^{109TH CONGRESS} 2D SESSION H.R.4975

To provide greater transparency with respect to lobbying activities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 16, 2006

Mr. DREIER (for himself, Mr. HASTERT, Mr. BOEHNER, Mr. BLUNT, Ms. PRYCE of Ohio, Mr. REYNOLDS, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. PUT-NAM, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia, and Mr. HASTINGS of Washington) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on House Administration, Rules, Government Reform, and Standards of Official Conduct, 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

A BILL

To provide greater transparency with respect to lobbying activities, 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 "Lobbying Accountability and Transparency Act of
6 2006".

1 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for

2 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—ENHANCING LOBBYING DISCLOSURE

- Sec. 101. Quarterly filing of lobbying disclosure reports.
- Sec. 102. Electronic filing of lobbying registrations and disclosure reports.
- Sec. 103. Public database of lobbying disclosure information.
- Sec. 104. Disclosure by registered lobbyists of past executive branch and congressional employment.
- Sec. 105. Disclosure of lobbyist contributions and gifts.
- Sec. 106. Increased penalty for failure to comply with lobbying disclosure requirements.

TITLE II—SLOWING THE REVOLVING DOOR

- Sec. 201. Notification of post-employment restrictions.
- Sec. 202. Disclosure by Members of the House of Representatives of employment negotiations.
- Sec. 203. Wrongfully influencing, on a partial basis, an entity's employment decisions or practices.

TITLE III—SUSPENSION OF PRIVATELY-FUNDED TRAVEL; CURBING LOBBYIST GIFTS

- Sec. 301. Suspension of privately-funded travel.
- Sec. 302. Recommendations on gifts and travel.
- Sec. 303. Prohibiting registered lobbyists on corporate flights.
- Sec. 304. Valuation of tickets to sporting and entertainment events.

TITLE IV—OVERSIGHT OF LOBBYING AND ENFORCEMENT

- Sec. 401. Audits of lobbying reports by House Inspector General.
- Sec. 402. House Inspector General review and annual reports.

TITLE V—INSTITUTIONAL REFORMS

- Sec. 501. Earmarking reform.
- Sec. 502. Frequent and comprehensive ethics training.
- Sec. 503. Biennial publication of ethics manual.

TITLE VI—REFORM OF SECTION 527 ORGANIZATIONS

- Sec. 601. Short title.
- Sec. 602. Treatment of section 527 organizations.
- Sec. 603. Rules for allocation of expenses between Federal and non-Federal activities.
- Sec. 604. Repeal of limit on amount of party expenditures on behalf of candidates in general elections.
- Sec. 605. Construction.
- Sec. 606. Judicial review.
- Sec. 607. Severability.

TITLE VII—FORFEITURE OF RETIREMENT BENEFITS

	Sec. 701. Loss of pensions accrued during service as a Member of Congress for abusing the public trust.
1	TITLE I-ENHANCING LOBBYING
2	DISCLOSURE
3	SEC. 101. QUARTERLY FILING OF LOBBYING DISCLOSURE
4	REPORTS.
5	(a) QUARTERLY FILING REQUIRED.—Section 5 of
6	the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (in this title referred
7	to as the "Act") (2 U.S.C. 1604) is amended—
8	(1) in subsection (a)—
9	(A) in the heading, by striking "SEMI-
10	ANNUAL" and inserting "QUARTERLY";
11	(B) by striking "45" and inserting "20";
12	(C) by striking "the semiannual period"
13	and all that follows through "July of each
14	year" and insert "the quarterly period begin-
15	ning on the first day of January, April, July,
16	and October of each year"; and
17	(D) by striking "such semiannual period"
18	and insert "such quarterly period"; and
19	(2) in subsection (b)—
20	(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1),
21	by striking "semiannual report" and inserting
22	"quarterly report";

1	(B) in paragraph (2), by striking "semi-
2	annual filing period" and inserting "quarterly
3	period";
4	(C) in paragraph (3), by striking "semi-
5	annual period" and inserting "quarterly pe-
6	riod"; and
7	(D) in paragraph (4), by striking "semi-
8	annual filing period" and inserting "quarterly
9	period".
10	(b) Conforming Amendments.—
11	(1) DEFINITION.—Section $3(10)$ of the Act (2)
12	U.S.C. 1602) is amended by striking "six month pe-
13	riod" and inserting "3-month period".
14	(2) REGISTRATION.—Section 4 of the Act (2
15	U.S.C. 1603) is amended—
16	(A) in subsection $(a)(3)(A)$, by striking
17	"semiannual period" and inserting "quarterly
18	period"; and
19	(B) in subsection $(b)(3)(A)$, by striking
20	"semiannual period" and inserting "quarterly
21	period".
22	(3) ENFORCEMENT.—Section $6(6)$ of the Act (2)
23	U.S.C. 1605(6)) is amended by striking "semiannual
24	period" and inserting "quarterly period".

1	(4) ESTIMATES.—Section 15 of the Act (2)
2	U.S.C. 1610) is amended—
3	(A) in subsection $(a)(1)$, by striking "semi-
4	annual period" and inserting "quarterly pe-
5	riod"; and
6	(B) in subsection $(b)(1)$, by striking "semi-
7	annual period" and inserting "quarterly pe-
8	riod".
9	(5) Dollar amounts.—
10	(A) REGISTRATION.—Section 4 of the Act
11	(2 U.S.C. 1603) is amended—
12	(i) in subsection (a)(3)(A)(i), by strik-
13	ing "\$5,000" and inserting "\$2,500";
14	(ii) in subsection $(a)(3)(A)(ii)$, by
15	striking "\$20,000" and inserting
16	`` \$10,000 '';
17	(iii) in subsection $(b)(3)(A)$, by strik-
18	ing "\$10,000" and inserting "\$5,000";
19	and
20	(iv) in subsection $(b)(4)$, by striking
21	"\$10,000" and inserting "\$5,000".
22	(B) REPORTS.—Section 5 of the Act (2
23	U.S.C. 1604) is amended—

1	(i) in subsection $(c)(1)$, by striking
2	"\$10,000" and "\$20,000" and inserting
3	"\$5,000" and "\$10,000", respectively; and
4	(ii) in subsection $(c)(2)$, by striking
5	"\$10,000" both places such term appears
6	and inserting "\$5,000".
7	SEC. 102. ELECTRONIC FILING OF LOBBYING REGISTRA-
8	TIONS AND DISCLOSURE REPORTS.
9	(a) REGISTRATIONS.—Section 4 of the Act (2 U.S.C.
10	1603) in amended—
11	(1) by redesignating subsection (d) as sub-
12	section (e); and
13	(2) by inserting after subsection (c) the fol-
14	lowing:
15	"(d) Electronic Filing Required.—A registra-
16	tion required to be filed under this section on or after the
17	date of enactment of the Lobbying Accountability and
18	Transparency Act of 2006 shall be filed in electronic form,
19	in addition to any other form that may be required by
20	the Secretary of the Senate or the Clerk of the House of
21	Representatives. The due date for a registration filed in
22	electronic form shall be no later than the due date for a
23	registration filed in any other form.".
24	(b) REPORTS.—Section 5 of the Act (2 U.S.C. 1604)
25	is amended by adding at the end the following:

