

# Calendar No. 1

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1

To provide greater transparency in the legislative process.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 4, 2007

Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. McCONNELL, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. LOTT, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. WEBB, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. MENENDEZ) introduced the following bill; which was read the first time; ordered read the second time and placed on the calendar

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## A BILL

To provide greater transparency in the legislative process.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Table of contents.

TITLE I—LEGISLATIVE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY  
ACT OF 2007

Sec. 101. Short title.

Sec. 102. Out of scope matters in conference reports.

Sec. 103. Earmarks.

Sec. 104. Availability of conference reports on the Internet.

- Sec. 105. Elimination of floor privileges for former Members, Senate officers, and Speakers of the House who are lobbyists or seek financial gain.
- Sec. 106. Ban on gifts from lobbyists.
- Sec. 107. Travel restrictions and disclosure.
- Sec. 108. Post employment restrictions.
- Sec. 109. Public disclosure by Members of Congress of employment negotiations.
- Sec. 110. Prohibit official contact with spouse or immediate family member of Member who is a registered lobbyist.
- Sec. 111. Influencing hiring decisions.
- Sec. 112. Sense of the Senate that any applicable restrictions on Congressional branch employees should apply to the Executive and Judicial branches.
- Sec. 113. Amounts of COLA adjustments not paid to certain Members of Congress.
- Sec. 114. Requirement of notice of intent to proceed.
- Sec. 115. Effective date.

## TITLE II—LOBBYING TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2007

- Sec. 201. Short title.

### Subtitle A—Enhancing Lobbying Disclosure

- Sec. 211. Quarterly filing of lobbying disclosure reports.
- Sec. 212. Annual report on contributions.
- Sec. 213. Public database of lobbying disclosure information.
- Sec. 214. Disclosure by registered lobbyists of all past executive and Congressional employment.
- Sec. 215. Disclosure of lobbyist travel and payments.
- Sec. 216. Increased penalty for failure to comply with lobbying disclosure requirements.
- Sec. 217. Disclosure of lobbying activities by certain coalitions and associations.
- Sec. 218. Disclosure of enforcement for noncompliance.
- Sec. 219. Electronic filing of lobbying disclosure reports.
- Sec. 220. Disclosure of paid efforts to stimulate grassroots Lobbying.
- Sec. 221. Electronic filing and public database for lobbyists for foreign governments.
- Sec. 222. Effective date.

### Subtitle B—Oversight of Ethics and Lobbying

- Sec. 231. Comptroller General audit and annual report.
- Sec. 232. Mandatory Senate ethics training for Members and staff.
- Sec. 233. Sense of the Senate regarding self-regulation within the Lobbying community.
- Sec. 234. Annual ethics committees reports.

### Subtitle C—Slowing the Revolving Door

- Sec. 241. Amendments to restrictions on former officers, employees, and elected officials of the executive and legislative branches.

### Subtitle D—Ban on Provision of Gifts or Travel by Lobbyists in Violation of the Rules of Congress

Sec. 251. Prohibition on provision of gifts or travel by registered lobbyists to Members of Congress and to Congressional employees.

Subtitle E—Commission To Strengthen Confidence in Congress Act of 2007

Sec. 261. Short title.

Sec. 262. Establishment of commission.

Sec. 263. Purposes.

Sec. 264. Composition of commission.

Sec. 265. Functions of Commission.

Sec. 266. Powers of Commission.

Sec. 267. Administration.

Sec. 268. Security clearances for Commission Members and staff.

Sec. 269. Commission reports; termination.

Sec. 270. Funding.

1 **TITLE I—LEGISLATIVE TRANS-**  
 2 **PARENCY AND ACCOUNT-**  
 3 **ABILITY ACT OF 2007**

4 **SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.**

5 This title may be cited as the “Legislative Trans-  
 6 parency and Accountability Act of 2007”.

7 **SEC. 102. OUT OF SCOPE MATTERS IN CONFERENCE RE-**  
 8 **PORTS.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—A point of order may be made by  
 10 any Senator against consideration of a conference report  
 11 that includes any matter not committed to the conferees  
 12 by either House. The point of order shall be made and  
 13 voted on separately for each item in violation of this sec-  
 14 tion.

15 (b) DISPOSITION.—If the point of order against a  
 16 conference report under subsection (a) is sustained,  
 17 then—

1           (1) the matter in such conference report shall  
2 be deemed to have been struck;

3           (2) when all other points of order under this  
4 section have been disposed of—

5           (A) the Senate shall proceed to consider  
6 the question of whether the Senate should re-  
7 cede from its amendment to the House bill, or  
8 its disagreement to the amendment of the  
9 House, and concur with a further amendment,  
10 which further amendment shall consist of only  
11 that portion of the conference report not  
12 deemed to have been struck;

13           (B) the question shall be debatable; and

14           (C) no further amendment shall be in  
15 order; and

16           (3) if the Senate agrees to the amendment,  
17 then the bill and the Senate amendment thereto  
18 shall be returned to the House for its concurrence  
19 in the amendment of the Senate.

20           (c) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEAL.—This  
21 section may be waived or suspended in the Senate only  
22 by an affirmative vote of  $\frac{3}{5}$  of the Members, duly chosen  
23 and sworn. An affirmative vote of  $\frac{3}{5}$  of the Members of  
24 the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required in

1 the Senate to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair  
2 on a point of order raised under this section.

3 **SEC. 103. EARMARKS.**

4 The Standing Rules of the Senate are amended by  
5 adding at the end the following:

6 “RULE XLIV

7 “EARMARKS

8 “1. In this rule—

9 “(1) the term ‘earmark’ means a provision that  
10 specifies the identity of a non-Federal entity to re-  
11 ceive assistance and the amount of the assistance;  
12 and

13 “(2) the term ‘assistance’ means budget author-  
14 ity, contract authority, loan authority, and other ex-  
15 penditures, and tax expenditures or other revenue  
16 items.

17 “2. It shall not be in order to consider any Senate  
18 bill or Senate amendment or conference report on any bill,  
19 including an appropriations bill, a revenue bill, and an au-  
20 thorizing bill, unless a list of—

21 “(1) all earmarks in such measure;

22 “(2) an identification of the Member or Mem-  
23 bers who proposed the earmark; and

24 “(3) an explanation of the essential govern-  
25 mental purpose for the earmark;

1 is available along with any joint statement of managers  
2 associated with the measure to all Members and made  
3 available on the Internet to the general public for at least  
4 48 hours before its consideration.”.

5 **SEC. 104. AVAILABILITY OF CONFERENCE REPORTS ON**  
6 **THE INTERNET.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—

8 (1) AMENDMENT.—Rule XXVIII of all the  
9 Standing Rules of the Senate is amended by adding  
10 at the end the following:

11 “7. It shall not be in order to consider a conference  
12 report unless such report is available to all Members and  
13 made available to the general public by means of the Inter-  
14 net for at least 48 hours before its consideration.”.

15 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This subsection shall  
16 take effect 60 days after the date of enactment of  
17 this title.

18 (b) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 60 days after  
19 the date of enactment of this title, the Secretary of the  
20 Senate, in consultation with the Clerk of the House of  
21 Representatives, the Government Printing Office, and the  
22 Committee on Rules and Administration, shall develop a  
23 website capable of complying with the requirements of  
24 paragraph 7 of rule XXVIII of the Standing Rules of the  
25 Senate, as added by subsection (a).

