

have not obeyed the existing laws. For the President and Vice President to be talking about campaign finance reform, it would be similar to Jesse James leading a crusade for stricter bank robbery laws. They both remind me of two people that have stolen your horses and go flying down the road by your house saying "lock your barn, lock your barn." They have gotten the horses and gone.

The truth is that this is a first step in a liberal effort to get the American taxpayer to pay for political campaigns. It would be a massive mistake to take the electoral process away from the private sector and turn it into another Federal Government bureaucracy. And that is exactly what this bill would do. What they are hoping to do is to make campaigns a public bureaucracy paid for by the taxpayers whether they want to or not. When they talk about campaign finance reform, there is one thing they have in mind: Getting their hands into the public till to pay for their political campaigns.

If you want to see how well public financing works, you can just look at the 1996 Presidential campaign. Have you ever seen a more flagrant disregard for the laws of this country than happened in that? President Clinton and Vice President GORE didn't need to raise money from Buddhist monks, Asian temples, international arms dealers, and the Chinese Government because their general election campaign was already paid for by the American taxpayers. But, no, they were so greedy they had to go everywhere and hunt every illegal contribution they could find.

They wonder why fewer and fewer Americans are checking off the contribution box for the President's election fund on their tax forms. Why check it off? Simply make a trip to the Buddhist temple and fund your own campaign.

The private sector works. If people want to support a candidate with their contributions, they will. But don't force the taxpayers to fund the ideological campaigns of candidates they don't support. And that is exactly where we are heading.

Mr. President, as I said, there is a need for campaign finance reform. I have supported several specific items which I believe could help bring some balance to the system. Indexing contributions would be one. Another is to make sure that workers have an option whether they want to support the union political activities or not. One of the most important things is to protect their paycheck. We need faster and fuller disclosure of contributions, and if we really wanted to do something for campaign finance reform we could go with term limits, if we were really serious about controlling it.

Most importantly, politicians should start obeying the campaign finance laws that are already on the books. Why should we start passing more reform laws when in the past campaign

we saw the President and the Vice President break the ones that were there day in and day out. And I am tired of the "everybody did it" excuse that we are hearing out of this administration. Even if that were true, it is time for the President to muster the intestinal fortitude on his own and stop doing it. There is no excuse for him to do it because somebody—they were saying this morning in the hearing—20 years ago did it. He should be responsible for himself.

It is already illegal to accept contributions from foreign countries. Why do we not enforce the existing law rather than going for new ones? Mr. President, we need real campaign finance reform but spare us the moral outrage coming from President Clinton and Vice President GORE. We have enough cynicism in politics as it is now. It is time to end it. It is time for the President and Vice President to take responsibility for their personal actions.

Mr. President, I thank you and I yield the floor.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SMITH of Oregon). Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1997

Mr. FAIRCLOTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business for the day, it stand in adjournment until the hour of 11 a.m. on Wednesday, October 8. I further ask that on Wednesday, immediately following the morning prayer, the routine requests through the morning hour be granted and the hour prior to the cloture vote on S. 25 be equally divided in the usual form and the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. FAIRCLOTH. Tomorrow, at 11 a.m., the Senate will begin debate on the motion to invoke cloture on S. 25, the McCain-Feingold finance reform bill. Therefore, the cloture vote will occur at 12 noon tomorrow with the mandatory quorum being waived. Assuming cloture is not invoked, the Senate will then move to proceed to S. 1173, the so-called ISTEAL legislation. Hopefully, the Senate will be able to make good progress on that legislation with votes occurring Wednesday afternoon on the ISTEAL bill. As previously announced, the Senate may also consider any appropriate conference reports that may be available.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 11 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. FAIRCLOTH. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask unanimous consent the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 5:08 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, October 8, 1997, at 11 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate October 7, 1997:

IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE U.S. COAST GUARD UDNER TITLE 14 UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 271:

To be lieutenant commander

THOMAS FLORA, 0000
ALFREDO T. SORIANO, 0000
WILLIAM E. THOMPSON,
ALLEN B. CLEVELAND, 0000
TIMOTHY M. FITZPATRICK, 0000
MICHAEL J. KELLY, 0000
PETER W. SEAMAN, 0000
WILLIAM P. GREEN, 0000
JOHN R. TURLEY, 0000
MARKUS D. DAUSSES, 0000
JOHN L. BRAGAW, 0000
GLENN L. GEBELLE, 0000
MICHAEL S. SABELLICO, 0000
LAURA H. O'HARE, 0000
SUSAN K. VUKOVICH, 0000
CRAIG O. FOWLER, 0000
DANIEL S. CRAMER, 0000
JOHN J. METCALF, 0000
STEVEN J. REYNOLDS, 0000
SEAN M. MAHONEY, 0000
KEVIN J. MCKENNA, 0000
CHRISTOPHER E. ALEXANDER, 0000
JAMES W. SEBASTIAN, 0000
HAN KIM, 0000
PHYLLIS E. BLANTON, 0000
ANDREW C. PALMIOTTO, 0000
MATTHEW K. CREELMAN, 0000
CALEB CORSON, 0000
MARCH H. NGUYEN, 0000
CYNTHIA L. STOWE, 0000
CHARLES JENNINGS, 0000
MARY J. SOHLBERG, 0000
JOHN F. MALONEY, 0000
CRAIG T. HOSKINS, 0000
JAMES P. MCLEOD, 0000
RAYMOND D. HUNT, 0000
KENNETH V. FORDHAM, 0000
JON S. KELLAMS, 0000
KEITH M. SMITH, 0000
DONNA L. COTTRELL, 0000
JAMES W. CROWE, 0000
PETER D. CONLEY, 0000
KELLY L. KACHELE, 0000
SCOTT A. BUTTRICK, 0000
JANET R. FLOREY, 0000
MELISSA A. BULKLEY, 0000
JAMES H. WHITEHEAD, 0000
WILLIAM R. KELLY, 0000
JASON LYUKE, 0000
JOHN M. DANAHY, 0000
JOHN E. BORIS, 0000
MARK D. BERKELEY, 0000
RICHARD A. SANDOVAL, 0000
CHARLES M. GREENE, 0000
BRIAN P. HALL, 0000
ERIC P. CHRISTENSEN, 0000
RONALD J. HAAS, 0000
MARK D. WALLACE, 0000
MATTHEW C. STANLEY, 0000
FRANK G. DELBONO, 0000
ROD D. LUBASKY, 0000
DARCY D. GUYANT, 0000
PERRY S. HUEY, 0000
DONALD F. POTTER, 0000
KEVIN M. BALDERSON, 0000
PATRICK FLYNN, 0000
WAYNE A. STACEY, 0000
PATRICK G. MCLAUGHLIN, 0000