

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 243

To amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for expenditure limitations and public financing for House of Representatives general elections, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 7, 1997

Mr. OBEY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Oversight, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Rules, 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 the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for expenditure limitations and public financing for House of Representatives general elections, 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; FINDING.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Let the Public Decide Campaign Finance Reform Act”.

1 (b) FINDING.—The Congress finds that the existing
2 system of private political contributions has become a fun-
3 damental threat to the national election process and that
4 the provisions contained in this Act are necessary to pre-
5 vent the corruption of the public's faith in the Nation's
6 system of governance.

7 **TITLE I—EXPENDITURE LIMITA-**
8 **TIONS AND PUBLIC FINANC-**
9 **ING FOR HOUSE OF REP-**
10 **RESENTATIVES GENERAL**
11 **ELECTIONS**

12 **SEC. 101. NEW TITLE OF FEDERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN**
13 **ACT OF 1971.**

14 The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2
15 U.S.C. 431 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the
16 following new title:

1 **“TITLE V—EXPENDITURE LIM-**
2 **TATIONS AND PUBLIC FI-**
3 **NANCING FOR HOUSE OF**
4 **REPRESENTATIVES GENERAL**
5 **ELECTIONS**

6 **“SEC. 501. LIMITATION ON EXPENDITURES IN HOUSE OF**
7 **REPRESENTATIVES GENERAL ELECTIONS.**

8 “A candidate in a House of Representatives general
9 election may not make expenditures other than as pro-
10 vided in this title.

11 **“SEC. 502. SOURCES OF AMOUNTS FOR EXPENDITURES BY**
12 **CANDIDATES IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-**
13 **TIVES GENERAL ELECTIONS.**

14 “The only sources of amounts for expenditures by
15 candidates in House of Representatives general elections
16 shall be—

17 “(1) the Grassroots Good Citizenship Fund,
18 under section 506; and

19 “(2) additional amounts from State and na-
20 tional party committees under section 507.

21 **“SEC. 503. DISTRICT LIMITATION ON EXPENDITURES BY**
22 **MAJOR PARTY CANDIDATES.**

23 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in section
24 507, the maximum amounts of expenditures by major

1 party candidates in House of Representatives general elec-
2 tions shall be based on the median household income of
3 the districts involved, as provided for in subsections (b)
4 and (c).

5 “(b) MAXIMUM FOR WEALTHIEST DISTRICT.—In the
6 congressional district with the highest median household
7 income, maximum expenditures for all major party can-
8 didates with respect to a House of Representatives general
9 election shall be a total of \$1,000,000.

10 “(c) MAXIMUM FOR OTHER DISTRICTS.—In each
11 congressional district, other than the district referred to
12 in subsection (b), the maximum expenditures for all major
13 party candidates with respect to a House of Representa-
14 tives general election shall be an amount equal to—

15 “(1) the maximum amount referred to in sub-
16 section (b), less

17 “(2) the amount equal to—

18 “(A) $\frac{2}{3}$ of the percentage difference be-
19 tween the median household income of the dis-
20 trict involved and the median household income
21 of the district referred to in subsection (b),
22 times

23 “(B) the maximum amount referred to in
24 subsection (b).

1 “(d) ALLOCATION.—The maximum expenditure for a
2 major party candidate in a congressional district shall
3 bear the same ratio to the maximum amount under sub-
4 section (b) or (c), as applicable, as the total popular vote
5 in the district in the five preceding general elections for
6 candidates of the party involved bears to the total popular
7 vote in the district for candidates of all major parties.

8 **“SEC. 504. DISTRICT LIMITATION ON EXPENDITURES BY**
9 **THIRD PARTY CANDIDATES.**

10 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in section
11 507, the maximum amounts of expenditures by third party
12 candidates in House of Representatives general elections
13 shall be based on the median household income of the dis-
14 tricts involved, as provided for in subsection (b).

15 “(b) ALLOCATION.—The maximum expenditure for a
16 third party candidate in a congressional district shall be,
17 as designated by the candidate, one of the following:

18 “(1) The amount that bears the same ratio to
19 the maximum amount under subsection (b) or (c) of
20 section 503, as applicable, as the total popular vote
21 in the district for candidates of the third party bears
22 to the total popular vote for all candidates in the
23 five preceding general elections.

24 “(2) The amount that bears the same ratio to
25 the maximum amount under subsection (b) or (c) of

1 section 503, as applicable, as the total popular vote,
 2 in the State in which the election is held, for House
 3 of Representatives candidates of the third party
 4 bears to the total popular vote for all candidates in
 5 the State in the five preceding general elections.