1	"(d) Electronic Filing Required.—
2	"(1) IN GENERAL.—A report required to be
3	filed under this section shall be filed in electronic
4	form, in addition to any other form that may be re-
5	quired by the Secretary of the Senate or the Clerk
6	of the House of Representatives. The due date for
7	a report filed in electronic form shall be no later
8	than the due date for a report filed in any other
9	form, except as provided in paragraph (2).
10	"(2) EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE IN ELEC-
11	TRONIC FORM.—The Secretary of the Senate or the
12	Clerk of the House of Representatives may establish
13	a later due date for the filing of a report in elec-
14	tronic form by a registrant, if and only if—
15	"(A) on or before the original due date, the
16	registrant—
17	"(i) timely files the report in every
18	form required, other than electronic form;
19	and
20	"(ii) makes a request for such a later
21	due date to the Secretary or the Clerk, as
22	the case may be; and
23	"(B) the request is supported by good
24	cause shown.".

1	SEC. 103. PUBLIC DATABASE OF LOBBYING DISCLOSURE IN-
2	FORMATION.
3	(a) DATABASE REQUIRED.—Section 6 of the Act (2
4	U.S.C. 1605) is amended—
5	(1) in paragraph (7), by striking "and" at the
6	end;
7	(2) in paragraph (8) , by striking the period and
8	inserting "; and"; and
9	(3) by adding at the end the following:
10	"(9) maintain, and make available to the public
11	over the Internet, without a fee or other access
12	charge, in a searchable, sortable, and downloadable
13	manner, an electronic database that—
14	"(A) includes the information contained in
15	registrations and reports filed under this Act;
16	and
17	"(B) is searchable and sortable, at a min-
18	imum, by each of the categories of information
19	described in section 4(b) or 5(b).".
20	(b) AVAILABILITY OF REPORTS.—Section 6(4) of the
21	Act is amended by inserting before the semicolon the fol-
22	lowing: "and, in the case of a registration filed in elec-
23	tronic form pursuant to section 4(d) or a report filed in
24	electronic form pursuant to section 5(d), shall make such
25	registration or report (as the case may be) available for
26	public inspection over the Internet not more than 48 hours
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after the registration or report (as the case may be) is
 approved as received by the Secretary of the Senate or
 the Clerk of the House of Representatives (as the case
 may be)".

5 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
6 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
7 necessary to carry out paragraph (9) of section 6 of the
8 Act, as added by subsection (a) of this section.

9 SEC. 104. DISCLOSURE BY REGISTERED LOBBYISTS OF
10 PAST EXECUTIVE BRANCH AND CONGRES11 SIONAL EMPLOYMENT.

Section 4(b)(6) of the Act (2 U.S.C. 1603) is amended by striking "2 years" and inserting "7 years".

14 SEC. 105. DISCLOSURE OF LOBBYIST CONTRIBUTIONS AND
15 GIFTS.

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5(b) of the Act (2 U.S.C.
17 1604(b)) is amended—

18 (1) in paragraph (4), by striking "and" after19 the semicolon;

20 (2) in paragraph (5), by striking the period and21 inserting a semicolon; and

22 (3) by adding at the end the following:

23 "(6) for each registrant (and for any political
24 committee, as defined in 301(4) of the Federal Elec25 tion Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 431(4)), affili-

1 ated with such registrant), and for each employee 2 listed as a lobbyist by a registrant under paragraph 3 (2)(C), the name of each Federal candidate or of-4 ficeholder, and of each leadership PAC, political 5 party committee, or other political committee to 6 whom a contribution was made which is required to 7 be reported to the Federal Election Commission by 8 the recipient, and the date and amount of such con-9 tribution; and

"(7) the date, recipient, and amount of any gift
that under the Rules of the House of Representatives counts towards the cumulative annual limit described in such rules and is given by a registrant or
employee listed as a lobbyist to a covered legislative
branch official.".

16 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 3 of the
17 Act (2 U.S.C. 1602) is amended by adding at the end the
18 following new paragraphs:

"(17) GIFT.—The term 'gift' means a gratuity,
favor, discount, entertainment, hospitality, loan, forbearance, or other item having monetary value. The
term includes gifts of services, training, and meals
whether provided in kind, by purchase of a ticket,
payment in advance, or reimbursement after the expense has been incurred.

1	"(18) LEADERSHIP PAC.—The term 'leader-
2	ship PAC' means, with respect to an individual hold-
3	ing Federal office, an unauthorized political com-
4	mittee (as defined in the Federal Election Campaign
5	Act of 1971) which is associated with such indi-
6	vidual.".
7	SEC. 106. INCREASED PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY
8	WITH LOBBYING DISCLOSURE REQUIRE-
9	MENTS.
10	Section 7 of the Act (2 U.S.C. 1606) is amended by
11	striking "\$50,000" and inserting "\$100,000".
12	TITLE II—SLOWING THE
13	REVOLVING DOOR
14	SEC. 201. NOTIFICATION OF POST-EMPLOYMENT RESTRIC-
15	TIONS.
16	Section 207(e) of title 18, United States Code, is
17	amended by adding at the end the following new para-
18	graph:
19	"(8) NOTIFICATION OF POST-EMPLOYMENT RE-
20	STRICTIONS.—After a Member of the House of Rep-
21	resentatives or an elected officer of the House of
22	Representatives leaves office, or after the termi-
23	nation of employment with the House of Representa-
24	tives of an employee of the House of Representatives
25	covered under paragraph (2), (3), or (4), the Clerk

1 of the House of Representatives, after consultation with the Committee on Standards of Official Con-2 3 duct, shall inform the Member, officer, or employee 4 of the beginning and ending date of the prohibitions 5 that apply to the Member, officer, or employee under 6 this subsection, and also inform each office of the 7 House of Representatives with respect to which such 8 prohibitions apply of those dates.".

9 SEC. 202. DISCLOSURE BY MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF 10 REPRESENTATIVES OF EMPLOYMENT NEGO11 TIATIONS.

12 The Code of Official Conduct set forth in rule XXIII 13 of the Rules of the House of Representatives is amended 14 by redesignating clause 14 as clause 15 and by inserting 15 after clause 13 the following new clause:

"14. (a) A Member, Delegate, or Resident Commis-16 sioner shall file with the Committee on Standards of Offi-17 18 cial Conduct a statement that he or she is negotiating 19 compensation for prospective employment or has any ar-20rangement concerning prospective employment if a conflict 21 of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest may 22 exist. Such statement shall be made within 5 days (other 23 than Saturdays, Sundays, or public holidays) after com-24 mencing the negotiation for compensation or entering into 25 the arrangement.

