

CFA news

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Election '84

CFA Announces Endorsements

The Consumer Federation of America held a Capitol Hill press conference in early October to announce its "Consumer Agenda for the '80s" and to endorse candidates seeking office in the November elections.

In Senate races, CFA endorsed 10 candidates, including three incumbents and seven challengers or candidates for open seats. In the House, CFA endorsed 71 incumbents and 16 challengers or candidates for open seats.

"Voters throughout the country are frightened by Congress' insensitivity to consumer concerns," Gene Kimmelman, CFA's Legislative Director, told the press conference. "CFA's endorsements let voters know who have consistently supported policies that would guarantee consumers safe and effective products at a reasonable price."

Kimmelman also outlined the key consumer issues facing members of Congress last year and for the remainder of the decade:

- Preserving affordable, reliable phone service in a competitive telecommunications environment;
- Protecting low- and moderate-income consumers from the skyrocketing, confusing fees of a deregulated banking industry;
- Cleaning up toxic wastes which threaten the health of citizens throughout the country;
- Increasing efforts to get unsafe products off the market and aiding the innocent victims of defective products;
- Reducing indoor air pollution that threatens the health and breath of all Americans; and
- Preventing the deregulation of low-cost "old" natural gas.

Two of the three Senate incumbents endorsed by CFA—Sen. Joseph Biden (D-DE) and Sen. Claiborne Pell (D-RI)—addressed these key issues at the CFA press conference, as did the 14 CFA-endorsed candidates for the House who also spoke to the press gathering.

Senators Pell and Biden spoke against the decontrol of "old" natural gas, which would cost consumers up to \$40 billion. Representative Fernand St Germain (D-RI) stressed the need for adequate consumer protections in any bank deregulation legislation, and Congressman James Florio (D-NJ) pledged continuing leadership to improve and strengthen the Superfund toxic clean-up program.

California Democratic Congressman Henry Waxman talked to the press gathering about the importance of strengthening the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and the need for cautious treatment of product liability legislation, while Congressmen Al Swift (D-WA) and John Bryant (D-TX) addressed the need to protect consumers from dramatic phone rate hikes after the AT&T breakup. Republican Congresswoman Claudine Schneider from Rhode Island praised CFA for its work on indoor air pollution and pledged her continuing support for cleaning up indoor air.

Other House candidates who appeared at the Capitol Hill press conference included: Rep. Joseph Minish (D-NJ); Rep. James Howard (D-NJ); Rep. Bruce Vento (D-MN); Rep. Howard Wolpe (D-MI); Rep. Peter Kostmayer (D-PA); Rep. Bruce Morrison (D-CT); Rep. Barbara Boxer (D-CA); Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-OH); Rep. James Scheuer (D-NY); and Rep. Charles Schumer (D-NY).

Since 1976, CFA has been endorsing Congressional candidates, Kimmelman told the



Senator Joseph Biden leads off Capitol Hill press conference at which CFA announced its "Consumer Agenda for the '80s" and made endorsements of nearly 100 Congressional candidates seeking office in the November elections.

CFA photos by Jack Gillis

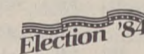
press conference, "to ensure that members of Congress are held accountable at election time for both their record and their rhetoric."

The endorsement of incumbent candidates is based on their voting records, while challengers are requested to complete a detailed questionnaire on important consumer legislation of the past year, Kimmelman explained. "The challengers responses are then compared with the career consumer voting record of the incumbent they are opposing."

The average 1983 consumer voting record of the endorsed House incumbents was 93 percent, he said, while the average 1983 consumer voting record of the endorsed Senate incumbents, including House members running for Senate seats, was 84 percent.

See Inside

For a complete list of CFA-endorsed candidates.



The average 1983 consumer voting record of the House incumbents opposed by CFA was 14 percent, Kimmelman said, while the record of Senate incumbents opposed by CFA, including one member of the House running for the Senate, is 21 percent.

"By electing CFA's slate of candidates, consumers can rest assured that their pocketbooks will be protected and their interests will be well represented in Washington," Kimmelman concluded.