6 “(3) The amount corresponding to the number
 7 of signatures presented to and verified by the Com-
 8 mission according to the following table:

“20,000 signatures	\$75,000
30,000 signatures	100,000
40,000 signatures	150,000
50,000 signatures	200,000

9 **“SEC. 505. DISTRICT LIMITATION ON EXPENDITURES BY**
 10 **INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES.**

11 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The maximum expenditure for
 12 independent candidates in House of Representatives gen-
 13 eral elections shall be based on the median household in-
 14 come of the districts involved, as provided for in subsection
 15 (b).

16 “(b) ALLOCATION.—The maximum expenditure for
 17 an independent candidate in a congressional district shall
 18 be, as designated by the candidate, one of the following:

19 “(1) The amount that bears the same ratio to
 20 the maximum amount under subsection (b) or (c) of
 21 section 503, as applicable, as the total popular vote
 22 in the district for all independent candidates bears

1 to the total popular vote for all candidates in the
 2 district in the five preceding general elections.

3 “(2) The amount that bears the same ratio to
 4 the maximum amount under subsection (b) or (c) of
 5 section 503, as applicable, as the total popular vote,
 6 in the State in which the election is held, for inde-
 7 pendent House of Representatives candidates bears
 8 to the total popular vote for all candidates in the
 9 State in the five preceding general elections.

10 **“SEC. 506. GRASSROOTS GOOD CITIZENSHIP FUND.**

11 “(a) CREATION OF FUND.—There is established in
 12 the Treasury a trust fund to be known as the ‘Grassroots
 13 Good Citizenship Fund’, consisting of such amounts as
 14 may be credited to such fund as provided in this section.

15 “(b) DISTRICT ACCOUNTS.—There shall be estab-
 16 lished within the Grassroots Good Citizenship Fund an ac-
 17 count for each congressional district. The accounts so es-
 18 tablished shall be administered by the Commission for the
 19 purpose of distributing amounts under this title.

20 “(c) PAYMENTS TO CANDIDATES.—Subject to sub-
 21 section (d), the Commission shall pay to each candidate
 22 from the Grassroots Good Citizenship Fund the maximum
 23 amount calculated for such candidate under section 503,
 24 504, or 505.

1 “(d) INSUFFICIENT AMOUNTS.—If, as determined by
2 the Commission, there are insufficient amounts in the
3 Grassroots Good Citizenship Fund for payments under
4 subsection (c), the Commission may reduce payments to
5 candidates so that each candidate receives a pro rata por-
6 tion of the amounts that are available.

7 “(e) TRANSFERS TO FUND.—There are hereby cred-
8 ited to the Grassroots Good Citizenship Fund amounts
9 equivalent to the amounts designated under sections 6097
10 and 6098 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

11 “(f) EXPENDITURES.—Amounts in the Grassroots
12 Good Citizenship Fund shall be available for the purpose
13 of providing amounts for expenditure by candidates in
14 House of Representatives general elections in accordance
15 with this title.

16 **“SEC. 507. ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS FROM STATE AND NA-**
17 **TIONAL PARTY COMMITTEES.**

18 “(a) CONTRIBUTIONS.—In addition to amounts made
19 available under section 503 or 504, in the case of a can-
20 didate in a House of Representatives general election who
21 is the candidate of a political party, the State and national
22 committees of that political party may make contributions
23 to the candidate totaling not more than 5 percent of the
24 maximum expenditure applicable to the candidate under
25 section 503 or section 504.

1 “(b) EXPENDITURES.—A House of Representatives
2 candidate who is the candidate of a political party may
3 make expenditures of the amounts received under sub-
4 section (a).

5 **“SEC. 508. PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

6 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on January 15, and
7 continuing through April 15 of each year, the Commission
8 shall carry out a program, utilizing broadcast announce-
9 ments and other appropriate means, to inform the public
10 of the existence and purpose of the Grassroots Good Citi-
11 zenship Fund and the role that individual citizens can play
12 in the election process by voluntarily contributing to the
13 fund. The announcements shall be broadcast during prime
14 time viewing hours in 30-second advertising segments
15 equivalent to 200 gross rating points per network per
16 week. The Commission shall ensure that the maximum
17 number of taxpayers shall be exposed to these announce-
18 ments. Television networks, as defined by the Federal
19 Communications Commission, shall provide the broadcast
20 time under this section as part of their obligations in the
21 public interest under the Communications Act of 1934.
22 The Federal Election Commission shall encourage broad-
23 cast outlets other than the above mentioned television net-
24 works including radio to provide similar announcements.

