

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 10199

To amend title 5, United States Code, to prohibit the President, the Vice President, Members of Congress, senior United States Government officials, and their spouses and dependents from owning or trading stocks, digital assets, and prediction market contracts, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 31, 2026

Mr. VINDMAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committees on House Administration, the Judiciary, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend title 5, United States Code, to prohibit the President, the Vice President, Members of Congress, senior United States Government officials, and their spouses and dependents from owning or trading stocks, digital assets, and prediction market contracts, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Sell Your Stocks or
3 Step Down Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. RESTRICTIONS ON TRADE AND OWNERSHIP OF**
5 **COVERED INVESTMENTS.**

6 (a) RESTRICTIONS.—Chapter 131 of title 5, United
7 States Code, is amended by inserting at the end the fol-
8 lowing subchapter:

9 “SUBCHAPTER IV—RESTRICTIONS ON TRADE
10 AND OWNERSHIP OF COVERED INVESTMENTS
11 **“§ 13151. Definitions**

12 “In this subchapter:

13 “(1) COMMODITY.—The term ‘commodity’ has
14 the meaning given the term in section 1a of the
15 Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 1a).

16 “(2) COVERED EXECUTIVE BRANCH OFFI-
17 CIAL.—The term ‘covered executive branch official’
18 means any of the following:

19 “(A) The head of an executive agency, the
20 United States Postal Service, or the Postal
21 Regulatory Commission.

22 “(B) An officer or employee of the execu-
23 tive branch who occupies a position classified
24 above GS–15 of the General Schedule, or, in
25 the case of a position not under the General
26 Schedule, for which the rate of basic pay is

1 equal to or greater than 120 percent of the
2 minimum rate of basic pay payable for GS-15
3 of the General Schedule.

4 “(C) An employee in the Senior Executive
5 Service, as defined in section 3132(a), or an
6 employee in a comparable senior executive, sen-
7 ior professional, or senior-level personnel system
8 established for positions in the intelligence com-
9 munity, the foreign service, or elsewhere in the
10 executive branch.

11 “(D) A chief of staff to the head of an ex-
12 ecutive agency, or a chief of staff or deputy
13 chief of staff to the President or Vice President.

14 “(E) A special Government employee as
15 defined in section 202 of title 18.

16 “(3) COVERED INDIVIDUAL.—The term ‘cov-
17 ered individual’ means any of the following:

18 “(A) The President and the Vice President
19 of the United States.

20 “(B) A Member of Congress as defined in
21 section 13101.

22 “(C) An officer or employee of the Con-
23 gress as defined in section 13101.

24 “(D) A covered executive branch official.

25 “(E) A covered judicial official.

1 “(F) A dependent child as defined in sec-
2 tion 13101 or spouse of an individual described
3 in subparagraph (A), (B), (C), or (D).

4 “(4) COVERED INVESTMENT.—The term ‘cov-
5 ered investment’—

6 “(A) means an investment in a security, a
7 commodity, a future, a digital asset, an event
8 contract, or any comparable economic interest
9 acquired through synthetic means, such as the
10 use of a derivative, including an option, war-
11 rant, or other similar means; and

12 “(B) does not include—

13 “(i) a widely held investment fund de-
14 scribed in section 13104(f)(8) that is di-
15 versified and publicly traded on a national
16 or regional stock exchange;

17 “(ii) a United States Treasury bill,
18 note, or bond;

19 “(iii) a State or municipal government
20 bill, note, or bond;

21 “(iv) any compensation received by
22 the spouse or dependent child of a covered
23 individual from their employer;

24 “(v) an interest in a small business
25 concern;

1 “(vi) an interest in a limited liability
2 company created for the sole purpose of
3 purchasing or holding real estate that
4 serves as the personal residence of the cov-
5 ered individual;

6 “(vii) any share of Settlement Com-
7 mon Stock issued under section 7(g)(1)(A)
8 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement
9 Act (43 U.S.C. 1606(g)(1)(A)); or

10 “(viii) any share of Settlement Com-
11 mon Stock as defined in section 3 of the
12 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43
13 U.S.C. 1602).

