

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4253

To amend the Electronic Fund Transfer Act to establish a maximum amount limitation on the exchange rates used in international wire transfers originating in the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 16, 1998

Mr. GUTIERREZ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Banking and Financial Services

A BILL

To amend the Electronic Fund Transfer Act to establish a maximum amount limitation on the exchange rates used in international wire transfers originating in the United States.

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 “Wire Transfer Equity
5 Act of 1998”.

1 **SEC. 2. MAXIMUM AMOUNT LIMITATION ON EXCHANGE**
2 **RATES FOR INTERNATIONAL WIRE TRANS-**
3 **FERS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Electronic Fund Transfer
5 Act (15 U.S.C. 1693 et seq.) is amended—

6 (1) by redesignating sections 918, 919, 920,
7 and 921 as sections 919, 920, 921, and 922, respec-
8 tively; and

9 (2) by inserting after section 917 the following
10 new section:

11 **“SEC. 918. MAXIMUM AMOUNT LIMITATION ON EXCHANGE**
12 **RATES FOR INTERNATIONAL WIRE TRANS-**
13 **FERS.**

14 “(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a financial institu-
15 tion or money transmitting business which initiates an
16 international money transfer on behalf of a consumer
17 (whether or not the consumer maintains an account at
18 such institution or business), the exchange rate used by
19 such institution or business for the currency of the country
20 to which the transfer is made may not exceed by more
21 than 5 percent the New York foreign exchange selling rate
22 for such currency, as published in the Wall Street Journal
23 on the last business day preceding the date of the trans-
24 action.

25 “(b) DEFINITIONS.—

1 “(1) INTERNATIONAL MONEY TRANSFER.—The
2 term ‘international money transfer’ means any
3 money transmitting service involving an inter-
4 national transaction which is provided by a financial
5 institution or a money transmitting business.

6 “(2) MONEY TRANSMITTING SERVICE.—The
7 term ‘money transmitting service’ has the meaning
8 given to such term in section 5330(d)(2) of title 31,
9 United States Code.

10 “(3) MONEY TRANSMITTING BUSINESS.—The
11 term ‘money transmitting business’ has the meaning
12 given to such term in section 5330(d)(1) of title 31,
13 United States Code (other than subparagraph (B) of
14 such section).”.

15 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
16 subsection (a) shall take effect at the end of the 3-month
17 period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

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