

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1747

To amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to exclude certain Internet communications from the definition of expenditure.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 19, 1999

Mr. BENNETT (for himself, Mr. BURNS, and Mr. McCONNELL) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration

A BILL

To amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to exclude certain Internet communications from the definition of expenditure.

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 “Internet Freedom Pro-
5 tection Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN INTERNET COMMUNICA-**
7 **TIONS FROM DEFINITION OF EXPENDITURE.**

8 Section 301(9)(B) of the Federal Election Campaign
9 Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 431(9)(B)) is amended—

1 (1) in clause (ix), by striking “and” at the end;

2 (2) in clause (x), by striking the period at the

3 end and inserting “; and”; and

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

5 “(xi) any communication or dissemination of

6 material through the Internet (including electronic

7 mail, chat rooms, and message boards) by any indi-

8 vidual, if such material—

9 “(I) is not a paid advertisement;

10 “(II) does not solicit funds for, or on be-

11 half of, a candidate or political committee;

12 “(III) is disseminated for the purpose of

13 communicating or disseminating the opinion of

14 such individual (including an endorsement) re-

15 garding a political issue or candidate; and

16 “(IV) is not communicated or disseminated

17 by any individual that receives payment or any

18 other form of compensation for such commu-

19 nication or dissemination.”.

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