

105TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 965

To amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to reform the financing of campaigns for election for Federal office.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 6, 1997

Mr. DOOLITTLE (for himself, Mr. DELAY, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. BALLENGER, Mrs. CHENOWETH, Mr. McKEON, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, Mr. McINNIS, Mr. HUNTER, and Mr. ROHRABACHER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Oversight, and in addition to the Committee on 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

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## A BILL

To amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to reform the financing of campaigns for election for Federal office.

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 “Citizen Legislature and  
5 Political Freedom Act”.

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1 **SEC. 2. REMOVAL OF LIMITATIONS ON FEDERAL ELECTION**  
 2 **CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS.**

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

6 “(9) The limitations established under this subsection  
 7 shall not apply to contributions made during calendar  
 8 years beginning after 1998.”

9 **SEC. 3. TERMINATION OF TAXPAYER FINANCING OF PRESI-**  
 10 **DENTIAL ELECTION CAMPAIGNS.**

11 (a) **TERMINATION OF DESIGNATION OF INCOME TAX**  
 12 **PAYMENTS.**—Section 6096 of the Internal Revenue Code  
 13 of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following  
 14 new subsection:

15 “(d) **TERMINATION.**—This section shall not apply to  
 16 taxable years beginning after December 31, 1997.”

17 (b) **TERMINATION OF FUND AND ACCOUNT.**—

18 (1) **TERMINATION OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION**  
 19 **CAMPAIGN FUND.**—

20 (A) **IN GENERAL.**—Chapter 95 of subtitle  
 21 H of such Code is amended by adding at the  
 22 end the following new section:

23 **“SEC. 9014. TERMINATION.**

24 The provisions of this chapter shall not apply with  
 25 respect to any presidential election (or any presidential

1 nominating convention) after December 31, 1998, or to  
 2 any candidate in such an election.”

3 (B) TRANSFER OF EXCESS FUNDS TO GEN-  
 4 ERAL FUND.—Section 9006 of such Code is  
 5 amended by adding at the end the following  
 6 new subsection:

7 “(d) TRANSFER OF FUNDS REMAINING AFTER  
 8 1998.—The Secretary shall transfer all amounts in the  
 9 fund after December 31, 1998, to the general fund of the  
 10 Treasury.”

11 (2) TERMINATION OF ACCOUNT.—Chapter 96  
 12 of subtitle H of such Code is amended by adding at  
 13 the end the following new section:

14 **“SEC. 9043. TERMINATION.**

15 The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to any  
 16 candidate with respect to any presidential election after  
 17 December 31, 1998.”

18 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

19 (1) The table of sections for chapter 95 of sub-  
 20 title H of such Code is amended by adding at the  
 21 end the following new item:

“Sec. 9014. Termination.”

22 (2) The table of sections for chapter 96 of sub-  
 23 title H of such Code is amended by adding at the  
 24 end the following new item:

“Sec. 9043. Termination.”

1 **SEC. 4. DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN SOFT**  
2 **MONEY EXPENDITURES OF POLITICAL PAR-**  
3 **TIES.**

4 (a) TRANSFERS OF FUNDS BY NATIONAL POLITICAL  
5 PARTIES.—Section 304(b)(4) of the Federal Election  
6 Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 434(b)(4)) is amended—

7 (1) by striking “and” at the end of subpara-  
8 graph (H);

9 (2) by adding “and” at the end of subpara-  
10 graph (I); and

11 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
12 paragraph:

13 “(J) in the case of a political committee of  
14 a national political party, all funds transferred  
15 to any political committee of a State or local  
16 political party, without regard to whether or not  
17 the funds are otherwise treated as contributions  
18 or expenditures under this title;”.

19 (b) DISCLOSURE BY STATE AND LOCAL POLITICAL  
20 PARTIES OF INFORMATION REPORTED UNDER STATE  
21 LAW.—Section 304 of such Act (2 U.S.C. 434) is amend-  
22 ed by adding at the end the following new subsection:

23 “(d) If a political committee of a State or local politi-  
24 cal party is required under a State or local law, rule, or  
25 regulation to submit a report on its disbursements to an  
26 entity of the State or local government, the committee

1 shall file a copy of the report with the Commission at the  
2 time it submits the report to such an entity.”.

3 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
4 this section shall apply with respect to elections occurring  
5 after January 1999.

6 **SEC. 5. PROMOTING EXPEDITED AVAILABILITY OF FEC RE-**  
7 **PORTS.**

8 (a) MANDATORY ELECTRONIC FILING.—Section  
9 304(a)(11)(A) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of  
10 1971 (2 U.S.C. 434(a)(11)(A)) is amended by striking  
11 “permit reports required by” and inserting “require re-  
12 ports under”.

13 (b) REQUIRING REPORTS FOR ALL CONTRIBUTIONS  
14 MADE TO ANY POLITICAL COMMITTEE WITHIN 90 DAYS  
15 OF ELECTION; REQUIRING REPORTS TO BE MADE WITH-  
16 IN 24 HOURS.—Section 304(a)(6) of such Act (2 U.S.C.  
17 434(a)(6)) is amended to read as follows:

18 “(6)(A) Each political committee shall notify the Sec-  
19 retary or the Commission, and the Secretary of State, as  
20 appropriate, in writing, of any contribution received by the  
21 committee during the period which begins on the 90th day  
22 before an election and ends at the time the polls close for  
23 such election. This notification shall be made within 24  
24 hours (or, if earlier, by midnight of the day on which the

1 contribution is deposited) after the receipt of such con-  
2 tribution and shall include the name of the candidate in-  
3 volved (as appropriate) and the office sought by the can-  
4 didate, the identification of the contributor, and the date  
5 of receipt and amount of the contribution.

6 “(B) The notification required under this paragraph  
7 shall be in addition to all other reporting requirements  
8 under this Act.”.

9 (c) INCREASING ELECTRONIC DISCLOSURE.—Section  
10 304 of such Act (2 U.S.C. 434(a)), as amended by section  
11 4(b), is further amended by adding at the end the follow-  
12 ing new subsection:

13 “(e)(1) The Commission shall make the information  
14 contained in the reports submitted under this section  
15 available on the Internet and publicly available at the of-  
16 fices of the Commission as soon as practicable (but in no  
17 case later than 24 hours) after the information is received  
18 by the Commission.

19 “(2) In this subsection, the term ‘Internet’ means the  
20 international computer network of both Federal and non-  
21 Federal interoperable packet-switched data networks.”.

22 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
23 this section shall apply with respect to reports for periods  
24 beginning on or after January 1, 1999.

1 **SEC. 6. WAIVER OF “BEST EFFORTS” EXCEPTION FOR IN-**  
2 **FORMATION ON IDENTIFICATION OF CON-**  
3 **TRIBUTORS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 302(i) of the Federal  
5 Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 432(i)) is  
6 amended—

7 (1) by striking “(i) When the treasurer” and  
8 inserting “(i)(1) Except as provided in paragraph  
9 (2), when the treasurer”; and

10 (2) by adding at the end the following new  
11 paragraph:

12 “(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to  
13 information regarding the identification of any person who  
14 makes a contribution or contributions aggregating more  
15 than \$200 during a calendar year (as required to be pro-  
16 vided under subsection (c)(3)).”.

17 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
18 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to persons making  
19 contributions for elections occurring after January 1999.

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