

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1747

To amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to increase the penalties imposed for making or accepting contributions in the name of another and to prohibit foreign nationals from making any campaign-related disbursements.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 11, 1999

Mr. BURTON of Indiana (for himself, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. MICA, Mr. MCINTOSH, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. TRAFICANT, Mr. HORN, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. BARR of Georgia, and Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

A BILL

To amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to increase the penalties imposed for making or accepting contributions in the name of another and to prohibit foreign nationals from making any campaign-related disbursements.

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 “Conduit Contribution
5 Prevention Act of 1999”.

1 **SEC. 2. INCREASE IN PENALTIES IMPOSED FOR VIOLA-**
2 **TIONS OF CONDUIT CONTRIBUTION BAN.**

3 (a) INCREASE IN CIVIL MONEY PENALTY FOR KNOW-
4 ING AND WILLFUL VIOLATIONS.—Section 309(a) of the
5 Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C.
6 437g(a)) is amended—

7 (1) in paragraph (5)(B), by inserting before the
8 period at the end the following: “(or, in the case of
9 a violation of section 320, which is not less than 300
10 percent of the amount involved in the violation and
11 is not more than the greater of \$50,000 or 1000
12 percent of the amount involved in the violation)”;
13 and

14 (2) in paragraph (6)(C), by inserting before the
15 period at the end the following: “(or, in the case of
16 a violation of section 320, which is not less than 300
17 percent of the amount involved in the violation and
18 is not more than the greater of \$50,000 or 1000
19 percent of the amount involved in the violation)”.

20 (b) INCREASE IN CRIMINAL PENALTY.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 309(d)(1) of such
22 Act (2 U.S.C. 437g(d)(1)) is amended by adding at
23 the end the following new subparagraph:

24 “(D) Any person who knowingly and willfully com-
25 mits a violation of section 320 involving an amount aggre-
26 gating \$1,000 or more during a calendar year shall be

1 fined, or imprisoned for not more than 2 years, or both.
2 The amount of the fine shall not be less than 300 percent
3 of the amount involved in the violation and shall not be
4 more than the greater of \$50,000 or 1000 percent of the
5 amount involved in the violation.”.

6 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section
7 309(d)(1)(A) of such Act (2 U.S.C. 437g(d)(1)(A))
8 is amended by inserting “(other than section 320)”
9 after “this Act”.

10 (c) MANDATORY REFERRAL TO ATTORNEY GEN-
11 ERAL.—Section 309(a)(5)(C) of such Act (2 U.S.C.
12 437(a)(5)(C)) is amended by inserting “(or, in the case
13 of a violation of section 320, shall refer such apparent vio-
14 lation to the Attorney General of the United States)” after
15 “United States”.

16 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
17 this section shall apply with respect to violations occurring
18 on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

19 **SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF BAN ON FOREIGN CONTRIBUTIONS**
20 **TO ALL CAMPAIGN-RELATED DISBURSE-**
21 **MENTS.**

22 (a) PROHIBITION ON DISBURSEMENTS BY FOREIGN
23 NATIONALS.—Section 319 of the Federal Election Cam-
24 paign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 441e) is amended—

1 (1) in the heading, by striking “contributions”
2 and inserting “disbursements”;

3 (2) in subsection (a), by striking “contribution”
4 each place it appears and inserting “disbursement”;
5 and

6 (3) in subsection (a), by striking the semicolon
7 and inserting the following: “, including any dis-
8 bursement to a political committee of a political
9 party and any disbursement for an independent ex-
10 penditure;”.

11 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by
12 this section shall apply with respect to disbursements
13 made on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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