

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

The amendment is as follows:

Insert in the appropriate place in the bill the following:

SEC. . DISCLOSURE TO TAXPAYERS.

Section 6103(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end thereof a new paragraph to read as follows:

"(6) DISCLOSURE TO TAXPAYERS.—The Secretary shall ensure that any instructions booklet accompanying a general tax return form (including forms 1040, 1040A, 1040EZ, and any similar or successor forms) shall include, in clear language, in conspicuous print, and in a conspicuous place near the front of the booklet, a concise description of the conditions under which return information may be disclosed to any party outside the Internal Revenue Service, including disclosure to any State or agency, body, or commission (or legal representative) thereof."

Mr. ROTH. As I indicated earlier, this amendment has been cleared on both sides of the aisle.

Mr. KERREY. Mr. President, it is a good amendment, and I urge its adoption.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate on the amendment? If not, without objection, the amendment is adopted.

The amendment (No. 2377) was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 2378

(Purpose: To limit the disclosure and use of federal tax return information to the States to purposes necessary to administer State income tax laws)

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, the second amendment of Senator CRAIG would limit the disclosure and use of Federal tax return information to the States to purposes necessary to administer State income-tax laws.

I send the amendment to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment. By unanimous consent, the pending amendment is set aside.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Delaware [Mr. ROTH] for Mr. CRAIG, proposes amendment numbered 2378.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

On page 394, before line 16, add a new item (6) to read as follows:

"(6) the impact on taxpayer privacy of the sharing of income tax return information for purposes of enforcement of state and local tax laws other than income tax laws, and including the impact on the taxpayer privacy intended to be protected at the federal, state, and local levels under Public Law 105-35, the Taxpayer Browsing Protection Act of 1997."

Mr. ROTH. I further note that this amendment has been cleared on both sides of the aisle. It is a good amendment. I urge its adoption.

Mr. KERREY addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

Mr. KERREY. Mr. President, this is a good amendment, and I also urge its adoption.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate on the amendment? If not, without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 2378) was agreed to.

Mr. KERREY. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. ROTH. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENTS NOS. 2365 AND 2366, WITHDRAWN

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw amendment No. 2365 and amendment No. 2366.

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

The amendments (Nos. 2365 and 2366) were withdrawn.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to be able to proceed for up to 4 minutes as in morning business.

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

TRIBUTE TO ARTHUR GIBB

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I have come to the floor of the Senate many times to speak about my native State of Vermont and to say how very special it is. One of the reasons that it is so special is not only the people who are born there but some of the extraordinary people who come to Vermont and have made Vermont their home and have improved Vermont while there.

One person who we revere in Vermont is Arthur Gibb. Art Gibb served as a leader in the State legislature, one of the strongest voices in the Republican Party for environmental concerns in Vermont, and he is well respected by Republicans and Democrats alike for all he has given to the State.

Recently, Christopher Graff, chief of the Vermont Associated Press Bureau, wrote an article about Art Gibb as he turned 90. Mr. Graff says things about Art Gibb far better than I. But it is such a good profile of such a special Vermonter that I ask unanimous consent the article about my good friend, Art Gibb, be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From the Burlington Free Press, Apr. 12, 1998]

ART GIBB: A SPECIAL STATE LEADER, LAW MAKER

(By Christopher Graff)

Take a stroll through the Statehouse and peek at the portraits lining the walls. Governors, lieutenant governors, military leaders.

Among all the paintings in the Statehouse collection are just three portraits of legislators.

One is of Edna Beard of Orange, the first woman to serve in the House. She was also the first to serve in the Senate.

The second is of Reid LeFevre of Manchester, a House member starting in the 1940s who was the most colorful lawmaker of all times. LeFevre was chairman of the

House Ways and Means Committee and in his off time ran King Reid Shows, a traveling carnival that he once brought to the House chamber.

The third portrait is of Art Gibb, a legend in his own time.

Gibb's large portrait fills part of a wall off the House chamber. He is shown sitting outside and most of the painting is a wonderful, colorful landscape, with flowers, fields and mountains.

It is revealing that the portrait is more about Vermont's beauty than about Gibb.

The Weybridge Republican turns 90 this week, still bustling with energy and a passion for keeping Vermont special.

Gibb sits on the state Environmental Board, settling the sticky questions of who gets to build what where.

It is a fitting place for him. He fathered the pioneering state law that created the Environmental Board and the process of keeping development in check.

It is a great story, one that serves as a reminder of the special breed of leaders Vermont has enjoyed and the state's ability to meet head-on the problems that destroy others.

