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S. RES. 404

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed to reimburse Ed Edmondson and Henry Bellmon for the expenses which (1) were incurred by them or others on their direction as a result of and in connection with the consideration by the Committee on Rules and Administration and by the Senate of the recent contested election for a seat in the Senate from the State of Oklahoma, and (2) the Committee on Rules and Administration finds were reasonable and necessary for the proper consideration by that committee and by the Senate of such contested election and were not reimbursed to them from any other source or paid by any other person.

Payments under this resolution shall be made from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the Chairman of the Committee on Rules and Administration.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED FOR PRINTING

ENERGY INFORMATION ACT—S. 1864

AMENDMENT NO. 1435

(Ordered to be printed and referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.)

Mr. HASKELL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill (S. 1864) to establish a National Energy Information Administration and a National Energy Information System, to authorize the Department of the Interior to undertake a survey of U.S. energy resources on the public lands and elsewhere, and for other purposes.

FEDERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN ACT
AMENDMENTS OF 1976—S. 3065

AMENDMENT NO. 1436

(Ordered to be printed and to lie on the table.)

Mr. MONDALE, Mr. President, on behalf of myself and the distinguished Senator from Oregon, Mr. PACKWOOD, the distinguished Senator from Illinois, Mr. STEVENSON, and the distinguished Senator from Tennessee, Mr. BAKER, who worked with me in drafting this proposal, I am introducing an amendment to the Federal Election Commission reconstitution bill, S. 3065, to establish a Bicentennial Commission on Presidential Nominations. We are pleased that we have been joined by an impressive list of cosponsors—Mr. ABOUREZK, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BROOKE, Mr. CLARK, Mr. CRANSTON, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. DURKIN, Mr. GARY HART, Mr. PHILIP A. HART, Mr. HUDDLESTON, Mr. HUMPHREY, Mr. INOUE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. MUSKIE, Mr. RANDOLPH, Mr. RIBICOFF, and Mr. SCHWEIKER.

We believe that the FEC reconstitution bill is the best—and perhaps the only—opportunity to enact this legislation early this year so that the Commission may get off to a prompt start, and report back with its findings and recommendations so that the Congress may act on them in advance of the 1980 elections.

As one who spent a full year actively seeking the Democratic Presidential nomination, I have concluded that the manner in which we nominate and elect a President is badly in need of review.

Incredibly, there has never been a serious, fundamental and comprehensive review of our Presidential nominating process throughout our 200-year history. While in most areas they have proved to have had unfailing wisdom and foresight, the framers of our Constitution did not realize that the system of electing our Chief Executive would evolve into a jumble of State laws, party regulations and unchallenged traditions with the political parties playing the major role in the selection process.

There have been various attempts over the years to reform certain aspects of this process, but there has been no unified effort to resolve the system's shortcomings. We believe the time for one is long overdue, and that is what this commission is intended to accomplish.

This bipartisan commission, whose 18 members would be appointed equally by the President pro tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House and the President, with the chairmen of the two national parties serving ex officio, would be asked to look into all aspects of the nominating process, including the manner in which States conduct Presidential primaries, caucuses and conventions to select delegates to the national nominating conventions, State laws and rules of national political parties which govern the participation of voters and candidates in such primaries and caucuses, Presidential campaign financing, the relationship between the candidate for President and the media, alternative nominating systems including a national or regional primary system, and the manner in which candidates are nominated for the Vice Presidency.

The nominating process desperately needs a comprehensive review of these areas and their relationships to the others and which seeks to resolve the problems in a way consistent with clearly defined and broadly agreed upon goals.

The present system of nominating Presidential candidates is close to anarchy. There are really 55 separate and different systems. This year 30 States will hold separate primaries, each without any relationship to the others, and they will account for approximately three-fourths of the delegates which will attend both national conventions next summer. Thus, we virtually have a de facto national primary—albeit in fragmented form—without ever having adopted it as a matter of national policy.

The attempts at reform thus far have included proposals for a national primary, regional primaries and variations of the present system. But there has never been a national consensus on any single proposal for reform of this system. There is a consensus, however, among the cosponsors of this resolution—and many others throughout the country—that the entire system is badly in need of review.

