when there is an immediate danger to life or limb or an imminent substantial danger to property can the Government search a domestic sealed letter or package without a warrant. Let me give a couple of examples. That could occur when there are wires protruding from a package, for example, or odors escaping from an envelope or stains on the outside of a package indicating that the contents may constitute an immediate danger or threat.

Americans depend on the U.S. Postal Service to transact business and to communicate with friends and family, and if there is any doubt in the public’s mind that the Government is not protecting the constitutional privacy accorded their mail, if there is suspicion that the Government is unlawfully opening mail, then our Nation’s confidence in the sanctity of our mail system and, indeed, in our Government will be eroded. That is precisely why I am joining with my colleagues in submitting this resolution today. It makes clear to all law-abiding Americans that the Federal Government will not invade their privacy by reading their sealed mail absent a court order or emergency circumstances. Any contrary interpretation of the Postal Reform Act is just plain wrong.

I invite my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring this resolution which reaffirms the constitutional and statutory protections accorded to domestic sealed mail. I say to the Presiding Officer, the chairman of the committee with jurisdiction over this matter, that I hope we can act very quickly and get this resolution approved by the full Senate. I believe it is important that we get something done today to assure the American people that those protections which they value so much are still in place and have not been altered, given the doubt that the President’s signing statement created.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 9. Mr. VITTER (for himself and Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3 proposed by Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. LIBERMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. SALAZAR, and Mr. DURBIN) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 21. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, supra, which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 9. Mr. VITTER (for himself and Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3 proposed by Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. LIBERMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. SALAZAR, and Mr. DURBIN) to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 21. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, supra, which was ordered to lie on the table.
in the report (and the name of any Member who submitted a request to the committee for each respective item included in such list) or a statement that the proposition contains no congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits; 

(b) a bill or joint resolution not reported by a committee unless the chairman of each committee of jurisdiction has published a list of congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, and limited tariff benefits in the bill (and the name of any Member who submitted a request to the committee for each respective item included in such list) or a statement that the proposition contains no congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits to be printed in the Congressional Record prior to its consideration; or 

(c) a conference report to accompany a bill or joint resolution unless the joint explanatory statement prepared by the managers on the part of the House and the managers on the part of the Senate includes a list of congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, and limited tariff benefits in the conference report or joint statement (and the name of any Member, Delegate, Resident Commissioner, or Senator proposing or recommending a specific amount of discretionary budget authority, credit authority, or other spending authority for a contract, loan, loan guarantee, or any other expenditure with or to an entity, targeted to a specific State, locality or Congressional district, other than through a statutory or administrative formula-driven or competitive award process; 

(2) For the purpose of this rule—

(a) the term ‘congressional earmark’ means a provision or report language included primarily at the request of a Member, Delegate, Resident Commissioner, or Senator proposing or recommending a specific amount of discretionary budget authority, credit authority, or other spending authority for a contract, loan, loan guarantee, or any other expenditure with or to an entity, targeted to a specific State, locality or Congressional district, other than through a statutory or administrative formula-driven or competitive award process; 

(b) the term ‘limited tax benefit’ means— 

(1) any revenue-losing provision that— 

(A) is a Federal tax deduction, credit, exclusion, or preference to 10 or fewer beneficiaries under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and 

(B) contains eligibility criteria that are not uniform in application with respect to potential beneficiaries of such provision; or 

(2) any Federal tax provision which provides one beneficiary temporary or permanent transition relief from a change to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and 

(c) the term ‘limited tariff benefit’ means a provision modifying the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States in a manner that benefits 10 or fewer entities. 

3. A Member may not condition the inclusion of funds to provide funding for a congressional earmark, a limited tax benefit, or a limited tariff benefit in any bill or joint resolution (or an accompanying report) or in any conference report on a bill or joint resolution (including an accompanying joint explanatory statement of managers) on any vote cast by another Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner. 

4. (a) A Member who requests a congressional earmark, a limited tax benefit, or a limited tariff benefit in any bill or joint resolution (or an accompanying report) or in any conference report on a bill or joint resolution (or an accompanying joint explanatory statement of managers) shall provide a written statement to the chairman and ranking member of the committee of jurisdiction, including— 

(1) the name of the Member; 

(2) in the case of a congressional earmark, the name and address of the intended recipient or, if there is no specifically intended recipient, the intended location of the activity; 

(3) in the case of a limited tax or tariff benefit, identification of the individual or entities reasonably anticipated to benefit, to the extent known to the Member; 

(4) the purpose of such congressional earmark or limited tax or tariff benefit; and 

(5) a certification that the Member or spouse has no financial interest in such congressional earmark or limited tax or tariff benefit. 

