

The legal changes of the last decade have contributed to the flood of money in the political process. Corporate campaign donations through 501(c)s and Super PACs hit around \$140 million in 2010 from zero in 2006, according to estimates by the Center for Responsive Politics. For interest groups and wealthy individuals, the shifts have meant more direct influence in elections. For American democracy, the effect may well be disastrous.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 308—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 27, 2011, AS “DRIVE SAFER SUNDAY”

Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. PRYOR, and Mr. CHAMBLISS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 308

Whereas motor vehicle travel is the primary means of transportation in the United States;

Whereas every individual traveling on the roads and highways needs to drive in a safer manner to reduce deaths and injuries that result from motor vehicle accidents;

Whereas according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, wearing a seat belt saves more than 15,000 lives each year;

Whereas the Senate wants all people of the United States to understand the life-saving importance of wearing a seat belt and encourages motorists to drive safely, not just during the holiday season, but every time they get behind the wheel; and

Whereas the Sunday after Thanksgiving is the busiest highway traffic day of the year: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) encourages—

(A) high schools, colleges, universities, administrators, teachers, primary schools, and secondary schools to launch campus-wide educational campaigns to urge students to be focused on safety when driving;

(B) national trucking firms to alert their drivers to be especially focused on driving safely on the Sunday after Thanksgiving, and to publicize the importance of the day through use of Citizen's Band (“CB”) radios and truck stops across the Nation;

(C) clergy to remind their members to travel safely when attending services and gatherings;

(D) law enforcement personnel to remind drivers and passengers to drive safely, particularly on the Sunday after Thanksgiving; and

(E) all people of the United States to use the Sunday after Thanksgiving as an opportunity to educate themselves about highway safety; and

(2) designates November 27, 2011, as “Drive Safer Sunday”.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 921. Mr. DURBIN proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2112, making consolidated appropriations for the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Justice, Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 921. Mr. DURBIN proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2112, making consolidated appropriations for the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Justice, Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes; as follows:

Amend the title to read:

“An act making consolidated appropriations for the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Justice, Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes.”

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions will meet in open session on Tuesday, November 8, 2011, at 10 a.m. in SD-106 to conduct a hearing entitled “Beyond NCLB: Views on the Elementary and Secondary Education Reauthorization Act.”

For further information regarding this hearing, please contact the committee staff on (202) 224-5501.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Committee on Indian Affairs will meet on Thursday, November 10, 2011, at 2:15 p.m. in room 628 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a legislative hearing on S. 1192, Alaska Safe Families and Villages Act of 2011; S. 872, a bill to amend the Omnibus Indian Advancement Act to modify the date as of which certain tribal land of the Lytton Rancheria of California is considered to be held in trust and to provide for the conduct of certain activities on the land; and S. 1763, the Stand Against Violence and Empower Native Women Act (SAVE Native Women Act).

Those wishing additional information may contact the Indian Affairs Committee at (202) 224-2251.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Committee on Indian Affairs will meet on Thursday, November 17, 2011, at 2:15 p.m. in Room 628 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled “The Future of Internet Gaming: What’s at Stake for Tribes?”

Those wishing additional information may contact the Indian Affairs Committee at (202) 224-2251.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on November 1, 2011, at 2:15 p.m., to

hold an African Affairs subcommittee hearing entitled “China’s Role in Africa: Implications for U.S. Policy.”

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CHINA AND TERRORISM

Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Judiciary, Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on November 1, 2011, at 9:30 a.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled “Combating International Organized Crime: Evaluating Current Authorities, Tools, and Resources.”

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

REBUILD AMERICA JOBS ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 213, S. 1769.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] moves to proceed to S. 1769, a bill to put workers back on the job while rebuilding and modernizing America.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. I have a cloture motion at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 213, S. 1769, a bill to put workers back on the job while rebuilding and modernizing America.

Harry Reid, Amy Klobuchar, Jeff Bingaman, Bernard Sanders, Tom Udall, Daniel K. Akaka, Jon Tester, Christopher A. Coons, Mark R. Warner, Michael F. Bennet, Kent Conrad, Sheldon Whitehouse, Sherrod Brown, Claire McCaskill, Mark Begich, Ron Wyden, Benjamin L. Cardin, Frank R. Lautenberg

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I am hopeful that we will not have to have a vote on this matter. This is to protect us so if we cannot work out something we will have a vote Thursday morning. I hope we can work out something to have a vote on this most important measure. It is very important. This is a piece of legislation that the entire population of America supports by a ratio of some 76 percent. Republicans support it; Democrats support it; Independents support it. The only people in

the world who do not support it are Republicans here in the Senate. So I hope we can work out something and move to this and it would be unnecessary for us to have to have cloture invoked or try to have cloture invoked.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to executive session to consider nominations numbered 412 and 414; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, there be no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to any of the nominations; that any related statements be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES

Patricia M. Loui, of Hawaii, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of the United States for a term expiring January 20, 2015.

Larry W. Walther, of Arkansas, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of the United States for a term expiring January 20, 2013.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will resume legislative session.