14 “(5) COVERED JUDICIAL OFFICIAL.—The term
15 ‘covered judicial official’ means—

16 “(A) a justice or judge of the United
17 States as defined in section 451 of title 28;

18 “(B) a judge of the United States Court of
19 Federal Claims;

20 “(C) a bankruptcy judge appointed under
21 section 152 of title 28; and

22 “(D) a magistrate judge appointed under
23 section 631 of title 28.

24 “(6) DIGITAL ASSET.—The term ‘digital asset’
25 has the meaning given the term in section

1 6045(g)(3)(D) of the Internal Revenue Code of
2 1986.

3 “(7) DIVERSIFIED.—The term ‘diversified’,
4 with respect to an investment fund, means such
5 fund does not have a stated policy of concentrating
6 its investments in any industry, business, single
7 country other than the United States, or bonds of a
8 single State within the United States except for the
9 State in which the covered individual resides.

10 “(8) EVENT CONTRACT.—The term ‘event con-
11 tract’ means an agreement, contract, transaction, or
12 swap in an excluded commodity described in section
13 1a(19)(iv) of the Commodity Exchange Act that are
14 based upon the occurrence, extent of an occurrence,
15 or contingency (other than a change in the price,
16 rate, value, or levels of a commodity described in
17 section 1a(2)(i)), by a designated contract market or
18 swap execution facility (as such terms are defined in
19 the Commodity Exchange Act).

20 “(9) FUTURE.—The term ‘future’ means a fi-
21 nancial contract obligating the buyer to purchase an
22 asset or the seller to sell an asset, such as a physical
23 commodity or a financial investment, at a predeter-
24 mined future date and price.

1 “(10) SECURITY.—The term ‘security’ has the
2 meaning given the term in section 3(a) of the Secu-
3 rities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78c(a)).

4 “(11) SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN.—The term
5 ‘small business concern’ has the meaning given that
6 term under section 3 of the Small Business Act (15
7 U.S.C. 632).

8 “(12) SUPERVISING ETHICS OFFICE.—The term
9 ‘supervising ethics office’ has the meaning given the
10 term in section 13101.

11 **“§ 13152. Trade and ownership of covered invest-**
12 **ments**

13 “(a) CONDUCT DURING FEDERAL SERVICE.—Except
14 as provided in subsection (d), no covered individual may,
15 directly or indirectly, own or trade a covered investment.

16 “(b) COMPLIANCE.—

17 “(1) REQUIREMENT.—To comply with sub-
18 section (a), a covered individual—

19 “(A) may not purchase a covered invest-
20 ment; and

21 “(B) shall, not later than the effective date
22 established in paragraph (2), divest of any cov-
23 ered investment at fair market value, subject to
24 subsection (c).

1 “(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The effective date is
2 established as follows:

3 “(A) Thirty days after the date of enact-
4 ment of the Sell Your Stocks or Step Down
5 Act, for an individual who is a covered indi-
6 vidual on such date of enactment.

7 “(B) Thirty days after the date on which
8 an individual becomes a covered individual, if
9 such date occurs after the date of enactment of
10 the Sell Your Stocks or Step Down Act.

11 “(c) TAXATION OF DIVESTITURES.—Notwith-
12 standing any other provision of law, section 1043 of the
13 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 shall not apply to any dis-
14 position of property made pursuant to this subchapter.

15 “(d) OCCUPATIONAL EXCEPTION.—A spouse or de-
16 pendent child of a covered individual described in section
17 13151(3)(A), (B), (C), (D), or (E) may trade any covered
18 investment if such covered investment is not owned by
19 such covered individual and if such trade is performed as
20 a function of the primary occupation of the spouse or de-
21 pendent child.

22 “(e) ASSETS ACQUIRED IN SPECIAL CIR-
23 CUMSTANCES.—In the event that a covered individual ac-
24 quires a covered investment after the date of enactment
25 of the Sell Your Stocks or Step Down Act other than by

1 purchase, the covered individual shall have 30 days from
 2 the date on which such investment was acquired to divest
 3 such covered investment at fair market value, subject to
 4 subsection (c).

5 “(f) INTERPRETATIVE GUIDANCE.—The supervising
 6 ethics office shall issue interpretive guidance on any rel-
 7 evant term not defined in this subchapter.