(b) Each committee shall maintain the written statements transmitted under subparagraph (a). The written statements transmitted under subparagraph (a) for any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits included in such list shall be published in a searchable format on the committee’s or subcommittee’s website not later than 48 hours after receipt on such information. 

SA 12. Mr. DE MINT (for himself and Mr. OBAMA) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 3 proposed by Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. MCDONNELL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. SALAZAR, and Mr. DURBIN) to the bill S. 1, to provide greater transparency in the legislative process; as follows:

SEC. 2. EARMARKS OUT OF SCOPE. 

Any earmark that was not committed to conference by either the House of Representatives or the Senate in their disagreeing reports on the measure shall be considered out of scope under rule XXVIII of the Standing Rules of the Senate and section 102 of this Act if contained in a conference report on that measure. 

SA 13. Mr. DE MINT proposed an amendment to amendment SA 3 proposed by Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. MCDONNELL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. SALAZAR, and Mr. DURBIN) to the bill S. 1, to provide greater transparency in the legislative process; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. 3. AMENDMENT TO TITLE 31. 

(a) In General.—Chapter 13 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 1301 the following new section: 

"§ 1311. Continuing appropriations 

(1) If any regular appropriation bill for a fiscal year (or, if applicable, for each fiscal year in a biennium) does not become law before the beginning of such fiscal year or a joint resolution making continuing appropriations for such fiscal year becomes law (whether or not such law provides for such project or activity) or a continuing resolution making appropriations becomes law, as the case may be, the upper of the following two versions shall be in effect: 

(A) the rate of operations provided for in the regular appropriation Act providing for such fiscal year; or 

(B) the last day of such fiscal year. 

(b) An appropriation or funds made available, and authority granted, for any project or activity for any fiscal year pursuant to this section shall be subject to the terms and conditions imposed with respect to the appropriation made or funds made available for the preceding fiscal year, or authority granted for such project or activity under current law.

(c) Appropriations and funds made available, and authority granted, for any project or activity for any fiscal year pursuant to this section shall cover all obligations or expenditures incurred by the activity during the period of such fiscal year for which this section applies to such project or activity. 

(c) Expenditures made for a project or activity for any fiscal year pursuant to this section shall be charged to the applicable appropriation, fund, or authorization whenever a regular appropriation bill or a joint resolution making continuing appropriations until the end of a fiscal year providing for such project or activity for such period becomes law. 

(d) This section shall not apply to a project or activity during a fiscal year if any regular appropriation bill or joint resolution making continuing appropriations for such fiscal year becomes law (whether or not such law provides for such project or activity) or a continuing resolution making appropriations becomes law, as the case may be, in excess of the lower of— 

(A) the rate of operations provided for in the regular appropriation Act providing for such fiscal year; or 

(B) the last day of such fiscal year. 

(e) This section shall not apply to a project or activity during a fiscal year if any regular appropriation bill or joint resolution making continuing appropriations for such fiscal year becomes law (whether or not such law provides for such project or activity) or a continuing resolution making appropriations becomes law, as the case may be, in excess of the lower of— 

(A) the rate of operations provided for in the regular appropriation Act providing for such fiscal year; or 

(B) the last day of such fiscal year. 

(f) For purposes of this section, the term ‘regular appropriation bill’ means any appropriation bill or joint resolution making continuing appropriations for such preceding fiscal year.

(g) Appropriations and funds made available, and authority granted, for any project or activity for any fiscal year pursuant to this section shall be at a rate of operations not in excess of the lower of— 

(A) the rate of operations provided for in the regular appropriation Act providing for such project or activity for the preceding fiscal year; or 

(B) the last day of such fiscal year. 

(h) The annualized rate of operations provided for in the most recent joint resolution making continuing appropriations for part of that fiscal year or any funding levels established under the provisions of this Act. 

(i) Appropriations and funds made available, and authority granted, for any fiscal year pursuant to this section shall cover all obligations or expenditures incurred by the activity during the period of such fiscal year for which this section applies to such project or activity. 

