

*To the Senate of the United States:*

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions (the "Convention"), adopted at Paris on November 21, 1997, by a conference held under the auspices of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). The Convention was signed in Paris on December 17, 1997, by the United States and 32 other nations.

I transmit also, for the information of the Senate, interpretive Commentaries on the Convention, adopted by the negotiating conference in conjunction with the Convention, that are relevant to the Senate's consideration of the Convention. I transmit also, for the information of the Senate, the report of the Department of State with respect to the Convention.

Since the enactment in 1977 of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), the United States has been alone in specifically criminalizing the business-related bribery of foreign public officials. United States corporations have contended that this has put them at a significant disadvantage in competing for international contracts with respect to foreign competitors who are not subject to such laws. Consistent with the sense of the Congress, as expressed in the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988, encouraging negotiation of an agreement within the OECD governing the type of behavior that is prohibited under the FCPA, the United States has worked assiduously within the OECD to persuade other countries to adopt similar legislation. Those efforts have resulted in this Convention that once in force, will require that the Parties enact laws to criminalize the bribery of foreign public officials to obtain or retain business or other improper advantage in the conduct of international business.

While the Convention is largely consistent with existing U.S. law, my Administration will propose certain amendments to the FCPA to bring it into conformity with and to implement the Convention. Legislation will be submitted separately to the Congress.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to the Convention, and that it give its advice and consent to ratification.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *May 1, 1998.*

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AUTHORITY TO CORRECT TREATY DOCUMENT NO. 105-36

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that the Secretary of the Senate be authorized to make a correction in section 3.2(D) of the Resolution of Ratification of Executive Treaty Document No. 105-36 by inserting the word "specifically" before "authorized."

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

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ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, MAY 5, 1998

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 5. I further ask that on Tuesday, immediately following the prayer, the routine requests through the morning hour be granted and that the Senate then begin a period of morning business until 10:30 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes each with the following exceptions: Senator HATCH, 30 minutes; Senator DORGAN, 15 minutes; Senator CONRAD, 15 minutes; and Senator CRAIG for 10 minutes.

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

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I further ask that following morning busi-

ness, the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 2676, the IRS reform bill, with debate only in order prior to the policy luncheon recess, except for the offering of a managers' amendment.

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

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess from the hours of 12:30 to 2:15 p.m. for the weekly policy conferences to meet tomorrow.

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

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PROGRAM

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, tomorrow, following the morning business period, the Senate will resume consideration of the IRS reform bill. It is hoped that the managers' amendment will be offered during Tuesday's session. In addition, Members who desire to debate this legislation are encouraged to do so tomorrow so that the Senate can complete action on the IRS reform bill as early as possible this week.

As a reminder, there will be a rollcall vote tomorrow at 5:30 p.m. on passage of the workforce development legislation, H.R. 1385. Any votes ordered with respect to the IRS reform bill will be stacked to occur following that 5:30 vote.

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ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

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

There being no objection, the Senate, at 5:17 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, May 5, 1998, at 9:30 a.m.