"(b) A Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner
 should refrain from voting on any legislative measure
 pending before the House or any committee thereof if the
 negotiation described in subparagraph (a) may create a
 conflict of interest.".

6 SEC. 203. WRONGFULLY INFLUENCING, ON A PARTISAN 7 BASIS, AN ENTITY'S EMPLOYMENT DECISIONS 8 OR PRACTICES.

9 The Code of Official Conduct set forth in rule XXIII 10 of the Rules of the House of Representatives (as amended 11 by section 202) is further amended by redesignating 12 clause 15 as clause 16 and by inserting after clause 14 13 the following new clause:

"15. A Member, Delegate, Resident Commissioner,
officer, or employee of the House may not, with the intent
to influence on the basis of political party affiliation an
employment decision or employment practice of any private or public entity (except for the Congress)—

- 19 "(a) take or withhold, or offer or threaten to20 take or withhold, an official act; or
- 21 "(b) influence, or offer or threaten to influence,22 the official act of another.".

TITLE III—SUSPENSION OF PRI VATELY-FUNDED TRAVEL; CURBING LOBBYIST GIFTS

4 SEC. 301. SUSPENSION OF PRIVATELY-FUNDED TRAVEL.

Notwithstanding clause 5 of rule XXV of the Rules
of the House of Representatives, no Member, Delegate,
Resident Commissioner, officer, or employee of the House
may accept a gift of travel (including any transportation,
lodging, and meals during such travel) from any private
source.

11 SEC. 302. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE COMMITTEE ON 12 STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT ON 13 GIFTS AND TRAVEL.

14 Not later than December 15, 2006, the Committee
15 on Standards of Official Conduct shall report its rec16 ommendations on changes to rule XXV of the Rules of
17 the House of Representatives to the Committee on Rules.
18 In developing such recommendations, the Committee on
19 Standards of Official Conduct shall consider the following:
20 (1) The ability of the current provisions of rule

21 XXV to protect the House, its Members, officers,
22 and employees, from the appearance of impropriety.
23 (2) With respect to the allowance for privately24 funded travel contained in clause 5(b) of rule
25 XXV—

1	(A) the degree to which privately-funded
2	travel meets the representational needs of the
2	House, its Members, officers, and employees;
<i>3</i>	
	(B) whether certain entities should or
5	should not be permitted to fund the travel of
6	the Members, officers, and employees of the
7	House, what sources of funding may be permis-
8	sible, and what other individuals may partici-
9	pate in that travel; and
10	(C) the adequacy of the current system of
11	approval and disclosure of such travel.
12	(3) With respect to the exceptions to the limita-
13	tion on the acceptance of gifts contained in clause
14	5(a)—
15	(A) the degree to which those exceptions
16	meet the representational and personal needs of
17	the House, its Members, officers, and employ-
18	ees;
19	(B) the clarity of the limitation and its ex-
20	ceptions; and
21	(C) the suitability of the current dollar
22	limitations contained in clause $5(a)(1)(B)$ of
23	such rule, including whether such limitations
24	should be lowered.

3 The Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 is amended by4 inserting after section 5 the following new section:

5 "SEC. 5A. PROHIBITING REGISTERED LOBBYISTS ON COR6 PORATE FLIGHTS.

7 "If a Representative in, or Delegate or Resident 8 Commissioner to, the Congress or an officer or employee 9 of the House of Representatives is a passenger or crew 10 member on a flight of an aircraft not licensed by the Fed-11 eral Aviation Administration to operate for compensation 12 or hire that is owned or operated by a person who is the 13 client of a lobbyist or a lobbying firm, then such lobbyist may not be a passenger or crew member on that flight.". 14

15 SEC. 304. VALUATION OF TICKETS TO SPORTING AND EN-

16 TERTAINMENT EVENTS.

17 Clause 5(a)(2)(A) of rule XXV of the Rules of the18 House of Representatives is amended by—

19 (1) inserting "(i)" after "(A)"; and

20 (2) adding at the end the following:

21 "(ii) A gift of a ticket to a sporting or entertainment
22 event shall be valued at the face value of the ticket, pro23 vided that in the case of a ticket without a face value,
24 the ticket shall be valued at the highest cost of a ticket
25 with a face value for the event.".

TITLE IV—OVERSIGHT OF LOBBYING AND ENFORCEMENT

3 SEC. 401. AUDITS OF LOBBYING REPORTS BY HOUSE IN-4 SPECTOR GENERAL.

5 (a) ACCESS TO LOBBYING REPORTS.—The Office of 6 Inspector General of the House of Representatives shall 7 have access to all lobbyists' disclosure information received 8 by the Clerk of the House of Representatives under the 9 Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 and shall conduct ran-10 dom audits of lobbyists' disclosure information as nec-11 essary to ensure compliance with that Act.

(b) REFERRAL AUTHORITY.—The Office of the Inspector General of the House of Representatives may refer
potential violations by lobbyists of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to the Department of Justice for disciplinary action.

17 SEC. 402. HOUSE INSPECTOR GENERAL REVIEW AND AN18 NUAL REPORTS.

(a) ONGOING REVIEW REQUIRED.—The Inspector
General of the House of Representatives shall review on
an ongoing basis the activities carried out by the Clerk
of the House of Representatives under section 6 of the
Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1605). The
review shall emphasize—

(1) the effectiveness of those activities in secur ing the compliance by lobbyists with the require ments of that Act; and

4 (2) whether the Clerk has the resources and au5 thorities needed for effective oversight and enforce6 ment of that Act.

7 (b) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not later than December 31 8 of each year, the Inspector General of the House of Rep-9 resentatives shall submit to the House of Representatives 10 a report on the review required by subsection (a). The report shall include the Inspector General's assessment of 11 12 the matters required to be emphasized by that subsection 13 and any recommendations of the Inspector General to— 14 (1) improve the compliance by lobbyists with

15 the requirements of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of16 1995; and

17 (2) provide the Clerk of the House of Rep18 resentatives with the resources and authorities need19 ed for effective oversight and enforcement of that
20 Act.

