

the use of the candidate's name has been authorized by the candidate."

SEC. ____ EXPEDITED PROCEDURES.

Section 309(a) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 437g(a)), as amended by this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(14) EXPEDITED PROCEDURE.—

"(A) 60 DAYS PRECEDING AN ELECTION.—If the complaint in a proceeding is filed within 60 days immediately preceding a general election, the Commission may take action described in this paragraph.

"(B) RESOLUTION BEFORE ELECTION.—If the Commission determines, on the basis of facts alleged in the complaint and other facts available to the Commission, that there is clear and convincing evidence that a violation of this Act has occurred, is occurring, or is about to occur and it appears that the requirements for relief stated in clauses (ii), (iii), and (iv) of paragraph (13)(A) are met, the Commission may—

"(i) order expedited proceedings, shortening the time periods for proceedings under paragraphs (1), (2), (3), and (4) as necessary to allow the matter to be resolved in sufficient time before the election to avoid harm or prejudice to the interests of the parties; or

"(ii) if the Commission determines that there is insufficient time to conduct proceedings before the election, immediately seek relief under paragraph (13)(A).

"(C) COMPLAINT WITHOUT MERIT.—If the Commission determines, on the basis of facts alleged in the complaint and other facts available to the Commission, that the complaint is clearly without merit, the Commission may—

"(i) order expedited proceedings, shortening the time periods for proceedings under paragraphs (1), (2), (3), and (4) as necessary to allow the matter to be resolved in sufficient time before the election to avoid harm or prejudice to the interests of the parties; or

"(ii) if the Commission determines that there is insufficient time to conduct proceedings before the election, summarily dismiss the complaint."

SEC. ____ AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION.

Section 314 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 439c) is amended—

(1) by inserting "(a)" before "There";

(2) in the second sentence—

(A) by striking "and" after "1978."; and

(B) by striking the period at the end and inserting the following: ", and \$80,000,000 (as adjusted under subsection (b)) for each fiscal year beginning after September 30, 2001."; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(b) The \$80,000,000 under subsection (a) shall be increased with respect to each fiscal year based on the increase in the price index determined under section 315(c) for the calendar year in which such fiscal year begins, except that the base period shall be calendar year 2000."

SEC. ____ EXPEDITED REFERRALS TO ATTORNEY GENERAL.

Section 309(a)(5) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 437g(a)(5)) is amended by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting the following:

"(C) The Commission may at any time, by an affirmative vote of at least 4 of its members, refer a possible violation of this Act or chapter 95 or 96 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, to the Attorney General of the United States, without regard to any limitation set forth in this section."

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 29, 2001. The purpose of this hearing will be to review environmental trading opportunities for agriculture.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 29, 2001 to hear testimony on Debt Reduction.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the Session of the Senate on Thursday, March 29, 2001, to consider the nominations of Kenneth W. Dam of Illinois to be Deputy Secretary of the Treasury; David D. Aufhauser to be General Counsel of the Department of the Treasury; Michele A. Davis, of Virginia to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury; and, Faryar Shirzad to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 29, 2001 at 10:30 am to hold a hearing.

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

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging be authorized to meet on Thursday, March 29, 2001 from 9:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m. in Dirksen 562 for the purpose of conducting a hearing.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Aviation of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Thursday, March 29, 2001, at 10:00 a.m. on Aviation Delay Prevention Legislation.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FORESTS AND PUBLIC LANDS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Sub-

committee on Forests and Public Lands of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 29, at 2:30 p.m. to conduct an oversight hearing. The subcommittee will receive testimony on the Administration's National Fire Plan.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND RECREATION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation and Recreation of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 29 at 10:00 a.m. to conduct an oversight hearing. The subcommittee will review the National Park Service's implementation of management policies and procedures to comply with the provisions of Title I, II, III, V, VI, VII, and VIII of the National Parks Omnibus Management Act of 1998.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT, RESTRUCTURING AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Government Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, Restructuring and the District of Columbia be authorized to meet on Thursday, March 29, at 10:00 a.m. for a hearing entitled, "The National Security Implications of the Human Capital Crisis."

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SECURITIES AND INVESTMENT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Securities and Investment of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 29, 2001, to conduct a hearing on "S. 206, The Public Utility Holding Company Act of 2001."

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that William Lyons, a legislative assistant in my office, be afforded privileges of the floor during the proceedings.

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

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President,