1 “(b) GROSS RATING POINT.—The term ‘gross rating
2 point’ is a measure of the total gross weight delivered. It
3 is the sum of the ratings for individual programs. Since
4 a household rating period is 1 percent of the coverage
5 base, 200 gross rating points means 2 messages a week
6 per average household.

7 **“SEC. 509. DEFINITIONS.**

8 “As used in this title—

9 “(1) the term ‘House of Representatives can-
10 didate’ means a candidate for the office of Rep-
11 resentative in, or Delegate or Resident Commis-
12 sioner to, the Congress;

13 “(2) the term ‘median household income’
14 means, with respect to a congressional district, the
15 median household income of that district, as deter-
16 mined by the Commission, using the most current
17 data from the Bureau of the Census;

18 “(3) the term ‘major party’ means, with respect
19 to a House of Representatives general election, a po-
20 litical party whose candidate for the office of Rep-
21 resentative in, or Delegate or Resident Commis-
22 sioner to, the Congress in the preceding general elec-
23 tion received, as the candidate of such party, 25 per-
24 cent or more of the total number of popular votes
25 received by all candidates for such office;

1 “(4) the term ‘third party’ means with respect
2 to a House of Representatives general election, a po-
3 litical party whose candidate for the office of Rep-
4 resentative in, or Delegate or Resident Commis-
5 sioner to, the Congress in the preceding general elec-
6 tion received, as the candidate of such party, 5 per-
7 cent or more but less than 25 percent of the total
8 number of popular votes received by all candidates
9 for such office;

10 “(5) the term ‘independent candidate’ means,
11 with respect to a House of Representatives general
12 election, a candidate for the office of Representative
13 in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the
14 Congress who is not the candidate of a major party
15 or a third party; and

16 “(6) the term ‘House of Representatives gen-
17 eral election’ means a general election for the office
18 of Representative in, or Delegate or Resident Com-
19 missioner to, the Congress.”.

20 **SEC. 102. EFFECT OF INVALIDITY OF MANDATORY EXPEND-**
21 **ITURE LIMITATIONS.**

22 If any mandatory limitation on expenditures con-
23 tained in title V of the Federal Election Campaign Act
24 of 1971, as enacted by section 101, is held invalid—

1 (1) any House of Representatives candidate, as
 2 defined in section 509 of the Federal Election Cam-
 3 paign Act of 1971, who, in a general election volun-
 4 tarily complies with such limitations shall receive
 5 amounts for expenditures in the same manner and
 6 to the same extent as provided for in that title; and

7 (2) any House of Representatives candidate, as
 8 defined in section 509 of the Federal Election Cam-
 9 paign Act of 1971, who, in a general election does
 10 not voluntarily comply with such limitations shall be
 11 subject to the limitation on contributions from large
 12 donor multicandidate political committees under sec-
 13 tion 315(l) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of
 14 1971 in the same manner and to the same extent as
 15 if that section were applicable to general elections.

16 **TITLE II—AMENDMENTS TO IN-**
 17 **TERNAL REVENUE CODE OF**
 18 **1986**

19 **SEC. 201. DESIGNATION OF OVERPAYMENTS AND CON-**
 20 **TRIBUTIONS FOR GRASSROOTS GOOD CITI-**
 21 **ZENSHIP FUND.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter A of chapter 61 of the
 23 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to returns and
 24 records) is amended by adding at the end the following:

1 **“PART IX—DESIGNATION OF OVERPAYMENTS**
 2 **AND CONTRIBUTIONS FOR GRASSROOTS**
 3 **GOOD CITIZENSHIP FUND**

“Sec. 6097. Designation of overpayments for Grassroots Good
 Citizenship Fund.

4 **“SEC. 6097. DESIGNATION OF OVERPAYMENTS FOR GRASS-**
 5 **ROOTS GOOD CITIZENSHIP FUND.**

6 “(a) IN GENERAL.—With respect to each taxpayer’s
 7 return for the taxable year of the tax imposed by chapter
 8 1, such taxpayer may designate that—

9 “(1) a specified portion (not less than \$1 or
 10 more than \$10,000, and not less than \$1 or more
 11 than \$20,000 in the case of a joint return) of any
 12 overpayment of tax for such taxable year, and

13 “(2) any contribution which the taxpayer in-
 14 cludes with such return,

15 shall be paid over to the Grassroots Good Citizenship
 16 Fund under section 506 of the Federal Election Campaign
 17 Act of 1971.