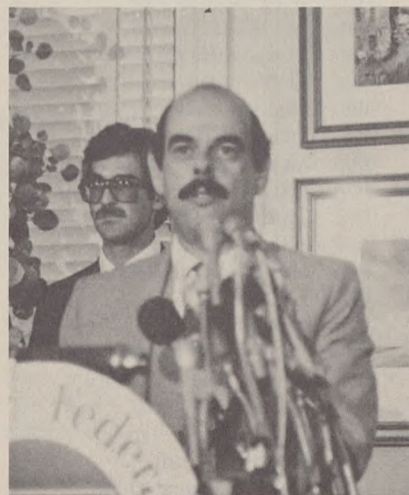
Don't Forget:
Consumer Assembly '85
January 31 & February 1, 1985
Washington Plaza Hotel



House Commerce Subcommittee Chairman Florio



House Banking Committee Chairman St Germain



House Health Subcommittee Chairman Waxman

Election '84

CFA-Endorsed Candidates

SENATE

DE: Sen. Joseph Biden	MN: Joan Growe
IA: Rep. Tom Harkin	NH: Rep. Norman D'Amours
IL: Rep. Paul Simon	RI: Sen. Claiborne Pell
MA: John Kerry	TN: Rep. Albert Gore, Jr.
MI: Sen. Carl Levin	TX: Lloyd Doggett

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AZ: Rep. James McNulty (D-5th)	NM: Rep. Bill Richardson (D-3rd)
CA: Rep. Sala Burton (D-5th)	NY: Rep. Thomas Downey (D-2nd)
Rep. Barbara Boxer (D-6th)	Rep. Robert Mrazek (D-3rd)
Rep. George Miller (D-7th)	Rep. Gary Ackerman (D-7th)
Rep. Ronald Dellums (D-8th)	Rep. James Scheuer (D-8th)
Rep. Peter Stark (D-9th)	Rep. Charles Schumer (D-10th)
Rep. Don Edwards (D-10th)	Rep. Edolphus Towns (D-11th)
Rep. Richard Lehman (D-18th)	Rep. Ted Weiss (D-17th)
Rep. Henry Waxman (D-24th)	Tom Buckel (D-27th)
Rep. Howard Berman (D-26th)	Rep. Matthew McHugh (D-28th)
Rep. Mel Levine (D-27th)	ND: Rep. Byron L. Dorgan (D-at large)
Rep. Esteban Torres (D-34th)	OH: Jim Sherck (D-5th)
CT: Rep. Barbara Kennelly (D-1st)	Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-9th)
Rep. Samuel Gejdenson (D-2nd)	Rep. Dennis Eckart (D-11th)
Rep. Bruce Morrison (D-3rd)	Rick Sloan (D-12th)
Rep. William Ratchford (D-5th)	Rep. Donald Pease (D-13th)
FL: Rep. Larry Smith (D-16th)	Rep. Dohn Seiberling (D-14th)
IL: Rep. Sidney Yates (D-9th)	Rep. Edward Feighan (D-19th)
Rep. Lane Evans (D-17th)	Rep. Mary Rose Oaker (D-20th)
IN: Michael Barnes (D-3rd)	Rep. Louis Stokes (D-21st)
IA: Jerry Fitzgerald (D-5th)	Rep. Ron Wyden (D-3rd)
KS: Jack Reardon (D-3rd)	OR: Ruth McFarland (D-5th)
MD: Rep. Parren Mitchell (D-7th)	Larryann Willis (D-2nd)
Rep. Michael Barnes (D-8th)	PA: Rep. Thoms Foglietta (D-1st)
MA: Rep. Silvio Conte (R-1st)	Rep. Robert Edgar (D-7th)
Rep. Barney Frank (D-4th)	Rep. Peter Kostmayer (D-8th)
Rep. Edward Markey (D-7th)	Rep. William Coyne (D-14th)
Rep. Joe Moakley (D-9th)	Rep. Douglas Walgren (D-18th)
Rep. Gerry Studds (D-10th)	RI: Rep. Fernand St Germain (D-1st)
MI: Rep. Howard Wolpe (D-3rd)	Rep. Claudine Schneider (R-2nd)
Rep. Sander Levin (D-17th)	SC: Jeff Smith (D-4th)
MN: Rep. Bruce Vento (D-4th)	TX: Rep. John Bryant (D-5th)
Rep. Martin Sabo (D-5th)	Dan Kubiak (D-6th)
Rep. Gerry Sikorski (D-6th)	Don Buford (D-8th)
Collin Peterson (D-7th)	Rep. Ronald Coleman (D-16th)
Rep. James Oberstar (D-8th)	Rep. Soloman Ortiz (D-27th)
MS: Robert Clark (D-2nd)	UT: Frances Farley (D-2nd)
MO: Rep. Alan Wheat (D-5th)	VA: John McGlennon (D-1st)
NH: Dudley Dudley (D-1st)	WA: Rep. Al Swift (D-2nd)
NJ: Rep. James Florio (D-1st)	WV: Rep. Harley Staggers (D-2nd)
Rep. James Howard (D-3rd)	Rep. Robert Wise (D-3rd)
Rep. Peter Rodino (D-10th)	WI: Rep. Robert Kastenmeier (D-2nd)
Rep. Joseph Minish (D-11th)	Rep. Jim Moody (D-5th)
	Rep. David Obey (D-7th)

