

104TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 3792

To restore integrity, goodwill, honesty, and trust to Congress.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 11, 1996

Mr. BASS (for himself, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. CAMP, Mr. CHRYSLER, Mr. COBLE, Mr. COBURN, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. LONGLEY, Mr. NEUMANN, Mr. RADANOVICH, Ms. RIVERS, Mr. SHAYS, and Mr. TATE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Oversight, and in addition to the Committees on Government Reform and Oversight, Rules, National Security, and the Judiciary, 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 restore integrity, goodwill, honesty, and trust to Congress.

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 “R.I.G.H.T. Congress
5 Act”.

**TITLE I—CONGRESSIONAL
COMPENSATION**

**SEC. 101. ACCRUAL RATES FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS
AND CONGRESSIONAL EMPLOYEES UNDER
CSRS AND FERS.**

(a) CSRS.—

(1) MEMBERS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 8339(c) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking all that follows “with respect to—” and inserting the following:

“(1) so much of his service as a Member as was performed before the beginning of the One Hundred Fifth Congress;

“(2) so much of his military service as—

“(A) is creditable for the purpose of this subsection; and

“(B) was performed before the beginning of such Congress; and

“(3) so much of his Congressional employee service as was performed before the beginning of such Congress;

by multiplying 2½ percent of his average pay by the years of that service.”.

1 (B) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Section
2 8332(d) of title 5, United States Code, is
3 amended by striking “section 8339(c)(1)” and
4 inserting “section 8339(c)”.

5 (2) CONGRESSIONAL EMPLOYEES.—Section
6 8339(b) of title 5, United States Code, is amend-
7 ed—

8 (A) by inserting “so much of” after “is
9 computed with respect to”; and

10 (B) by inserting “as was performed before
11 the beginning of the One Hundred Fifth Con-
12 gress,” before “by multiplying”.

13 (3) CAPITOL POLICE.—Section 8339(q) of title
14 5, United States Code, is amended by striking “in
15 accordance with subsection (b),” and inserting “in
16 accordance with subsection (b) (disregarding the
17 amendments made by section 101(a)(2) of the
18 R.I.G.H.T. Congress Act),”.

19 (b) FERS.—

20 (1) MEMBERS.—Section 8415(b) of title 5,
21 United States Code, is amended by striking “shall”
22 and inserting “shall, to the extent that such service
23 was performed before the beginning of the One Hun-
24 dred Fifth Congress,”.

1 (2) CONGRESSIONAL EMPLOYEES.—Section
 2 8415(c) of title 5, United States Code, is amended
 3 by striking “shall” and inserting “shall, to the ex-
 4 tent that such service was performed before the be-
 5 ginning of the One Hundred Fifth Congress,”.

6 (3) PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE 1.1 PER-
 7 CENT ACCRUAL RATE.—Section 8415(g) of title 5,
 8 United States Code, is amended—

9 (A) in paragraph (1) by striking “an em-
 10 ployee under paragraph (2),” and inserting “an
 11 employee or Member under paragraph (2),”;

12 (B) in paragraph (2) by inserting “or
 13 Member” after “in the case of an employee”
 14 and by striking “Congressional employee,”; and

15 (C) by adding at the end the following:

16 “(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of this sub-
 17 section—

18 “(A) this subsection shall not apply in the case
 19 of a Member or Congressional employee whose sepa-
 20 ration (on which entitlement to annuity is based) oc-
 21 curs before the beginning of the One Hundred Fifth
 22 Congress; and

23 “(B) in the case of a Member or Congressional
 24 employee to whom this subsection applies, the 1.1
 25 percent accrual rate shall apply only with respect to

1 any period of service other than a period with re-
2 spect to which the 1.7 percent accrual rate applies
3 under subsection (b) or (c).”.

4 **SEC. 102. ELIMINATION OF AUTOMATIC ANNUITY ADJUST-**
5 **MENTS FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.**

6 The portion of annuity of a Member of Congress which
7 is based solely on service as a Member of Congress shall
8 not be subject to a COLA adjustment under section 8340
9 or 8462 of title 5, United States Code.

10 **SEC. 103. ELIMINATION OF AUTOMATIC PAY ADJUSTMENTS**
11 **FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS; RECORDED**
12 **VOTE REQUIRED ON ANY PAY ADJUSTMENT**
13 **FOR MEMBERS.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 601(a) of the Legislative
15 Reorganization Act of 1946 is amended to read as follows:

16 “SEC. 601. (a)(1) Until otherwise provided under sec-
17 tion 225 of the Federal Salary Act of 1967 (2 U.S.C. 351
18 and following) or any other provision of law, the annual
19 rate of pay for—

20 “(A) each Senator, Member of the House of
21 Representatives, and Delegate to the House of Rep-
22 resentatives, and the Resident Commissioner from
23 Puerto Rico,

24 “(B) the President pro tempore of the Senate,
25 the majority leader and the minority leader of the

1 Senate, and the majority leader and the minority
2 leader of the House of Representatives, and

3 “(C) the Speaker of the House of Representa-
4 tives,

5 shall be the rate payable for each such office or position
6 on the date of the enactment of the R.I.G.H.T. Congress
7 Act.

