

"(c) The Advisory Group is authorized to engage such technical assistance as may be required to carry out its functions, and the Secretary shall, in addition, make available to the Advisory Group such secretarial, clerical, and other assistance and such pertinent data obtained and prepared by the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare as the Advisory Group may require to carry out its functions."

(e) The amendments made by this section shall become effective on whichever of the following first occurs: (1) the first day of the month with respect to which the rate of the monthly premium for participation is raised, pursuant to section 1839(b) of the Social Security Act, after the date of enactment of this Act, or (2) July 1, 1968.

Mr. LONG of Louisiana. Mr. President, H.R. 13103 has four titles. The provisions in the first title, which make up most of the bill, revise the tax code to provide more equitable tax treatment by the United States of nonresident alien individuals and foreign corporations. The third title, which, in my view, is the most important part of the bill, establishes a presidential election campaign fund. The second and fourth titles of the bill contain a number of other provisions relating to the income tax code, medicare, and certain other matters.

Before I discuss the bill generally, I would like to point out that the provisions in titles, 2, 3, and 4 of this bill were added by the Finance Committee. As chairman of the committee, I am well aware that the Constitution provides that revenue measures must originate in the House. I do not believe, however, that this constitutional provision was intended to prevent Senators from bringing important matters before the Congress when it is clear they would not otherwise be considered. The amendments added by the Finance Committee are important, in my judgment. Furthermore, it is clear that, in most cases, there would not be an opportunity for the House to consider them in this session of Congress.

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#### PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN FUND ACT

For example, one of the most pressing problems facing our democracy is that of insuring that a favored few do not exert undue influence over the operations of Government at the expense of the interests of the public at large. In this regard, one of the most vulnerable aspects of the political process is the manner in which we finance political campaigns. As the Senators well know, a campaign for a major national office, particularly a campaign for the Presidency, is very expensive and cannot be financed today without the aid of wealthy contributors willing to make large contributions. While in some cases these contributors seek no improper reward for their generosity, never

theless, the opportunity remains. In other cases, frankly, it is almost impossible to distinguish between a campaign contribution and a bribe. The only way to remove this possible impediment to good government—the only way to make the one-man, one-vote principle a reality—is to broaden the base from which contributions are drawn.

The President recognizes this problem. In May, he sent a special message to the Congress outlining his proposals. Members of the Senate are aware of this problem; a number have introduced legislation dealing with it. The Finance Committee is concerned with this problem. We held hearings on various proposals advanced to deal with it in August and, as a result of these hearings and further deliberations, approved a very important proposal in this area. This proposal is, in my opinion, so important that it should be considered now.

#### EXPLANATION OF THE PROPOSAL

Under this proposal—the Presidential Election Campaign Fund Act, title III of the bill before us—each individual taxpayer will be able to designate on his tax return that \$1 of his taxes be appropriated to a special fund. The fund will be used to defray the campaign expenses incurred in presidential elections by political parties that received a significant portion of the total vote cast.

The two major parties will receive equal amounts, determined by dividing the total vote cast for the major party candidates in the last presidential election by two. On this basis, then, each major party will receive up to roughly \$37 million.

Minor parties—those whose candidates received 1,500,000 votes or more in the last presidential election, will receive \$1 for every vote over 1,500,000 that their candidate receives.

These payments are to be subject to this important limitation: They cannot exceed the expenses actually incurred in the presidential campaign. Expenses will only be reimbursed, of course, if they are incurred for political purposes. Personal expenses will not be reimbursed. Furthermore, the expenses must be incurred predominantly for the purpose of furthering the candidacy of the presidential and vice-presidential nominees. The expenses incurred by these nominees predominantly to support candidates for other offices will not be reimbursed. This rule will not preclude the presidential candidate from endorsing other candidates as long as the primary purpose for his appearance is to further his own candidacy. Finally, expenses will not be reimbursed unless sufficient proof that they were actually made is supplied. The Comptroller General is charged with the responsibility for establishing the amount of expenditures which can be reimbursed.