amendment I outlined earlier. I believe that this resolution, unlike most constitutional amendments, would zip through this body and zip through the State legislatures; I believe that, by passing a statute that did something meaningful about the cost of television, we would bring down the cost of campaigns without deterring public participation through contributions.

Those accomplishments would be real reform, Mr. President, and we stand ready on this side to sit down with the leaders on the other side at any time, to work out the kind of bipartisan reform package that we all know will have to be reached, in order to pass any meaningful campaign reform legislation in 1987.

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong and stringent opposition to the amendment offered by Congressman TOM DELAY of Texas. This amendment would modify our beloved Constitution to make it allow for the future enactment of mandatory spending limits in campaigns. The Supreme Court has found such limits unconstitutional. It would also give Congress and the state authority to define those expenditures deemed to influence elections, and to prohibit any regulation of the content of elections.

As a member of the House Oversight Committee, I have heard the testimony of over 40 of our colleagues on the issue of campaign finance reform. The issue of a Constitutional Amendment regarding spending limits was not considered during these hearings. As a new Member of Congress, it is no wonder why the taxpayers of our country view us with such cynicism and spite when my colleagues offer amendments that they cannot or will not support themselves. This amendment is exhibit number one of such an example.

It is time for Congress to stop wasting the people's money. It is time for us to get campaign finance reform under control. As I said in remarks that I made on the floor just last week, real campaign finance reform does three things: it bans soft money; it requires full disclosure of contributors, and it cleans up expenditures from special interest groups. We need to restore the faith of the American people in our system of government. We need to ensure the accountability of those who participate in and contribute to candidates. The Shays/Meehan bill does just that.

In closing, I implore my colleagues to stop wasting time and the people's money. It is time for us to bring to a clean, up-or-down vote, the Shays/Meehan bill.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. Are there any amendments to the joint resolution?

If not, under the rule, the Committee rises.

Accordingly the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska) having assumed the chair, Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma, Chairman pro tempore of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the joint resolution (H. J. Res. 119) proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to limit campaign spending, pursuant to House Resolution 442, he reported the joint resolution back to the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the joint resolution.

The joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the joint resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I, further proceedings on the question of the passage of the joint resolution are postponed until tomorrow.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3494, CHILD PROTECTION AND SEXUAL PREDATOR PUNISHMENT ACT

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 105–576) on the resolution (H. Res. 465) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3494) to amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to violent sex crimes against children, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2888, SALES INCENTIVE COMPENSATION ACT

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 461 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 461

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 1(b) of rule XXIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2888) to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to exempt from the minimum wage recordkeeping and overtime compensation requirements certain specialized employees. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and the Workforce now printed in the bill. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. During consideration of the bill for amendment, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may accord priority in recognition on the basis of whether the Member offering an amendment has caused it to be printed in the portion of the Congressional Record designated for that purpose in clause 6 of rule XXIII. Amendments so printed shall be considered as read. The Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may: (1) postpone until a time during further consideration in the Committee of the Whole a request for a recorded vote on any amendment; and (2) reduce to five minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on any postponed question that follows another electronic vote without intervening business, provided that the minimum time for electronic voting on the first in any series of questions shall be 15 minutes. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

(Mr. HASTINGS of Washington asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 411 is an open rule providing one hour of general debate to be equally divided between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

The rule makes in order the Committee on Education and the Workforce amendment in the nature of a substitute as an original bill for the purpose of amendment which shall be considered as read. The rule allows the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole to postpone votes during consideration of the bill and to reduce voting time to 5 minutes on a postponed question, if the vote follows a 15-minute vote.

Mr. Speaker, the rule authorizes the Chair to accord priority in recognition to Members who have preprinted their amendments in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

□ 2245

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2888 would amend the overtime and minimum wage provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act as they apply to certain private sector employees.

Presently so-called inside sales employees, that is, those who sell from inside an employer's premises using telephones, faxes and computers, are subject to the overtime requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act while outside sales employees are exempt. As nonexempt, inside sales employees often suffer from reduced earning opportunities because they are limited to a 40-hour workweek. Outside employees, on the other hand, can choose for themselves whether to work additional hours and thus receive incentive pay for additional sales made. This distinction, written into law in 1938, no longer makes sense in 1998. While inside sales employees are often as skilled and productive as outside sales employees, they are discriminated against under this act.

