



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 107th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 147

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2001

No. 36

Senate

The Senate met at 12 noon and was called to order by the Honorable PAT ROBERTS, a Senator from the State of Kansas.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer: Gracious Lord, on Saturday we joyfully celebrated Saint Patrick's Day. We remember the words with which St. Patrick began his days. We pray them today as our prayer, "I arise today, through God's might to uphold me, God's wisdom to guide me, God's eye to look before me, God's ear to hear me, God's hand to guard me, God's way to lie before me and God's shield to protect me." In Your Holy Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable PAT ROBERTS led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, March 19, 2001.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, section 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable PAT ROBERTS, a Senator from the State of Kansas, to perform the duties of the Chair.

STROM THURMOND,
President pro tempore.

Mr. ROBERTS thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 1 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to have the first 10-minute block of morning business.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection? The Chair hears none, and it is so ordered.

The distinguished Senator from Pennsylvania is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, before being allotted my 10 minutes, I have been asked by the distinguished majority leader to make the following announcement.

Today, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 1 p.m. Following morning business, the Senate will begin debate on S. 27, the campaign finance reform bill. Under the agreement, each amendment offered will have up to 3 hours of debate prior to a vote on or in relation to the amendment. Amendments are expected to be offered during today's session. However, any votes ordered will be stacked to occur later today. Senators will be notified as a vote time is scheduled. Members are encouraged to offer their amendments as soon as possible in order to complete the bill in a timely manner.

I thank my colleagues for their attention.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I have sought recognition in morning business to reference legislation on campaign finance reform which I originally offered on September 18, 1997, as S. 1191. I refer to it today because there are a number of specific provisions which may form the basis for amendments to S. 27. I wanted to give my colleagues express notice that I might be offering such.

My bill does six things: First, it eliminates soft money; second, defines express advocacy; third, requires affidavits for independent expenditures; fourth, adopts the Maine standby public financing provision; fifth, eliminates foreign transactions which funnel money into U.S. campaigns; sixth, limits and requires reporting of contributions to legal defense funds.

A major portion of debate will occur on the issue of soft money. The Supreme Court of the United States in Buckley v. Valeo defined advocacy and issue ads in a way which has been very perplexing and very troubling, and in Buckley v. Valeo the Supreme Court said:

In order to preserve the provision against invalidation on vagueness grounds, section 6608(e)(1) must be construed to apply only to expenditures for communications that in express terms advocate the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate for Federal office.

And then the Supreme Court went on to amplify what express advocacy meant, saying vote for X or vote against X.

There have been decisions which have said that it is not mandatory to have a statement "vote for" or "vote against" in order to satisfy the requirements of express advocacy. It is my view that in the ensuing 25 years we have seen advertisements which were clear cut advocacy ads which did not contain any

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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