18 “(b) MANNER AND TIME OF DESIGNATION.—A des-
 19 ignation under subsection (a) may be made with respect
 20 to any taxable year only at the time of filing the return
 21 of tax imposed by chapter 1 for such taxable year. Such
 22 designation shall be made on the 1st page of the return.

23 “(c) OVERPAYMENTS TREATED AS REFUNDED.—For
 24 purposes of this title, any portion of an overpayment of

1 tax designated under subsection (a) shall be treated as
 2 being refunded to the taxpayer as of the last date pre-
 3 scribed for filing the return of tax imposed by chapter 1
 4 (determined without regard to extensions) or, if later, the
 5 date the return is filed.”

6 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of parts for
 7 such subchapter A is amended by adding at the end there-
 8 of the following new item:

“Part IX. Designation of overpayments and contributions for cer-
 tain purposes relating to House of Representatives
 elections.”

9 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
 10 this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after
 11 December 31, 1996.

12 **SEC. 202. DESIGNATION OF OVERPAYMENTS AND CON-**
 13 **TRIBUTIONS FOR DISTRIBUTION TO HOUSE**
 14 **OF REPRESENTATIVES CANDIDATES.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—Part IX of subchapter A of chap-
 16 ter 61 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to
 17 returns and records), as added by section 201, is amended
 18 by adding at the end the following:

19 **“SEC. 6098. DESIGNATION OF OVERPAYMENTS FOR DIS-**
 20 **TRIBUTION TO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**
 21 **CANDIDATES.**

22 “(a) IN GENERAL.—With respect to each taxpayer’s
 23 return for the taxable year of the tax imposed by chapter
 24 1, such taxpayer may designate that—

1 “(1) a specified portion (not less than \$1 or
2 more than \$1,000, and not less than \$1 or more
3 than \$2,000 in the case of a joint return) of any
4 overpayment of tax for such taxable year, and

5 “(2) any contribution which the taxpayer in-
6 cludes with such return,

7 shall be paid to State or national committees of political
8 parties, as designated by the taxpayer, to be used exclu-
9 sively for contributions to House of Representatives can-
10 didates under section 507 of the Federal Election Cam-
11 paign Act of 1971.

12 “(b) MANNER AND TIME OF DESIGNATION.—A des-
13 ignation under subsection (a) may be made with respect
14 to any taxable year only at the time of filing the return
15 of tax imposed by chapter 1 for such taxable year. Such
16 designation shall be made on the 1st page of the return.

17 “(c) OVERPAYMENTS TREATED AS REFUNDED.—For
18 purposes of this title, any portion of an overpayment of
19 tax designated under subsection (a) shall be treated as
20 being refunded to the taxpayer as of the last date pre-
21 scribed for filing the return of tax imposed by chapter 1
22 (determined without regard to extensions) or, if later, the
23 date the return is filed.”

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
 2 for such subchapter A is amended by inserting after the
 3 item relating to section 6097 the following new item:

“Sec. 6098. Designation of overpayments for distribution to
 House of Representatives candidates.”

4 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
 5 this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after
 6 December 31, 1996.

7 **SEC. 203. INCREASE IN CORPORATE INCOME TAX ON TAX-**
 8 **ABLE INCOME ABOVE \$10,000,000.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (4) of subsection (b)
 10 of section 11 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is
 11 amended by striking “35 percent” and inserting “35.1
 12 percent”.

13 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
 14 subsection (a) shall apply to taxable years beginning after
 15 the date of the enactment of this Act.

16 (c) USE OF AMOUNTS RECEIVED.—Amounts received
 17 by reason of the amendment made by subsection (a) shall
 18 be paid over to the Grassroots Good Citizenship Fund
 19 under section 506 of the Federal Election Campaign Act
 20 of 1971.

1 **TITLE III—BAN ON USE OF SOFT**
 2 **MONEY BY HOUSE CANDIDATES**

3 **SEC. 301. BAN ON USE OF SOFT MONEY BY HOUSE CAN-**
 4 **DIDATES.**

5 Title III of the Federal Election Campaign Act of
 6 1971 (2 U.S.C. 431 et seq.) is amended by adding at the
 7 end the following new section:

8 “BAN ON USE OF NON-REGULATED FUNDS BY HOUSE
 9 CANDIDATES

10 “SEC. 323. (a) IN GENERAL.—No funds may be con-
 11 tributed or expended with respect to any House of Rep-
 12 resentatives election unless the funds are subject to the
 13 limitations and prohibitions of this Act.

