

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1422

To amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to encourage compliance with spending limits on elections for the House of Representatives and enhance the importance of individual contributions and contributions originating within congressional districts.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 23, 1997

Mr. PORTER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on House Oversight

A BILL

To amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to encourage compliance with spending limits on elections for the House of Representatives and enhance the importance of individual contributions and contributions originating within congressional districts.

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. VOLUNTARY LIMITATION ON EXPENDITURES**

4 **IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ELECTIONS.**

5 Section 315 of the Federal Election Campaign Act
6 of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 441a), is amended by adding at the
7 end the following new subsection:

1 “(i)(1)(A) Each candidate for the office of Represent-
2 ative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the
3 Congress may, in such form and manner as the Commis-
4 sion may prescribe, agree to be subject to a voluntary limi-
5 tation on expenditures under subparagraph (B).

6 “(B) The limitation on expenditures referred to in
7 subparagraph (A) shall be \$300,000 for a candidate with
8 respect to each election, but not more than a total of
9 \$600,000 with respect to a general election and any pri-
10 mary election related to such general election.

11 “(2) If a candidate for the office of Representative
12 in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Con-
13 gress—

14 “(A) agrees to a limitation on expenditures
15 under paragraph (1); and

16 “(B) has an opponent who does not so agree;
17 the candidate shall be eligible to receive direct financial
18 compensation in an amount equal to the amount by which
19 the expenditures of the opponent exceed the applicable
20 limitation.”.

1 **SEC. 2. DECREASE IN CONTRIBUTION LIMITATION AMOUNT**
2 **APPLICABLE TO CONTRIBUTIONS TO HOUSE**
3 **OF REPRESENTATIVES CANDIDATES BY**
4 **MULTICANDIDATE POLITICAL COMMITTEES.**

5 Section 315(a)(2)(A) of the Federal Election Cam-
6 paign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 441a(a)(2)(A)) is amended
7 by inserting after “\$5,000” the following: “, except that,
8 in the case of an election for the office of Representative
9 in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Con-
10 gress, the limitation under this subparagraph shall be
11 \$2,500”.

12 **SEC. 3. INCREASE IN CONTRIBUTION LIMITATION AMOUNT**
13 **APPLICABLE TO CONTRIBUTIONS TO HOUSE**
14 **OF REPRESENTATIVES CANDIDATES BY PER-**
15 **SONS OTHER THAN MULTICANDIDATE POLIT-**
16 **ICAL COMMITTEES.**

17 Section 315(a)(1)(A) of the Federal Election Cam-
18 paign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 441a(a)(1)(A)) is amended
19 by inserting after “\$1,000” the following: “, except that,
20 in the case of an election for the office of Representative
21 in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Con-
22 gress, the limitation under this subparagraph shall be
23 \$2,000”.

1 **SEC. 4. CONTRIBUTIONS FROM LOCAL INDIVIDUAL RESI-**
2 **DENTS TO PREDOMINATE IN HOUSE OF REP-**
3 **RESENTATIVES ELECTIONS.**

4 Section 315 of the Federal Election Campaign Act
5 of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 441a), as amended by section 1, is fur-
6 ther amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
7 section:

8 “(j)(1) At least $\frac{2}{3}$ of the total amount of contribu-
9 tions accepted by a candidate for the office of Representa-
10 tive in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Con-
11 gress with respect to a reporting period for an election
12 shall be from individuals, with at least 80 percent of such
13 total from local individual residents.

14 “(2) As used in this subsection, the term ‘local indi-
15 vidual resident’ means an individual who resides in the
16 congressional district involved.”.

○