

# C-SPAN / NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

C-SPAN SURVEY SHOWS MAJORITY OF U.S. SENATORS  
FAVOR OR LEAN TOWARD TELEVISED SESSIONS

WASHINGTON, D.C., MONDAY, MARCH 2, 1981 -- Televised proceedings from the floor of the U.S. Senate could become a reality in the coming months according to a survey of 100 U.S. Senators. The survey, conducted during the past two weeks by the C-SPAN staff, found 57 Senators either favor gavel-to-gavel television coverage of their legislative sessions or lean toward some form of coverage. Only eight Senators reported they were firmly against allowing television cameras into the Senate chambers. (A complete list of how each Senator responded is attached.)

A resolution, S.R. 20, to open the Senate to television was introduced by Senate Majority Leader Howard Baker (R-TN) on the first day of the 97th Congress, January 5, 1981. The resolution was then referred to the Senate Administration and Rules Committee for action. A staff report on the feasibility of television in the Senate was due to be submitted to the Rules Committee by March 1.

C-SPAN, a private, non-profit cooperative of the cable television industry, has been transmitting the "live" gavel-to-gavel proceedings of the House of Representatives to millions of Americans since March 19, 1979. C-SPAN can be viewed in over 1,000 communities located throughout the 50 states.

On November 14, 1980, C-SPAN President Brian Lamb wrote each Senator that "the members of the C-SPAN Board of Directors....stand ready to work with the Senate to take its 'live' gavel-to-gavel proceedings directly to your constituents via satellite and cable television." Subsequently, this past January, the C-SPAN Board voted unanimously during an all-day meeting in Washington to increase the C-SPAN network to a full-time service. This will allow same-day coverage of the Senate either on a "live" or tape delayed basis during any 24 hour period.

The C-SPAN survey also found that if the vote were taken today, the decision to televise sessions of the Senate would not be decided on a strict partisanship basis. Of the 57 Senators who are either in favor of television or lean in that direction, 36 are Republicans and 21 are Democrats. Of the 19 who are firmly against or leaning against television, 8 are Republicans, 10 are Democrats and 1 is an Independent. However, the undecided or uncommitted category contains 15 Democrats and 9 Republicans.

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The Cable Satellite Public Affairs Network

RESULTS OF C-SPAN SURVEY CONDUCTED FEB. 15-27, 1981

FAVORS TV COVERAGE  
OF SENATE PROCEEDINGS (35)

Andrews, Mark (R-N.D.)  
Armstrong, William (R-Colo.)  
Baker, Howard (R-Tenn.)  
Chiles, Lawton (D-Fla.)  
Cranston, Alan (D-Cal.)  
D'Amato, Alfonse (R-N.Y.)  
DeConcini, Dennis (D-Ariz.)  
Durenberger, David (R-Minn.)  
Exon, James (D-Nebr.)  
Garn, Jake (R-Utah)  
Grassley, Charles (R-Iowa)  
Hatch, Orrin (R-Utah)  
Hayakawa, S.I. (R-Cal.)  
Heflin, Howell (D-Ala.)  
Heinz, John (R-Pa.)  
Hollings, Ernest (D-S.C.)  
Kasten, Bob (R-Wisc.)  
Kennedy, Edward (D-Mass.)  
Leahy, Patrick (D-Vt.)  
Lugar, Richard (R-Ind.)  
McClure, James (R-Idaho)  
Matsunaga, Spark (D-Hawaii)  
Moynihan, Patrick (D-N.Y.)  
Packwood, Bob (R-Ore.)  
Percy, Charles (R-Ill.)  
Pressler, Larry (R-S.D.)  
Quayle, Dan (R-Ind.)  
Riegle, Donald (D-Mich.)  
Roth, William (R-Del.)  
Sasser, Jim (D-Tenn.)  
Schmitt, Harrison (R-N.M.)  
Specter, Arlen (R-Pa.)  
Symms, Steven (R-Idaho)  
Tsongas, Paul (D-Mass.)  
Weicker, Lowell (R-Conn.)

LEANING TOWARDS SOME  
FORM OF TV COVERAGE (22)

Cochran, Thad (R-Miss.)  
Cohen, William (R-Maine)  
Danforth, John (R-Mo.)  
\* Dixon, Alan (D-Ill.)  
Dole, Robert (R-Kans.)  
East, John (R-N.C.)  
\* Hart, Gary (D-Colo.)  
Hawkins, Paula (R-Fla.)  
Humphrey, Gordon (R-N.H.)  
Jepsen, Roger (R-Iowa)  
\* Kassebaum, Nancy (R-Kans.)  
\* Laxalt, Paul (R-Nev.)  
Levin, Carl (D-Mich.)  
Mattingly, Mack (R-Ga.)  
\* Mathias, Charles (R-Md.)  
Nunn, Sam (D-Ga.)  
Randolph, Jennings (D-W.Va.)  
\* Simpson, Alan (R-Wyo.)  
Stevens, Ted (R-Alaska)  
Tower, John (R-Tex.)  
Williams, Harrison (D-N.J.)  
Zorinsky, Edward (D-Nebr.)

FIRMLY AGAINST  
ANY TV COVERAGE (8)

Burdick, Quentin (D-N.D.)  
Chafee, John (R-R.I.)  
Goldwater, Barry (R-Ariz.)  
Huddleston, Walter (D-Ky.)  
Johnston, J. Bennett (D-La.)  
Proxmire, William (D-Wisc.)  
Stafford, Robert (R-Vt.)  
Stennis, John (D-Miss.)

LEANING AGAINST  
TV COVERAGE (11)

Bentsen, Lloyd (D-Tex.)  
Boren, David (D-Okla.)  
Byrd, Harry (Ind.-Va.)  
Glenn, John (D-Ohio)  
Gorton, Slade (R-Wash.)  
Hatfield, Mark (R-Ore.)  
Helms, Jesse (R-N.C.)  
Inouye, Daniel (D-Hawaii)  
Long, Russell (D-La.)  
Pell, Claiborne (D-R.I.)  
Wallop, Malcolm (R-Wyo.)

UNDECIDED OR  
UNCOMMITTED (24)

Abdnor, James (R-S.D.)  
Baucus, Max (D-Mont.)  
Biden, Joseph (D-Del.)  
Boschwitz, Rudy (R-Minn.)  
Bradley, Bill (D-N.J.)  
Bumpers, Dale (D-Ark.)  
Byrd, Robert (D-W.Va.)  
Cannon, Howard (D-Nevada)  
Denton, Jeremiah (R-Ala.)  
Dodd, Christopher (D-Conn.)  
Domenici, Pete (R-N.M.)  
Eagleton, Thomas (D-Mo.)  
Ford, Wendell (D-Ky.)  
Jackson, Henry (D-Wash.)  
Melcher, John (D-Mont.)  
Metzenbaum, Howard (D-Ohio)  
Mitchell, George (D-Maine)  
Murkowski, Frank (R-Alaska)  
Nickles, Don (R-Okla.)  
Pryor, David (D-Ark.)  
Rudman, Warren (R-N.H.)  
Sarbanes, Paul (D-Md.)  
Thurmond, Strom (R-S.C.)  
Warner, John (R-Va.)

\* indicates a preference for coverage of important debates only