(j) Expenditures made for a project or activity for any fiscal year pursuant to this section shall be charged to the applicable appropriation, fund, or authorization whenever a regular appropriation bill or a joint resolution making continuing appropriations until the end of a fiscal year providing for such project or activity for such period becomes law. 

(k) Appropriations and funds made available, and authority granted, for any project or activity for any fiscal year pursuant to this section shall be subject to the terms and conditions imposed with respect to the appropriation made or funds made available for the preceding fiscal year, or authority granted for such project or activity under current law. 

(l) Appropriations and funds made available, and authority granted, for any project or activity for any fiscal year pursuant to this section shall cover all obligations or expenditures incurred by the activity during the period of such fiscal year for which this section applies to such project or activity.
granting authority, for any of the following categories of projects and activities:

“(1) Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies.


“(3) Defense.

“(4) Energy and Water Development.

“(5) Financial Services and General Government.


“(7) Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies.

“(8) Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies.

“(9) Legislative Branch.

“(10) Military Construction, Veterans’ Affairs, and Related Agencies.

“(11) State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs.

“(12) Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies.”.

(b) Clerical Amendment.—The analysis of chapter 13 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1310 the following new item:

“1311. Continuing appropriations”.

SA 14. Mr. DeMint proposed an amendment to amendment SA 3 proposed by Mr. Reid (for himself, Mr. McConnell, Mrs. Feinstein, Mr. Bennett, Ms. Collins, Mr. Obama, Mr. Salazar, and Mr. Durbin) to the bill S. 1, to provide greater transparency in the legislative process; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. 1021. EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION OF CEREMONIAL OR TARGETED TAX BENEFITS.

Title III of the Labor Management Relations Act, 1947 (29 U.S.C. 185 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(1)''; and

(b) Clerical Amendment.—The analysis of chapter 13 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding after the item relating to section 1310 the following new item:

“1311. Continuing appropriations”.

SA 15. Mr. Salazar (for himself, Mr. Obama) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3 proposed by Mr. Reid (for himself, Mr. McConnell, Mrs. Feinstein, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Lieberman, Ms. Collins, Mr. Obama, Mr. Salazar, and Mr. Durbin) to the bill S. 1, to provide greater transparency in the legislative process; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. 304. PROTECTION OF WORKER’S POLITICAL RIGHTS.

Title III of the Labor Management Relations Act, 1947 (29 U.S.C. 185 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

SEC. 304. PROTECTION OF WORKER’S POLITICAL RIGHTS.

“(a) Prohibition.—Except with the separate, prior, written, voluntary authorization of an individual, it shall be unlawful for any labor organization to collect from or assess its members or nonmembers any dues, initiation fee, or other payment if any part of such dues, fee, or payment will be used to lobby members of Congress or Congressional staff for the purpose of influencing legislation.

“(b) Authorization.—An authorization described in subsection (a) shall remain in effect until revoked and may be revoked at any time.”.

SA 16. Mr. Stevens proposed an amendment to amendment SA 4 proposed by Mr. Reid (for himself, Mr. Durbin, Mr. Salazar, and Mr. Obama) to the amendment SA 3 proposed by Mr. Reid (for himself, Mr. McConnell, Mrs. Feinstein, Mr. Bennett, Ms. Collins, Mr. Obama, Mr. Salazar, and Mr. Durbin) to the bill S. 1, to provide greater transparency in the legislative process; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

TITLE III. LOOK AT WASTEFUL SPENDING ACT OF 2007

SEC. 301. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Second Look at Wasteful Spending Act of 2007.”

SEC. 302. LEGISLATIVE LINE ITEM VETO.

(a) In General.—Title X of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 621 et seq.) is amended by inserting at the end the following:

“PART C—LEGISLATIVE LINE ITEM VETO

SEC. 1021. EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN PROPOSED RESCISIONS.

“(a) Proposed Rescissions.—The President may send a special message, at the time and in the manner provided in subsection (b), that proposes to rescind dollar amounts of discretionary budget authority, items of direct spending, and targeted tax benefits.

“(b) Transmittal of Special Message.—

“(1) Special Message.—

“(A) In General.—(i) Four Messages.—The President may transmit to Congress not to exceed 4 special messages per calendar year, proposing to rescind dollar amounts of discretionary budget authority, items of direct spending, and targeted tax benefits.

