

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 1869. A bill for the relief of Robert Kuan Liang and Chun-Mei Hsu-Liang; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SMITH (for himself and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 1870. A bill to establish an alternative trigger for determining if an extended benefit period is in effect for a State for purposes of certain benefits under the Temporary Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 2002; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. CHAMBLISS):

S. 1871. A bill to authorize salary adjustments for Justices and judges of the United States for fiscal year 2004; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SMITH (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. LUGAR, and Mr. VOINOVICH):

S. 1872. A bill to award a congressional gold medal to Lord Robertson of Port Ellen; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. DASCHLE (for Mr. KERRY):

S. 1873. A bill to require employees at a call center who either initiate or receive telephone calls to disclose the physical location of such employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself and Mr. MCCAIN):

S. 1874. A bill to require Senate candidates to file designations, statements, and reports in electronic form; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. GREGG (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 1875. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the Public Health Service Act, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the mental health benefits parity provisions for an additional year; read the first time.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 50

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 50, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a guaranteed adequate level of funding for veterans health care, and for other purposes.

S. 417

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 417, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to ensure that coverage of bone mass measurements is provided under the health benefits program for Federal employees.

S. 419

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 419, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand coverage of bone mass measurements under part B of the medicare program to all individuals at clinical risk of osteoporosis.

S. 595

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms.

MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 595, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the required use of certain principal repayments on mortgage subsidy bond financings to redeem bonds, to modify the purchase price limitation under mortgage subsidy bond rules based on median family income, and for other purposes.

S. 596

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 596, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage the investment of foreign earnings within the United States for productive business investments and job creation.

S. 664

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 664, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the research credit, to increase the rates of the alternative incremental credit, and to provide an alternative simplified credit for qualified research expenses.

S. 1143

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1143, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish, promote, and support a comprehensive prevention, research, and medical management referral program for hepatitis C virus infection.

S. 1172

At the request of Mr. FRIST, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1172, a bill to establish grants to provide health services for improved nutrition, increased physical activity, obesity prevention, and for other purposes.

S. 1195

At the request of Mr. KYL, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1195, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to clarify that inpatient drug prices charged to certain public hospitals are included in the best price exemptions for the medicaid drug rebate program.

S. 1197

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1197, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to ensure the safety and accuracy of medical imaging examinations and radiation therapy treatments.

S. 1246

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1246, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for collegiate housing and infrastructure grants.

S. 1647

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1647, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for direct access to audiologists for medicare beneficiaries, and for other purposes.

S. 1793

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1793, a bill to provide for college quality, affordability, and diversity, and for other purposes.

S. 1841

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1841, a bill to amend title 10, United States code, to provide for the award of a military service medal to members of the Armed Forces who served honorably during the Cold War era.

S. 1856

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1856, a bill to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs outpatient clinic in Sunnyside, Queens, New York, as the "Thomas P. Noonan, Jr., Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic".

S. RES. 253

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 253, a resolution to recognize the evolution and importance of motorsports.

S. RES. 263

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 263, a resolution honoring the men and women of the Drug Enforcement Administration on the occasion of its 30th Anniversary.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DASCHLE (for Mr. KERRY):

S. 1873. A bill to require employees at a call center who either initiate or receive telephone calls to disclose the physical location of such employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

(At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

● Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I am pleased to introduce today the "Call Center Consumer's Right to Know Act." This legislation is in response to the mounting evidence showing that U.S. corporations are rapidly shifting hundreds of thousands high-tech and service sector jobs abroad. Labor officials, business leaders, economists, elected officials and ordinary Americans are concerned that this bleeding

of American jobs will further slow our economy. In addition to the more than 2 million manufacturing jobs that have been lost since 2000, some have indicated that we may also be witnessing the largest out-sourcing of non-manufacturing jobs in the history of the U.S. economy. The statistics are staggering. In the month of July 2003 alone, between 25,000 and 30,000 jobs were outsourced to India. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, roughly one in ten jobs held by Americans in 2001 are now at risk to be outsourced abroad.

