

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 28

To establish as a standing order of the Senate that a Senator publicly disclose a notice of intent to objecting to any measure or matter.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 27, 2011

Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. McCASKILL, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. INHOFE, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. TESTER, Mr. JOHANNES, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BEGICH, and Mr. MANCHIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

To establish as a standing order of the Senate that a Senator publicly disclose a notice of intent to objecting to any measure or matter.

1 *Resolved,*

2 **SECTION 1. ELIMINATING SECRET SENATE HOLDS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—

4 (1) COVERED REQUEST.—This standing order
5 shall apply to a notice of intent to object to the fol-
6 lowing covered requests:

7 (A) A unanimous consent request to pro-
8 ceed to a bill, resolution, joint resolution, con-

1 current resolution, conference report, or amend-
2 ment between the Houses.

3 (B) A unanimous consent request to pass
4 a bill or joint resolution or adopt a resolution,
5 concurrent resolution, conference report, or the
6 disposition of an amendment between the
7 Houses.

8 (C) A unanimous consent request for dis-
9 position of a nomination.

10 (2) RECOGNITION OF NOTICE OF INTENT.—The
11 majority and minority leaders of the Senate or their
12 designees shall recognize a notice of intent to object
13 to a covered request of a Senator who is a member
14 of their caucus if the Senator—

15 (A) submits the notice of intent to object
16 in writing to the appropriate leader and grants
17 in the notice of intent to object permission for
18 the leader or designee to object in the Senator's
19 name; and

20 (B) not later than 2 session days after
21 submitting the notice of intent to object to the
22 appropriate leader, submits a copy of the notice
23 of intent to object to the Congressional Record
24 and to the Legislative Clerk for inclusion in the

1 applicable calendar section described in sub-
 2 section (b).

3 (3) FORM OF NOTICE.—To be recognized by the
 4 appropriate leader a Senator shall submit the fol-
 5 lowing notice of intent to object:

6 “I, Senator _____, intend to object to
 7 _____, dated _____. I will submit a copy of
 8 this notice to the Legislative Clerk and the
 9 Congressional Record within 2 session days and
 10 I give my permission to the objecting Senator
 11 to object in my name.”. The first blank shall be
 12 filled with the name of the Senator, the second
 13 blank shall be filled with the name of the cov-
 14 ered request, the name of the measure or mat-
 15 ter and, if applicable, the calendar number, and
 16 the third blank shall be filled with the date that
 17 the notice of intent to object is submitted.

18 (4) NOTICES ON THE SENATE FLOOR.—The re-
 19 quirement to submit a notice of intent to object to
 20 the Legislative Clerk and the Congressional Record
 21 shall not apply in the event a Senator objects on the
 22 floor of the Senate and states the following:

23 “I object to _____, on behalf of Senator
 24 _____.”

25 (b) CALENDAR.—

1 (1) OBJECTION.—Upon receiving the submis-
2 sion under subsection (a)(2)(B), the Legislative
3 Clerk shall add the information from the notice of
4 intent to object to the applicable Calendar section
5 entitled ‘Notices of Intent to Object to Proceeding’
6 created by Public Law 110-81. Each section shall in-
7 clude the name of each Senator filing a notice under
8 subsection (a)(2)(B), the measure or matter covered
9 by the calendar to which the notice of intent to ob-
10 ject relates, and the date the notice of intent to ob-
11 ject was filed.

12 (2) OBJECTION ON BEHALF.—In the case of an
13 objection made under subsection (a)(4), not later
14 than 2 session days after the objection is made on
15 the floor, the Legislative Clerk shall add the infor-
16 mation from such objection to the applicable Cal-
17 endar section entitled “Notices of Intent to Object
18 to Proceeding” created by Public Law 110–81. Each
19 section shall include the name of the Senator on
20 whose behalf the objection was made, the measure or
21 matter objected to, and the date the objection was
22 made on the floor.

23 (c) REMOVAL.—A Senator may have a notice of in-
24 tent to object relating to that Senator removed from a cal-

1 endar to which it was added under subsection (b) by sub-
2 mitting to the Legislative Clerk the following notice:

3 “I, Senator _____, do not object to _____,
4 dated _____.” The first blank shall be filled with
5 the name of the Senator, the second blank shall be
6 filled with the name of the covered request, the
7 name of the measure or matter and, if applicable,
8 the calendar number, and the third blank shall be
9 filled with the date of the submission to the Legisla-
10 tive Clerk under this subsection.

11 (d) OBJECTING ON BEHALF OF A MEMBER.—Except
12 with respect to objections made under subsection (a)(4),
13 if a Senator who has notified his or her leader of an intent
14 to object to a covered request fails to submit a notice of
15 intent to object under subsection (a)(2)(B) within 2 ses-
16 sion days following an objection to a covered request by
17 the leader or his or her designee on that Senator’s behalf,
18 the Legislative Clerk shall list the Senator who made the
19 objection to the covered request in the applicable “Notice
20 of Intent to Object to Proceeding” calendar section.

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