Mr. Speaker, in order to minimize the potential for abuse, the exemption authorized under H.R. 2888 is narrowly drawn to cover only inside sales employees who meet a number of specific criteria. For example, such individuals must receive specialized training and develop technical knowledge. They must sell predominantly to regular customers and must receive incentive compensation based on their own selling efforts.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that CBO reports the bill would have no significant impact on the budget and contains no unfunded mandates on local governments or private employers. I commend the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. FAWELL) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ANDREWS) for their efforts to correct this clear inequity in the law and urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2888.

Recognizing that certain Members have expressed reservations about this legislation, the Committee on Rules has reported an open rule in order to provide Members wishing to perfect this bill the freedom to offer their amendments on the floor. Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to support not only the rule but H.R. 2888, the Sales Incentive Compensation Act.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) for yielding me the customary half-hour, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am not opposed to this open rule, but I am very concerned about the bill that it makes in order. This bill says that employers can require people to work overtime but they no longer have to pay them time and a half. In other words, sales employees who are forced to work long hours could end up with no additional pay at all.

Mr. Speaker, this means that enormous numbers of already low-paid workers would be denied the protections of the Fair Labor Standards Act. My Republican colleagues may argue that the low salary guarantees in this bill takes care of the workers, but, Mr. Speaker, it does not.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, this bill will deny 1.5 million sales employees overtime pay. I for one think that 1.5 million American workers should be paid for the time that they spend at work.

Like many other bills my Republican colleagues have drafted, this bill helps employers at the expense of workers. It is a win-win situation, Mr. Speaker, for the employers and it is a gamble for the workers. If the worker makes big sales, the employer does well. If the worker does not make big sales, the employer still does well because he does not have to pay his worker overtime. Employees who must work long hours but do not make significant sales will be working virtually for nothing.

Anyone with any complaints, anyone who is confused about exactly who is covered under this very complicated, multi-test exemption, please do not look to this bill for clarification.

These confusing standards will create a lot of misunderstandings, a lot of fights, a lot of litigation. Just what we need, Mr. Speaker, more litigation.

My Republican colleagues may argue that the people are begging for overtime in order to make bigger commissions. Mr. Speaker, if that is the case, if so many workers want to work overtime for commission instead of time and a half, then they should be allowed to do so. But as I understand it, the amendment to make this provision voluntary was rejected. So whether you want to work overtime for little pay or you want to go home and see your family, you are really stuck working at the whim of an employer who has little to lose by chaining you in the office. This bill will force people to work longer hours, it will cut employees' incomes, it will promote lawsuits, and it will mean workers are hurt, not helped, by advances in technology.

What we really need, Mr. Speaker, if you really want to help the American worker, is to raise the minimum wage. Let us allow American workers to earn a living wage. Let us enable hard-working full-time employees the chance to take care of their families. I have no opposition to the rule, but I do oppose the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LIMITATION ON FURTHER AMENDMENTS AND DEBATE ON H.R. 2888, SALES INCENTIVE COMPENSATION ACT

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that during further consideration of H.R. 2888 in the Committee of the Whole pursuant to House Resolution 461 after the legislative day of today, no further debate or amendments to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

SALES INCENTIVE COMPENSATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 461 and rule XXIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 2888.

□ 2251

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 2888) to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to exempt from the minimum wage recordkeeping and overtime compensation requirements certain specialized employees, with Mr. Watts of Oklahoma in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered as having been read the first time.

Under the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. OWENS) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING).

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I want to express my strong support for H.R. 2888 and urge my colleagues to support the legislation. I also want to urge my colleagues to reject any amendments that may be offered to weaken or to undercut the bill.

It is not often that we can come to the floor with a bipartisan labor bill. We did it a couple of weeks ago. We are back again with another. I know that the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. FAWELL) has worked very long and hard with the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ANDREWS) and others on the Democrat side to put this bill together. That is why particularly I hope that the House will reject any amendments that would undercut the bill that has been so painstakingly negotiated and crafted on a bipartisan basis in our committee.

Mr. Chairman, the reason for this bill was better stated by former Secretary of Labor Robert Reich a few weeks ago than I could when he was describing the changed nature of, quote, sales persons in modern business. Certainly no one can deny the fact that Robert Reich is a strong, strong supporter of the employee. Let me quote just a couple of lines from Mr. Reich's speech to