1 **SEC. 105. ELIMINATION OF FLOOR PRIVILEGES FOR**  
2 **FORMER MEMBERS, SENATE OFFICERS, AND**  
3 **SPEAKERS OF THE HOUSE WHO ARE LOBBY-**  
4 **ISTS OR SEEK FINANCIAL GAIN.**

5 Rule XXIII of the Standing Rules of the Senate is  
6 amended by—

7 (1) inserting “1.” before “Other”;

8 (2) inserting after “Ex-Senators and Senators  
9 elect” the following: “, except as provided in para-  
10 graph 2”;

11 (3) inserting after “Ex-Secretaries and ex-Ser-  
12 geants at Arms of the Senate” the following: “, ex-  
13 cept as provided in paragraph 2”;

14 (4) inserting after “Ex-Speakers of the House  
15 of Representatives” the following: “, except as pro-  
16 vided in paragraph 2”; and

17 (5) adding at the end the following:

18 “2. (a) The floor privilege provided in paragraph 1  
19 shall not apply to an individual covered by this paragraph  
20 who is—

21 “(1) a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign  
22 principal; or

23 “(2) is in the employ of or represents any party  
24 or organization for the purpose of influencing, di-  
25 rectly, or indirectly, the passage, defeat, or amend-  
26 ment of any legislative proposal.

1 “(b) The Committee on Rules and Administration  
2 may promulgate regulations to allow individuals covered  
3 by this paragraph floor privileges for ceremonial functions  
4 and events designated by the Majority Leader and the Mi-  
5 nority Leader.”.

6 **SEC. 106. BAN ON GIFTS FROM LOBBYISTS.**

7 Paragraph 1(a)(2) of rule XXXV of the Standing  
8 Rules of the Senate is amended by—

9 (1) inserting “(A)” after “(2)”; and

10 (2) adding at the end the following:

11 “(B) This clause shall not apply to a gift from  
12 a registered lobbyist or an agent of a foreign prin-  
13 cipal.”.

14 **SEC. 107. TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS AND DISCLOSURE.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph 2 of rule XXXV of the  
16 Standing Rules of the Senate is amended by adding at  
17 the end the following:

18 “(f)(1) Before a Member, officer, or employee may  
19 accept transportation or lodging otherwise permissible  
20 under this paragraph from any person, other than a gov-  
21 ernmental entity, such Member, officer, or employee  
22 shall—

23 “(A) obtain a written certification from such  
24 person (and provide a copy of such certification to  
25 the Select Committee on Ethics) that—



1           “(i) the trip was not financed in whole, or  
2           in part, by a registered lobbyist or foreign  
3           agent;

4           “(ii) the person did not accept, directly or  
5           indirectly, funds from a registered lobbyist or  
6           foreign agent specifically earmarked for the  
7           purpose of financing the travel expenses;

8           “(iii) the trip was not planned, organized,  
9           or arranged by or at the request of a registered  
10          lobbyist or foreign agent; and

11          “(iv) registered lobbyists will not partici-  
12          pate in or attend the trip;

13          “(B) provide the Select Committee on Ethics  
14          (in the case of an employee, from the supervising  
15          Member or officer), in writing—

16                  “(i) a detailed itinerary of the trip; and

17                  “(ii) a determination that the trip—

18                          “(I) is primarily educational (either  
19                          for the invited person or for the organiza-  
20                          tion sponsoring the trip);

21                          “(II) is consistent with the official du-  
22                          ties of the Member, officer, or employee;

23                          “(III) does not create an appearance  
24                          of use of public office for private gain; and

1                   “(iii) has a minimal or no recreational  
2                   component; and

3                   “(C) obtain written approval of the trip from  
4                   the Select Committee on Ethics.

5                   “(2) Not later than 30 days after completion of trav-  
6 el, approved under this subparagraph, the Member, offi-  
7 cer, or employee shall file with the Select Committee on  
8 Ethics and the Secretary of the Senate a description of  
9 meetings and events attended during such travel and the  
10 names of any registered lobbyist who accompanied the  
11 Member, officer, or employee during the travel, except  
12 when disclosure of such information is deemed by the  
13 Member or supervisor under whose direct supervision the  
14 employee is employed to jeopardize the safety of an indi-  
15 vidual or adversely affect national security. Such informa-  
16 tion shall also be posted on the Member’s official website  
17 not later than 30 days after the completion of the travel,  
18 except when disclosure of such information is deemed by  
19 the Member to jeopardize the safety of an individual or  
20 adversely affect national security.”.

21                   (b) DISCLOSURE OF NONCOMMERCIAL AIR TRAV-  
22 EL.—

23                   (1) RULES.—Paragraph 2 of rule XXXV of the  
24                   Standing Rules of the Senate, as amended by sub-

1 section (a), is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
2 lowing:

3 “(g) A Member, officer, or employee of the Senate  
4 shall—

5 “(1) disclose a flight on an aircraft that is not  
6 licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to  
7 operate for compensation or hire, excluding a flight  
8 on an aircraft owned, operated, or leased by a gov-  
9 ernmental entity, taken in connection with the duties  
10 of the Member, officer, or employee as an office-  
11 holder or Senate officer or employee; and

12 “(2) with respect to the flight, file a report with  
13 the Secretary of the Senate, including the date, des-  
14 tination, and owner or lessee of the aircraft, the pur-  
15 pose of the trip, and the persons on the trip, except  
16 for any person flying the aircraft.”.

17 (2) FECA.—Section 304(b) of the Federal  
18 Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 434(b)) is  
19 amended—

20 (A) by striking “and” at the end of para-  
21 graph (7);

22 (B) by striking the period at the end of  
23 paragraph (8) and inserting “; and”; and

24 (C) by adding at the end the following:

1           “(9) in the case of a principal campaign com-  
2           mittee of a candidate (other than a candidate for  
3           election to the office of President or Vice President),  
4           any flight taken by the candidate (other than a  
5           flight designated to transport the President, Vice  
6           President, or a candidate for election to the office of  
7           President or Vice President) during the reporting  
8           period on an aircraft that is not licensed by the Fed-  
9           eral Aviation Administration to operate for com-  
10          pensation or hire, together with the following infor-  
11          mation:

12                   “(A) The date of the flight.

13                   “(B) The destination of the flight.

14                   “(C) The owner or lessee of the aircraft.

15                   “(D) The purpose of the flight.

16                   “(E) The persons on the flight, except for  
17                   any person flying the aircraft.”.

18          (c) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—Paragraph 2(e) of rule  
19 XXXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate is amended  
20 to read as follows:

21           “(e) The Secretary of the Senate shall make available  
22 to the public all disclosures filed pursuant to subpara-  
23 graphs (f) and (g) as soon as possible after they are re-  
24 ceived and such matters shall be posted on the Member’s

1 official website but no later than 30 days after the trip  
2 or flight.”.

3 **SEC. 108. POST EMPLOYMENT RESTRICTIONS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph 9 of rule XXXVII of  
5 the Standing Rules of the Senate is amended by—

6 (1) designating the first sentence as subpara-  
7 graph (a);

8 (2) designating the second sentence as subpara-  
9 graph (b); and

10 (3) adding at the end the following:

11 “(c) If an employee on the staff of a Member or on  
12 the staff of a committee whose rate of pay is equal to or  
13 greater than 75 percent of the rate of pay of a Member  
14 and employed at such rate for more than 60 days in a  
15 calendar year, upon leaving that position, becomes a reg-  
16 istered lobbyist under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of  
17 1995, or is employed or retained by such a registered lob-  
18 byist for the purpose of influencing legislation, such em-  
19 ployee may not lobby any Member, officer, or employee  
20 of the Senate for a period of 1 year after leaving that  
21 position.”.

22 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect  
23 60 days after the date of enactment of this title.

1 **SEC. 109. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS**  
2 **OF EMPLOYMENT NEGOTIATIONS.**

3 Rule XXXVII of the Standing Rules of the Senate  
4 is amended by adding at the end the following:

5 “14. A Member shall not directly negotiate or have  
6 any arrangement concerning prospective private employ-  
7 ment until after the election for his or her successor has  
8 been held, unless such Member files a statement with the  
9 Secretary of the Senate, for public disclosure, regarding  
10 such negotiations or arrangements within 3 business days  
11 after the commencement of such negotiation or arrange-  
12 ment, including the name of the private entity or entities  
13 involved in such negotiations or arrangements, the date  
14 such negotiations or arrangements commenced, and must  
15 be signed by the Member.”.

