

Union Calendar No. 143

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5720

[Report No. 117–199]

To amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to provide for a periodic transaction reporting requirement for Federal judicial officers and the online publication of financial disclosure reports of Federal judicial officers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 25, 2021

Ms. ROSS (for herself, Mr. ISSA, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. NADLER, and Mr. ROY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

DECEMBER 1, 2021

Additional sponsors: Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. NORMAN, and Ms. GARCIA of Texas

DECEMBER 1, 2021

Reported with an amendment; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on October 25, 2021]

A BILL

To amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to provide for a periodic transaction reporting requirement for Federal judicial officers and the online publication of financial disclosure reports of Federal judicial officers, and for other purposes.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 *This Act may be cited as the “Courthouse Ethics and*
 5 *Transparency Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. PERIODIC TRANSACTION REPORTS AND ONLINE**
 7 **PUBLICATION OF FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE**
 8 **REPORTS OF FEDERAL JUDICIAL OFFICERS.**

9 *(a) PERIODIC TRANSACTION REPORTING REQUIRE-*
 10 *MENT FOR FEDERAL JUDICIAL OFFICERS.—*

11 *(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 103(l) of the Ethics in*
 12 *Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended*
 13 *by adding at the end the following:*

14 *“(11) Each judicial officer.”.*

15 *(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by*
 16 *paragraph (1) shall apply to applicable transactions*
 17 *occurring on or after the date that is 90 days after*
 18 *the date of enactment of this Act.*

19 *(b) ONLINE PUBLICATION OF FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE*
 20 *REPORTS OF FEDERAL JUDICIAL OFFICERS.—Section 105*
 21 *of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.)*
 22 *is amended—*

23 *(1) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as*
 24 *subsections (d) and (e), respectively; and*

1 (2) *by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-*
2 *lowing:*

3 “(c) *ONLINE PUBLICATION OF FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE*
4 *REPORTS OF JUDICIAL OFFICERS.—*

5 “(1) *ESTABLISHMENT OF DATABASE.—Not later*
6 *than 180 days after the date of enactment of the*
7 *Courthouse Ethics and Transparency Act, the Admin-*
8 *istrative Office of the United States Courts shall es-*
9 *tablish a searchable internet database to enable public*
10 *access to any report required to be filed by a judicial*
11 *officer under this title.*

12 “(2) *AVAILABILITY.—Not later than 90 days*
13 *after the date on which a report is required to be filed*
14 *under this title by a judicial officer, the Administra-*
15 *tive Office of the United States Courts shall make the*
16 *report available on the database established under*
17 *paragraph (1) in a full-text searchable, sortable, and*
18 *downloadable format for access by the public.*

19 “(3) *REDACTION.—Any report made available on*
20 *the database established under paragraph (1) shall*
21 *not contain any information that is redacted in ac-*
22 *cordance with subsection (b)(3).’.*

23 “(c) *TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—*

1 (1) *Section 103(l) of the Ethics in Government*
2 *Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) (as amended by sub-*
3 *section (a)(1)) is amended—*

4 (A) *in paragraph (9), by striking “, as de-*
5 *fin ed under section 109(12)”*; and

6 (B) *in paragraph (10), by striking “, as de-*
7 *fin ed under section 109(13)”*.

8 (2) *Section 105 of the Ethics in Government Act*
9 *of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) (as amended by subsection*
10 *(b)) is amended—*

11 (A) *in subsection (a)(1), by striking “be re-*
12 *vealing” and inserting “by revealing”*; and

13 (B) *in subsection (b)—*

14 (i) *in paragraph (1)—*

15 (I) *in the first sentence, by strik-*
16 *ing “be,,” and inserting “be,”*; and

17 (II) *in the third sentence, by*
18 *striking “may be may” and inserting*
19 *“may be, may”*; and

20 (ii) *in paragraph (3)(A), by striking*
21 *“described in section 109(8) or 109(10) of*
22 *this Act” and inserting “who is a judicial*
23 *officer or a judicial employee”*.

24 (3) *Section 107(a)(1) of the Ethics in Govern-*
25 *ment Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App) is amended in the*

- 1 *last sentence by striking “and (d)” and inserting*
- 2 *“and (e)”.*

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