

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5277

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 4, 2019

Received

AN ACT

To amend section 442 of title 18, United States Code, to exempt certain interests in mutual funds, unit investment trusts, employee benefit plans, and retirement plans from conflict of interest limitations for the Government Publishing Office.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 442 of title 18, United
3 States Code, is amended to read as follows:

4 **“§ 442. Government Publishing Office**

5 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

6 “(1) the terms ‘diversified’, ‘employee benefit
7 plan’, ‘holdings’, ‘mutual fund’, and ‘unit investment
8 trust’ have the meanings given those terms under
9 section 2640.102 of title 5, Code of Federal Regula-
10 tions, or any successor thereto; and

11 “(2) the term ‘printing-related interest’ means
12 an interest, direct or indirect, in—

13 “(A) the publication of any newspaper or
14 periodical;

15 “(B) any printing, binding, engraving, or
16 lithographing of any kind; or

17 “(C) any contract for furnishing paper or
18 other material connected with the public print-
19 ing, binding, lithographing, or engraving.

20 “(b) OFFENSE.—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
22 graph (2), the Director of the Government Pub-
23 lishing Office, Deputy Director of the Government
24 Publishing Office, nor any of their assistants as de-
25 termined by the Director of the Government Pub-

1 lishing Office shall not, during his or her continu-
2 ance in office, have any printing-related interest.

3 “(2) EXCEPTION FOR MUTUAL FUNDS, UNIT IN-
4 VESTMENT TRUSTS, EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS,
5 AND RETIREMENT PLANS.—It shall not be a viola-
6 tion of paragraph (1) for an individual who is de-
7 scribed in such paragraph to have an interest in a
8 diversified mutual fund, diversified unit investment
9 trust, employee benefit plan, investment fund under
10 the Thrift Savings Plan under subchapter III of
11 chapter 84 of title 5, or pension plan established or
12 maintained by a State government or any political
13 subdivision of a State government for its employees
14 that has 1 or more holdings that are printing-related
15 interests if the fund, trust, or plan does not exhibit
16 a practice of concentrating in printing-related inter-
17 ests.

18 “(3) AUTHORITY OF SUPERVISING ETHICS OF-
19 FICE.—The supervising ethics office for the Govern-
20 ment Publishing Office under the Ethics in Govern-
21 ment Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) shall have the au-
22 thority to issue rules and promulgate regulations
23 governing the implementation of this subsection.

1 “(c) PENALTY.—Whoever violates subsection (b)(1)
2 shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more
3 than 1 year, or both.”.

4 (b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—
5 The table of sections for chapter 23 of title 18, United
6 States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to
7 section 442 and inserting the following:

“442. Government Publishing Office.”.

Passed the House of Representatives December 3,
2019.

Attest:

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,

Clerk.