16 **SEC. 110. PROHIBIT OFFICIAL CONTACT WITH SPOUSE OR**  
17 **IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER OF MEMBER**  
18 **WHO IS A REGISTERED LOBBYIST.**

19 Rule XXXVII of the Standing Rules of the Senate  
20 is amended by—

21 (1) redesignating paragraphs 10 through 12 as  
22 paragraphs 11 through 13, respectively; and

23 (2) inserting after paragraph 9, the following:

24 “10. (a) If a Member’s spouse or immediate family  
25 member is a registered lobbyist under the Lobbying Dis-  
26 closure Act of 1995, or is employed or retained by such

1 a registered lobbyist for the purpose of influencing legisla-  
2 tion, the Member shall prohibit all staff employed by that  
3 Member (including staff in personal, committee and lead-  
4 ership offices) from having any official contact with the  
5 Member’s spouse or immediate family member.

6 “(b) In this paragraph, the term ‘immediate family  
7 member’ means the son, daughter, stepson, stepdaughter,  
8 son-in-law, daughter-in-law, mother, father, stepmother,  
9 stepfather, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother, sister,  
10 stepbrother, or stepsister of the Member.”.

11 **SEC. 111. INFLUENCING HIRING DECISIONS.**

12 Rule XLIII of the Standing Rules of the Senate is  
13 amended by adding at the end the following:

14 “6. No Member shall, with the intent to influence on  
15 the basis of partisan political affiliation an employment  
16 decision or employment practice of any private entity—

17 “(1) take or withhold, or offer or threaten to  
18 take or withhold, an official act; or

19 “(2) influence, or offer or threaten to influence  
20 the official act of another.”.

1 **SEC. 112. SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT ANY APPLICABLE**  
 2 **RESTRICTIONS ON CONGRESSIONAL BRANCH**  
 3 **EMPLOYEES SHOULD APPLY TO THE EXECU-**  
 4 **TIVE AND JUDICIAL BRANCHES.**

5 It is the sense of the Senate that any applicable re-  
 6 strictions on Congressional branch employees in this title  
 7 should apply to the Executive and Judicial branches.

8 **SEC. 113. AMOUNTS OF COLA ADJUSTMENTS NOT PAID TO**  
 9 **CERTAIN MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Any adjustment under section  
 11 601(a) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2  
 12 U.S.C. 31) (relating to the cost of living adjustments for  
 13 Members of Congress) shall not be paid to any Member  
 14 of Congress who voted for any amendment (or against the  
 15 tabling of any amendment) that provided that such adjust-  
 16 ment would not be made.

17 (b) DEPOSIT IN TREASURY.—Any amount not paid  
 18 to a Member of Congress under subsection (a) shall be  
 19 transmitted to the Treasury for deposit in the appropria-  
 20 tions account under the subheading “**MEDICAL SERV-**  
 21 **ICES**” under the heading “**VETERANS HEALTH ADMIN-**  
 22 **ISTRATION**”.

23 (c) ADMINISTRATION.—The salary of any Member of  
 24 Congress to whom subsection (a) applies shall be deemed  
 25 to be the salary in effect after the application of that sub-  
 26 section, except that for purposes of determining any ben-



1 efit (including any retirement or insurance benefit), the  
 2 salary of that Member of Congress shall be deemed to be  
 3 the salary that Member of Congress would have received,  
 4 but for that subsection.

5 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect  
 6 on the first day of the first applicable pay period beginning  
 7 on or after February 1, 2008.

8 **SEC. 114. REQUIREMENT OF NOTICE OF INTENT TO PRO-**  
 9 **CEED.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—The majority and minority leaders  
 11 of the Senate or their designees shall recognize a notice  
 12 of intent of a Senator who is a member of their caucus  
 13 to object to proceeding to a measure or matter only if the  
 14 Senator—

15 (1) submits the notice of intent in writing to  
 16 the appropriate leader or their designee; and

17 (2) within 3 session days after the submission  
 18 under paragraph (1), submits for inclusion in the  
 19 Congressional Record and in the applicable calendar  
 20 section described in subsection (b) the following no-  
 21 tice:

22 “I, Senator \_\_\_\_\_, intend to object to proceeding to  
 23 \_\_\_\_\_, dated \_\_\_\_\_.”.

24 (b) CALENDAR.—The Secretary of the Senate shall  
 25 establish for both the Senate Calendar of Business and

1 the Senate Executive Calendar a separate section entitled  
2 “Notices of Intent to Object to Proceeding”. Each section  
3 shall include the name of each Senator filing a notice  
4 under subsection (a)(2), the measure or matter covered  
5 by the calendar that the Senator objects to, and the date  
6 the objection was filed.

7 (c) REMOVAL.—A Senator may have an item with re-  
8 spect to the Senator removed from a calendar to which  
9 it was added under subsection (b) by submitting for inclu-  
10 sion in the Congressional Record the following notice:

11 “I, Senator \_\_\_\_, do not object to proceeding to  
12 \_\_\_\_, dated \_\_\_\_.”.

13 **SEC. 115. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

14 Except as otherwise provided in this title, this title  
15 shall take effect on the date of enactment of this title.

16 **TITLE II—LOBBYING TRANS-**  
17 **PARENCY AND ACCOUNT-**  
18 **ABILITY ACT OF 2007**

19 **SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.**

20 This title may be cited as the “Legislative Trans-  
21 parency and Accountability Act of 2007”.

1     **Subtitle A—Enhancing Lobbying**  
2                     **Disclosure**

3     **SEC. 211. QUARTERLY FILING OF LOBBYING DISCLOSURE**  
4                     **REPORTS.**

5             (a) QUARTERLY FILING REQUIRED.—Section 5 of  
6 the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (in this title referred  
7 to as the “Act”) (2 U.S.C. 1604) is amended—

8                     (1) in subsection (a)—

9                             (A) in the subsection heading, by striking  
10 “Semiannual” and inserting “Quarterly”;

11                            (B) by striking “the semiannual period”  
12 and all that follows through “July of each  
13 year” and inserting “the quarterly period begin-  
14 ning on the 20th day of January, April, July,  
15 and October of each year or on the first busi-  
16 ness day after the 20th day if that day is not  
17 a business day”; and

18                            (C) by striking “such semiannual period”  
19 and inserting “such quarterly period”; and

20                     (2) in subsection (b)—

21                            (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1),  
22 by striking “semiannual report” and inserting  
23 “quarterly report”;

1 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “semi-  
2 annual filing period” and inserting “quarterly  
3 period”;

4 (C) in paragraph (3), by striking “semi-  
5 annual period” and inserting “quarterly pe-  
6 riod”; and

7 (D) in paragraph (4), by striking “semi-  
8 annual filing period” and inserting “quarterly  
9 period”.

10 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

11 (1) DEFINITION.—Section 3(10) of the Act (2  
12 U.S.C. 1602) is amended by striking “six month pe-  
13 riod” and inserting “three-month period”.

14 (2) REGISTRATION.—Section 4 of the Act (2  
15 U.S.C. 1603) is amended—

16 (A) in subsection (a)(3)(A), by striking  
17 “semiannual period” and inserting “quarterly  
18 period”; and

19 (B) in subsection (b)(3)(A), by striking  
20 “semiannual period” and inserting “quarterly  
21 period”.

22 (3) ENFORCEMENT.—Section 6(a)(6) of the Act  
23 (2 U.S.C. 1605(6)) is amended by striking “semi-  
24 annual period” and inserting “quarterly period”.

