

requires workers to object—after the fact—to their money being removed from their paycheck, and then requires workers to wait for the union to rebate those funds, if they get around to doing so.

As Chairman of the Subcommittee on Employer-Employee Relations, I have held six hearings on this issue in the past four years. In each one, the Subcommittee has heard from worker after worker telling us about the one thing they wanted from their union—the basic respect of being asked for permission before the union spent their money for purposes unrelated to labor-management obligations. Yes, most of these employees were upset over finding out their head-earned dollars were being funneled into political causes or candidates they did not support. However, these employees supported their union and still overwhelmingly believe in the value of organized labor. A number of them were stewards in their union. All they want is to be able to give their consent before their union spends their money on activities which fall outside collective bargaining activities and which subvert their deeply held ideas and convictions.

As our six hearings demonstrated, individuals attempting to exercise their rights under current law often face incredible burdens, including harassment, coercion, and intimidation. The current system is badly broken and it is Congress' responsibility to fix it—not to legitimize it by adopting the Shays amendment. I urge Members to join me in opposing Section 501's sugar-coated placebo and enact meaningful reform on behalf of union workers.

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to the amendment by Representative ROGER WICKER. Much like the standard bearers to long dead civilizations, Representative WICKER's amendment illustrates the same antiquated belief that there should be hurdles that citizens must clear in order to exercise their Constitutionally guaranteed right to vote. Land owners. Male. Caucasian. One by one the spirits of freedom and democracy have worked against other misguided attempts to disenfranchise certain American voters, and it is my hope that they will prevail here today.

There is an old saying that states, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

Well, Mr. Speaker I remember.

I remember the days when African Americans in Mississippi sat cowering in their homes on election day because they were too afraid to go to the polls.

I remember when men like Medgar Evers and Vernon Dahmer were murdered in cold blood because they realized the importance of voting and tried to impress their convictions onto other African Americans in Mississippi.

I remember the two youths wounded by shotgun blasts fired through the window of a home in Ruleville, Mississippi where they were planning ways to register blacks to vote.

I remember the dead bodies of three civil rights workers, who had been trying to register blacks to vote, being discovered on a farm near Philadelphia, Mississippi.

I remember James Meredith being wounded by a white sniper as he walked in a voter registration march from Memphis to Jackson.

I remember poll taxes and literacy tests.

Mr. Speaker I remember voter intimidation and have fought long and hard against it. This debate belongs in 1960's not in 1998, and it is time to bury ideas like Representative WICKER's in the same grave with separate drinking fountains and making blacks sit at the back of the bus. This legislation is simply another attempt to appeal to mainstream sensibilities while ignoring the realistic and historically based fears of Black Americans.

Having both grown up in Mississippi, Representative WICKER and I obviously have had universally different experiences, but the things I remember make it impossible for me to support this amendment. It would be a slap in the face of the civil rights pioneers who risked their lives, were beaten and murdered in cold blood to protect both my right to vote and Representative WICKER's.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, may I be clear that all amendment have been dealt with under Shays-Meehan?

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. That is the Chair's understanding.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GEKAS) having assumed the chair, Mr. SNOWBARGER, 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 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, had come to no resolution thereon.

COMMUNICATION FROM HONORABLE JOHN A. BOEHNER, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The Speaker pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from JOHN A. BOEHNER, Member of Congress:

WASHINGTON, DC, July 28, 1998.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House,
U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you pursuant to L. Deschler, 3 *Deschler's Precedents of the United States House of Representatives* ch 11, §14.8 (1963), that I have been

served with an administrative subpoena issued by the Federal Election Commission.

Sincerely,

JOHN A. BOEHNER.

COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF MEMBER OF HONORABLE JOHN A. BOEHNER, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The Speaker pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Barry Jackson, staff member of the Honorable JOHN A. BOEHNER, Member of Congress:

WASHINGTON, DC, July 28, 1998.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House,
U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you pursuant to L. Deschler, 3 *Deschler's Precedents of the United States House of Representatives* ch. 11 §14.8 (1963), that I have been served with an administrative subpoena issued by the Federal Election Commission.

Sincerely,

BARRY JACKSON.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. METCALF. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 4237.

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

There was no objection.

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE OVERSIGHT, COMMITTEE ORDER NO. 42, UNIFICATION OF THE MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCE ADOPTED ON JULY 30, 1998

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker. I submit a committee order from the Committee on House Oversight.

Resolved, That pursuant to 2 U.S.C. §57 and 2 U.S.C. §59e, the Committee hereby orders that:

SEC. 1. Effective January 3, 1999 the amount available within the Members' Representational Allowance for franked mail with respect to a session of Congress shall not be limited by subsection (b) of Committee Order No. 41.

SEC. 2. The Committee on House Oversight shall have the authority to prescribe regulations to carry out this resolution.