or-down vote on that measure, and if we are permitted to amend it, we got a lot of other good ideas, too.

The gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. PRICE] Democrat, myself, Republican from California, have a bill called stand by your ad. That is to get at one of the uglier aspects of American politics, which is the negative campaign that is dumped on a lot of candidates in both parties by some in the other party, and that is saying usually twisted information, most of which is not true. I have had that happen to me. I had somebody dump $200,000 worth of mail in the last 3 days of my campaign last year.

Some of my colleagues have had million dollar campaigns against them that have run for 6 months, and there is no disclosure. And we are determined that everybody that gets into American politics and is going to have ads and try to do someone in, let us get disclosure. Who pays your bills? How much did they give? We have to do that when we receive campaign money up to $1,000 in the primary and $1,000 in the general. The people have a right to know.

Well, with Mr. PRICE's bill that I am a cosponsor with him, and the idea came from the North Carolina legislature, on negative campaigns a candidate would have to spend 10 percent of that mailer or that TV ad with their mug looking at the voter and saying, ''I am so-and-so, this is the film or videotape that I am going to tell you my opponent's record.'' Now if they had to say that, I do not use negative active campaigns, so I do not worry about it, but if they had to say it, maybe they would clean up their act that political consultants talk them into.

Now the American people say, ''Oh, I hate negative campaigns,'' but the consultant goes around in both parties and says, ''Oh, but you have to do it if you want to be elected.'' You do not have to do it. You need to educate your constituency that you want civil discourse, not this false charge. Like every Democrat I know seems to run against a Republican and say we cut Social Security. That is nonsense; we never cut Social Security. The Vice President one day got on Meet The Press, some very distinguished commentators were on it, and they did not call him on it. Well, I knew the minute he said it he was dead wrong, and the question was, was he lying or what? He said no Republican voted for Social Security in the 1930's. It is nonsense. House voted 75 percent, Republicans voted for social security; another one, 80 percent.

So I sent a letter to the hundred top journalists in town, that if the Vice President ever says that again, here are the facts, and they come from the Congressional Research Service, our bipartisan research arm.

So there are things we need to clean up without question, negative campaigns, soft money, disclosure. We also need to clean up who is an American citizen eligible to vote and who is not. And we have a bill in on that which is, if the registrar wants to check their rolls, they could have access to the Social Security information. Since 1982 Social Security has kept the citizenship status of individuals. And if they cannot get the proof there, they can access the Immigration and Naturalization Service roles and they can find out if the person has been legally naturalized. Obviously there are other ways to prove citizenship, affidavits from people who have known you in the community for 30 years, knew when you were born, family bible, all that. But we need help in this situation where some of the laws have been passed so they cannot purge people from the election rolls when they do not vote in four elections.

And that leads to real mischief when they do not clean up those rolls. If you are not going to be a citizen, a good citizen and go to the polls for four elections; in California it used to be if you just did it for 2, you would have to reregister, and that means you ought to be going doing your duty and the civic responsibility as an American citizen.

So there are a lot of proposals a lot of good people have dealing with television time to be made available so people can see the debate.

Now the television stations get very upset; that is tough. The fact is they are using the air waves licensed by the Federal Government and they can certainly contribute some time, as the chairman of our Committee on Commerce has advocated this for years. The gentleman from Virginia [Mr. BLILEY] put a bill in in 1993, and he still believes in it, and perhaps that discussion will come to the floor.

So we need to do some things just in general in campaign finance, and that is the things that are changing existing laws. But with these investigations what we are dealing with are violations of existing laws, not changes. We are dealing with the fact that the laws of the United States have been shredded in the 1996 campaign and the attitude was something of the Wild West, and since I am a westerner I recall that. What did we do west of the Pecos? There was no law. Maybe one tough judge here and their, and that is what we need in this case, and we need to get the evidence out and we need to get a few of these people to start talking, and when we do that American politics will be better off and American government will be better off.

OMITTED FROM THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OF WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1997

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House oversight, reported that that committee had examined and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 63. To designate the reservoir created by Trinity Dam in the Central Valley project, California, as ''Trinity Lake''; and

H.R. 2016. Making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes.

CORRECTION OF THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OF THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1997

Correction of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of Thursday, September 25, 1997: On page H7893, the corrected version of the Rogers amendment is as follows:

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. ROGERS

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. ROGERS:

Page 51, line 5, after the dollar amount insert ''(increased by $1,500,000)''.

Page 51, line 11, after the second dollar amount insert ''(increased by $1,500,000)''.

Page 51, line 14, after the dollar amount insert ''(increased by $1,500,000)''.

Page 51, line 16, after the dollar amount insert ''(increased by $4,000,000)''.

Page 51, line 23, after the dollar amount insert ''(reduced by $2,500,000)''.

At the end of the bill, insert after the last section (preceding the short title) the following new section:

SEC. . None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to issue or renew a fishing permit or authorization for any fishing vessel of the United States greater than 165 feet in length or greater than 3,000 horsepower, as specified in the permit application required under part 648.4(a)(5) of title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, and the authorization required under part 648.8(d)(2) of title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, to engage in fishing for Atlantic mackerel or herring (or both) under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.).

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. REYES (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT), for today, on account of official business.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT), for September 23 and the balance of the week, on account of official business.

Ms. HARMAN (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT), for today, on account of official business.

Mr. BARTON of Texas (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT), for today, on account of official business.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT), for today after 11 a.m. And September 29, on account of official business.

Mr. DICKS (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT), for today, on account of official business.

Mr. LAZIO of New York (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today, on account of illness in the family.