

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1370

To amend the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977 to prevent persons doing business in interstate commerce from providing financial support to the International Olympic Committee until the International Olympic Committee adopts institutional reforms.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 12, 1999

Mr. WAXMAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977 to prevent persons doing business in interstate commerce from providing financial support to the International Olympic Committee until the International Olympic Committee adopts institutional reforms.

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 “International Olympic
5 Committee Reform Act of 1999”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

1 (1) The International Olympic Committee has
2 been beset by allegations of illegal and improper
3 gifts made to IOC members during the bid process
4 in which cities compete to host the Olympic games.

5 (2) In order to maintain the integrity of the
6 Olympic games, reforms are necessary to ensure that
7 future Olympic games are awarded to host cities in
8 an impartial manner.

9 (3) Financial sponsorship by American corpora-
10 tions comprises a significant source of revenues for
11 the IOC and the Olympic games.

12 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to prevent
13 persons doing business in interstate commerce from pro-
14 viding financial support to the IOC until the IOC adopts
15 institutional reforms to ensure that future Olympic games
16 are awarded to host cities in an impartial manner.

17 **SEC. 3. AMERICAN CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP OF THE**
18 **INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE.**

19 The Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977 (15
20 U.S.C. 78dd–2) is amended by adding the following new
21 section after section 104:

1 **“SEC. 104A. PROHIBITION AGAINST AMERICAN CORPORATE**
2 **SPONSORSHIP OF THE INTERNATIONAL**
3 **OLYMPIC COMMITTEE.**

4 “(a) REFORMS TO BE IMPLEMENTED BY THE
5 IOC.—No person doing business in interstate commerce
6 in the United States may knowingly provide financial sup-
7 port to the IOC, unless and until the Secretary of Com-
8 merce certifies to Congress that the IOC has implemented
9 the recommendations contained in the March 1, 1999, Re-
10 port of the Special Bid Oversight Commission established
11 by the United States Olympic Committee, including the
12 following:

13 “(1) Establishing a policy that IOC members
14 may not accept gifts of more than nominal value
15 from any city bidding to host the Olympic games, or
16 any representative of such city.

17 “(2) Prohibiting IOC members from receiving
18 any money for travel expenses directly from any city
19 bidding to host the Olympic games, or any rep-
20 resentative of such city.

21 “(3) Establishing an independent office to mon-
22 itor, investigate, and enforce violations of its gift
23 giving and travel expense rules by any city bidding
24 to host the Olympic games, any representative of
25 such city, or any IOC member.

1 “(4) Establishing a procedure by which a ma-
2 jority of IOC members are elected by national Olym-
3 pic committees or by other constituent organizations.

4 “(5) Subjecting IOC members and leaders to
5 periodic reelection.

6 “(b) SAVINGS PROVISIONS.—

7 “(1) Nothing in this section shall restrict the
8 first amendment rights of any person.

9 “(2) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a
10 person from providing financial support to the
11 United States Olympic Committee, any United
12 States sports governing body, or any organizing
13 committee for any Olympic games already awarded
14 by the IOC at the date of enactment of this section.

15 (c) CIVIL PENALTY.—An action may be brought by
16 the Secretary of Commerce in an appropriate United
17 States district court to enjoin any failure or refusal to
18 comply with this section or to impose a civil penalty for
19 such failure or refusal of not more than \$25,000 per day.

20 “(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

21 “(1) PERSON.—The term ‘person’ means—

22 “(A) any United States citizen; or

23 “(B) any other legal entity which is orga-
24 nized under the laws of the United States, or
25 of any State, the District of Columbia, or any

1 commonwealth, territory, or possession of the
2 United States, and which has its principal place
3 of business in the United States.

4 “(2) FINANCIAL SUPPORT.—The term ‘financial
5 support’ means any direct or indirect transfer of
6 funds, property, or benefits, including, but not lim-
7 ited to, loans, credits, financing, investment, spon-
8 sorship, or in-kind contribution.

9 “(3) IOC.—The term ‘IOC’ means the Inter-
10 national Olympic Committee.”.

11 **SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

12 The amendments made by this Act shall take effect
13 with respect to the providing of financial support after the
14 date of enactment of this Act.

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