21 TITLE V—INSTITUTIONAL 22 REFORMS

23 SEC. 501. EARMARKING REFORM.

(a) In the House of Representatives, it shall not bein order to consider—

1 (1) a general appropriation bill reported by the 2 Committee on Appropriations unless the report in-3 cludes a list of earmarks in the bill or in the report 4 (and the name of any Member who submitted a request to the Committee on Appropriations for an 5 6 earmark included in such list); or 7 (2) a conference report to accompany a general 8 appropriation bill unless the joint explanatory state-9 ment prepared by the managers on the part of the 10 House and the managers on the part of the Senate 11 includes a list of earmarks in the conference report 12 or joint statement (and the name of any Member 13 who submitted a request to the Committee on Ap-14 propriations for an earmark included in such list) 15 that were— 16 (A) not committed to the conference com-17 mittee by either House; 18 (B) not in the report specified in para-19 graph (1); and 20 (C) not in a report of a committee of the 21 Senate on a companion measure. 22 (b) In the House of Representatives, it shall not be 23 in order to consider a rule or order that waives the appli-

19

cation of subsection (a)(2).

(c)(1) A point of order raised under subsection (a)
 may be based only on the failure of a report of the Com mittee on Appropriations or joint statement, as the case
 may be, to include the list required by subsection (a).

5 (2) As disposition of a point of order under this sec-6 tion, the Chair shall put the question of consideration with 7 respect to the proposition that is the subject of the point 8 of order.

9 (3) The question of consideration under this sub-10 section shall be debatable for 10 minutes by the Member 11 initiating the point of order and for 10 minutes by an op-12 ponent, but shall otherwise be decided without intervening 13 motion except one that the House adjourn.

(d)(1) For purposes of this section, the term "earmark" means a provision in a bill, joint resolution, or conference report, or language in an accompanying committee
report or joint statement of managers, providing a specific
amount of discretionary budget authority to a non-Federal
entity, if such entity is identified by name.

20 (2) For purposes of paragraph (1), government-spon21 sored enterprises, Federal facilities, and Federal lands
22 shall be considered Federal entities.

(3) For purposes of subsection (a), to the extent that
the non-Federal entity is a unit of State or local government, an Indian tribe, or a foreign government, the provi-

sion or language shall not be considered an earmark unless
 the provision or language also specifies the specific pur pose for which the designated budget authority is to be
 expended.

5 SEC. 502. FREQUENT AND COMPREHENSIVE ETHICS TRAIN-6 ING.

7 (a) ETHICS TRAINING.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Committee on Stand-9 ards of Official Conduct shall provide ethics training 10 once per Congress to each employee of the House of 11 Representatives, including training on the Code of 12 Official Conduct, related rules of the House of Rep-13 resentatives, and applicable provisions of law.

14 (2) NEW EMPLOYEES.—A new employee of the
15 House of Representatives shall receive training
16 under this section not later than 30 days after be17 ginning service to the House.

18 (3) MEMBERS.—While the House of Represent19 atives recognizes that adding qualifications to service
20 as a Member may be unconstitutional, it encourages
21 Members to participate in ethics training.

(b) CERTIFICATION.—Within 30 days of completing
required ethics training, each employee of the House of
Representatives shall file a certification with the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct that the employee

has completed such training and is familiar with the con tents of any pertinent publications that are so designated
 by the committee.

4 SEC. 503. BIENNIAL PUBLICATION OF ETHICS MANUAL.

5 Within 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act and during each Congress thereafter, the Committee 6 7 on Standards of Official Conduct shall publish an up-todate ethics manual for Members, officers, and employees 8 9 of the House of Representatives and make such manual 10 available to all such individuals. The committee has a duty to keep all Members, Delegates, the Resident Commis-11 sioner, officers, and employees of the House of Represent-12 13 atives apprised of current rulings or advisory opinions when potentially constituting changes to or interpretations 14 15 of existing policies.

16 TITLE VI—REFORM OF SECTION 17 527 ORGANIZATIONS

18 SEC. 601. SHORT TITLE.

19 This title may be cited as the "527 Reform Act of20 2006".

21 SEC. 602. TREATMENT OF SECTION 527 ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) DEFINITION OF POLITICAL COMMITTEE.—Section 301(4) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971
(2 U.S.C. 431(4)) is amended—

1	(1) by striking the period at the end of sub-
2	paragraph (C) and inserting "; or"; and
3	(2) by adding at the end the following:
4	"(D) any applicable 527 organization.".
5	(b) Definition of Applicable 527 Organiza-
6	TION.—Section 301 of such Act (2 U.S.C. 431) is amend-
7	ed by adding at the end the following new paragraph:
8	"(27) Applicable 527 Organization.—
9	"(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of para-
10	graph $(4)(D)$, the term 'applicable 527 organi-
11	zation' means a committee, club, association, or
12	group of persons that—
13	"(i) has given notice to the Secretary
14	of the Treasury under section 527(i) of the
15	Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that it is
16	to be treated as an organization described
17	in section 527 of such Code; and
18	"(ii) is not described in subparagraph
19	(B).
20	"(B) EXCEPTED ORGANIZATIONS.—A com-
21	mittee, club, association, or other group of per-
22	sons described in this subparagraph is—
23	"(i) an organization described in sec-
24	tion $527(i)(5)$ of the Internal Revenue
25	Code of 1986;

1	"(ii) an organization which is a com-
2	mittee, club, association or other group of
3	persons that is organized, operated, and
4	makes disbursements exclusively for paying
5	expenses described in the last sentence of
6	section $527(e)(2)$ of the Internal Revenue
7	Code of 1986 or expenses of a newsletter
8	fund described in section $527(g)$ of such
9	Code;
10	"(iii) an organization which is a com-
11	mittee, club, association, or other group
12	that consists solely of candidates for State
13	or local office, individuals holding State or
14	local office, or any combination of either,
15	but only if the organization refers only to
16	one or more non-Federal candidates or ap-
17	plicable State or local issues in all of its
18	voter drive activities and does not refer to
19	a Federal candidate or a political party in
20	any of its voter drive activities; or
21	"(iv) an organization described in sub-
22	paragraph (C).
23	"(C) Applicable organization.—For
24	purposes of subparagraph (B)(iv), an organiza-
25	tion described in this subparagraph is a com-

1	mittee, club, association, or other group of per-
2	sons whose election or nomination activities re-
3	late exclusively to—
4	"(i) elections where no candidate for
5	Federal office appears on the ballot; or
6	"(ii) one or more of the following pur-
7	poses:
8	"(I) Influencing the selection,
9	nomination, election, or appointment
10	of one or more candidates to non-Fed-
11	eral offices.
12	"(II) Influencing one or more ap-
13	plicable State or local issues.
14	"(III) Influencing the selection,
15	appointment, nomination, or con-
16	firmation of one or more individuals
17	to non-elected offices.
18	"(D) EXCLUSIVITY TEST.—A committee,
19	club, association, or other group of persons
20	shall not be treated as meeting the exclusivity
21	requirement of subparagraph (C) if it makes
22	disbursements aggregating more than $$1,000$
23	for any of the following:
24	"(i) A public communication that pro-
25	motes, supports, attacks, or opposes a

