



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

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## **PENCE, WYNN OUTLINE BIPARTISAN 527 FAIRNESS ACT PROPOSAL**

WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Congressmen Mike Pence (R-IN) and Albert Wynn (D-MD) today announced an outline for their bipartisan campaign finance reform legislation, “The 527 Fairness Act.” The bill’s goal is to bring more freedom and fairness to the campaign process. The legislation will level the playing field and help restore political parties, federal campaigns and candidates, as well as citizens groups to their rightful place in the political system.

**“The 527 Fairness Act is about answering the inequities of the ‘Summer of 527’s’ with the only antidote a free people should ever administer, more freedom,”** said Pence. **“What we seek is not reform of 527’s, we seek fairness between 527’s and the political parties, individuals and organizations that have played such a vital role in sustaining the vitality of our political life throughout American history.”**

**“The legislation which Mr. Wynn and I announce today is our effort to restore freedom and fairness to the political economy of our nation with a few modest changes to the BCRA,”** said Pence. **“We are not here to debate BCRA or advocate its repeal. We are here to bring reforms that promote freedom and fairness to BCRA.”**

**“I believe in the important role that political parties play in elections,”** said Wynn. **“The 527 Fairness Act strengthens this role by eliminating unnecessary restrictions on political party hard money fundraising. This will put political parties on a level playing field with 527 committees.”**

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The 527 Fairness Act restores balance to the campaign finance system by reducing regulation on national parties and citizen groups without regulating 527's. By doing so, the legislation would restore and strengthen the role of political parties.

### Specifically, the legislation:

- Removes aggregate contribution limits on contributions to federal committees and parties.
- Removes the spending limits now imposed on national political parties, the only entities with spending limits.
- Allows state and local parties to spend non-federal dollars for voter registration and sample ballots that include all candidates for office, including federal candidates.
- Allows non-profits, labor unions, and trade associations to do the same thing that 527 committees are allowed to do under BCRA: receive and spend contributions from *individuals* for issue advocacy.
- Repeals the "speech tax" on 501(c) (4), (5) and (6) organizations.
- Indexes PAC contribution and expenditure limits and repeals "prior approval" for trade association PAC solicitations.

### What the legislation does not do:

- Does not repeal the limits on individual contributions to FEC regulated committees or parties.
- Does not change any other major provision of BCRA, other than to get rid of the Wellstone amendment.
- Does not seek to restore balance to the system by trying to regulate 527's.

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