14 “(b) HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ELECTION DE-
 15 FINED.—In this section, the term ‘House of Representa-
 16 tives election’ means any election for the office of Rep-
 17 resentative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to,
 18 the Congress.”.

19 **TITLE IV—INDEPENDENT**
 20 **EXPENDITURES**

21 **SEC. 401. BAN ON INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURES IN HOUSE**
 22 **OF REPRESENTATIVES ELECTIONS.**

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

1 “(i) No person may make any independent expendi-
 2 ture with respect to an election for the office of Represent-
 3 ative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the
 4 Congress.”.

5 **SEC. 402. CLARIFICATION OF DEFINITIONS RELATING TO**
 6 **INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURES.**

7 (a) INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURE DEFINITION
 8 AMENDMENT.—Section 301 of the Federal Election Cam-
 9 paign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 431) is amended by striking
 10 out paragraphs (17) and (18) and inserting the following
 11 new paragraphs:

12 “(17)(A) The term ‘independent expenditure’ means
 13 an expenditure for an advertisement or other communica-
 14 tion that—

15 “(i) contains express advocacy; and

16 “(ii) is made without the participation or co-
 17 operation of, or consultation with, a candidate or a
 18 candidate’s representative.

19 “(B) The following shall not be considered an inde-
 20 pendent expenditure:

21 “(i) An expenditure made by an authorized
 22 committee of a candidate for Federal office or a po-
 23 litical committee of a political party.

24 “(ii) An expenditure made by a person who,
 25 during the election cycle, has made a contribution to

1 a candidate, where the expenditure is in support of
2 that candidate or in opposition to another candidate
3 for the same office.

4 “(iii) An expenditure made by a person, or a
5 political committee established, maintained or con-
6 trolled by such person, who is required to register,
7 under section 308 of the Federal Regulation of Lob-
8 bying Act (2 U.S.C. 267) or the Foreign Agents
9 Registration Act (22 U.S.C. 611) or any successor
10 Federal law requiring a person who is a lobbyist or
11 foreign agent to register.

12 “(iv) An expenditure made by a person who,
13 during the election cycle, has communicated with or
14 received information from a candidate or a rep-
15 resentative of that candidate regarding activities
16 that have the purpose of influencing that candidate’s
17 election to Federal office, where the expenditure is
18 in support of that candidate or in opposition to an-
19 other candidate for that office.

20 “(v) An expenditure if, in the same election
21 cycle, the person making the expenditure is or has
22 been—

23 “(I) authorized to raise or expend funds on
24 behalf of the candidate or the candidate’s au-
25 thorized committees; or

1 “(II) serving as a member, employee, or
 2 agent of the candidate’s authorized committees
 3 in an executive or policymaking position.

4 “(18) The term ‘express advocacy’ means, when a
 5 communication is taken as a whole and with limited ref-
 6 erence to external events, an expression of support for or
 7 opposition to a specific candidate, to a specific group of
 8 candidates, or to candidates of a particular political party,
 9 or a suggestion to take action with respect to an election,
 10 such as to vote for or against, make contributions to, or
 11 participate in campaign activity.”.

12 (b) CONTRIBUTION DEFINITION AMENDMENT.—Sec-
 13 tion 301(8)(A) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of
 14 1971 (2 U.S.C. 431(8)(A)) is amended—

15 (1) in clause (i), by striking “or” after the
 16 semicolon at the end;

17 (2) in clause (ii), by striking the period at the
 18 end and inserting “; or”; and

19 (3) by adding at the end the following new
 20 clause:

21 “(iii) any payment or other transaction referred
 22 to in paragraph (17)(A)(i) that does not qualify as
 23 an independent expenditure under paragraph
 24 (17)(A)(ii).”.

1 **TITLE V—PROVISIONS RELAT-**
2 **ING TO HOUSE OF REP-**
3 **RESENTATIVES PRIMARY**
4 **ELECTIONS**

5 **SEC. 501. LIMITATION ON EXPENDITURES IN HOUSE OF**
6 **REPRESENTATIVES ELECTIONS OTHER THAN**
7 **GENERAL ELECTIONS.**

8 Section 315 of the Federal Election Campaign Act
9 of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 441a), as amended by section 401, is
10 further amended by adding at the end the following new
11 subsection:

12 “(j)(1) The maximum expenditures for a candidate
13 for the office of Representative in, or Delegate or Resident
14 Commissioner to, the Congress in any election other than
15 a general election may not exceed $\frac{1}{3}$ of the maximum ap-
16 plicable to the candidate in a general election under title
17 V.