1           (4) ESTIMATES.—Section 15 of the Act (2  
2 U.S.C. 1610) is amended—

3           (A) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “semi-  
4 annual period” and inserting “quarterly pe-  
5 riod”; and

6           (B) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “semi-  
7 annual period” and inserting “quarterly pe-  
8 riod”.

9           (5) DOLLAR AMOUNTS.—

10           (A) REGISTRATION.—Section 4 of the Act  
11 (2 U.S.C. 1603) is amended—

12           (i) in subsection (a)(3)(A)(i), by strik-  
13 ing “\$5,000” and inserting “\$2,500”;

14           (ii) in subsection (a)(3)(A)(ii), by  
15 striking “\$20,000” and inserting  
16 “\$10,000”;

17           (iii) in subsection (b)(3)(A), by strik-  
18 ing “\$10,000” and inserting “\$5,000”;  
19 and

20           (iv) in subsection (b)(4), by striking  
21 “\$10,000” and inserting “\$5,000”.

22           (B) REPORTS.—Section 5 of the Act (2  
23 U.S.C. 1604) is amended—

1 (i) in subsection (c)(1), by striking  
2 “\$10,000” and “\$20,000” and inserting  
3 “\$5,000” and “\$10,000”, respectively; and  
4 (ii) in subsection (c)(2), by striking  
5 “\$10,000” both places such term appears  
6 and inserting “\$5,000”.

7 **SEC. 212. ANNUAL REPORT ON CONTRIBUTIONS.**

8 Section 5 of the Act (2 U.S.C. 1604) is amended by  
9 adding at the end the following:

10 “(d) ANNUAL REPORT ON CONTRIBUTIONS.—Not  
11 later than 45 days after the end of the quarterly period  
12 beginning on the first day of October of each year referred  
13 to in subsection (a), a lobbyist registered under section  
14 4(a)(1), or an employee who is a lobbyist of an organiza-  
15 tion registered under section 4(a)(2), shall file a report  
16 with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the  
17 House of Representatives containing—

18 “(1) the name of the lobbyist;

19 “(2) the employer of the lobbyist;

20 “(3) the name of each Federal candidate or of-  
21 ficeholder, leadership PAC, or political party com-  
22 mittee, to whom a contribution equal to or exceeding  
23 \$200 was made within the past year, and the date  
24 and amount of such contribution; and

1           “(4) the name of each Federal candidate or of-  
2           ficeholder, leadership PAC, or political party com-  
3           mittee for whom a fundraising event was hosted, co-  
4           hosted, or otherwise sponsored, within the past year,  
5           and the date and location of the event.”.

6 **SEC. 213. PUBLIC DATABASE OF LOBBYING DISCLOSURE IN-**  
7 **FORMATION.**

8           (a) DATABASE REQUIRED.—Section 6 of the Act (2  
9 U.S.C. 1605) is amended—

10           (1) in paragraph (7), by striking “and” at the  
11           end;

12           (2) in paragraph (8), by striking the period and  
13           inserting “; and”; and

14           (3) by adding at the end the following:

15           “(9) maintain, and make available to the public  
16           over the Internet, without a fee or other access  
17           charge, in a searchable, sortable, and downloadable  
18           manner, an electronic database that—

19           “(A) includes the information contained in  
20           registrations and reports filed under this Act;

21           “(B) directly links the information it con-  
22           tains to the information disclosed in reports  
23           filed with the Federal Election Commission  
24           under section 304 of the Federal Election Cam-  
25           paign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 434); and

1           “(C) is searchable and sortable, at a min-  
2           imum, by each of the categories of information  
3           described in section 4(b) or 5(b).”.

4           (b) AVAILABILITY OF REPORTS.—Section 6(a)(4) of  
5 the Act is amended by inserting before the semicolon the  
6 following: “and, in the case of a report filed in electronic  
7 form under section 5(e), shall make such report available  
8 for public inspection over the Internet not more than 48  
9 hours after the report is filed”.

10          (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
11 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be  
12 necessary to carry out paragraph (9) of section 6(a) of  
13 the Act, as added by subsection (a).

14 **SEC. 214. DISCLOSURE BY REGISTERED LOBBYISTS OF ALL**  
15                           **PAST EXECUTIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL EM-**  
16                           **PLOYMENT.**

17          Section 4(b)(6) of the Act (2 U.S.C. 1603) is amend-  
18 ed by striking “or a covered legislative branch official”  
19 and all that follows through “as a lobbyist on behalf of  
20 the client,” and inserting “or a covered legislative branch  
21 official,”.

22 **SEC. 215. DISCLOSURE OF LOBBYIST TRAVEL AND PAY-**  
23                           **MENTS.**

24          Section 5(b) of the Act (2 U.S.C. 1604(b)) is amend-  
25 ed—



1           (1) in paragraph (3), by striking “and” after  
2 the semicolon;

3           (2) in paragraph (4), by striking the period and  
4 inserting a semicolon; and

5           (3) by adding at the end the following:

6           “(5) the name of each covered legislative  
7 branch official or covered executive branch official  
8 for whom the registrant provided, or directed or ar-  
9 ranged to be provided, or the employee listed as a  
10 lobbyist directed or arranged to be provided, any  
11 payment or reimbursements for travel and related  
12 expenses in connection with the duties of such cov-  
13 ered official, including for each such official—

14                   “(A) an itemization of the payments or re-  
15 imbursements provided to finance the travel  
16 and related expenses and to whom the pay-  
17 ments or reimbursements were made, including  
18 any payment or reimbursement made with the  
19 express or implied understanding or agreement  
20 that such funds will be used for travel and re-  
21 lated expenses;

22                   “(B) the purpose and final itinerary of the  
23 trip, including a description of all meetings,  
24 tours, events, and outings attended;

1           “(C) the names of any registrant or indi-  
2           vidual employed by the registrant who traveled  
3           on any such trip;

4           “(D) the identity of the listed sponsor or  
5           sponsors of travel; and

6           “(E) the identity of any person or entity,  
7           other than the listed sponsor or sponsors of the  
8           travel, which directly or indirectly provided for  
9           payment of travel and related expenses at the  
10          request or suggestion of the registrant or the  
11          employee;

12          “(6) the date, recipient, and amount of funds  
13          contributed or disbursed by, or arranged by, a reg-  
14          istrant or employee listed as a lobbyist—

15               “(A) to pay the costs of an event to honor  
16               or recognize a covered legislative branch official  
17               or covered executive branch official;

18               “(B) to, or on behalf of, an entity that is  
19               named for a covered legislative branch official  
20               or covered executive branch official, or to a per-  
21               son or entity in recognition of such official;

22               “(C) to an entity established, financed,  
23               maintained, or controlled by a covered legisla-  
24               tive branch official or covered executive branch

1 official, or an entity designated by such official;  
2 or

3 “(D) to pay the costs of a meeting, retreat,  
4 conference or other similar event held by, or for  
5 the benefit of, 1 or more covered legislative  
6 branch officials or covered executive branch of-  
7 ficials;

8 except that this paragraph shall not apply to any  
9 payment or reimbursement made from funds re-  
10 quired to be reported under section 304 of the Fed-  
11 eral Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 434);  
12 and

13 “(7) the date, recipient, and amount of any gift  
14 (that under the rules of the House of Representa-  
15 tives or Senate counts towards the one hundred dol-  
16 lar cumulative annual limit described in such rules)  
17 valued in excess of \$20 given by a registrant or em-  
18 ployee listed as a lobbyist to a covered legislative  
19 branch official or covered executive branch official;

20 “(8) for each client, immediately after listing  
21 the client, an identification of whether the client is  
22 a public entity, including a State or local govern-  
23 ment or a department, agency, special purpose dis-  
24 trict, or other instrumentality controlled by a State  
25 or local government, or a private entity.

