

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4775

To limit the amount of expenditure on Presidential travel, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 21, 2019

Mr. TED LIEU of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committee on 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 limit the amount of expenditure on Presidential travel,
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 subtitle may be cited as the “Stop Waste And
5 Misuse by the President Act of 2019” or the “SWAMP
6 Act of 2019”.

7 **SEC. 102. FINDINGS.**

8 The Congress finds as follows:

1 (1) Presidential travel to commercial entities
2 owned in whole or in part by the President or First
3 Family results in the American taxpayer effectively
4 subsidizing the President's businesses.

5 (2) President Trump spent more during his
6 first four months in office than President Obama
7 did, on average, in roughly two years.

8 (3) It is unacceptable for the President to
9 maintain an interest in traveling to properties in
10 which he has a direct financial interest, as the U.S.
11 Government is responsible for renting space for per-
12 sonnel in said private commercial entities.

13 (4) Every time the President travels to Mar-a-
14 Lago, he necessarily promotes his private business
15 interests via free press at the Government's expense.

16 (5) The State Department's promotion of Mar-
17 a-Lago on its official website raises serious ethics
18 concerns.

19 (6) As of October 17, 2019, President Trump
20 has cost the U.S. taxpayer unprecedented amounts
21 of money, including the following estimated costs:

22 (A) For trips to Mar-a-Lago:

23 (i) Total cost for security in Palm
24 Beach: \$3,700,000 (each trip).

1 (ii) Roundtrip flights from Joint Base
2 Andrews, Maryland, to West Palm, Flor-
3 ida: \$700,000.

4 (iii) Overtime for local law enforce-
5 ment during Trump's trips: \$60,000/day.

6 (B) For Trump Tower:

7 (i) Request for additional Secret Serv-
8 ice funding to secure Trump Towers:
9 \$60,000,000.

10 (ii) New York Police Department se-
11 curity costs: \$127,000–\$146,000/day.

12 (iv) Air Force One flights to New
13 York City: \$180,000/hour.

14 (7) As of October 17, 2019, the President has
15 spent the following number of days at various prop-
16 erties he owns:

17 (A) 99 days at Mar-a-Lago.

18 (B) 90 days at Trump National
19 Bedminster.

20 (C) 76 days at Trump National Potomac.

21 (D) 59 days at Trump International West
22 Palm.

23 (E) 22 days at Trump International Hotel.

24 (F) 20 days at Trump Tower.

1 **SEC. 103. REIMBURSAL FOR COSTS OF PROTECTION.**

2 In the case of a person whom the United States Se-
3 cret Service is authorized to protect under paragraph (1)
4 or (2) of section 3056(a) of title 18, United States Code,
5 if that person, while traveling for official business or for
6 personal purposes, stays in a hotel or other establishment
7 providing daily-rate accommodation in which that person
8 has an ownership or financial interest, that person shall
9 reimburse to the Treasury—

10 (1) any amount expended by the United States
11 Secret Service for the provision of such protection;
12 and

13 (2) any amount expended for other costs in-
14 curred by the Government pertaining to that stay.

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