There is always considerable interest in reforming the nominating process during a Presidential election year, but unfortunately it quickly fades after the election. Even though we believe this interest is higher now than ever before, we fear the same thing might happen again.

The Commission we advocate would report back with its findings and recommendations in early 1977, giving Congress the unique and compelling opportunity to act well in advance of the 1980 elections.

Whatever alternative system may be recommended by this Commission and adopted by the Congress, we believe we can do much better than the present system. We also believe there is no more fitting effort we could undertake in this Bicentennial Year than to try to improve one of the most important elements of our domestic process.

I ask unanimous consent that this amendment be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the amendment was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 1436

At the end of the bill, insert the following new title:

TITLE IV—COMMISSION TO STUDY
PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATING PROCESS

DECLARATION OF POLICY

SEC. 401. It is hereby declared to be the policy of the United States to improve the system of nominating candidates for election to the office of the President of the United States by studying such system in a broad manner never before attempted in the two hundred-year history of this Nation.

ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION

SEC. 402. (a) There is established the Bicentennial Commission on Presidential Nominations (hereinafter referred to as the "Commission").

(b) The Commission shall be composed of twenty members to be appointed as follows:

(1) six members shall be appointed by the President pro tempore of the Senate, of whom at least two shall be Members of the Senate and at least two shall be elected or appointed State officials;

(2) six members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, of whom at least two shall be Members of the House and at least two shall be elected or appointed State officials;

(3) six members shall be appointed by the President; and

(4) two members shall be the chairmen of the two national political parties and shall serve as ex officio members.

(c) At no time shall more than three members appointed under paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of subsection (b) be individuals who are of the same political affiliation.

(d) A vacancy in the Commission shall not affect its powers, and shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made, subject to the same limitations with respect to party affiliations as the original appointment.

(e) Twelve members shall constitute a quorum, but a lesser number may conduct hearings. The Chairman of the Commission shall be selected by the members from among the members, other than ex officio members.

FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSION

SEC. 403. (a) The Commission shall make a full and complete investigation with respect to the Presidential nominating process. Such investigation shall include but not be limited to a consideration of—

(1) the manner in which States conduct primaries for the expression of a preference for the nomination of candidates for election to the office of President of the United States and caucuses for the selection of political parties;

(2) State laws and the rules of national

political parties which govern the participation of voters and candidates in such primaries and caucuses;

(3) the financing of campaigns for the nomination of candidates for election to the office of the President of the United States;

(4) the relationship between candidates for election to the office of the President of the United States and the news media, including how candidates achieve public recognition and whether such candidates should be guaranteed access to the television media;

(5) the interrelationship of the elements described in paragraphs (1) through (4) of this section;

(6) alternative nominating systems, including but not limited to a national or regional primary system for the expression of a preference for the nomination of candidates for election to the office of President of the United States and variations on the present nominating system; and

(7) the manner in which candidates are nominated for election to the office of Vice President of the United States.

(b) The Commission shall submit to the President and to the Congress such interim reports as it deems advisable, and not later than one year after the enactment of this resolution, a final report of its study and investigation based upon a full consideration of alternatives to our current Presidential nominating system, including an analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of all such alternatives studied, together with its recommendations as to the best system to establish for the 1980 Presidential elections. The Commission shall cease to exist sixty days after its final report is submitted.

POWERS AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Sec. 404. (a) The Commission may, in carrying out the provisions of this joint resolution, sit and act at such times and places, hold such hearings, take such testimony, request the attendance of such witnesses, administer oaths, have such printing and binding done, and commission studies by any Federal agency or executive department, as the Commission deems advisable.

(b) Per diem and mileage allowances for witnesses requested to appear under the authority conferred by this section shall be paid from funds appropriated to the Commission.

(c) Subject to such rules and regulations as may be adopted by the Commission, the chairman shall have the power to—

(1) appoint and fix the compensation of an executive director, and such additional staff personnel as may be necessary, without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the Competitive service, and without regard to chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classification in General Schedule pay rates, but at such rates not in excess of the maximum rate for GS-18 of the General Schedule under section 5332 of such title; and

(2) procure temporary and intermittent services to the same extent as is authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, but at rates not to exceed \$100 a day for individuals.

COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS

Sec. 405. (a) Members of the Commission who are otherwise employed by the Federal Government shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by them in carrying out the duties of the Commission.

(b) Members of the Commission not otherwise employed by the Federal Government shall receive per diem at the maximum daily rate for GS-18 of the General Schedule when they are engaged in the performance of their

duties as members of the Commission and shall be entitled to reimbursement for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by them in carrying out the duties of the Commission.

TIMELINESS OF APPOINTMENTS

Sec. 406. It is the sense of the Congress that the appointments of individuals to serve as members of the Commission be completed within ninety days after the enactment of this resolution.

AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 407. There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution.

AMENDMENT NO. 1437

(Ordered to be printed and to lie on the table.)

Mr. WEICKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill (S. 3065), supra.

INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK AND AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FUND ACT OF 1976—H.R. 9721

AMENDMENT NO. 1438

(Ordered to be printed and to lie on the table.)

Mr. GLENN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill (H.R. 9721) to provide for increased participation by the United States in the Inter-American Development Bank, to provide for the entry of nonregional members and the Bahamas and Guyana in the Inter-American Development Bank, to provide for the participation of the United States in the African Development Fund, and for other purposes.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' POLITICAL ACTIVITIES ACT OF 1975—H.R. 8617

AMENDMENT NO. 1439

(Ordered to be printed and to lie on the table.)

Mr. TAFT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill (H.R. 8617) to restore to Federal civilian and Postal Service employees their rights to participate voluntarily, as private citizens, in the political processes of the Nation, to protect such employees from improper political solicitations, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1440

(Ordered to be printed and to lie on the table.)

Mr. BROOKE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill (H.R. 8617), supra.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS OF AMENDMENTS

AMENDMENT NO. 1414

At request of Mr. STONE, the Senator from Florida (Mr. CHILES) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. NUNN) were added as cosponsors to amendment No. 1414 intended to be proposed to H.R. 8617, an act to restore to Federal civilian and Postal Service employees their rights to participate voluntarily, as private citizens, in the political processes of the Nation, to protect such employees from improper political solicitations, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1423

At the request of Mr. WEICKER, the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. MONDALE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1423 intended to be proposed to S. 3015, the Airport and Airways Development Act Amendments of 1976.

AMENDMENT NO. 1424

At the request of Mr. BUMPERS, the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CHURCH) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1424 intended to be proposed to the S. 3015, the Airport and Airways Development Act Amendments of 1976.

NOTICE OF HEARINGS

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, on behalf of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. EASTLAND), I wish to announce that on March 17 and 18 the Subcommittee on Immigration and Naturalization will begin hearings on S. 3074, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act.

The hearings will be held in room 2228 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, beginning at 10 a.m.

NOTICE OF HEARINGS ON IMPORTED MEAT AND DAIRY PRODUCTS

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, the Subcommittee on Agricultural Research and General Legislation, of which I am chairman, will hear testimony on Thursday, March 18 on two bills relating to imported meat and dairy products.

The first is S. 588, a bill to amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act to require that imported meat and meat food products made in whole or in part of imported meat must be labeled "imported" at all stages of distribution until delivery to the ultimate consumer.

The other is S. 2598, a bill to require that imported dairy products, and imported meat and meat food products made in whole or in part of imported meat, be labeled "imported," and to provide for inspection of imported dairy products to insure that they comply with certain minimum standards of sanitation.

The hearing will begin at 9:30 a.m. in the Senate Agriculture Committee hearing room, 322 Russell Senate Office Building. Persons wishing to testify should contact the committee clerk at 224-2035 by Monday, March 15.

NOTICE OF HEARINGS

Mr. MUSKIE. Mr. President, on March 17, 18, and 19, the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Relations, Committee on Government Operations, will begin hearings on S. 2925, the Government Economy and Spending Reform Act of 1976.

Further hearings on the legislation are scheduled to be held on March 23, 24, 25, and April 6, 7, and 8.

Anyone wishing to submit testimony should call Mrs. Lucinda T. Dennis, chief clerk of the subcommittee on (202) 224-4718.

The hearings on March 17 and 18 will