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Campaign Reform Bill Advances

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The Senate yesterday strongly endorsed federal financing of presidential and congressional political campaigns and moved toward final passage of the landmark reform bill.

On a 55 to 31 vote, the Senate defeated a substitute offered by Senator Robert Dole (Rep-Kan.), former GOP national chairman, which would have stricken all provisions dealing with election financing.

Earlier hopes to finish the bill at yesterday's session disappeared when a number of senators insisted on proposing amendments.

But the Senate did resolve a dispute over setting ceilings on the amount candidates may spend in their campaigns.

The formula adopted would set a spending ceiling of 12 cents per voter in the general election and eight cents in primaries. For presidential candidates that would amount to \$17 million in the general election and more than \$10 million in primaries.

The original bill provided 15 cents per voter (\$21 million for a presidential candidate) in the general election and ten cents per voter in the primaries.

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