1 For purposes of paragraph (7), the term ‘gift’ means a  
 2 gratuity, favor, discount, entertainment, hospitality, loan,  
 3 forbearance, or other item having monetary value. The  
 4 term includes gifts of services, training, transportation,  
 5 lodging, and meals, whether provided in kind, by purchase  
 6 of a ticket, payment in advance, or reimbursement after  
 7 the expense has been incurred. Information required by  
 8 paragraph (5) shall be disclosed as provided in this Act  
 9 not later than 30 days after the travel.”.

10 **SEC. 216. INCREASED PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY**  
 11 **WITH LOBBYING DISCLOSURE REQUIRE-**  
 12 **MENTS.**

13 Section 7 of the Act (2 U.S.C. 1606) is amended by  
 14 striking “\$50,000” and inserting “\$100,000”.

15 **SEC. 217. DISCLOSURE OF LOBBYING ACTIVITIES BY CER-**  
 16 **TAIN COALITIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4(b)(3)(B) of the Act (2  
 18 U.S.C. 1603(b)(3)(B)) is amended to read as follows:

19 “(B) participates in a substantial way in  
 20 the planning, supervision or control of such lob-  
 21 bying activities;”.

22 (b) NO DONOR OR MEMBERSHIP LIST DISCLO-  
 23 SURE.—Section 4(b) of the Act (2 U.S.C. 1603(b)) is  
 24 amended by adding at the end the following:

1 “No disclosure is required under paragraph (3)(B)  
2 if it is publicly available knowledge that the organization  
3 that would be identified is affiliated with the client or has  
4 been publicly disclosed to have provided funding to the cli-  
5 ent, unless the organization in whole or in major part  
6 plans, supervises or controls such lobbying activities.  
7 Nothing in paragraph (3)(B) shall be construed to require  
8 the disclosure of any information about individuals who  
9 are members of, or donors to, an entity treated as a client  
10 by this Act or an organization identified under that para-  
11 graph.”.

12 **SEC. 218. DISCLOSURE OF ENFORCEMENT FOR NON-**  
13 **COMPLIANCE.**

14 Section 6 of the Act (2 U.S.C. 1605) is amended—

15 (1) by inserting “(a)” before “The Secretary of  
16 the Senate”;

17 (2) in paragraph (8), by striking “and” at the  
18 end;

19 (3) in paragraph (9), by striking the period and  
20 inserting “; and”;

21 (4) after paragraph (9), by inserting the fol-  
22 lowing:

23 “(10) provide to the Committee on Homeland  
24 Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate  
25 and the Committee on Government Reform of the

1 House of Representatives the aggregate number of  
2 lobbyists and lobbying firms, separately accounted,  
3 referred to the United States Attorney for the Dis-  
4 trict of Columbia for noncompliance as required by  
5 paragraph (8) on a semi-annual basis”; and

6 (5) by inserting at the end the following:

7 “(b) ENFORCEMENT REPORT.—The United States  
8 Attorney for the District of Columbia shall report to the  
9 Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Af-  
10 fairs and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate  
11 and the Committee on Government Reform and the Com-  
12 mittee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives  
13 on a semi-annual basis the aggregate number of enforce-  
14 ment actions taken by the Attorney’s office under this Act  
15 and the amount of fines, if any, by case, except that such  
16 report shall not include the names of individuals or per-  
17 sonally identifiable information.”.

18 **SEC. 219. ELECTRONIC FILING OF LOBBYING DISCLOSURE**

19 **REPORTS.**

20 Section 5 of the Act (2 U.S.C. 1604) is amended by  
21 adding at the end the following:

22 “(e) ELECTRONIC FILING REQUIRED.—A report re-  
23 quired to be filed under this section shall be filed in elec-  
24 tronic form, in addition to any other form. The Secretary  
25 of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representa-

1 tives shall use the same electronic software for receipt and  
2 recording of filings under this Act.”.

3 **SEC. 220. DISCLOSURE OF PAID EFFORTS TO STIMULATE**  
4 **GRASSROOTS LOBBYING.**

5 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 3 of the Act (2 U.S.C.  
6 1602) is amended—

7 (1) in paragraph (7), by adding at the end of  
8 the following: “Lobbying activities include paid ef-  
9 forts to stimulate grassroots lobbying, but do not in-  
10 clude grassroots lobbying.”; and

11 (2) by adding at the end of the following:

12 “(17) GRASSROOTS LOBBYING.—The term  
13 ‘grassroots lobbying’ means the voluntary efforts of  
14 members of the general public to communicate their  
15 own views on an issue to Federal officials or to en-  
16 courage other members of the general public to do  
17 the same.

18 “(18) PAID EFFORTS TO STIMULATE GRASS-  
19 ROOTS LOBBYING.—

20 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘paid efforts  
21 to stimulate grassroots lobbying’ means any  
22 paid attempt in support of lobbying contacts on  
23 behalf of a client to influence the general public  
24 or segments thereof to contact one or more cov-  
25 ered legislative or executive branch officials (or

1 Congress as a whole) to urge such officials (or  
2 Congress) to take specific action with respect to  
3 a matter described in section 3(8)(A), except  
4 that such term does not include any commu-  
5 nications by an entity directed to its members,  
6 employees, officers, or shareholders.

7 “(B) PAID ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE  
8 GENERAL PUBLIC OR SEGMENTS THEREOF.—  
9 The term ‘paid attempt to influence the general  
10 public or segments thereof’ does not include an  
11 attempt to influence directed at less than 500  
12 members of the general public.

13 “(C) REGISTRANT.—For purposes of this  
14 paragraph, a person or entity is a member of  
15 a registrant if the person or entity—

16 “(i) pays dues or makes a contribu-  
17 tion of more than a nominal amount to the  
18 entity;

19 “(ii) makes a contribution of more  
20 than a nominal amount of time to the enti-  
21 ty;

22 “(iii) is entitled to participate in the  
23 governance of the entity;

24 “(iv) is 1 of a limited number of hon-  
25 orary or life members of the entity; or



1                   “(v) is an employee, officer, director  
2                   or member of the entity.

3                   “(19) GRASSROOTS LOBBYING FIRM.—The term  
4                   ‘grassroots lobbying firm’ means a person or entity  
5                   that—

6                   “(A) is retained by 1 or more clients to en-  
7                   gage in paid efforts to stimulate grassroots lob-  
8                   bying on behalf of such clients; and

9                   “(B) receives income of, or spends or  
10                  agrees to spend, an aggregate of \$25,000 or  
11                  more for such efforts in any quarterly period.”.

12                  (b) REGISTRATION.—Section 4(a) of the Act (2  
13 U.S.C. 1603(a)) is amended—

14                  (1) in the flush matter at the end of paragraph  
15                  (3)(A), by adding at the end the following: “For  
16                  purposes of clauses (i) and (ii), the term ‘lobbying  
17                  activities’ shall not include paid efforts to stimulate  
18                  grassroots lobbying.”; and

19                  (2) by inserting after paragraph (3) the fol-  
20                  lowing:

21                  “(4) FILING BY GRASSROOTS LOBBYING  
22                  FIRMS.—Not later than 45 days after a grassroots  
23                  lobbying firm first is retained by a client to engage  
24                  in paid efforts to stimulate grassroots lobbying, such  
25                  grassroots lobbying firm shall register with the Sec-

1       retary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of  
2       Representatives.”.