“(ii) Time of Transmission.—The special message shall specify, with respect to dollar amounts of discretionary budget authority, items of direct spending, and targeted tax benefits proposed to be rescinded—

“(I) the dollar amount of discretionary budget authority available and proposed for rescission from accounts, departments, or related agencies; and

“(II) the dollar amounts of the reduction in outlays that would result from the enactment of such rescission of discretionary budget authority for the time periods set forth in clause (iii); and

“(III) in the case of any rescission of discretionary budget authority proposed to be rescinded, estimated as of the date the special message is transmitted under clause (i)—

“(A) the specific items of direct spending and targeted tax benefits proposed for rescission; and

“(B) the dollar amounts of the reduction in outlays that would result from the enactment of each rescission of discretionary budget authority for the time periods set forth in clause (iii).

“(ii) Timely.—Special messages may be transmitted under clause (i)—

“(I) with the President’s budget submitted pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code; and

“(II) 3 other times as determined by the President.

“(iii) Limitations.—

“(1) In general.—Special messages shall be submitted within a calendar year of the date of enactment of any dollar amount of discretionary budget authority, items of direct spending, or targeted tax benefit the President proposes to rescind pursuant to this Act.

“(2) Resubmittal Rejected.—If Congress rejects a bill introduced under this part, the President may not resubmit any of the dollar amounts of discretionary budget authority, items of direct spending, or targeted tax benefits in that bill under this part, or part B with respect to dollar amounts of discretionary budget authority.

“(B) Contents of Special Message.—Each special message shall specify, with respect to the dollar amount of discretionary budget authority, items of direct spending, or targeted tax benefit proposed to be rescinded—

“(i) the dollar amount of discretionary budget authority available and proposed for rescission from accounts, departments, or related agencies; and

“(ii) the specific items of direct spending and targeted tax benefits in that bill under this part, or part B with respect to dollar amounts of discretionary budget authority.

“(C) Adjournment sine die.—If Congress does not complete action on a bill introduced under this part because Congress adjourns sine die, the President may resubmit some or all of the dollar amounts of discretionary budget authority, items of direct spending, and targeted tax benefits in that bill in not more than 1 subsequent special message under this part, or part B with respect to dollar amounts of discretionary budget authority.

“(D) Contents of Special Message.—Each special message shall specify, with respect to the dollar amount of discretionary budget authority, items of direct spending, and targeted tax benefits proposed for rescission from accounts, departments, or related agencies; and

“(E) Adjournment sine die.—If Congress does not complete action on a bill introduced under this part because Congress adjourns sine die, the President may rescind—

“(i) the dollar amount of discretionary budget authority available and proposed for rescission from accounts, departments, or related agencies; and

“(ii) the specific items of direct spending and targeted tax benefits in that bill for the time periods set forth in clause (iii); and

“(iii) the budgetary effects of proposals for rescission estimated as of the date the President submits the special message, relative to the most recent levels calculated consistent with the methodology described in section 257 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 and included with a budget submission under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, for the time periods of—

“(I) the fiscal year in which the proposal is submitted; and

“(II) each of the 10 following fiscal years beginning with the fiscal year after the fiscal year in which the proposal is submitted;

“(iv) any account, department, or establishment of the Government to which such dollar amount of discretionary budget authority or item of direct spending is available for obligation, and the specific project or governmental function involved;

“(v) the reasons why such dollar amount of discretionary budget authority or item of direct spending or targeted tax benefit should be rescinded;

“(vi) the estimated fiscal and economic impacts, of the proposed rescission;

“(vii) to the maximum extent practicable, all facts, circumstances, and considerations

January 10, 2007

Congressional Record — Senate

S397
S398

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE

January 10, 2007

relating to or bearing upon the proposed re-

scission and the decision to effect the pro-

posed rescission, and the estimated effect of

the proposed rescission upon the objects, pur-

poses, and authorities for which the budget

authority or items of direct spending or tar-

geted tax benefits are provided; and

(viii) a draft bill that, if enacted, would

rescind dollar amounts of discretionary bud-

get authority, items of direct spending, and

targeted tax benefits—

(i) the Director of the Congressional Bud-

get Office shall certify that the savings in bud-

get authority or outlays resulting from such

proposed rescission and shall include in its

estimate, an analysis prepared by the Joint

Committee on Taxation related to targeted tax

benefits; and

(ii) the Director of the Joint Committee on

Taxation shall prepare an estimate of the

budgetary effects of the rescissions in that

special message, an analysis prepared by the

Joint Committee on Taxation of the savings

in budget authority or outlays resulting from

such proposed rescission and shall include in

its estimate, an analysis prepared by the Joint

Committee on Taxation related to targeted tax

benefits.