Consumers Win Victory As House Passes Amusement Ride Bill

The U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill in early October restoring the Consumer Product Safety Commission's jurisdiction over unsafe amusement rides in fixed-site parks.

The bill, which passed the House by a vote of 300 to 119, gives the CPSC authority to investigate serious accidents on amusement park rides and requires park operators to report any ride defects to the safety agency which will act as a national clearinghouse, informing other parks with similar rides of possible hazards.

The bill, sponsored by Rep. Paul Simon (D-IL), received strong support from Rep. Henry A. Waxman (D-CA) whose Subcommittee on Health and Environment held hearings on the bill. While the House vote came too late for the Senate to take similar action, supporters of the bill say the House vote paves the way for quick approval of the bill in a lame duck session or for action early next year.

Specifically, the bill gives the CPSC full authority to inspect and regulate fixed-site amusement park rides in states with no inspection program. Currently, 25 states have no internal inspection program. The CPSC already has jurisdiction to inspect and regulate rides at parks or carnivals that move from one site to another, but its juris-

diction over fixed-site parks was stripped away early in the Reagan Administration.

Because of limited manpower and funding, the CPSC will not conduct routine inspections at fixed-site parks, but will now have the authority to investigate a ride which has resulted in death or serious injury. The agency will also collect defect information

CPSC will now have authority to investigate rides which have caused serious injury or death.

from parks in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, and will act as a national clearinghouse to disseminate the defect information to parks with similar rides.

According to the CPSC, there were 12 deaths at amusement parks last year, and an estimated 10,000 injuries.

"This legislation restores crucial oversight authority to the CPSC," said Anne Averyt, CFA's Product Safety Director. "It will help ensure that amusement parks are a place to have fun, instead of a place to fear because of possible serious injury."

Tele-Consumer Hotline Passes First Test



The Tele-Consumer Hotline has just passed its first test and during coming months will be "rolled out" throughout the nation.

The hotline was conceptualized, planned, and implemented by the Consumer Federation of America and the Tele-Communications Research and Action Center (TRAC) earlier this year to help consumers cope with changes in phone service resulting from divestiture. CFA Executive Director Stephen Brobeck noted that "these changes affect not only long-distance service, but also equipment rental and purchase, and repairs."

During the test period from mid-July to mid-September, the hotline offered a toll-free number to consumers in the six-state Bell Atlantic service area and free fact sheets on pre-subscription, choosing a long-distance company, buying versus leasing a phone, getting repairs, and special features offered by long-distance companies.

The number of requests for information increased steadily as news coverage expanded—from 63 the first full week, to 385 the last week in August. Call-backs to these consumers revealed that 76% were "very satisfied" and 16% "somewhat satisfied" with the hotline. The only significant dissatisfaction was the hotline's inability to provide information on rates.

In the future, the hotline will continue to operate in the mid-Atlantic region. Bell Atlantic Co., which provided nearly half of the funding for the test, will continue its support. Later this year the hotline service will also be extended to consumers in Southwestern Bell's service area because that company has also pledged a contribution.

Additional companies are to join or continue participating in the project, as well. Brobeck said he expects that at least three regional companies or major local companies will sign on before the end of the year, and that most of the long-distance companies supporting the test—AT&T Communications, GTE-Sprint, MCI, and SBS Skyline—will renew their support.

In the near future, the hotline will be established as an organization independent of CFA and TRAC. It will be incorporated with its own board of directors made up of eight consumer advocates including Brobeck and TRAC's Executive Director, Sam Simon.

Brobeck calls the hotline "the first nationwide toll-free information service run by consumerists outside the government and business community." He stressed that "regional and local companies have made it clear that they are mainly supporting the hotline because it provides a credible service to which they can refer callers requesting information which the courts have restricted these companies from supplying themselves."

