

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2461

To amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to permit a corporation or labor organization to expend or donate funds for staging public debates between presidential candidates only if the organization staging the debate invites each candidate who is eligible for matching payments from the Presidential Election Campaign Fund and qualified for the ballot in a number of States such that the candidate is eligible to receive the minimum number of electoral votes necessary for election.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 1, 1999

Mr. TRAFICANT introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

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## A BILL

To amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to permit a corporation or labor organization to expend or donate funds for staging public debates between presidential candidates only if the organization staging the debate invites each candidate who is eligible for matching payments from the Presidential Election Campaign Fund and qualified for the ballot in a number of States such that the candidate is eligible to receive the minimum number of electoral votes necessary for election.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. REQUIREMENTS FOR ORGANIZATIONS STAG-**  
2 **ING PRESIDENTIAL DEBATES.**

3 (a) CANDIDATES REQUIRED TO BE INVITED.—Sec-  
4 tion 316 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971  
5 (2 U.S.C. 441b) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
6 lowing new subsection:

7 “(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this sec-  
8 tion, a corporation or labor organization may directly or  
9 indirectly expend or donate funds for staging a public de-  
10 bate between candidates for election for President, but  
11 only if the person staging the debate invites each can-  
12 didate who is eligible for matching payments under chap-  
13 ter 95 or 96 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and  
14 qualified for the ballot in a number of States such that  
15 the candidate is eligible to receive not fewer than the min-  
16 imum number of electoral votes necessary for election.”.

17 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
18 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to elections occur-  
19 ring after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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