These jobs are not specific to one sector or a select few companies, but span a broad array of services, including customer call service centers, payroll and other back-office related activities, stock market research for financial firms, medical transcription services, legal online database research and data analysis for consulting firms. In addition, firms involved with software services and business process outsourcing are rapidly expanding to a host of different countries, including India, the Philippines, Malaysia, China, Russia, Israel, and Ireland.

In addition to rapid service sector job losses, consumers are concerned with the growing threat of identity theft. So far, efforts to stem this tide and keep up with the technological advancements that enable these crimes have done little to allay concerns. This trend becomes all the more alarming when millions of calls involving personal financial transactions are routed beyond our borders, where they are not protected by our laws and law enforcement. Aside from the very serious concerns related to identify theft, there is also a consumer awareness element of this problem, as very few Americans are aware that the person on the other end of the telephone line is in another country. Americans should have full information about the outsourcing of call center jobs when they decide who they will purchase their products and services from.

The "Call Center Consumer's Right to Know Act" is a simple and straightforward answer to the challenges posed by these unprecedented service sector job losses and growing risks of identity theft. The bill simply requires call center representatives to disclose their physical location at the beginning of each phone call. Consumers will therefore have important information about who is providing the services in question and the level of risk involved in proceeding with their transaction by phone. This legislation will help American consumers make informed choices about who is providing the services they purchase, and at the same time, addresses the growing problem of U.S. corporations moving hundreds of thousands of service sector jobs abroad. Furthermore, my bill will go a long way to restoring consumer confidence in the booming call center market and help provide a measure of security for telephone and Internet consumer transactions.

There can be no doubt that the outsourcing of these important American service sector jobs abroad has played a part in the jobless, or what some call the "job-loss" economic recovery of 2003. It is predicted that future outsourcing of service sector jobs may provide more costly to the U.S. economy than the loss of American manufacturing jobs we are witnessing today. Unfortunately, the economics that produced this trend are unlikely to change without a concerted effort to both provide companies with an incentive to keep their jobs in American and promote consumer awareness of the services they unknowingly purchase from other countries. This is precisely what the Call Center Consumer's Right to Know Act seeks to accomplish.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.●

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1873

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Call Center Consumer's Right to Know Act of 2003".

SEC. 2. CALL CENTER REQUIREMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—A United States corporation or its subsidiaries that utilizes a call center to initiate telephone calls to, or receive telephone calls from, individuals located in the United States, shall require each employee in the call center to disclose the physical location of such employee at the beginning of each telephone call so initiated or received.

(b) CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—A corporation or subsidiary described in subsection (a) shall annually certify to the Federal Trade Commission whether or not the corporation or subsidiary, and the employees of the corporation or subsidiary at its call centers, have complied with that subsection.

(c) NONCOMPLIANCE.—A corporation or subsidiary that violates subsection (a) shall be subject to such civil penalties as the Federal Trade Commission prescribes under section 3.

(d) CALL CENTER DEFINED.—In this section, the term "call center" means a location that provides customer-based service and sales assistance or technical assistance and expertise to individuals located in the United States via telephone, the Internet, or other telecommunications and information technology.

SEC. 3. FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION RULES.

Not later than 9 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Federal Trade Commission shall prescribe rules to provide for effective monitoring and compliance with this Act. The Federal Trade Commission's rulemaking shall include appropriate civil penalties for noncompliance with this Act.

By Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself and Mr. McCain):

S. 1874. A bill to require Senate candidates to file designations, statements, and reports in electronic form; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, today I will introduce with the Senator from Arizona, Mr. McCain, a bill to bring

Senate campaigns into the 21st century by requiring that Senate candidates file their campaign finance disclosure reports electronically and that those reports be promptly made available to the public. This step is long overdue, and I hope the Senate will act quickly on this legislation.