CPSC Cuts Budget On Indoor Pollution

The clean-up of indoor air pollution has been put on the back burner by the Consumer Product Safety Commission, which dropped the project's priority status this summer and now has cut back the program's funding.

The CPSC, which met in September to set its FY 1986 budget, appropriated only \$600,000 for the research and regulation of indoor air pollution—a cut of more than one-third from this year's one million dollar budget for indoor air. In fact, the Commission's indoor air program has been funded at the one million dollar level for the past three fiscal years, during which time it was also designated a priority program.

"The Commission is clearly taking a step backward in protecting American consumers from the hazards of polluted indoor air," said CFA Product Safety Specialist Mary Ellen Fise. "While evidence continues to mount regarding the harmful effects of our indoor air, the federal dollars allocated to address this problem are shrinking. The problem of indoor pollution is a complicated problem involving numerous polluting sources in the home, and aggravated by our own use patterns of products and by our attempts to seal up our homes to conserve on energy costs. The problem has been a long time in the making and it will take time, dollars and a major commitment by the government working with the private sector to solve it. The CPSC has done important work in the area already, but it seems like they are now backing down."

The FY 86 priority projects, which received the largest chunk of the Commission's recommended \$37-million-plus budget request, included fire toxicity, electrocution hazards, portable electric heaters, gas heating systems and riding lawn mowers.

Priority projects traditionally receive greater budget appropriations at the Commission, which is one reason that the indoor air budget was cut, Fise said.

"These priority projects are all important," she admitted. "But it is also vital for the Commission to continue pursuing its long-term investigation of indoor air pollution. We wouldn't be able to solve that problem in a fiscal year, but we will never solve it if we cut off funds at this early stage."

Fise added that the Commission's budget recommendations must now be sent to OMB for review and will be the subject of Congressional appropriations' hearings in early 1985. "We may now have to turn to Congress to restore these funds," Fise said.

Despite the cuts in the indoor air budget Fise said, "there were victories in the debate." The Commission voted to fund a portion of the National Center for Health Statistics' National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (N-HANES). CPSC will now join with EPA, the Department of Energy and other Federal agencies, to design a portion of this national health survey that will provide important data on indoor air pollution in American homes. In its recent petition to the Commission (see September *CFAnews*), CFA specifically requested funds to allow the CPSC to take part in this health survey.

CFA also petitioned the Commission to continue its investigation of chlorocarbons, especially methylene chloride. Methylene chloride is a chemical found in paint strippers, thinners and aerosols, that has been linked to cancer in laboratory animals. The Commission voted to convene a Chronic Hazard Advisory Panel (CHAP) in FY 1986 on methylene chloride to evaluate the risks posed by the chemical. Based on the CHAP's report, the Commission will decide whether

New Faces at CFA



CFA photo by Anne Avery

New staff additions at CFA include Mary Ellen Fise, Product Safety Specialist, and Erika Landberg, Administrative Director. Fise, an attorney and member of the D.C. bar, has long worked on product safety issues, first with the National Consumers League and then as a member of the public interest law firm of Swankin and Turner. Fise is also a member of several national standards setting committees, and she teaches a course on product safety at the University of Maryland. Landberg comes to CFA with broad experience in both administration and community organizing. Former Associate Executive Director of CFA-member group, The Continental Association of Funeral and Memorial Societies, she has also managed a political campaign, and has been Assistant Director for Self-Determination for D.C., where she led the lobbying effort in Congress for voting representation for the District of Columbia.

to regulate consumer exposure to the chemical. "It's not exactly putting chlorocarbons on a fast track as the CFA petition requested," Fise said, "but it is an important step toward evaluating a possible health threat."

Fise did, however, praise the Commission's decision to fund an indoor air pollution project which will test air cleaners, air-to-air heat exchangers, ventilation control devices, alarms and other products which function to maintain indoor air quality at acceptable levels.

"This is an extremely important project," she said. "While we need to do a great deal more research into the causes of polluted indoor air and its effect on our health, it is crucial at this early stage to also begin work on ways to relieve the pollution. People ask us what they can do now, and just telling them to open a window isn't much help. So this kind of research is essential."

Congress Passes Auto Theft Bill

In early October both the House and Senate passed legislation designed to curb the theft of motor vehicles and their parts. This will be accomplished by requiring car manufacturers to affix or inscribe an identification number on various car parts on all high-theft models. The legislation also provides for criminal penalties for removing or tampering with these numbers.