8 “(2)(A) Any bill or resolution, and any amendment
9 to any bill or resolution, that provides for any adjustment
10 in the amount of pay payable for any office or position
11 referred to in paragraph (1) may be adopted by the House
12 of Representatives only by a vote recorded so as to reflect
13 the vote of each Member voting.

14 “(B) The provisions of subparagraph (A) are en-
15 acted—

16 “(i) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of
17 the House of Representatives and, as such, they
18 shall be considered as part of the rules of the House,
19 and such rule shall supersede other rules only to the
20 extent inconsistent therewith; and

21 “(ii) with full recognition of the constitutional
22 right of the House to change such rule at any time,
23 in the same manner, and to the same extent as in
24 the case of any other rule of the House.

1 “(C) This paragraph shall not apply with respect to
 2 any recommendations which are subject section 225(i) of
 3 the Federal Salary Act of 1967.”.

4 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect
 5 on the day after the date of the first election of Represent-
 6 atives (within the meaning of the 27th article of amend-
 7 ment to the Constitution of the United States) occurring
 8 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

9 **TITLE II—LOBBYING**

10 **SEC. 201. LOBBYING RESTRICTIONS FOR FORMER MEM-** 11 **BERS OF CONGRESS AND STAFF.**

12 (a) TIME LIMIT.—Section 207(e) of title 18, United
 13 States Code, is amended by striking “1 year” in para-
 14 graphs (1), (2), (3), (4), and (5) and inserting “2 years”.

15 (b) COMMITTEE STAFF.—Section 207(e)(2)(B) of
 16 title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking “and”
 17 at the end of clause (i), by striking the period at the end
 18 of clause (ii) and inserting “; and” and by adding after
 19 clause (ii) the following:

20 “(iii) any employee of a committee of Congress
 21 of which such Senator or Member was a member.”.

22 (c) SPECIAL LIMITATION.—Section 207(e)(6) of title
 23 18, United States Code, is amended—

24 (1) by striking “(A)” and subparagraph (B);

1 (2) by striking “and (4)” and inserting “(4),
 2 and (5)”; and
 3 (3) by striking “75 percent” and inserting “50
 4 percent”.

5 **SEC. 202. DENIAL OF FLOOR PRIVILEGES TO FORMER MEM-**
 6 **BERS OF CONGRESS WHO ARE REGISTERED**
 7 **LOBBYISTS.**

8 (a) HOUSE FLOOR PRIVILEGES.—Clause 3 of rule
 9 XXXII of the Rules of the House of Representatives is
 10 amended by striking “and only ” and inserting “, only”,
 11 and by inserting “, and only if they are not registered lob-
 12 byists under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995” before
 13 the period at the end.

14 (b) ADDITIONAL PRIVILEGES.—(1) No former Mem-
 15 ber of Congress who is a registered lobbyist under the
 16 Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 may enter any dining
 17 area in the Capital which is reserved for Members of Con-
 18 gress or enter any gymnasium facility which is reserved
 19 for Members of Congress.

20 (2) The Committee on House Oversight of the House
 21 of Representatives shall have authority to prescribe regu-
 22 lations to carry out this subsection.

1 **SEC. 203. REQUIRING IDENTIFICATION FOR REGISTERED**
2 **LOBBYISTS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4 of the Lobbying Disclo-
4 sure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1603) is amended by adding
5 at the end the following new subsection:

6 “(e) IDENTIFICATION FOR REGISTERED LOBBY-
7 ISTS.—Each person required to register under this section
8 shall wear, in a visible manner, an identification badge
9 similar to the identification badge required for persons
10 who use the press gallery of the House of Representatives
11 or the Senate. The form of such identification shall be pre-
12 scribed by the Sergeant at Arms of the House of Rep-
13 resentatives and the Sergeant at Arms of the Senate act-
14 ing jointly and shall be worn when such registered person
15 is in the United States Capitol or in an office building
16 of the House of Representatives or the Senate while en-
17 gaged in lobbying activities. When a person registers
18 under subsection (a), such person shall be given such a
19 badge.”.

20 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Subsection (a) shall take ef-
21 fect with respect to registrations under section 4 of the
22 Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 which occur after the
23 expiration of the 60-day period which begins on the date
24 of the enactment of this Act.