1	clearly identified candidate for Federal of-
2	fice during the 1-year period ending on the
3	date of the general election for the office
4	sought by the clearly identified candidate
5	(or, if a runoff election is held with respect
6	to such general election, on the date of the
7	runoff election).
8	"(ii) Any voter drive activity during a
9	calendar year, except that no disburse-
10	ments for any voter drive activity shall be
11	taken into account under this subpara-
12	graph if the committee, club, association,
13	or other group of persons during such cal-
14	endar year—
15	"(I) makes disbursements for
16	voter drive activities with respect to
17	elections in only 1 State and complies
18	with all applicable election laws of
19	that State, including laws related to
20	registration and reporting require-
21	ments and contribution limitations;
22	"(II) refers to one or more non-
23	Federal candidates or applicable State
24	or local issues in all of its voter drive
25	activities and does not refer to any

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1	Federal	candidate	or a	any p	olitical
2	party in	any of its	voter	drive	activi-
3	ties;				

4	"(III) does not have a candidate
5	for Federal office, an individual who
6	holds any Federal office, a national
7	political party, or an agent of any of
8	the foregoing, control or materially
9	participate in the direction of the or-
10	ganization, solicit contributions to the
11	organization (other than funds which
12	are described under clauses (i) and
13	(ii) of section $323(e)(1)(B)$), or direct
14	disbursements, in whole or in part, by
15	the organization; and
16	"(IV) makes no contributions to
17	Federal candidates.
18	"(E) CERTAIN REFERENCES TO FEDERAL
19	CANDIDATES NOT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.—For
20	purposes of subparagraphs (B)(iii) and
21	(D)(ii)(II), a voter drive activity shall not be

treated as referring to a clearly identified Federal candidate if the only reference to the candidate in the activity is—

1	"(i) a reference in connection with an
2	election for a non-Federal office in which
3	such Federal candidate is also a candidate
4	for such non-Federal office; or
5	"(ii) a reference to the fact that the
6	candidate has endorsed a non-Federal can-
7	didate or has taken a position on an appli-
8	cable State or local issue, including a ref-
9	erence that constitutes the endorsement or
10	position itself.
11	"(F) CERTAIN REFERENCES TO POLITICAL
12	PARTIES NOT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.—For pur-
13	poses of subparagraphs (B)(iii) and (D)(ii)(II),
14	a voter drive activity shall not be treated as re-
15	ferring to a political party if the only reference
16	to the party in the activity is—
17	"(i) a reference for the purpose of
18	identifying a non-Federal candidate;
19	"(ii) a reference for the purpose of
20	identifying the entity making the public
21	communication or carrying out the voter
22	drive activity; or
23	"(iii) a reference in a manner or con-
24	text that does not reflect support for or op-
25	position to a Federal candidate or can-

1 didates and does reflect support for or op-2 position to a State or local candidate or 3 candidates or an applicable State or local 4 issue. 5 "(G) APPLICABLE STATE OR LOCAL 6 ISSUE.—For purposes of this paragraph, the 7 term 'applicable State or local issue' means any 8 State or local ballot initiative, State or local ref-9 erendum, State or local constitutional amend-10 ment, State or local bond issue, or other State 11 or local ballot issue.". 12 (c) DEFINITION OF VOTER DRIVE ACTIVITY.—Section 301 of such Act (2 U.S.C. 431), as amended by sub-13 14 section (b), is further amended by adding at the end the 15 following new paragraph: VOTER DRIVE ACTIVITY.—The 16 (28)term 17 'voter drive activity' means any of the following ac-18 tivities conducted in connection with an election in 19 which a candidate for Federal office appears on the 20 ballot (regardless of whether a candidate for State 21 or local office also appears on the ballot): 22 "(A) Voter registration activity. "(B) Voter identification. 23 "(C) Get-out-the-vote activity. 24 "(D) Generic campaign activity. 25

1	"(E) Any public communication related to
2	activities described in subparagraphs (A)
3	through (D).
4	Such term shall not include any activity described in
5	subparagraph (A) or (B) of section 316(b)(2).".
6	(d) REGULATIONS.—The Federal Election Commis-
7	sion shall promulgate regulations to implement this sec-
8	tion not later than 60 days after the date of enactment
9	of this Act.
10	(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
11	this section shall take effect on the date which is 60 days
12	after the date of enactment of this Act.
14	
12	SEC. 603. RULES FOR ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES BETWEEN
13	SEC. 603. RULES FOR ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES BETWEEN
13 14	SEC. 603. RULES FOR ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES BETWEEN FEDERAL AND NON-FEDERAL ACTIVITIES.
13 14 15	SEC. 603. RULES FOR ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES BETWEEN FEDERAL AND NON-FEDERAL ACTIVITIES. (a) IN GENERAL.—Title III of the Federal Election
13 14 15 16	 SEC. 603. RULES FOR ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES BETWEEN FEDERAL AND NON-FEDERAL ACTIVITIES. (a) IN GENERAL.—Title III of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 431 et seq.) is amended
 13 14 15 16 17 	SEC. 603. RULES FOR ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES BETWEEN FEDERAL AND NON-FEDERAL ACTIVITIES. (a) IN GENERAL.—Title III of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 431 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:
 13 14 15 16 17 18 	 SEC. 603. RULES FOR ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES BETWEEN FEDERAL AND NON-FEDERAL ACTIVITIES. (a) IN GENERAL.—Title III of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 431 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following: "SEC. 325. ALLOCATION AND FUNDING RULES FOR CER-
 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 	SEC. 603. RULES FOR ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES BETWEEN FEDERAL AND NON-FEDERAL ACTIVITIES. (a) IN GENERAL.—Title III of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 431 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following: "SEC. 325. ALLOCATION AND FUNDING RULES FOR CER- TAIN EXPENSES RELATING TO FEDERAL AND
 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 	SEC. 603. RULES FOR ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES BETWEEN FEDERAL AND NON-FEDERAL ACTIVITIES. (a) IN GENERAL.—Title III of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 431 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following: "SEC. 325. ALLOCATION AND FUNDING RULES FOR CER- TAIN EXPENSES RELATING TO FEDERAL AND NON-FEDERAL ACTIVITIES.
 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 	SEC. 603. RULES FOR ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES BETWEEN FEDERAL AND NON-FEDERAL ACTIVITIES. (a) IN GENERAL.—Title III of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 431 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following: "SEC. 325. ALLOCATION AND FUNDING RULES FOR CER- TAIN EXPENSES RELATING TO FEDERAL AND NON-FEDERAL ACTIVITIES. "(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any disbursements

"(1) the disbursements shall be allocated be-1 2 tween Federal and non-Federal accounts in accordance with this section and regulations prescribed by 3 4 the Commission; and "(2) in the case of disbursements allocated to 5 6 non-Federal accounts, may be paid only from a 7 qualified non-Federal account. "(b) Costs to Be Allocated and Allocation 8 9 RULES.— 10 "(1) IN GENERAL.—Disbursements by any sep-11 arate segregated fund or nonconnected committee, other than an organization described in section 12 13 323(b)(1), for any of the following categories of ac-14 tivity shall be allocated as follows: "(A) 100 percent of the expenses for public 15 16 communications or voter drive activities that 17 refer to one or more clearly identified Federal 18 candidates, but do not refer to any clearly iden-19 tified non-Federal candidates, shall be paid with 20 funds from a Federal account, without regard 21 to whether the communication refers to a polit-22 ical party. 23 "(B) At least 50 percent, or a greater per-

centage if the Commission so determines by
regulation, of the expenses for public commu-

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nications and voter drive activities that refer to one or more clearly identified candidates for Federal office and one or more clearly identified non-Federal candidates shall be paid with funds from a Federal account, without regard to whether the communication refers to a political party.

