

(I) the aggregate amount of 50% of the contributions received by a candidate during any election cycle (not including contributions from personal funds of the candidate) that may be expended in connection with the election, as determined on June 30 and Dec. 30 of the year preceding the year in which a general election is held, over

(II) the aggregate amount of 50% of the contributions received by an opposing candidate during any election cycle (not including contributions from personal funds of the candidate) that may be expended in connection with the election, as determined on June 30 and Dec. 30 of the year preceding the year in which a general election is held.

#### PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Stephen Bell of Senator DOMENICI's staff be accorded the privilege of the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ORDERS FOR MONDAY, APRIL 2, 2001

Mr. KYL. Madam President, again, on behalf of the leader, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in recess until 5 p.m. on Monday, April 2, 2001.

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

Mr. KYL. I further ask unanimous consent that at 5 p.m. there be 30 minutes for closing remarks on S. 27, to be equally divided between the chairman and the ranking member of the Rules Committee.

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

#### PROGRAM

Mr. KYL. Madam President, again, on behalf of the leader, for the information of all Senators, the Senate will reconvene on Monday and resume the campaign reform bill for 30 minutes for closing remarks. Under the previous order, the Senate will conduct a roll-call vote on passage of S. 27, as amended, at 5:30 p.m. Following that vote, Senators should expect additional votes to occur immediately. Therefore, a late session can be expected with votes. Also, Members should expect votes to be limited to 20 minutes only; therefore, Members will have to be prompt for these votes and all votes during the week of the budget resolution.

#### ORDER FOR RECESS

Mr. KYL. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess under the previous order, following the remarks of Senators CONRAD, KENNEDY, and NICKLES.

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

Several Senators addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, thank you very much.

I say to my friend and colleague, we both have been here a long time. It is my intention to speak on campaign finance for probably 10 or 15 minutes. Does my colleague want to make a few remarks? His patience is wearing about as thin as mine.

Madam President, I will be happy to yield to my colleague a few minutes if that would accommodate his schedule.

If the Senator from North Dakota is seeking a few minutes, I am happy to accommodate his schedule.

Mr. CONRAD. I thank the Senator from Oklahoma. I will be very brief.

Mr. NICKLES. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BYRD). The Senator from North Dakota is recognized.

#### CONSIDERATION OF THE BUDGET RESOLUTION

Mr. CONRAD. I thank the Chair and the Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. President, I wanted to further engage the Senator from Arizona because the Senator from Arizona asserted that we have received the estimates of the cost of the President's tax package, and that is simply not the case. It is not true. If he has received it, I would like him to give me a copy because we haven't received it.

We haven't received it because the Joint Tax Committee has said they don't have sufficient detail about the President's package to do such a reestimate, and so we are being asked to go to a budget resolution without having the President's budget, without having the estimates from an independent source of the cost of the President's budget proposal, and with no markup in the Senate Budget Committee, which is unprecedented, not even an attempt to mark up in the Senate Budget Committee, and all under a reconciliation which denies Senators their fundamental rights to engage in extended debate and amendment.

There were remarks made on the floor that are just not true. It is one thing to have a disagreement, and we can disagree. We can even disagree on the facts. The facts are clear and direct. The differences between the present and 1993 are sharp. In 1993, we did not have the full President's budget. We did have sufficient detail for an independent, objective review of the cost of the President's tax proposals. We do not have that now. We do not have the reestimate. We do not have an objective independent review of the cost of this President's tax plan.

What has been reestimated is part of the plan. And what has been reestimated is the estate tax plan of the Senator from Arizona, not the President's estate tax plan, because the Joint Tax Committee has made clear they don't

have sufficient detail to make such a reestimate. This body is being asked to write a budget resolution without the budget from the President, without sufficient detail from this President to have an objective, independent analysis of the cost of his proposal, without markup in the committee.

That is another difference. In 1993, we had a full and complete markup in the Budget Committee. This time there is none. It has never happened before.

Some on their side will say, well, in 1983, we went to the floor with a budget resolution without having completed a markup in the committee. That is true. But at least we tried to mark up in the Budget Committee each and every year. Virtually every year we have succeeded, except this year. There wasn't even an attempt to mark up the budget resolution in the committee.

As I say, we are now being asked to go to the budget resolution with no budget from the President, without even sufficient detail to have an independent analysis of the cost of his proposal, which is a massive \$1.6 trillion tax cut that threatens to put us back into deficit, that threatens to raid the trust funds of Medicare and Social Security, and we have had no markup in the committee.

The majority is proposing to use reconciliation, which was designed for deficit reduction, for a tax cut. That is an abuse of reconciliation. It would be an abuse if it was for spending; it is an abuse if it is for a tax cut. That was not the purpose of special procedures in which Senators give up their rights, their rights to debate and amend legislation. That is wrong. That turns this body into the House of Representatives.

I say to my colleagues on the other side, in 1993, when our leadership came to some of us and asked to use reconciliation for a spending program, we said no. This Senator said no. That is an abuse of reconciliation because reconciliation is for deficit reduction, not for spending increases, not for tax cuts. We are not to short-circuit the process of the Senate—extended debate, the right to amend—because those are the fundamental rights of every Senator. That is the basis the Founding Fathers gave to this institution. The House of Representatives was to act in a way that responded to the instant demands of the moment. The Senate was to be the cooling saucer where extended debate and discussion could occur, where Senators could offer amendments so that mistakes could be avoided.

All of that is being short-circuited. All of that is being thrown aside. All of that is being put in a position in which the fundamental constitutional structure of this body is being altered.

Because the Senator from Oklahoma was so gracious, I am going to stop for the moment so he can make his remarks. Then I will resume at a later point in time. I wanted to do this as a thank-you to the Senator from Oklahoma for his good manners and graciousness. I appreciate it.