(B) METHODOLOGY.—The estimates re-

quired under subparagraphs (A) shall be made

relative to the most recent levels calculated

consistent with the methodology used to cal-

culate the projections contained in the

Balanced Budget and Emergency Control Act

of 1985 and included with a budget submis-

sion under section 1105(a) of title 31, United

States Code, and transmitted to the chair-

man of the Committees on the Budget of the

House of Representatives and Senate.

(3) ENACTMENT OF RESCISISON BILL.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Upon the receipt of a

special message under this part proposing to

rescind dollar amounts of discretionary bud-

get authority, items of direct spending, and

targeted tax benefits—

(i) the committee shall be divided equally

between those favoring and those oppo-

sing the bill. A motion to reconsider the vote

shall be decided without debate.

(B) LIMITS ON DEBATE.—Debate in the

Senate on a bill under this subsection, and

all debatable motions and appeals in connec-

tion therewith, shall not exceed a total of 10

hours, equally divided and controlled in the

usual form.

(C) FINISHING PROCEEDINGS.—If the

Senate votes on this subsection, and the vote

on the same motion made in the House of

Representatives is disagreed to, it shall be

in order in the Senate to move to reconsider

the vote by which the motion to agree or dis-

agree to it is agreed to or disagreed to.

(D) APPLICATION OF HOUSE RULES.—

Except as otherwise provided in this part, the

application of the House Rules to any bill

introduced pursuant to the provisions of this

part under a suspension of the rules or under

a special rule shall be in order.

(2) CONSIDERATION IN THE HOUSE OF

REPRESENTATIVES.—

(A) MOTION TO PROCEED TO CONSIDER-

ATION.—A motion to proceed to the consider-

ation of a bill under this subsection in the

House shall be considered, and the vote under

paragraph (1)(C) shall occur on, the House

company bill.

(B) PROCEDURE AFTER VOTE ON SENATE

BILLS.—If the Senate votes, pursuant to para-

graph (1)(C), on the bill introduced in the

Senate, the Senate bill shall be held pending

the passage of the House bill. Upon receipt

of the House companion bill, the Senate bill

shall be deemed to be considered, read for the

time, and the vote on passage of the Senate

bill shall be considered to be the vote on the

bill received from the House.

(C) TEMPORARY PRESIDENTIAL AUTHORITY

TO WITHHOLD.—

(1) AVAILABILITY.—The President may not

withhold budget authority until the President

transmits and Congress receives a special message

move to reconsider the vote by which the bill

is agreed to or disagreed to.

(C) APPEALS.—Appeals from decisions of

the chair relating to the application of the

rules to a bill under this subsection shall be

considered under this part, and the vote on

the application of this subsection shall be in

order.

(D) COMMITTEE REPORTS.—Except as

otherwise provided in this part, the applica-

tion of the rules to any report of a committee

under a special rule shall be considered, and

the vote under paragraph (1)(C) shall occur on,

the committee report.
pursuant to subsection (b). Upon receipt by Congress of a special message pursuant to subsection (b), the President may direct that any dollar amount of discretionary budget authority on the list be rescinded and the President determines that the special message shall be withheld from obligation for a period not to exceed 45 calendar days from the date of receipt by Congress.

"(1) TEMPORARY PRESIDENTIAL AUTHORITY To Recind or Rescind.—(A) IN GENERAL.—The President may not suspend the execution of any item of direct spending or targeted tax benefit proposed to be rescinded in that special message in a law or included in the statement of managers or the governing committee report accompanying such law; or

"(B) LIMITATION ON 45-DAY PERIOD.—The 45-day period described in subparagraph (A) shall begin on the date the special message is transmitted to the President and the beginning date of the period calculated under subparagraph (B) shall be the date that is 45 days after the date of enactment, the ending date of the period and the ending date shall be the date that is the later of—

"(i) the date that is 45 days after enactment; or

"(ii) the date that Congress receives the special message.

