

103^D CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4954

To amend the Fair Housing Act to provide sanctions for the filing of certain complaints.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 12, 1994

Mrs. MALONEY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend the Fair Housing Act to provide sanctions for the filing of certain complaints.

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 “Free Speech Protection
5 Act of 1994”.

6 **SEC. 2. FAIR HOUSING ACT AMENDMENT.**

7 Section 810 of the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C.
8 3610) is amended by adding at the end the following:

9 “(i) SANCTIONS FOR IMPERMISSIBLE COM-
10 PLAINTS.—

1 “(1) GENERALLY.—If the Secretary determines
2 that a complaint filed under this section is an imper-
3 missible complaint, the Secretary—

4 “(A) shall promptly dismiss the complaint;

5 and

6 “(B) may impose appropriate sanctions on
7 the person filing the complaint, including the
8 assessment of all costs (including attorney’s
9 fees) incurred by the respondent as a result of
10 the filing.

11 “(2) DEFINITION OF IMPERMISSIBLE COM-
12 PLAINT.—For the purposes of this subsection, an
13 impermissible complaint is a complaint filed under
14 subsection (a) that is—

15 “(A) frivolous; or

16 “(B) filed for the purpose of harassing or
17 intimidating a person or a class of persons from
18 exercising a right protected under the Constitu-
19 tion to engage in free speech, free press, or free
20 assembly, or to petition government for the re-
21 dress of grievances.”.

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