

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 5032

To amend title 28, United States Code, to require justices, judges, magistrate judges, or bankruptcy judges and their spouses and dependent children to place certain assets into qualified blind trusts, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 20, 2026

Mr. SCHIFF (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 28, United States Code, to require justices, judges, magistrate judges, or bankruptcy judges and their spouses and dependent children to place certain assets into qualified blind trusts, 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 “Justice is Beneficial
5 Limitation on Investments and Necessary Disclosure Act
6 of 2026” or as the “Justice is BLIND Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. PLACEMENT OF CERTAIN ASSETS OF JUSTICES,**
 2 **JUDGES, MAGISTRATE JUDGES, OR BANK-**
 3 **RUPTCY JUDGES AND THEIR SPOUSES AND**
 4 **DEPENDENT CHILDREN IN BLIND TRUST.**

5 Section 455 of title 28, United States Code, is
 6 amended—

7 (1) in subsection (c)—

8 (A) by striking “A” and inserting “(1) A”;

9 and

10 (B) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(2) The reasonable effort described in paragraph (1)
 12 does not include seeking information about the identity of
 13 the financial instruments contained in any qualified blind
 14 trust other than the initial assets of the qualified blind
 15 trust established by a justice, judge, magistrate judge or
 16 bankruptcy judge, or the spouse or dependent child of
 17 such justice, judge, magistrate judge, or bankruptcy
 18 judge, to comply with subsection (g).”; and

19 (2) by adding at the end the following:

20 “(g) PLACEMENT OF CERTAIN ASSETS OF JUSTICES,
 21 JUDGES, MAGISTRATE JUDGES, OR BANKRUPTCY JUDGES
 22 AND THEIR SPOUSES AND DEPENDENT CHILDREN IN
 23 QUALIFIED BLIND TRUST.—

24 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

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

4 “(B) COVERED FINANCIAL INTEREST.—
 5 The term ‘covered financial interest’—

6 “(i) means a financial interest in a se-
 7 curity, a commodity, or a future, or any
 8 comparable economic interest acquired
 9 through synthetic means such as the use of
 10 a derivative; and

11 “(ii) does not include—

12 “(I) a widely held investment
 13 fund described in section 13104(f)(8)
 14 of title 5 that is diversified and reg-
 15 istered as a management company
 16 under the Investment Company Act of
 17 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a–1 et seq.);

18 “(II) a United States Treasury
 19 bill, note, or bond;

20 “(III) any compensation received
 21 by the spouse or dependent child of a
 22 covered official from their employer.

23 “(C) DEPENDENT CHILD.—The term ‘de-
 24 pendent child’ has the meaning given the term
 25 in section 13101 of title 5.

1 “(D) QUALIFIED BLIND TRUST.—The
 2 term ‘qualified blind trust’ has the meaning
 3 given the term in section 13104(f)(3) of title 5.

4 “(2) PLACEMENT.—

5 “(A) JUSTICE, JUDGE, MAGISTRATE
 6 JUDGE, OR BANKRUPTCY JUDGE OCCUPYING
 7 OFFICE ON DATE OF ENACTMENT.—Not later
 8 than 90 days after the date of enactment of
 9 this subsection, a justice, judge, magistrate
 10 judge, or bankruptcy judge and any spouse or
 11 dependent child of such justice, judge, mag-
 12 istrate judge, or bankruptcy judge shall place
 13 any covered financial interest of such justice,
 14 judge, magistrate judge, or bankruptcy judge or
 15 any spouse or dependent child of such justice,
 16 judge, magistrate judge, or bankruptcy judge,
 17 into a qualified blind trust.

18 “(B) JUSTICE, JUDGE, MAGISTRATE
 19 JUDGE, OR BANKRUPTCY JUDGE ASSUMING OF-
 20 FICE AFTER DATE OF ENACTMENT.—Not later
 21 than 90 days after the date an individual is
 22 sworn in as a justice, judge, magistrate judge,
 23 or bankruptcy judge, such individual and any
 24 spouse or dependent child of such individual
 25 shall place any covered financial interest of

1 such individual, spouse, or dependent child into
2 a qualified blind trust.

3 “(C) MINGLING OF ASSETS.—A spouse or
4 dependent child of a justice, judge, magistrate
5 judge, or bankruptcy judge may place a covered
6 financial interest in a qualified blind trust es-
7 tablished by such justice, judge, magistrate
8 judge, or bankruptcy judge under subparagraph
9 (A) or (B). A justice, judge, magistrate judge,
10 or bankruptcy judge may place a covered finan-
11 cial interest in a qualified blind trust estab-
12 lished by the spouse of such justice, judge,
13 magistrate judge, or bankruptcy judge under
14 subparagraph (A) or (B).

15 “(D) ASSETS UPON SEPARATION.—A jus-
16 tice, judge, magistrate judge, or bankruptcy
17 judge and any spouse or dependent child of
18 such justice, judge, magistrate judge, or bank-
19 ruptcy judge may not dissolve any qualified
20 blind trust in which a covered financial interest
21 has been placed pursuant to subparagraph (A)
22 or (B), or otherwise control such a financial in-
23 terest, until the date that is 180 days after the
24 date such justice, judge, magistrate judge, or

1 bankruptcy judge ceases to be a justice, judge,
2 magistrate judge, or bankruptcy judge.

3 “(3) ACCOUNTABILITY.—

4 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A justice, judge, mag-
5 istrate judge, or bankruptcy judge shall—

6 “(i) not later than 15 days after the
7 date a qualified blind trust is established
8 under paragraph (2), attest in writing that
9 such trust has been established and that
10 any covered financial interest of such jus-
11 tice, judge, magistrate judge, or bank-
12 ruptcy judge or a spouse or dependent
13 child of such justice, judge, magistrate
14 judge, or bankruptcy judge has been
15 placed in such trust; or

16 “(ii) attest in writing that such jus-
17 tice, judge, magistrate judge, or bank-
18 ruptcy judge and a spouse or dependent
19 child of such justice, judge, magistrate
20 judge, or bankruptcy judge does not have
21 any covered financial interest.

22 “(B) REPORT.—The Administrative Office
23 of the United States Courts shall make avail-
24 able on the searchable internet database estab-
25 lished under section 105(c) of the Ethics in

1 Government Act of 1978 any attestation made
2 under subparagraph (A).

3 “(4) SEVERABILITY.—If any provision of this
4 subsection or the application of such provision to
5 any person or circumstance is held to be unconstitu-
6 tional, the remainder of this subsection and the ap-
7 plication of the remaining provisions of this sub-
8 section to any person or circumstance, shall not be
9 affected.”.

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