Gibb was elected to the House in 1962. He was serving on the tax-writing committee of the House when a vacancy opened in the chairmanship of the House Natural Resources Committee.

Gibb asked House Speaker Richard Mallary if he could have it—and Mallary agreed.

The outdoors enthusiast was placed in a critical role at a critical time.

A few years later newly elected Gov. Deane Davis realized southern Vermont was under siege from eager developers who cared solely about profit.

Davis turned to Gibb—the governor later described Gibb as "a man of great personal charm . . . (who) was well-known for his judicial and fair-minded temperament"—and asked him to lead a special commission to examine the problem. Out of the Gibb Commission came the framework for Act 250, passed in 1970 and still a vital part of Vermont.

Gibb says the issues that come to the board these days are ones no one imagined when Act 250 was drawn up, like snowmaking for ski areas and the siting of communications towers.

Gibb says he has seen and done a lot in his years, but of one thing he has never had any doubts. Act 250 has played a crucial role in saving what makes Vermont special.

"It leads to responsible development," he says. "When you think of the irresponsible development we had in 1969 . . . Thank God for Act 250."

As Art Gibb turns 90, we thank him for Act 250 and thank God for Art Gibb.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN ADAMS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, many of the times I have spoken about Vermont, I have talked about the fact that in small cities and towns everybody knows everybody else. We are a State of neighbors, from the stores on the corner to the places of worship and our town squares.

Recently, the Burlington Free Press wrote an article about John Adams. He has spent 40 years fitting shoes and boots and footwear for the people of Burlington, VT, and its surrounding areas.

When they were writing this article, it brought back to my wife and myself the memories of going into that same

store with John Adams with our young children, lining them up, getting their shoes. Those children are all grown now. And John Adams is still there. He is still one of the reasons why I love my home in Burlington and why Vermont always has been and always will be home.

I ask unanimous consent that an article from the Burlington Free Press, dated Sunday, April 19, 1998, entitled "Shoe Biz" be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From the Burlington Free Press, Apr. 19, 1998]

SHOE BIZ

(By Melissa Garrido)

John Adams remembers when Oldsmobiles rolled down Church Street. He recalls the days when ladies strolled by the shops in matching handbags, hats and high heels. And he can't forget the time Abernethy's department store gave away mink scarves for its 105th anniversary in 1951.

Burlington's main drag has changed since then. One thing hasn't changed: People are still wearing the wrong shoes.

"You could see where the wrinkle is on his shoe. It's in the wrong spot—he's wearing his shoe too big," said John Adams, peering over his square glasses at a man in clunky sneakers hoofing past his store, Adams Boots & Shoes.

Adams, 73, has been selling shoes on upper Church Street for more than four decades. To him, the street is the heart of Vermont. He made his best friends and found prosperity here. He watched Abernethy's endure a fire and remembers when expensive leather shoes cost \$15.

As businesses came and went, Adams' customers grew out of Stride Rites into Florsheim Royal Imperials. He has outlasted almost every other entrepreneur on Church Street.

"I've had the privilege of going from the old days to the new days," Adams said in his raspy voice. A quiet man, Adams sometimes winds up when he tries to make a point, and uses his hands to recount a story.

"I saw . . . (Church Street) transform into the Marketplace," he said. "Every time they put a brick down, it was a step toward another year."

FIRST STEPS

Adams' shoe career began in the 1950s, when he quit his job installing radio and television towers around the United States for a construction company. He felt the job was too dangerous a way for a husband and father to earn a living.

In the late 1950s, he landed a position as a shoe clerk with the Massachusetts-based Dennis Shoe Company, which rented retail space at Abernethy's, the old Vermont landmark on the corner of Church and Pearl streets.

"I didn't ask how much it paid," he said. "I just came up to work."

Adams had no clue he would remain in the foot business until the turn of the century.

In 1983, a year after Abernethy's closed, Adams relocated the Dennis Shoe Co.'s operation to Almy's in the University Mall. In 1984, the shoe company moved back downtown into the Gladstone building, but went out of business the same year. Adams bought the small store and renamed it Adams Boots & Shoes.

"I was excited about it," Adams said. "But I still wasn't my own boss. The customers were the boss; they still are."

In 1996, he moved across the street, back into the original Abernethy's building on upper Church Street, to make room for the Eddie Bauer store.

"The store has been his life," said Adams' 46-year-old son David, a senior vice president at Vermont National Bank. "It's what keeps him going."

"All he does is talk about the store," he said.

