

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3848

To provide for a reporting requirement regarding communications between the Department of Justice and the White House relating to civil and criminal investigations, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 16, 2007

Mr. COHEN (for himself, Mr. CONYERS, and Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To provide for a reporting requirement regarding communications between the Department of Justice and the White House relating to civil and criminal investigations, 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.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Security from Political
5 Interference in Justice Act of 2007”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act—

8 (1) the term “covered communication”—

1 (A) means any communication relating to
2 an ongoing investigation conducted by the De-
3 partment of Justice in any civil or criminal
4 matter (regardless of whether a civil action or
5 criminal indictment or information has been
6 filed); and

7 (B) does not include any communication
8 relating to policy, appointments, legislation,
9 rulemaking, budgets, public relations, pro-
10 grammatic matters, intergovernmental rela-
11 tions, administrative or personnel matters, ap-
12 pellate litigation, or requests for legal advice;

13 (2) the term “covered Department of Justice
14 officer” means—

15 (A) the Attorney General;

16 (B) the Deputy Attorney General; and

17 (C) the Associate Attorney General; and

18 (3) the term “covered White House officer”
19 means—

20 (A) the President;

21 (B) the Vice President;

22 (C) the Counsel to the President; and

23 (D) the Counselor to the President.

1 **SEC. 3. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.**

2 (a) DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE REPORT.—Not later
3 than 30 days after each January 1 and July 1 of each
4 calendar year, the Attorney General shall submit to the
5 Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Com-
6 mittee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives
7 a report with the name and title of each officer or em-
8 ployee of the Department of Justice who made a covered
9 communication during the 6-month period preceding that
10 January 1 or July 1 with any officer or employee of the
11 Executive Office of the President. The report need not in-
12 clude any covered Department of Justice officer.

13 (b) WHITE HOUSE REPORT.—Not later than 30 days
14 after each January 1 and July 1 of each calendar year,
15 the Counsel to the President shall submit to the Com-
16 mittee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee
17 on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives a report
18 with the name and title of each officer or employee of the
19 Executive Office of the President who made a covered
20 communication during the 6-month period preceding that
21 January 1 or July 1 with any officer or employee of the
22 Department of Justice. The report need not include any
23 covered White House officer.

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