18 “(2) For purposes of limitations under this Act, any
19 expenditure by a candidate referred to in paragraph (1),
20 including an expenditure for the preparation, production,
21 or presentation of communications through electronic
22 media or in written form, shall, regardless of when the
23 expenditure is made, be attributed to the appropriate gen-
24 eral election, unless such expenditure is made solely for
25 an election other than a general election.”.

1 **SEC. 502. LIMITATIONS APPLICABLE TO SMALL DONOR**
2 **MULTICANDIDATE POLITICAL COMMITTEES.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 315(a) of the Federal
4 Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 441a(a)) is
5 amended by adding at the end the following new para-
6 graph:

7 “(9) A small donor multicandidate political commit-
8 tee may make contributions to any candidate for the office
9 of Representative in, or Delegate or Resident Commis-
10 sioner to, the Congress and the authorized committees of
11 such candidate with respect to an election (other than a
12 general election) which, in the aggregate, do not exceed
13 \$5,000.”.

14 (b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 301 of the Federal Elec-
15 tion Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 431) is amended
16 by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

17 “(21) The term ‘small donor multicandidate political
18 committee’ means a multicandidate political committee
19 that does not accept contributions totaling more than
20 \$200 from any single source in a calendar year.

21 “(22) The term ‘large donor multicandidate political
22 committee’ means a multicandidate political committee
23 that accepts contributions totaling more than \$200 from
24 any single source in a calendar year.”.

1 **SEC. 503. LIMITATION ON ACCEPTANCE OF LARGE DONOR**
 2 **MULTICANDIDATE POLITICAL COMMITTEE**
 3 **CONTRIBUTIONS BY HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-**
 4 **TIVES CANDIDATES.**

5 Section 315 of the Federal Election Campaign Act
 6 of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 441a), as amended by sections 401 and
 7 501, is further amended by adding at the end the following
 8 new subsection:

9 “(k) A candidate for the office of Representative in,
 10 or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress,
 11 and the authorized political committees of such candidate,
 12 may not, with respect to an election other than a general
 13 election, accept contributions from large donor multicand-
 14 didate political committees in excess of 20 percent of the
 15 total accepted from all multicandidate political commit-
 16 tees.”.

17 **TITLE VI—CONSIDERATION OF**
 18 **CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT**

19 **SEC. 601. EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION OF CONSTITU-**
 20 **TIONAL AMENDMENT.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—If any provision of this Act or any
 22 amendment made by this Act is found unconstitutional by
 23 the Supreme Court, the provisions of section 2908 (other
 24 than subsection (a)) of the Defense Base Closure and Re-
 25 alignment Act of 1990 shall apply to the consideration of
 26 a joint resolution described in section 602 in the same

1 manner as such provisions apply to a joint resolution de-
2 scribed in section 2908(a) of such Act.

3 (b) SPECIAL RULES.—For purposes of applying sub-
4 section (a) with respect to such provisions, the following
5 rules shall apply:

6 (1) Any reference to the Committee on Armed
7 Services of the House of Representatives shall be
8 deemed a reference to the Committee on the Judici-
9 ary of the House of Representatives and any ref-
10 erence to the Committee on Armed Services of the
11 Senate shall be deemed a reference to the Committee
12 on the Judiciary of the Senate.

13 (2) Any reference to the date on which the
14 President transmits a report shall be deemed a ref-
15 erence to the date on which the Supreme Court finds
16 a provision of this Act or an amendment made by
17 this Act unconstitutional.

18 **SEC. 602. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT DESCRIBED.**

19 For purposes of section 601, a joint resolution de-
20 scribed in this section is a joint resolution proposing the
21 following text as an amendment to the Constitution of the
22 United States:

23 “ARTICLE —

24 “SECTION 1. Congress may provide for reasonable re-
25 strictions on contributions and expenditures in campaigns

1 for election for Federal office as necessary to protect the
2 integrity of the electoral process.

3 “SEC. 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this
4 article by appropriate legislation. No legislation enacted
5 to enforce this article shall apply with respect to any elec-
6 tion held after the last day of the year of the third Presi-
7 dential election held after the date of the enactment of
8 the legislation, unless the period in which such legislation
9 is in effect is extended by an Act of Congress which is
10 signed into law by the President.”.