DRIVE SAFER SUNDAY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 308.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows: A resolution (S. Res. 308) designating November 27, 2011, as "Drive Safer Sunday."

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider laid on the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 308) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 308

Whereas motor vehicle travel is the primary means of transportation in the United States;

Whereas every individual traveling on the roads and highways needs to drive in a safer manner to reduce deaths and injuries that result from motor vehicle accidents;

Whereas according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, wearing a seat belt saves more than 15,000 lives each year;

Whereas the Senate wants all people of the United States to understand the life-saving

importance of wearing a seat belt and encourages motorists to drive safely, not just during the holiday season, but every time they get behind the wheel; and

Whereas the Sunday after Thanksgiving is the busiest highway traffic day of the year: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) encourages—

(A) high schools, colleges, universities, administrators, teachers, primary schools, and secondary schools to launch campus-wide educational campaigns to urge students to be focused on safety when driving;

(B) national trucking firms to alert their drivers to be especially focused on driving safely on the Sunday after Thanksgiving, and to publicize the importance of the day through use of Citizen's Band ("CB") radios and truck stops across the Nation;

(C) clergy to remind their members to travel safely when attending services and gatherings;

(D) law enforcement personnel to remind drivers and passengers to drive safely, particularly on the Sunday after Thanksgiving; and

(E) all people of the United States to use the Sunday after Thanksgiving as an opportunity to educate themselves about highway safety; and

(2) designates November 27, 2011, as "Drive Safer Sunday".

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2011

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, November 2, 2011; that following the prayer and the pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed to have expired, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that following leader remarks, the Senate be in a period of morning business for 1 hour, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with time equally divided and controlled between the leaders or their designees, with the majority controlling the first half and the Republicans controlling the final half; that following morning business, the Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 1769, the Rebuild America Jobs Act.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I filed cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 1769, the jobs bill. If no agreement is reached, this vote will occur Thursday morning.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:57 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, November 2, 2011, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

THOMAS HOENIG, OF MISSOURI, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION FOR A TERM OF SIX YEARS, VICE THOMAS J. CURRY, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

REBECCA M. BLANK, OF MARYLAND, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF COMMERCE, VICE DENNIS F. HIGHTOWER, RESIGNED.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

AJIT VARADARAJ PAI, OF KANSAS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS FROM JULY 1, 2011, VICE MEREDITH ATTWELL BAKER, TERM EXPIRED.

JESSICA ROSENWORCEL, OF CONNECTICUT, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS FROM JULY 1, 2010, VICE MICHAEL JOSEPH COPPS, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

LARRY LEON PALMER, OF GEORGIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO BARBADOS, AND TO SERVE CONCURRENTLY AND WITHOUT ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO ST. KITTS AND NEVIS, SAINT LUCIA, ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA, THE COMMONWEALTH OF DOMINICA, GRENADA, AND SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES.

THE JUDICIARY

CORAL WONG PIETSCH, OF HAWAII, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS FOR THE TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS, VICE WILLIAM P. GREENE, JR., RETIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MICHAEL A. SHEEHAN, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE MICHAEL G. VICKERS.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

KIRK W. ALBERTSON
MATTHEW J. ANDRADE
DOMINIC S. ANGIOLLO
ZACHARY P. AUGUSTINE
WILLIE J. BABOR
MICHAEL J. BERENS
CHARLOTTE D. BOSWELL
MICHAEL L. BOYER
ANNA L. CAMPBELL
DAL N. CHO
KERIC D. CLANAHAN
MICHELLE D. CLARK
SOPHIA B. CRAWFORD
ROBERT B. CRAYNE
DAVID WILLIAM CROMWELL
WILLIAM G. DALZELL
SIMONE V. DAVIS
SARA M. DAYTON
CARLOS M. DEDIOS
LAURA C. Y. DESIO
DAVID S. DICKINSON
RANAE L. DOSER PASCUAL
DANIEL P. DOYLE
JAMES B. EVES
ANTHONY J. GHIOTTO
JOHN S. GOEHRING
CHRISTOPHER J. GOEWERT
BRIAN D. GREEN
JAMES H. GUTZMAN
ANDREA MARIE HALL
BRYAN W. HALL
PATRICK A. HARTMAN
CARY D. HAWKINS
BRADLEY J. HENDERSON
MATTHEW E. HUGHES
JASON R. HULL
BRIAN R. HUREY
DYLAN THOMAS IMPERATO
RAVINDER S. KAPOOR
SAM C. KIDD
TYSON D. KINDNESS
KEVIN S. KREBS
BRIAN C. MASON
NICHOLAS P. MATHIEU
THOMAS A. MCNAB
JOHN A. MOORE, JR.
MONICA E. NUSSBAUM
SHERRI M. OHR
ROBERT K. PALMER
JEFFREY C. PHILLIPS
LANOURRA L. PHILLIPS
ANTOINETTE T. QUINN
MICHAEL P. SABALA
JENNIFER M. SANCHEZ
ZAVEN T. SAROYAN
LAELA F. SHARRIEFF
ERIKA LEE SLEGER