A recent report by the Campaign Finance Institute highlighted the anomaly in the election laws that makes it nearly impossible for the public to get access to Senate campaign finance reports while most other reports are available on the Internet within 24 hours of their filing with the Federal Election Commission (FEC). The Campaign Finance Institute report opened with a rhetorical question: "What makes the Senate so special that it exempts itself from a key requirement of campaign finance disclosure that applies to everyone else, including candidates for the House of Representatives and Political Action Committees?"

The answer, of course, is nothing. The United States Senate is special in many ways. I am proud to serve here. But there is no justification for not making our campaign finance information as readily accessible to the public as the information filed by House candidates or others.

My bill amends the section of the election laws dealing with electronic filing to require reports filed with the Secretary of the Senate to be filed electronically and forwarded to the FEC within 24 hours. The FEC is required to make available on the Internet within 24 hours any filing it receives electronically. So if this bill is enacted, electronic versions of Senate reports should be available to the public within 48 hours of their filing. That will be a vast improvement over the current situation, which, according to CFI, requires journalists and interested members of the public to review computer images of paper-filed copies of reports, and involves a completely wasteful expenditure of hundreds of thousands of dollars to re-enter information into databases that almost every campaign has available in electronic format.

The current filing system also means that the detailed coding that the FEC does, which allows for more sophisticated searches and analysis, is completed over a week later for Senate reports than for House reports. This means that the final disclosure reports covering the first 2 weeks of October are not susceptible to detailed scrutiny before the election.

It is time for the Senate to relinquish its Luddite attitude toward campaign finance disclosure. I urge the enactment of this simple bill that will make our reports subject to the same prompt, public scrutiny as those filed by PACs and candidates for the other body.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1874

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Senate Campaign Disclosure Parity Act".

SEC. 2. SENATE CANDIDATES REQUIRED TO FILE ELECTION REPORTS IN ELECTRONIC FORM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 304(a)(1)(D) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 434(a)(1)(D)) is amended to read as follows:

"(D) As used in this paragraph, the terms 'designation', 'statement', or 'report' mean a designation, statement or report, respectively, which—

"(i) is required by this Act to be filed with the Commission, or

"(ii) is required under section 302(g) to be filed with the Secretary of the Senate and forwarded by the Secretary to the Commission."

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 302(g)(2) of such Act (2 U.S.C. 432(g)(2)) is amended by inserting "or 1 working day in the case of a designation, statement, or report filed electronically" after "2 working days".

(2) Section 304(a)(1)(B) of such Act (2 U.S.C. 434(a)(1)(B)) is amended by inserting "or filed with the Secretary of the Senate under section 302(g)(1) and forwarded to the Commission" after "Act".

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to any designation, statement, or report required to be filed after the date of enactment of this Act.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I am proud to join Senator RUSS FEINGOLD as a co-sponsor of legislation that will require Senate candidates to file campaign finance reports in electronic form. This bill will finally remove the exemption the Senate has given itself from an important requirement of campaign finance disclosure laws that apply to everyone else, including candidates for the U.S. House of Representatives and Political Action Committees, PACs.

Political committees active in federal elections must submit their quarterly financial reports for disclosure by the Federal Election Commission, FEC. Anyone interested can nearly instantaneously download the reports from the FEC website and conduct computer searches to learn about the contributions and expenditures of individual candidates for the House, non-Senate national party committees and PACs. The current problem is that they cannot do the same for Senate candidates and parties because of the Senate's insistence on paper rather than electronic filing. The FEC must do more processing of Senate paper reports than of House electronic ones. This involves printing or copying the Senate reports, up to 10,000 pages a day at times, hand-coding transactions that cannot be automatically processed, and keypunching the data into the electronic database. House electronic reports do not need the same treatment. The end result is that in contrast to

the House, information from the Senate paper reports are often available well after the election has occurred.