3       (c) SEPARATE ITEMIZATION OF PAID EFFORTS TO  
4       STIMULATE GRASSROOTS LOBBYING.—Section 5(b) of the  
5       Act (2 U.S.C. 1604(b)) is amended—

6             (1) in paragraph (3), by—

7                 (A) inserting after “total amount of all in-  
8                 come” the following: “(including a separate  
9                 good faith estimate of the total amount of in-  
10                come relating specifically to paid efforts to  
11                stimulate grassroots lobbying and, within that  
12                amount, a good faith estimate of the total  
13                amount specifically relating to paid adver-  
14                tising)”; and

15                (B) inserting “or a grassroots lobbying  
16                firm” after “lobbying firm”;

17             (2) in paragraph (4), by inserting after “total  
18             expenses” the following: “(including a good faith es-  
19             timate of the total amount of expenses relating spe-  
20             cifically to paid efforts to stimulate grassroots lob-  
21             bying and, within that total amount, a good faith es-  
22             timate of the total amount specifically relating to  
23             paid advertising)”; and

24             (3) by adding at the end the following:

1 “Subparagraphs (B) and (C) of paragraph (2) shall  
2 not apply with respect to reports relating to paid efforts  
3 to stimulate grassroots lobbying activities.”.

4 (d) GOOD FAITH ESTIMATES AND DE MINIMIS  
5 RULES FOR PAID EFFORTS TO STIMULATE GRASSROOTS  
6 LOBBYING.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 5(c) of the Act (2  
8 U.S.C. 1604(c)) is amended to read as follows:

9 “(c) ESTIMATES OF INCOME OR EXPENSES.—For  
10 purposes of this section, the following shall apply:

11 “(1) Estimates of income or expenses shall be  
12 made as follows:

13 “(A) Estimates of amounts in excess of  
14 \$10,000 shall be rounded to the nearest  
15 \$20,000.

16 “(B) In the event income or expenses do  
17 not exceed \$10,000, the registrant shall include  
18 a statement that income or expenses totaled  
19 less than \$10,000 for the reporting period.

20 “(2) Estimates of income or expenses relating  
21 specifically to paid efforts to stimulate grassroots  
22 lobbying shall be made as follows:

23 “(A) Estimates of amounts in excess of  
24 \$25,000 shall be rounded to the nearest  
25 \$20,000.

1           “(B) In the event income or expenses do  
2           not exceed \$25,000, the registrant shall include  
3           a statement that income or expenses totaled  
4           less than \$25,000 for the reporting period.”.

5           (2) TAX REPORTING.—Section 15 of the Act (2  
6           U.S.C. 1610) is amended—

7                   (A) in subsection (a)—

8                           (i) in paragraph (1), by striking  
9                           “and” after the semicolon;

10                           (ii) in paragraph (2), by striking the  
11                           period and inserting “; and”; and

12                           (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
13                           lowing:

14                           “(3) in lieu of using the definition of paid ef-  
15                           forts to stimulate grassroots lobbying in section  
16                           3(18), consider as paid efforts to stimulate grass-  
17                           roots lobbying only those activities that are grass-  
18                           roots expenditures as defined in section 4911(c)(3)  
19                           of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.”; and

20                   (B) in subsection (b)—

21                           (i) in paragraph (1), by striking  
22                           “and” after the semicolon;

23                           (ii) in paragraph (2), by striking the  
24                           period and inserting “; and”; and

1 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
 2 lowing:

3 “(3) in lieu of using the definition of paid ef-  
 4 forts to stimulate grassroots lobbying in section  
 5 3(18), consider as paid efforts to stimulate grass-  
 6 roots lobbying only those activities that are grass-  
 7 roots expenditures as defined in section 4911(e)(3)  
 8 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.”.

9 **SEC. 221. ELECTRONIC FILING AND PUBLIC DATABASE FOR**  
 10 **LOBBYISTS FOR FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.**

11 (a) **ELECTRONIC FILING.**—Section 2 of the Foreign  
 12 Agents Registration Act (22 U.S.C. 612) is amended by  
 13 adding at the end the following new subsection:

14 “(g) **ELECTRONIC FILING OF REGISTRATION STATE-**  
 15 **MENTS AND UPDATES.**—A registration statement or up-  
 16 date required to be filed under this section shall be filed  
 17 in electronic form, in addition to any other form that may  
 18 be required by the Attorney General.”.

19 (b) **PUBLIC DATABASE.**—Section 6 of the Foreign  
 20 Agents Registration Act (22 U.S.C. 616) is amended by  
 21 adding at the end the following new subsection:

22 “(d) **PUBLIC DATABASE OF REGISTRATION STATE-**  
 23 **MENTS AND UPDATES.**—

24 “(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Attorney General shall  
 25 maintain, and make available to the public over the

1 Internet, without a fee or other access charge, in a  
2 searchable, sortable, and downloadable manner, an  
3 electronic database that—

4 “(A) includes the information contained in  
5 registration statements and updates filed under  
6 this Act;

7 “(B) directly links the information it con-  
8 tains to the information disclosed in reports  
9 filed with the Federal Election Commission  
10 under section 304 of the Federal Election Cam-  
11 paign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 434); and

12 “(C) is searchable and sortable, at a min-  
13 imum, by each of the categories of information  
14 described in section 2(a).

15 “(2) ACCOUNTABILITY.—Each registration  
16 statement and update filed in electronic form pursu-  
17 ant to section 2(g) shall be made available for public  
18 inspection over the internet not more than 48 hours  
19 after the registration statement or update is filed.”.

20 **SEC. 222. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

21 This subtitle and the amendments made by this sub-  
22 title shall take effect January 1, 2008.

1 **Subtitle B—Oversight of Ethics and**  
2 **Lobbying**

3 **SEC. 231. COMPTROLLER GENERAL AUDIT AND ANNUAL**  
4 **REPORT.**

5 (a) **AUDIT REQUIRED.**—The Comptroller General  
6 shall audit on an annual basis lobbying registration and  
7 reports filed under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995  
8 to determine the extent of compliance or noncompliance  
9 with the requirements of that Act by lobbyists and their  
10 clients.

11 (b) **ANNUAL REPORTS.**—Not later than April 1 of  
12 each year, the Comptroller General shall submit to Con-  
13 gress a report on the review required by subsection (a).  
14 The report shall include the Comptroller General’s assess-  
15 ment of the matters required to be emphasized by that  
16 subsection and any recommendations of the Comptroller  
17 General to—

18 (1) improve the compliance by lobbyists with  
19 the requirements of that Act; and

20 (2) provide the Secretary of the Senate and the  
21 Clerk of the House of Representatives with the re-  
22 sources and authorities needed for effective oversight  
23 and enforcement of that Act.

1 **SEC. 232. MANDATORY SENATE ETHICS TRAINING FOR**  
 2 **MEMBERS AND STAFF.**

3 (a) TRAINING PROGRAM.—The Select Committee on  
 4 Ethics shall conduct ongoing ethics training and aware-  
 5 ness programs for Members of the Senate and Senate  
 6 staff.

7 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—The ethics training program  
 8 conducted by the Select Committee on Ethics shall be  
 9 completed by—

10 (1) new Senators or staff not later than 60  
 11 days after commencing service or employment; and

12 (2) Senators and Senate staff serving or em-  
 13 ployed on the date of enactment of this Act not later  
 14 than 120 days after the date of enactment of this  
 15 Act.

16 **SEC. 233. SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING SELF-REGU-**  
 17 **LATION WITHIN THE LOBBYING COMMUNITY.**

18 It is the sense of the Senate that the lobbying com-  
 19 munity should develop proposals for multiple self-regu-  
 20 latory organizations which could provide—

21 (1) for the creation of standards for the organi-  
 22 zations appropriate to the type of lobbying and indi-  
 23 viduals to be served;

24 (2) training for the lobbying community on law,  
 25 ethics, reporting requirements, and disclosure re-  
 26 quirements;



1           (3) for the development of educational materials  
2           for the public on how to responsibly hire a lobbyist  
3           or lobby firm;

4           (4) standards regarding reasonable fees to cli-  
5           ents;

6           (5) for the creation of a third-party certification  
7           program that includes ethics training; and

8           (6) for disclosure of requirements to clients re-  
9           garding fee schedules and conflict of interest rules.