"(C) CLARIFICATION.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (B), in the case of an item of direct spending or targeted tax benefit with an effective date that is 45 days or more after the date of enactment, the beginning date of the period calculated under subparagraph (B) shall be the date that is 45 days after the date of enactment and the ending date shall be the date that is later of—

"(i) the date that is 45 days after enactment; or

"(ii) the date that Congress receives the special message.

"(2) EARLY AVAILABILITY.—The President may terminate the suspension of any item of direct spending or targeted tax benefit from execution in whole or in part before the date of enactment. In the case of a law enacted after the effective date of the Second Look at Wasteful Spending Act of 2007 that is estimated to result in mandatory spending provided in appropriation laws, the President may direct that such mandatory spending provided in appropriation Acts, and entitlement authority.

"(B) IN GENERAL.—The President may not suspend the execution of any dollar amount of discretionary budget authority, item of direct spending or targeted tax benefit, to repeal a provision of law that provides a specific dollar amount of discretionary budget authority or an obligation limitation is provided in an appropriation law.

"(C) DEFEND AN ITEM.—The term 'defend an item' means—

"(i) a dollar amount of discretionary budget authority, to prevent the specific legal obligation, entitlement, or obligation limitation from being rescinded; or

"(ii) an item of direct spending or targeted tax benefit, to prevent the specific provision of law that provides an entitlement or obligation limitation from being rescinded.

"(D) IN THE SITUATION OF AN EARLY AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—The term 'early availability of funds' means the dollar amount of budget authority, item of direct spending or targeted tax benefit, to prevent the specific provision of law that provides a specific dollar amount of discretionary budget authority or an obligation limitation is provided in an appropriation law.

"(5) DIRECT SPENDING.—The term 'direct spending' means budget authority provided by law (other than an appropriation law), mandatory spending provided in appropriation Acts, and entitlement authority.

"(6) DIRECT SPENDING.—The term 'direct spending' means budget authority provided by law (other than an appropriation law), mandatory spending provided in appropriation Acts, and entitlement authority.

"(7) ITEM OF DIRECT SPENDING.—The term 'item of direct spending' means any dollar amount of direct spending or targeted tax benefit proposed to be rescinded in that special message in a law or included in the statement of managers or the governing committee report accompanying such law; or

"(B) LIMITED GROUP OF TAXPayers.—The term 'limited group of taxpayers' means—

"(i) a dollar amount of discretionary budget authority, item of direct spending or targeted tax benefit, to prevent the specific provision of law that provides a specific dollar amount of discretionary budget authority or an obligation limitation is provided in an appropriation law.

"(C) DEFEND AN ITEM.—The term 'defend an item' means—

"(i) a dollar amount of discretionary budget authority, to prevent the specific legal obligation, entitlement, or obligation limitation from being rescinded; or

"(ii) an item of direct spending or targeted tax benefit, to prevent the specific provision of law that provides an entitlement or obligation limitation from being rescinded.

"(D) IN THE SITUATION OF AN EARLY AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—The term 'early availability of funds' means the dollar amount of budget authority, item of direct spending or targeted tax benefit, to prevent the specific provision of law that provides a specific dollar amount of discretionary budget authority or an obligation limitation is provided in an appropriation law.

"(5) DIRECT SPENDING.—The term 'direct spending' means budget authority provided by law (other than an appropriation law), mandatory spending provided in appropriation Acts, and entitlement authority.

"(6) DIRECT SPENDING.—The term 'direct spending' means budget authority provided by law (other than an appropriation law), mandatory spending provided in appropriation Acts, and entitlement authority.

"(7) ITEM OF DIRECT SPENDING.—The term 'item of direct spending' means—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The President may not suspend the execution of any dollar amount of discretionary budget authority, item of direct spending or targeted tax benefit, to prevent the specific provision of law that provides a specific dollar amount of discretionary budget authority or an obligation limitation is provided in an appropriation law.

"(C) DEFEND AN ITEM.—The term 'defend an item' means—

"(i) a dollar amount of discretionary budget authority, to prevent the specific legal obligation, entitlement, or obligation limitation from being rescinded; or

"(ii) an item of direct spending or targeted tax benefit, to prevent the specific provision of law that provides an entitlement or obligation limitation from being rescinded.