8 "(C) At least 50 percent, or a greater per-9 centage if the Commission so determines by 10 regulation, of the expenses for public commu-11 nications or voter drive activities that refer to 12 a political party, but do not refer to any clearly 13 identified Federal or non-Federal candidate, 14 shall be paid with funds from a Federal ac-15 count, except that this paragraph shall not 16 apply to communications or activities that re-17 late exclusively to elections where no candidate 18 for Federal office appears on the ballot.

19 "(D) At least 50 percent, or a greater per20 centage if the Commission so determines by
21 regulation, of the expenses for public commu22 nications or voter drive activities that refer to
23 a political party and refer to one or more clear24 ly identified non-Federal candidates, but do not
25 refer to any clearly identified Federal can-

didates, shall be paid with funds from a Federal account, except that this paragraph shall not apply to communications or activities that relate exclusively to elections where no candidate for Federal office appears on the ballot.

6 "(E) Unless otherwise determined by the 7 Commission in its regulations, at least 50 per-8 cent of any administrative expenses, including 9 rent, utilities, office supplies, and salaries not 10 attributable to a clearly identified candidate, 11 shall be paid with funds from a Federal ac-12 count, except that for a separate segregated 13 fund such expenses may be paid instead by its 14 connected organization.

15 "(F) At least 50 percent, or a greater percentage if the Commission so determines by 16 17 regulation, of the direct costs of a fundraising 18 program or event, including disbursements for 19 solicitation of funds and for planning and ad-20 ministration of actual fundraising events, where 21 Federal and non-Federal funds are collected 22 through such program or event shall be paid 23 with funds from a Federal account, except that 24 for a separate segregated fund such costs may 25 be paid instead by its connected organization.

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1	This paragraph shall not apply to any fund-
2	raising solicitations or any other activity that
3	constitutes a public communication.
4	"(2) Certain references to federal can-
5	DIDATES NOT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.—For purposes
6	of paragraph (1), a public communication or voter
7	drive activity shall not be treated as referring to a
8	clearly identified Federal candidate if the only ref-
9	erence to the candidate in the communication or ac-
10	tivity is—
11	"(A) a reference in connection with an
12	election for a non-Federal office in which such
13	Federal candidate is also a candidate for such
14	non-Federal office; or
15	"(B) a reference to the fact that the can-
16	didate has endorsed a non-Federal candidate or
17	has taken a position on an applicable State or
18	local issue (as defined in section $301(27)(G)$),
19	including a reference that constitutes the en-
20	dorsement or position itself.
21	"(3) Certain references to political par-
22	TIES NOT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.—For purposes of
23	paragraph (1), a public communication or voter
24	drive activity shall not be treated as referring to a

1	political party if the only reference to the party in
2	the communication or activity is—
3	"(A) a reference for the purpose of identi-
4	fying a non-Federal candidate;
5	"(B) a reference for the purpose of identi-
6	fying the entity making the public communica-
7	tion or carrying out the voter drive activity; or
8	"(C) a reference in a manner or context
9	that does not reflect support for or opposition
10	to a Federal candidate or candidates and does
11	reflect support for or opposition to a State or
12	local candidate or candidates or an applicable
12	11
13	State or local issue.
13	State or local issue.
13 14	State or local issue. "(c) QUALIFIED NON-FEDERAL ACCOUNT.—
13 14 15	State or local issue. "(c) QUALIFIED NON-FEDERAL ACCOUNT.— "(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this sec-
13 14 15 16	State or local issue. "(c) QUALIFIED NON-FEDERAL ACCOUNT.— "(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this sec- tion, the term 'qualified non-Federal account' means
 13 14 15 16 17 	State or local issue. "(c) QUALIFIED NON-FEDERAL ACCOUNT.— "(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this sec- tion, the term 'qualified non-Federal account' means an account which consists solely of amounts—
 13 14 15 16 17 18 	State or local issue. "(c) QUALIFIED NON-FEDERAL ACCOUNT.— "(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this sec- tion, the term 'qualified non-Federal account' means an account which consists solely of amounts— "(A) that, subject to the limitations of
 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 	State or local issue. "(c) QUALIFIED NON-FEDERAL ACCOUNT.— "(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this sec- tion, the term 'qualified non-Federal account' means an account which consists solely of amounts— "(A) that, subject to the limitations of paragraphs (2) and (3), are raised by the sepa-
 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 	State or local issue. "(c) QUALIFIED NON-FEDERAL ACCOUNT.— "(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this sec- tion, the term 'qualified non-Federal account' means an account which consists solely of amounts— "(A) that, subject to the limitations of paragraphs (2) and (3), are raised by the sepa- rate segregated fund or nonconnected com-
 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 	State or local issue. "(c) QUALIFIED NON-FEDERAL ACCOUNT.— "(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this sec- tion, the term 'qualified non-Federal account' means an account which consists solely of amounts— "(A) that, subject to the limitations of paragraphs (2) and (3), are raised by the sepa- rate segregated fund or nonconnected com- mittee only from individuals, and

1 "(2) LIMITATION ON INDIVIDUAL DONA-2 TIONS.—

3 "(A) IN GENERAL.—A separate segregated
4 fund or nonconnected committee may not ac5 cept more than \$25,000 in funds for its quali6 fied non-Federal account from any one indi7 vidual in any calendar year.

8 "(B) AFFILIATION.—For purposes of this 9 paragraph, all qualified non-Federal accounts of 10 separate segregated funds or nonconnected 11 committees which are directly or indirectly es-12 tablished, financed, maintained, or controlled by 13 the same person or persons shall be treated as 14 one account.

15 "(3) FUNDRAISING LIMITATION.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—No donation to a
qualified non-Federal account may be solicited,
received, directed, transferred, or spent by or in
the name of any person described in subsection
(a) or (e) of section 323.