8 **“§ 13153. Penalties**

9 “(a) FAILURE TO DIVEST.—

10 “(1) DAILY PENALTY.—Any covered individual
 11 who fails to divest of a covered investment by the
 12 applicable deadline under section 13152 shall pay,
 13 for each day of noncompliance, beginning the day
 14 after such deadline and ending on the date the cov-
 15 ered individual comes into compliance, a fee equal to
 16 10 percent of the fair market value, as of such day,
 17 of the portfolio of covered investments owned by
 18 such covered individual that remain in violation of
 19 section 13152(a).

20 “(2) ACCRUAL AND LIMIT.—The fee under
 21 paragraph (1) shall accrue for each day of continued
 22 noncompliance, except that the total of such fee may
 23 not exceed 50 percent of such fair market value.

24 “(b) TRADING VIOLATIONS.—Any covered individual
 25 who purchases or trades a covered investment in violation

1 of section 13152(a) shall, at the direction of the super-
2 vising ethics office—

3 “(1) pay a fee equal to—

4 “(A) the value of the covered investment
5 involved in such purchase or trade, plus

6 “(B) \$10,000; and

7 “(2) disgorge to the supervising ethics office the
8 profits of any transaction that violates the provisions
9 of this subchapter.

10 “(c) USE OF FUNDS.—A penalty or disgorgement im-
11 posed under this section shall be deposited into the general
12 fund of the Treasury for the sole purpose of deficit reduc-
13 tion.

14 “(d) PAYMENT RESTRICTIONS.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A covered individual may
16 not pay any penalty under this section using appro-
17 priated funds or any other official resources of the
18 United States.

19 “(2) MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.—A Member of
20 Congress as defined in section 13101 may not pay
21 any of the penalties under this section by using
22 amounts from the following sources:

23 “(A) With respect to a Representative in
24 Congress, a Delegate to Congress, or the Resi-

1 dent Commissioner from Puerto Rico, the Mem-
2 bers' Representational Allowance.

3 “(B) With respect to a United States Sen-
4 ator, the Member's Official Personnel and Of-
5 fice Expense Account.

6 “(C) Any contribution as defined in section
7 301(8) of the Federal Election Campaign Act
8 of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30101(8)) accepted as a
9 candidate, and any other donation received as
10 support for activities of the individual as a
11 holder of Federal office.

12 “(e) ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A supervising ethics office
14 is authorized to determine, assess, and collect any
15 fee imposed under subsection (b) against a covered
16 individual subject to its jurisdiction, and such deter-
17 mination shall constitute final agency action.

18 “(2) INVESTIGATIVE AUTHORITY.—In carrying
19 out this section, a supervising ethics office may—

20 “(A) require a covered individual to submit
21 records sufficient to verify compliance with sec-
22 tion 13152, including brokerage statements,
23 trust instruments and accountings, and trans-
24 action confirmations;

1 “(B) issue administrative subpoenas to fi-
2 nancial institutions, brokers, dealers, and trust-
3 ees for records relevant to a determination
4 under this section; and

5 “(C) refer a suspected violation of this
6 subchapter to the appropriate Inspector General
7 or to the Attorney General for further inves-
8 tigation.

9 “(3) COLLECTION.—

10 “(A) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFSET.—A super-
11 vising ethics office may collect a fee assessed
12 under subsection (b) by administrative offset, in
13 accordance with section 3716 of title 31,
14 against any salary, pension, or other amount
15 payable by the United States to the covered in-
16 dividual.

17 “(B) REFERRAL FOR CIVIL ACTION.—If a
18 covered individual fails to pay a fee assessed
19 under such subsection not later than 60 days
20 after the date of assessment, the supervising
21 ethics office shall refer the matter to the Attor-
22 ney General, who may bring a civil action in an
23 appropriate district court of the United States
24 to recover the unpaid amount, together with in-
25 terest and the costs of the action.

1 “(f) PUBLICATION.—Each supervising ethics office
 2 shall publish on a publicly available website a description
 3 of—

4 “(1) each fine assessed by the supervising eth-
 5 ics office pursuant to this section;

6 “(2) the reason why each such fine was as-
 7 sessed; and

8 “(3) the result of each assessment.”.

9 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
 10 for chapter 131 of title 5, United States Code, is amended
 11 by adding at the end the following:

“SUBCHAPTER IV—RESTRICTIONS ON TRADE AND OWNERSHIP OF COVERED
 INVESTMENTS

“13151. Definitions.

“13152. Trade and ownership of covered investments.

“13153. Penalties.”.