1 **TITLE III—CONGRESSIONAL**
2 **TRAVEL**

3 **SEC. 301. LIMITATION ON TRANSPORTATION OF MEMBERS**
4 **OF CONGRESS ON MILITARY AIRCRAFT.**

5 (a) LIMITATION ON TRANSPORTATION.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 157 of title 10,
7 United States Code, is amended by adding at the
8 end the following new section:

9 **“§ 2643. Limitation on transportation of Members of**
10 **Congress on military aircraft**

11 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense may
12 not provide transportation on a military aircraft to a des-
13 tination for a Member or group of Members of Congress
14 unless—

15 “(1) the transportation is provided on a space-
16 available basis as part of the scheduled operations of
17 the military aircraft unrelated to the provision of
18 transportation to the Member or group of Members;

19 “(2) the destination, or an airfield located with-
20 in a reasonable distance from the destination, is not
21 accessible by regularly scheduled flights of commer-
22 cial aircraft; or

23 “(3) the transportation is the least expensive
24 method for the Member or group of Members to
25 reach the destination by aircraft.

1 “(b) SPECIAL RULE FOR MEMBERS AND STAFF
 2 TRAVELLING TO A HEARING.—The Secretary may not
 3 provide transportation on a military aircraft for a Member
 4 or group of Members of Congress or the staff of the Mem-
 5 ber or group of Members for travel to a hearing of a Com-
 6 mittee of Congress unless the transportation meets the re-
 7 quirement in subsection (a)(3).

8 “(c) DESTINATION.—The Secretary shall not select
 9 the destination of a military aircraft to accommodate the
 10 travel plans of a Member or group of Members of Con-
 11 gress requesting transportation that meets the require-
 12 ment in subsection (a)(1).”.

13 “(d) MEMBER OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this sec-
 14 tion, the term ‘Member of Congress’ means a Senator or
 15 Representative in, or a Delegate or Resident Commis-
 16 sioner to, the Congress.”.

17 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of
 18 sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended
 19 by adding at the end the following new item:

“2643. Limitation on transportation of Members of Congress on military air-
 craft.”.

20 (b) PRIOR APPROVAL REQUIREMENT FOR MEMBERS
 21 AND STAFF TRAVELLING TO A HEARING.—A Member or
 22 group of Members of the House of Representatives or the
 23 staff of such Member or group of Members may not accept
 24 transportation on a military aircraft for travel to a hearing

1 of a committee of Congress until the chairman of the com-
 2 mittee of Congress—

3 (1) submits information to the Committee on
 4 Standards of Official Conduct of the House of Rep-
 5 resentatives demonstrating that the transportation is
 6 the least expensive method for the Member or group
 7 of Members or staff to travel to the hearing by air-
 8 craft; and

9 (2) receives approval from the Committee on
 10 Standards of Official Conduct for the Member or
 11 group of Members or staff to accept the transpor-
 12 tation.

13 **SEC. 302. RESTRICTION ON FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS**

14 **NOT SEEKING REELECTION.**

15 The Rules of the House of Representatives are
 16 amended by adding at the end the following new rule:

17 **“RULE LIII.**

18 **“RESTRICTION ON FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS NOT**

19 **SEEKING REELECTION.**

20 “1. A retiring Member, or such Member’s personal
 21 staff, shall not engage in travel outside the United States
 22 pursuant to clause 8 of rule I, clause 2(n) or 5(e) of rule
 23 XI, or section 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954
 24 (22 U.S.C. 1754), unless the Committee on Standards of

1 Official Conduct determines such travel is essential to the
2 official responsibilities of the retiring member.

3 “2. As used in this rule—

4 “(1) a Member is a retiring Member after the
5 earlier of the date upon which the Member—

6 “(A) announces to the press the intention
7 not to seek election to the House of Representa-
8 tives for the succeeding Congress;

9 “(B) fails to meet the qualifying deadline
10 for election to the House of Representatives for
11 the succeeding Congress; or

12 “(C) is defeated in any primary or general
13 election to the House of Representatives for the
14 succeeding Congress; and

15 “(1) the term ‘Member’ means a Representative
16 in, or a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the
17 House of Representatives.”.

18 **SEC. 303. LIMITATION ON USE OF TRAVEL AWARDS.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—(1) Except as provided by para-
20 graph (2) and notwithstanding any provision of law or any
21 rule, regulation, or other authority, any travel award that
22 accrues by reason of official travel of a Member, officer,
23 or employee of the House of Representatives may be used
24 only with respect to official travel.

1 (2) Any travel award that accrues by reason of offi-
2 cial travel of a Member of the House of Representatives
3 may be used by the spouse or children of that Member
4 for travel between Washington, D.C., and the district of
5 that Member.

6 (b) REGULATIONS.—The Committee on House Over-
7 sight of the House of Representatives shall have authority
8 to prescribe regulations to carry out this section.

9 (c) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section—

10 (1) the term “Member of the House of Rep-
11 resentatives” means a Representative in, or a
12 Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress;

13 (2) the term “official travel” means, with re-
14 spect to the House of Representatives, travel per-
15 formed for the conduct of official business of the
16 House of Representatives, including official and rep-
17 resentational duties of a Member relating to the dis-
18 trict of the Member; and

19 (3) the term “travel award” means any fre-
20 quent flier mileage, free travel, discounted travel, or
21 other travel benefit, whether awarded by coupon,
22 membership, or otherwise.

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