10 **SEC. 234. ANNUAL ETHICS COMMITTEES REPORTS.**

11           The Committee on Standards of Official Conduct of  
12 the House of Representatives and the Select Committee  
13 on Ethics of the Senate shall each issue an annual report  
14 due no later than January 31, describing the following:

15           (1) The number of alleged violations of Senate  
16           or House rules including the number received from  
17           third parties, from Members or staff within each  
18           House, or inquiries raised by a Member or staff of  
19           the respective House or Senate committee.

20           (2) A list of the number of alleged violations  
21           that were dismissed—

22                   (A) for lack of subject matter jurisdiction;

23                   or

24                   (B) because they failed to provide suffi-  
25           cient facts as to any material violation of the

1 House or Senate rules beyond mere allegation  
2 or assertion.

3 (3) The number of complaints in which the  
4 committee staff conducted a preliminary inquiry.

5 (4) The number of complaints that staff pre-  
6 sented to the committee with recommendations that  
7 the complaint be dismissed.

8 (5) The number of complaints that the staff  
9 presented to the committee with recommendation  
10 that the investigation proceed.

11 (6) The number of ongoing inquiries.

12 (7) The number of complaints that the com-  
13 mittee dismissed for lack of substantial merit.

14 (8) The number of private letters of admonition  
15 or public letters of admonition issued.

16 (9) The number of matters resulting in a dis-  
17 ciplinary sanction.

## 18 **Subtitle C—Slowing the Revolving** 19 **Door**

### 20 **SEC. 241. AMENDMENTS TO RESTRICTIONS ON FORMER OF-** 21 **FICERS, EMPLOYEES, AND ELECTED OFFI-** 22 **CIALS OF THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE** 23 **BRANCHES.**

24 (a) VERY SENIOR EXECUTIVE PERSONNEL.—The  
25 matter after subparagraph (C) in section 207(d)(1) of title

1 18, United States Code, is amended by striking “within  
2 1 year” and inserting “within 2 years”.

3 (b) RESTRICTIONS ON LOBBYING BY MEMBERS OF  
4 CONGRESS AND EMPLOYEES OF CONGRESS.—Subsection  
5 (e) of section 207 of title 18, United States Code, is  
6 amended—

7 (1) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking “within 1  
8 year” and inserting “within 2 years”;

9 (2) by striking paragraphs (2) through (5) and  
10 inserting the following:

11 “(2) CONGRESSIONAL STAFF.—

12 “(A) PROHIBITION.—Any person who is an  
13 employee of a House of Congress and who,  
14 within 1 year after that person leaves office,  
15 knowingly makes, with the intent to influence,  
16 any communication to or appearance before any  
17 of the persons described in subparagraph (B),  
18 on behalf of any other person (except the  
19 United States) in connection with any matter  
20 on which such former employee seeks action by  
21 a Member, officer, or employee of either House  
22 of Congress, in his or her official capacity, shall  
23 be punished as provided in section 216 of this  
24 title.

1           “(B) CONTACT PERSONS COVERED.—per-  
2           sons referred to in subparagraph (A) with re-  
3           spect to appearances or communications are  
4           any Member, officer, or employee of the House  
5           of Congress in which the person subject to sub-  
6           paragraph (A) was employed. This subpara-  
7           graph shall not apply to contacts with staff of  
8           the Secretary of the Senate or the Clerk of the  
9           House of Representatives regarding compliance  
10          with lobbying disclosure requirements under the  
11          Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995.”;

12          (3) in paragraph (6)—

13                 (A) by striking “paragraphs (2), (3), and  
14                 (4)” and inserting “paragraph (2)”;

15                 (B) by striking “(A)”;

16                 (C) by striking subparagraph (B); and

17                 (D) by redesignating the paragraph as  
18                 paragraph (3); and

19          (4) by redesignating paragraph (7) as para-  
20          graph (4).

21          (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
22          subsection (b) shall take effect 60 days after the date of  
23          enactment of this Act.

1 **Subtitle D—Ban on Provision of**  
2 **Gifts or Travel by Lobbyists in**  
3 **Violation of the Rules of Con-**  
4 **gress**

5 **SEC. 251. PROHIBITION ON PROVISION OF GIFTS OR TRAV-**  
6 **EL BY REGISTERED LOBBYISTS TO MEMBERS**  
7 **OF CONGRESS AND TO CONGRESSIONAL EM-**  
8 **PLOYEES.**

9 The Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 is amended by  
10 adding at the end the following:

11 **“SEC. 25. PROHIBITION ON PROVISION OF GIFTS OR TRAV-**  
12 **EL BY REGISTERED LOBBYISTS TO MEMBERS**  
13 **OF CONGRESS AND TO CONGRESSIONAL EM-**  
14 **PLOYEES.**

15 “(a) PROHIBITION.—A registered lobbyist may not  
16 knowingly make a gift or provide travel to a Member, Del-  
17 egate, Resident Commissioner, officer, or employee of  
18 Congress, unless the gift or travel may be accepted under  
19 the rules of the House of Representatives or the Senate.

20 “(b) PENALTY.—Any registered lobbyist who violates  
21 this section shall be subject to penalties provided in section  
22 7.”.

1 **Subtitle E—Commission To**  
2 **Strengthen Confidence in Con-**  
3 **gress Act of 2007**

4 **SEC. 261. SHORT TITLE.**

5 This subtitle may be cited as the “Commission to  
6 Strengthen Confidence in Congress Act of 2007”.

7 **SEC. 262. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION.**

8 There is established in the legislative branch a com-  
9 mission to be known as the “Commission to Strengthen  
10 Confidence in Congress” (in this subtitle referred to as  
11 the “Commission”).

12 **SEC. 263. PURPOSES.**

13 The purposes of the Commission are to—

14 (1) evaluate and report the effectiveness of cur-  
15 rent congressional ethics requirements, if penalties  
16 are enforced and sufficient, and make recommenda-  
17 tions for new penalties;

18 (2) weigh the need for improved ethical conduct  
19 with the need for lawmakers to have access to exper-  
20 tise on public policy issues;

21 (3) determine whether the current system for  
22 enforcing ethics rules and standards of conduct is  
23 sufficiently effective and transparent;

24 (4) determine whether the statutory framework  
25 governing lobbying disclosure should be expanded to

1 include additional means of attempting to influence  
2 Members of Congress, senior staff, and high-ranking  
3 executive branch officials;

4 (5) analyze and evaluate the changes made by  
5 this Act to determine whether additional changes  
6 need to be made to uphold and enforce standards of  
7 ethical conduct and disclosure requirements; and

8 (6) investigate and report to Congress on its  
9 findings, conclusions, and recommendations for re-  
10 form.

11 **SEC. 264. COMPOSITION OF COMMISSION.**

12 (a) MEMBERS.—The Commission shall be composed  
13 of 10 members, of whom—

14 (1) the chair and vice chair shall be selected by  
15 agreement of the majority leader and minority lead-  
16 er of the House of Representatives and the majority  
17 leader and minority leader of the Senate;

18 (2) 2 members shall be appointed by the senior  
19 member of the Senate leadership of the Republican  
20 Party, 1 of which is a former member of the Senate;

21 (3) 2 members shall be appointed by the senior  
22 member of the Senate leadership of the Democratic  
23 Party, 1 of which is a former member of the Senate;

24 (4) 2 members shall be appointed by the senior  
25 member of the leadership of the House of Represent-

1 atives of the Republican Party, 1 of which is a  
2 former member of the House of Representatives; and

3 (5) 2 members shall be appointed by the senior  
4 member of the leadership of the House of Represent-  
5 atives of the Democratic Party, 1 of which is a  
6 former member of the House of Representatives.

7 (b) QUALIFICATIONS; INITIAL MEETING.—

8 (1) POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION.—Five  
9 members of the Commission shall be Democrats and  
10 5 Republicans.