PERSONAL TOUCH

With a shiny shoe horn tucked in his back pocket, Adams bent down and pressed the outer edge of Alex Brett's foot to feel the girth of a shoe. He tugged on the tongue, poked at the space between the 11-year-old's big toe and the tip of the shoe, and squinted as he examined the vamp.

"I like the way this one feels better," Adams told Alex's father as he squeezed the sides of the left 8½ oxford.

"Which one feels better?" he asked the boy.

"The left."

Adams tossed his hands in the air and grinned: "I might be old, but I can still tell the difference."

The shoe store owner still runs his business the old-fashioned way.

He special-orders shoes, calls his elderly female customers "young gals," and he never lets customers put on and take off their own shoes.

"There's nothing that irritates me more than a clerk who watches a customer put on a shoe," said Adams, who calls himself a shoe fitter, not a shoe salesman. Unlike the average part-time shoe clerk, he brings a formal education in fitting shoes to his trade.

Decade after decade, his customers return, first with their children, then with their grandchildren. They come for his personal service and his expertise in fitting children's shoes.

For Sen. Patrick Leahy, the shoe fitter is part of his fondest memories from his days as a Burlington prosecutor in the 1960s. Leahy used to buy shoes from Adams for his children when they were in grade school. Leahy remembers when Adams would line the three up and measure their feet with a cold, metal Brannock, a device used to gauge the size and width of a foot. "He never lost his patience even when the youngest one was squirming," Leahy said.

"In an impersonal world, it's kind of nice to walk in somewhere and not only do you know the person in the store, but they know you and actually care," he said. "We still have places like this in Vermont, and that's why it will always be home."

SLOWER PACE

These days, Adams is trying to stay in business as the mom and pop shops are replaced by franchises. The four blocks of Church Street between Main and Pearl Streets have become a melange of tourists toting shopping bags, students in backpacks heading into bars, and downtown employees grabbing a quick bite to eat.

"I have no intentions of giving up, and I don't intend to retire," Adams said.

Business trends do not shock the entrepreneur.

"Everyone is concerned about Wal-Mart and the other stores. I'm not a lover of the big-box stores, but they do bring in an extra 5,000 people.

"That just means we have to work a little bit harder," he said.

Like the business in his store, Adams is slowing down.

A couple of years ago, he was diagnosed with cancer. Though he says he has "licked it," he doesn't like to talk about the ailment that keeps him away from his customers about one day a week—not even to his employees.

"I can't wait to go to work the next morning, because you have your mind on other people," Adams said. "You forget the aches and pains."

Aches and pains brought Jan Lawrence of Williston to Adams about 30 years ago. Her daughter was having foot problems, and a Barre doctor suggested she take her to Adams to have her feet fitted properly.

"You spend anything you want on clothes," said Lawrence, 52, "but never gyp on a shoe, because you'll have foot problems later on in life."

Today, Lawrence buys her shoes from only Adams.

"You are important to John at all times," she said. "Even when he is not feeling well, he does his best to serve you and your needs."

As Adams moves toward the millennium, he is adamant about remaining a part of Church Street. The shop owner is eager to see new stores like Filene's sprout in downtown and lure customers. He hopes a new department store might rekindle the heyday of Abernethy's.

"It was a lot more fun in those days than it is today," Adams said. "It was a slower pace back then. Everyone is always in a rush today."

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I thank the distinguished Senator from Delaware for his usual courtesy. I see the Senator from Iowa, so I will not suggest the absence of a quorum. I yield the floor.

Mr. GRASSLEY addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have the floor to speak for a few minutes as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

HOME HEALTH INTEGRITY PRESERVATION ACT OF 1998

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, yesterday, I introduced Senate Bill 2031, the Home Health Integrity Preservation Act of 1998. I am pleased that Senator BREAUX cosponsored this bill. This legislation will be an important tool in combating the waste, fraud and abuse that has threatened the integrity of the Medicare home health benefit.

Although the majority of home health agencies are honest, legitimate, businesses, it is clear that there have been unscrupulous providers. Last July, the Senate Special Committee on Aging, which I chair, held a hearing on this topic. The hearing exposed serious rip-offs of the Medicare trust fund, and highlighted areas that need more stringent oversight.

In response to the hearing, Senator BREAUX and I followed up with a roundtable discussion on home health fraud. The roundtable brought together key players with a variety of perspectives. Participants included law enforcement, the Administration, and the home health industry.

The roundtable yielded a number of proposals which were shaped into draft legislation and circulated to a wide variety of stakeholders. In response to comments, the draft was changed to address legitimate concerns that were