

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 931

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit a former Member of Congress from serving as a lobbyist until the former Member has met any obligation imposed on the former Member under the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 to reimburse the Treasury for amounts paid as settlements and awards under such Act in the case of an act committed personally by the former Member.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 30, 2019

Mr. WALKER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit a former Member of Congress from serving as a lobbyist until the former Member has met any obligation imposed on the former Member under the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 to reimburse the Treasury for amounts paid as settlements and awards under such Act in the case of an act committed personally by the former Member.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Bad Lawmakers Ac-
3 countability and Key Emends Act” or the “BLAKE Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. BAN ON LOBBYING BY FORMER MEMBERS OF CON-**

5 **GRESS FAILING TO MEET REQUIREMENT TO**
6 **REIMBURSE AMOUNTS PAID AS SETTLE-**
7 **MENTS AND AWARDS UNDER CONGRES-**
8 **SIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1995.**

9 (a) **BAN ON LOBBYING.—**

10 (1) **LOBBYING BY FORMER SENATORS.**—Section
11 207(e)(1)(A) of title 18, United States Code, is
12 amended by striking “within 2 years after that per-
13 son leaves office” and inserting the following: “prior
14 to the expiration of the 2-year period which begins
15 on the date that person leaves office or prior to the
16 date by which that person meets any requirement of
17 section 415(d) of the Congressional Accountability
18 Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1415(d)) which applies to
19 that person to reimburse the Treasury for certain
20 awards and settlements paid under such Act (which-
21 ever occurs later)”.

22 (2) **LOBBYING BY FORMER MEMBERS OF THE**
23 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.**—Section
24 207(e)(1)(B) of such title is amended by striking
25 “within 1 year after that person leaves office” and
26 inserting the following: “prior to the expiration of

1 the 1-year period which begins on the date that per-
2 son leaves office or prior to the date by which that
3 person meets any requirement of section 415(d) of
4 the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2
5 U.S.C. 1415(d)) which applies to that person to re-
6 imburse the Treasury for certain awards and settle-
7 ments paid under such Act (whichever occurs
8 later)”.

9 (b) BAN ON LOBBYING ON BEHALF OF FOREIGN
10 GOVERNMENTS.—Section 207(f)(1) of such title is amend-
11 ed by striking “within 1 year after leaving the position,
12 office, or employment referred to in such subsection” and
13 inserting the following: “prior to the expiration of the 1-
14 year period which begins on the date that person leaves
15 the position, office, or employment referred to in such sub-
16 section or, in the case of the position of Member of Con-
17 gress, prior to the date by which that person meets any
18 requirement of section 415(d) of the Congressional Ac-
19 countability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1415(d)) which applies
20 to that person to reimburse the Treasury for certain
21 awards and settlements paid under such Act (whichever
22 occurs later)”.

23 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
24 this section shall apply with respect to any individual who,
25 on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, leaves

- 1 an office to which section 207(e) or section 207(f) of title
- 2 18, United States Code, applies.

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