21 "(B) FUNDS NOT TREATED AS SUBJECT
22 TO ACT.—Except as provided in subsection
23 (a)(2) and this subsection, any funds raised for
24 a qualified non-Federal account in accordance
25 with the requirements of this section shall not

1	be considered funds subject to the limitations,
2	
	prohibitions, and reporting requirements of this
3	Act for any purpose (including for purposes of
4	subsection (a) or (e) of section 323 or sub-
5	section $(d)(1)$ of this section).
6	"(d) DEFINITIONS.—
7	"(1) FEDERAL ACCOUNT.—The term 'Federal
8	account' means an account which consists solely of
9	contributions subject to the limitations, prohibitions,
10	and reporting requirements of this Act. Nothing in
11	this section or in section $323(b)(2)(B)(iii)$ shall be
12	construed to infer that a limit other than the limit
13	under section $315(a)(1)(C)$ applies to contributions
14	to the account.
15	"(2) Nonconnected committee.—The term
16	'nonconnected committee' shall not include a polit-
17	ical committee of a political party.
18	"(3) VOTER DRIVE ACTIVITY.—The term 'voter
19	drive activity' has the meaning given such term in
20	section 301(28).".
21	(b) Reporting Requirements.—Section 304(e) of
22	the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C.
23	434(e)) is amended—
24	(1) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as
25	paragraphs (4) and (5) ; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol lowing new paragraph:

3 "(3) RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FROM
4 QUALIFIED NON-FEDERAL ACCOUNTS.—In addition
5 to any other reporting requirement applicable under
6 this Act, a political committee to which section
7 325(a) applies shall report all receipts and disburse8 ments from a qualified non-Federal account (as de9 fined in section 325(c)).".

(c) REGULATIONS.—The Federal Election Commission shall promulgate regulations to implement the amendments made by this section not later than 180 days after
the date of enactment of this Act.

14 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
15 this section shall take effect on the date which is 180 days
16 after the date of enactment of this Act.

17SEC. 604. REPEAL OF LIMIT ON AMOUNT OF PARTY EX-18PENDITURES ON BEHALF OF CANDIDATES IN

19 GENERAL ELECTIONS.

20 (a) REPEAL OF LIMIT.—Section 315(d) of the Fed21 eral Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 441a(d))
22 is amended—

23 (1) in paragraph (1)—

24 (A) by striking "(1) Notwithstanding any25 other provision of law with respect to limita-

1	tions on expenditures or limitations on con-
2	tributions, the national committee" and insert-
3	ing "Notwithstanding any other provision of
4	law with respect to limitations on amounts of
5	expenditures or contributions, a national com-
6	mittee",
7	(B) by striking "the general" and inserting
8	"any", and
9	(C) by striking "Federal office, subject to
10	the limitations contained in paragraphs (2) , (3) ,
11	and (4) of this subsection" and inserting "Fed-
12	eral office in any amount"; and
13	(2) by striking paragraphs (2) , (3) , and (4) .
14	(b) Conforming Amendments.—
15	(1) INDEXING.—Section $315(c)$ of such Act (2)
16	U.S.C. 441a(c)) is amended—
17	(A) in paragraph $(1)(B)(i)$, by striking
18	"(d),"; and
19	(B) in paragraph (2)(B)(i), by striking
20	"subsections (b) and (d)" and inserting "sub-
21	section (b)".
22	(2) INCREASE IN LIMITS FOR SENATE CAN-
23	DIDATES FACING WEALTHY OPPONENTS.—Section
24	315(i) of such Act (2 U.S.C. 441a(i)(1)) is amend-
25	ed—

1	(A) in paragraph (1)(C)(iii)—
2	(i) by adding "and" at the end of sub-
3	clause (I),
4	(ii) in subclause (II), by striking ";
5	and" and inserting a period, and
6	(iii) by striking subclause (III);
7	(B) in paragraph (2)(A) in the matter pre-
8	ceding clause (i), by striking ", and a party
9	committee shall not make any expenditure,";
10	(C) in paragraph (2)(A)(ii), by striking
11	"and party expenditures previously made"; and
12	(D) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking "and
13	a party shall not make any expenditure".
14	(3) INCREASE IN LIMITS FOR HOUSE CAN-
15	DIDATES FACING WEALTHY OPPONENTS.—Section
16	315A(a) of such Act (2 U.S.C. 441a-1(a)) is
17	amended—
18	(A) in paragraph (1)—
19	(i) by adding "and" at the end of sub-
20	paragraph (A),
21	(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking
22	"; and" and inserting a period, and
23	(iii) by striking subparagraph (C);

1	(B) in paragraph (3)(A) in the matter pre-
2	ceding clause (i), by striking ", and a party
3	committee shall not make any expenditure,";
4	(C) in paragraph (3)(A)(ii), by striking
5	"and party expenditures previously made"; and
6	(D) in paragraph (3)(B), by striking "and
7	a party shall not make any expenditure".
8	(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
9	this section shall take effect January 1, 2006.
10	SEC. 605. CONSTRUCTION.
11	No provision of this title, or amendment made by this
12	title, shall be construed—
13	(1) as approving, ratifying, or endorsing a regu-
14	lation promulgated by the Federal Election Commis-
15	sion;
16	(2) as establishing, modifying, or otherwise af-
17	fecting the definition of political organization for
18	purposes of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; or
19	(3) as affecting the determination of whether a
20	group organized under section 501(c) of the Internal
21	Revenue Code of 1986 is a political committee under
22	section $301(4)$ of the Federal Election Campaign
23	Act of 1971.

1 SEC. 606. JUDICIAL REVIEW.

2 (a) SPECIAL RULES FOR ACTIONS BROUGHT ON
3 CONSTITUTIONAL GROUNDS.—If any action is brought for
4 declaratory or injunctive relief to challenge the constitu5 tionality of any provision of this title or any amendment
6 made by this title, the following rules shall apply:

7 (1) The action shall be filed in the United
8 States District Court for the District of Columbia
9 and shall be heard by a 3-judge court convened pur10 suant to section 2284 of title 28, United States
11 Code.

(2) A copy of the complaint shall be delivered
promptly to the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate.

(3) A final decision in the action shall be reviewable only by appeal directly to the Supreme
Court of the United States. Such appeal shall be
taken by the filing of a notice of appeal within 10
days, and the filing of a jurisdictional statement
within 30 days, of the entry of the final decision.

(4) It shall be the duty of the United States
District Court for the District of Columbia and the
Supreme Court of the United States to advance on
the docket and to expedite to the greatest possible
extent the disposition of the action and appeal.

1 (b) INTERVENTION BY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.—In 2 any action in which the constitutionality of any provision 3 of this title or any amendment made by this title is raised 4 (including but not limited to an action described in sub-5 section (a)), any Member of the House of Representatives (including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to Con-6 7 gress) or Senate shall have the right to intervene either 8 in support of or opposition to the position of a party to 9 the case regarding the constitutionality of the provision 10 or amendment. To avoid duplication of efforts and reduce the burdens placed on the parties to the action, the court 11 in any such action may make such orders as it considers 12 13 necessary, including orders to require intervenors taking similar positions to file joint papers or to be represented 14 15 by a single attorney at oral argument.