11 (2) NONGOVERNMENTAL APPOINTEES.—An in-  
12 dividual appointed to the Commission may not be an  
13 officer or employee of the Federal Government or  
14 any State or local government.

15 (3) OTHER QUALIFICATIONS.—It is the sense of  
16 Congress that individuals appointed to the Commis-  
17 sion should be prominent United States citizens,  
18 with national recognition and significant depth of ex-  
19 perience in professions such as governmental service,  
20 government consulting, government contracting, the  
21 law, higher education, historian, business, public re-  
22 lations, and fundraising.

23 (4) DEADLINE FOR APPOINTMENT.—All mem-  
24 bers of the Commission shall be appointed on a date  
25 3 months after the date of enactment of this Act.



1           (5) INITIAL MEETING.—The Commission shall  
2           meet and begin the operations of the Commission as  
3           soon as practicable.

4           (c) QUORUM; VACANCIES.—After its initial meeting,  
5           the Commission shall meet upon the call of the chairman  
6           or a majority of its members. Six members of the Commis-  
7           sion shall constitute a quorum. Any vacancy in the Com-  
8           mission shall not affect its powers, but shall be filled in  
9           the same manner in which the original appointment was  
10          made.

11   **SEC. 265. FUNCTIONS OF COMMISSION.**

12          The functions of the Commission are to submit to  
13          Congress a report required by this title containing such  
14          findings, conclusions, and recommendations as the Com-  
15          mission shall determine, including proposing organization,  
16          coordination, planning, management arrangements, proce-  
17          dures, rules and regulations—

18               (1) related to section 263; or

19               (2) related to any other areas the commission  
20          unanimously votes to be relevant to its mandate to  
21          recommend reforms to strengthen ethical safeguards  
22          in Congress.

23   **SEC. 266. POWERS OF COMMISSION.**

24          (a) HEARINGS AND EVIDENCE.—The Commission or,  
25          on the authority of the Commission, any subcommittee or

1 member thereof, may, for the purpose of carrying out this  
2 title hold such hearings and sit and act at such times and  
3 places, take such testimony, receive such evidence, admin-  
4 ister such oaths.

5 (b) OBTAINING INFORMATION.—Upon request of the  
6 Commission, the head of any agency or instrumentality  
7 of the Federal Government shall furnish information  
8 deemed necessary by the panel to enable it to carry out  
9 its duties.

10 (c) LIMIT ON COMMISSION AUTHORITY.—The Com-  
11 mission shall not conduct any law enforcement investiga-  
12 tion, function as a court of law, or otherwise usurp the  
13 duties and responsibilities of the ethics committee of the  
14 House of Representatives or the Senate.

15 **SEC. 267. ADMINISTRATION.**

16 (a) COMPENSATION.—Except as provided in sub-  
17 section (b), members of the Commission shall receive no  
18 additional pay, allowances, or benefits by reason of their  
19 service on the Commission.

20 (b) TRAVEL EXPENSES AND PER DIEM.—Each mem-  
21 ber of the Commission shall receive travel expenses and  
22 per diem in lieu of subsistence in accordance with sections  
23 5702 and 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

24 (c) STAFF AND SUPPORT SERVICES.—

25 (1) STAFF DIRECTOR.—

1 (A) APPOINTMENT.—The Chair (or Co-  
2 Chairs) in accordance with the rules agreed  
3 upon by the Commission shall appoint a staff  
4 director for the Commission.

5 (B) COMPENSATION.—The staff director  
6 shall be paid at a rate not to exceed the rate  
7 established for level V of the Executive Sched-  
8 ule under section 5315 of title 5, United States  
9 Code.

10 (2) STAFF.—The Chair (or Co-Chairs) in ac-  
11 cordance with the rules agreed upon by the Commis-  
12 sion shall appoint such additional personnel as the  
13 Commission determines to be necessary.

14 (3) APPLICABILITY OF CIVIL SERVICE LAWS.—  
15 The staff director and other members of the staff of  
16 the Commission shall be appointed without regard to  
17 the provisions of title 5, United States Code, gov-  
18 erning appointments in the competitive service, and  
19 shall be paid without regard to the provisions of  
20 chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such  
21 title relating to classification and General Schedule  
22 pay rates.

23 (4) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—With the  
24 approval of the Commission, the staff director may

1 procure temporary and intermittent services under  
2 section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code.

3 (d) PHYSICAL FACILITIES.—The Architect of the  
4 Capitol, in consultation with the appropriate entities in the  
5 legislative branch, shall locate and provide suitable office  
6 space for the operation of the Commission on a non-  
7 reimbursable basis. The facilities shall serve as the head-  
8 quarters of the Commission and shall include all necessary  
9 equipment and incidentals required for the proper func-  
10 tioning of the Commission.

11 (e) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES AND  
12 OTHER ASSISTANCE.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Upon the request of the  
14 Commission, the Architect of the Capitol and the  
15 Administrator of General Services shall provide to  
16 the Commission on a nonreimbursable basis such ad-  
17 ministrative support services as the Commission may  
18 request.

19 (2) ADDITIONAL SUPPORT.—In addition to the  
20 assistance set forth in paragraph (1), departments  
21 and agencies of the United States may provide the  
22 Commission such services, funds, facilities, staff,  
23 and other support services as the Commission may  
24 deem advisable and as may be authorized by law.

1 (f) USE OF MAILS.—The Commission may use the  
2 United States mails in the same manner and under the  
3 same conditions as Federal agencies and shall, for pur-  
4 poses of the frank, be considered a commission of Con-  
5 gress as described in section 3215 of title 39, United  
6 States Code.

7 (g) PRINTING.—For purposes of costs relating to  
8 printing and binding, including the cost of personnel de-  
9 tailed from the Government Printing Office, the Commis-  
10 sion shall be deemed to be a committee of the Congress.

11 **SEC. 268. SECURITY CLEARANCES FOR COMMISSION MEM-**  
12 **BERS AND STAFF.**

13 The appropriate Federal agencies or departments  
14 shall cooperate with the Commission in expeditiously pro-  
15 viding to the Commission members and staff appropriate  
16 security clearances to the extent possible pursuant to ex-  
17 isting procedures and requirements, except that no person  
18 shall be provided with access to classified information  
19 under this title without the appropriate security clear-  
20 ances.

21 **SEC. 269. COMMISSION REPORTS; TERMINATION.**

22 (a) ANNUAL REPORTS.—The Commission shall sub-  
23 mit—

24 (1) an initial report to Congress not later than  
25 July 1, 2007; and

1           (2) annual reports to Congress after the report  
2           required by paragraph (1);  
3           containing such findings, conclusions, and recommenda-  
4           tions for corrective measures as have been agreed to by  
5           a majority of Commission members.

6           (b) ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES.—During the 60-  
7           day period beginning on the date of submission of each  
8           annual report and the final report under this section, the  
9           Commission shall—

10           (1) be available to provide testimony to commit-  
11           tees of Congress concerning such reports; and

12           (2) take action to appropriately disseminate  
13           such reports.

14           (c) TERMINATION OF COMMISSION.—

15           (1) FINAL REPORT.—Five years after the date  
16           of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall sub-  
17           mit to Congress a final report containing informa-  
18           tion described in subsection (a).

19           (2) TERMINATION.—The Commission, and all  
20           the authorities of this title, shall terminate 60 days  
21           after the date on which the final report is submitted  
22           under paragraph (1), and the Commission may use  
23           such 60-day period for the purpose of concluding its  
24           activities.

1 **SEC. 270. FUNDING.**

2       There are authorized such sums as necessary to carry  
3 out this title.

**Calendar No. 1**

110<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> Session

**S. 1**

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**A BILL**

To provide greater transparency in the legislative process.

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JANUARY 4, 2007

Read the first time; ordered read the second time and placed on the calendar