Consumer Federation of America's Executive Director Stephen Brobeck called passage of HR 6257 "a victory for consumers which will lower theft-related auto insurance premiums and allow other consumer savings." To ensure that the savings from reduced thefts are shared with consumers, the legislation requires insurance firms to keep records on thefts and related premiums and to pass on this information to the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Earlier in the year, the Coalition to Halt Automotive Theft released a study prepared by CFA which estimated that auto theft costs consumers more than \$3 billion annually. Brobeck, the report's author, commented that the legislation should reduce these expenses by at least \$1 billion, and possibly by as much as \$2 billion.

LEGISLATION ACTION

Issue/Bill Sponsor	Description	Legislative Action
Cable HR 4103/Rep. Wirth (D-CO) S 66/Sen. Packwood (R-OR)	Would set federal standards for the regulation of cable television rates, franchising procedures and franchise renewal standards.	HR 4103 passed the House on October 1. Final version passed both Houses, October 11 with Metzenbaum amendment, supported by CFA, that gives the public full participation in the cable franchising process. Now awaiting President's signature.
Superfund HR 5640/Rep. Florio (D-NJ) S 2892/Sen. Stafford (R-UT)	Would reauthorize and strengthen the hazardous waste clean-up program, including strong citizen provisions.	Passed the House on August 10. No action in the Senate on the proposed extension of the Superfund, as they gave final Congressional approval to a four-year reauthorization of a much weaker hazardous waste bill (HR 2867).
Generic Drug Patent Extension HR 3605/Rep. Waxman (D-CA) S 1306/Sen. Hatch (R-UT)	Would streamline the regulatory procedure to approve generic copies of brand-name drugs, driving drug prices down through competition, but would also extend the marketing monopoly for brand-name drugs from 2-5 years by extending the patents on these drugs.	In a procedurally complex move, the House, on September 6, approved the substance of the Waxman bill, but adopted some provisions from the Senate version (the Hatch bill).
Beer S 1680/Sen. DeConcini (D-AZ)	Would provide beer wholesalers a special exemption from anti-trust laws, raising beer prices.	Senate vote 67-28 against attaching the "beer bill" to the continuing resolution, effectively killing this anti-consumer legislation this year.



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Universal Phone Service In Jeopardy?

by Gene Kimmelman, Legislative Director

An ominous cloud hovers over our nation's telephone system. Competition, responsible for cheap long distance service and new telephone products, is being manipulated by the telephone industry to benefit business customers and increase phone company profits. Federal regulators have, so far, rubber-stamped industry sponsored price schemes and market plans that threaten the availability of affordable phone service for all Americans.

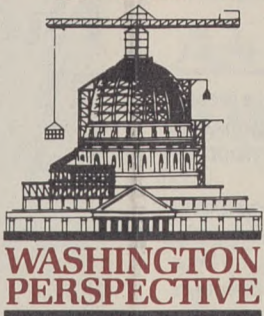
The Bell breakup has failed to live up to its promised consumer benefits. While the American public may want cheaper long distance service and fancy new telephone gadgets, it never bargained to give up cheap, simple, reliable local service in return. After all, consumers will only benefit from the information age services developed through competition if they can afford to use them. Unless basic phone service—including the cost of using the phone—remains affordable, the new telecommunications products, all of which work off the telephone line, will remain outside the reach of the average American household.

Current Federal Communications Commission (FCC) decisions and local phone company rate requests threaten to drive the cost of basic phone service through the roof. Last year, the FCC signaled its intent to shift over \$6.5 billion of long distance costs onto local phone bills through an interstate end-user access charge. A similar state access charge would add an equivalent amount to local charges. Simultaneously, local phone companies asked state regulators for over \$10 billion in rate increases, and announced their intent to raise installation charges to their "real cost"—estimated to run as high as \$200. Although vigilant regulators will grant only a portion of these rate requests, the message to consumers is clear: in order to participate in the benefits of the Bell breakup, you must pay through the nose.

Problems with the End-User Access Charge

Although an appealing concept in theory, the end-user access charge is neither equitable nor necessary in a competitive telecommunications market. The FCC's access charge plan is nothing more than a backdoor method of shifting billions of dollars of long distance costs from business to residential customers, and from long distance to local callers. The FCC's plan, which would reduce business costs sharply, overreacts to the problem of large users leaving the public network ("bypass"), rather than targeting rate reductions to problem areas in the current rate structure.

