sole discretion, has grounds to believe ordered, incited, assisted, or otherwise participated in the persecution of any person because of race, religion, national origin, or political opinion, during the period beginning on March 23, 1933, and ending on May 8, 1945, under the direction of, or in association with—

(A) the Nazi government of Germany;

(B) any government in any area occupied by the military forces of the Nazi government of Germany;

(C) any government established with the assistance or cooperation of the Nazi government of Germany; or

(D) any government which was an ally of the Nazi government of Germany; or

(2) pertain to any transaction as to which the United States Government, in its sole discretion, has grounds to believe—

(A) involved assets taken from persecuted persons during the period beginning on March 23, 1933, and ending on May 8, 1945, by, under the direction of, on behalf of, or under authority granted by the Nazi government of Germany or any nation then allied with that government; and

(B) such transaction was completed without the assent of the owners of those assets or their heirs or assigns or other legitimate representatives.

(b) RELEASE OF RECORDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraphs (2), (3), and (4), the Nazi War Criminal Records Interagency Working Group shall release in their entirety Nazi war criminal records that are described in subsection (a).

(2) EXCEPTION FOR PRIVACY, ETC.—An agency head may exempt from release under paragraph (1) specific information, that would—

(A) constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;

(B) reveal the identity of a confidential human source, or reveal information about the application of an intelligence source or method, or reveal the identity of a human intelligence source when the unauthorized disclosure of that source would clearly and demonstrably damage the national security interests of the United States;

(C) reveal information that would assist in the development or use of weapons of mass destruction;

(D) reveal information that would impair United States cryptologic systems or activities;

(E) reveal information that would impair the application of state-of-the-art technology within a United States weapon system;

(F) reveal actual United States military war plans that remain in effect;

(G) reveal information that would seriously and demonstrably impair relations between the United States and a foreign government, or seriously and demonstrably undermine ongoing diplomatic activities of the United States;

(H) reveal information that would clearly and demonstrably impair the current ability of United States Government officials to protect the President, Vice President, and other officials for whom protection services, in the interest of national security, are authorized;

(I) reveal information that would seriously and demonstrably impair current national security emergency preparedness plans; or

(J) violate a treaty or international agreement.

(3) APPLICATION OF EXEMPTIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In applying the exemptions listed in subparagraphs (B) through (J) of paragraph (2), there shall be a presumption that the public interest in the release of Nazi war criminal records will be served by disclosure and release of the records. Assertion of such exemption may only be made when the agency head determines that disclosure and release would be harmful to a specific interest identified in the exemption. An agency head who makes such a determination shall promptly report it to the committees of Congress with appropriate jurisdiction, including the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight of the House of Representatives. The exemptions set forth in paragraph (2) shall constitute the only authority pursuant to which an agency head may exempt records otherwise subject to release under paragraph (1).

(B) APPLICATION OF TITLE 5.—A determination by an agency head to apply an exemption listed in subparagraphs (B) through (I) of paragraph (2) shall be subject to the same standard of review that applies in the case of records withheld under section 552(b)(1) of title 5, United States Code.

(4) LIMITATION ON APPLICATION.—This subsection shall not apply to records—

(A) related to or supporting any active or inactive investigation, inquiry, or prosecution by the Office of Special Investigations of the Department of Justice; or

(B) solely in the possession, custody, or control of that office.

(c) INAPPLICABILITY OF NATIONAL SECURITY ACT OF 1947 EXEMPTION.—Section 701(a) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 431) shall not apply to any operational file, or any portion of any operational file, that constitutes a Nazi war criminal record under section 3 of this Act.

SEC. 4. EXPEDITED PROCESSING OF FOIA REQUESTS FOR NAZI WAR CRIMINAL RECORDS.

(a) EXPEDITED PROCESSING.—For purposes of expedited processing under section 552(a)(6)(E) of title 5, United States Code, any requester of a Nazi war criminal record shall be deemed to have a compelling need for such record.

(b) REQUESTER.—For purposes of this section, the term ''requester'' means any person who was persecuted in the manner described under section 3(a)(1) of this Act who requests a Nazi war criminal record.

SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall take effect on the date that is 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

The Senate bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FASTENER QUALITY ACT AMENDMENTS

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 3824) amending the Fastener Quality Act to exempt from its coverage certain fasteners approved by the Federal Aviation Administration for use in aircraft, with Senate amendments thereto, and concur in the Senate amendments.

The Clerk will read the title of the bill.

The Clerk read the Senate amendments, as follows:

Page 3, line 10, strike our ''and''.

Page 3, after line 10, insert:

(2) a comparison of the Fastener Quality Act to other regulatory programs that regulate the various categories of fasteners, and an analysis of any duplication that exists among programs; and

Page 3, line 11, strike out ''(2)'' and insert ''(3)''.

Page 3, lines 12 and 13, strike out ''paragraph (1)'' and insert ''paragraphs (1) and (2)''.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the amendments be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Wisconsin?

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, and I do not intend to object, I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) for an explanation of his unanimous consent request.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BARCIA) for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3824 requires the Secretary of Commerce to review the Fastener Quality Act to assess if its provisions are still needed and to report his findings back to Congress.

The Senate amended H.R. 3824 to require the Secretary to specifically consider other regulatory programs which currently regulate fasteners in making his determination on the continued need for the Fastener Quality Act.

Mr. Speaker, the Fastener Quality Act was signed into law in 1990. This well intended but misguided legislation requires a large percentage of metallic fasteners used in this country to be documented by a National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) certified laboratory. Although the legislation has been on the books for eight years and counting, difficulty in developing the regulations of the Act have delayed NIST from implementing the regulations until this year.

H.R. 3824, as passed by the Senate, amends the Fastener Quality Act by exempting certain fasteners produced or altered to the specifications of aviation manufacturers from the new regulations. Aviation manufacturers are already required by law to demonstrate to the FAA that they have a quality control system which ensures that their products, including fasteners, meet design specifications. Subjecting the proprietary fasteners of aviation manufacturers to a second set of federal regulations is redundant and unnecessary. In fact, the FAA has stated that doing so may even undermine the current level of aviation safety.

In addition to exempting certain fasteners used in aviation manufacturing from the provisions of the Fastener Quality Act, H.R. 3824 has two other important functions. First, it delays implementation of the NIST Fastener Quality Act regulations until after June 1, 1999. Second, the legislation requires the Secretary of Commerce to transmit to Congress a report including recommendations or changes to the Act that may be warranted due to changes in the fastener manufacturing process.

Delaying NIST's regulations until next year gives us the opportunity to take a closer look at the Fastener Quality Act, especially considering the scope seems to have grown significantly since the Act was crafted over eight years ago. Originally intended to ensure public safety, today, if NIST regulations were to be

implemented, even every-day household products like garden-hose fasteners and window fixtures could be forced to comply with the additional burdens of the Act. Furthermore, the automotive industry projects the cost of compliance for the motor vehicle industry could be greater than $300 million a year without necessarily enhancing vehicle safety.

As Chairman of the Committee on Science, I have pledged to hold additional hearings on the issue beginning next month. Technology Subcommittee Chairwoman MORELLA will again take the lead on these important hearings, and I would like to thank her for all her support and hard work to date on this important issue. We may find that changes in the fastener manufacturing process have diminished the need for the Fastener Quality Act. H.R. 3824 will give us the time needed to ensure that costly and redundant regulations do not go into force.

H.R.3824 passed the House by voice vote on June 16, 1998. It has wide bipartisan support and has been endorsed by several business associations, including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. As the Chamber concludes in their endorsement letter, ''H.R. 3824 * * * is an important step to help ensure that America's manufacturing economy and consumers are not harmed by outdated or unnecessary regulations''.

I strongly urge all my colleagues to support this common-sense legislation.

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, further reserving the right to object, I want to indicate that the minority has been consulted on this unanimous consent request and that we have no objection to its consideration.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support swift passage of H.R. 3824 so that it may be sent immediately to the President and enacted into law before the October 25th implementation date for the Fastener Quality Act regulations.

As chairwoman of the Technology Subcommittee which has held a hearing to examine the Fastener Quality Act and Aviation Manufacturing, I can report that there is consensus among the aviation industry, FAA and NIST that a federal quality assurance process already exists to certify the quality and safety of proprietary fasteners manufactured or altered specifically for use by aviation manufacturers. Adding another set of federal regulations and involving another federal agency in that process would hinder the efficiency of aviation manufacturing and add to the costs of production, while potentially degrading the level of safety currently provided by the FAA.

