FACT SHEET ON THE "LET THE PUBLIC DECIDE CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM ACT" CORRESPONDS TO H.R. 3052

HON. DAVID R. OBEY
OF WISCONSIN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, May 18, 1998

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following for the RECORD:

CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS

Congressional candidates who voluntarily agree would be funded with private money in the general elections. Instead, the citizen-funded Grassroots Good Citizenship Fund would equally provide money to the major party’s nominees and provides funds for third party and independent candidates.

SOFT MONEY

The use of soft money is prohibited with respect to any House of Representatives election.

THE GRASSROOTS GOOD CITIZENSHIP FUND

Money for the Grassroots Good Citizenship Fund will be provided by voluntary additional payments from public spirited citizens and a 1% tax on corporate income of $10,000,000 or above.

Major party candidates’ funds will be based on the median household income of each district. The maximum amount allocated will be $500,000 per candidate for the districts with the highest median household income and all other districts will be equal to that amount minus ½ percentage difference between the median household income in that district and the highest district.

Independent candidates will receive funds based on the corresponding number of signatures collected and verified by the commission.

Third party candidates will receive a proportional amount based on that party’s vote in the last five elections.

"INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURES" AND "EXPRESS ADVOCACY" ADS

Independent expenditures and express advocacy activities relating to the election of Members the House of Representatives are prohibited during the 90 days prior to the general election.

CHANGES IN PRIMARY ELECTION FUNDS

The maximum expenditure in a primary will be capped to ½ of the amount allocated in the primary election. Large donor PACs will be limited to 20% of this amount.

WHAT IF THESE PROVISIONS ARE FOUND UNCONSTITUTIONAL BY THE SUPREME COURT?

If the Supreme Court rules against provisions in this bill, the House will consider expedited procedures, a constitutional amendment empowering Congress to make reasonable restrictions on independent expenditures and express advocacy ads for the 90 day period preceding the general election.

IN MEMORIAM

STEPHEN CARLETTI OF CROOKSVILLE, OHIO

HON. ROBERT W. NEY
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, May 18, 1998

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Stephen Carletti, who passed away on February 8, 1998. Stephen gave his life in the line of duty, battling a fire. His life was dedicated to helping others.

Arthur has done all of this in a mere 85 years. Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, please join me in celebrating the birthday of one of the preeminent citizens of Los Angeles, Mr. Arthur Gilbert. We know that Arthur, along with his wife Marjorie, Son Colin and step-daughter Susan will be benefitting our community for many, many years to come.

TRIBUTE TO MATTHEW CWIKLA

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, May 18, 1998

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, on January 1, 1998 the town of Mt. Clemens, Michigan lost a resident who in just sixteen short years made a great impact on the community. On New Years Day, Matthew Cwikla went to his room to finish his homework before watching the Rose Bowl game. His family found him a short time later. Matt died suddenly from Viral Myocarditis, a rare virus which attacks the heart muscle. In the time following Matt’s death, his family was joined by more than 1500 people offering their support and condolences.

Matt was an extremely special young man who affected all who knew him. He was president of his junior class at Mt. Clemens High School and a member of the National Honor Society and the Varsity Tennis Team. Matt was also a manager of the student run record store, Downtown Sound, in Mt. Clemens where I had the opportunity to meet and come to know him. He was extremely professional and kind and made a lasting impression on me.

I also had the chance to work with Matt last summer when he participated in my district’s Congressional Student Leadership Summit where students from across the district come together to participate in a mock session of Congress. This summit brings out some of the best and brightest students in my district and Matt was certainly one of them.

In Matt’s memory, the Cwikla family has established the Matthew J. Cwikla Memorial Scholarship to financially assist other bright stars from Mt. Clemens High School. To Matthew’s parents, John and Cynthia; his sisters, Julie and Katherine; and all of his friends and family, Matthew was a special person who will never be forgotten. So many of us consider ourselves fortunate to have crossed his path.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

HON. TIM ROEMER
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, May 18, 1998

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Joint Resolution 102, “Expressing the Sense of the Congress on the Occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Founding of the Modern State of Israel.”

I wish to convey my warmest congratulations to the Jewish community on this happy occasion of the 50th anniversary of Israel. I am proud to be a cosponsor of this important resolution, which commends Israel for its...