When fully implemented, the FCC's access charge plan will cause the greatest wealth transfer in telephone history. As the FCC transforms long distance charges into access charges, business callers stand to save \$3.5–4.0 billion per year in long distance charges. The one percent of corporate America that is responsible for 40 percent of the nation's



long distance business charges would save over \$1 billion per year. Since similar price shifts would occur within each state to prevent major differences between interstate and intrastate long distance charges, the previous numbers reflect just about half of the access charge's impact.

More alarming than this multi-billion dollar shift from business to residential charges is the new financial burden that access charges would place on consumers who seldom make long distance calls. The FCC's plan would leave the 65 percent of residential customers who make few or no long distance calls paying anywhere from \$7–14 a month for something they do not need or use—interstate and intrastate long distance access.

Phone Service to Become a Luxury of the Rich?

When added to other new costs that are driving up local rates, access charges may contribute to the destruction of universal telephone service. The local service charge, which used to reflect the entire cost of service, is now only a portion of that cost. Consumers must now buy or rent a phone, purchase their inside wiring, pay to insure the wiring (or pay to repair it later), and in some cases pay usage charges for local calls, in addition to the basic service charge, installation charges and a sizable deposit in many instances.

Bell System data indicate that many households may be forced to give up their phones because of these rate increases. In a study commissioned by the former Bell operating companies, National Economic Research Associates (NERA) found that 10.6 percent of households would be without phone service if local rates rise \$10/month, and 15.9 percent if rates rise \$20/month. This translates into over 8.3 million households without a phone with a \$10 increase and over 12.7 million households phoneless with a \$20 increase in local rates. These numbers do not include the rising cost of telephone installation. Since the average cost of local service is currently about \$12–14/month, implementation of the Commission's access charge plan—a \$7–14/month rate hike by itself—and a portion of the rate increases requested by local phone companies is likely to result in the dramatic drop in telephone penetration predicted by the NERA study.

CFA believes that recent telephone industry pricing proposals and the FCC's access charge decision threaten universal telephone service. Local and long distance phone companies, and the Commission, have used the Bell breakup and increased competition as an excuse to raise basic service charges and transform billions of dollars of long distance costs into local charges. These dramatic rate increases are both unnecessary and inequitable. There is no reason why an industry that achieved universal service—telephone service reaching over 93 percent of American homes—under monopoly conditions cannot do the same in a competition market.

Consumer Banking Reforms Advance

In mid-September, the Senate passed comprehensive banking legislation that included important consumer protections. However, the bill also contains non-consumer provisions that are strongly opposed by House Banking Chairman Fernand St Germain (D-RI). Although St Germain's opposition means the bill is unlikely to receive House approval, momentum is building in support of consumer banking legislation.

The major purpose of the Senate bill (S 2851) was to respond to defacto banking deregulation, which violates the spirit of 1930s' legislation prohibiting banks from engaging in non-bank business, and non-banks from offering banking services. Three major provisions of the Senate bill were designed to address these issues.

The least controversial would redefine "bank" in federal law to prohibit non-bank banks from escaping federal regulation. The two other provisions, both opposed by St Germain, would allow bank subsidiaries to underwrite some securities and would sanction regional interstate banking. Before the bill was voted on, controversial provisions allowing banks to enter the real estate and insurance businesses were dropped.

Two important consumer reforms were added to S 2851 in an amendment by Sen. Howard Metzenbaum (D-OH), which the Consumer Federation of America and Consumers Union helped to develop and lobbied for. The consumer provisions would have required banks to disclose fees on consumer accounts and would have limited interest rate increases on adjustable-rate mortgages to 5% over the life of the mortgage. A third pro-consumer provision, sponsored by Sen. Christopher Dodd (D-CT), would have required disclosure of the hold periods on deposited checks.

While Chairman St Germain is not tipping his hand, his staff did meet with consumer lobbyists to discuss adding consumer provisions to the House banking bill. Moreover, at CFA's candidate endorsement press conference, St Germain affirmed that his central goal as House Banking Chairman is the advancement of the consumer interest.

CFA Executive Director Stephen Brobeck noted that "momentum is clearly building in support of consumer banking protections. Congress is becoming more aware of the need for these protections as deregulation allows consumer accounts to proliferate in number and complexity. Also, bankers' acceptance of disclosure requirements is increasing, partly because they see these reforms as a quid pro quo for consumer acceptance of continued deregulation."

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