Due to this problem, voters are not well-informed about the campaign finance information of their Senators and Senate candidates. For voters who want to consider the nature of the campaign finance support received by a Senate candidate and its relationship to Senate legislative votes as a factor in deciding for whom they will cast a vote, they clearly cannot.

To address this problem, our legislation requires Senate candidates to file their campaign finance reports electronically with the Secretary of the Senate. Within 24 hours of receipt of those reports, the Secretary is required to forward those reports to the FEC. The FEC, in turn is required to make those reports available on the Internet within 24 hours as they do other reports. Therefore, electronic versions of Senate reports will be available to the public within 48 hours of their filing.

Electronic reports are not only transmitted instantly but are more accurate than paper submissions because software can easily correct mistakes. On the other hand, hand entering of data is always prone to error. Furthermore, the data in electronic reports can be rapidly searched via the Internet for answers to specific questions. Voters will no longer have to go through the time consuming process of reading pages and pages filed by Senate candidates or Senate party committees to figure out the major donors and their employers, and the major recipients of campaign spending. Instead, they can download a filed report from the FEC website onto their personal computers and quickly locate the information they need. This creates effective public disclosure.

The Senate's current failure to provide its constituents with electronically disclosed, timely information is unconscionable. Senate filings should follow the same criteria as other campaign finance reports. There must not be a separate standard for the Senate. Ironically, while they do not currently file electronically, Senators and Senate candidates already use electronic software in compiling their paper reports. If Senators and Senate candidates can use technology to run their offices and websites, why can't they use it to better inform their own constituents about how their campaigns are funded? Their constituents have earned a right to that information. The public interest will be better served and voters' faith in their elected leaders will be restored.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2191. Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mr. CARPER, Mr. BROWNBAC, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. DEWINE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2150 proposed by Mr. BOND

(for himself and Ms. MIKULSKI) to the bill H.R. 2861, making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2192. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2150 proposed by Mr. BOND (for himself and Ms. MIKULSKI) to the bill H.R. 2861, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2193. Mr. DAYTON (for himself and Mr. COLEMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2150 proposed by Mr. BOND (for himself and Ms. MIKULSKI) to the bill H.R. 2861, supra.

SA 2194. Mr. BOND (for Mr. REID (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM, of Florida)) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2150 proposed by Mr. BOND (for himself and Ms. MIKULSKI) to the bill H.R. 2861, supra.

SA 2195. Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. LIEBERMAN) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2150 proposed by Mr. BOND (for himself and Ms. MIKULSKI) to the bill H.R. 2861, supra.

SA 2196. Mr. BOND (for Mr. DASCHLE) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2150 proposed by Mr. BOND (for himself and Ms. MIKULSKI) to the bill H.R. 2861, supra.

SA 2197. Mr. BOND (for Mr. FEINGOLD) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2150 proposed by Mr. BOND (for himself and Ms. MIKULSKI) to the bill H.R. 2861, supra.

SA 2198. Mr. BOND (for Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mr. CARPER, Mr. BROWNBAC, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. DEWINE)) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2150 proposed by Mr. BOND (for himself and Ms. MIKULSKI) to the bill H.R. 2861, supra.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2191. Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mr. CARPER, Mr. BROWNBAC, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. DEWINE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2150 by Mr. BOND (for himself and Ms. MIKULSKI) to the bill H.R. 2861, making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 125, between lines 7 and 8, insert the following:

SEC. 418. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN PUBLIC HOUSING/SECTION 8 MOVING TO WORK DEMONSTRATION AGREEMENTS.

(a) EXTENSION.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall extend the term of the Moving to Work Demonstration Agreement entered into between a public housing agency and the Secretary under section 204, title V, of the Omnibus Consolidated Rescissions and Appropriations Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104-134, April 26, 1996) if—

(1) the public housing agency requests such extension in writing;

(2) the public housing agency is not at the time of such request for extension in default under its Moving to Work Demonstration Agreement; and

(3) the Moving to Work Demonstration Agreement to be extended would otherwise expire on or before December 31, 2004.