(c) CHALLENGE BY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.—Any
Member of Congress may bring an action, subject to the
special rules described in subsection (a), for declaratory
or injunctive relief to challenge the constitutionality of any
provision of this title or any amendment made by this title.

21 (d) Applicability.—

(1) INITIAL CLAIMS.—With respect to any action initially filed on or before December 31, 2008,
the provisions of subsection (a) shall apply with respect to each action described in such subsection.

(2) SUBSEQUENT ACTIONS.—With respect to
 any action initially filed after December 31, 2008,
 the provisions of subsection (a) shall not apply to
 any action described in such subsection unless the
 person filing such action elects such provisions to
 apply to the action.

7 SEC. 607. SEVERABILITY.

8 If any provision of this title or any amendment made 9 by this title, or the application of a provision or amend-10 ment to any person or circumstance, is held to be uncon-11 stitutional, the remainder of this title and the amendments 12 made by this title, and the application of the provisions 13 and amendments to any person or circumstance, shall not 14 be affected by the holding.

15 TITLE VII—FORFEITURE OF

16 **RETIREMENT BENEFITS**

17 SEC. 701. LOSS OF PENSIONS ACCRUED DURING SERVICE

18 AS A MEMBER OF CONGRESS FOR ABUSING
19 THE PUBLIC TRUST.

20 (a) CIVIL SERVICE RETIREMENT SYSTEM.—Section
21 8332 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding
22 at the end the following:

23 "(o)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this
24 subchapter, the service of an individual finally convicted
25 of an offense described in paragraph (2) shall not be taken

1 into account for purposes of this subchapter, except that
2 this sentence applies only to service rendered as a Member
3 (irrespective of when rendered). Any such individual (or
4 other person determined under section 8342(c), if applica5 ble) shall be entitled to be paid so much of such individ6 ual's lump-sum credit as is attributable to service to which
7 the preceding sentence applies.

8 "(2)(A) An offense described in this paragraph is any
9 offense described in subparagraph (B) for which the fol10 lowing apply:

"(i) Every act or omission of the individual (referred to in paragraph (1)) that is needed to satisfy
the elements of the offense occurs while the individual is a Member.

15 "(ii) Every act or omission of the individual
16 that is needed to satisfy the elements of the offense
17 directly relates to the performance of the individual's
18 official duties as a Member.

19 "(iii) The offense is committed after the date of20 enactment of this subsection.

21 "(B) An offense described in this subparagraph is
22 only the following, and only to the extent that the offense
23 is a felony under title 18:

24 "(i) An offense under section 201 of title 18
25 (bribery of public officials and witnesses).

"(ii) An offense under section 219 of title 18
 (officers and employees acting as agents of foreign principals).

4 "(iii) An offense under section 371 of title 18
5 (conspiracy to commit offense or to defraud United
6 States) to the extent of any conspiracy to commit an
7 act which constitutes an offense under clause (i) or
8 (ii).

9 "(3) An individual convicted of an offense described 10 in paragraph (2) shall not, after the date of the final con-11 viction, be eligible to participate in the retirement system 12 under this subchapter or chapter 84 while serving as a 13 Member.

14 "(4) The Office of Personnel Management shall pre15 scribe any regulations necessary to carry out this sub16 section. Such regulations shall include—

"(A) provisions under which interest on any
lump-sum payment under the second sentence of
paragraph (1) shall be limited in a manner similar
to that specified in the last sentence of section
8316(b); and

22 "(B) provisions under which the Office may23 provide for—

24 "(i) the payment, to the spouse or children25 of any individual referred to in the first sen-

1	tence of paragraph (1), of any amounts which
2	(but for this clause) would otherwise have been
3	nonpayable by reason of such first sentence, but
4	only to the extent that the application of this
5	clause is considered necessary given the totality
6	of the circumstances; and
7	"(ii) an appropriate adjustment in the
8	amount of any lump-sum payment under the
9	second sentence of paragraph (1) to reflect the
10	application of clause (i).
11	"(5) For purposes of this subsection—
12	"(A) the term 'Member' has the meaning given
13	such term by section 2106, notwithstanding section
14	8331(2); and
15	"(B) the term 'child' has the meaning given
16	such term by section 8341.".
17	(b) Federal Employees' Retirement System.—
18	Section 8411 of title 5, United States Code, is amended
19	by adding at the end the following:
20	"(i)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this
21	chapter, the service of an individual finally convicted of
22	an offense described in paragraph (2) shall not be taken
23	into account for purposes of this chapter, except that this
24	sentence applies only to service rendered as a Member (ir-
25	respective of when rendered). Any such individual (or

other person determined under section 8424(d), if applica ble) shall be entitled to be paid so much of such individ ual's lump-sum credit as is attributable to service to which
 the preceding sentence applies.

5 "(2) An offense described in this paragraph is any
6 offense described in section 8332(0)(2)(B) for which the
7 following apply:

8 "(A) Every act or omission of the individual 9 (referred to in paragraph (1)) that is needed to sat-10 isfy the elements of the offense occurs while the in-11 dividual is a Member.

"(B) Every act or omission of the individual
that is needed to satisfy the elements of the offense
directly relates to the performance of the individual's
official duties as a Member.

16 "(C) The offense is committed after the date of17 enactment of this subsection.

"(3) An individual finally convicted of an offense described in paragraph (2) shall not, after the date of the
conviction, be eligible to participate in the retirement system under this chapter while serving as a Member.

"(4) The Office of Personnel Management shall prescribe any regulations necessary to carry out this subsection. Such regulations shall include—

1	"(A) provisions under which interest on any
2	lump-sum payment under the second sentence of
3	paragraph (1) shall be limited in a manner similar
4	to that specified in the last sentence of section
5	8316(b); and
6	"(B) provisions under which the Office may
7	provide for—
8	"(i) the payment, to the spouse or children
9	of any individual referred to in the first sen-
10	tence of paragraph (1), of any amounts which
11	(but for this clause) would otherwise have been
12	nonpayable by reason of such first sentence, but
13	only to the extent that the application of this
14	clause is considered necessary given the totality
15	of the circumstances; and
16	"(ii) an appropriate adjustment in the
17	amount of any lump-sum payment under the
18	second sentence of paragraph (1) to reflect the
19	application of clause (i).
20	"(5) For purposes of this subsection—
21	"(A) the term 'Member' has the meaning given
22	such term by section 2106, notwithstanding section
23	8401(20); and

"(B) the term 'child' has the meaning given
 such term by section 8341.".

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