

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2705

To provide for the training of individuals, during a Presidential transition, who the President intends to appoint to certain key positions, to provide for a study and report on improving the financial disclosure process for certain Presidential nominees, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 8, 2000

Mr. THOMPSON (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. AKAKA, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. VOINOVICH) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To provide for the training of individuals, during a Presidential transition, who the President intends to appoint to certain key positions, to provide for a study and report on improving the financial disclosure process for certain Presidential nominees, 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.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Presidential Transition
5 Act of 2000”.

1 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION ACT**
2 **OF 1963.**

3 Section 3(a) of the Presidential Transition Act of
4 1963 (3 U.S.C. 102 note) is amended—

5 (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1) by
6 striking “including—” and inserting “including the
7 following:”;

8 (2) in each of paragraphs (1) through (6) by
9 striking the semicolon at the end and inserting a pe-
10 riod; and

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

12 “(8)(A)(i) Payment of expenses during the
13 transition for briefings, workshops, or other activi-
14 ties to acquaint key prospective Presidential ap-
15 pointees with the types of problems and challenges
16 that most typically confront new political appointees
17 when they make the transition from campaign and
18 other prior activities to assuming the responsibility
19 for governance after inauguration.

20 “(ii) Activities under this paragraph may in-
21 clude interchange between such appointees and indi-
22 viduals who—

23 “(I) held similar leadership roles in prior
24 administrations;

25 “(II) are department or agency experts
26 from the Office of Management and Budget or

1 an Office of Inspector General of a department
2 or agency; or

3 “(III) are relevant staff from the General
4 Accounting Office.

5 “(iii) Activities under this paragraph may in-
6 clude training in records management to comply
7 with section 2203 of title 44, United States Code,
8 including training on the separation of Presidential
9 records and personal records to comply with sub-
10 section (b) of that section.

11 “(iv) Activities under this paragraph may in-
12 clude training in human resources management and
13 performance-based management.

14 “(B) Activities under this paragraph shall be
15 conducted primarily for individuals the President-
16 elect intends to nominate as department heads or
17 appoint to key positions in the Executive Office of
18 the President.

19 “(9)(A) Development of a transition directory
20 by the Administrator for activities conducted under
21 paragraph (8).

22 “(B) The transition directory shall be a com-
23 pilation of Federal publications and materials with
24 supplementary materials developed by the Adminis-
25 trator that provides information on the officers, or-

ganization, and statutory and administrative authorities, functions, duties, responsibilities, and mission of each department and agency.

“(10)(A) Notwithstanding subsection (b), consultation by the Administrator with any candidate for President or Vice President to develop a systems architecture plan for the computer and communications systems of the candidate to coordinate a transition to Federal systems, if the candidate is elected.

“(B) Consultations under this paragraph shall be conducted at the discretion of the Administrator.”.

SEC. 3. REPORT ON IMPROVING THE FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE PROCESS FOR PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Office of Government Ethics shall conduct a study and submit a report on improvements to the financial disclosure process for Presidential nominees required to file reports under section 101(b) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) to the Committee on Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Government Reform of the House of Representatives.

(b) CONTENT OF REPORT.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The report under this sec-
 2 tion shall include recommendations and legislative
 3 proposals on—

4 (A) streamlining, standardizing, and co-
 5 ordinating the financial disclosure process and
 6 the requirements of financial disclosure reports
 7 under the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5
 8 U.S.C. App.) for Presidential nominees;

9 (B) avoiding duplication of effort and re-
 10 ducing the burden of filing with respect to fi-
 11 nancial disclosure of information to the White
 12 House Office, the Office of Government Ethics,
 13 and the Senate; and

14 (C) any other relevant matter the Office of
 15 Government Ethics determines appropriate.

16 (2) LIMITATION RELATING TO CONFLICTS OF
 17 INTEREST.—The recommendations and proposals
 18 under this subsection shall not (if implemented)
 19 have the effect of lessening substantive compliance
 20 with any conflict of interest requirement.

21 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
 22 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
 23 necessary to carry out this section.

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