"(D) IN THE SITUATION OF AN EARLY AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—The term 'early availability of funds' means the dollar amount of budget authority, item of direct spending or targeted tax benefit, to prevent the specific provision of law that provides a specific dollar amount of discretionary budget authority or an obligation limitation is provided in an appropriation law.

\[\text{continued on the following page}\]
the Acts identified in subsection (b) by the
24 months before the date of enactment of
month period beginning on the date that is
House of Representatives during the 30-
tions made to Members of the Senate or the
1, to provide greater transparency in
grassroots lobbying).

(b) ORGANIZATIONS AND ACTS.—The report
(subsection (a)) by or on behalf of a political action
committee associated or affiliated with—
(A) a company in the oil, natural gas, nu-
clear, or coal industry; or
(B) a trade association for any such compa-

tions made during the time period described in subsection (a) by or on behalf of a political action
committee associated or affiliated with—
(A) the United States Chamber of Com-
cmerce, the National Association of Manufac-
turers, the Business Roundtable, the Na-
tional Federation of Independent Business,
the Emergency Committee for American
Trade, or any member company of such enti-
ty; or
(B) any other free trade organization fund-
ed primarily by corporate entities.

(a) by or on behalf of a political action com-
mittee, any contribution given by each entity identified
received a contribution; and
the Senate or House of Representative that
submitted under subsection (a)—
ed primarily by corporate entities.

SA 20. Mr. BENNETT (for himself and
Mr. M CCONNELL) submitted an amend-
ment intended to be proposed to amend
SA 3 proposed by Mr. REID
(fore himself; Mr. M CCONNELL, Mrs.
FERNANDEZ, Mr. LUGART, Ms.
COLLINS, Mr. OBAMA, Mr.
SALAZAR, and Mr. DURBin) to the bill S.
1, to provide greater transparency in the
legislative process; which was or-
dered to lie on the table; as follows:

SA 21. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amend-
ment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, to provide greater
transparency in the legislative process;
which was ordered to lie on the table;
as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the fol-
lowing:

NOTICES OF HEARINGS
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES
Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I wish to inform the Senate and the Pub-
lic that the committee on Energy and
Natural Resources will hold a hearing
during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, January 10, 2007 at 9:45
a.m. in room SD–G50 of the Dirksen
Building.
The purpose of the hearing is to re-
ceive testimony on the global oil bal-
ance and its implications for U.S.
economic and national security.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND
FORESTRY
Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask
unanimous consent that the Com-
mittee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and
Forestry be authorized to conduct a
hearing during the session of the Sen-
ate on Wednesday January 10, 2007 at
9:30 a.m. in 328a, Senate Russell Office
Building. The purpose of this com-
mittee hearing will be to discuss agri-
culture and rural America's role in en-
hancing national energy security.

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

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask
unanimous consent that the Com-
mittee on Armed Services be author-
ized to meet during the session of the
Senate on Wednesday, January 10, 2007,
at 2 p.m., in closed session to receive a
briefing regarding U.S. military action in
Somalia.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without
objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS
Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask
unanimous consent that the Com-
mittee on Foreign Relations be author-
ized to meet during the session of the
Senate on Wednesday, January 10, 2007,
at 9:30 a.m. to hold a hearing on Iraq.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without
objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS
Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask
unanimous consent that the Com-
mittee on Health, Education, Labor,
and Pensions be authorized to hold a
hearing during the session of the Sen-
ate on Wednesday, January 10, 2007 at
10 a.m. in SD–430.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without
objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask
unanimous consent that the Com-
mittee on the Judiciary be authorized
to meet to conduct a hearing on “Bal-
ancing Privacy and Security: The Pri-
vacy Implications of Government Data
Mining Programs” on Wednesday, Janu-
ary 10, 2007 at 9:30 a.m. in Dirksen
Senate Office Building Room 226.
Witness List: The Honorable Robert
Barr, Chief Executive Officer, Liberty
Strategies, LLC, Atlanta, GA; James
Jay Carafano, Ph.D., Heritage Founda-
tion, Assistant Director, Kathryn and
Shelby Cullom Davis Institute for Inter-
national Studies, Senior Research
Fellow, Douglas and Sarah Allison Cen-
ter on Foreign Policy Studies, Wash-
ington, DC; Mr. Jim Harper, Director of
Information Policy Studies, CATO In-
stitute, Washington, DC; Ms. Leslie
Harris, Executive Director, Center for