In addition to addressing issues raised about the Fastener Quality Act's impact on the aviation industry, I am pleased H.R. 3824 also includes an amendment that I offered during the Science Committee's mark-up of the legislation to delay the implementation of the Fastener Quality Act's regulations on all other industries until no earlier than June of 1999. The extra time will allow Congress to review the industries affected by the Fastener Quality Act and determine what changes to the Act may be needed.

Without the delay in implementation of the regulations, several industries—including the automotive manufacturing industry—may suffer production delays that will impede product delivery and increase costs. As we all know, increases in production costs result in job-layoffs and higher prices charged to consumers.

As Chairman SENSENBRENNER mentioned, the Technology Subcommittee plans to hold another hearing on this subject after the August recess. As chairwoman of the Subcommittee, I will continue to work with NIST, the automotive manufacturers and other industries impacted by the Fastener Quality Act to avoid promulgating costly regulations which are unnecessarily burdensome.

I would like to thank Chairman SENSENBRENNER and Technology Ranking Member BARCIA for their important work on this critical measure. I urge all my colleagues to support this important legislation.

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3824, a bill amending the Fastener Quality Act. The Committee on Commerce was named as an additional committee of jurisdiction on this bill and has had a longstanding interest in the issue of fastener quality and the Fastener Quality Act. This interest goes back to the 100th Congress, at which time the Committee undertook an investigation of counterfeit and substandard fasteners. This investigation resulted in the issuance of a unanimously approved Subcommittee report entitled ''The Threat from Substandard Fasteners: Is America Losing Its Grip?'' which ultimately led to the approval by our respective committees of the Fastener Quality Act of 1990.

H.R. 3824, as approved by the House, would amend the Fastener Quality act in two ways. First, the bill exempts fasteners approved for use in aircraft by the Federal Aviation Administration from the requirements of the Act. Secondly, it delays implementation of the final regulations until the Secretary of Commerce and the Congress have had an opportunity to consider developments in manufacturing and quality assurance techniques since the law was enacted.

During the consideration of the bill by the other body, the study to be conducted by the Secretary of Commerce was amended to include an analysis of other regulatory programs which cover fasteners and the extent to which there may be duplication between the Fastener Quality Act and those programs. The elimination of duplicative programs is an important and worthwhile goal, and the Committee on Commerce has no objections so that amendment.

It is my understanding that the Secretary of Commerce has delayed the implementation of the rules promulgated pursuant to the Fastener Quality Act in anticipation of this legislation. Because of the importance of this bill, and the cooperation of Chairman SENSENBRENNER in addressing our concerns throughout the process, the Committee on Commerce has chosen not to exercise its rights to separate consideration of the measure. However, we have been involved throughout the House's consideration of the legislation, and would urge its adoption.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that H.R. 3842 should be sent to the President for his signature, and urge my colleagues support this bill as well.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the initial request of the gentleman from Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 3824.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

BIPARTISAN CAMPAIGN INTEGRITY ACT OF 1997

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GOODLATTE). Pursuant to House Resolution 442 and rule XXIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 2183.

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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 further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2183) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to reform the financing of campaigns for elections for Federal office, and for other purposes, with Mr. EWING (Chairman pro tempore) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. When the Committee of the Whole House rose on Monday, August 3, 1998, amendment No. 13 by the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS) had been disposed of.

Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, August 5, 1998, no further amendment is in order except the following amendments:

Amendment No. 15 by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. TIERNEY), debatable before offered for 40 minutes; amendment No. 7 by the gentleman from California (Mr. FARR) debatable before offered for 40 minutes; amendment No. 5 by the gentleman from California (Mr. DOOLITTLE) debatable before offered for 40 minutes; amendment No. 4 by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) debatable before offered for 40 minutes; and amendment No. 8 by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON) debatable before offered for 60 minutes.

Each amendment may be offered only in the order stated and shall not be subject to amendment. The additional period of general debate prescribed under House Resolution 442 shall not exceed the time stated for each amendment pursuant to the order of the House and each amendment shall not otherwise be debatable.

Pursuant to the order of the House of the legislative day of Wednesday, August 5, 1998, it is now in order to debate